



Pictures around Cromer the National Gallery Collection

Family Trail

van Gogh, Sunflowers, detail
© National Gallery London

**The more you
look — the
more you see**

A family trail highlighting 10 of the Pictures Around Cromer,
the National Gallery Collection.

Starting at the Information Centre, The Meadow car park

This exhibition is a unique collaboration between two very different organisations, The National Gallery, London and Cromer Artspace.

All pictures on show are printed life-size, offering a very special viewing experience, with easy access and free for all to enjoy.

There are 30 pictures in the full exhibition from Vernet and Caravaggio in North Lodge Park in the east to Constable and Rousseau at the Runton Road car park in the west

There is a dedicated website at **picturesaround.cromer-artspace.uk** where there is a full map and information on all the works in the exhibition.

This extract provides a sample 10 pictures, with directions to find them, and pointers for families to look for in each of the 10 images.

This guide is designed to be downloaded onto a mobile phone and used during your visit.

Please complete our web survey to let us know what you think of the exhibition.
picturesaround.cromer-artspace.uk

Start your tour behind the Information Centre in Cromer, on the Meadow car park

The first artwork is Tura's *Muse* on the wall by the rear entrance to the Information Centre, high up as it would have been in the Duke of Ferrara's hunting lodge.



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A Muse (Calliope?)

Cosimo Tura - 1455



This painting is one of a series of nine decorative panels each featuring one of the muses of the arts. Each panel represented a specific art form and this is thought to be Calliope, the muse of poetry.

Can you See?

1. **The Muse, Calliope**

She is looking down from her throne but not at the viewer. She is richly clad surrounded by objects suggesting a maritime theme.

2. **Six dolphins** (they don't look like the intelligent creatures we are familiar with today) these are decorated with spikes and baring their sharp teeth. They have rubies for eyes and are adorned with pearls.

3. **A Scallop Shell**

This acts as a canopy over the throne. It is decorated by a string of coral and crystal beads.

4. **The Throne**

This is not quite centrally placed or symmetric. Pillars are shown on either side topped by a dolphin arch.

5. **A branch of cherries**

This could refer to justice which was a principle with which Calliope was associated.

8. **A man on a horse**

He is very small and riding up a hill which appears to be in the distance on the left.

7. **A man working in a forge**

This small scene is situated on the right of the picture.

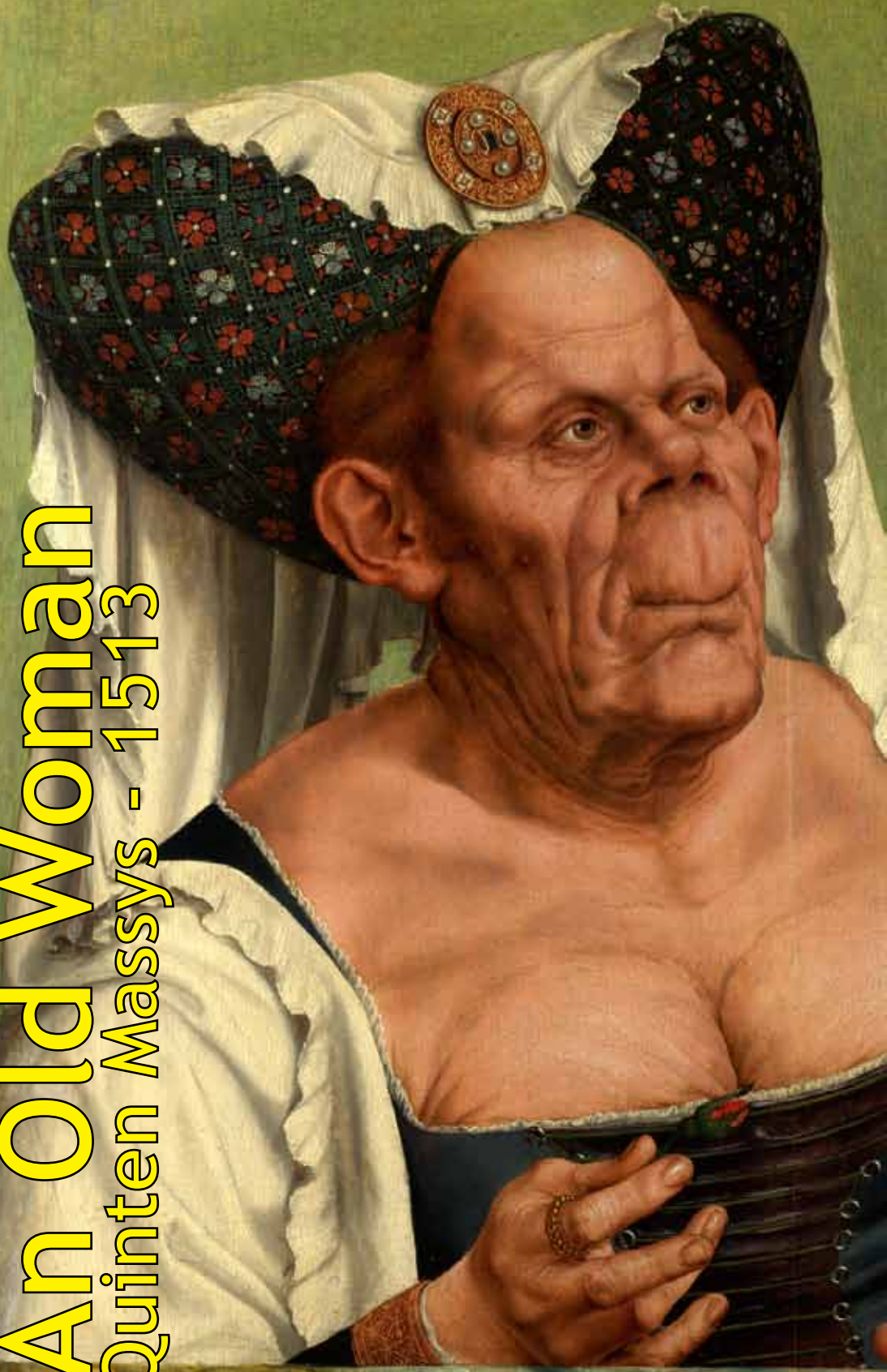


From Tura's *Muse*, head across the car park to Meadow Road; follow the road along side the car park and take the first right. Where this road joins the main road you will see Massys' *Old Woman* across the road, on the side of Poppyland Brewery (NR27 9DS)

Take care of the traffic as this can be a busy road,

An Old Woman

Quinten Massys - 1513



This portrait of is one of a pair, the other being titled *An Old Man*. The portraits are considered satirical and the woman is no beauty.



John Tenniel, an illustrator of Alice in Wonderland, was inspired by this work and based the Duchess featured in Alice on this painting.

Can you See?

1. An old woman

She is ugly, with a short nose and long upper lip. Her skin is pimply and marked with broken veins. She has no teeth and there's even a hairy wart on her cheek.

2. The dress

This has a low cut neckline and a tightly laced bodice.

3. The head dress.

Her hair is hidden under the horns of a heart shaped bonnet which gives her a mischievous appearance

4. Gold Brooch.

This is studded with pearls and diamonds

5. A red rose bud.



Massys, An Old Woman ('The Ugly Duchess'), detail, © National Gallery, London



From Massys's *Old Woman*, take the side road (Cabbell Road) towards the sea. Take the first right (Canada Road) towards the town centre,

The Arnolfi Portrait can be found in the doorway of Cromer Library (NR27 9HS).

Library opening times

Monday: 10.30am to 7pm (8am to 10.30am Open Library access only)

Tuesday: 10.30am to 7pm (8am to 10.30am Open Library access only)

Wednesday: 8am to 7pm (Open Library access only)

Thursday: 10.30am to 7pm (8am to 10.30am Open Library access only)

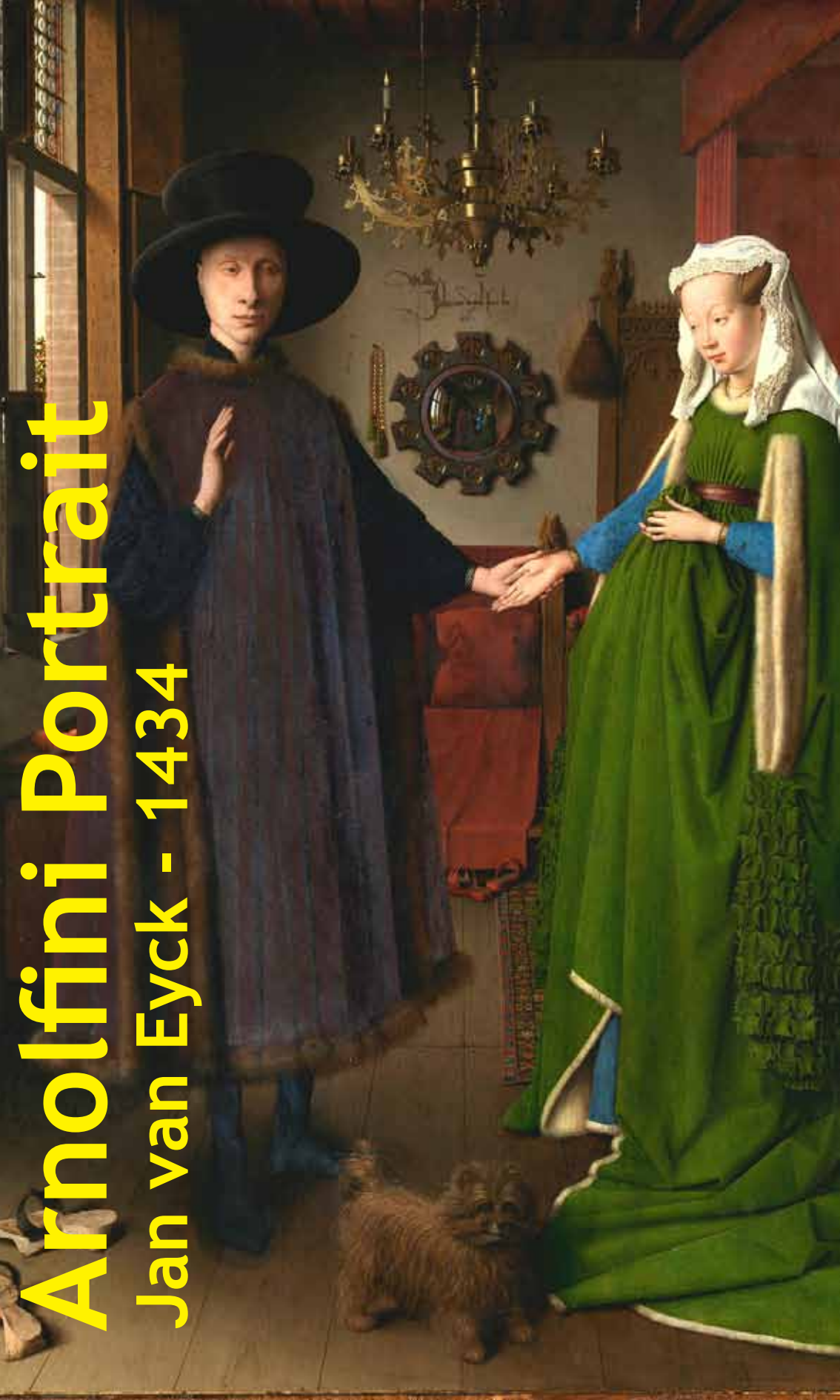
Friday: 10.30am to 7pm (8am to 10.30am Open Library access only)

Saturday: 12pm to 4pm (8am to 12pm Open Library access only)

Sunday: 10am to 4pm (Open Library access only)

Arnolfini Portrait

Jan van Eyck - 1434





This is one of the most famous portraits in the world and shows a couple standing in a private room of a wealthy merchant's house.





One interesting point about this painting is the date. Van Eyck painted this masterpiece before Botticelli was born! The painting is incredibly detailed, and the paint quality still has a rich lustre - this is because this is one of the first oil paintings ever, and the colour and vibrancy of the paint lasts in pristine condition for hundreds of years.



Can you See?

1. The couple holding hands, marking their union

2. Giovanni's raised hand

This could be a formal pose or a sign of welcome

3. The small dog.

This is a symbol of a faithful marriage

4. The green gown.

This is made of a rich and heavy cloth which is a sign of wealth. The colour green implies the couple hope to have children (note that although she looks it, she is not pregnant)

5. Giovanni's Tabard.

This could be made of silk or velvet; its fur border is another indication of wealth.

6. The overshoes.

These dirty overshoes have been discarded on entering.

7. The mirror.

Only those with money could afford a mirror. A distorted room and two small figures can be seen in its convex glass; one could be the artist.

8. The signature.

This is above the mirror in gothic script. It reads *Jan van Eyck was here in 1434*



From the Library cross the main road (Prince of Wales Road); it is recommended you use the pedestrian crossing, then turn right and take the small road on the left (West Street).

Van Huysum's *Flowers* are on the side of Roost florist (NR27 9HZ)

Flowers in a Terracotta Vase

Jan van Huysum 1736



This is a still life of at least thirty varieties of flowers in a terracotta vase decorated with cherubs. It is placed centrally in a three dimensional niche. Specimens and objects have been added to create interest.



Can you See?

1. Flowers:

How many types can you spot? Can you find the roses, poppies, iris and tulips.

2. Two bunches of grapes.

One green and one black with fruit in varying stages of ripeness.

3. Two peaches

4. Butterflies

5. A nest with 5 eggs.

6. A fly and a yellow ant.

7. Two Cherubs on a vase



From Roosts continue into Cromer along West Street (passing Zubaran's *still life* on the wall of Betfred opposite Lizzie's fruit and veg); take care crossing the main road (Church Street) into Garden Street.

Continue past Botticelli's *Venus and Mars* on the left to the Co-op car park (NR27 9HG) on the right.

On the wall of the carpark is Bermejo's *St Michael*.

Saint Michael Triumphs over the devil

Bartolome Bermejo - 1468





This painting shows the Archangel Michael, clad in armour raising his sword to strike the devil. This was a popular subject in the middle ages and was described in the Book of Revelation



Can you See?

1. Saint Michael

The saint's face is idealised and has a serene expression. His wings are multicoloured, arching over his head and curving downward to the ground. His cloak is made of gold cloth and has a red lining

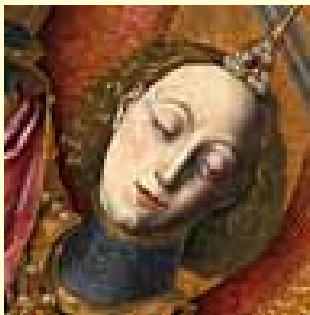
2. The Armour

This is made of gold and set with jewels. and pearls The breast plate reflects an image of the holy city of Jerusalem.

3. The Shield (or Buckler)

This is held in the archangel's left hand and has a dome shaped centre made of rock crystal and is set with pearls

4. The Sword, this is aimed at the devil.



Saint Michael Triumphs over the devil. detail,
© National Gallery London

5. The devil

The devil has several faces with live snakes coming from his gaping mouths. His elbows are formed from reptilian heads and his legs are bird like with claws. The crocodile tail ends in a single claw wrapped around the Saint's leg. (Does the devil's face remind you of a Huggy Wuggy?!)



Saint Michael Triumphs over the devil. detail.
© National Gallery London

6. A man kneeling holding a book.

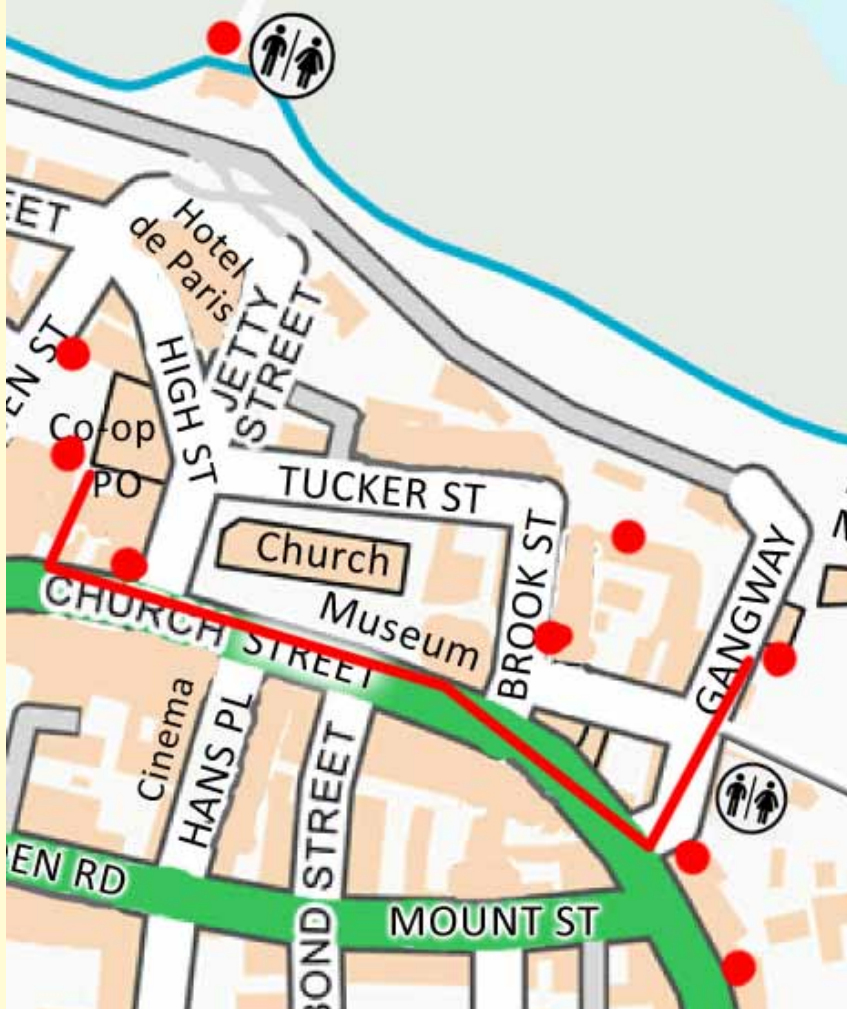
This is Antoni Joan, Lord, of Tous who commissioned this work

7. Poppies

These were associated with death in the 15th century. Their position next to the devil is probably symbolic

8 The Signature (*Bartolomeas rubeus*)

This is to be found on the paper at the bottom between St Michael and Antoni Joan



Go to the left of the painting and through the alley to the main road (Church Street). Turn left towards the church.

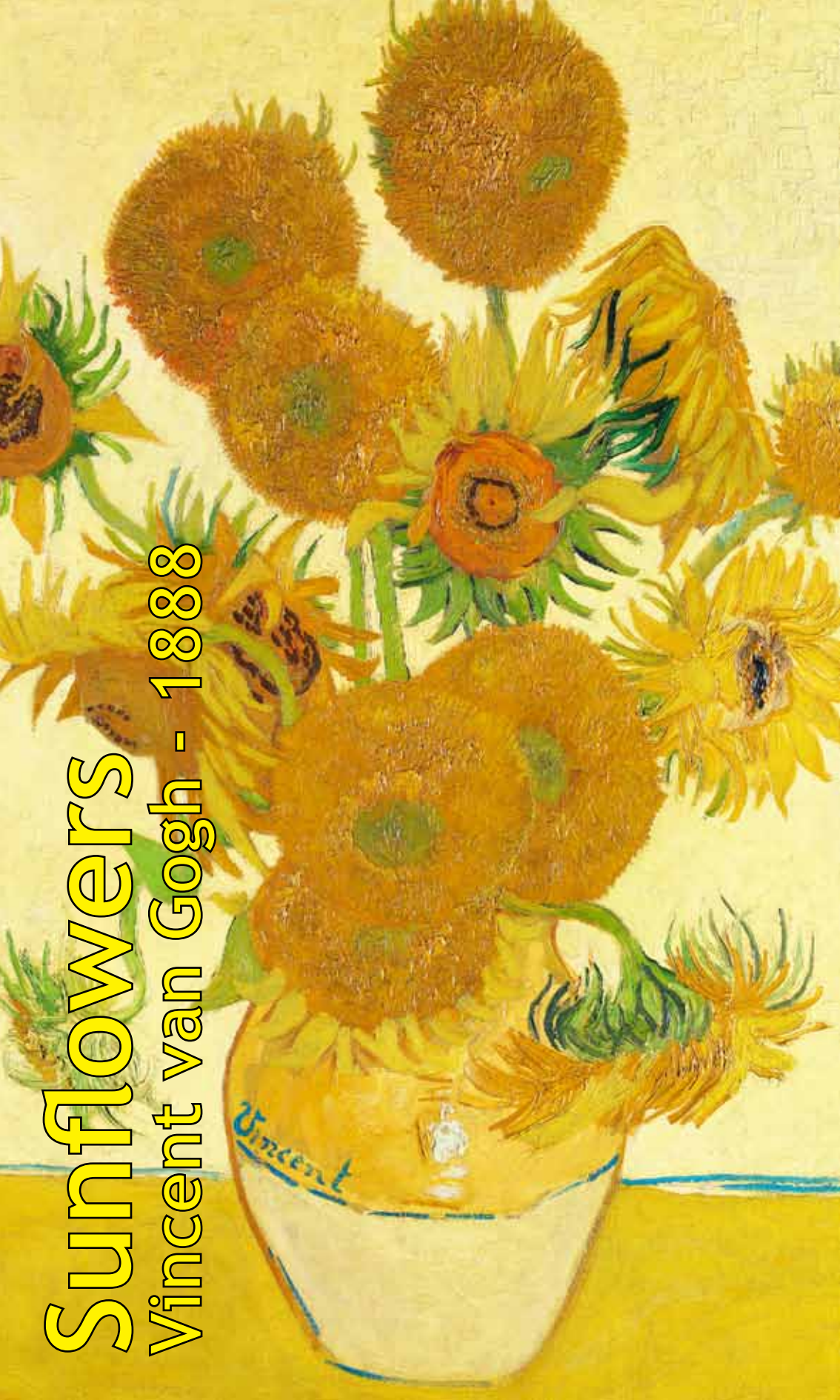
On the corner, opposite the church is Le Brun's *self portrait*. Continue past the church, past the museum, past the Albion pub, past Watson's estate agent and turn left into the Gangway.

Ahead of you is Liotard's pastel *breakfast scene*.
(if you continue along Church St you will find Gentileschi's self portrait)

Go down, towards the sea, on your right you will see the *Sunflowers*, on the end of the shelter.

Sunflowers

Vincent van Gogh - 1888





This painting features fifteen sunflowers at different stages of life in a vase. It follows the tradition of 17th century Dutch Flower painting. Sunflowers are symbolic and are associated with love, faith, beauty and life. To Van Gogh they stood for happiness.

Can you See?

Sunflowers

7 Sunflowers in full bloom

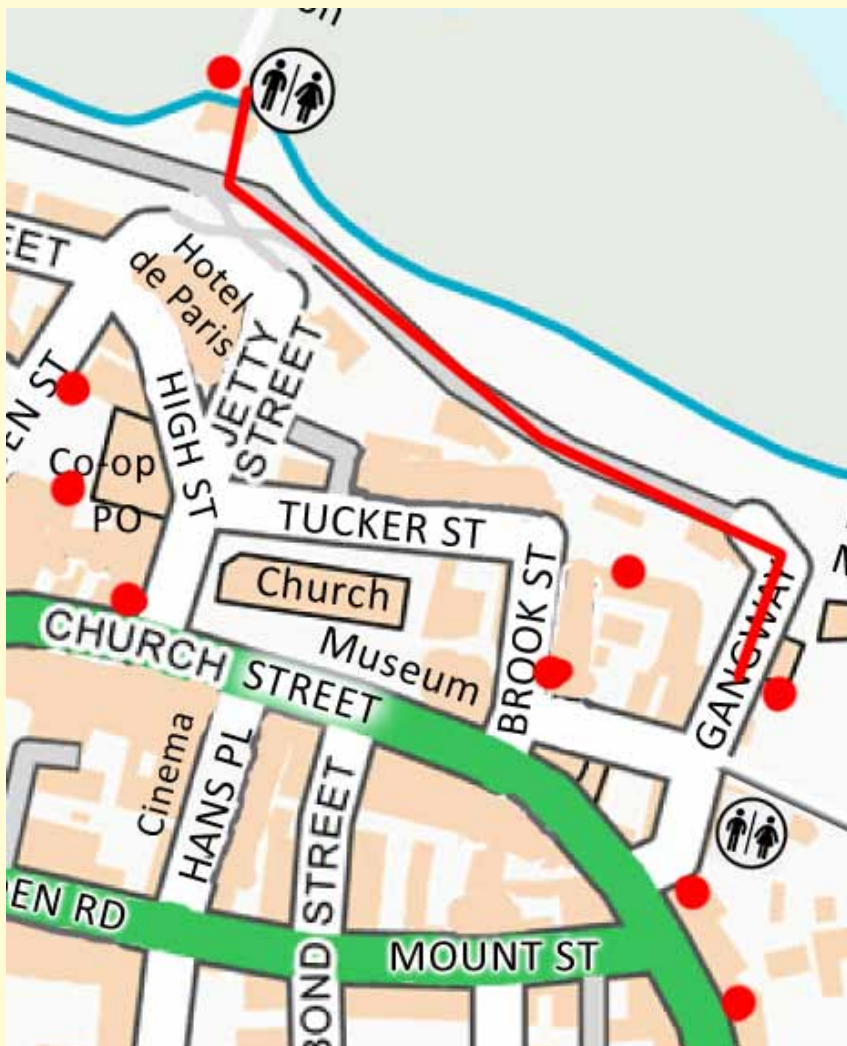
7 Sunflower which have lost their petals
and are turning to seed

1 sunflower bud

The artists signature on the vase



van Gogh, Sunflowers, detail
© National Gallery London



Continue down the Gangway to the promenade. Turn left on the prom and head for the pier.

Just inside the pier entrance, on the left, you will find *Miss La La* on the wall of Tides restaurant.



Miss La La
at the Cirque Fernando
Hilaire-Germain-Edgar Degas - 1879



Miss La La performing a circus act at the Cirque Fernando, built in 1875 in Paris. She is holding a rope between her teeth as she is hoisted up to the roof.

Can you See?

1. The rope

This is angled across the painting and cut off at both ends which gives rise to feelings of tension, motion and suspension.

2. The Figure (Miss La La)

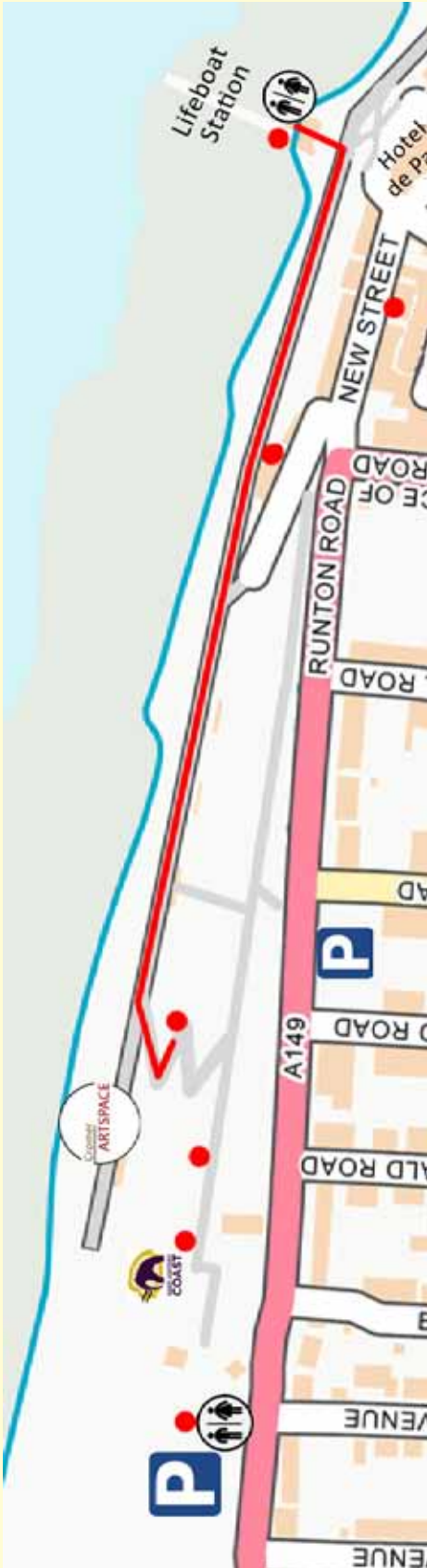
Degas was fascinated by complicated and awkward poses. The view here is one that would have been experienced by a member of the audience. The figure has been foreshortened so naturally the viewer looks upward.

3. The costume

The pale colour and play of light on the costume causes it to dominate the figure.

4. The roof

The structure is painted in detail, but Degas did need some help to achieve the correct perspective



Return to the promenade and turn right,

Just before the blue amusements, halfway up the steps is Cezanne's *Bathers*.

Continue along the promenade, past the 'white steps', past the Reef Stop cafe to the art deco building.

Cromer Artspace have opened a contemporary art gallery here - open until mid-November.

Go up the slope behind the art deco building. Half way up you will find Turner's *Fighting Temeraire*.



The Fighting Temeraire
tugged to her last berth to be broken up, 1838
Joseph Mallord William Turner - 1839

A famous battleship, (The Temeraire) is being towed along the River Thames to a scrap yard to be broken up. The artist is thought to have witnessed this event, but the picture is a symbolic rather than a realistic record, showing the new age of steam overtaking the old age of sail



Can you See?

1. The battle ship.

Note its ghostly appearance. The height of the masts may have been shortened.

2. The Tug

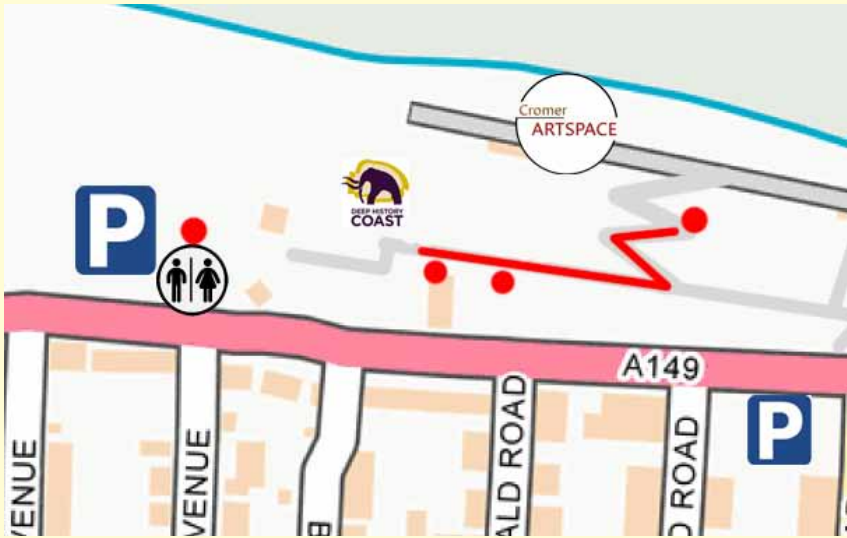
Two tugs would have been needed for this manoeuvre, one pulling and one braking. The structures and colours of the vessel have also been changed.

3. The White Flag

This shows the tug to be a commercial vessel but it could mean a sign of surrender

4. Sunset and moon

This was used to show that this event marked the end of an era. The sunset would have occurred as the boat reached the boat-yard, while the moon represented the period of calm after the ship's destruction.



Continue up the slope (the other roundels have old railway posters in them) to the clifftop path.

Turn right; away from town, past Ingres' *Madame Moitessier* on the left, to the Deep History Coast information point.

Opposite this, on the wooden fence, behind the jungle of plants is Rousseau's tiger *Surprised!*



Surprised! detail © National Gallery London

Surprised!

Henri Rousseau - 1891



This landscape shows a tiger crouching in the jungle and is entirely imaginary. It is not clear whether the tiger is stalking his prey, is afraid of the storm or is being hunted.

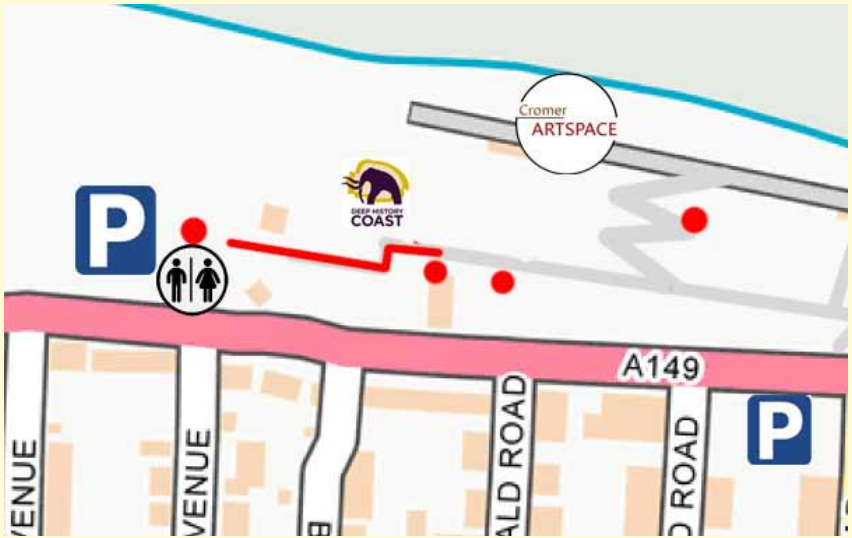


Can you See?

1. **The tiger** crouching or pouncing in the undergrowth, with teeth bared and wide opened eyes.
2. **The tiger's tail.** Could this be a snake.?
3. **The lightning** in the sky
4. **The rain.** This matches the tiger's stripes.
5. **The tropical trees and plants.** These are obviously being blown by the wind. but the plants have never been part of a jungle.
(Rousseau never visited a jungle!)



Surprised! detail © National Gallery London



Continue along the clifftop path away from Cromer towards the car park.

Constable's *Stratford Mill* can be found on the rear (sea side) of the brick toilet block, opposite the cafe.



Stratford Mill, detail, © National Gallery London

Stratford Mill

John Constable - 1820





This painting features a water powered paper mill (now demolished) and a working barge on the River Stour near East Bergholt in Suffolk.

Several groups of people or children going about their daily activities are dotted around the picture. The landscape features light effects through trees and on the reflections in the water.



Can you See?

1. Two children

A girl in a red dress watches a boy fishing.

2. Two fishermen

3. A barge

Three people are trying to moor this vessel and an anchor can be seen on the bank.

4. A man on a horse

5. A mill

This is to the side and in the shade. Its water wheel is featured

6. A Sunlit farmhouse

7. A dying willow tree.

8. A decaying log or trunk.

Thank you

We hope you have enjoyed this walk round Cromer looking at these amazing artworks.

To help us in future projects it would really help us if you could complete the very short survey on our website picturesaround.cromer-artspace.uk

You will find more information about all the artworks in the exhibition on the website, including those not included in this trail.

Our thanks go to our sponsors and supporters, especially the National Gallery who have worked with us to make this exhibition happen, and Cromer Town Council, North Norfolk District Council and Norfolk County Council who have all contributed financially to the project.

THE
NATIONAL
GALLERY



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