



# Bethlem Museum of the Mind Impact Report 2022-23

## Who we are, what we do

Bethlem Museum of the Mind deploys its unique resources, both contemporary and historic, to improve the visibility of the mental health service user community, the challenges and barriers faced by that community, and also the insights and challenge they offer to society.



## Why it matters

We want to see a world in which there is greater empathy for those facing mental health challenges, deeper understanding of mental health issues, and wider recognition that everyone has a stake in mental health and wellbeing.

With 1 in 4 people in the UK experiencing some kind of mental health difficulty, and the persistence of problems like social exclusion, discrimination, and isolation, our work has never been more important.

*It is a privilege and a pleasure to chair the Board of Trustees at Bethlem Museum of the Mind. 2022-23 has been a strong and eventful year. We have moved on from the pandemic, and welcomed back more visitors than ever, including visits from A level psychology students, many of whom (like us) are at a critical stage in developing their thinking about society, support of the most vulnerable, an improved understanding of care, and amplification of impact with the NHS and wider stakeholders and partners.*

*Our exhibition schedules, acquisitions of artwork, and trustees' appointments are changing to reflect this new mood, and will increasingly drive our response to a more culturally balanced and equitable approach, to ensure our Museum continues its vital work.*

**Jill Lockett, Chair of Trustees**



## Access for all

The Museum welcomed **10,848** in-person visitors in the year from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023. This was the highest number of visitors since 2015-16, when the Museum opened and was shortlisted for the Art Fund's Museum of the Year award. In June 2022, its opening hours were permanently increased to four days (30 hours) per week.

The 24/7 online 360° tour available on the Museum's website attracted a further **2,469** visits across the year.



## Access for learning

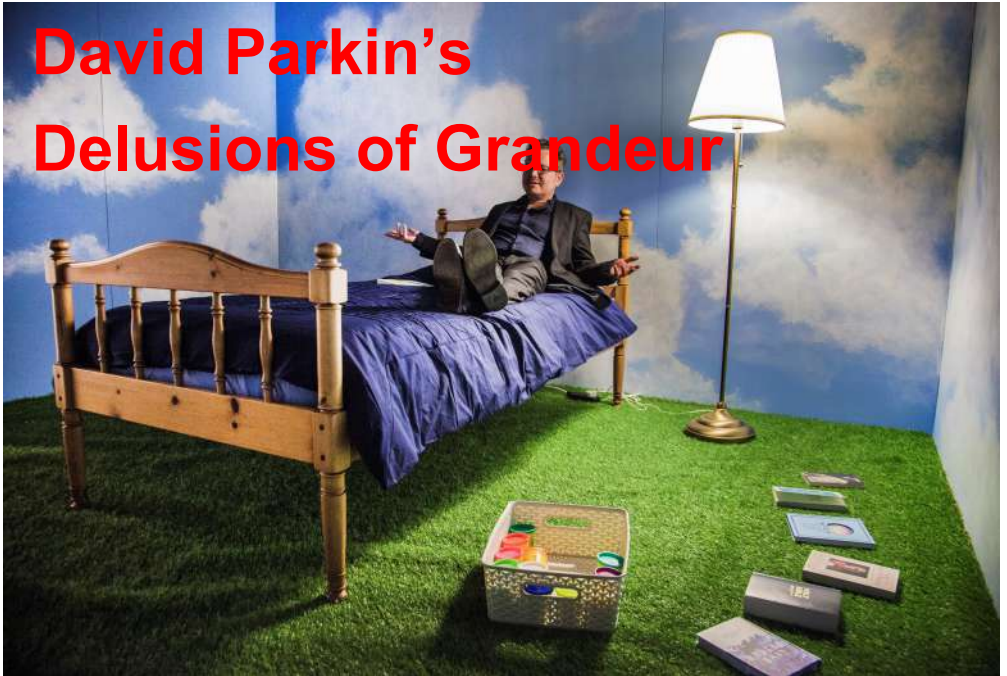
In 2022-23 **2,869** school and university students participated in the Museum's popular learning programme, up from 579 in the previous, COVID-affected year.





The shows we've put on

## David Parkin's Delusions of Grandeur



From April to July 2022, the Museum hosted a service user curated show on daily life on a psychiatric intensive care unit, and on the experience of psychosis. A series of supporting events culminated in an evening of music that was melancholic at times, uplifting at others, witty throughout, and above all life-affirming.



## A way from home



*A way from home: Bethlem artists on longing and belonging*, on show from August 2022 to January 2023, drew on the Museum's artistic collections to highlight ways in which the concepts of home and homelessness are shaped by experience, ethnicity, culture and memory. It incorporated an iconic artwork by Charlotte Johnson (d. 2022); an inward loan from Denmark's Museum Ovartaci; and a children and young persons' reading space, well used in school holidays.



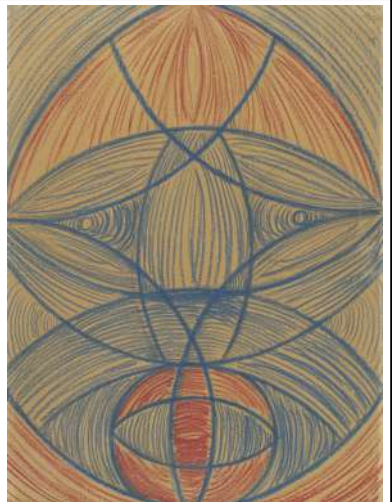
## The faces we present

*The faces we present: the diversity of lived experience in portraits*, co-curated with members of the South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust's Lived Experience Network. opened in February 2023. It questioned the hard and fast line commonly assumed to exist between mental health service professionals and users. In this exhibition, traditional museum caption-writing gave way to the perspectives of those who inhabit multiple roles in their lived experience.



Laura-Jane Connolly, a Peer Support Co-ordinator, was one of several Lived Experience Network members who helped produce *The Faces We Present*.

"I use my own lived experience and empathy to support peer workers across the Trust, who are part of someone's care team", she wrote.



Laura-Jane responded to Vaslav Nijinsky's *A Mask* (1919) in this way:

"This portrait resonates with me personally, having a mental health diagnosis and working as a professional in the NHS. I have often felt the need to wear different masks to portray outwardly something other than what I may be feeling internally, to fit in, to be accepted by society as part of self-preservation and to battle against stigma."

## Our collections are changing

*The Museum cares for:*

1. the historic medical records of Bethlem Hospital, the Maudsley and other associated hospitals,
2. artefacts illustrating the history of mental health treatment, and
3. 1,000+ artworks, mostly by artists with histories of mental distress or contact with mental health services.

*New acquisitions in 2022-23 reflected the diversity of the communities reached by the Museum:*

1. Benji Reid's award-winning photograph *Holding Onto Daddy* (featured on cover),
2. Five works by Patricia Smith representing community life in 1960s Deptford, and
3. A depiction of mental distress by the artist known as 'Mud', titled *MRI Scan*.



**“Art allows for the exploration of all facets of existence ... creation is more human than anything else.”** Museum visitor, 2022



**IF ONLY IT WERE THIS EASY  
TO SEE MY CRIES FOR HELP**





## Collections on the move

In 2022-23, the Museum's treasures were seen far beyond its location on the Bethlem Hospital campus in south London. Works in its collections supported exhibitions at the Bundeskunsthalle, Bonn (seen by 49,531), the Millennium Galleries, Sheffield (seen by 23,582), the Minneapolis Institute of Art, Minnesota (seen by 35,421), Museum Dr Guislain, Gent (seen by 70,497), and the Beaney House of Art and Knowledge, Canterbury (seen by 3,975) - a grand total of 183,006. Most (70%) of the caption text written for these external exhibitions communicated appreciation of the experience of neuro-diversity or mental distress, or acknowledged mental health service users' agency.

Key inward loans made to support the Museum's temporary exhibition programme and drive publicity included works by Patricia Smith, Charlotte Johnson and Richard Dadd.



## Over to you

The Museum receives constant feedback from hundreds of people in comments books, online reviews, crowd-sourced captions, or in response to questionnaires. In 2022-23, 53 online reviewers gave the Museum an average 4.85 stars out of 5. More significant, though, was the wealth of reflection contained in written feedback over the year. Here's a selection.

**The history of mental healthcare makes me think a lot about the history of humanity, violence and kindness, war & peace.**

Very respectful and nuanced museum.

I enjoyed the attention to 'history from below', the complex take on ECT and isolation ... and the presentation of ethical dilemmas.

*I love Matthew's fire-place—triumph of the human spirit in adversity!*



It's a cottage ... it's nowhere within Zone 2 or Zone 3 ... That isn't a home for me, that actually represents feeling quite ... at risk...

**The history of mental health treatment is IMO a history of erasure. The erasure of stories, wisdom. Of lives.**

**This space unveils the unseen. Thank you for our history—my history.**

**Very thoughtfully designed, amazing individual testimonies, history mixed with art, history made relevant with connections to today's problems.**



## Our governance

The Museum's affairs are governed by a Charitable Incorporated Organisation known as the Bethlem Art and History Collections Trust. There is a growing diversity of background, interest and expertise within its trustee body. In 2022-23 five new trustees were appointed:

Oyedemi Ayonrinde, Professor of Psychiatry, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario

Colin Campbell, Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist, SLaM

Michelle Guinness, Lead Arts Therapist, SLaM

Charlotte Hudson, Director of Corporate Affairs, SLaM

Bryony Robertson, Interim Head of Nursing, SLaM



These are joined by the following existing trustees in the governance of the Museum:

Jill Lockett, Managing Director of King's Health Partners (Chair)

Joni Smart, Accounting Bookkeeper at Social Finance (Treasurer)

Eleanor Bateman, Cancer Services Divisional Director, Royal Marsden

Nicholas Hervey, Head of Social Care (retired), Southwark Mental Health Services

Robert Howard, Professor of Psychiatry, UCL Institute of Mental Health

Geoffrey Munn OBE, jewellery specialist, TV presenter and author

The trustees are grateful for the support of the Maudsley Charity and the South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust, to whom they regularly report, and they seek to engage a wider community of support for the work of the Museum (see [museumofthemind.org.uk/support](https://museumofthemind.org.uk/support) for details).

Could you help the Museum better represent the diversity of the communities it serves in its governance? Email an expression of interest in trusteeship to [info@motm.org.uk](mailto:info@motm.org.uk).

In 2022-23 we welcomed

# 10,848

In-person visitors to Bethlem Museum of the Mind (2021-22: 6,665)

[motm.org.uk](https://motm.org.uk)



 121,467 unique visits



 3,400

 4,434

 6,314



## 2,869

(579 in 2021-22)

participants in the Museum's learning programme



## 2,469

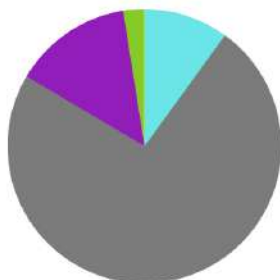
visitors to online exhibitions  
(15,070 in 2021-22)



## 183,006

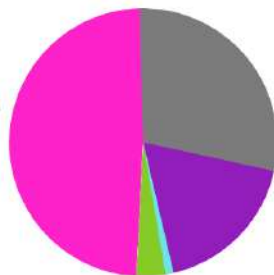
visitors to exhibitions to which the Museum had lent artworks  
(457,364 in 2021-22)

**Income**  
£483.5k



- ▶ **Maudsley Charity** £355.5k
- ▶ **South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust** £68k
- ▶ **Internally generated** £47k
- ▶ **Other Grants** £13k

**Expenses**  
£483.5k



- ▶ **Salaries** £236.5k
- ▶ **Building / services** £139.5k
- ▶ **Museum operations** £84.5k
- ▶ **Reserves allocation** £18k
- ▶ **Cleaning** £5k



## Our Finances

In the financial year ending 31 March 2023, the Museum's income and expenditure both stood at £483.5K and were allocated in the way depicted on the facing page. These figures and allocations are indicative, approximate, and subject to amendment in the course of independent examination of the Museum's annual report and accounts, which is currently underway. (As a guide, there was a variance of approximately 0.5% between the figures given in last year's impact report, and the figures in the finalised annual report and accounts for that year.) Annual reports and accounts are lodged every year with the Charity Commission (search for charity number 1190303).

The Museum's policy is to hold a sum to cover at least six months' expenditure on salary and non-salary items, including building service and cleaning charges. The estimated total of these items for the year ending 31 March 2023 was £232K. This sum was achieved by an £18K allocation to reserves. In a challenging financial environment, the Museum is grateful for the ongoing support of the Maudsley Charity, its principal funder, and the South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust, which has delegated its statutory duties in relation to public records to the Museum.



# BETHLEM

MUSEUM OF THE MIND

is proud to be  
supported by

**NHS**  
South London  
and Maudsley  
NHS Foundation Trust

Principal funder  
**Maudsley  
Charity**

**Backing  
Better  
Mental  
Health.**

**Benji Reid**  
*Holding onto Daddy, 2016*

