

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome to Sir John Soane's Museum, perhaps the most idiosyncratic of all London's museums – the house and collections of the great Regency architect Sir John Soane. Whether this is your first visit to this extraordinary house, or you have been here many times before, I know that you will have been inspired by this fascinating museum.

We are lucky to benefit from the far-sightedness and generosity of Soane, who left his house and collection to the public in 1837. However, so that we can continue to keep this museum freely accessible for future generations to enjoy – just as you have today – we need your help.

Please take a few moments to read this leaflet. It explains how, by joining the Soane Supporters' Circle, or by making a donation, you will be helping us to care for this Museum – and keep it just as Soane intended.

Tim Knox, Director



The Picture Room, 1825

SIR JOHN SOANE AND HIS MUSEUM

Born the son of a Berkshire bricklayer in 1753, Sir John Soane rose from humble beginnings to become one of England's greatest architects, responsible not only for the Bank of England, but also for Dulwich Picture Gallery – Britain's first public art gallery – interiors at No. 10 Downing Street and numerous other buildings.

Soane's house is open to all, and each year some 90,000 visitors from all over the world enjoy free access to the Museum and its exhibitions. Few small collections in the world rival Soane's for both quality and eclecticism, and as an architectural showpiece his house in Lincoln's Inn Fields is incomparable. Once visited, the Soane Museum is never forgotten.

'Sir John Soane was one of England's finest architects and the Museum at Lincoln's Inn Fields . . . an internationally recognised treasure' Sir Norman Foster



Portrait of John Soane by C. W. Hunneman, 1776

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Soane's original endowment for the upkeep and maintenance of his Museum has long been exhausted. The Museum is now supported by grant-in-aid from the Government, but this only just covers the Museum's day to day running costs. This means that a substantial sum of money must still be raised each year to enable us to care for and keep Soane's remarkable house and collections just as he left them.

Donations are crucial in helping us to maintain this spectacular but fragile Museum, and to ensure that Soane's house remains accessible to all.

Become a member of the Soane Supporters' Circle and for a minimum of just £2.50 per month you would be helping us to ensure Soane's Museum is preserved intact for many years to come. For example:

- **£30** pays for surface cleaning one of the many small pieces of sculpture or plaster casts
- **£50** pays for a folder to store and protect one of our 30,000 architectural drawings
- **£100** pays for a large book support for use in the Museum's Research Library
- **£150** pays for conserving an early 19th-century leather volume from Soane's library
- **£200** pays for running a hands-on workshop or a drop-in session in our new education unit
- **£500** pays for the cleaning and consolidation of a small architectural model
- **£1,000** or more pays for the cleaning of an oil painting in the Museum or the restoration of a gilt frame

For further information about supporting the Museum please visit www.soane.org

THE SUPPORTERS' NEWSLETTER

As a member of the Soane Supporters' Circle, you will receive a special newsletter three times a year, keeping you up to date with the latest news about the Museum and giving you advance notice of our annual series of lectures.

YOUR CONTACT DETAILS

Name Title

Address

PostCode Country

Tel/mobile

email

Surname, full forenames or initials and full home address including postcode are required for Gift Aid purposes. Please notify us if you change your name or address. Your details will not be passed on to any other organisation.

giftaid it If you are a UK taxpayer and select Gift Aid we will be able to increase your gift by reclaiming tax from HM Revenue and Customs, at no extra cost to you.

I am a UK taxpayer and pay an amount of UK Income Tax and/or UK Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax that can be reclaimed on my donation in the appropriate tax year. I wish Sir John Soane's Museum Society* to treat all donations I have made to the Society for the six years prior to this tax year (and no earlier than the 6th of April 2000), and all donations to the Society which I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise as Gift Aid donations.

Signature(s)

Date:

*Sir John Soane's Museum Society is a registered charity, no.327253, which aims to encourage, foster, assist and promote the charitable work and activities of Sir John Soane's Museum

PAYMENT DETAILS

Cheque

I enclose a cheque for £/\$/€ made payable to Sir John Soane's Museum Society

US donors might like to make cheques payable to Sir John Soane's Museum Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organisation that is US-tax exempt. Gifts to the Foundation are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by US law

Credit Card

Please charge the sum of £/\$/€ to my Visa/MC/Amex card to be paid annually on (date) (month) until further notice

Card No

Credit Card security No (last three digits on strip on back of card)

Card Expiry date/.....

Full name/s on card

Billing Address

Details of Direct Debit payment overleaf



The most effective way of supporting the Museum is by Direct Debit which can be collected annually or monthly (e.g. the minimum £30 donation would cost only £2.50 per month).

Instruction to your Bank or Building Society to pay by Direct Debit

Please fill in the whole form and send it to Sir John Soane's Museum Society, 13 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PB

To the Manager (name and full postal address of your bank or building society)

.....

Postcode

Name(s) of account holder(s)

Account No. Branch sort code

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Originator's identification number 677345
 Reference number:

Please pay Sir John Soane's Museum Society Direct Debits from the account detailed in this instruction, subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with Sir John Soane's Museum Society and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank or Building Society.** Banks and Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions from some types of account

Signature(s)

Date

I/We would like to pay £ each month/year (please specify)

beginning on the first of (month) (year)

Gifts of £1,000 or above qualify for membership of the
Soane Patrons' Circle
 (please tick for further information)

I/We would prefer to receive the Soane Supporters' Newsletter by
 (please specify) Post Email

Thank you for supporting Sir John Soane's Museum. Please send your completed form to Claudia Celder, Development Officer, Sir John Soane's Museum, 13 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3BP, or you can leave your form with one of our warders.

If you would like to know more about the fundraising needs of the Museum or discuss other ways in which you can help, such as leaving a legacy, then please contact Claudia Celder: Tel: 020 7440 4240/41 email: ccelder@soane.org.uk

EDUCATION

Soane created his Museum to be an 'Academy of Architecture'. His collections of art and antiquities exemplify the classical language of architecture and demonstrate the effects of light, the development of structures, variations in material as well as pattern and ornament in buildings.

'The Soane Museum is an inspiring and seminal Museum of Architecture . . . a perfect venue for research and education'
Daniel Libeskind

Today, the Museum remains the ideal setting for the study of architecture. The Museum has long maintained a lively programme of architectural and other exhibitions, study days and lectures and visits for students and adults. Since 2000 our unique schools workshop programme has also meant that children as young as seven are now able to come and study the fundamental principles of architecture and construction.

Your support will allow us to develop our education programme and help to ensure that education remains a core activity of the Museum.



Year 5 students in the Picture Room in No.13 Lincoln's Inn Fields

CONSERVATION

Soane's Museum has been preserved as Soane left it nearly 200 years ago, but it is a delicate environment – with vulnerable 19th-century surfaces and a collection which is displayed from floor to ceiling in small and narrow passages.

Conservation work at the Museum is therefore a constant necessity, but due to our limited resources, the Museum must rely on the experience of just two part-time conservators to help to look after the three Soane houses in our care – Nos 12, 13 and 14 Lincoln's Inn Fields and their extraordinary contents.

Your support will allow the Museum to expand its vital work in conservation and help us to preserve this magnificent, but fragile, legacy.



Conservator, Jane Bush, treating a painted wooden bracket

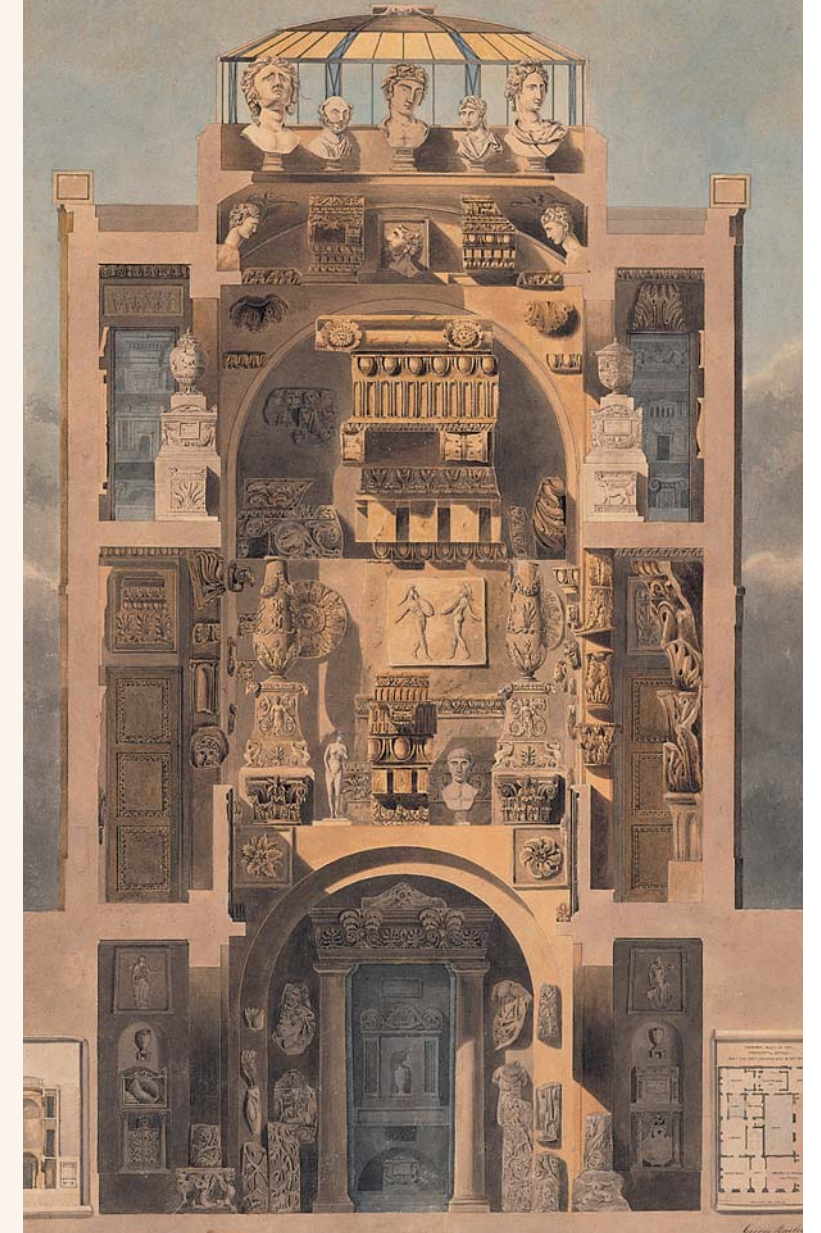
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 www.soane.org

Front cover: The Dome area looking east, 1810

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SIR JOHN SOANE'S MUSEUM

The Soane
 Supporters' Circle



Become a Supporter today for only £2.50 per month