



Costume Society of America

Education • Research • Preservation • Design

Costume Society of America
Southeastern Region

c/o Katherine Winters,
Newsletter Editor
Atlanta History Center
130 West Paces Ferry Road, NW
Atlanta, GA 30305-1366

Networking and Feedback:



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

2. 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>

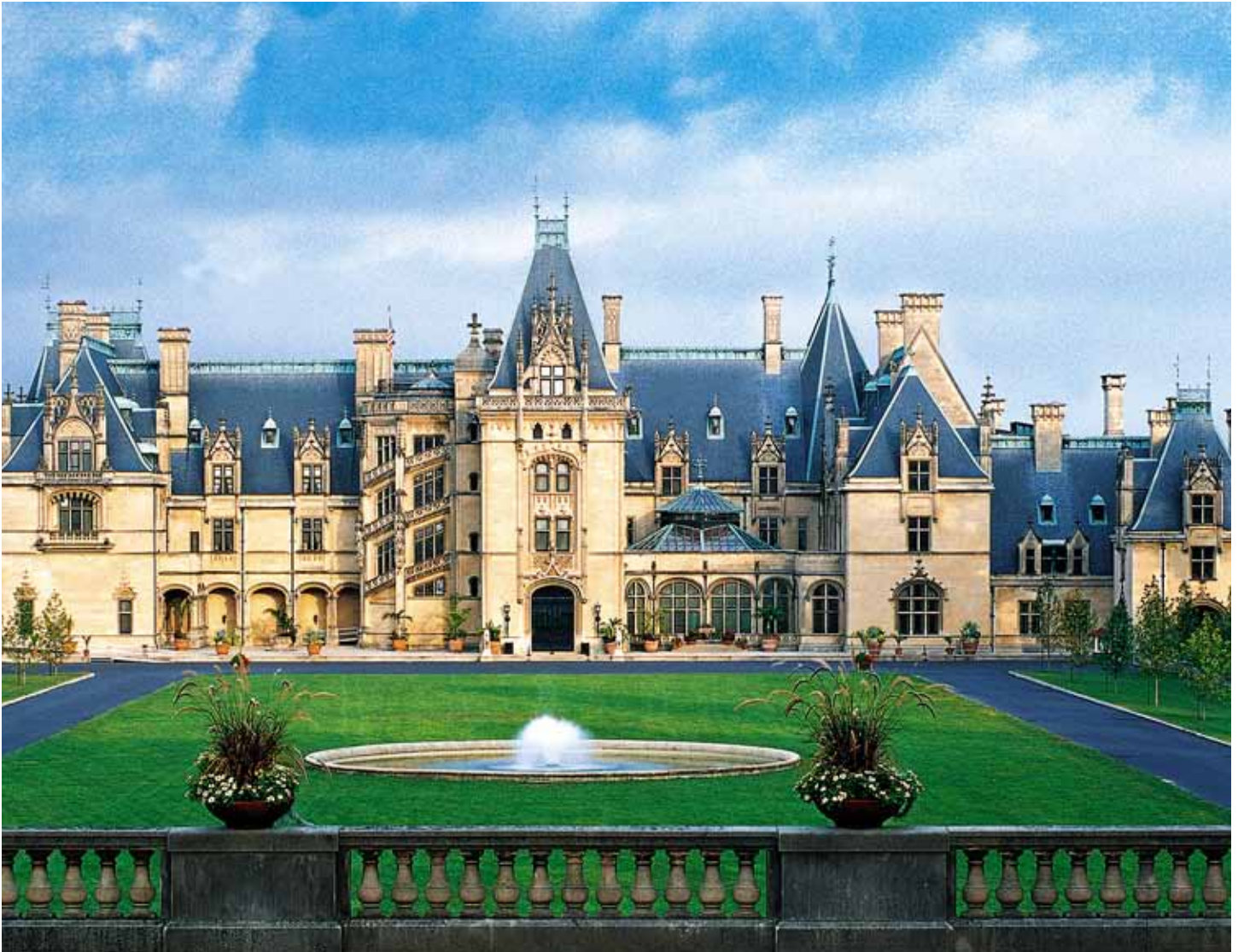
3. In addition, there is another group page on Facebook geared towards museum professionals. It is called “**Museum Professionals Unite Across Facebook**”. It has many great links for institutions, jobs and resources, and a membership of over 5,000 people. Posts include information regarding jobs, conferences, 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>

4. Please note that the deadline for article and news submissions for the Fall newsletter is August 30. Please don’t hesitate to send along anything you wish to share. Links, online articles, and anything pertinent to our region is appreciated. Pictures are also highly encouraged. Please send me any feedback about this newsletter format. I look forward to seeing how we can grow and prosper!

Katherine M. Winters, Newsletter Editor
Email: kwinters@atlantahistorycenter.com
Tel: 404-814-4045



Norman Norell (American, 1900–1972). Evening Ensemble, 1970–71. Gold organdy; beaded gold silk jersey. Brooklyn Museum Costume Collection at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Gift of the Brooklyn Museum, 2009; Gift of Toni Tavan Ausnit, 1990 (2009.300.1383a–b)



Connecting Threads of History, Cultures and Creativity

CSA Fall Symposium
Asheville, NC September 10-12, 2010

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President's Message

Dear Southeastern CSA Members:



With yet another “wintry mix” in the forecast, I find myself wondering if we really live in the Southeast... that is, until I remember the weather that has hit our neighbors to the northeast—and repeatedly! Wherever this finds you, I hope by now the snow has melted and you are seeing signs of spring by the dozen.

The timing of this newsletter falls midway between our wonderful annual meeting in Fredericksburg, Virginia, last October and the promising gathering in Asheville, North Carolina, this September. Details of these symposia appear on the pages that follow, but I would be remiss if I did not extend heartfelt appreciation to Colleen Callahan, Kevin McCluskey, the host committee, and volunteers for coordinating all of the stimulating and fun events in Fredericksburg and to Wendy Riggs and her talented committee for their efforts to date and in the months ahead.

You've probably noticed several recent emails announcing events, programs, and publications from colleagues in the region. What a quick and easy way to get the word out (and perhaps even toot your own horn)! Your fellow members want to support you and your work, so if you have costume-related news or information, please email it to Katherine Winters (kwinters@atlantahistorycenter.com) along with an image, if you have one. And remember, the e-blasts, like our electronic newsletter, can be great member recruitment tools, so be sure to take a moment to forward them to students and other prospective CSA members.

I look forward to representing the Southeastern region at the national symposium in Kansas City in May and would love to share your ideas there. Though the organization's leadership recognizes that most members participate only in local events, they are eager to know how you are being served well and, perhaps more importantly, where and how it can improve. I encourage you to reflect on this and ask you to call or drop me a note so I can share it in the larger forum. They really appreciate specific suggestions and I'm happy to pass them along. I look forward to hearing from you.

Happy spring —

Susan Neill

President, Southeastern Region

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CSA Southeastern Region Officers and Board Members

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*2010 Southeast Symposium Chair,
Asheville, North Carolina*

Highlights from the Fall 2009 Symposium

**University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg,
Virginia Site of Southeastern Regional Symposium
By Katherine M. Winters, Southeastern Region,
Newsletter Editor**

On a glorious fall weekend in October, 68 members and guests of the Southeastern Region of the Costume Society of America descended upon historic Fredericksburg, Virginia for the annual regional symposium. The weekend was graciously hosted by University of Mary Washington and organized by Colleen Callahan and Kevin McCluskey. Four days filled with costume-related activities and events began on Thursday, October 22 with a special tour of Stratford Hall – the ancestral home and birthplace of Robert E. Lee. Concurrently, the annual Preserving Our Past/Angels Project Workshop met at the Spotsylvania County Museum. Organized by Newbie Richardson in conjunction with the museum staff, the workshop focused on the process of assessment and evaluation of a collection and its needs, determining storage and display methods, and addressing conservation needs. The participants learned a humidification method, assisted with vacuuming and packing of the museum's garments and accessories, and learned basic conservation sewing techniques and basic mannequin preparation and dressing for display methods.



Symposium attendees were issued a "timeless ticket" to visit six sites in Fredericksburg, including the Fredericksburg Area Museum, the Hugh Mercer Apothecary Shop, the James Monroe Museum and Memorial Library, Mary Washington House, and the Rising Sun Tavern. In addition, attendees were able to visit the Gary Melchers Studio and Home at Belmont, George Washington's Ferry Farm and Fredericksburg area battlefields.

Friday evening began with a tour of the exhibit *Our Face to the World: The Clothing of James and Elizabeth Monroe* at the James Monroe Museum. The exhibition featured several costumes, including two garments recently conserved by The Costume and Textile Specialists' Colleen Callahan and Past Crafts Patterns' Newbie Richardson, a reproduction of a silk dress by Sarah Cowan, and many

delectable accessories once belonging to the Monroe family. Afterwards, symposium guests attended a welcome reception at Liberty Town Arts Workshop which included a self-guided tour of artists' private studios and a weaving workshop.

Research paper presentations commenced on Saturday and continued through Sunday midday and included many interesting topics ranging from the influence of Egyptian style and Egyptomania to ancient Japanese robe traditions to the effects of mass produced clothing on the American dressmaking industry in the first half of the twentieth century. Delightfully illustrated using images and film clips keynote speaker Patricia Campbell Warner discussed costume in film with a presentation entitled, *Period Dress in the Movies: A Century of Misinformation*.

On Saturday afternoon guests viewed six research exhibits featuring handmade examples of costume. Mini-workshops enabled participants to learn sewing techniques including pom-pom making and button covering. The annual silent auction benefitting the region's *Dale Liles Student Award and the Professional Development Award* raised \$1,435.00! After dinner, there was an exuberant display of period dance by costumed CSA member/performers, in which attendees participated and learned dances from the Renaissance, the eighteenth century, the Civil War era, and the early 1900s.

A post-symposium exhibit tour of *Ornament and Simplicity: Historic Costume at Scotchtown, 1760-1850* was led by Preservation Virginia Curator Catherine Dean, exhibit lender and co-curator Mary Doering and exhibit consultant Colleen Callahan.

The Southeastern region's fall 2010 symposium will be held in beautiful Asheville, North Carolina in mid-September. A tour of the Biltmore featuring new costume vignettes helping to bring the house to life and visits to local textile and artisan shops will be offered. Come and see what the Southeastern Region is up to and enjoy a fall weekend in the Blue Ridge Mountains! Please contact Wendy Riggs for more information: wendy@sewing-enthusious.com.

Current Regional Exhibitions and Programs:



The Frist Center for the Visual Arts, Nashville, Tennessee

The Golden Age of Couture: Paris and London 1947-1957

The launch of Christian Dior's "New Look" in 1947 marked the beginning of a momentous decade in fashion history, which Dior himself called a "golden age." The couture houses of Paris and London, which had traditionally served wealthy private clients, opened boutiques and licensed their designs, thereby becoming global brands and household names. Through clothing (primarily evening dresses and suits), shoes, and photographs, this exhibition demonstrates how designers such as Dior, Balenciaga, and Chanel brought glamour back to Europe after World War II.

Exhibition organized by the Victoria and Albert Museum, London
June 18 – September 12, 2010



DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum, Williamsburg, Virginia

Quilted Fashions

This colorful exhibition features quilted textiles from 1600 to 1800 in date. Included are bed covers, petticoats, waistcoats, and costume accessories, all embellished with intricate quilting. Many of the objects are exhibited with line drawings of the quilting patterns to facilitate design comparison and study.

Through October 4

The Charleston Museum, Charleston, South Carolina

Aisle Style: 150 Years of Wedding Fashion

While focusing on the bride and her dress, this exhibition includes accessories, men's garments, trousseau treasures, and photographs. *Aisle Style* also explores wedding traditions, from orange blossoms and blue garters to the magnificent white gown. The museum is offering a wide variety of workshops and programs in conjunction with the exhibit.

Through June 30, 2010

Maymont Mansion, Richmond, Virginia

A Special Maymont Mansion Exhibition & Program Series: Tea Time: A Gracious Interlude of Victorian Life

Maymont, the Gilded Age residence of millionaires Major and Mrs. James H. Dooley, like other genteel homes at the turn of the twentieth century, was the scene of elegant teas flawlessly presented by the cordial hostess and her staff of experienced butlers, cooks, and parlor maids. This special exhibition throughout the opulent rooms of Maymont Mansion presents the gracious customs, fine china, silver, and accessories associated with that very Victorian ritual of afternoon tea. See a variety of tea sets, related service implements and furnishings from the Maymont Mansion collection and from private collections. Fashionable tea gowns on loan from the Valentine Richmond History Center complete this delightful exhibition. Daily tours are offered Tuesday – Sunday, Noon – 5 pm. \$5 per person suggested admission. Special tours, teas, and related programs will be offered throughout the period of the exhibition. For information, visit www.maymont.org or call 804-358-7166, ext. 329.

March 4 – May 25

Tennessee State Museum, Nashville, Tennessee

We Shall Not Be Moved

The exhibition *We Shall Not Be Moved* honoring the 50th anniversary of the Nashville Sit-Ins includes a vignette of a typical department store with wedding attire and an assortment of hats, jewelry, and hat boxes from the 1960s. Opening in mid-March, a guided tour of the permanent collections will include a new display of a maternity dress from circa 1860-1880.

Through June 30, 2010

Spotlight on Atlanta, Georgia:



Atlanta Civic Center, Atlanta, Georgia *Diana: A Celebration*

Join us for a mini-meeting April 24, at 10 AM to see this exciting exhibition!

Diana: A Celebration presents the life and work of one of the most remarkable women of our time –and certainly one of the most photographed, with over one billion television viewers watching the 1981 Royal Wedding.

The exhibition includes a series of 150 stunning objects that chronicle Diana's life and invite the visitor to share the milestones of her many roles: as a youngster, schoolgirl and athlete; as the shy kindergarten teacher who captured the heart of the Prince and the public; as the young, ravishing royal bride; as the devoted mother, sister and daughter; and as the tireless charity advocate and spokeswoman.

Also featured in the exhibition are portraits of her ancestors, family jewels, heirlooms, paintings, artifacts and photos, which provide historical context. Home movies filmed by her father and scenes from her childhood, her engagement to Prince Charles and the events leading up to the Royal Wedding are remembered and animated with video clips, personal possessions, photos, displays and letters. The glorious Royal Wedding gallery features her resplendent gown, diamond tiara, veil and 25 foot train, shoes and parasol.

Through June 15, 2010.

Atlanta History Center, Atlanta, Georgia *Sheep to Shawl*



Come and join us at our annual Sheep to Shawl festival. Enjoy live demonstrations of sheep shearing, open-hearth cooking, blacksmithing, candle making, and much more on the Tullie Smith Farm. Listen

to stories and music that will immerse you in what farm life was like in the 1860s. Enjoy tours of the historic farmhouse as well the Quarry Garden. During the festival, enjoy old fashioned games, music, stories, and hands-on activities.

This program is free to members; included in the cost of general admission for nonmembers. For more information about this program, please contact 404.814.4000.

Funding for this program is provided by the Fulton County Board of Commissioners under the guidance of the Fulton County Arts Council.

*Saturday, April 17, 2010
10:50 AM – 4:50 PM*

Atlanta Botanical Garden, Atlanta, Georgia *Vera: The Lady Behind the Ladybug*



Colorful botanical art and scarves designed by Vera Neumann bring a vibrant splash of color and light to the Art Gallery in the Fuqua Orchid Center. The extensive archives of the late artist and entrepreneur are owned by **The Vera Company**, based in Atlanta. For more than four decades, Vera painted hundreds of designs first for

placemats and scarves then for an ever-expanding empire of clothing and housewares. Rising in popularity again, the bold, colorful designs have been reintroduced to a new generation of Vera fans, especially young celebrities. The exhibition showcases the joy expressed in the Smithsonian honored artist's work. Many Vera items are available for purchase in the Garden Gift Shop.

March 16 – May 31

Fall 2010 Symposium News



Connecting Threads of History, Cultures, and Creativity Asheville, NC September 10-12, 2010

Come to the Great Smoky Mountains in Asheville, North Carolina for the annual regional symposium, *Connecting Threads of History, Cultures, and Creativity*. The schedule is still being developed but be sure to mark your calendars now for this don't-miss event. The meeting will be held at the Doubletree Hotel just outside the Biltmore Estate, and adjacent to historic Biltmore Village with all its fine galleries, boutiques, and restaurants. The double room rate is \$109 per night plus tax (up to 4 person occupancy), and the neighboring hotel The Sleep Inn Biltmore at \$79 (1-2 person room occupancy) and \$99 (4 person occupancy). There is ample free parking. For more information on the symposium, contact: Wendy Riggs at wendy@sewingenious.com or (828) 226.7606.

The **Angel Project/Preserving Our Past** Workshop will be held on Friday, September 10. Newbie Richardson, Colleen Callahan, and up to 15 volunteers will work with a local house museum and their collection on a series of hands-on projects to help stabilize and prepare objects for display. More details soon.

Other Friday activities include historic tours of Asheville and an opportunity to explore Asheville's fine galleries and boutiques. We will kick off the symposium that evening with a wine and cheese reception hosted by

Waechter's Fine Fabrics featuring a special presentation by Folkwear Patterns and samples made from numerous independent pattern lines.

Saturday, September 11 will highlight research with papers and research exhibits. **Keynote speaker Patricia Ewer**, former textiles conservator at Biltmore, will share insights from her new book, *Textile Conservation, Advances in Practice*, co-edited with Frances Lennard. (See the "Publication News" section below for more information about the publication.) Before proceeding to the **Biltmore House** for private tours, a staff member will discuss the new costume vignettes. **NOTE:** each tour ticket includes an additional admission to visit the gardens, winery, and shops either the day before or after our group tour.

The symposium concludes after morning presentations on Sunday, September 12. Afternoon options include **post-symposium tours** and a return visit to Biltmore Estate. Details and registration will be available soon. We look forward to seeing you there!

Hotel information: The Doubletree Biltmore Hotel (where the symposium will be held) is group priced at \$109 per night for up to 4 people per room. The Sleep Inn Biltmore (same owner) is next door, and they have given us a group rate starting at \$79 for 1-2 people (\$99 for up to 4 people) per night.

Call For Papers

2010 CSA Southeastern Region Symposium
& Annual Meeting
September 10-12, 2010 in Asheville, NC
Connecting Threads of History, Cultures and Creativity

The Southeastern Region's symposium offers an opportunity for CSA members to present research on a variety of topics. The symposium's broad theme of Connecting Threads of History, Cultures and Creativity is designed to attract research papers and research exhibits from all areas of costume studies.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Please designate if your abstract is for a research paper or exhibition (or can be presented in either format), and if you are a student applying for the award.

RESEARCH PAPERS are oral presentations of no more than 20 minutes in length (approx. 10-12 pages).

RESEARCH EXHIBITS will be displayed for approximately 2 hours.

- Abstract must be no more than 500 words, excluding bibliography, captions and footnotes
- Abstract may include up to 3 pertinent images
- In addition to discussing the research topic, research exhibit abstracts should briefly describe the exhibit

format, i.e.: traditional poster, 3-dimensional objects, lap-top presentation, mannequins, etc.

- Abstracts for CSA members are to be sent to Jose Blanco at jblanco@uga.edu.
- All abstracts are due by midnight May 3, 2010 and must be submitted electronically with the author's name, title/affiliation (if applicable), student information and school (if applicable), address, email, phone number, and paper title appearing only on the cover page. Applicants will be notified of the jury's decision by June 10, 2010.
- You must be a member of the Costume Society to present (See www.costumesocietyamerica.com for membership information) and all conference attendees including presenters must pay the conference fee (student rates are available for membership and conference attendance.)

Abstract submission contact: Jose Blanco at jblanco@uga.edu or call 706-542-4885.

You will be notified by return email within 2 or 3 days that your abstract has been received. If you have not received a receipt notification after 3 days please send an email message to: jblanco@uga.edu or call 706-542-4885.

Abstract submission deadline is midnight May 3, 2010.

Call for Student Papers Jim Liles Student Award

The Jim Liles Student Award Committee is soliciting student presentations to be delivered at the Southeastern Region Symposium. These presentations may be on any costume related topic. The work may or may not be a thesis, dissertation, course research project, independent study research, or senior project. Up to TWO students whose papers are accepted will receive up to \$500 each to cover travel and other related expenses. Registration for the symposium will NOT be included in the \$500 amount for award recipients. Students will also be required to itemize their expenses.

Please follow the directions for the standard call for papers above and clearly state that you are applying for the Jim Liles Student Award.

Abstracts must be submitted by midnight May 3, 2010 to Kim Miller-Spillman: kspill@uky.edu

You will be notified by return email within 2 or 3 days that your abstract has been received. If you have not received a receipt notification after 3 days please send an email message to: Kim Miller Spillman kspill@uky.edu or call (859) 257-7779

Applicants will be notified of the jury's decision by June 10, 2010.

New Online

ARTstor is collaborating with The Metropolitan Museum of Art to share approximately 5,800 images of American and European costumes and accessories from the Brooklyn Museum in the Digital Library. With support from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Brooklyn Museum cataloged and photographed its entire collection of 23,500 objects. A subset of these, representing the highlights of the collection, has been photographed at high resolution and made available in ARTstor. The Brooklyn Museum Costume collection was established in 1902 and is the world's most comprehensive collection of American fashion from the late 19th to mid-20th century. The collection features masterpieces and signature objects by some of the most famous American and European fashion designers, including Charles Worth, Jeanne Lanvin, Paul Poiret, Elsa Schiaparelli, Cristobal Balenciaga, Norman Norell, Christian Dior, Claire McCardell, and Charles James—many of whom were inspired to deposit their archives at the museum. Of particular note is the definitive collection of costumes and patterns by Charles James, the British-born designer who was a major force in New York fashion in the 1940s and 1950s. There are also many examples of Belle Époque fashion, as well as accessories such as hats and shoes.

In January 2009, the Brooklyn Museum and The Metropolitan Museum of Art announced a collection-sharing partnership whereby the Brooklyn Museum Costume Collection was transferred to The Metropolitan Museum of Art, where it will be integrated into the collections of The Costume Institute. Established in 1946, The Metropolitan Museum's costume collection consists of 31,000 objects from the 17th century to the present, with particular strengths in European fashion from the mid-20th century forward. In combination, these two complementary collections form one of the largest and most encyclopedic costume collections in the world.

To view the Brooklyn Museum Costumes (The Metropolitan Museum of Art) collection: go to the ARTstor Digital Library, browse by collection, and click "The Brooklyn Museum Costume Collection at The Metropolitan Museum of Art." Or search the keywords: brooklyn costume.

For more detailed information about this collection, visit the Brooklyn Museum Costumes (The Metropolitan Museum of Art) collection page.

Regional publication news:

Textile Conservation: Advances in Practice

Edited by Frances Lennard

Former Programme Leader of the MA Textile Conservation,
Textile Conservation Centre, UK

Patricia Ewer

Principal, Textile Objects Conservation, Minnesota, USA

Textile Conservation: Advances in Practice demonstrates the development in the role and practice of the textile conservator and captures the current diversity of textile conservators' work. The book focuses on four major factors which have influenced development in textile conservation practice since the 1980s: the changing context, an evolution in the way conservators think about objects, the greater involvement of stakeholders and technical developments. These are all

integral to effective conservation decision-making. Textile Conservation is a reference manual for textile conservators, textile conservation students and museum and heritage professionals.

- Includes case studies from the UK, USA and mainland Europe and Asia.
- Assesses the conservation of objects in some of the world's major cultural institutions.
- Highly illustrated in full colour to show the effect of conservation in practice.
- The first general book on textile conservation for 20 years.
- Features 40+ highly regarded experts and professionals from the UK and USA.

Amazon.com list price \$82.95

ISBN: 9780750667906

Publication Date: Spring 2010

Regional News

Claudia Brush Kidwell (Curator Emeritus, Smithsonian Institution) presented a lecture for The Victorian Society in America, Washington Metropolitan Chapter, at 7:00pm on March 18 at the Sumner School Museum and Archives Lecture Hall. Entitled *Aristocratic Ladies and Tailored Gentlemen*, this marks the first time she has lectured after a several year hiatus. Although her retired life will continue to be busy with her growing family and adventurous travel, Claudia is willing to consider other opportunities to share her knowledge. If you would be interested in inviting her to speak, please contact her for more information at: kidwellcb@verizon.net.

HONG KONG FASHION WEEK, July 2 - 9, 2010. \$2,995 per person double occupancy, single supplement available. Price includes round trip airfare East Coast Gateway / Hong Kong. Inexpensive add-ons available from other US cities. \$2,895 from the West Coast. 6 nights 4 star hotel Kowloon with American breakfast. Half day city orientation tour. Live fashion shows, admission to Trade Show, latest fabrics and future trends.

The Jade market, the Night market, Chinese department stores, Lantau Island and the Po Lin Monastery, optional day trip to China, glorious beaches and breathtaking sights.

For more information call Pam Sexton at 804 / 649-0562. Email: pam@fashionperspectivetours.com



Holly Alford has written the fifth edition of Anne Stegmeyer's *Who's Who in Fashion* by Fairchild books. The book includes a 32 page time line spanning from 1600 to 2009. It includes 413 pages of designers, illustrators, editors, photographers and writers who have had and have an impact on fashion and the book is entirely in color. For teachers who wish to use the book in the classroom, the book comes with a 78 page teacher's manual, as well as a 174 slide power point presentation. The book can be purchased through Fairchild.com for instructors and for personal use through Barnesandnoble.com, Amazon.com, and Booksamillion.com.

Mini-Meetings

Mini-meetings are a great tool for the Costume Society of America to promote the organization as well as to recruit new members. We have enough money for two more mini-meetings, at \$125 dollars per meeting. The money may be used to publicize the event or to purchase mailing labels and postage. Some examples of mini-meeting events are:

- Inviting members and guests to a lecture, exhibition, or performance.
- Sharing your professional skills such as hosting a class on how to make 17th century closures, such as buttons.
- Going to a show that you think the members would enjoy.
- Inviting the members to take a tour, such as a tour of the Colonial Williamsburg costume storage facility.

Are you interested in having a mini-meeting but don't know where to start? If you have any questions or suggestions not listed please feel free to contact Holly P. Alford. It's a great way to support Costume Society of America and invite new members to join!

Holly P. Alford
Mini Meeting Chair
hollyfashiondiva@comcast.net
(804) 513-0447



Couture and Consensus, by Regina A. Root shows how politics emerged from dress to disrupt authoritarian practices and stimulate creativity in a newly independent nation following Argentina's revolution in 1810. An insightful presentation of the discourse of fashion, *Couture and Consensus* also paints a riveting portrait of

Argentine society in the nineteenth century-its politics, people, and creative forces.