



THE ATTINGHAM TRUST

FOR THE STUDY OF HISTORIC HOUSES AND COLLECTIONS

2011 • NUMBER 9

NEWSLETTER

Chairman's Foreword

This year marked the 60th Attingham Summer School and an anniversary dinner was held at Attingham Park to mark the event. It was a pleasure to welcome Clo Tepper as the new President of the Attingham Friends, together with their new Administrator, Cheryl Hageman. We were sorry to miss Tom Appelquist, now stepping down as President who has done sterling work during his term in raising US scholarships and recruiting candidates. We have much enjoyed our relationship and have no doubt that we will remain in contact for many years. We are all looking forward to the Study Programme to be held in New York and the Hudson River Valley next June, arranged by the American Friends, as part of the 60th celebrations which will also include a conference organised by the Trust in London next October. It is with much regret that we bid *adieu* to Lisa White who has been such an inspirational director since 2005, while welcoming Helen Jacobsen and Andrew Moore as the new co-directors for the Summer School. I am confident that they will bring their own vision and particular talents to the further development of the programme.

In my 2010 Newsletter I mentioned the strategic review that was taking place and it is hoped that we will reach some conclusions this autumn. We have always relied heavily upon the enthusiasm and goodwill of all those involved in developing our courses. However, the increasing pressures of modern life and pressures on our resources now make it important that we review our whole *modus operandi* to see whether this could not be made more efficient and effective while continuing to retain and nurture the unique culture and philosophical approach which was handed on to us by our founders. Suggestions for change include running other programmes for heritage bodies in the UK and, perhaps, a Summer School for undergraduates. Any conclusions we

may draw from the review will, of course, be discussed with the American Friends as it is important that there is widespread support for any changes to our current trajectory. I also commented last year on the problem of visas and I am happy to report that, although we are still experiencing some problems as a result of Government policy, the UK Border Agency has been most helpful and all candidates successfully obtained them this year.

By way of general comment, I find it disappointing that our Coalition Government, while expressing enthusiasm and respect for the myriad of cultural interest under the auspices of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (including the Olympics), still fails to understand and act on the knowledge that the vast majority of tourists to the UK (who, incidentally, provide the third largest foreign exchange contribution to our economy) come here because of our historic houses, museums and other similar cultural entities. The Department unfortunately still retains a mindset which treats tourism and "culture" differently, the latter being seen mainly in the context of education, political correctness and pleasure. This is not only misguided but unfortunate: it leads to a situation where the government views the cultural sector as a drain on resources rather than – as is the case – a very substantial contributor to the Treasury. This has meant that, apart from the National Museums, the government contribution to the sector was reduced across the board by approximately 30% in the recent "cuts". Furthermore, there has been no will to examine the state of our built heritage or to consider how the need for maintenance in our great buildings can be stemmed by private contribution if it were made sufficiently attractive from a tax viewpoint.

John Lewis
Chairman

For further information about the Attingham Trust and the courses it runs please refer to website: www.attinghamtrust.org
or contact: Rebecca Parker Tel 0044 (0) 20 7253 9057. E-mail attinghamtrust@btinternet.com
For American members contact: Cheryl Hageman. Tel: 001 212 682 6840. E-mail Attingham@verizon.net.

Commentary

TEMPUS FUGIT: RECOLLECTIONS • Rosemary Lomax-Simpson

My first involvement with Attingham came through Helen Lowenthal; her passionate enthusiasm was infectious. Her novel idea sixty years ago was to create a course for professional people from the USA and UK to study the British country house and the collections. Seeds of interest had been sown early for me with an architect father brought up in a Lorimer house with a Jekyll garden and, when asked to drive Lydia Bond Powell (from the Metropolitan Museum of Art and Helen's co-founder of the course) to various houses selected on the programme, it was not long before I became closely involved with the administration.

The first week of the Summer School was spent in Shropshire. To wake up at Attingham on a sunny summer morning looking out over the beautiful parkland was inspirational and many fell under its spell nurtured by the Warden, Sir George Trevelyan. Cruck beams and vernacular timber-framed houses were included alongside 19th-century houses such as Wightwick Manor; studied again in this year. Like John Christie at Glyndebourne, Helen brought in the best professionals, Nicholas Pevsner and John Summerson among others, to lecture and tutor the group. We were afforded wonderful patronage and warm hospitality by the house owners sharing the knowledge of their collections with us and we are profoundly grateful for their continued participation through their sons and daughters. Helen involved the National Trust in those early days and we owe a great debt of gratitude for the annual support of its staff. From 1965 she also forged close links and raised scholarships for participants to attend from the former Iron Curtain countries so that a network has now grown to include many members from the finest museums and heritage

organisations throughout the world.

After Helen's retirement, Helena Hayward succeeded to the directorship, later joined by Geoffrey Beard. Helena was an exceptional lecturer and her tutoring superb. She had the ability to turn what had appeared a foolish question into a learning experience. The 'Third Week' became a separate course which Helena also led originally with Mary Stirling, and later with Judith Goodison and Caroline Rimell both of whom have since become its directors. The more recent history of the Trust is well known through the splendid leadership of our Chairman, John Lewis, and successive Directors of the Summer School, Annabel Westman, Giles Waterfield and Lisa White.

Returning to the past, in 1986 the Executive and Friends of Attingham visited Washington to see the 'Treasure Houses of Britain' Exhibition brilliantly displayed in the new I.M. Pei wing of the National Gallery of Art. Gervase Jackson-Stops had used paintings to evoke periods, including Mytens's Earl of Arundel in his sculpture gallery for the Jacobean era and Zoffany's Marquis of Zetland and his grandson in Arlington Street for the Georgian period. The actual Jan van de Capelle painting on the wall in the Zoffany painting and the garniture of bronzes on the mantelpiece had been re-collected by the late Lady Zetland. This is what Attingham is all about - connoisseurship and knowledge, yes - but far more the friendships created by the study of those shared treasures worldwide.

Rosemary Lomax-Simpson was Administrator of the Summer School and Treasurer of the Trust from 1971-1986. She is now a Trustee.

THE ATTINGHAM 60TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

12th – 13th October 2012

The Royal Geographic Society, 1 Kensington Gore, London SW7

LOOKING AHEAD: THE FUTURE OF THE COUNTRY HOUSE

Following the great success of the fiftieth anniversary event, The Attingham Trust would like to announce that another conference is being arranged with the support of the Paul Mellon Foundation to celebrate sixty completed years since its foundation. Over two packed days there will be papers from Britain, Ireland and America addressing present and future challenges faced by the historic house. Speakers will include Kevin Baird, the Duke of Buccleuch, Terence Dooley, John Harris, Tim Knox and Sean Sawyer. Please reserve the dates. More details will appear on the Attingham Trust website, www.attinghamtrust.org

The 60th Attingham Summer School

1st- 19th July 2011 • Lisa White, Director

The 60th Attingham Summer School marked a milestone for the Attingham Trust and celebrated by returning for the final part of the course to its original Shropshire home, culminating with a study tour of Attingham Park itself: the scholars of the days of Sir George Trevelyan and Helen Lowenthal would have been amazed by the recent transformation of the house.

The 2011 group of scholars was truly international: 24 from the United States, 5 from The Netherlands, 11 from the United Kingdom, and one each from France, Switzerland, Croatia, The Czech Republic, Russia, India, Australia and New Zealand. Their individual knowledge and perspectives enhanced our studies, their company was stimulating and their imagination in creating costumes for our final party was breath-taking. We were particularly delighted that Clo Tepper, incoming President of American Friends of Attingham, was one of the participants. As ever, we are immensely indebted to the trusts, individuals and organisations which have funded scholarships to support the attendance of so many of the participants.

The Attingham 'team' consisted of myself as Director, Dr Helen Jacobsen as Assistant Director and Rebecca Parker as Administrator. In addition, sixty other tutors, lecturers and property staff joined the course on its travels and gave us unrivalled access to their particular expertise. We also welcomed many distinguished visitors, whose support of the Summer School is much appreciated. These included Martin Drury, Chairman of the Landmark Trust and Vice Chairman of the Attingham Trust, Cheryl Hageman, Administrator of American Friends of Attingham, Diana Berry, Member of the Attingham Council, Merlin Waterson, Members of the Scholarship Committee, the Chairman and Officers of the Attingham Trust.

The programme followed its usual schedule for two-thirds of its duration, based firstly at West Dean College in West Sussex from 1st- 6th July and then in new accommodation at the University of Loughborough from 6th – 13th July. Introductory lectures and seminars on many aspects of house ownership, architecture, the



Lisa White

Grand Tour; art collections, domestic services and the relationship between town and country houses supported on-site study at Arundel Castle, Petworth House, Uppark, Cowdray and Parham Park.

In Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire our programme explored in greater depth the complexities and challenges of interpretation, conservation and education in historic country houses, lucidly delivered in lectures by distinguished scholars and witnessed at Kedleston Hall, Calke Abbey, Chatsworth, Welbeck Abbey, Belvoir Castle, Hardwick Old and New Halls and Flintham Hall. During our time in

the Midlands we also enjoyed warm hospitality in private houses, and the personal interest of the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire over lunch at Chatsworth.

The final part of the course, from 13th – 19th July, brought the Summer School back to Shropshire and the Welsh Marches, via Wightwick Manor and Chillington Hall. Gareth Williams, Curator and Head of Learning at Weston Park, introduced the scholars to the wealth and diversity of Shropshire's historic houses before days that took us to Erddig, Powys, Oakly Park, Mawley Hall, Stokesay Castle, Acton Round, Longner Hall, Cronkhill, and, of course, Attingham Park itself. Generous hospitality was shown everywhere, and memorably so at Cefn Park and Llwyn Onn Hall, at Stokesay Court and for a final dinner at Weston Park, for which we are immensely grateful.

As one scholar has written of the 60th Summer School: **'I can describe the course in one word – inspirational. I am not sure I have ever, or will ever again have an educational experience of such intensity or reward.'**

It has been a huge privilege to have directed seven Attingham Summer Schools, and to have taught on the course since 1994: I hope my successors, Helen Jacobsen and Andrew Moore, will enjoy the challenges and delights that lie ahead.

In 2012, the Summer School will take place between 6th-23rd July

Royal Collection Studies

4th-13th September 2011 • Giles Waterfield, Director

The sixteenth session of Royal Collection Studies took place in London, Windsor and Hampton Court. We stayed in Cumberland Lodge in Windsor Great Park, which we greatly enjoyed and which provided a comfortable and appealing home. So numerous were the applications that for the first time we accepted 32 candidates even though we still had to deny places to many excellent candidates.



The Privy Garden, Hampton Court Palace

most grateful to our constant benefactors, notably Coral Samuel, Kate de Rothschild, Adrian Sassoon, the Nina Stanton Fund, Paul Madden, Nicholas and Judith Goodison, Lady Heseltine and Judith Hemstadt. A new supporter this year was Lord Glendonbrook whose generous contribution was greatly appreciated. Without their help we could not sustain the course as it now operates.

Once again, the membership was extremely diverse, with participants from Australia (2), Canada (2), China, Denmark, France (2), Germany (4), Italy, the Netherlands (3), Russia (1), Sweden, the United Kingdom (12) and the United States (2). Given the current globalised nature of museums, many members are not natives of the countries where they are employed, indeed the two representatives of an American institution (the J. Paul Getty Foundation) come respectively from Scotland and France. We were delighted to have among us, for the second year running, a curator from the Palace Museum in Beijing. In the future we hope that the rich cultural links between the Indian sub-continent and the United Kingdom will also bring applicants from that part of the world. We also hope to attract more applicants from the United States.

The professional background of the members of the course included numerous curators and directors from collections with imperial or royal connections, and from important museums (listed on back page). In addition to 22 curators with various interests, the course included six academics and independent scholars, three representatives of the art trade, and an art critic. This made for an extremely stimulating and lively group which contributed much information, not least when Richard Dormont spoke on the Duke of Clarence's tomb in the Albert Memorial Chapel.

Scholarship assistance from a number of generous and patient sources enabled us to assist many applicants financially: as in the past, many members of the course received some degree of scholarship support. We are

New elements included a new style of visit to the State Apartments at Windsor Castle, based on a series of seminars rather than extended tours. We visited the Royal Collection's conservation workshops for furniture and the decorative arts for the first time. Tim Jarvis, Superintendent of Windsor Great Park, gave an excellent and mouth-watering tour of the park. Jennifer Scott lectured on *The Royal Image*, on which subject she has recently published. As always, a great deal of the teaching was carried out by the staff of the Royal Collection. We were particularly interested by the presentation on possible developments at Windsor Castle given by Jemima Rellie, Head of Publications and New Media at the Royal Collection, and Jonathan Marsden. A visit to the archives at the College of St George was another innovation. At the Queen's Gallery at Buckingham Palace we viewed the exhibition of Dutch Landscapes curated by Desmond Shawe-Taylor.

An important part was played by the staff of Historic Royal Palaces, whose support for the course, both practical and academic, is indispensable. It was illuminating to hear about the current work at Kensington Palace, due to be completed in 2012.

Sara Heaton brought her customary competence and skill to the role of Administrator; while Annabel Westman and Kate Morgan provided invaluable support, academic and administrative.

In 2012, Royal Collection Studies will be based at Cumberland Lodge, Windsor between 2nd-11th September

The Attingham Study Programme

17th – 25th September 2011 • Giles Waterfield, Director

From ducal castle to neoclassical villa, from windswept island to the splendour of Glasgow's City Chambers, the Scottish Study Programme took its 31 participants on a varied and absorbing journey around the city of Glasgow, the countryside south of the city, and the Western Isles. The programme studied three principal themes: the history of collecting in a city that has for 150 years been strongly partial to the visual arts, a partiality reflected in its superlative museums and art galleries; the influence of Glasgow on the architecture of summer homes in its suburbs and further; and the aristocratic tradition, quite distinct from the city, evident in such castles as Brodick, Culzean and Drumlanrig, and such houses as Dumfries and Pollock. Three of the nine days concentrated on an individual architect, whose work we were able to study in some depth. In the case of Alexander Thomson we were able to visit his St Vincent Street Church in the company of Mark Baines, Holmwood House, and two private houses designed by him. Charles Rennie Mackintosh, brilliantly discussed by Pamela Robertson, was represented by several of his most important buildings. And on the penultimate day we visited, by kind permission of the owners, two notable houses by Robert Lorimer in the company of the architect's grandson, William Lorimer.

Glasgow, its history and its art, were illuminated by James Macaulay, Frances Fowle and Roger Billcliffe, all notable experts in their field, while the complex history of Culzean was unravelled by Professor Michael Moss, its recent historian. The National Trust of Scotland was outstandingly hospitable, receiving us in five of its properties and explaining many of the difficulties, academic and practical, that face the Trust in caring for these houses. The Attingham Trust is greatly indebted to Ian Gow and Robert Ferguson of the NTS for their erudite and thought-provoking expositions, as well as to several of their colleagues. At Drumlanrig the Duke of Buccleuch discussed his ideas for the gardens, while at Dumfries David Jones, honorary curator of furniture, gave seminars on the

Scottish furniture for which the house is famous. Generous hospitality was extended at Ardgowan by Cindy Shaw Stewart and at Douglass on Arran by Stephen and Lavinia Gibbs. Visits to such noble houses as Inveraray Castle and Mount Stuart gave an insight into the continuity of the Gothic and castle house traditions, as well as the wealth of contents, particularly furniture and paintings, surviving in Scottish collections.

In Glasgow itself members of the course visited the major museums and galleries including Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum, the Burrell Collection, and the Hunterian Museum, and were struck by the pride felt by Glaswegians in their shared heritage as well as by the riches held within these public collections.

Members came from the United States (the highest proportion), the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, Poland, Russia, the Netherlands, Switzerland, and India – the first person from the Indian sub-continent to attend a Study Programme, and extremely welcome. The Monument Trust, Attingham Trust and American Friends of Attingham provided generous scholarship funding for a number of participants. We also received a grant from Hazel Wood who sadly died earlier this month. We have been so grateful for her generous and regular support over the years. Her enthusiasm will be much missed.

Kate Morgan acted as administrator with impeccable efficiency, while Annabel Westman attended and made many contributions to the course's success.

It is extraordinarily exciting to visit Scotland, and in these circumstances, with so much hospitality and warmth shown, particularly enjoyable. Driving through the country and crossing to the islands in a succession of ferries provided a very particular pleasure.



The Study Programme members with the Duke of Buccleuch, Drumlanrig House

In 2012, The Attingham Study Programme will take place in New York and the Hudson River Valley, 7th - 16th June

Scholarship Donors

Annabel Westman • Director of Studies, The Attingham Trust

The Attingham Trust was very grateful to receive such outstanding international scholarship support for the participants this year. With the invaluable assistance of the American Friends of Attingham, it greatly helped to maintain the academic standard on the three courses. I hesitate to single out any one charitable foundation, institution or individual as all donations are exceedingly welcome but the generosity of the Monument Trust in increasing the Simon Sainsbury endowment fund and annual scholarship grant has been particularly fortuitous given the current economic climate. We are continuing our efforts to seek grants for participants from specific countries and various disciplines which would be applicable for attendance on the Attingham Summer School, Study Programme and Royal Collection Studies and welcome further suggestions particularly in Canada and India. This list includes the major donors who have supported the Attingham programmes over many years as well as those who have given generously to help fund a candidate this year - a big thank you to all.

MAJOR DONORS

Errol Clark; Alex Copland Foundation; Elisha-Bolton Foundation (Gilbert Schafer III); Gerry Charitable Trust; Lillian Hirschmann; J. Stewart Johnson; The Samuel H. Kress Foundation; New York Community Trust, Edward Maverick Fund; Peter and Wilhemina Minet; The Monument Trust; Stewart G. Rosenblum; The Royal Oak Foundation; Basil Samuel Charitable Trust; Brunschwig & Fils

SUMMER SCHOOL

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ROYAL COLLECTION STUDIES

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The Attingham Trust is an educational charitable trust no 262819

The Attingham Society

Rebecca Parker

Attingham alumni are the roots of the Trust's Tree of Life Augmented each year through the various courses. Now that membership of the Attingham Society is automatic, the network and the Society grow in equal measure alongside the members of American Friends of Attingham with whom we keep in close communication. Once again we are enormously grateful for the generous donations that enable us to raise a half-scholarship each year for an Attingham Society scholar. Our hope is to increase this to a whole scholarship.

Attendance on a particular course in a particular year is largely arbitrary and, while firm friends and contacts are made, the Attingham Society events, particularly the Annual Reunion, aim to 'cross-pollinate' across the membership. The December 2010 Reunion was held in the wonderfully

atmospheric St Bartholomew the Great, in West Smithfield in London and, despite the inclement weather, there was a merry throng of around 80 sipping mulled wine under the arches as the snow fell. Huge thanks must go to our recently retired Events Secretary Annie Kemkaram-Smith for all her ideas and organisation.

While the Reunion is the main event I am keen to start fostering smaller events during the rest the year and across the country. Alumni are found in almost every nook and cranny and I appeal to those who have exhibitions about to open, and places they would like to show to approach me with ideas. Jo Norman (Att '09) led an early morning viewing round her exhibition 'Treasures from Budapest' at the Royal Academy, which was hugely successful. Please keep an eye on the website and email for further details.

American Friends of Attingham

Tom Appelquist • President

Yet another year of dramatic change with new challenges and opportunities has transpired for the American Friends of Attingham. Our terrific incoming team of President Clo Tepper and Administrator Cheryl Hageman has arrived coinciding with the new Directors for the Summer School from September. All parties met on the Summer School 2011 which was by all accounts up to the usual high standard of rigor and exhilaration provided by Director Lisa White, Assistant Director Helen Jacobsen and Administrator Rebecca Parker. Our enormous thanks and a fond salute from the Americans go to Lisa as she completes her tenure, and to Rebecca we send our gratitude for all her efforts to welcome and connect with our new leaders. We also thank the gracious Mayuri Amuluru for her two years of enthusiastic endeavor for the American Friends.



Tom Appelquist and Mayuri Amuluru

word about the Royal Collection Studies program.

Our Spring events this year included our first Attingham Authors' Book Fair at the Grolier Club in New York, the first Tracey Albany lecture in Boston delivered by Ulrich Leben, a wonderful four day visit to Savannah, Georgia, an architectural tour of Tuxedo Park, NY, and a lecture by Giles Waterfield on Artist's Studios which he gave in Los Angeles while at the Getty.

We look forward with great interest to next year's Study Program, which will start in New York City and travel up the Hudson River. With an itinerary organized by Sheila Ffolliott, the course will return to NYC at its conclusion for the American celebration of Attingham's 60 years, to which all alumni are welcome (details forthcoming). At this event our Directory of all Americans who have attended since 1952 will be published. Two are still alive from the first class!

Here in the US we are preparing for our Fall lecture on November 8 which this year will present Sir Hugh Roberts talking about the Windsor fire of 1992 and its aftermath. We have already seen strong sponsorship support and great interest in this event to which we hope to attract a large audience who will then spread the

As I conclude my term I wish to express my tremendous gratitude to the Attingham friends I have had the good fortune to know, from all nations, who make it such fascinating and worthy organization.

The Attingham Trust 2011

Trustees	John Lewis OBE (Chairman), Martin Drury CBE, FSA, Lady Goodison FSA, Rosemary Lomax-Simpson, Caroline Rimell, Rosalind Savill DBE, FBA, FSA, (Dr Geoffrey Beard OBE, FSA, Honorary Trustee)	
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ROYAL COLLECTION STUDIES MEMBERS 2011

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Curator of Portrait Iconography, Netherlands Institute of Art History, The Hague, Netherlands
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Curator; Tate Britain, London
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Associate Curator of Sculpture, The J Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, USA
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Art Critic, Daily Telegraph, London
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Curator; Decorative Arts and Antiquities, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia
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Director; Schloss Friedenstein, Gotha, Germany
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Principal Curator of European Art, National Museums of Scotland, Edinburgh
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Senior Director; Furniture Department, Sotheby's, London
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Director; Carrick Hill Historic House and Garden, Springfield, South Australia
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Associate Curator of Photography, The J Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, USA
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Assistant Curator; National Portrait Gallery, London
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Partner; E&H Manners, London
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Associate Professor of Art History, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
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Curator; Crown Collection, Official Residences of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
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Curator; Furniture, Fashion & Textiles Dept., The V&A Museum, London
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Curator; Grünes Gewölbe, Dresden, Germany
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Curator of The Goodwood Collection, Goodwood House, Chichester, Sussex
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Curator; The Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths, London
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Curator of the Picture Gallery, Christ Church, Oxford
- **MAXTILLMANN**
Independent Art Historian, Munich, Germany
- **LEILA TUULI**
Curator; Department of Furniture, Textiles and Applied Art, The Royal Collections, Stockholm, Sweden
- **MARIANA VAN DER ZWAAG**
Head of Education, The Royal Palace, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- **ARIANE VAN SUCHTELEN**
Curator; Mauritshuis, The Hague, Netherlands
- **ELISABETH VON BUCHWALD**
Curator to Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II of Denmark, Copenhagen, Denmark
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Head of European Ceramics and Glass, Christies, London
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Research Associate, Palace Museum, Beijing, China

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