

# American Friends of the Attingham Summer School, Inc.

An educational nonprofit corporation

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### 2010 Program Application Deadlines:

London House Course:  
January 5  
Study Programme: due  
January 22  
Summer School: due  
January 31  
Royal Collection Studies:  
February 15

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## Letter from the President

### Tom Campbell Sheds Light on Tapestries and Launches a New Annual Event

The subject of American tapestry collecting was presented in an engaging lecture given by **Tom Campbell, '88, RCS '99**, now Director of The Metropolitan Museum of Art, to the American Friends and their guests last month at the Colony Club. Campbell described the late 19th century phenomenon of American financial titans seeking expression of their wealth by acquisition of tapestries which they had seen, though often in faded condition, in the great houses of England. The size and splendor of these works matched their ambitions and houses were built for such names as Morgan, Widener and Hearst on a scale to accommodate them.



courtesy of ManhattanSociety.com by Gregory Partanio

A story was told of a tapestry- one of a set depicting the "Seven Deadly Sins," which had found its way from the Royal Collection into that of J.P. Morgan. Years later it was revealed that the piece had been stolen from storage by a parlor maid and the embarrassment was so great that the story had never come out. The audience was delighted to learn that the tapestry Morgan acquired in this way was the one which illustrated "Avarice." The Great Depression put an end to this private collecting and Campbell described how after WWII most of these works went into museums. He explained that opportunities for study  
*(continued on page 4)*

## Letter from England



2009 has been a strong year for Attingham. All 3 courses received a bumper crop of excellent applicants from around the world. One of the main reasons for the success was the availability of financial assistance to support the scholars, with funds originating not only from the US and the UK but also from Australia, New Zealand, India and The Netherlands.

The hugely successful Study Program to Dresden and Berlin, led by Giles Waterfield, particularly benefitted from an increase in scholarships, a trend we hope to sustain on the 2010 Study Programme to the Netherlands. Last visited in 1994, we will concentrate on the Dutch Historic House and look at the challenges it faces. Privileged access to Huis Ten Bosch, home of the Dutch royal family, has been arranged together with other private visits around Amsterdam and the Gelderland province. The course is supported by many Dutch alumni who will play an active part in the tutoring.

2010 will also see the launch of a fourth program in April on the development of the London House from the Renaissance to present. Progressing chronologically, it will study the aristocratic residence as well as the smaller domestic house and artist's studios. The course has been prompted by the considerable interest expressed by alumni and, if successful, could be repeated in the future.

**Annabel Westman**, Director of Studies, The Attingham Trust

**Royal Oak Lectures,  
co-sponsored by  
American Friends of  
Attingham:**

To register: call 212-480-2889 X201 or go to: [www.royal-oak.org/lecture.html](http://www.royal-oak.org/lecture.html) and please identify yourself as an Attingham member to receive discount price.

**NEW YORK:**

March 23, 6pm: **The Private Life of a Public Place: 400 Years of the Sackvilles at Knole**  
LORD ROBERT SACKVILLE-WEST, Owner of Knole/Author  
Union Club, 101 East 69<sup>th</sup> Street

May 11, 6pm: **Madresfield: The Real Brideshead**  
JANE MULVAGH, Best-selling Author  
Scandinavia House, 58 Park Avenue

**California—San Francisco:**

March 10, 6:30pm: **Speed, Style and the English Country House**  
CURT DICAMILLO, Historian and Executive Director of the National Trust for Scotland Foundation USA

May 5, 6:30pm: **Country Houses and Secret Agents**  
MARCUS BINNEY, Leading Architectural Historian and Preservationist  
Both lectures at: Metropolitan Club, 640 Sutter Street

**California—Los Angeles:**  
March 8, 6:30pm: **Speed, Style and the English Country House**  
CURT DICAMILLO (see bio)

May 3, 6:30pm: **Country Houses and Secret Agents**  
MARCUS BINNEY  
Both lectures at: UCLA Faculty Center, 480 Charles E. Young Drive East

**Washington DC:**  
April 29, 7:15pm: **Country Houses and Secret Agents**  
MARCUS BINNEY

May 13, 7:15pm: **Madresfield: The Real Brideshead**  
JANE MULVAGH  
Both lectures at: National Trust for Historic Preservation, Boardroom, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 1785 Massachusetts Ave. NW

**Illinois—Chicago:**  
April 22, 6:30pm: **Jewels of Scandal and Desire: British Jewelry Collections and Country Houses**  
CURT DICAMILLO, (see bio)  
Woman's Athletic Club of Chicago, 626 N. Michigan Avenue

**PA—Philadelphia:**  
March 22, 6:30pm: **The Private Life of a Public Place: 400 Years of the Sackvilles at Knole**  
LORD ROBERT SACKVILLE-WEST  
April 26, 6:30pm: **Country Houses and Secret Agents**  
MARCUS BINNEY

May 10, 6:30pm: **Madresfield: The Real Brideshead**  
JANE MULVAGH

May 25, 6:30pm: **English Arts & Crafts Interpreted: Julia Morgan**  
VICTORIA KASTNER, Hearst Castle Historian and Author  
All 3 lectures at The Union League of Philadelphia, 140 South Broad Street

## STUDY TRIP 2010: CHICAGO MAY 12—16

The AFA's annual Study Tour will be held in Chicago, the birthplace of the modern building – a city internationally known for its beauty and inspired architecture. Located on the shores of Lake Michigan, the spectacular lakefront was preserved according to a comprehensive municipal plan by architect Daniel Burnham. Tour the lakefront, north to south and tour institutional and private collections to see the unique and innovative designs that have shaped American architecture. Participants will be based at the University Club of Chicago, built in 1908, and overlooking the new Modern Wing of the Art Institute of Chicago and Millennium Park.

Highlights and sites on the itinerary include, among others: **Crabtree Farm, Stickley Museum, Chicago Botanic Gardens**, tour the new Modern Wing of the **Art Institute of Chicago, Nickerson House/Driehaus Museum**, and the ever-popular **architectural boat tour**. The cost of the trip will be \$1,200, which includes a voluntary \$300 contribution to AFA and does not include airfare or accommodations. A block of rooms have been reserved at the University Club, across from the Art Institute of Chicago. **Deadline to register: March 19.** Christopher Monkhouse '66, RCS '01, Gail Kahn '96, SW '08 (with special thanks to Linda Grubb '98, and Fred Kahn SW '08)  
For more info and a full itinerary, please contact Mayuri at 212-682-6840.

## MID-WINTER REUNION/PROGRAMS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20  
(6:00 pm)

**'Collectors and Benefactors: Gold and Silver in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford'**

A Lecture by **Timothy Schroder RCS '08**  
Christie's, 20 Rockefeller Plaza  
Registration: *Free*. Please RSVP to 212-636-2403

The lecture will be followed by a private viewing of the Collection of Benjamin F. Edwards, III : Silver, Furniture, Delft, Brass, Export and Carpets

Timothy Schroder, freelance curator, lectures and writes extensively on silver and the decorative arts. He is a member of the Court of the Goldsmiths' Company, a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries and a past chairman of the Silver Society. The lecture is being held in honor of his newly published *British and Continental Gold and Silver in the Ashmolean Museum* (3 vols).

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22 (two tours at 5:00 pm and 5:30 pm, respectively)  
**Guided Tours of the Mer-**

**chant's House Museum**

Location: 29 East Fourth Street (east of Lafayette)  
Registration: \$25  
The Merchant's House Museum, New York City's only family home preserved intact from the 19th century, offers a rare and intimate glimpse of domestic life during the three decades before the Civil War. Built in 1832 just steps from Washington Square, this elegant red-brick and white-marble row house on East Fourth Street was home to a merchant-class family for almost 100 years. Built in the Late Federal and Greek revival style, the house is complete with the family's original furnishings (including New York furniture by Duncan Phyfe and Joseph Meeks), household objects, and personal possessions. The Servants Quarters on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor, usually closed to the public, will be open especially for the Attingham group. Each 40-minute tour is limited to 15 people.

Followed by:  
**Mid-Winter Reunion** (6-8:30 pm)  
The home of **Anne Fairfax '99 and Richard Sammons '00; RCS '06**

Location: 185 West Fourth Street (between 6th and 7th Aves.)

Registration: \$30 (due to limited space, members are requested to limit guests to 1 guest/member)  
[Come join the fun](#) – Anne Fairfax and Richard Sammons have graciously agreed to host this year's party in their charming Greenwich Village home. Originally conceived as two buildings – a brick 1880s stable/carriage house on the left and a 1919 sculpture studio on the right - the buildings were joined together by the industrialist and art collector Armand Hammer, who took up residence here in the 1920s. Fairfax and Sammons renovated the building and interiors, reinstating the historic fabric of the house and adding their own classical touch, when they purchased it in 2000.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23 (10-11:30 am)

**A Guided Tour of Rockefeller Center with Sibyl Groff '73**

Meet in the Lobby at 30 Rockefeller Plaza (entrance on 49<sup>th</sup> Street between Fifth and Sixth Avenues, Registration: \$25

## PHELPS WARREN SOCIETY'S NEWEST MEMBER: DAVID MAXFIELD '85

I recently established an unrestricted bequest naming the American Friends of Attingham as a beneficiary. Having learned of this, Paul Parvis, a member of my 1985 Class, asked how the Attingham experience affected my life and career—in less than 10 words: it was a life-defining experience. Many '85 participants arrived at West Deane with very specialized career interests. I, however, arrived with gratitude for being selected to join this distinguished group of scholars.

Thanks to the Attingham experience, my career for the past 25 years has followed a varied path from writing about architecture and the decorative arts to honing my latent interests and abilities in renovating, restoring and adding to historic properties all over the US. I also established a contemporary print collection for the Smithsonian's American Art Museum and enjoyed collecting in a wide range of media. Attingham also affected me in a way that I could not have predicted: because of the intensive weeks we learned together in the English countryside—ok, and the silly fun we had—about 10 years later I decided to "give back" to Attingham for all it has offered me over the years—little did I know about financial bubbles! Since then, I have funded several scholarships to a growing list of new class members, and after reading their letters of appreciation; it makes the Dow Jones erratic behavior seem little more than a case of old-fashioned flu. I feel gratitude for everyone associated with Attingham who enriched my life, and more importantly to a very lean but vibrant organization that somehow has managed, through both tradition and innovation, to cultivate so much talent and accomplishment that I deeply admire and wish to promote.

I urge you to consider a legacy gift benefiting the American Friends of Attingham.



Class of 85 group shot: David Maxfield at far left.

## PROGRAMS/EVENTS (CONT'D)

**Sibyl Groff '73**, seasoned tour guide and historian of Rockefeller Center, will explain the history, art and architecture of the most important urban complex of the 20th century. With about 20 buildings today, this first landscaped skyscraper complex was created for commerce but conceived with art. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. undertook this "city within a city" during the 1930's and combines the Depression and the Jazz Age. The artworks celebrate the progress of man and the marvel of communications, a theme that resounded with RCA, their main tenant. Commissioned artworks include those by Jose Maria Sert, Paulanship, Isamu Noguchi and, interestingly, the British artist Frank Bragwyn.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5 (6:00-7:00 pm)

**A Guided Tour of 'Imperial Privilege: Vienna Porcelain of Du Paquier, 1718-44 with Jeffrey Munger '79, RCS '04**

Location: Metropolitan Museum of Art, Fifth Avenue at 82<sup>nd</sup> Street (assemble in the Great Hall at 5:45 p.m.)  
Registration: \$25

The Du Paquier ceramic manufactory, founded by Claudius Innocentius du Paquier in Vienna in 1718, was only the second factory in Europe able to make true porcelain in the manner of the Chinese. Awarded privilege by Emperor Charles VI (r. 1711-40), the the factory produced tablewares, decorative cases and small-scale sculpture that exude a Baroque exuberance, as well as whimsy and individuality. Jeffrey Munger, Curator from

the European Sculpture and Decorative Arts Department, who organized the show together with Meredith Chilton, will instruct the group on the history and production of the Du Paquier firm while providing a cultural and historic context of early 18<sup>th</sup> century Vienna. This is an opportunity to see the most rare and beautiful objects from the limited production of this firm.

*And stay tuned for these upcoming NYC events in April!*

*Dates and details to follow.*

**Behind the Scenes: A Guided Tour of The Seventh Regiment Armory**

**A Private Tour of 'Masterpieces of European Painting from Dulwich Picture Gallery'**

### About Phelps Warren (1906-85)

Phelps Warren, for whom our legacy society was named, was a member of the class of 1959 and became involved in Attingham in the early 60's as "errand boy" to **Lydia Bond Powell '52**, Keeper of the American Wing at the Met, and early advocate for the Summer School. He became President of the American Friends in 1964 and stayed in that role until 1979, making him Attingham's longest serving President. He was Chairman Emeritus until his death in 1985. His apartment at 955 Lexington Avenue was the social headquarters for the American Friends during his tenure and the venue for entertaining all Attingham visitors from Britain. Phelps was co-founder in 1929 of the distinguished wallpaper firm Katzenbach and Warren, which made some of the great European wallpapers available in the US and produced a reproduction line of historic wallpapers for Colonial Williamsburg. He also lectured and published articles about ceramics and glass, his other serious interests. His book Irish Glass, first published in 1970, is considered to be the Bible on this subject. The Phelps Warren Society was founded in 1999 in his honor.

### Phelps Warren Society Members

Tom Appelquist  
Jay Cantor  
Kathleen Eagan Johnson  
Jeff Groff  
Harriette Hawkins  
Huylar Held  
Jeffrey Herr  
Ann Keenan  
Joseph Keenan  
Lisa Cook Koch  
Julie Leisenring  
David Maxfield  
James Michael  
Robin Michel  
Christopher Molinar  
Jan Mooney  
Roger Moss  
Richard Nelson  
Charles Newman  
Nicholas Pappas  
Paul Parvis  
William Pillsbury  
Molly & Joe Seiler  
Breffny Walsh  
Bill Younger

## Summer School: By Rebecca Tilles '09

Standing on the scaffolding at Chatsworth framing its newly cleaned stone façade and peeking in at the recently discovered 18<sup>th</sup> - century Chinese wallpaper remnants within, I recall thinking how fortunate I am to be one of the 48 scholars selected for the 2009 Attingham Summer School and for this unique professional growth experience, joining a long tradition of Attingham alumni at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

As a lover of the neoclassical, some of my personal favorites during the program included the collections at Kedleston Hall, Nostell Priory, Newby Hall, and Harewood House.

Most notable was the opportunity to experience intimate guided tours with family members of the privately-owned country houses, who contributed fascinating personal commentary on the history of their families and the collections.

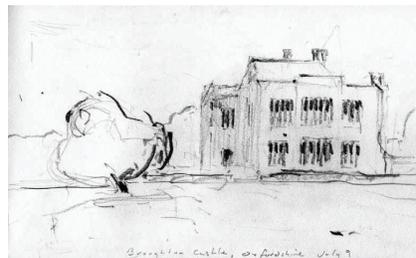


Class of 2009



Rebecca Tilles, the 2009 Sybil Bruel Scholar, is currently curatorial research associate in decorative arts and sculpture in the Art of Europe department at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

At right, drawing by Christopher Sokolowski '09



Perhaps the most unique aspect of the Attingham summer program was the supreme level of connoisseurship instilled throughout, with special presentations by program directors, visiting scholars, and staff members of the National Trust and English Heritage.

I would like to thank the American Friends of Attingham for the award of the Sybil Bruel scholarship and the MFA for supporting my participation. I look forward to participating in other Attingham programs in the future.

## President's Letter (*cont'd from cover page*)

and appreciation of textiles improved in the post-war decades through the efforts of such scholars as Edith Standen, though interest by the public was still limited. The major tapestry exhibitions Tom organized at the Met in 2002 and 2007 were an effort to change this attitude.

After the lecture Campbell was asked how his career as a curator had prepared him for his new assignment. His detailed answer ended with a comparison of the Metropolitan Museum to a coral reef. The 120 curators and the hundreds of employees were the "flora and fauna" of the reef, all interconnected and dependent on one another. Any change in temperature of even a few degrees effects them all, as in the recent financial crisis. Having come from within this organism, Tom believes that he has an understanding and appreciation of its nature that will inform his ability to play the new role.

I am happy to report that the Campbell lecture was a financial success but perhaps more importantly, it introduced our members and many new friends to an accomplished alumnus whose generosity and intelligence speak to the excellence of the Attingham programs. In addition, the event beautifully launched what we intend to be an annual event on the American Friends' calendar. Our huge thanks go to Tom Campbell for setting so high a standard. **Tom Appelquist, '87; RCS '08**

## Meet our New Board Members



**Margaret Civetta `89, SW `01, `09** is a partner in the law firm of Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP where she divides her time between the New York, Paris, and Madrid offices. Her practice focuses on international corporate transactions. Prior to becoming an attorney, she worked at the gallery of Rosenberg & Stiebel for ten years.

**Curt DiCamillo `03**, is an architectural historian who worked for the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston for thirteen years. In 2004 he became Executive Director of The National Trust for Scotland Foundation USA. Since 1999 he has also maintained the web-based DiCamillo Companion to British & Irish Country Houses: [www.DiCamilloCompanion.com](http://www.DiCamilloCompanion.com)  
He is Chair of the newly formed Archive Committee.



**Jonathan Tavares `09**, is Collections Assistant in the Department of Arms and Armor at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and also a part-time lecturer at the Rhode Island School of Design. He holds a Masters degree from Bard and is currently working towards his PhD, where his dissertation research is focused on Samuel Pratt, a 19<sup>th</sup> Century dealer of antiquities.

**E. Clothier Tepper SP `04, `07** is a graduate of Dartmouth and Columbia (JD, 1990) specialized in estate planning and administration, he is a member of the board of Historic New England and since 2007 has served that organization as Treasurer. He serves on both Finance and Development Committees.



## Alumni News

In August 2009, the Ruth Funk Center for Textile Arts was opened at Florida Institute of Technology, named after its benefactor, **Ruth E. Funk `83**. The center is dedicated to furthering the understanding and collection of textile and fiber arts and features new gallery and exhibition space. Visit [Textiles.FIT.edu](http://Textiles.FIT.edu). Along with the opening, Ruth has also published a new book entitled *Cloth and Culture: Couture Creations of Ruth E. Funk* published by Panache Partners.

**Shirley M. Mueller SP `94, `95, `05** investigates the science of collecting in "The Neuropsychology of the Collector" included in *Collectible Investments for the High Net Worth Investor* edited by Stephen Satchell, 2009, available through Elsevier.

In September 2009, **Margaret Moore Booker `89** published *The Santa Fe House: Historic Residences, Enchanting Abodes, and Romantic Revivals* by Rizzoli Intl

**Tania Sammons `09** has published *The Owens-Thomas House, Telfair Museum of Art*, published by Telfair Books.

**Alden R. Gordon SP `09** has been invited to present the annual Selz Lecture at the Bard Graduate Center in New York on March 31, 2010. The title of his lecture will be "Public and Private in the Art Patronage of Madame de Pompadour."

**Peter Trippi, `95, RCS `00** has co-curated *J.W. Waterhouse: Garden of Enchantment*, the largest retrospective exhibition ever of 19th century British painter John W. Waterhouse on view through Feb. 7, 2010 at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. Over 70 works (including all 3 versions of the artist's most celebrated subject, The Lady Of Shalott) reveal the full breadth of an unconventional storyteller through dramatic narrative paintings involving some of literature's most alluring femmes fatales and tragic heroines such as Circe, Cleopatra, Mariamne, Medea, Miranda, Isolde, Psyche, and Rosamund.

Congratulations to **Alyse Perry Englund `09**, who was married this past fall.  
We sadly note the passing of alums **Walton D. Stowell `62** and **Paul J. Lougeay `81**.

Do you have news? E-mail updates to Mayuri: [attingham@verizon.net](mailto:attingham@verizon.net)

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***Please donate to our  
annual appeal  
on-line at:***

*americanfriendsofattingham.org*

## **Annual Appeal Update: The Summit Beckons**

As Martin Drury, past head of Britain's National Trust, once said to a new group of Attingham Summer School scholars, "You will feel at the end of three weeks that these are the people with whom you have climbed Everest."

All members of the American Friends should feel a strong sense of pride for 2009 in the fact that we have come through the worldwide financial crisis with a year of many accomplishments including success in fundraising. Our energetic new Administrator and our new software which enables more direct and efficient communication with members seem to have unleashed a sense of positive movement which we hope will carry us to this year's ambitious financial goal.

Please help us reach the mountaintop! Every gift, large or small, pushes us upward, and the number of donors is an important indicator of our vigor as well. Last year about 25% of our members contributed. This year we want to climb higher, so take a deep breath and write a check or donate online. We are almost there!

## **Attention Class of 1985!**

A special invitation from **Stephenson Andrews '85**:

Unbelievable as it may seem, our Attingham Summer School pilgrimage occurred a quarter century ago, resulting in an unforgettable experience profoundly affecting our careers; the formation of life-long personal and professional friendships, and much more. Fellow classmates Margize Howell, David Maxfield, Paul Parvis, and I would like to invite you to help provide a partial or hopefully a full scholarship (presently \$4,910), for a 2010 Summer School candidate. We feel it is important to remember and celebrate of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the "renowned" Class of 1985. Many of us could not have benefited from this phenomenal experience without financial support. Therefore, we believe that it's "our turn" to help fund a scholarship for a Class of 2010 participant – a future "Attinghamster" colleague.

Please send your contribution no later than January 30, 2010 by mail to the American Friends of Attingham office or use the on-line contribution feature on the website. Be sure to include a note designating the contribution for the Class of 1985 - 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Scholarship. For more information, call Mayuri Amuluru at 212.682.6840. Thank you.

\*An event for the Class of 1985 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is in the planning stages for Spring 2010.