

The exhibition focuses on drawings which have served as designs for architecture, ornament and the applied arts. It explores a wide range of works, from embroidery and tapestry designs to drawings for furniture, metalwork, interior decorations and mural paintings. The aim of the exhibition is to present a diverse selection of works on paper that foregrounds richly coloured and intricately patterned designs over rigid architectural plans and embracing a broad range of artistic traditions. Through a curated selection of nearly sixty drawings, the exhibition reflects on the role of drawing in the artistic production process.

Accompanied by a fully illustrated scholarly catalogue, this exhibition includes drawings dating from the early 1540s through to 1995. Artists showcased in the exhibition and catalogue include George Barbier, Antonio Basoli, Johann Wolfgang Baumgartner, Mosè Bianchi, Giuseppe Bernardino Bison, Andrea Boscoli, Edme Bouchardon, François Boucher, Marco da Faenza, Pietro Gonzaga, Giovanni Francesco Grimaldi, Richard de Lalonde, Daniel Lindtmayer, Jean-Guillaume Moitte, Domenico Cresti called Passignano, Emil Pirchan, Domenico Piola, Luzio Romano, Giambattista Tiepolo, Eugene Viollet-le-Duc, Volterrano, Federico Zuccaro and many others.