

# Activity sheet

## Going public— portraits from the Colin Holden Collection



### 17th and 18th century portraits

Printmaking flourished in the 17th and 18th centuries, becoming a powerful and effective medium that gave visual form to the people that shaped the early modern era. Wealthy, notable and influential individuals leveraged the potential of this art form to construct and project their public personas to a wider audience.

### Did you know?

A new academic competition, or *concours*, was introduced to the French national art school in 1759. Participating students competed to produce the most accurate depiction of a live model displaying a particular expression or emotion; for example, melancholy, modesty, rage, triumph or joy.

