

WORLD CERAMICS: MASTERPIECES FROM THE V&A



Sponsored by Syria Shell

fact, twelve outstanding Syrian ceramics from the collection of the National Museum of Damascus joined the exhibition at the Khan As'ad Basha. These represent the achievement of Syrian potters in the 12th to 14th centuries, when they mastered a range of techniques, including coloured glazes, painting under the glaze, and lustre decoration – these being three of the great contributions of Islamic potters to the history of ceramics.



and the General Directorate of Antiquities & Museums and believe this partnership provides a unique opportunity for future cooperation between the V&A and local cultural entities."

Further invaluable support for the *World Ceramics: Masterpieces from the V&A* exhibition in Damascus has been generously provided by the General Directorate of Antiquities and Museums and by the British Council in Syria.

Elizabeth White, Director of the British Council in Syria, adds,

Sponsors

Shell Syria is the exhibition's sole sponsor. Shell operates in Syria through the Al Furat Petroleum Company aiming to help maximize the economic recovery of hydrocarbons, to develop and train national staff and support the Syrian economy. Shell actively promotes and supports broad cultural awareness, learning and social development activities through its social investment initiatives, which remains a strategic focus and a business enabler for the Company.

Ghaleb Suleiman, Deputy General Manager for Syria Shell, adds:

"Syria Shell is delighted to be able to support the World Ceramics: Masterpieces from the V&A exhibition in Damascus as part of the DACC initiative. Having been operational in Syria for more than 50 years Shell is very proud to be associated with this celebration of the historical wealth of Syrian culture. An important aspect of Shell's work throughout its activities is the development and training of Syrian personnel in all its operations. We are keen to support initiatives that build relationships with local cultures and are proud to support the cooperation between the V&A

"The British Council is proud to be working with the V&A, with DACC, with the General Directorate of Antiquities & Museums and with Shell to bring this exhibition to Syria, and we look forward to seeing these splendid pieces in the magnificent setting of the Khan As'ad Basha. I salute the V&A's achievement in giving their first major loan exhibition for the region to Damascus in this year of celebration of the Syria's rich heritage – and I hope that their example will be followed by other great museums of Britain and the world in the years to come."