

Will Kirk

BIOGRAPHY



Will Kirk is an antique furniture restorer and star of BBC2's *The Repair Shop*.

Will's first television appearance came in 2013 when he helped to upcycle items of furniture for a contestant on Channel 4's 'The French Collection'. Following this, he gave restoration tips to viewers on the BBC's 'What To Buy and Why' in 2015.

Since March 2017, **Will** has starred as one of four main specialists in BBC2's 'The Repair Shop', working alongside some of the country's most expert restorers and working on everything from a 200 year old sea chest to a Nordic rocking chair. The third series aired to 1.78M viewers and is set to return with series 4 in 2019.

Will first developed a passionate interest in antique furniture and the craft of restoration at an early age, having watched his grandfather restore pieces of furniture in his workshop.

He studied Graphic Design at the University of the Arts, going on to graduate with a BA in Antique Furniture Restoration and Conservation from London Metropolitan University (formerly known as London School of Furniture). It was here that he honed his skills in french polishing, wood carving, gilding, and cabinet making, acquiring a deeper knowledge of furniture restoration and conservation.

After graduating, **Will** travelled to Italy with the Worshipful Company of Painters and Stainers to represent the UK at the annual 'Salon Decorative Arts Fair' where he gave a speech on 'The art of Trompe-l'œil and the uses of cold-cast resin'. He also hosted a three day practical workshop demonstrating the uses of cold-cast resins and metal powders to create the illusion of solid metal.

Since setting up his London based furniture restoration business in 2012, **Will** and his team of craftsmen have worked on a variety of commissions, from much loved family heirlooms, to larger corporate contracts.

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