

# Plate | Bridges, Sheila | V&A Explore The Collections

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 [collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O1766017/plate-bridges-sheila](https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O1766017/plate-bridges-sheila)

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## Plate

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2022 (*made*)

Artist/Maker [Josiah Wedgwood and Sons \(manufacturer\)](#)  
[Bridges, Sheila \(designer\)](#)

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Place of origin [Indonesia](#)

American interior designer, Sheila Bridges, reinterprets a popular 18th century pastoral pattern on Wedgwood plates with 'Harlem Toile de Jouy'. The printed design is a bold visual narrative that playfully repositions and celebrates a Black heritage within scenes of rococo era frivolity. The traditional French 'toile de jouy' became associated with colonial interiors in the United States, with Bridges' imitation highlighting the whimsy of traditional toile in the context of 18th and 19th century African enslavement and colonial expansion, the source of much of the period's wealth.

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## **Object details**

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Object type [Plate](#)

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Materials and techniques [glazed bone china with printed decoration](#)  
[Bone China](#)

[Glazing](#)

[Transfer-Printing](#)

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Brief description [Plate from the series 'Harlem Toile de Jouy', glazed and printed bone china, designed by Sheila Bridges for Josiah Wedgwood and Sons, Indonesia, 2022](#)

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Physical description [Plate of bone china glazed light blue with transfer-printed decoration depicting three people of African descent playing basketball with the net secured to a tree with ribbon, two figures wearing white are jumping with arms raised, one figure wears a yellow t-shirt with their feet on the ground, a low collonade wall is depicted in the background.](#)

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Dimensions 

- Height: 20mm
- Diameter: 204mm

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Marks and inscriptions 'WEDGWOOD ® / X / SHEILA BRIDGES / BONE CHINA / DISHWASHER SAFE' (printed on base)

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Credit line Given by Fiskars UK Limited

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Summary American interior designer, Sheila Bridges, reinterprets a popular 18th century pastoral pattern on Wedgwood plates with 'Harlem Toile de Jouy'. The printed design is a bold visual narrative that playfully repositions and celebrates a Black heritage within scenes of rococo era frivolity. The traditional French 'toile de jouy' became associated with colonial interiors in the United States, with Bridges' imitation highlighting the whimsy of traditional toile in the context of 18th and 19th century African enslavement and colonial expansion, the source of much of the period's wealth.

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Collection [Wedgwood Collection](#)

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Accession number WE.19-2023

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Record created September 20, 2023

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## Plate

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2022 (*made*)

Artist/Maker [Josiah Wedgwood and Sons \(manufacturer\)](#)

[Bridges, Sheila \(designer\)](#)

---

Place of origin [Indonesia](#)

American interior designer, Sheila Bridges, reinterprets a popular 18th century pastoral pattern on Wedgwood plates with 'Harlem Toile de Jouy'. The printed design is a bold visual narrative that playfully repositions and celebrates a Black heritage within scenes of rococo era frivolity. The traditional French 'toile de jouy' became associated with colonial interiors in the United States, with Bridges' imitation highlighting the whimsy of traditional toile in the context of 18th and 19th century African enslavement and colonial expansion, the source of much of the period's wealth.

[Read more](#)

## **Object details**

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Object type [Plate](#)

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Materials and techniques [glazed bone china with printed decoration](#)  
[Bone China](#)  
[Glazing](#)  
[Transfer-Printing](#)

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Brief description [Plate from the series 'Harlem Toile de Jouy', glazed and printed bone china, designed by Sheila Bridges for Josiah Wedgwood and Sons, Indonesia, 2022](#)

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Physical description [Plate of bone china glazed a light green-blue with transfer-printed decoration depicting people of African descent wearing 18th century garb in a pastoral setting, a female figure wearing purple shares a picnic with another figure wearing orange trousers in the foreground, a hen, basket and a tree surround them, in the back right of the scene is a table scene with five figures gathered around.](#)

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Dimensions 

- Height: 20mm
- Diameter: 204mm

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Marks and inscriptions ['WEDGWOOD ® / X / SHEILA BRIDGES / BONE CHINA / DISHWASHER SAFE' \(printed on base\)](#)

---

Credit line [Given by Fiskars UK Limited](#)

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Summary American interior designer, Sheila Bridges, reinterprets a popular 18th century pastoral pattern on Wedgwood plates with 'Harlem Toile de Jouy'. The printed design is a bold visual narrative that playfully repositions and celebrates a Black heritage within scenes of rococo era frivolity. The traditional French 'toile de jouy' became associated with colonial interiors in the United States, with Bridges' imitation highlighting the whimsy of traditional toile in the context of 18th and 19th century African enslavement and colonial expansion, the source of much of the period's wealth.

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Collection [Wedgwood Collection](#)

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## Plate

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2022 (*made*)

Artist/Maker [Josiah Wedgwood and Sons \(manufacturer\)](#)  
[Bridges, Sheila \(designer\)](#)

---

Place of origin [Indonesia](#)

American interior designer, Sheila Bridges, reinterprets a popular 18th century pastoral pattern on Wedgwood plates with 'Harlem Toile de Jouy'. The printed design is a bold visual narrative that playfully repositions and celebrates a Black heritage within scenes of rococo era frivolity. The traditional French 'toile de jouy' became associated with colonial interiors in the United States, with Bridges' imitation highlighting the whimsy of traditional toile in the context of 18th and 19th century African enslavement and colonial expansion, the source of much of the period's wealth.

[Read more](#)

## **Object details**

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Object type [Plate](#)

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Materials and techniques [glazed bone china with printed decoration](#)  
[Bone China](#)  
[Glazed](#)  
[Transfer-Printed](#)

---

Brief description [Plate from the series 'Harlem Toile de Jouy', glazed and printed bone china, designed by Sheila Bridges for Josiah Wedgwood and Sons, Indonesia, 2022](#)

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Physical description [Plate of bone china glazed yellow with transfer-printed decoration depicting a man and a woman of African descent wearing 18th century garb dancing barefoot in front of the Arc de Triomphe with a stereo boombox, shoes and vegetation on the ground.](#)

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Dimensions 

- Height: 20mm
- Diameter: 204mm

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Marks and inscriptions 'WEDGWOOD ® / X / SHEILA BRIDGES / BONE CHINA / DISHWASHER SAFE' (printed on base)

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Credit line Given by Fiskars UK Limited

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Summary American interior designer, Sheila Bridges, reinterprets a popular 18th century pastoral pattern on Wedgwood plates with 'Harlem Toile de Jouy'. The printed design is a bold visual narrative that playfully repositions and celebrates a Black heritage within scenes of rococo era frivolity. The traditional French 'toile de jouy' became associated with colonial interiors in the United States, with Bridges' imitation highlighting the whimsy of traditional toile in the context of 18th and 19th century African enslavement and colonial expansion, the source of much of the period's wealth.

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Collection [Wedgwood Collection](#)

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## Plate

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2022 (*made*)

Artist/Maker [Josiah Wedgwood and Sons \(manufacturer\)](#)  
[Bridges, Sheila \(designer\)](#)

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Place of origin [Indonesia](#)

American interior designer, Sheila Bridges, reinterprets a popular 18th century pastoral pattern on Wedgwood plates with 'Harlem Toile de Jouy'. The printed design is a bold visual narrative that playfully repositions and celebrates a Black heritage within scenes of rococo era frivolity. The traditional French 'toile de jouy' became associated with colonial interiors in the United States, with Bridges' imitation highlighting the whimsy of traditional toile in the context of 18th and 19th century African enslavement and colonial expansion, the source of much of the period's wealth.

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## **Object details**

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Object type [Plate](#)

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Materials and techniques [glazed bone china with printed decoration](#)  
[Bone China](#)

[Glazing](#)

[Transfer-Printing](#)

---

Brief description [Plate from the series 'Harlem Toile de Jouy', glazed and printed bone china, designed by Sheila Bridges for Josiah Wedgwood and Sons, Indonesia, 2022](#)

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Physical description [Plate of bone china glazed orange transfer-printed with a design featuring three women of African descent wearing 18th century garb sat upon a large plinth in a garden setting beneath a tree, one figure to the right holds up a mirror whilst a seated figure has her hair done by the other figure.](#)

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Dimensions 

- Height: 20mm
- Diameter: 204mm

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Marks and inscriptions 'WEDGWOOD ® / X / SHEILA BRIDGES / BONE CHINA / DISHWASHER SAFE' (printed on base)

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