

Further background to the Talk & Book by Dr Tilly Blyth “THE ART OF INNOVATION - From Enlightenment to Dark Matter”

Through fascinating stories that explore the sometimes-unexpected relationships between famous artworks and significant scientific and technological objects – from Constable’s cloudscapes and the chemist who named the clouds, to the introduction of photography and the representation of natural history in print – she offers a different way of seeing, studying, and interpreting the world. Tilly will highlight the importance of human imagination in both scientific and artistic practice.

Dr Tilly Blyth is co-presenter of a major landmark [20-part radio series](#) with the BBC on *The Art of Innovation*, looking at the shared cultures of art and science over the past 250 years. This transmedia project includes a [book](#) and an [exhibition](#) featuring artists such as Joseph Wright of Derby, David Hockney, Marcel Duchamp, Barbara Hepworth, Henry Moore and John Constable.

Tilly is the Head of Collections and Principal Curator at the Science Museum in London, where she is responsible for the museum's Curatorial, Research, Library and Archives departments. Most recently the team opened the £24 million *Medicine: the Wellcome Galleries*, transforming the first floor of the Science Museum and displaying over 3,000 objects from the world’s largest medical collection. The team have also delivered award winning galleries and exhibitions on subjects as diverse as *Top Secret: the history of GCHQ*, *Mathematics*, *Robots*, *Cosmonauts: the Russian Space story* and *Illuminating India: 500 years of science and technology*. Tilly was also Lead Curator of the *Information Age* gallery, which explored 200 years of information and communication networks and how they have transformed the world.

Tilly has a background in Physics at the University of Manchester before migrating towards the social sciences, with a MSc in Industrial Strategy and a PhD in the History and Sociology of Technology. She is a member of the British Academy of Film, Television, and the Arts (BAFTA) and a trustee of the [Raspberry Pi Foundation](#), which aims to put the power of digital making into the hands of people all over the world.