

# NGV Schools

## Art of the Table

**NGV INTERNATIONAL**

**28 FEB – 31 DEC 2014**

Decorative Arts Passage, Level 2



Porcelain plates, silver cutlery, sparkling glassware – a well-laid dining table is a work of art. The changing forms and appearances of these familiar objects over the past 500 years tell a history of the food we eat and how we eat it. Exploration of the globe brought new foods and drinks to the tables of Europe, requiring new equipment to facilitate their consumption. Shifting social patterns changed when we ate and with whom.

*Art of the Table* examines these histories through examples of dining wares drawn from the NGV's rich decorative arts collection, a significant proportion of which consists of objects related to dining and drinking.

**Chelsea Porcelain Factory**  
London (manufacturer)  
*Melon tureen* c.1755  
porcelain (soft-paste)  
Collection of Kenneth Reed, Sydney.

## Student Programs

### Introductory talk

Explore works in the exhibition and related works in the NGV Collection to learn more about dining traditions and the history of what and how we eat.

**Cost** \$7

### Fill your plate

**Recommended for Years 4–10**

Discover *Art of the Table* and make some of your own. Visit the exhibition, see related works from the NGV Collection and then, in the Education Studio, design and decorate a beautiful plate to take home.

**Cost** \$19 (2.5 hours)

### Mind your (table) manners

**Recommended for Years 5–10**

Combine an introduction to *Art of the Table* with a practical lesson in table etiquette. Explore how to set the table, how to enter the room and get seated for dining, which cutlery to use, and how to behave at the dinner table. Dressing for dinner is encouraged!

**Cost** \$16 (2 hours)

### Bookings and enquiries

T 03 8620 2340, 12–5pm weekdays

E [edu.bookings@ngv.vic.gov.au](mailto:edu.bookings@ngv.vic.gov.au)

W [ngv.vic.gov.au/learn/schools-programs/School-Programs-Booking](http://ngv.vic.gov.au/learn/schools-programs/School-Programs-Booking)