



AMERICAN FRIENDS OF ATTINGHAM

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Recent Events</i>	2
<i>Upcoming Programs & Events</i>	2-3
<i>2013 Attingham Course Participants</i>	4-5
<i>French Eighteenth-Century Studies Course Details</i>	5
<i>AFA Donor Honor Roll</i>	6-7
<i>Alumni News</i>	7-8

New course organized by
The Attingham Trust, on
behalf of the Wallace
Collection:

FRENCH EIGHTEENTH- CENTURY STUDIES

October 14-18, 2013

at The Wallace Collection,
Hertford House, London W1

The deadline for applications
is July 12, 2013. Please see
page 5 for additional
information and application
details.



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Just as this issue of our newsletter arrives, many of the recently-accepted American participants in the 2013 Summer School, Study Programme and Royal Collection Studies program will be meeting in an informal gathering to get to know one another and to learn more about their upcoming Attingham experience. They look to be an outstanding group. Your generosity, both in promoting Attingham and in providing scholarship aid for those in need, is what makes Attingham continue to thrive. On behalf of the remarkable group of scholars who will be participating in one of the programs this year, I say, with all sincerity, thank you.

Even if your own Summer School experience is now years past, there are still ways for you to share the spirit of those who will begin this year's program in July. One is the AFA's own Study Trip to Richmond, on October 2 through 6. Coordinated by local alumni and bringing with it the mix of scholarship and fun that is the hallmark of Attingham, the plan calls for private visits, curatorial expertise and exceptional social settings that are available only to Richmond insiders. The details of the trip are provided on page 2 and I urge you to join fellow alumni and friends for this exceptional visit.

October 24 is the date of our Annual Fall Lecture, which this year will feature Luke Syson, renowned for his success with the 2011-12 Leonardo show at London's National Gallery, and now Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Curator in Charge of the Department of European Sculpture and Decorative Arts at the Met. Luke will speak about sculpture in Regency England, a little-known and under-appreciated area in which the Met has just made an important acquisition. Please mark your calendars, and see page 3 for more details.

All good wishes, and again many thanks for making us the thriving entity that we are today.

— Clo Tepper, '11; SP '04, '07, '10

LETTER FROM ENGLAND

Oklahoma! I hope the musical springs immediately to mind. Those reading this text from the Class of 1990 may remember Rosemary Lomax-Simpson, former administrator of the Summer School and treasurer of the Trust, breaking into the theme tune alongside Scott Burrell. She was encouraged to repeat the cabaret act at her recent retirement dinner given by John Lewis with her fellow trustees. I wish I had had my camera to record the scene. She was superb. It was a great opportunity to thank Rosemary for her past (since the 1960s) and continuing generous support of Attingham which manifests itself in so many ways. For those who attended Royal Collection Studies in 1997, do you remember her flair with the table arrangements for the final dinner? We will keep in close touch.

You will all have your own special memories of your year/s on Attingham. For those attending the 2013 Summer School there are great treats in store including visits to Knole (Kent) and Wentworth Woodhouse (Yorkshire) (a first!) and, on the Study Programme, Houghton Hall will figure strongly with the added focus of the Walpole paintings on loan from the Hermitage. A new course will be launched this October, *French Eighteenth-Century Studies*, to be held at the Wallace Collection and, by popular demand, the London Week is back in April 2014. In the following June, the Study Programme will be heading for Belgium. So is it time to renew those Attingham memories? 2014 details will be on the website in late September.

— Annabel Westman, Executive Director, The Attingham Trust



Wallace Collection
Furniture Conservator,
Jurgén Huber

RECENT EVENTS

MID-WINTER REUNION AND PRIVATE COLLECTION VISIT

A snowy evening made for a cozy mid-winter gathering of Attinghamites. The annual reunion occurred on January 25, at The House of the Redeemer, on New York City's Upper East Side, with nearly 150 attendees despite the blustery weather. Special thanks to historian Percy Preston, Jr., The House of the Redeemer trustee and author of *A Place Apart: The House of the Redeemer in New York City*, who spoke with our group.

The following morning 35 guests were invited to view an outstanding collection of work by the Victorian designer Christopher Dresser, at the home of Janet and Lawrence Larose.



Mid-winter reunion revelers (left); Larose collection visit (right)

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

FALL 2013

Friday, September 27, 6-8 pm

Annual Members Meeting

AFA Office, 307 Seventh Avenue, Suite 1201, New York City

Our Annual Members Meeting is open to all AFA alumni and provides an opportunity to reunite with fellow alumni and stay current on organizational issues. The Members Meeting will precede a quarterly Board of Directors Meeting. Afterward light refreshments will be served and students will report on 2013 Attingham Trust courses. *No charge; RSVP by September 19.*



AFA STUDY TRIP: RICHMOND

OCTOBER 2-6, 2013

Richmond, the capital city named for the James River's resemblance to the Thames at Richmond, England, is the destination for this year's Study Trip coordinated by local insiders **Brantley Knowles '09** and **John Braymer '97**; **SW '98, '01, '04, '07**; **RCS '99**. They and a cadre of other Attingham alumni have pulled out all of the stops in arranging private visits, curatorial access and an array of spectacular opportunities to socialize and enjoy the company of fellow alumni and friends. In a region notable for its overlay of Colonial, early Federal, Confederate and early 20th century influences, lucky travelers will see the best of the best.

Planned highlights include:

- Thomas Jefferson's recently-restored Capitol, begun in 1795 and recently named "the most influential building in America"
- The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts with **Susan J. Rawles '97**; **RCS '98**, Assistant Curator of American Decorative Arts
- A full-day tour of the Northern Neck including, in addition to Stratford Hall, visits hosted by descendants of the original owners at two non-public homes: 18th century Mount Airy, one of the earliest instances in the Colonies of the achievement of the full Palladian villa, and more
- Richmond's Monument Avenue, one of the American Planning Association's Ten Great Streets in America, with grand works by John Russell Pope, William Lawrence Bottomley and others
- Private collections of American and English furniture, French porcelain and early 20th century Beaux Arts period bronzes
- Accommodation at a grand Carrere and Hastings landmark hotel, and meals in historic settings and private homes

Registration: The program fee of \$1,300 includes all guides and admissions, travel by trolley and private coach, lunch and dinner throughout the course, and a tax-deductible contribution of \$300. Please note that space is limited to the first 28 registrants and the above itinerary is subject to change without notice. For more details: www.americanfriendsofattingham.org or 212-682-6840.

SAVE THE DATE!

The American Friends of Attingham Annual Fall Lecture for alumni, friends and their guests

STRENGTH IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY: SCULPTURE IN REGENCY ENGLAND

Featuring **Luke Syson**, Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Curator in Charge of the Department of European Sculpture and Decorative Arts at The Metropolitan Museum of Art

Monday, October 28*

6:30 pm Lecture; 7:30 pm Drinks & Hors d'oeuvres
The Union League Club, 38 East 37th Street (at Park Avenue), New York City



Please join us as we explore another intriguing topic through our AFA annual lecture series. Taking as its starting point The Metropolitan Museum of Art's recently purchased bronze, *Thetis returning from Vulcan with the armour of Achilles*, by William Theed the Elder (1764-1817), Mr. Syson's lecture will ask: "Can Regency boldness in sculpture be read in part as a response to external threat, a flexing of artistic muscle during a period of crisis?"

Sculpture in the first decade of the nineteenth century is marked by an astonishingly boldness—of both ambition and form—to the extent that it has sometimes been condemned as heavy and vulgar. Just as in the decorative arts at the same time, what had become an accepted neo-classical tradition was pumped up by more than a notch. This shift played out in a period of great political uncertainty—with the British monarchy at its most wobbly and Napoleon knocking at the door.

* Please note change from originally-scheduled date

Sponsorship opportunities are available. Please contact Cheryl Hageman at attingham@verizon.net for details. Tickets are available online at www.americanfriendsofattingham.org.

Luke Syson joined the staff of The Metropolitan Museum of Art in January 2012. Previously, he held dual positions as Curator of Italian Paintings before 1500 and Head of Research at the National Gallery, London, where he organized the acclaimed 2011-2012 exhibition, *Leonardo da Vinci: Painter at the Court of Milan*. He has also worked with the British Museum and The Victoria and Albert Museum. Throughout his impressive career he has contributed to numerous exhibition catalogues and scholarly journals. Mr. Syson is an Attingham alumnus and former Council Member of The Attingham Trust.

Planning is underway for a Fall daytrip on **Saturday, September 21**. Please watch the website for more information on this very special private collection visit, or email attingham@verizon.net to request notification when details become available.

UPDATE ON ROYAL OAK'S CAMPAIGN FOR KNOLE

In July, the Attingham Summer School course (including the eight recipients of Royal Oak Scholarship support) will make a special visit to Knole, while spending the third week of the course in Kent. The opportunity is another example of Attingham scholars benefitting from the ongoing interests and generosity of Royal Oak.

In 2012 The Royal Oak Foundation launched its *Campaign for Knole* with the goal of raising \$1,000,000 to restore Knole's magnificent Ballroom, one of the most important examples of early Jacobean interior decoration in Britain. Royal Oak's funding of the conservation of the Ballroom, originally the high great chamber, and its contents is a key component of the £17.3 million project that the National Trust is undertaking at Knole. This began last year with emergency repairs to the roof and exterior walls.

The house remains open to the public throughout, with very creative approaches being taken to protect the internationally significant collections. This work will be complete by early 2014, and Knole will be watertight for the first time in over a century.



Image: View of self-supporting scaffolding erected over the east range at Knole for emergency repairs, summer 2012. ©National Trust/John Miller

ATTINGHAM SUMMER SCHOOL 2013

AFA SELECTION COMMITTEE REPORT

A warm welcome to the Attingham Summer School Class of 2013! As has become the norm, the 24 American residents selected for this year's Summer School class were chosen from a highly competitive pool of applicants. The American contingent will join an equally outstanding group of 24 scholars from outside the US, including the United Kingdom, Australia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, The Netherlands, Norway, and New Zealand, maintaining the strong international community that has characterized the Summer School in recent years. The American scholars, aged 28 to 62, represent a wide range of interests and skills developed as academics, architects, museum and historic house curators, conservators, preservationists, interior designers, auction house professionals, and graduate students. They will travel to England from their home states of California, Connecticut, Illinois, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas and West Virginia.

Heartfelt thanks to this year's Selection Committee members Jessica Baumert, Executive Director of The Woodlands Trust for Historic Preservation; Barry Harwood, Curator of Decorative Arts, Brooklyn Museum; and John Krawchuk, Director of Historic Preservation for City of New York Parks & Recreation, who joined AFA President Clo Tepper and myself in undertaking the challenging but rewarding process of selection. I am grateful for their thoughtful consideration of the applications and their astute observations on the make-up of the class. We were most ably assisted ex-officio by Summer School co-director Elizabeth Jamieson; Recruitment Chair, Jeffrey Herr; Treasurer, David Parsons; and Attingham Administrator, Cheryl Hageman.

Thanks to the continuing generosity of our funders we were able to offer some degree of financial assistance to 17 of our scholars. Funding remains critical to securing the best and most promising candidates, and we are enormously grateful to the individuals and foundations for their generous assistance. If you or your organization would be interested in helping support an Attingham scholar, please contact Cheryl Hageman or any member of the Board to learn more. In the meantime, we know that you can help us recruit excellent applicants for the Class of 2014. You are our strongest marketing tool, and it is never too early to spread the word. Prospective students will find information and application forms on our website: www.americanfriendsofattingham.org. Thank you for ensuring the continuing success of this program we all treasure.

— Beth Carver Wees '81; RCS '04, Vice President for Selection

2013 ATTINGHAM COURSE PARTICIPANTS

THE 62ND ATTINGHAM SUMMER SCHOOL, JULY 5-22, 2013

Melissa Bingmann

Assistant Professor of History/
Director of Public History, West
Virginia University (*Royal Oak
Foundation Scholar*)

Trevor Boyd

Assistant Conservator, Decora-
tive Arts, The Museum of Fine
Arts, Houston (*Royal Oak Foun-
dation Scholar*)

Michael Carter

President, Carter and Co., Interior
Design

Zirwat Chowdhury

Ahmanson-Getty Postdoctoral
Fellow, UCLA Center for 17th &
18th Century Studies & W.A.
Clark Memorial Library
(*American Friends of Attingham
Scholar*)

P. Justin Detwiler

Project Manager and Designer,
John Milner Architects, Inc.
(*New York Community Trust/
Edward Maverick Fund Scholar
and Royal Oak Foundation
Scholar*)

Caitlin Emery

Research and Interpretation
Coordinator, The Preservation
Society of Newport County
(*Royal Oak Foundation Scholar*)

Chuck Fischer

President and Creative Director,
Chuck Fischer Studio, Inc.
(*American Friends of Attingham
Scholar*)

Jennifer Johnson

Marcia Brady Tucker Fellow,
Yale University Art Gallery
(*American Friends of Attingham
Scholar*)

Horatio Joyce

Ph.D. student, History of Archi-
tecture, Boston University

Nicole Juday

Education and Programs Coordi-
nator, Merion Campus, The
Barnes Foundation (*Decorative
Arts Trust Scholar, Royal Oak
Foundation Scholar, and Sum-
mer School Class of 2012
Scholar*)

Leslie Klingner

Curator of Interpretation, Bilt-
more Estate (*Royal Oak Foun-
dation Charlotte Moss Scholar*)

Jessa Krick

Collections Manager, Historic
Hudson Valley (*Royal Oak Foun-
dation Scholar*)

Heather Lemonedes

Curator of Drawings, The Cleve-
land Museum of Art (*New York
Community Trust/Edward Mav-
erick Fund Scholar*)

Timothy Lindsay

Superintendent (Director), Vir-
ginia Robinson Gardens and
House Museum (*David and
Maggi Gordon Scholar*)

Melinda McCurdy

Associate Curator, British Art,
The Huntington Library, Art
Collection, and Botanical Gar-
dens (*The Ida and William
Rosenthal Foundation Scholar,
David M. Maxfield Scholar, and
Gilbert P. Schafer III Scholar*)

Laura Carpenter Myers

Director, Van Cortlandt House
Museum (*The National Society
of The Colonial Dames of Amer-
ica Scholar*)

Monica Obniski

Assistant Curator of American
Decorative Arts, Art Institute of
Chicago (*New York Community
Trust/Edward Maverick Fund
Scholar*)

Andrew Ogletree

Specialist, English Furniture,
Sotheby's

Mona Pierpaoli

Museum Guide, Yale Center for
British Art

Tamara Schechter

Research Associate, European
Sculpture and Decorative Arts,
The Metropolitan Museum of Art
(*Royal Oak Foundation Dowager
Duchess of Devonshire Scholar*)

Gwendolyn Smith

Assistant Curator, Planting
Fields Foundation, Coe Hall
(*The Ida and William Rosenthal
Foundation Scholar and Ameri-
can Friends of Attingham
Scholar*)

Kenneth Soehner

Arthur K. Watson Chief Librar-
ian, The Metropolitan Museum
of Art (*David Wilton Metropoli-
tan Museum of Art Scholar*)

Evan Thompson

Executive Director, Preservation
Society of Charleston

Noelle Valentino

Curatorial Research Assistant,
Dept. of Decorative Arts and
Sculpture, J. Paul Getty Trust
(*American Friends of Attingham
Scholar*)

ROYAL COLLECTION STUDIES, SEPTEMBER 1-10, 2013

Barbara Aronson
Collector and Trustee

David Barquist
Curator, American Decorative
Arts, Philadelphia Museum of Art

Tara Cederholm
Senior Vice President, Curator,
The Crosby Company

Barbara Gaehtgens
Independent Scholar

Thomas Gaehtgens
Director, The Getty Research
Institute, Getty Research Insti-
tute Scholar

Beth Miller
Advancement & External Af-
fairs, Yale Center of British Art

Caroline Riley
Fellow in American Art/ Doc-
toral Candidate, Boston Univer-
sity (*Judith Hernstadt Scholar*
and *Paula Madden Scholar*)

Mark Shaffer
Director, A La Vieille Russie, Inc.

Will Strafford
Senior International Specialist,
European Sculpture & Furniture
Department, Christie's

STUDY PROGRAMME, SEPTEMBER 12-20, 2013 THE NORFOLK COUNTRY HOUSE: COLLECTIONS AND NETWORKS

Ellen Still Brooks
Nonprofit Consultant

Margaret Civetta
Partner, DLA Piper LLP (US)

Marilyn Field
Lawyer, retired

Alexander V.J. Gauderieri
Museum Director, retired

Robbin Bain Mele Gauderieri
Interior Designer

Alden Gordon
Professor of Art History, Trinity
College

Shepherd Holcombe
Library Assistant, retired

Jennifer Klos
Associate Curator, Oklahoma
City Museum of Art

Floyd Martin
Professor of Art (Art History),
University of Arkansas

David Parsons
Director of Finance & Admini-
stration, Historic Hudson Valley

Amber Smith
Administrative Assistant, Public
Programs, Los Angeles County
Museum of Art (*American*
Friends of Attingham Scholar)

Anthony Smith
President/CEO, The Horticulture
Society of New York, retired

Mary Riley Smith
Garden Designer

E. Clothier Tepper
President, American Friends of
Attingham



French Eighteenth-Century Studies

October 14-18, 2013

at The Wallace Collection, Hertford House, London W1

French eighteenth-century studies is a new course organised by The Attingham Trust on behalf of the Wallace Collection. Based at Hertford House, this intensive, non-residential study programme aims to foster a deeper knowledge and understanding of French eighteenth-century fine and decorative art and is intended primarily to aid professional development. A day at Waddesdon Manor, Ferdinand de Rothschild's former country house, will help broaden the scope of the course still further.

The academic programme will provide privileged access to the world-class collections of furniture, paintings, sculpture, textiles, metalwork and porcelain in these two collections. The group will be limited to fifteen people to allow for detailed, object-based study, handling sessions and a look at behind-the-scenes conservation.

Study sessions and lectures will be led by Dr. Christoph Vogtherr, Director of the Wallace Collection, and the relevant curatorial staff; other international authorities and the curators at Waddesdon will provide further specialist teaching. The Course Director is Dr. Helen Jacobsen, Curator of French eighteenth-century Decorative Arts at the Wallace Collection.

This course is primarily aimed at curators and other specialists in the fine and decorative arts.

Application and Fees: The cost of the five-day course is £750. The fee covers tuition, two evening receptions and a final dinner. Also included is a full study day at Waddesdon Manor, with lunch and travel by coach. There is some financial support available for suitable candidates. *The deadline for applications is 12th July 2013*

For more application information please go to www.attinghamtrust.org or contact Rebecca Parker, rebecca.parker@attinghamtrust.org or +44 (0) 20 7253 9057

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We are deeply grateful to all of our donors. The contributions listed below include all restricted and unrestricted donations, including scholarships, annual contributions, anniversary gifts and fall lecture support received in the 2012 calendar year. (Tuition and program fees are excluded.)

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Candace Volz
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John Warden
Deborah Dependahl Waters
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Anne Fairfax & Richard Sammons	Jennie McCahey	Frank Sanchis	William Younger
Alan Fausel	Stephen McLeod	Sasha Sanderson	
Kirk Ferguson	William McNaught	Cynthia Sanford	
	Beth Miller	Sean Sawyer	* Deceased

ALUMNI NEWS

Ray Armater '07 has been named Executive Director, of Montgomery Place, a Historic Hudson Valley site.

Amy Ballard '01; SW '05; RCS '04 has been appointed to the U.S. National Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (US/ICOMOS) Board of Trustees.

Margaret Moore Booker '89 is the author of the recently published Southwest Art Defined: An Illustrated Guide (Tucson, AZ: Rio Nuevo Publishers, March 2013).

Louisa Brouwer '11 is now Israel Sack, Inc., Archives Fellow, at Yale University Art Gallery.

Sarah Anne Carter '11 joined The Chipstone Foundation, as Curator, in November 2012.

Elizabeth De Rosa '05; SP '10; RCS '07, co-curated the exhibition *Louis C. Tiffany and the Art of Devotion*, on view at The Museum of Biblical Art (MOBIA) from October 2012 through January 2013, and wrote the related article "Louis C. Tiffany's Landscapes of Devotion," published in *The Magazine Antiques* (November/December 2013).

Patty Dean '06 has been elected the President of the Montana Club, a private club founded in 1885 in Helena, Montana, whose clubhouse, its second, was designed by Cass Gilbert in 1904-1905.

Patricia Ewer '98 has been awarded the 2013 Isabel Bader Research Fellowship in Textile Conservation by The Agnes Etherington Art Centre and Queen's University Master of Art Conservation Program.

Anne Fairfax '99 and Richard Sammons '00, founding partners of Fairfax & Sammons Architects P.C. are proud to announce that the firm has been recognized with the 2013 Arthur Ross Award by the Institute of Classical Architecture & Art (ICAA). This annual award recognizes and celebrates lifetime achievement and excellence in the classical tradition of architecture.

Jon Frederick '12 presented the gallery talk "Fashion and the Ballets Russes: Costumes for a Modern World," to discuss the costumes he worked with for the exhibition *Diaghilev and the Ballets Russes, 1909-1929: When Art Danced with Music*, on view at the National Gallery of Art through September 2013.

David Gordon SP '12 has been appointed Interim Director of the Museum of Art and Design.

Jennifer McKendry '88; SW '95, an architectural historian working in Kingston, Ontario, Canada, has just released a new publication, *Early Photography in Kingston from the Daguerreotype to the Postcard*.

Percy North '81 organized two Max Weber exhibitions and contributed to a third: *Max Weber on Long Island* (Heckscher Museum, Summer 2012), *Max Weber: Bringing Paris to New York* (The Baltimore Museum of Art, on view through June 23), and *Models & Muses: Max Weber and the Figure* (Philbrook Museum of Art, November 2012-February 2013).

Tania June Sammons '09; LW '10; SP '12 is now Telfair Museums' Senior Curator of Decorative Arts and Historic Sites.



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ALUMNI NEWS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7)

Roger P. Scharmer '73 has relocated from Mill Valley, California to Montague, Michigan, where he has become active in community affairs. He is also Historian for the White Lake Area Historical Society.

Beth Carver Wees '81; RCS '04 is the author, with Medill Higgins Harvey, of [Early American Silver in The Metropolitan Museum of Art](#) (Metropolitan Museum of Art/Yale University Press), to be published in June 2013.

Douglas Reid Weimer, Esq. '10 is co-chair of the Annual Gala at Hillwood Museum, Washington, DC., on June 4, which coincides with the publication of a new biography of Mrs. Post and the opening of a major exhibition at Hillwood Museum focusing on Mrs. Post's collections, homes, and opulent lifestyle. Additionally Weimer has recently attended the Society of the Cincinnati Triennial Meeting at Princeton University and the 40th General Assembly of the General Society of Colonial Wars in Boston, MA.

Elizabeth A. Williams '08 began work as Curator of Decorative Arts and Design, at the Museum of Art Rhode Island School of Design, in January 2013.

Lori Zabar '02 is a Research Assistant for the exhibition *Jewelry of JAR*, in the Modern and Contemporary Department of the Metropolitan Museum of Art (November 2013–March 2014).

IN MEMORIAM



A memorial service for **Richard Nelson '67** was held at St. Thomas Church, in New York City, on February 8, following his unexpected death on December 28, 2012. Hailing originally from Iowa, Richard had a long career as an interior decorator, starting with Sister Parish during the 50s and 60s, and subsequently with his own firm in Newport, Rhode Island. His taste and knowledge of classical design enhanced many a living room from Newport to New York; described on the 'Peak of Chic' blog as "a man of great style and immense charm...", a decorator of the old-school and a bon vivant to boot."

— **Pauline Metcalf '66; TW '72, '78, '82; SW '94, '03**
