

Damascus Room side programme – opening hours and events in the Japanese Palace from 5 March - 4 June 2017

The Dresden Damascus Room conservation workshop will be open to visitors on eleven Sundays in the spring of 2017 from 1-5 p.m. in each case. Additional special events offer interesting and varied tours of discovery on these dates.

Entry is free but access will be limited owing to the confines of the workshop. Bookings can be made via our Visitor Service, phone: + 49 351 49142000; email: besucherservice@skd.museum

News from the Damascus Room conservation workshop

Three walls and the ceiling of the Dresden Damascus Room were successfully restored between 2014-2016. The magnificently embellished panels can now be experienced in all their original colour for the first time in over a century, having been concealed beneath darkened layers of glue and varnish for decades. The room's masterfully composed colours and shapes thus afford a unique glimpse of how a Damascene family lived at the beginning of the nineteenth century.

Temporary exhibition modules

The conservation workshop is transformed during opening hours into a temporary exhibition space on the following themes:

- Life as it was and is in the Old City of Damascus – photos of residential houses and rooms from 1870-2015
- Damascene tiles from the sixteenth to eighteenth centuries – precious items from Dresden's Museum of Applied Arts
- Preserving the cultural heritage in difficult times – photos from a restoration project in the Old City of Damascus between 2010-2016

5 March 2017	1-5 p.m. 2 p.m. Talk by Mariam Bachich (civil engineer, building conservationist, Cultural Heritage specialist) 2 and 4 p.m.	Workshop and exhibition open Day-to-day life in a Syrian village near Homs between 1940-2010 (talk in English with a German translation) Come on, let me show you this – watching conservator’s work	Insights into village life and changes in building designs, clothes and day-to-day life over the past several decades that the speaker studied and documented during her Master’s degree. Children guide children through the Damascus Room conservation workshop
19 March 2017	1-5 p.m. Sylvia Ludwig (museum educationist)	Workshop and exhibition open What, how much and where – a rally of discovery	Look hard and you’re almost there. A tour of discovery for children in the Damascus Room
26 March 2017	1-5 p.m. 2 - 4 p.m.	Workshop and exhibition open Come on, let me show you this – watching conservator’s work	Children guide children through the Damascus Room conservation workshop
2 April 2017	1-5 p.m. Marwa and Rouba Saloum (students) 3 p.m.	Workshop and exhibition open Chai aadi, kamun, mate – what do they drink in Syria? Come on, let me show you this – watching conservator’s work	Teatime with Marwa and Rouba Children guide children through the Damascus Room conservation workshop
9 April 2017	1-5 p.m. 2 p.m.	Workshop and exhibition open Qanun, nay, oud and more – instruments and music from Syria	Invitation to make and listen to music and try instruments out together
16 April 2017	1-5 p.m. 2 p.m. Talk by Anke Scharrahs (conservator) 4 p.m.	Workshop and exhibition open London, Düsseldorf, Cincinnati, Dresden, Honolulu – Orient Rooms for the Western market Come on, let me show you this – watching conservator’s work	The art trade in Damascus Rooms between 1880-2015 – how the tastes of Western customers shaped our image of the Orient and influenced the conservation of Damascene interiors throughout the world Children guide children through the Damascus Room conservation workshop

23 April 2017	<p>1-5 p.m. 2 p.m. Zoya Masoud (architect, urban planner)</p> <p>4 p.m.</p>	<p>Workshop and exhibition open Urban architecture in Ottoman Syria</p> <p>Come on, let me show you this – watching conservator’s work</p>	<p>Structure of an Islamic city between past and present – evolution of urban morphology in a social context: courtyard houses, bazaars, religious buildings</p> <p>Children guide children through the Damascus Room conservation workshop</p>
7 May 2017	<p>1-5 p.m. 2 p.m. Workshop with introductory talk by Samah Shtay (artist, conservator)</p> <p>4 p.m.</p>	<p>Workshop and exhibition open Calligraphy and poetry – artistic inscriptions in Damascene homes from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries</p> <p>Come on, let me show you this – watching conservator’s work</p>	<p>Brief introduction to Arabic script, the principal calligraphic styles and the meaning of inscriptions in the Damascus Room</p> <p>3 p.m.: Special programme (not just for children): How do I write my name in Arabic? Practical introduction to Arabic calligraphy</p> <p>Children guide children through the Damascus Room conservation workshop</p>
14 May 2017	<p>1-5 p.m. 3 p.m. Talk by Anke Scharrahs (conservator)</p>	<p>Workshop and exhibition open Ajami, faranji, sinisi – precious items from all over the world in Damascus</p>	<p>Egyptian carpets, Dutch tiles, Persian silks, Chinese porcelain, Indian cotton prints – luxury goods from all over the world graced the interiors of Damascene homes in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. New research findings with a bearing on the Dresden Damascus Room</p>
21 May 2017	<p>1-5 p.m. Marwa and Rouba Saloum (students) Sylvia Ludwig (museum educationist)</p>	<p>Workshop and exhibition open Backgammon & Co – what games do they play in Syria? What, how much and where – a rally of discovery</p>	<p>Afternoon of games in the Damascus Room</p> <p>Look hard and you’re almost there. A tour of discovery for children in the Damascus Room</p>
4 June 2017	<p>1-5 p.m.</p>	<p>Workshop and exhibition open Qanun, nay, oud and more – instruments and music from Syria</p>	<p>Invitation to make and listen to music and try instruments out together</p>