



Above: Visitors view a work from the “Botticelli to Van Gogh: Masterpieces from the National Gallery, London” exhibition.

Left: Visitors stroll the square outside the Shanghai Museum. — IC

Shanghai Museum shuts for revamp

Ke Jiayun

THE Shanghai Museum, a cultural landmark at downtown People's Square, temporarily closed for renovations recently, with part of its showrooms expected to reopen at the year's end.

It's the first time the museum has closed since it opened in 1996.

Last year, the museum launched a “Great Museum Project” and announced the renovation as well as the

construction of its East Branch and North Branch, which will, respectively, focus on the general history of ancient Chinese art and the No. 2 ancient ship at the Yangtze River Estuary.

The art-related exhibits stored at the museum will be moved to the East Branch located in Huamu, Pudong New Area.

After it reopens, the museum at People's Square will mainly host themed and special exhibitions.

Last Sunday, the last day before the temporary closure, people from all across the country flocked to the museum to visit and say a short goodbye to it.

A man, surnamed Wang, told Shanghai Television that he worked as a volunteer at Mount Caoxie Archeological Site Park, in Suzhou, Jiangsu Province, and home to Jiangnan's Majiabang, Songze, and Liangzhu cultures.

“My volunteer friends and I took the high-speed train from Suzhou together, and I'm gratified that I can be here before it closes.”

People took pictures and lined up to get stamps from its special exhibitions to keep as souvenirs.

Over the past 27 years, the museum has attracted local residents and tourists from all over the world to its many impressive and memorable exhibitions.



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