

COURTAULD



Leave
your mark

Legacy giving



A message from the Director

Legacies are the foundation of the Courtauld, which was established by the extraordinary bequests made by Samuel Courtauld, Sir Robert Witt and Viscount Lee.

For nearly a century, the Courtauld has been a unique centre of expertise: a world-leading institute renowned for ground-breaking scholarship in art history, conservation and curation, with a gallery that cares for one of the UK's finest art collections. Our pioneering research shapes global debate and visual culture; our exhibitions and programming continually break fresh ground in the understanding and enjoyment of art; and our community of 9,000 alumni in over 80 countries shape creative and cultural industries across the globe.

As the custodians of this unique centre of expertise, we share a responsibility to ensure that the Courtauld continues to thrive long into the future. Leaving a gift in your Will will help shape the future of the Courtauld and ensure we can continue to build on its legacy in three key interconnected ways:

- Enhancing our home: Redeveloping our facilities at Somerset House will create an inspiring environment for our students, researchers, and visitors, while enhancing the world-class home of our collection, ground-breaking research and teaching.

- Welcoming new voices: As the world's top institution for the study of Art History, it is vital that we continue to open up access to the Courtauld, breaking down the barriers to art education and nurturing a new generation of art leaders who will set the cultural agenda of the future.
- Inspiring new thinking: Our world-class teaching and research will continue to expand the scope of our scholarship and programming, bringing new perspectives to our global audience in accessible and exciting ways.

Our continued success is due to the generosity and foresight of generations of supporters. As we stand on the threshold of our second century, remaining faithful to Samuel Courtauld's vision of 'art for all', I encourage you to reflect on your own connection to the Courtauld and to please consider, as I have done, leaving a lasting legacy.

Thank you for your support.

Professor Mark Hallett
Märit Rausing Director
Courtauld Institute of Art

Leaving your mark

Whether dedicated to a specific area of our work, or given as unrestricted funds to support areas of greatest need, you can choose how your legacy will make an impact. Where appropriate, we would be delighted to discuss naming and endowment opportunities that will help create a lasting tribute.

What could a gift in your Will support at the Courtauld?

Our experts

Support our faculty and curators – global leaders in teaching, research and innovation that advance the understanding of art history, curation and conservation.

Our students

Open doors for talented students globally by supporting scholarships, ensuring financial circumstances are never a barrier to studying at the Courtauld.

Our Gallery and campus

Improve and preserve our historic building, ensuring it is an inspiring home for our collection, students and visitors for the future.

Our collection

Enrich and share our world-renowned collection with the public, creating encounters with art that spark curiosity, creativity and new perspectives.

Our exhibitions

Support our exhibition programme which continues to engage and amaze, prompting debate and generating new research.

Our conservation work

Enable specialist conservation work that reveals new insights into how artworks were made and ensure they are protected for the future.

Our library

Ensure one of the UK's major library collections for the study of art history continues to grow and remains accessible to all.

Whatever your wishes, we would be delighted to hear from you. To discuss your intentions in confidence, please contact:

Dr Natalie Matias, Development Lead (Legacies)

Phone **0203 9477661**

Email natalie.matias@courtauld.ac.uk

‘...I continue to be utterly inspired by all the Courtauld offers. Every visit to the Gallery is a joy and my passion for art and art history has only deepened through this connection. It gives me great pleasure to give something back...’

Courtauld Legacy Circle Member (Anonymous)



How to leave a gift in your Will

Every legacy makes a lasting difference. You can remember the Courtauld in your Will by including:

- **The entirety, percentage or the remainder of your estate (residual gift)** after all other commitments have been settled.
- **A fixed cash sum (pecuniary gift)** – we would recommend this is index-linked so it retains its value over time.
- **An artwork or collection** – please contact us if you are considering a gift of art so we can assess the strategic fit of your generous offer with our curatorial team, ensuring we have the capacity to display, store and conserve it. We would be very grateful for any accompanying financial gifts to support the object's long-term care. We are also open to discussing donations of books, property, royalties and shares.

Legacy gifts – large or small – are vital in allowing us to plan for the future. We would be delighted to work with you to create your legacy in an area you feel passionate about. However, as the future can be unpredictable, we would be especially grateful to those who want to support us with an unrestricted legacy.

This gives the Courtauld the flexibility to use your generous donation where it is most needed, supporting our priorities as they evolve over time.

Tax benefits

The Courtauld Institute of Art is an exempt charity under the Charities Act 2011. If you are a UK taxpayer, this means that your legacy gift is exempt from inheritance tax and may help reduce your Inheritance Tax (IHT) liability. As of September 2026 the current IHT threshold is £325,000. Estates worth more than this are liable to pay Inheritance Tax at 40% over this amount. However, gifts of 10% or more to the Courtauld reduce the rate of IHT to 36%. This means that you can leave a transformational gift to charity whilst substantially reducing the net cost to your loved ones.

If you are a beneficiary of a gift in someone's Will, you can choose to transfer all or part of your inheritance to the Courtauld through a **Deed of Variation**. Gifts passed to charity in this way are exempt from Inheritance Tax, making this a tax efficient way to support the Courtauld during your lifetime.

‘I was a mature student at the Courtauld from 1975 to 1978,...I wanted someone else, who perhaps could not afford the fees, to enjoy the same uniquely wonderful education that I was fortunate enough to have at the Courtauld.’

Mary Rose,
Lady Beaumont of Whitley
Courtauld Legacy Circle Member



With a gift to the Courtauld in your Will, you are passing on your love of art to the next generation

Making or updating your Will

We recommend seeking the guidance of a solicitor, who can help you prepare your Will and assess your estate, clearly defining and legally protecting your wishes. This straightforward step ensures that your loved ones and chosen causes are provided for in accordance with your wishes.

If you already have a Will, it is simple to update it through your solicitor or Will writing provider. At the end of this brochure, you will find a pledge form and a template Letter of Wishes (for restricted gifts) should you wish to notify us of your intentions.

What should my Will contain?

Your Will should contain the name, address, and Registered Charity No. of your proposed beneficiary as follows:

The Courtauld Institute of Art, Somerset House, Strand, London, WC2R 0RN. Company registration number 4464432 and an exempt charity under the Charities Act 2011, HMRC charity tax reference XR60596.

An example of a simple legacy statement for your Will:

"I give free of inheritance tax [the entirety/ percentage of my residuary estate OR fixed amount] to the Courtauld Institute of Art, Somerset House, Strand, London, WC2R 0RN, company registration number 4464432 and an exempt charity under the Charities Act 2011, HMRC charity tax reference XR60596 for its general charitable purposes absolutely and I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer, Head of Finance or other appropriate officer for the time being shall be a good discharge to my Executors."

Please note that this wording applies to an unrestricted gift. If you wish to specify which aspect of our work you would like to support, please contact:

Dr Natalie Matias, Development Lead (Legacies)

Phone **0203 9477661**

Email natalie.matias@courtauld.ac.uk

Remember a loved one

Making a donation in memory of a loved one, whether a family member or a friend, is a meaningful way to honour and celebrate their life. If you and your loved one shared an appreciation for the Courtauld, or if they had a passion for the visual arts, art history or higher education, an in-memory gift can create a lasting impact.

Your donation can be directed to a specific area of the Courtauld's work and we would be delighted to help you explore this. You may also wish to set-up a funeral collection or tribute fund.



The Courtauld Legacy Circle

We are immensely grateful to you for considering a legacy gift to the Courtauld. We are delighted to welcome those who have pledged a gift in their Will to the Courtauld Legacy Circle. As a member of our community of legacy pledgers, you will have the opportunity to join a programme of events and behind-the-scenes activities, meet other supporters and receive regular information about our ongoing work.

Once you have made or updated your Will, we invite you to complete and return the legacy pledge form included at the end of this brochure. There is no obligation to inform us of your intention to leave a legacy but we would be grateful for the opportunity to thank you should you choose to remember the Courtauld in your Will.

We very much look forward to sharing further details and welcoming you as part of this distinguished group.

Thank you.



To find out more, please contact:

Dr Natalie Matias, Development Lead
(Legacies)

Phone **0203 9477661**

Email **natalie.matias@courtauld.ac.uk**

Visit:



Lifetime support: be part of a vibrant community that celebrates art

Our global community forms a creative and cultural powerhouse of influential thought leaders and change makers, including illustrious alumni, expert conservators and curators, leading academics and art enthusiasts. We are brought together by a shared interest to engage with, learn and generate new ideas about art history and the impact art has on society.

As a member, your support will enable us to continue our mission to make art available for all and ensure the Courtauld remains a place to inspire new thinking about art and culture for generations to come.

If you would like to get closer to the Courtauld, you can support the institution you love while enjoying unparalleled access to our world renowned gallery and collection by becoming a Courtauld Member or Patron.

To find out more about the exclusive offers of these programmes, please visit:



All images by Lewis Ronald @ Courtauld
Image of Professor Mark Hallett by Fergus Carmichael @ Courtauld

The Courtauld Institute of Art Somerset House, Strand London WC2R 0RN.
Company no 4464432. HMRC exempt charity tax reference: XR60596

