



**The fabric of the city:** Wallace Sewell's Tube moquette features London landmarks

# Women with a vision

## THE FEMALE DESIGNERS WHO HELPED TO SHAPE LONDON'S TRANSPORT NETWORK

WOMEN have created some of the most iconic images to appear on public transport in London over the past 100 years.

MetroTravel takes a look at some of these influential female artists and designers, including where to find their work.

### POSTER GIRLS

This year, London Transport Museum is celebrating the work of female graphic artists with the exhibition Poster Girls - a century of art and design.

The exhibition features more than 150 posters designed by women, that have adorned ticket halls, buses, billboards and Underground stations across London from the early 1900s through to the modern day.

The works showcase a spectrum of artistic styles and mediums, from modernist, figurative and abstract, to collage and oil.

The display features a range of high profile designers, including Mabel Lucie Attwell, Laura Knight

and Zandra Rhodes. It also includes works by less well known individuals, as well as letters, books, ceramics and photographs that offer an insight into these women's lives and their artistic influences.

The exhibition is free with a London Transport Museum entry ticket and runs until January 2019.

### FUNCTIONAL FABRICS

There's a long collaborative history between female textile designers and TfL.

During the 1930s, influential artist Enid Marx and American textile designer Marion Dorn became two of the first women commissioned to create customised seating fabrics for London Underground.

Marx created several popular moquette patterns, including the Shield design that was used on the Bakerloo, Northern and District lines, and the Double Diamond and Chevron design used on the Piccadilly and Central lines.

Marion Dorn created the Colindale moquette, with a leaf

motif so influential it went on to inspire future generations of artists working on London's public transport.

In the 1960s, another respected textile designer, Marianne Straub, designed a blue and green rectangular moquette fabric that was used extensively on the transport network.

More recently, British textiles duo, Harriet Wallace-Jones and Emma Sewell, who have been working together as Wallace Sewell for the past 26 years, have designed moquettes for TfL incorporating famous London landmarks, such as the London Eye, Big Ben and Tower Bridge.

Wallace Sewell seating fabrics can be found today on the Bakerloo, Northern and Jubilee Tube lines, as well as the London Overground, London Trams and the upcoming Elizabeth line.

To purchase works by top female textile and poster designers, visit the London Transport Museum online shop at [ltmuseumshop.co.uk](http://ltmuseumshop.co.uk)



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TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



LET LONDON BREATHE



## Bower-ful art at Southwark station

PASSENGERS at Southwark station can enjoy a new public artwork by British artist Linder, as part of this year's Art on the Underground programme.

The work, titled The Bowers of Bliss, is the first large-scale public commission by Linder in London. It consists of an 85-metre-long street-level photomontage wrapping Southwark station, accompanied by a cover for the 29th edition of the pocket Tube map.

The photomontage is designed to challenge cultural expectations of women and form a picture of female empowerment.

Linder spent four months as artist-in-residence researching the history of Southwark, taking the architecture of the Tube station as a starting point.

Further research drew on local collections including Southwark Council's Cuming Museum collection, the London Transport Museum collection, and TfL's Lost Property Office.

For more information on The Bowers of Bliss and Art on the Underground, visit [art.tfl.gov.uk](http://art.tfl.gov.uk)



**SE1-derful:** See The Bowers of Bliss at Southwark

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