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THE HISTORICAL OF DRESS

COURSES SPRING/SUMMER 2014



TAILORING STITCHES & TECHNIQUES 1400 - 1800

29th & 30th March

This course will cover the evolution of tailoring and students will work samplers of key techniques such as buttonholes, seam construction and padding from each century. Seventeenth and eighteenth century garments from the School and Hopkins Collection will be available for close examination while colour images of earlier garments from the Janet Arnold Archive will be used as references.

TUTORS - Melanie Braun & Claire Thornton



WIG-MAKING 1600-1800

5th & 6th April

Using images of surviving examples and documents, Early Modern wig materials, including silk and hemp as well as real hair, construction and dressing will all be explored. Students will work samplers of the techniques used, such as wefting hair onto linen thread. The course will include a visit to the Westminster Abbey Museum to view extant wigs on the funeral effigies.

TUTORS - Pam Humpage & Jenny Tiramani



MAKING, STARCHING & SETTING A RUFF 1580 - 1620

12th & 13th April

Students can each make a small linen ruff or darted band, which they will then starch and set into shape. Both surviving and reconstructed examples of the laces and embroidery used on ruffs and other fine linens will be available for close examination.

TUTOR - Jenny Tiramani



EMBROIDERY ON GARMENTS 1525 - 1625

3rd & 4th May - FULLY BOOKED / 31st May & 1st June - FULLY BOOKED

Embroidery worked in polychrome silk and metal thread was used for both construction and for decoration in this period and students will work samples of the different techniques used on tailored garments and on fine linens such as shirts and smocks. There will be extant pieces in the workroom for close examination.

TUTOR - Claire Thornton £160 / £100 concessions



THE ART OF FELT-MAKING FOR HATS FROM THE 16TH TO THE 19TH CENTURY

17th & 18th May

A practical look at various traditional felt-making techniques practiced in Europe, focusing on the British hatting industry before the advent of industrialisation. During the course of the weekend, each participant will have the opportunity to make their own hand-felted, blocked wool hat based on historical sources.

TUTOR - Rachel Frost www.thecraftybeggars.org
FULLY BOOKED - waiting list only - £160 / £100 concessions



EXPLORING FLAT PATTERN DRAFTING

5th & 6th July

This course will introduce students to the basic principles of drafting a pattern by drawing onto paper or fabric. The evolution of the art of flat drafting since the medieval period will be explored with a selection of historical pattern layouts and an explanation of how to 'read' patterns and how to recreate them.

TUTOR - Melanie Braun

FULLY BOOKED - waiting list only - £160 / £100 concessions



LATE VICTORIAN DRESSMAKING TECHNIQUES

12th & 13th July

This course will cover the sewing techniques used to make bodices and skirts of the last quarter of the nineteenth century. Students will work samplers of important features such as boning and finishing seams, the darts on bodices, making buttonholes and mounting the belts of skirts. Nineteenth century garments from the Hopkins Collection will be available for close examination.

TUTOR - Luca Costigliolo

FULLY BOOKED - waiting list only - £160 / £100 concessions



19th & 20th July

At the beginning of the second half of the ninenteenth century women's dress was decorated with a variety of piping, ruffles, bows and pleats sometimes resembling the art of origami. Students will work samplers and examine clothes of the period from the Hopkins collection.

TUTOR - Luca Costigliolo
FULLY BOOKED - waiting list only - £160 / £100 concessions



21st - 26th July

The course will explore the changes to the silhouette of women's dress between 1600 and 1620. Students will draft patterns and make full size toiles for a pair of bodies and a wheel farthingale based on surviving garments and picture research. Reconstructed clothing will be used to show the students how the layers were worn and pinned together.

TUTOR - Luca Costigliolo 2 Places Available - £490 / £360 concessions

FROM JACKS TO JUMPS: Quilting in garments from 1400 - 1800

6th & 7th September

From the essential, protective layer of defensive padded jacks in the fourteenth century, quilting developed to shape the fashionable doublets of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. By the eighteenth century quilting was popular for decorative but still practical garments such as women's jackets, jumps and petticoats' There will be original pieces to study, and students will work samples of the varied techniques used through the centuries.

TUTOR - Claire Thornton
FULLY BOOKED - waiting list only - £160 / £100 concessions





FREE CLASSES WEEKS

This year, for the first time, we are offering the chance to come and do a course with no fee to pay. We realise that there are people who cannot afford to come to our courses, especially if they live a long way from London and have to pay for travel and accommodation as well.

At the same time, we are trying to build up a School collection of reconstructed clothing from many different periods so that we can demonstrate the dressing process and the way clothes were worn in the past.

The classes will be run exactly as our other classes are, with no more than 8 students to one tutor. The difference will be that students cannot keep the pieces they work on to take away at the end of the class. Instead, they will stay at the School with documentation about who worked on them.

There will be two separate weeks of free classes. The first week will take place in July as detailed below.



14th - 18th July

During this week, we will concentrate on preparing and making a selection of items of women's dress from the late-eighteenth century. We already have the reconstruction of a pair of brown linen stays and a fine linen shift. The classes will cover the construction of a horsehair rump, an under-petticoat, a decorated petticoat, a pair of mittens, embroidered panels for a pair of silk shoes and a hat. Surviving examples of these items from the School's collections will be used as references, some of which will be present at the workroom. FULLY BOOKED. We have closed the waiting list due to the high demand for places.

A date for the second week, to be held in the Autumn, will be confirmed soon. During the second week a woman's silk gown of the late eighteenth century will be constructed, using an unpublished pattern by Janet Arnold, and there will be surviving examples of gowns for close inspection. FULLY BOOKED. We have closed the waiting list due to the high demand for places.

TUTORS - Luca Costigliolo, Claire Thornton & Jenny Tiramani A maximum of 18 places available on each course.

To book a place please write to us at courses@theschoolofhistoricaldress.org.uk and let us know which area of construction you would like to work on.

ALL COURSES WILL BE HELD AT THE SCHOOL WORKROOM, 47 CHARLES SQUARE, LONDON N1 6HT PLEASE NOTE - The School workroom has been enlarged to provide more space for classes.