

MUSEUM *of* BRANDS

Brushstrokes to Brands **New display to open at London's Museum of Brands** **05 August 2023 – 25 November 2023**

A new display featuring the artwork of British artist, Steven Phillip Smith, is to go on show at the Museum of Brands. **Brushstrokes to Brands** will open on 05 August 2023 running until 25 November 2023.

Fine art painter Steven Smith, from Preston, Lancashire, works in oils and loves to capture everyday places and objects. He has exhibited in several joint shows and solo exhibitions, and at the Royal Institute of Oil Painters (ROI) and Royal Society of Marine Artists (RSMA).

Steven Smith and the Museum of Brands have a shared goal: to capture objects we see every day in their past and present states for future generations to look back on and enjoy.

The Museum of Brands provides a fascinating insight into how everyday lives have changed over the past 200 years through the evolution of consumer brands. Through exhibits showcasing historic and contemporary household packaging, toys, magazines, newspapers, technology, travel, fashion and design, a fascinating picture emerges, creating a visually stimulating and thought-provoking experience, and for many an emotional and nostalgic reunion with their past.

The artworks depict heritage brands found in the Museum's core collection through still-life oil paintings. Brushstrokes to Brands offers an opportunity to connect with the collection through a new medium, as well as a contemporary artistic lens.

The paintings connect to people's past, created from the memories and stories the subjects inspire. Themes of nostalgia run throughout the Museum of Brands, giving visitors the opportunity to reminisce in a light-hearted manner, and share conversations about significant items from their past. Visitors can see favourites from the 'Time Tunnel' depicted in Steven's artwork.

'Showstoppers' include Cafe Condiments, Coca Cola Bottle, 75th Anniversary Smarties, Jack Daniel's Bottle, 1980s Fruit Gums & Fruit Pastilles and Blue Lego Space Figure.

Steven Smith says “Working in oils, from direct observation, I look to capture the everyday world around me. When painting still life objects I look for items that trigger emotions or memories of certain times, places or even people I know. Some are objects I have collected throughout my life, and some are modern, everyday items that we currently take for granted but may one day look back on with nostalgia. These are often toys, food items and household brands we are all familiar with. I hope that my paintings may reveal to future generations a glimpse into the past, the everyday world as I see it today. I want people to be able to see the colours, textures and details of objects as clear and as fresh as I see them today, even once they no longer exist.”

Natasha Facey, Museum Project Manager, says “We are excited to have Steven Smith’s oil paintings on display at the Museum. It is chance for our visitors to connect with the collection in a unique way. These oil paintings largely reflect objects that are found throughout the collection, through a different, contemporary artistic medium.”

There will be a ‘meet the artist’ and interactive draw along event on 09 August. Replicating one of his favourite paintings, Steven will teach the basics of creating a still life on canvas paper. Participants will be able to save their own drawing for a keepsake. A children’s activity worksheet will also be available to develop understanding of design and colour used in packaging.

The Museum of Brands is open from 10:00 to 18:00 Monday to Saturday and 11:00 to 17:00 on Sundays and Bank Holidays, last entry 45 minutes before closing. The Museum is located a short walk from Ladbroke Grove tube station at 111-117 Lancaster Road, W11 1QT.

www.museumofbrands.com

[@museumofbrands](https://www.instagram.com/museumofbrands)

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For press images click [here](#).

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To connect with the artist, visit www.artiststevenpsmith.com/

About the Museum of Brands

The Museum of Brands was established in 1984 by consumer historian Robert Opie. It offers an emotional journey through British lifestyle and culture displayed by its permanent exhibition, the Time Tunnel, temporary displays, activities and talks. The growing collection consists of over half a million items, of which 12,000 are currently on display in the Museum in West London. Starting in the Victorian era, it spans 200 years of British consumer culture, decade by decade, to the present day, showcasing household packaging, toys, magazines, wartime ephemera, technology, travel, fashion, royal souvenirs and design. Hundreds of heritage brands including Cadbury, Oxo, Guinness and Persil feature throughout the collection, offering visitors a chance to discover changing design, branding and packaging trends.

The Museum is an independent educational charity that has an outstanding learning department which offers workshops, activities and resources for learners of all ages. The Museum hosts events for companies ranging from household brands to national charities. A year-round

programme of professional development talks from speakers within the marketing and branding industry. The nationwide outreach project 'Living Brands' supports people living with dementia, their carers and families. The Museum of Brands is funded by admissions, retail, learning, venue hire, charitable grants, sponsorship and donations.

Registered Charity No. 1093538

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About Steven P Smith MAFA

Steven Phillip Smith was born in Preston, Lancashire in 1974 and has been a fulltime artist since 1996, after studying Fine Art at Wigan & Leigh College and Middlesbrough University.

He divides his time between painting outdoors 'en plein air' and painting still life and figurative works in the studio. He works in oils from direct observation whenever possible and loves to capture everyday places and objects.

He has exhibited in several joint shows and solo exhibitions and at the Royal Institute of Oil Painters (ROI) and Royal Society of Marine Artists (RSMA).

He is a member of MAFA (Manchester Academy of Fine Arts) and was elected a member of the council in 2021.

<http://www.artiststevenpsmith.com/>