



ROYAL
MUSEUMS
GREENWICH

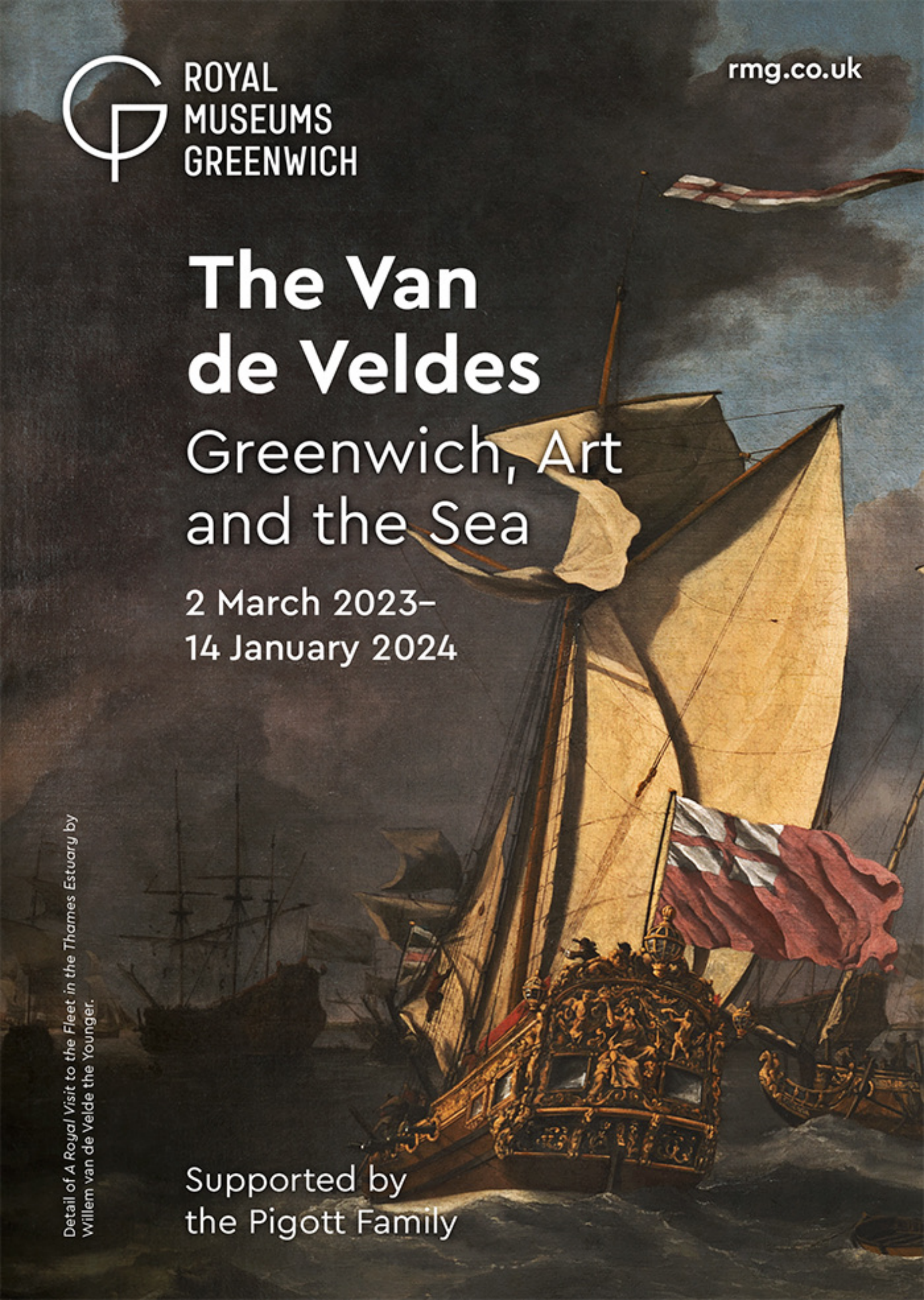
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The Van de Veldes Greenwich, Art and the Sea

2 March 2023–
14 January 2024

Detail of A Royal Visit to the Fleet in the Thames Estuary by
Willem van de Velde the Younger.

Supported by
the Pigott Family



The Van de Veldes Greenwich, Art and the Sea

Royal Museums Greenwich is home to the world's largest collection of works by the leading marine artists of the 17th century, Willem van de Velde the Elder and his son, Willem van de Velde the Younger. 350 years ago, the Van de Veldes moved from their home in the Dutch Republic to England, where Charles II gave them a working space in this building. From their Queen's House studio, father and son pioneered marine painting in Britain and established a taste for the genre that persists today. There are few collections of any 17th-century artist's work – maritime or otherwise – as comprehensive as the Van de Velde collection at Greenwich or as revealing about how an artist's studio functioned at that time. This exhibition celebrates this extraordinary collection and its unique association with the Queen's House, as much a site for contemporary art then as it is today.

Access

Royal Museums Greenwich welcomes all visitors and wants everyone to enjoy the Queen's House. We are committed to improving access and facilities for visitors with disabilities.

As an historic building, however, the Queen's House has some doorways that are narrow (less than 900 mm in width) which may restrict wheelchair and walking-frame access. There are two doors of 720 mm and 840 mm width into the King's Writing Closet ('The Cabinet of Wonders') on the First Floor (marked * on the plan).

If you are concerned about your route through the Queen's House avoiding these doors, then please speak to a member of staff.

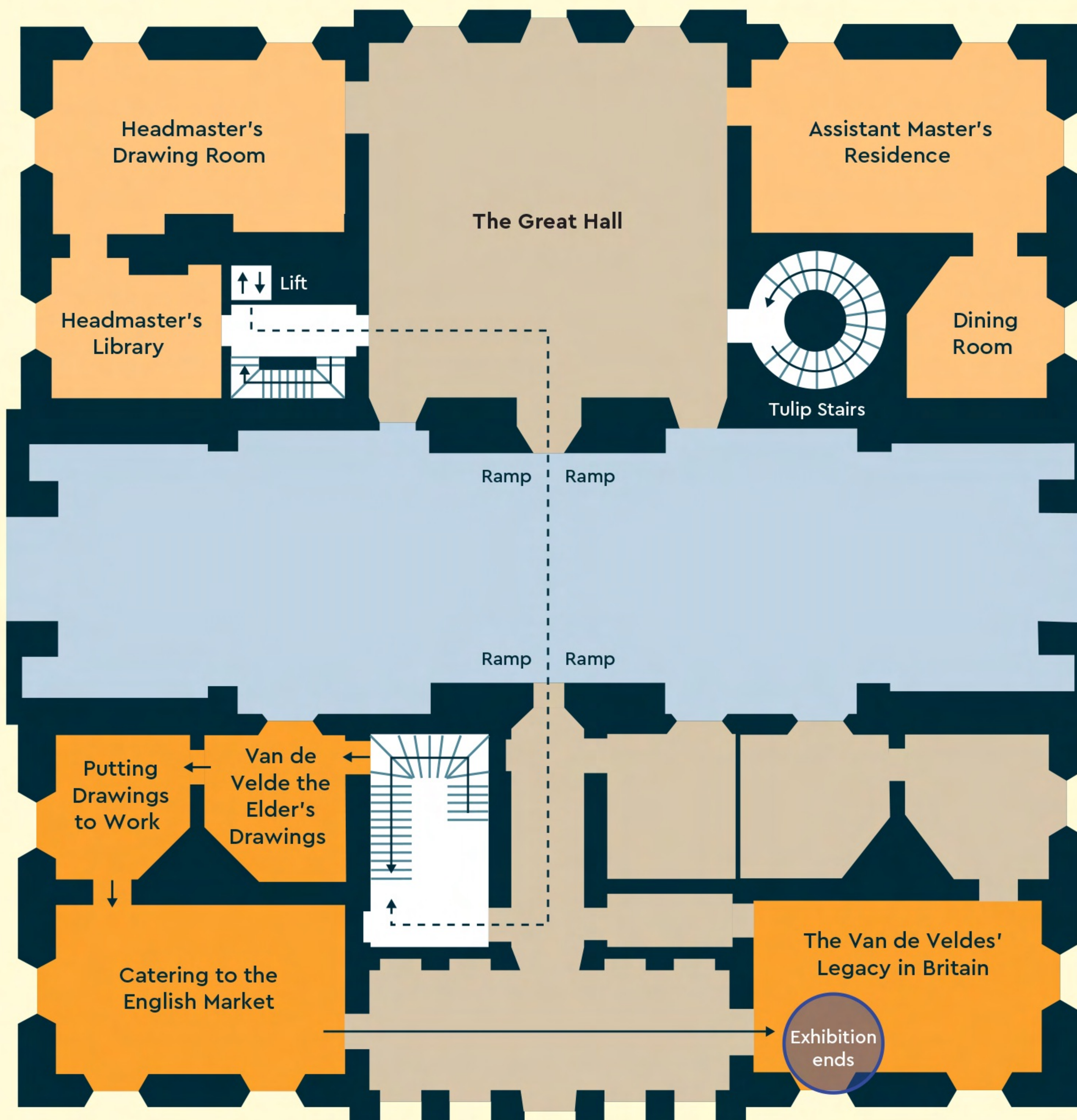
While most of the Queen's House is well lit, the lighting in some of the rooms is lower than you might expect. This is to protect and preserve historic textiles, drawings and manuscripts that are sensitive to light.

Toilets, baby-changing facilities and an accessible toilet are located in the Undercroft at the bottom of the 'Tulip Stairs'.

Timeline of key events

1611	Willem van de Velde the Elder is born in Leiden, Dutch Republic
1633	Willem van de Velde the Younger is born in Leiden, Dutch Republic
1642	Civil War in Britain between the King and Parliament begins
1649	Charles I is executed, and the monarchy is abolished
1651	Charles II goes into exile on the Continent after defeat at the Battle of Worcester
1652–54	First Anglo-Dutch War
1660	The monarchy is restored: Charles II becomes king
1665–67	Second Anglo-Dutch War
1672/3	The Van de Veldes move to England
1672–74	Third Anglo-Dutch War; Battle of Solebay (28 May 1672)
1674	First record of the Van de Veldes working in the Queen's House
1685	James II (previously Duke of York) becomes king after the death of Charles II
1688–89	The 'Glorious Revolution' deposes James II and places William III and Mary II on the throne Royal patronage of the Van de Veldes ends
1693	Willem van de Velde the Elder dies in London
1707	Willem van de Velde the Younger dies in London
1714	The Van de Velde family business, managed by Willem Van de Velde the Younger's son Cornelis, closes

GROUND FLOOR



- suggested visitor route
- accessible route via lift (please ask for assistance)
- * narrow doorway (wheelchair access restricted)

~~~~~ River ~~~~~

~~~~~ Park ~~~~~

FIRST FLOOR



- The Van de Veldes: Greenwich, Art and the Sea exhibition
- 'The Queen's House Goes Dutch' trail

Audio tour

A Smartify audio tour of the Queen's House that includes *The Van de Veldes: Greenwich, Art and the Sea* is available for a small charge and free for members. Download the free Smartify app to listen to the tour on your phone. Look out for the numbers around the House.

Events

Drawn Together: SEASON of drawing March to June 2023

Drawing was at the heart of the Van de Veldes' practice and process. This season of events dedicated to drawing will use the Museum's collection and its sites (the Queen's House, National Maritime Museum, Royal Observatory, *Cutty Sark* and the Prince Philip Maritime Collections Centre) to delve into how drawing is used by artists and problem solvers to visualise how we think and feel. It will explore our collective love of drawing and its relevance to us all.

Circumnavigation Drawing Symposium Sat 11 March, 10.30–17.00

Launching the *Drawn Together: SEASON of drawing*, this inclusive symposium is a dynamic celebration of drawing. Engage with artists and experts who put drawing at the centre of what they do. There will be active drawing sessions and performance. Circumnavigation is curated by Tania Kovats, Anita Taylor and Chloe Briggs, members of the Drawing Correspondence art collective.

National Maritime Museum
Free



To book tickets and discover other talks, workshops and activities included in the *Drawn Together: SEASON of drawing* scan the QR code.

Membership

Members enjoy unlimited free entry to *Cutty Sark*, the Royal Observatory and the Peter Harrison Planetarium, as well as special exhibitions at the National Maritime Museum. Members are also invited to exclusive events, previews and receive a 10% discount in our shops and cafés. For more information visit rmg.co.uk/membership

Shop

Don't miss our new and exclusive product range inspired by the Van de Veldes. Visit the Exhibition Shop in the Undercroft of the Queen's House or buy online at shop.rmg.co.uk

Discover more great art

The Queen's House and National Maritime Museum are part of Royal Museums Greenwich.

Sign up to our art newsletter at rmg.co.uk/artnews or join the conversation on our social media channels:

 Royal Museums Greenwich  @RMGreenwich  @royalmuseumsgreenwich

#VanDeVeldes

Thank you to the many individuals, trusts, foundations and funding organisations, who through their generous support have made this exhibition, associated conservation projects and public programme possible.

The Queen's House 'Goes Dutch'

The Queen's House has always been a place for artistic creation. In the late 17th century, it was a court residence, home to emigrant artists and craftsmen. From 1672/73 two of these were the Dutch father and son marine painters, Willem van de Velde the Elder and Willem van de Velde the Younger, who worked for Charles II. This year the Queen's House celebrates the 350th anniversary of their arrival with a special exhibition (marked in deep orange on the enclosed plan) which begins in the King's Presence Chamber on the first floor.

Displays elsewhere in the House (marked in light orange on the enclosed plan) shine a light on Dutch art – particularly marine painting – and the fascination it has held for artists and art lovers over the centuries.

Detail from *A Dutch bezan yacht and many other vessels in a crowded harbour* by Willem van de Velde the Elder.

