

DATS

Dress and Textile Specialists



Autumn Newsletter 2009

Contents	Page
Committee	3
Conference 2009	5
Dats Study Day Berrington Hall & Hereford Museum Resource Centre	6
Early Textiles Study Group Call for Papers Conference 2010	7
The Costume Society Call for Papers Conference 2010	8
News	9
Exhibitions and Events	14
Recent publications	21

Front cover image:
Embroidered jacket by Elsa Schiaparelli, Winter 1936 collection, (see page 9)
Courtesy of Gallery of Costume, Platt Hall, Manchester

DATS Committee**Chair**

Zelina Garland
Curatorial Services Manager
Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery
Chamberlain Square
Birmingham B3 3DH
Tel: 0121 303 2834

e-mail: Zelina_garland@birmingham.gov.uk

Secretary

Edwina Ehrman
Curator, 19th Century Textiles and Fashion
Department of Furniture, Textiles and Fashion
Victoria & Albert Museum
South Kensington
London
SW7 2RL
Tel: 020 7942 2673

e-mail: e.ehrman@vam.ac.uk

Treasurer

Christine Stevens

e-mail christinestevens@tiscali.co.uk

Editor

Alex Ward
Assistant Keeper
Art and Industrial Division
National Museum of Ireland
Collins Barracks
Dublin 7
Ireland
Tel: 00353 1 6486469

e-mail: award@museum.ie

Acting Membership Secretary

Jennifer Mckellar
Assistant Registrar
Manchester Art Gallery
Mosley Street
Manchester
M2 3JL
Tel:: 0161 235 8829

e-mail: j.mckellar@manchester.gov.uk

Web Editor

Kate Reeder
Social History Curator
Beamish North of England Open Air Museum
Beamish
Co. Durham DH9 0RG
Tel: 0191 370 4009

e-mail: katereeder@beamish.org.uk

SSN Officer

Jenny Lister
Curator, 19th Century Textiles and Fashion
Department of Furniture, Textiles and Fashion
Victoria & Albert Museum
South Kensington
London
SW7 2RL
Tel: 020 7942 2665

e-mail: j.lister@vam.ac.uk

Conservation Representative

Janet Wood
Conservation and Collections Care
Apt 37
Hampton Court Palace
Surrey KT8 9AU
Tel: 020 3166 6465

e-mail: Janet.Wood@hrp.org.uk

Ireland Representative

Elizabeth McCrum
Heathcote
3 Sans Souci Lane
Belfast BT9 5QZ
Tel: 02890 669153

e-mail: elizabethmccrum@hotmail.co.uk

Scotland Representative

Margaret Roberts
Manager
National Museum of Costume
Shambellie House
New Abbey
Dumfries DG2 8HQ
Tel: 01387 850375

e-mail: m.roberts@nms.ac.uk

Wales and Midlands Representative

Althea Mackenzie
Hereford Heritage Services
Museum Learning and Resource Centre
58 Friar Street
Hereford
HR4 0AS
Tel: 01432 383033

e-mail: amackenzie@herefordshire.gov.uk;
amackenzie@nationaltrust.org.uk

North of England Representative

Jennifer Mckellar
Assistant Registrar
Manchester Art Gallery
Mosley Street
Manchester
M2 3JL
Tel: 0161 235 8829

e-mail: j.mckellar@manchester.gov.uk

South West England Representative

Paula Martin
Assistant Curator of Costume and Textiles
Royal Albert Memorial Museum
Queen Street
Exeter
EX4 3RX
Tel. 01392 665360

e-mail: paula.martin@exeter.gov.uk

South East England Representative

Fiona Woolley
Keeper of Fine and Applied Art
Maidstone Museum and Bentsley Art Gallery
St. Faith's Street
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1LH
Tel: 01622 602850

e-mail: fionawoolley@maidstone.gov.uk

National Museums Representative

Helen Wolfe
Department of Africa, Oceania and the Americas
The British Museum
Great Russell Street
London WC1B 3DG
Tel: 020 7323 8061

e-mail: hwolfe@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk

Dress and Textile Specialists Annual Conference 2009

Leeds, 19 - 20 November

Ready to Wear, Textile Production & Curating the Country House

This year we will be looking at ready to wear dress, both from a historical and contemporary viewpoint, textile production in various parts of the British Isles, and the issues relating to curating textiles in a country house interior, including a short practical workshop on identification of 17th & 18th furnishing textiles.

We are being kindly hosted by Leeds City Museums, with one day being spent at the central museum and Art Gallery and the other at Temple Newsam House. We have an excellent programme of presentations, as well as a tour of the house and a special 'textiles by candlelight' tour. Lunch is provided on both days within the booking fee, and we will be arranging an additional meal on out at a convenient location in Leeds on the Thursday evening for those who wish to join us.

This is an interesting programme as well as an unmissable learning opportunity! The draft programme is attached along with a booking form. Please book as soon as possible, it really does help the organisers to plan!

Programme

Thursday 19 November – Leeds City Gallery

- 10.00 am registration / coffee
- 10.30 am Housekeeping and Welcome
- 10.40 -11.20 – Katina Bill, ***The Shoddy and Mungo industry in Batley and Dewsbury***
- 11.25 -12.05 - Cathy Terry, ***'The Chief Manufacture of the Chief Seat of the Realm!': recovering the textile history of Norwich***
- 12.10 - 12.50 – Alison Fraser, ***Crombie : the Story of a Textile Mill***
- LUNCH break
- 1.40 -2.00 – Cheryl Knight, ***Protest Clothing***
- 2.05 – 2.45 Katrina Honeyman, with contributions from Natalie Raw, ***Fashion in the High Street: the makers of men's suits in Leeds in the twentieth century***
- 2.50 – 3.50 – Philip Warren, ***Creating the Next Collection; working with one of Britain's leading fashion retailers***
- 3.50 – 4.20 – tea and wind-up discussion
- 4.30 visit to Discovery Centre to see stored collections (led by Natalie Raw) – approx 30 min walk from City Museum.

Friday 20 November – Temple Newsam

Bus to depart from Leeds City Museum at 9.00am. Arrive at Temple Newsam 9.30am

- 9.40 – Welcome and housekeeping.
- 9.45 – 10.30 AGM (ZG)
- 10.30-10.50 coffee
- 10.50-11:25 Sharon Woodcock & Natalie Raw, **Revival project at Lotherton hall: Using the past to inspire the future**
- 11.30 Annabel Westman, workshop session: **Identifying 17th & 18th c. furnishing textiles**
- 12:30 -1pm Lunch
- 1 – 2 James Lomax, **Tour of Temple Newsam** (Group A)
Polly Putnam, **Textiles by candle light** (Group B)
- 2 – 3 James Lomax, **Tour of Temple Newsam** (Group B)
Polly Putnam, **Textiles by candle light** (Group A)
 - 3 – 3.30pm Tea/Coffee and close of conference discussion
 - 4.00pm Bus returns to Leeds central station

Pre conference visit invitations, opportunities to see exhibitions.

Katina Bill has kindly offered that she will be pleased to show any delegates who are travelling by car and planning to arriving on Wednesday around the stores and new galleries at Batley (opening October 2009); any delegates wishing to do this MUST contact her directly on Katina.Bill@kirklees.gov.uk or on 01484 223806. She can show them examples of shoddy, or items from the ethnographic collections.

Jill Winder, Curatorial Officer, University of Leeds International Textiles Archive, St. Wilfred's Chapel, Maurice Keyworth Building Moorland Road Leeds LS2 9JT j.r.winder@leeds.ac.uk An invitation to visit Ulita – the international textiles archive at Leeds university. Contact Jill at the above address. Jill also has given information about the Marks & Spencer archive exhibition at the university - Marks in Time Exhibition, Centenary Gallery Parkinson Building Woodhouse Lane Leeds LS2 9JT.

DATS Study Trip to Berrington Hall and Hereford Museum Resource Centre, 18 May 2009

It was a grey, miserable morning when a small group of DATS members arrived in the elegant courtyard of Berrington Hall, Herefordshire but our spirits were soon lifted as Althea Mackenzie began to reveal the dress treasures hidden within the Hall. We had come to Berrington to see examples from the Snowhill collection, put together by the noted antiquarian Charles Wade. The majority of pieces in the collection date from the 18th and early 19th century and all illustrate Wade's discerning eye for the highest quality craftsmanship and design. We began by looking at men's court suits, with their exquisite embroidery and beautiful fabrics. Women's clothing was next; a petenlair jacket and example after example of 18th century robes with fabrics ranging from a plain bright yellow wool/silk to a delicate white, pink and silver striped silk. As well as the quality we were overwhelmed by the rarity of pieces we saw. A delicate lilac and white striped dress, with a little apron and bodice crossed with matching

ribbons could have stepped out of an 1830s fashion plate, while a late 18th century machine knitted man's coat was complete with woven silk froggings. Another treat was the chance to see close up examples well through books like Janet Arnold's *Patterns of Fashion* and Nancy Bradfield's *Costume in Detail*.

After being refreshed by a quick lunch it was off to the Museum Resource Centre in Hereford. Housed in an old BT Repeater station this recently finished store is beautifully fitted with purpose built racking, shelving and drawers which made us all highly envious. The provision of a research room and learning space, allows the Resource Centre to offer students, researchers and members of the public to examine objects first hand and discover the wealth of material in the collection. Althea walked us through the different areas of the collection; the menswear includes a beautiful pink wedding suit worn by a clergyman (his wife's dress is also in the collection), while women's clothing included a 1740s pink riding habit and bergère hats.



By the time we left our heads were brimful of the sheer variety and beauty of the objects we'd been able to see. It was a wonderful treat to be able to look at so many pieces close up; all of us went away having made connections between the items in our own collections and objects we'd seen over the day. A big thank to Althea for being so generous with her time and collections, and providing us with such a day of delights.

Alexandra Kim (nee MacCulloch)
Royal Ceremonial Dress Collection, Kensington Palace

Early Textiles Study Group (ETSG)

Call for Papers – Conference 2010

Colours

Franks Room, Wellcome Collection Conference Centre, Euston, London, 19 and 20 of November 2010

From status statements to mourning dress, colours have played a crucial part in textiles through time and across cultures. Colours can be dramatically combined or worn separately. Specific colours can identify the owner, his or her allegiances, state of mind and state of purse.

Papers are solicited that draw on the wide variety of symbolic, cultural and technical aspects of colours in textiles, from all geographical areas and all time periods up to 1600. Topics may include: the symbolism of colours, the different social occasions on which certain colours are

used, the technical production of colours, and key figures or events associated with particular colour.

We welcome proposals from academics, research students, museum curators, practitioners and independent scholars. Preference will be given to proposals which include images.

Please send one page abstract and brief CV by Tuesday 1st of December 2009 to:

Helen Persson

Asian Department, Victoria and Albert Museum, London SW7 2RL

Fax: +44 (0)207 942 2335, or e-mail: h.persson@vam.ac.uk

The Costume Society

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Costume Society Symposium in Leeds Friday 9 – Sunday 11 July 2010

This symposium theme is ***The Price of Fashion*** focusing on the cost of production, whether it be clothes produced for wealthy individual clients or the phenomenon of mass production for a world market. From the local seamstress to the third world factory, papers should examine the cost of production in terms of working conditions, imports/exports and the effect on style over several centuries. The theme is intentionally wide-ranging and offers many possibilities for papers. These could include

- The globalisation of fashion – is denim now the world's national dress?
- High Street – high fashion? How top designers have invaded the High Street
- Imports – the true cost of throwaway fashion
- Can couture survive in a recession?
- Early attempts at mass production – 'slops'
- Clothing provided by the public purse: charity and poor law clothing
- Budgeting for dress "How to Dress Well on a Shilling a Day"
- Working class clothing clubs – pay in weekly to gain clothing credit
- Clothes economies and recycling in times of austerity
- Purchasing fashion in rural areas: The role of markets, fairs and travelling salesmen

No restriction is placed on period, location or nationality. Papers are solicited that draw upon a wide variety of approaches and consider the broadest range of issues.

We welcome papers from academics, collectors, curators, designers, research students, and independent scholars. **Those wishing to offer papers should submit an abstract of about 200 words with a short CV by 1 October 2009.** All submissions will receive replies by

1 February 2010. Papers, with the exception of those by keynote speakers will be of 30 minutes duration with illustrations by PowerPoint. Non-illustrated papers will only be considered in exceptional circumstances.

Abstracts and CVs should be sent to **Symposium@CostumeSociety.org.uk**

Submissions will be considered by a committee from the Costume Society Executive, headed by the Academic Co-ordinator, Anthea Jarvis.

The cost of attending the Symposium (Friday to Sunday) will be £335 and the Society regrets that it is not possible to pay for expenses in the preparation and presentation of a paper, or for travel to the Symposium. The Society offers a bursary for a student to attend the Symposium – details on our website *CostumeSociety.org.uk*

Further Details

A detailed programme and booking form with more information about the collections we will be visiting, will be provided with the Autumn 2009 Newsletter of the Society and on its website, ***CostumeSociety.org.uk***

News

Costume - The annual journal of the Costume Society

Following the retirement of Dr Ann Saunders in 2008 a new team is now editing the Society's journal. Editors, Penelope Byrde and Verity Wilson, together with Naomi Tarrant as Reviews Editor, would be delighted to hear from dress curators with proposals for articles or reviews of books and exhibitions. If you would like further information about the journal (or to see our Instructions for Authors) please look at the Costume Society or Maney Publishing websites: costumesociety.org.uk or maney.co.uk. Alternatively please contact us direct - we would be pleased to hear from DATS members.

Penelope Byrde and Verity Wilson Journal@CostumeSociety.org.uk

Gallery of Costume, Platt Hall, Manchester

www.manchestergalleries.org.uk

The Gallery of Costume will reopen in mid March 2010 after a major building works programme including a complete rewire, new heating, renovated exterior, disabled access, and new ground floor facilities comprising a large lecture/workshop room and a temporary exhibitions gallery. The temporary shows will start with a celebration of the Centenary of Platt Fields park (1910) until August 2010 and then will have an exhibition of recent work by the celebrated embroideress, Alice Kettle, inspired by items in the reserve collections at the Gallery. There will also be refreshed permanent exhibitions of costume (1600-1900) on the first floor, and a large new exhibition of fashion, 1910 - 2010 on the ground floor, focusing particularly on couture.



The Gallery is delighted to report that it has recently purchased at auction a marvellous embroidered jacket by Elsa Schiaparelli, from the winter 1936 collection. The item has been researched by the auction house and would have been worn with a short black crepe dress (which we have from the later 1930s in the collections here) and a conical feathered hat.

Interestingly, there were at least two versions of the jacket, as Marlene Dietrich bought the identical jacket, and Schiaparelli herself owned one and was painted wearing it. The embroidery is exuberant and typical of Schiaparelli's distinctive style. There are bold palm trees and other foliage in gold thread and gold strip embroidery with seed pearls and sequins to highlight the decoration. It is a superb display piece. The piece cost £5200 hammer price and was half funded by the V&A/MLA purchase fund, and half by the Friends of Manchester City Galleries.

Images courtesy Gallery of Costume



Museum of London www.museumoflondon.org.uk

We're very pleased to announce that Museum of London will be opening its new £20.5 million Galleries of Modern London in Spring 2010 (exact date TBC). These innovative and ambitious new galleries will see the displays taken up to the present day and redesigned from the ground up. 70 outfits of dress from 1740 to 2008 will be displayed in five gallery zones, with more textiles and accessories on display throughout. A highlight of the redevelopment is an immersive, theatrical walk-through Pleasure Gardens space with sound, light and film to enhance the costume display. All the objects will have accompanying on-line interpretation. We look forward to seeing you there.



Embroidery Courses at the Royal School of Needlework

The Royal School of Needlework (RSN) is the international centre for embroidery teaching based at Hampton Court Palace in south-west London. The RSN offers a range of leisure and career courses to suit all interest levels.

For the leisure embroiderer the RSN offers Day Classes including a series of Introduction days for beginners progressing to classes exploring a technique in more detail. There are opportunities to learn about colour, design and historic techniques such as:-

An Introduction to Blackwork, on 06 December 2009, (ref 923)

Elizabethan Embroidery, on 09 & 10 January 2010, (ref 028)

An Introduction to Silk Shading, on 23 January 2010, (ref 030)

Cost: £65 per day

Short Courses run one-day a week over four to six weeks. Explore the history and development of each technique and learn to design and embroider with confidence. Includes museum visits. Short Courses for 2010 include:-

Silk and Goldwork, from 18 January 2010

Stumpwork, from 05 May 2010

Cost: Each course £498.00

From September 2009 the RSN offers exciting new courses for people who are looking to enhance skills to professional standard and follow a career in embroidery.

The Foundation Degree in Hand Embroidery

A two year course created to produce skilled embroiderers with an individual approach to design and execution. Graduates will be encouraged to become professionals in textile and embroidery design; fashion; film and theatre; conservation and restoration; teaching or as an individual designer/maker. This course is validated by the University for the Creative Arts.

The RSN Certificate in Technical Hand Embroidery

A new name for our Certificated course in technical stitching. Study four core techniques in depth.

The Diploma in Technical Hand Embroidery

The RSN's own practical course designed for students who wish to perfect technical stitching to professional standard. Both the Certificate and Diploma courses offer very flexible attendance options.

For details of all courses contact:

Jessica Aldred on T. + 44 (0) 20 3166 6938 E. [jessica.aldred@royal-](mailto:jessica.aldred@royal-needlework.org.uk)

needlework.org.uk

www.royal-needlework.org.uk

English Heritage and the Collections Trust publish guide to pest identification

English Heritage and the Collections Trust have announced the publication of a new free poster guide to identifying insect pests in cultural heritage organisations.

A Helpful Guide to Insect Pests found in Historic Houses and Museums is an update to the original English Heritage pest identification poster, first published in 1999. It has become an invaluable tool for identifying insect pests for all those caring for collections, from art to zoology. However, there have been a number of changes over the last ten years which have seen the decline of some insects and dramatic increases in other species which have now become established in the UK.

The poster has been completely re-designed to include clear colour digital images of these new insects, together with new images of some of the more familiar pests. The larvae of some species, such as clothes moths and carpet beetles, are also illustrated. There are life sized silhouettes of all the species featured, along with details of the damage they can cause.

Further guidance on identifying and managing pests is available in the Collections Trust publication, *Pest Management: a practical guide*, available for retail for £25, or £22.50 for Collections Trust loyalty card holders. It can be purchased via the online Collections Link shop at <http://shop.collectionslink.org.uk> or from www.collectionstrust.org.uk/books

Copies of the insect pest identification poster are available free of charge from English Heritage and the Collections Trust.

English Heritage: Tel 0870 333 1181 or email customers@english-heritage.org.uk quoting product code 52010

Collections Trust: Visit <http://www.collectionstrust.org.uk/press-centre/004937.html> or email eleonor@collectionstrust.org.uk

News from the Dean Castle Textile Team, Dick Institute, Kilmarnock, Ayrshire

A Mediaeval Wedding (temporary title) January to March 2010 (exact dates to be confirmed)

This exhibition aims to show the work which has been undertaken by Dean Castle Textile Team. This volunteer group of local textile specialists was established in 2006. The museum was in need of assistance with costume production and conservation work and some of the local groups were looking for projects – these have been supplied in abundance! We were fortunate to have the advice of one needleworker, Janice Trewinnard, who helped to set up the group and has taken the leading role in advising on aspects of textile production. This exhibition is designed to show 'work in progress' alongside completed pieces. We were awarded Heritage Lottery Funding to restore 18th century curtains and to produce replica Mediaeval / Renaissance costume for educational use.

We have a tapestry that dates from around 1500 which hangs in the Great Hall at Dean Castle. This portrays a betrothal scene and the plan is to replicate the costume of the main figures as faithfully as possible for display purposes – all hand stitched! Additional pieces have been produced for school groups to try on and re-enact the scene from the tapestry. There will be adult costume too for all the grown up kids! This will include costume, capes, girdles, hats, bags etc. We are also producing costume worn by 'ordinary' people which will be available for schools in the castle's kitchen. Our newly developed education package will include comparisons like 'Food Miles' from today's world and the food that was available from near and far in 1500. We will explore issues like the early trade routes and the public display of wealth – a comparison for today could be 'bling'!

Our other main project is the restoration of early 18th century curtains which hang in the Banqueting Hall. There are seven curtains measuring w. 6' x h. 12'. These are Italian and it has been suggested that they were originally the drapes for beds. They consist of velvet, gold braid, silk and linen. We have been fortunate to enlist the assistance of Maggie Dobbie, Textile Conservator, with this entire project. She has guided our efforts with both the curtain and costume aspects of the project and has worked above and beyond anything that we could have expected.

Another aspect of the project is the production of the Coats of Arms cushions based on existing heraldic banners which hang in our Banqueting Hall. These have been hand stitched and they tell the story of the local area through imagery. These were originally meant for the children's use but are so beautifully made that they are going into the collection and onto display. We will scan them onto the computer, print them onto washable fabric and make a second set for educational use.

We are working on the re-storage of our growing collection of Ayrshire Needlework baby robes. One of the ladies, Irene, has assisted with the design of bags and hangers using conservation materials, and has produced around 30 sets to date. Still a long way to go!

We have worked with a fashion student from Ayr College, Colin Oliphant. Colin has helped to design the patterns for the costume and used his efforts with the project to further his successful application for entry into Edinburgh School of Art, something about which we are quite delighted!

The exploits of the Textile Team have been recorded in rhyme. A local poet, Rab Wilson, who is now making his mark on the national literary scene has included a poem about the Textile Team in his most recent book, 'Life Sentence'. This poem will be featured in the exhibition.

The exhibition will be supported by events in the Dick Institute textile gallery. We plan to have regular drop-in sessions up and running to help people to learn basic craft skills like knitting.

Projects to date:

Completed Work:

- Recovering of Dean Castle Banqueting Hall window bay seats
- Cushions for children's 'thrones' which are for general use in the Great Hall
- Production of Coats of Arms Cushions for educational use
- Restoration / Conservation of 18th century Banqueting Hall curtains
- Production of textile frames to support the BH curtains, designed by Maggie Dobbie, Conservator – built by Tom Yeudall, Engineer & Craftsperson

- Production of Earl of Pembroke Banner for use by Darvel schoolchildren in 700th anniversary of Battle of Loudoun Hill event
- Assistance with the production of Roman Standard banner for educational use
- Production of jacket and 'tammy' produced from Jacob sheep fleece given by Dean Castle Country Park staff
- Mounting 'Madras' panel using conservation materials and donated to East Ayrshire Council by the Moderator of the Church of Scotland, 2006
- Production of craft packs - gifts for children visiting the TT
- Assistance with 'The Art of Ayrshire Needlework' touring exhibition – production of curtains, support mobcaps for bonnets etc.
- Assistance to East Ayrshire Youth Theatre – production of cloak costume for stage performance
- 'Dressing-up' costume for visitors to handle in the Great Hall
- Costume for use by Rangers Service for use in Ghost Walk
- Textile tablecovers / huge bows produced for decorating Dean Castle Christmas event
- Production of toys for children's play area / handling corner in the Dick Institute
- Production of teddy bears in bags – gifts for visiting children from Chernobyl

Ongoing Events etc:

- Acquisition & Renovation of hand loom for use in demonstrations in the Dick Institute
- Assistance with Summer School workshops at Dean Castle
- Spinning & Weaving demonstration days at Dean Castle

Work in progress:

- Design and production of costume relating to c.1500 'Betrothal' tapestry
- Design and production of accessories relating to c.1500 'Betrothal' tapestry
- Design & Production of Ayrshire Needlework Storage Bags
- Design & Production of Double Hangers for Ayrshire Needlework baby gowns
- New sample squares to show how 18th century curtains would have looked originally and processes used

Current and Forthcoming Exhibitions

London

Victoria and Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7, www.vam.ac.uk
Tel. 020 7942 2000

Future Fashion Now – New Design from the Royal College of Art until 31st January 2010

The exhibition showcases work by a selection of graduates from the 2008 Royal College of Art (RCA) fashion MA. The display will feature highlights from the graduates' final collections and ranges from an oversize handbag to

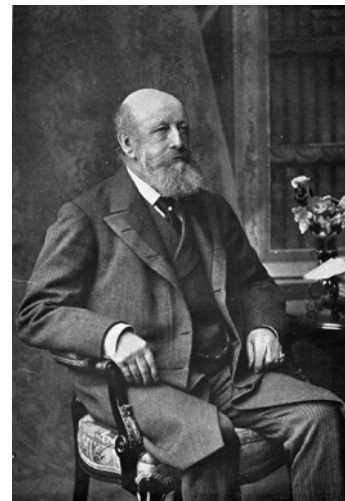
a leopard print suit. It will also reveal aspects of their design process through preliminary sketches, illustrations, models and the finished garment. Future Fashion Now marks the 60th anniversary of the inauguration of the RCA fashion programme. Since it began, the RCA has prepared aspiring designers for fashion careers. Many graduates have gone on to work in fashion houses such as Galliano, Vivienne Westwood, Chloé, Dior and Burberry. Others such as Ossie Clark, Boudicca, Julien Macdonald and more recently, Erdem Moralioglu and Carolyn Massey have developed their own labels.

The display features 55 outfits as well as accessories and sketchbooks. It is divided into four sections to explore elements of the design process each student goes through.

William Morris Gallery, Lloyd Park, Forest Road, London E17 4PP. Tel 020 8496 4390 www.walthamforest.gov.uk/museums-galleries

Experiments In Colour: Thomas Wardle, William Morris and the Textiles of India 10 October 2009 to 24 January 2010

This exhibition explores the remarkable collaboration between William Morris and the Victorian textile entrepreneur, Thomas Wardle (1831-1909). Together they experimented with natural dyes and printing techniques and their interest in colour led them to a joint fascination with the textiles of India. This exhibition explores the fruits of this partnership, a unique moment in British textile history. 'Experiments in Colour' is curated by Dr Brenda King and forms part of a series of exhibitions celebrating Wardle's centenary.



Thomas Wardle

Image courtesy of Staffordshire Moorlands District Council Collections

National Portrait Gallery, St. Martin's Place, London, WC2H 0HE, www.npg.org.uk

Twiggy: A Life in Photographs from 19th Sept. to 24th March 2010

A new display will celebrate Twiggy's 60th birthday and the publication of a new photographic biography of her life. One of the best-known and most respected models of all time, Twiggy has worked with many of the world's

leading photographers and a selection of the most iconic and important of these portraits will be on show at the Gallery.

Southeast of England

Chertsey Museum, 33 Windsor Street, Chertsey, Surrey KT16 8AT, Tel. 01932 565764 www.chertseymuseum.org.uk

An Image of Itself - 19th September 2009 to 28th August 2010

Featuring key pieces from the Olive Matthews Collection of Costume, the exhibition looks at the influence of historical and vintage dress on twentieth century designers. It invites the viewer to draw fascinating and surprising comparisons through the careful juxtaposition of garments sometimes centuries apart in date. The display includes comparisons of a sack-back from the 1770s with a cocktail dress of the 1960s; a Fortuny 'delphos' dress with an Issey Miyake 'Pleats Please' dress; and a woman's suit from the 1940s with a Thierry Mugler suit from the late 1980s. Some are new to the collection and never before displayed.

Fashion Accessories Gallery

Featuring shoes, fans, hats, bags, parasols, lace, shoe buckles and jewellery with items from the 17th century to the present day.

City Museum, Museum Road, Portsmouth, Hampshire, PO1 2LJ
Tel: 023 9282 7261 www.portsmouthmuseums.co.uk

Creative Dialogues: The Practical Study Group until 1 November 2009

A contemporary textile show of recent works by a diverse group of nationally and internationally renowned artists and tutors. Each piece has been made in collaboration with an artist of a different medium, demonstrating visually the real value of creative dialogue.

Southwest of England

Fashion Museum, Assembly Rooms, Bennett Street, Bath, BA1 2QH,
www.fashionmuseum.co.uk Tel. 01225 477 173

Photographing Fashion: British Style in the 1960s - 3 October 2009
and continuing

A display of forty black and white photographs from the Fashion Museum's *Sunday Times Fashion Archive* celebrating British fashion – the fashion

designers, the models, the photographers, and the fashion editors - in the 1960s.

Hats. Shoes. Bags and Dress Clips - 5 December 2009 and continuing

Take 100 hats, 100 shoes and 100 bags and what do you get? A snapshot of the history of the fashion accessories that finished an outfit and completed a look over the past 200 years. These three linked displays will give a glimpse at the fashion choices that women have made throughout history. There will also be a small display of a forgotten fashion accessory, the 1930s dress clip, worn to decorate evening dresses

Killerton House, Broadclyst, Exeter, Devon, EX5 3LE

Jobs For The Girls! A Glimpse Inside Working Women's Wardrobes – until 1 November 2009

The clothing shown in this new exhibition for 2009 includes uniforms as well as civilian dress worn for both work and leisure by women in a wide range of occupations. The exhibits, drawn from the collection of over 17,000 garments, accessories and associated ephemera at Killerton House, date from the eighteenth to the mid twentieth century, and include a working woman's leather corset from the mid eighteenth century, a Land Army uniform from the second world war, elegant tailor made costumes, and a glamorous cocktail dress from 1957 worn by Armine Sandford, the first woman newsreader for BBC Points West.

North of England

ULITA – The University of Leeds International Textile Archive, St. Wilfred's Chapel, Maurice Keyworth Building, Moorland Road, University of Leeds, LS2 9JT, www.leeds.ac.uk/ulita

Natural Fibres – A World Heritage 6th October 2009 – 26th February 2010, Tuesdays to Fridays 9:30 – 16:30 (excluding University closed days)

Natural fibres include those fibres of plant or animal origin, which can be spun into yarn, thread or rope. Woven, knitted, matted or bonded, they form fabrics that are essential to society. To celebrate the International Year of Natural Fibres (<http://www.naturalfibres2009.org/>) and in association with the recent 2009 Ars Textrina International Textiles Conference, ULITA is highlighting the use of natural fibres in textiles from across the globe. Selections from ULITA's constituent collections include silks from Qing Dynasty China, shawls of cashmere, Mediterranean embroideries of linen and silk, Javanese batik cottons, an embroidered ship cloth from Sumatra, ikats from Indonesia,

crafted items from New Zealand, West Africa, Malaysia and Turkey, and various twentieth century textiles.

75 Years of Stitching in Yorkshire: Celebrating the establishment of the Embroiderers' Guild Yorkshire Branch at Leeds 1934-2009

The Embroiderers' Guild was formed in London in 1906 and members travelled from all over the country to the meetings. In 1934, a group of ladies established the Yorkshire Branch, only the second branch outside London and now the longest serving branch, celebrating its 75th Anniversary in 2009. The first president of the Embroiderers' Guild was Louisa Pesel, a teacher and expert in embroidery who had travelled worldwide collecting samples of embroidery. Her life's collection and notebooks are held at ULITA. This exhibition presents samples from the Branch archive and work of present members, including the results of a competition this year based on the theme of Natural Fibres to complement the current exhibition at ULITA.

Leeds Costume Collection, Lotherton Hall, Lotherton Lane, Abeford, Leeds, LS25 3EB Tel: 0113 281 3259

Conversation Pieces – reconstruction of an 18th century dress until 1st November 2009

An exhibition by Debra Roberts of beautiful and engaging work that depicts evidence of the historical journey of a dress over time, evoking images of unknown histories and people.

Fashion Revolution: British Style from the 1960s to 1970s - until 31st December 2009

From the mini skirt to the hippy look, this is an exhibition of some of the leading British designs and designers that put Britain at the forefront of fashion in the 1960's and 1970's. On display at Lotherton Hall will be many fantastic, original garments from this exciting and highly significant era of fashion. There will be iconic mini dresses by Mary Quant, more dramatic outfits by Zandra Rhodes and Bill Gibb, and dapper suits, by the likes of Dougie Millings; tailor to the Beatles.

Whitworth Art Gallery, Oxford Road, Manchester, M15 6ER Tel. 0161 275 7450
www.whitworth.manchester.ac.uk

The Manchester Indian: Thomas Wardle and India
Continues until summer 2010

This exhibition celebrates the centenary of the death of Sir Thomas Wardle (1833-1909). Still perhaps best known for his collaboration with William Morris, the exhibition focuses on Wardle's efforts to reinvigorate the silk industry in India as well as the impact that India had on his work. Embroideries and woven silks brought back by Thomas Wardle from India in 1886 are featured together with

fabrics printed and dyed by Wardle's company in Leek, Staffordshire, that demonstrate the influence of Indian design on British textiles of the Arts and Crafts Movement.

Hat Works, Wellington Mill, Wellington Road South, Stockport SK3 0EU. Tel : 0161 355 7770 www.hatworks.org.uk

The Fuss about Feathers - until 1st November 2009

An exhibition exploring the use of feathers in millinery with special attention to the late Victorian and Edwardian period when hats were becoming enormous and feathers were used as a weapon in a woman's battle for millinery superiority. Hats of this time displayed feathers in every shape, every size and colour in order to display wealth and status. Wings, quills and entire birds were dyed, painted and mounted onto hats and bonnets..

Visitors to the exhibition will learn about the use of endangered species of birds used in the hat industry in the past and the supply of feathers for today's milliner. The Royal Society of the Protection of Birds plays a role in this exhibition, being formed as a direct result of those against the destruction of birds for use in hat fashions.

York Castle Museum, The Eye of York, York, YO1 9RY Tel: 01904 687 687 www.yorkcastlemuseum.org.uk

***The Sixties* - continues until 18th March 2012**

The brand new 1960s experience at York Castle Museum will change your perspective on one of the most explosive decades in recent times. The gallery brings the spirit of the decade back to life, looking at the iconic images but also offering alternative viewpoints in an exciting and interactive way. Rare items from a range of collections across the Trust - social history, art, fashion and textiles, militaria, astronomy and decorative art – are all included together with sound, light, moving images and innovative design.

Bankfield Museum, Boothtown Road, Halifax, HX3 6HG Tel: 01422 352334

Dionne Swift -16 January 2010 to 7 March 2010

Bankfield provides the first venue for this major solo exhibition by a local textile artist. Dionne is well known for her work with devoré fabrics. With "New Grounds", she has explored a variety of different techniques, including photography and collagraphic print, alongside large scale textile pieces. The work considers different ways of seeing: the subtle differences within us all.

Shirley Craven and Hull Traders: Revolutionary Post-War Fabrics and Furniture - 13 March 2010 to 9 May 2010

Fabrics and furniture that encapsulate the Swinging Sixties go on display in this exhibition which showcases the extraordinary output of the company Hull Traders. Leading 60s designer Shirley Craven revolutionised post war furnishings with her dramatic, unconventional designs. She also selected designs by freelance designers. Those who carried out work for the company included Eduardo Paolozzi, Althea McNish and Peter McCulloch. This exhibition shows the explosive visual impact of Hull Traders and Shirley Craven's textiles, both of which transformed post war design. A Hull Museums Exhibition.

Harris Museum & Art Gallery, Market Square, Preston, PR1 2PP
www.harrismuseum.org.uk.

Embellished: the Art of Fabulous Fabrics - 14 November 2009 to November 2010

Take a closer look at textile patterns and techniques in our new Costume Gallery exhibition. From delicately embroidered florals to bold geometric prints, the clothes we wear transform us into living works of art.

Some of the museum's most beautiful textiles, patterned by weaving, embroidery and printing will be on display. Whether it's flowers and foliage, spots and stripes or glamorous ladies, you'll find textile designs to suit all tastes. To add a bit of bling, there's even a section devoted to fabrics embellished in glittering gold.

Many of the exhibits are hidden treasures from our museum stores, which have never been seen before, such as an 18th century gown in the finest Spitalfields silk and a wall-hanging designed by the artist Walter Crane. Exquisite examples of embroidery include pieces from Europe, India, China and Turkey, dating from the 1600s to the modern day.

OPENING EVENTS

***Embellished: Fabulous Fabrics Launch Party* Sat 14 November, 12 - 4pm**

Join us to celebrate the opening of *Embellished: The Art of Fabulous Fabrics*. Take part in free art and textile workshops suitable for all the family. Bring along your own textile crafts, whether knitting, embroidery or customising, to showcase your embellishing skills. The World's Longest Embroidery will also be here for the day. All ages are invited to add a few stitches to this record-breaking textile! **Free, drop in**

***Sumptuous Silks: A Lecture by Mary Schoeser* Fri 20 November, 6pm-7pm**

Celebrated textile historian Mary Schoeser joins us to give the opening lecture for *Embellished: The Art of Fabulous Fabrics*. Focusing on silk weaving and design, Mary will open our eyes to a wonderful world of sumptuous silks. Meet Mary and tour the exhibition with a glass of wine.

Tickets £5/£3 concessions, booking essential

Full details of tours, talks and workshops relating to the exhibition can be found at www.harrismuseum.org.uk.

Scotland

National Museum of Costume, Shambellie House, New Abbey, Dumfries, Tel: 0131 247 4030 www.nms.ac.uk/costume

Jean Muir: A Fashion Icon – until 31 October 2009

Jean Muir was an iconic figure in the world of fashion design. See highlights from her inspiring collection, donated to National Museums Scotland.

Exhibition entry included in museum admission: Adult £3.50 / Conc £2.50
Child 12 and under free. Members free

Ireland

Ulster Folk and Transport Museum, Cultra, Holywood, Co. Down, BT18 0EU
www.nmni.com

Through the Eye of a Needle – until 24th January 2010

The sewing needle has been an essential tool in everyday life for over 10,000 years. It has given us sails to carry ships around the world, clothes to keep us warm, and quilts to sleep under. This is an exhibition in praise of the sewing needle and all its creations, whether for pleasure or for profit. The exhibition includes embroidered pictures and needlework samplers from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, fine examples of Irish lace, and some more recent examples of “made do and mend” stitching.

Ulster Museum, Botanic Gardens, Belfast, BT9 5AB, www.nmni.com

Dandified 24th November – 26th November 2009

A series of three evening lectures presented by one of the UK’s leading experts, Dr. Chris Breward, Head of Research at the V&A, will offer an fascinating insight into the world of men’s fashion from the 17th to the 21st century.

Books - recent and forthcoming publications

Lucile Ltd: London, Paris, New York Chicago: 1890s – 1930s, by Valerie Mendes and Amy De La Haye, (V&A Publishing, 2009)

This unique book is based upon the V&A’s unpublished Lucile archive and focuses on Lucile Ltd’s Autumn 1905 fashion album, which features hand-painted plates and samples of luxurious fabrics and trimmings. Also drawing on Lady Duff Gordon’s

intriguing autobiography, her story gives valuable insights into the rarefied world of high society and the extraordinary times through which she lived.

Mourning Dress: A Costume and Social History, by Lou Taylor, (Routledge Revivals, 2009)

First published in 1983 *Mourning Dress* chronicles the development of European and American mourning dress and etiquette from the middle ages to the present day.

Photographing Fashion: British Style in the Sixties, by Richard Lester, (Antique Collectors' Club, November 2009)

Newly discovered images of British fashion taken by world famous photographers for The Sunday Times during the 1960s.

20th Century Fashion: 100 Years of Apparel Ads, edited by Jim Heinmann and Alison A. Nieder (Taschen, 2009)

This picture book chronicles a century of style through fashion adverts.

Jacqueline Groag - Textile and Pattern Design: Wiener Werkstätte to American Modern, by Geoff Rayner, Richard Chamberlain and Annamarie Stapleton, (Antique Collectors' Club, October, 2009)

Shirley Craven and Hull Traders – Revolutionary Fabrics and Furniture 1957 – 1980, by Lesley Jackson, (Antique Collectors' Club, October, 2009)

Isabel Toledo: Fashion From The Inside Out, by Valerie Steele, (Yale University Press, 2009)

Madeleine Vionnet, by Pamela Golbin, (Rizzoli, 2009)