

The British museums



Madame Tussauds

Madame Tussauds is a wax museum in London with branches in a number of major cities. It was founded by wax sculptor Marie Tussaud and was formerly known as Madame Tussaud's. Madame Tussauds is a major tourist attraction in London, displaying waxworks of historical and royal figures, film stars, sports stars and infamous murderers.



Madame Tussauds and the London Planetarium

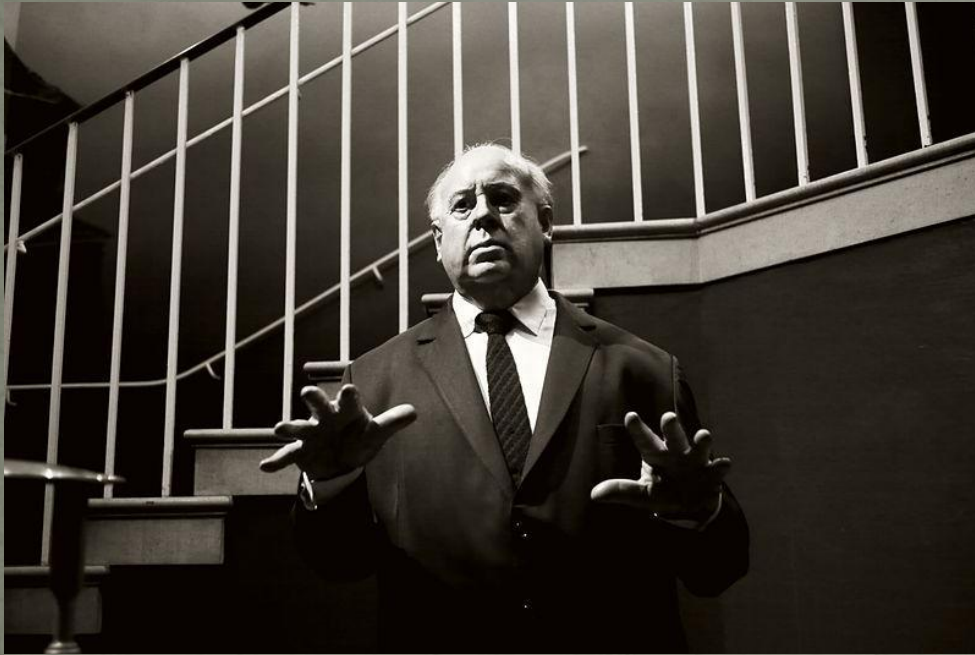
Gallery of Madame Tussauds London



The Sleeping Beauty is the oldest existing figure on display. It was modeled after Madame du Barry, the mistress of Louis XV. She appears asleep and a device in her chest makes it seem as if she were breathing.

Madame
Tussaud herself
at Madame
Tussauds
waxworks in
London

Alfred Hitchcock





Charlie Chaplin



Marilyn Monroe



Johnny Depp as
Jack Sparrow



Lady Gaga



Pierce Brosnan as James
Bond 007



Spiderman

National Portrait Gallery

The National Portrait Gallery is an art gallery in London, England, housing a collection of portraits of historically important and famous British people. It was the first portrait gallery in the world when it opened in 1856. The gallery moved in 1896 to its current site at St Martin's Place, off Trafalgar Square, and adjoining the National Gallery. It has been expanded twice since then.



Entrance to the National Portrait Gallery

The gallery houses portraits of historically important and famous British people, selected on the basis of the significance of the sitter, not that of the artist. The collection includes photographs and caricatures as well as paintings, drawings and sculpture. One of its best-known images is the Chandos portrait, the most famous portrait of William Shakespeare although there is some uncertainty about whether the painting actually is of the playwright.



The Chandos portrait



Inside the National Portrait Gallery