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Fondation Napoléon Exhibition in Australia
*Napoleon: Revolution to Empire* at the National Gallery of Victoria,
Melbourne
2 June - 7 October 2012

Following on from Brazil (Sao Paulo 2003), France (Paris 2004-2005) and Mexico (Monterrey, 2006), Germany (Wesel and Minden, 2006), Italy (Rome and Elba, 2008) and Austria (Schallaburg, 2009), the Fondation Napoléon’s collection of historical objects and works of art is to be exhibited at the National Gallery of Victoria (NGV) in Melbourne, Australia.

*Napoleon: Revolution to Empire*, which has been organised in close collaboration with the NGV, is to run from 2 June to 7 October, 2012.

This panoramic exhibition not only follows the extraordinary careers of Napoleon and Josephine it also examines French art, culture and life from the 1770s to the 1820s, its story running from the first French voyages of discovery to Australia during the reign of Louis XV to the end of Napoleon’s transforming leadership as first Emperor of France.

As well as telling the little-known story of France’s close involvement with Australia in the early 1800s, *Napoleon: Revolution to Empire* brings to Australia for the first time hundreds of objects of breathtaking opulence and luxury – paintings, drawings, engravings, sculpture, furniture, textiles, porcelain, glass, gold and silver, fashion, jewellery and armour. The exhibition includes prestigious loans from some of Europe’s most important Revolutionary and Napoleonic collections, including the Château de Malmaison, Château de Versailles, Musée Carnavalet and Musée de l’Armée in France, the Napoleonmuseum Thurgau in Switzerland, and the Museo Napoleonico in Rome.

The exhibition catalogue (in English) has been published by Thames and Hudson.


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