



A Deeper Shade of Black: Mourning in the age of Poe

Maymont Mansion, Richmond, Virginia

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President's Message

Dear Southeastern CSA Members:



This time of year, I invariably find myself wondering where the summer months have gone while gearing up for fall. The coming season is one of my favorites, not only because it brings cooler temperatures and colorful foliage, but also because our regional membership gathers to share our work and fuel our passion for costume. As we've grown to expect, member hosts have organized a costume-lover's feast – this time in Fredericksburg, Virginia. You'll find details about the late October symposium among the following pages, but rest assured that Colleen Callahan, Kevin McCluskey, and many others have put together a program sure to please. I hope to see you there!

I want to extend a big thank you to the candidates who agreed to run for our board and to all of you for casting your votes in the recent election. Please join me in congratulating Ruth Truett, an independent fiber artist in Birmingham, Alabama who will serve for a third consecutive term; Elizabeth Hopper, Emeritus Professor of Theater from School of the Arts at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond; and Jenna Kuttruff, the Doris and Jules Caraville Professor and Graduate Advisor in the School of Human Ecology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. These incoming board members will be installed in Fredericksburg at the annual meeting and immediately begin serving two-year terms. Other nods of appreciation go to outgoing board members Ann Albritton and Kim Miller-Spillman for their years of generous service. Finally, I wish to acknowledge Ruth for putting together a strong slate of candidates in her role as Nominations Chair and Dale Liles for tallying the ballots.

If you have ideas for ways to gather CSA members for an exhibition tour, lecture, demonstration, or other costume-related event, please contact Holly Alford at hollfashiondiva@comcast.net. As Mini-Meetings Chair, she can tell you how to qualify for a grant of up to \$125 in support of your event.

Please remember that the Costume Society of America is your organization. Tell a friend, colleague, or student why you belong and why they should, too. And if you have a question or suggestion, take a few moments to pass it along to me or another board member. You could spark something wonderful for us all!

Susan Neill
President, Southeastern Region

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CSA Southeastern Region Officers and Board Members

Susan Neill
President, 2008-2010

Jose Blanco F.
Vice President, 2008-2010

Mari DeCuir
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Patricia Hunt-Hurst
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Newbie Richardson
Preserving Our Past Chair

Janea Whitacre
Professional Development Award Chair

Joyce Donley
Website Liaison

Colleen Callahan
2009 Southeastern Symposium Chair,
Fredericksburg, VA

Vacant - Please inquire if interested
Membership Chair

Current Regional Exhibitions and Programs:



Yoruba people, Nigeria, Beaded Crown (adenla), 20th century, imported glass seed beads, fabric, 39 7/8 x 7 5/8 x 7 5/8 in. (103 x 19.4 x 19.4 cm), gift of Rod McGalliard

Harn Museum of Art, Gainesville, Florida: *Between the Beads: Reading African Beadwork*

This exhibition focuses on the many ways that African beadwork “speaks” in a visually coded language to convey thoughts about personal relationships, family ties, ethnicity, wealth, religious beliefs, and social and political standing. *Between the Beads* illuminates the historical and cultural contexts of bead use, meaning and production, showing how beads of many materials, colors, sizes and shapes have embellished the human body and been used in sculptural displays. The exhibition showcases approximately 100 works, including personal adornment, masks and sculpture from the museum’s collection and private collections. The exhibition is the result of collaboration between Curator of African Art Susan Cooksey and Assistant Professor of Art History Dr. Victoria Rovine. Students in Dr. Rovine’s African Textiles and Garments class conducted research about the objects in the exhibition. Their interpretive text will be used in *Between the Beads* and featured on the exhibition Web site, which was developed with the UF Digital Library Center; Katerie Gladdys, assistant professor of digital media; and Katherine McGonigle, digital media graduate student and Harn Museum of Art intern.

Through October 2009.

University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia: *Green Garden*

Objects from the Department of Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors Historic Clothing and Textiles Collection Barrow Hall Gallery – University of Georgia August 15 – October 30 Monday – Friday - 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

This is the second in a series of exhibits concentrating in color. The exhibit includes a number of items ranging from a Guatemalan Huipil blouse to a 1890s dress bodice and several 1970s dresses. Military garments from World War I and World War II are also included along with accessories such as handbags and shoes.

August 15 – October 30



Atlanta History Center, Atlanta, Georgia: *For Scarlett: Costumes from Gone with the Wind*

To commemorate the 70th anniversary of Atlanta’s worldwide premiere of *Gone with the Wind*, the Atlanta History Center will display two costumes worn by Vivien Leigh. Titled, *For Scarlett: Costumes from Gone With the Wind*, the installation will feature several costume sketches by Walter Plunkett, a gray dress worn by Leigh in the Shantytown scene, and the famous green drapery dress. For more information, please visit <http://www.atlantahistorycenter.com>.



Walter Plunkett
Scarlett in mourning costume
Watercolor on illustration board,
1938

October 29, 2009 – January 31, 2010.

Spotlight on: Maymont Mansion, Richmond, Virginia

Celebrating the Poe 2009 Bicentennial Special Exhibition

Tuesdays - Sundays, October, 12:00 noon - 5:00 pm,
Maymont Mansion

New! *A Deeper Shade of Black: Mourning in the age of Poe*

Maymont Mansion joins other Richmond museums in commemorating the 200th anniversary of Edgar Allan Poe's birth. Featuring a private collection of period artifacts in addition to original Maymont pieces, this unusual exhibit is dedicated to the Victorian-era obsession with the rituals of death and dying. Last tour begins at 4:30. \$5 suggested admission.

An Old-Fashioned Christmas at Maymont

Sunday, December 6, 12:00 noon-5:00 pm, Maymont
Mansion & Carriage House Lawn

Make this beloved Richmond tradition a part of your Christmas celebration. Victorian ladies and gentlemen welcome you to the Maymont Mansion as you marvel at the grand Christmas tree, the beautifully decorated formal rooms and the traditions enjoyed by the Dooleys and their guests in 1893. Horse-drawn carriage rides and festive music fill everyone with the holiday spirit. Don't miss "St. Nick's Christmas Party," a fun-filled occasion for the entire family with stories, songs, party favors, games, and light refreshments. Mansion tours \$7 per person/\$5 members/free for children 12 and under. Carriage rides \$5 per person/\$3 children 12 and under. "St. Nick's Christmas Party" at 1:00 and 2:30; \$10 per person; advance registration recommended.

New! *Mourning Obsessions at Maymont*

Saturday, October 24,
5:00 pm-7:00 pm, Maymont
Mansion

Immerse yourself in the Victorian-era fascination with death, mourning and the after life. Maymont mansion is the setting for this unique tour and special exhibit focusing on 19th century customs, beliefs, and the macabre memorabilia associated with a loved one's passing. \$10 per person /\$8 members. Registration recommended.

Maymont by Moonlight

Fridays, December 11 & 18, 5:30 pm-9:30 pm,
Maymont's Hampton Street Entrance

Enjoy an enchanting holiday evening at Maymont . . . by moonlight! Horse-drawn carriages adorned with jingling bells carry guests up the luminary-lit lane to the Maymont Mansion where Victorian hosts welcome you to the home of Major and Mrs. James H. Dooley. Witness the excitement of Christmas Eve 1893 as the family, guests, and domestic staff prepares the beautifully decorated mansion for a festive celebration. Carol singing and light refreshments complete this magical evening. \$25 per person/\$20 members. Reservations required.

New! *Candlelight Mansion Tours*

Tuesday, December 15, 5:00 pm-7:00 pm, Maymont
Mansion

Experience Virginia's Gilded Age treasure, the elegant showplace of James & Sallie Dooley, in this special after-hours holiday tour. Maymont Mansion is aglow as Victorian ladies and gentlemen share with you the gracious traditions of Christmas, 1893. Lavish tree trimmings, the opulent dining room, spectacular decorations and the elaborate preparations below stairs bring the wonders of a 19th century Christmas to life. \$10 per person/\$7 members. Registration recommended.

For all event details and reservations call 804-358-7166, ext. 310.





Mint Museum of Art, Charlotte, North Carolina

The Art of Affluence: Haute Couture and Luxury Fashions, 1947 - 2007

This exhibit presents selections from the Museum’s holdings of haute couture and luxury garments complimented by fashion accessories that reflect the creativity of numerous fashion designers of the second half of the twentieth century and first years of the twenty-first century. Top couturiers and designers featured include Gabrielle Chanel, Christian Dior, Pierre Balmain, Cristobal Balenciaga, Elsa Schiaparelli, Valentino, Hubert de Givenchy, Guy Laroche, Jean Patou, Yves Saint Laurent, Arnold Scaasi, Gianni Versace, Mary McFadden, John Galiano, Manolo Blahnik, Gucci, Christian Louboutin, Giorgio Armani, Emanuel Ungaro, and Chado Ralph Rucci, among others.

For more information on the works in this exhibition, go to the Mint Wiki and select the link to the exhibition. The Mint Wiki is a service of The Mint Museum Library.

July 5, 2008 – June 30, 2010

American Quilt Classics, 1800-1980: The Bresler Collection

For many years, Fleur and Charles Bresler have collected American quilts. Visual impact, historical value, pictorial imagery, and historical fabric have guided them in assembling their important and outstanding collection. In 2001, the Breslers gifted 36 quilts to the Mint Museum of Craft + Design. “American Quilt Classics” celebrates this gift, which features rare and outstanding examples of Baltimore Album and Warner quilts, crazy quilts, Amish quilts, log cabin quilts, and Chintz pictorial quilts.

Through February 28, 2010.

Scotchtown, Virginia

This eighteenth-century building was restored to house the Hugh Mercer Apothecary. Dr. Mercer served the citizens of Fredericksburg with medicines and treatments of the time. Leeches, lancets, snakeroot, and crab claws made up just some of the remedies. Dr. Mercer practiced medicine for fifteen years in Fredericksburg. His patients included Mary Washington. Dr. Mercer left his practice to join the Revolutionary army and died as a Brigadier General at the Battle of Princeton.



Left:
Interior of the Hugh Mercer Apothecary Shop



Right:
Grey brocade woven silk dress, fabric ca. 1725, remade ca. 1770.
(shown with reproduction petticoat, neckerchief ca. 1750-1775, and apron ca. 1770).
Shown in the East Parlor of Scotchtown.

News of the Upcoming Fall 2009 Symposium

Four days packed with diverse costume-related activities begin on **Thursday, October 22nd** at the Spotsylvania County Museum (SCM) about 10 miles west of Fredericksburg. Under Newbie Richardson's direction, ten CSA volunteers will help stabilize and prepare pieces for display from the SCM's small historic clothing collection through a series of hands-on projects—a combination of a Southeastern Region's Preserving Our Past Workshop and CSA National's volunteer Angels Project. While work is going on at the SCM, Brenda Rosseau will lead another group of CSA members east of Fredericksburg to Stratford Hall, the ancestral home of the Lees of Virginia and birthplace of Robert E. Lee. After lunch, the group will tour the house and view selected items of Lee family clothing. That evening, we will meet up at one of the many restaurants in downtown Fredericksburg for a dutch-treat dinner and chance to interact with old friends and new friends.

The Fredericksburg area has many interesting historic sites and museums that symposium participants will be able to explore on **Friday, October 23rd**. All full conference attendees will be issued a "Timeless Ticket" for admission to 6 sites in the city of Fredericksburg—the Fredericksburg Area Museum, the Hugh Mercer Apothecary Shop, the James Monroe Museum and Memorial

Library, Kenmore, the Mary Washington House, and the Rising Sun Tavern—plus 3 sites in the Fredericksburg area—Gari Melchers Studio and Home at Belmont, George Washington's Ferry Farm, and the Fredericksburg Area Battlefields. Because this ticket has no expiration date, participants can return to visit any sites they miss at a later date.

On Friday evening, the symposium officially begins with a tour of the exhibit, *Our Face to the World: The Clothing of James and Elizabeth Monroe* at the James Monroe Museum (JMM). This exhibit, curated by Meghan Budinger, JMM's Assistant Director, is the culmination of a three-year Save America's Treasures project to conserve clothing that belonged to James Monroe and his family. Included in the display will be the suit, waistcoat and bicorn hat Monroe wore at Napoleon's court when he was U.S. minister to France and the silk brocaded gown that Elizabeth Monroe wore at her 1786 wedding to Monroe. After touring the exhibit, attendees move from the past to the present with a short walk to a reception at the Liberty Town Arts Workshop, a lively arts center with working artists' studios. At Liberty Town, in addition to sampling tasty hors d'oeuvres, we will tour the artists' studios, shop (!) in the art and craft gallery shop, and visit with weavers at work in the weaving studio.

James Monroe Museum, Fredericksburg, Virginia

A silk gown owned by the James Monroe Museum and worn by First Lady, Elizabeth Kortright Monroe, is now in very poor condition due to light damage after years of being on display. The gown was originally salmon pink and has sadly faded to an overall beige color with the original color only visible in the seams. Another Monroe site, Ash Lawn-Highland, commissioned Sarah Cowan to make a facsimile of this gown. Sarah discovered and reproduced a complicated arrangement of four distinct types of stitches used to organize, attach, shape and stabilize the fine pleats at the gown's waistline. During the Sewing Techniques Mini-Workshops, symposium attendees will be able to see and discuss this clever 18th century method of pleat control with Sarah at her display.



The campus of the University of Mary Washington (UMW) will host us on **Saturday, October 25th**, with juried paper presentations in Jepson Hall's state of the art facilities. Over the course of the symposium there will be seventeen oral presentations and twelve research exhibits on topics on a wide range of topics covering many time periods from Ancient Egyptian influences on 19th century style to 21st century global fashion trends. After lunch and the region's annual meeting, CSA Fellow, Patricia Campbell Warner will present the keynote address, *Period Dress in the Movies: A Century of Misinformation*. On their way across campus to the Great Hall of UMW's Woodward Campus Center where the late afternoon and evening events will take place, attendees can stop off at UMW's Simpson Library to view a special exhibit, *The Useful and the Beautiful: Harper's Bazar 1867-2009, Selected Volumes*, curated by Kevin McCluskey. At the Great Hall, there will be research exhibits, the silent auction, and sewing techniques mini-workshops—in which experts in recreating period garments will demonstrate and discuss sewing techniques from documented in 18th or 19th century garments. Next the evening festivities



begin with a buffet dinner, followed by demonstrations of period dances by CSA members in costume, like Karin Bohleke shown here, with attendees encouraged to dress in costume and participate in the dancing.

Sunday, October 26th will find us back at Jepson Hall for more oral paper presentations, again on wide variety of topics. That afternoon, attendees can continue touring Fredericksburg with their "timeless tickets" or join a post-symposium tour to Preservation Virginia's Scotchtown, the home of Patrick Henry and his family during the 1770s. At Scotchtown, Exhibit Curator Catherine Dean, Exhibit Lender and Co-Curator Mary Doering, and Exhibit Consultant Colleen Callahan

will present an informal "open house" tour of the special exhibit, *Ornament and Simplicity: Historic Costume at Scotchtown, 1760-1830*. This exhibit features historic garments from Mary Doering's collection dating to the Henry period and that of early 19th century occupants, the Sheppard family, plus rarely-exhibited items from the Preservation Virginia collection.

Hope to see you there!



Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia *Quilted Fashions*

This exhibition explores the use of quilting to decorate bed coverings, clothing, and accessories of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. See detailed drawings of elaborate quilting patterns that often are obscured by the technique's subtlety. Stomachers and petticoats worn with costly gowns, men's elaborate waistcoats, and counterpanes on the finest beds all are featured.

Through February 2010.

Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia *Seeing Stars in American Bedcovers*

This exhibition in the Foster and Muriel McCarl Gallery features 19th and 20th-century bed coverings that incorporate stars as a design element. The stunning objects range from a bold, oversized star that visually dominates the quilt to a subtle star motif stitched into the center of a quilt.

Through April 2010 in the Foster and Muriel McCarl Gallery.

Regional News

From Patti Hunt-Hurst:

Dr. Jose Blanco was awarded Teacher of the Year for the College of Family and Consumer Sciences (FACS). Jose was nominated by students in the Department of Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors, then voted by TMI faculty as TMI's teacher of the year. He was selected by a committee of FACS and UGA faculty for the College award (there were 3 other nominees). We are all very proud of him and happy to have him here!

New books available through Texas Tech University Press:

1. *The Art of the Shoemaker*
by D.A. Saguto
<http://www.ttup.ttu.edu/Book%20Pages/9780896726505.html>
2. *The Sunbonnet: American Icon in Texas*
by Rebecca Jumper Matheson
Available in November
<http://www.ttup.ttu.edu/Book%20Pages/9780896726659.html>

And just a quick trip across the Potomac River... Smithsonian National Museum of American History, Washington, DC

The First Ladies exhibition has reopened. Showcasing premier objects from the nearly century-old First Ladies Collection, this exhibition is divided into three main sections: the evolution of the First Ladies Collection, the tradition of the inaugural gown, and a first lady's contribution to the presidency and American society. On display are 14 dresses including those worn by Laura Bush, Grace Coolidge, Jackie Kennedy, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Helen Taft. The exhibition also features portraits, White House china, personal possessions, and related objects from the Smithsonian's unique collection of first ladies' materials.

For details visit: <http://americanhistory.si.edu/exhibitions/exhibition.cfm?key=38&exkey=1239>
Or call (202) 633-1000

From Colleen Callahan:

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Yesterday was quite the day for me and I want to share with you what happened. As most of you know, Newbie and I have been working on a Save America's Treasures grant for the James Monroe Museum for almost three years. My main project has been the conservation of the surviving petticoat (underskirt) and overskirt of a silk brocaded damask gown and the replication of a bodice for this gown out of cutting edge digitally printed fabric. This gown will be on display in an exhibit at the James Monroe Museum for six months beginning Oct. 17th. The conservation has taken hundreds of hours and thousands of tiny stitches to stabilize the splits in the 18th c. silk fabric (and I did not do it all myself—Linda Arnette, Cindy Rudin, and Janene Charbeneau helped as well as Newbie). Yesterday, the dress was photographed and it looked wonderful if I do say so myself. The new fabric of the bodice captures the design of the original remarkably well. And seeing it all together really took my breath away—I hope many of you will be able to come to see the exhibit. If you want to see the fabric, you can do so at <http://www.historicreproductions.net/index.php>, the new website from the company that recreated the fabric.

After the wonderful experience of seeing the dress in all its conserved/restored glory, I got home to a phone message from the Top 100 Minority/Women Owned Business Entrepreneurs award program (for businesses in D.C., Virginia, Maryland, & Delaware) that I applied to in July that my business (The Costume & Textile Specialists) had been chosen as one of the top businesses for 2009!!! You can go to: www.top100mbe.com to find out more about this award program. Thanks to all of you for your business and/or support over the last six years—this would not have happened without you. In case you are wondering, though Newbie and I consider ourselves partners and often work together, we each have our own businesses and essentially work for each other depending on who has the lead on a project. Newbie's business is Past Crafts Patterns and she will have to apply for the award next year.

Online News

Berg Fashion Library

Available on Subscription from May 2010

Incorporating the *Berg Encyclopedia of World Dress and Fashion* (10 volume set available in print May 2010; 978 1 84788 104 5), this unique online portal is the leading source of information for anyone working on dress or fashion. The Berg Fashion Library offers users cross-searchable access to an expanding range of essential resources.

Key Content – continually updated to keep students, scholars, and professionals at the cutting edge of their subject:

- The Berg Encyclopedia of World Dress and Fashion online – updated twice a year
- E-Book collection: full text of c.60 Berg fashion e-books with regular updates
- An extensive, color, image bank including 1,600 images from the internationally renowned V&A fashion collection and 2,000 from the print Encyclopedia
- Extra reference resources, such as an A-Z of Fashion and a Dictionary of Key Terms
- Cross-searchable functionality with Berg fashion e-journals (Fashion Theory, Fashion Practice, and Textile) already in your institution's collection
- More added-value content, to be included after launch

Key Features

Powerful searching

The Berg Fashion Library allows both quick and advanced searching of text and/or images, and users can also build and save their own searches and content.

Specially-created taxonomy

The classification system guides users to the information they need, and allows them to refine by place, period, themes, textiles and so on.

Cross-referencing and linking through OpenURL and DOIs

Fully cross-referenced both within the resource and externally (via OpenURLs). DOIs at book, chapter, article, and entry level ensure content can be reliably located and used for course packs and reading lists.

Industry-standard access and data

- Unlimited concurrent access via IP recognition, ATHENS/Shibboleth, library cards, and username and password for remote users
- COUNTER compliant usage statistics
- MARC21 records

Trials, Price Quotes and Enquiries

Please email bergfashiobnlibrary@bergpublishers.com to:

- Register for a FREE institutional online trial – available from early 2010. Sign up now and we will contact you with details of the no-obligation trial when available
- Register for a price quote – the Berg Fashion Library will be available on subscription. Sign up now and we will provide a quote tailored to the needs of your institution as soon as possible (from late 2009)
- Subscribe

The screenshot shows the Berg Fashion Library website. The main article is titled "The Geographic and Cultural Region" and discusses how climate and geography influence dress. It mentions that Canada and the United States cover vast regions and that climate is a major factor in the establishment of climate zones. A small image of a red and white patterned dress is visible on the right side of the page. The page also includes a sidebar with "Related images" and "Related articles" sections.



Costume Society of America

Education • Research • Preservation • Design

Costume Society of America
Southeastern Region

c/o Katherine Winters,
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Networking and Feedback:



1. CSA Facebook Group:
<http://www.facebook.com/home.php#/group.php?gid=86556768053>

2. CSA LinkedIn Group:
<http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=826497&sharedKey=>

3. Are you interested in networking with those in the field more often than just at the annual symposiums and mini-meetings? Would you like to join a professional (and fun!) network of fashion and textile historians where you can discuss and post information about costume and textile related topics, new digital collections online, find out about exhibitions, publications, symposia, and other related goings on?

The group "Fashion Historians Unite!" is growing and so far it's proving to be a useful place to share information with peers and colleagues worldwide! We've grown to 169 members!
<http://www.facebook.com/home.php#/group.php?gid=55807223439>

4. In addition, there is another group page on Facebook geared towards museum professionals. It is called "Museum Professionals Unite Across Facebook". It has many great links for institutions, jobs and resources, and a membership of over 5,000 people. Posts include information regarding jobs, conferences, current events, and/or any other subjects vaguely related to museums/collecting institutions. It's like a listserv, but on a social networking site!

Talk about a network! Check it out!
<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2226660969>

5. Please note that the deadline for article and news submissions for the Spring 2010 newsletter is February 28. Please mark your calendars and don't hesitate to send anything you wish to share. Links, online articles, and anything pertinent to our region is appreciated. Pictures are also highly encouraged – the higher the resolution the better. I hope you are all enjoying the new format. Please send me any feedback you wish and I look forward to seeing how we can grow and prosper!

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