

Exhibition overview

Game On is the first major exhibition to explore the history and culture of videogames.

The exhibition features over 150 playable arcades, consoles and handheld games that together take visitors on a journey through the medium. As well as looking back to the earliest origins of gaming technology, there are insights into its future, with the latest 3D technologies and experimental forms of gameplay.



Exhibition Highlights

A fully interactive history

explored through 150 playable games

The latest developments in videogames

including behind-the-scenes stories from the gaming industry

Celebrates videogames as an expanding creative field looking beyond videogames to music, cinema and contemporary art



Tour to date

Showed at 43 venues across 28 Countries over 4 million visitors **5**7-



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Section 1 Early Games

The origins of videogames can be traced back to the earliest days of computing. This introductory section to the exhibition features some of the first experiments of this electronic medium, from Space War! (1962) to Pong (1972), through to the golden era of the arcades from 1979-1994.



Selection of Installation photos



PONG



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GAME O

Section 2 Top Ten Home Consoles and Computers

This sections looks at the evolution of videogames in the home - from the first home console, the Magnavox Odyssey (1972), through to the modern console era heralded by the Sony PlayStation (1994).



Selection of Installation photos

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Section 3 Genres

In Genres we see how gaming has evolved from fast paced arcade games to home videogames that enabled longer and more complex stories and new ways to play. The growing number of videogames genres from sports and adventure to shooter and simulation games are explored in this section.



Selection of Installation photos

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Section 4 Characters

Characters are a big part of gaming, whether simple shapes of pixels or realistic 3D human models. This section explores the design processes behind some of gaming's most iconic characters including Pac Man, Mario and Lara Croft.





TRY AGAINS

YES







Section 5 World Games

This section looks at games from countries with a long history of producing video games alongside new industries including Czech Republic, Brazil, China, and India.



Selection of Installation photos



420

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No.

Section 6 Simulation Games

This power to simulate real world activities and events is one the most compelling draws of the videogame medium. From driving super cars, playing a rock concert, to puppy training, visitors can explore a wide range of games and technologies that expand the gaming experience beyond the screen.





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ZERO DAWN

OR

Section 7 Handheld Games

Wherever you are you can now play games on your chosen handheld portable device. Discover the first handheld games like Simon and Football and popular games like Angry Birds and Candy Crush that were created to be played on mobile phone.



Selection of Installation photos

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Section 8 Kids Games

Kids Games have been developed for children as young as four, here we look at educational games and some of the muchloved protagonists in kids games such as *Animal Crossing* and *Pokémon*.



Selection of Installation photos 10

HIDS GAME

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Section 9 Music

The Music section showcases a selection of games where the audio is a key component of the gameplay. From the use of synesthesia in *Rez* (2001) to the rhythm action gameplay of *Guitar Hero* with its unique instrument controller.



Selection of Installation photos





Section 10 Cinema

The two artforms of cinema and gaming are often influenced by one another. *Game On* highlights examples of films that have been transformed into playable games and inversely a selection of films inspired by videogames.











Section 11 Independent Games

The independent games on display are produced by smaller teams than the better-known blockbuster franchises. Although the studios are often working with smaller production budgets the outcomes are often more experimental.



Selection of Installation photos

CHELL



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100

Section 12 Multiplayer

Multiplayer Games celebrates gaming as a social and communal activity. From competing in e-sports tournaments to playing at home with friends, this section highlights some games best known for their multiplayer competition and battle mode experiences.



Selection of Installation photos



Section 13 Arcades

In the arcades section, visitors can encounter the iconic games that filled the public arcade halls. Some of the key arcade games that have shaped the videogame industry include Space Invaders, Asteroids, Pac-Man, Donkey Kong and Street Fighter.



Selection of Installation photos

49

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A selection of previous Exhibition design

Life Science Centre, Newcastle, 2015
 Fundación Canal de Isabel II, Madrid, 2019
 Forum Groningen, Groningen, 2021





A selection of previous Exhibition design

OCT Harbour, Shenzhen, 2018
 Norsk Teknisk Museum, Oslo, 2016
 Tekniska Musee, Stockholm, 2013





A selection of previous Exhibition posters









MAIS DE 150 GAMES PARA JOGAR À VONTADE . De 01/12 a 25/02 . Área de Eventos Piso SS1

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Presented by Barbican Immersive

Barbican Immersive is a creator of experiences that push the possibilities of exhibition making. Our unique approach explores inspirational and challenging topics that enable audiences to process our changing world. We welcome visitors into these holistic environments where technology, art, design, music, science come together to form unmissable, must-see encounters.

Our past projects include Our Time on Earth (2022), Virtual Realms (2021), AI: More than Human (2019), Mangasia: Wonderlands of Asian Comics (2017) and Digital Revolution (2014).



Al: More than Human **Mangasia:** Wonderlands of Asian Comics **Virtual Realms:** Videogames Transformed

Game On

Our Time on Earth barbican

Current xhibitions

- Tetsuya Mizuguchi
- Chris Milk
- Es Devlin
- teamLab
- Marshmallow Laser Feast
- Rhizomatiks
- Will.i.am
- Conrad Shawcross
- Hideo Kojima

- Larissa Sansour
- Trevor Paglen
- Isaac Julien
- Massive Attack
- Neri Oxman
- Joy Buolamwini
- Takeshi Murakami
- Jenova Chen
- Superflux

A selection of previous artists and collaborators



I: More than Human, installation photo ©Robin Alysha, Forum Groningen, Netherland

A selection of previous Venue Partners



Forum Groningen Netherlands

Western Australia Museum

Australia

Miraikan

Japan **barbican**

A selection of previous Sponsors and Media partners



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The Barbican

The Barbican is a world-class arts and learning organisation that pushes the boundaries of all major art forms including dance, film, music, theatre and visual arts. Its creative learning programme further underpins everything it does.

We are:

One of the largest arts and learning organisations in Europe; Registered Charity in the UK.

We have:

3 Theatres, 2 Concert halls, 2 Galleries, 3 Cinemas



- 10 million+ tickets sold last year
- 3,835+ events across all art forms every year
- 4,310 + artists from 58 nations
- 20 million+ estimated visitors
- 4.1 million unique website visitors
- 2 million+ social media followers
- 40,000 people reached through creative learning programmes

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Thank you

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