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Crown Princess Mary. Oil on canvas. Portrait painted by Jesús Herrera Martínez, 2021-22  
© The Museum of National History. Photographed by Stig Nørhald.

Today, HRH Crown Princess Mary unveiled a new portrait and opened the special exhibition *HRH Crown Princess Mary 1972–2022* at The Danish Museum of National History at Frederiksborg Castle.

**On Thursday, HRH Crown Princess Mary opened the exhibition *HRH Crown Princess Mary 1972-2022*, unveiling the museum's new portrait of the Crown Princess. The portrait is created by Spanish artist, Jesús Herrea Martínez and will be part of the special exhibition as well as the museum's collection.**

Today, the special exhibition *HRH Crown Princess Mary 1972-2022*, which is created on the occasion of the Crown Princess' 50th birthday, was officially opened by HRH Crown Princess Mary, with the participation of HRH Crown Prince Frederik and family. The new portrait, unveiled at the opening, is created by Spanish-born artist Jesús Herrera Martínez, who has lived and worked in Denmark since 2016. The portrait is staged in the Crown Princess' study in the residential palace at

Amalienborg. The work tells the Crown Princess' story by including elements from the study as well as fictional symbols that refer to her Australian background – among other things in the form of shadows on the wall, where you can see a eucalyptus plant. Some of Herrera's preparatory work for the new portrait will be shown in an independent exhibition that opens in connection with the Danish winter break.

After revealing the new portrait, the royal guests were able to visit the exhibition in the Great Hall at Frederiksborg Castle. The exhibition communicates Crown Princess Mary's upbringing, her marriage to the Crown Prince and the duties and tasks she performs. This is put into perspective through the exhibition's initial overview of crown princesses throughout Danish history, and how they have helped shape Denmark. It also tells the story of how princesses have traditionally been raised and educated, with examples of the fates of Danish princesses who married heirs to the thrones of other countries, thus becoming crown princesses abroad. There are similarities and differences in relation to the crown princess' role today.

*“With this exhibition, we wish to convey the story of Crown Princess Mary's background and her life in the very special role that fate has given her. This was made possible thanks to the many items loaned from the Crown Princess, and the selection of dresses includes her wedding dress from 2004 and the dress she wore to the Crown Prince's 50th birthday celebration in 2018, from which most people will probably remember her very moving speech. In addition to reliving these and other moments from our collective memory, the role of Crown Princess is told from a historical perspective, with an overview of large parts of the "sequence of Crown Princesses" achieved through dresses, portraits and other objects. You can also learn about how princesses were raised and educated in earlier times,”* says Museum Director Mette Skougaard about the exhibition, which is open to the public from Friday 4 February to 31 August.

For interviews and further information about visiting the exhibition, please contact: PR and Communications Manager: Sara Juel Andersen. Email: [sja@dnm.dk](mailto:sja@dnm.dk) tel: +4548201435.

Press material is updated regularly at [www.dnm.dk/presse](http://www.dnm.dk/presse). Portrait and images from the opening are included.

**In 2017, Jesús Herrera Martínez** won the museum's portrait competition PORTRAIT NOW!, and a selection of his work has previously been shown at a special exhibition in Frederiksborg. Educated in Spain and Italy, he fully masters the classical techniques, while keeping his innovative works in tune with their time.

**The Museum of National History** tells more than 500 years of Danish history through portraits, historic paintings and handicrafts. The museum is also Denmark's national portrait gallery, giving faces to those who have shaped the country's history. Through special exhibitions, the museum also presents Danish history and the portrait genre from current perspectives. The museum is housed at Frederiksborg Castle, which, with its impressive splendour and richly decorated rooms forms a unique setting for the historical narrative. Open every day – all year round.

## FREDERIKSBORG

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