



SIR JOHN SOANE'S MUSEUM FOUNDATION  
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## *Key Facts*

### **Sir John Soane's Museum - London, United Kingdom - [www.Soane.org.uk](http://www.Soane.org.uk)**

- The house, museum and library of Sir John Soane have been a public museum since 1837 and therefore one of the oldest public museums in the world and believed the oldest historic house museum anywhere.
- The 'Soane' name is recognised internationally as symbolising quality, innovation and excellence in architecture, design and art.
- The collections are world class and inseparable from the architecture of the museum.
- In 2000 the museum was recognised by the UK Government as being the 'supreme surviving example of a house museum collection in the world'.
- Paintings in the collection include works by Turner, Canaletto and 12 paintings by Hogarth including the famous 'A Rake's Progress' and 'An Election'.
- Amongst the antiquities is the Egyptian Sarcophagus of Seti I – acknowledged to be the finest example outside Egypt.
- The library contains one of the UK's most important architectural drawings collections including works by Christopher Wren, William Chambers, George Dance and 9,000 works by Robert and James Adam
- In 2005/6 the museum will be undertaking the first phase of a major multi-million dollar restoration programme including the complete restoration of the recently acquired Soane house next door - No.14 Lincoln's Inn Fields - which will become the museum's education centre.
- The museum receives almost 100,000 visitors each year of which approximately 25,000 are from the US
- The museum has an ambitious and wide-ranging exhibition programme and was the first UK gallery to showcase the work of Frank Gehry and Daniel Libeskind.
- Entrance to the museum and exhibitions is free and open to all.
- In 2005 the New York based Checkerboard Film Foundation released the documentary *Sir John Soane: An English Architect - An American Legacy*, which explores how Soane's ideas were picked up by the members of the Post-Modernist generation of American architects, including commentary and works by Philip Johnson, Robert Venturi and Denise Scott-Brown, Richard Meier, Robert Stern and others.

### **Sir John Soane's Museum Foundation - United States - [www.SoaneFoundation.com](http://www.SoaneFoundation.com)**

- Established in New York in 1991. Founding members included, among others, Philip Johnson, Michael Graves, Samuel C. Miller and Eugene Thaw.
- The Foundation has an active educational mission and organises lectures, panel discussions and symposia, and combines education with development in its receptions, dinners and trips in the US and Europe
- One of the central objectives of the Foundation is to support charitable and educational programs and projects of Sir John Soane's Museum in London.
- The Foundation actively participates in the effort to save and enhance Soane's architectural patrimony for present and future generations and to enable the Museum to fulfil its role as an international resource for study, inspiration and pleasure.
- In 2005, the Foundation celebrated the 15th Anniversary of its founding, and the 10th Anniversary of awarding a Travelling Fellowship. It was at this time, the Foundation announced a joint partnership with the American Architectural Foundation of Washington, DC to provide the funds for the fellowship.

*For additional information, please contact the Foundation at 212-223-2012 | [Info@SoaneFoundation.com](mailto:Info@SoaneFoundation.com)*