



V&A Appoints New Director

21 April 2011

The Prime Minister and V&A Board of Trustees have appointed Professor Martin Roth as the new Director of the V&A.

Roth, currently Director General of the Dresden State Art Collections, will take up his new appointment on 1 September 2011.

Paul Ruddock, Chairman of the Board of V&A Trustees, said: *“The Trustees and I are delighted that Martin Roth will be joining us. He has a strong record of leading and managing complex arts organisations and brings experience of working in museums and cultural organisations around the world. We feel he is the ideal person to build on the recent successes of the V&A to enhance its position as the leading international museum of art and design. We look forward to working with Martin.”*

Ed Vaizey, Minister for Culture, Communications and Creative Industries, said: *“I’m delighted to welcome Martin Roth as the new Director of the V&A. I’m confident that his wealth of experience, knowledge and commitment to the arts internationally will be a real asset in leading Britain’s national museum of art and design.”*

Professor Martin Roth, born January 1955, graduated from Eberhard Karls University Tuebingen in the Faculty of Social and Cultural Science, and went on to achieve a Ph.D. on the political and historical background of German Museums and Exhibitions from 1871 to 1945.

Roth was curator at the German Historical Museum, Berlin (1989-91) and Director of the German Hygiene-Museum, Dresden (1991-2000) before being appointed Director General of the Dresden State Art Collections in 2001. Under Roth’s management the Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden has undergone major renovation and modernisation. Roth has also created a large network of international partners which has led to numerous exhibitions overseas.

During this time he was also President of the German Museums Association (1996-2003); Director of Thematic Exhibitions at the German World Fair *EXPO 2000*, Hanover; President of the Cultural Foundation of the Federal State of Saxony (1996-2003); Advisor to *expo.02*, Switzerland; and Spokesman of the Conference of National Cultural Institutions, Halle (2002-05).

Roth is a member of the advisory boards for the Deutsches Museum, Munich, the Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations, Stuttgart, the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation/National Museums Berlin, and the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Berlin. He is also on the administrative boards of the National Museum of German Art and Culture, Nuremberg and The Senckenberg Nature Research Society, Frankfurt/Main. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Stadtmuseum, Berlin and curating member of the Dresdner Bank Cultural Foundation, Frankfurt/Main, the 'Deutsch-Russischer Museumsdialog', Berlin, the Bucerius Kunst Forum, Hamburg, the Frauenkirche Dresden Foundation, Dresden, the Deutsch-Türkische Gesellschaft, Berlin, and the Humboldt-Forum, Berlin.

Roth is widely published and has lectured at the University of Dresden, the School of Design in Karlsruhe and University of Karlsruhe. In 2007 he was awarded the French 'Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres' and in 2010 with the Danish Order of Dannebrog.

Professor Roth said: *"The V&A is the world's leading museum of art and design and I am honoured and delighted to be appointed as its new Director. I am looking forward to working with the staff and Trustees of the Museum and building on the success achieved by Mark Jones over the past ten years."*

Professor Roth will take over from Sir Mark Jones who has been Director of the V&A since 2001. Mark Jones is leaving the Museum in June 2011 to be Master of St Cross College, Oxford.

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