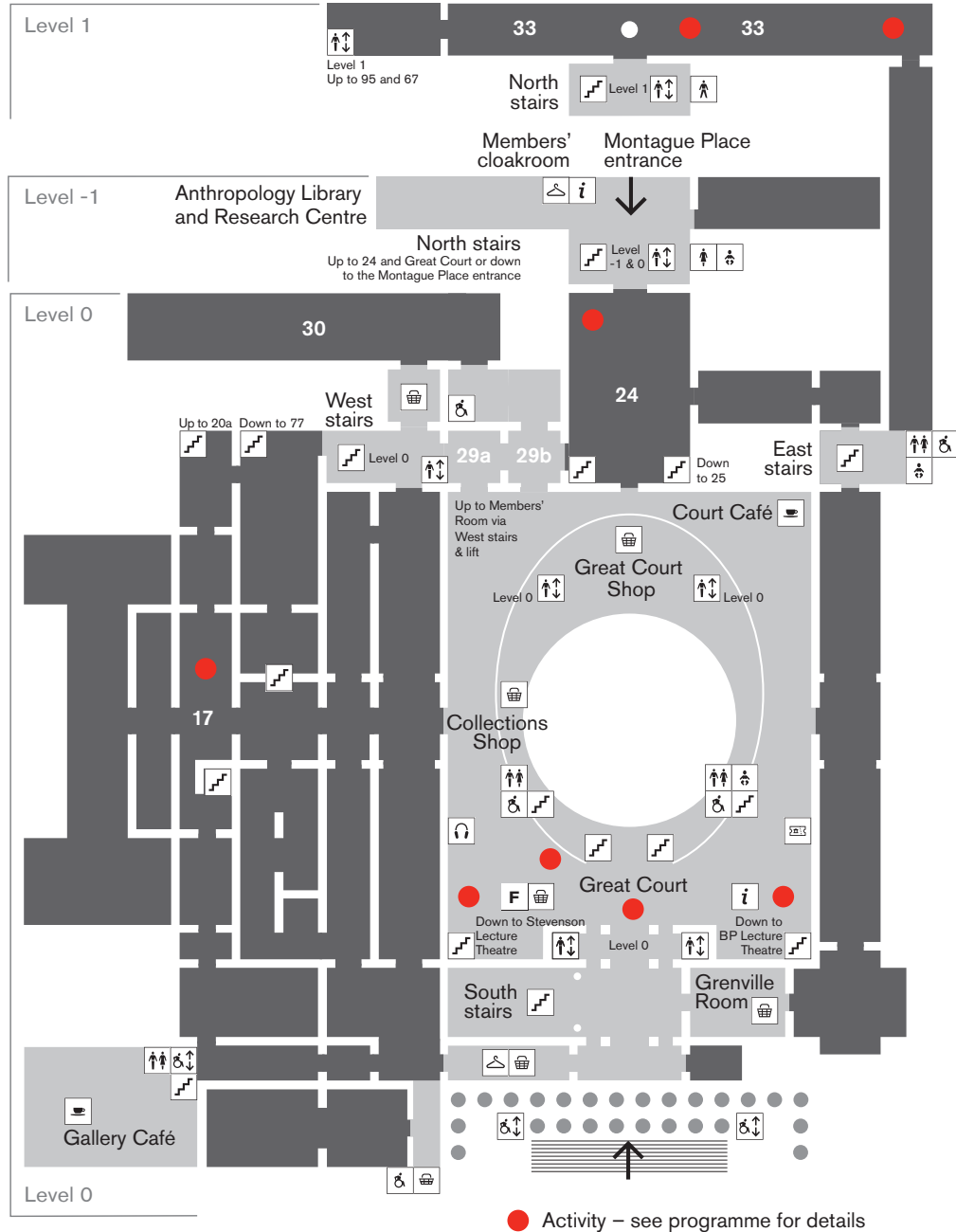


## Ground floor

This map shows the locations of the events and activities. You can pick up a free map of the whole Museum at the Information Desk in the Great Court.



The British  
Museum

# Ming late Courtly pleasures

Friday 14 November,  
18.00–21.00

Free, just drop in

Supported by BP



Art Exhibitions China –  
principal Chinese contributor





## Welcome

### The propitious *qilin*

**G** 18.00–21.00

All bodes well for a good evening if you meet (and perhaps have your photograph taken with) the auspicious *qilin* – a mythical Chinese creature. It will take strolls around the Great Court throughout the evening, but will otherwise be by the entrance where a rolling screen will explain the good fortune it was prophesied to bring the Yongle emperor 600 years ago. Free, just drop in

'Tribute giraffe with attendant'. Hanging scroll, ink and colours on silk, 1414. © Philadelphia Museum of Art.

'In Pursuit of the Dream' from *The Peony Pavilion*. © Kelda Hol.

Ming musical moments. 11 April 2014 at the Burrell Collection.

Porcelain bottle. Jingdezhen, Yongle period, 1403–1424.

Joey Zhou and Roger Law. © Roger Law.

Cloisonné jar, decorated with dragons. Xuande period, 1426–1435.

Cover: Detail of a portrait of an official in front of the imperial palace. Hanging scroll, China, c. 1480–1580.

## Performances

### In Pursuit of the Dream from Tang Xianzu's *The Peony Pavilion*

**17** 18.30 & 19.30

Kunqu is one of the oldest extant forms of Chinese opera. Kathy Hall and her Kunqu solo scene for the Kunqu *guimendan* ('refined young lady's role'), taking you into the vast, empty garden of a Ming dynasty mansion. There, Du Linliang, a secluded high-born maiden, retraces her dream of love with a young scholar. She relives their brief tender moments together, only to mourn a love now beyond her reach. Musicians: Ying Wan on percussion, Jack Footitt on *dizi* (flute), Yu Yao Teo on *erhu* (fiddle), Liting Cai on *pipa* (lute). Free, just drop in, limited seating available

### Venue key

**1** Room number

**G** Great Court

**BP** BP Lecture Theatre

**SL** Stevenson Lecture Theatre

## Zither performances

**33** 18.15 & 19.10

The UK Chinese Ensemble presents performances of the *guqin* (7-stringed zither), including two by Cheng Yu from 1425. The UK Chinese Ensemble (UKCE) is a dedicated professional Chinese music organisation comprising Chinese virtuosi resident mainly in Britain. [ukchinesemusic.com](http://ukchinesemusic.com) Free, just drop in, limited seating available

## Ming musical moments

**SL** 18.15, 19.20 & 20.15

Join composer Eddie McGuire and the Harmony Ensemble with vocal soloist Fong Liu for this performance of a new song commissioned for the spotlight tour of an imperial Ming flask to the Burrell Collection in Glasgow earlier this year. Tom Furniss' poem *A Ming Imperial Flask Visits Glasgow* was set to music by Eddie McGuire and premiered at the Burrell Collection in April 2014.

Free tickets required – collect these from the lecture theatre from 17.30

## Workshops

### Qigong

**G** (south west), 18.20, 19.25 & 20.35

Qigong is a practice of aligning body, breath and mind for health, meditation and martial arts training. Join this set of exercises, suitable for beginners, led by Mei Quan Academy of Tai Chi [taichinews.com](http://taichinews.com) Free tickets required – collect from the workshop from 17.30

### Puzzle vase

**G** (south east), 18.00–20.45

Be inspired by Chinese paper cuts, dragons and floral motifs to decorate a piece which will contribute to a large-scale Ming vase in the Great Court. Free, just drop in

### Calligraphy

**24** 18.15, 18.55 & 19.35

Learn basic characters and practise your brushstrokes to create a piece to take home. With Chinese calligrapher Zhao Yizhou. In association with the London Confucius Institute, SOAS: [soas.ac.uk/lci](http://soas.ac.uk/lci) Free tickets required – collect from the workshop from 17.30

## Talks

### Tastes of Ming China

**BP** 19.00–20.00

Fuchsia Dunlop, award-winning cook and food writer specialising in Chinese cuisine, explores regional dishes that have roots in the Ming period, tracing tastes and techniques from early 15th-century Chinese recipes. Free, book online in advance 150 free tickets will be available from outside BP Lecture Theatre from 17.30

### Roger Law: the long march to Jingdezhen

**33** 18.35 & 19.30

Roger Law, creator of the *Spitting Image* puppets, and Artist in Residence at The National Art School in Sydney, was introduced to the porcelain workshops in Jingdezhen by Chinese-Australian ceramicist Ah Xian. Roger will talk about his work, inspiration and techniques, alongside a small display of selected works. The exhibition *Roger Law* is on at Sladmore Contemporary until 15 Nov. Free, just drop in, limited seating available

## Related exhibition

The BP exhibition

### **30** Ming: 50 years that changed China

★★★★★

'magnificent' *The Telegraph* 'spectacular' *The Times* Until 5 Jan 2015 Explore a golden age in China's history. This exhibition features gold, jewellery, furniture, paintings, sculptures and textiles from museums across China and the rest of the world. Many of them have only very recently been discovered and have never been seen outside China. £16.50, Members free *Supported by BP* Book now [britishmuseum.org](http://britishmuseum.org) #Ming50Years

## Food and drink

Food and drink will be available from a bar in the south-west corner of the Great Court. Drinks include Chinese beer and lychee mocktail and snacks include Ming dynasty duck wraps, Beijing spiced chicken wings and vegetable dim sum.