The Preservation Society of Newport County
with
U.S. Trust, Bank of America Private Wealth Management
and Christie’s

Presents

East Meets West: Centuries Of Exchange

Program Schedule

Sunday, April 27 through Wednesday, April 30, 2014

The Newport Symposium Committee
David W. Dangremond, Chairman
David P. Diefenbach
Dean F. Failey
Angela Brown Fischer
Pauline C. Metcalf

George H. McNeely IV
Lee Paula Miller
Betsy D. Ray
Lynn Springer Roberts

The Preservation Society of Newport County
Donald O. Ross, Chairman
Trudy Coxe, CEO & Executive Director
Laurie Ossman, Ph.D., Symposium Director
Brittany Hullinger, Symposium Coordinator

U.S. Trust, Bank of America Private Wealth Management
William F. Hatfield, Managing Director, Market President, Rhode Island
Regional Executive, Upper New England

Christie’s
Stephen S. Lash, Chairman Emeritus, Christie’s Americas
Doug Woodham, President
John A. Hays, Deputy Chairman
Sunday, April 27

12:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.  Symposium Registration
Hotel Viking

3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.  Pre-Symposium Tour
*Behind the Scenes: Japanning & Asian Lacquer*
$15.00 per person | **Advance registration required**
Newport’s privately-owned Vernon House showcases unique 18th century Asian-inspired painted scenes. Join the Executive Director of the Newport Restoration Foundation, Pieter Roos, to view these examples of Chinoiserie Motifs, then travel to The Elms to discuss the lacquer panels that interior designer Jules Allard installed in the Breakfast Room in 1901. Following the tour discuss the challenges of conserving these two types of decorative processes with conservators Jeff Moore and Christine Thompson.

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.  Opening Reception at Marble House (1892)
Join us to view a display of rarely seen Chinoiserie pieces from our collection and archive. Enjoy hors d’oeuvres and refreshments at Marble House and stroll down to the Tea House for a special display with the Preservation Society’s Collections Manager, Elizabeth Warburton.

Monday, April 28

Lectures at Hotel Viking Conference Center

8:00 a.m.  Registration & Coffee Service

9:00 a.m.  Welcome
Donald O. Ross, *Chairman of the Board*
The Preservation Society of Newport County

9:30 a.m.  World Furniture
Joan DeJean, *Trustee Professor of French*
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
A golden age for the decorative arts was inaugurated in France in the final decades of the 17th century. But many of the masterpieces then produced, as well as many of the most influential designs then created, should not properly be classified simply as “French.” They are instead hybrid works, the result of a fertile and long-lasting collaboration between East and West, produced when French craftsmen discovered foreign techniques, patterns, and design elements – in particular from China, India, and Japan.

10:30 a.m.  Break
11:00 a.m.  Visions of Cathay– George IV’s Taste for Chinoiserie
Sir Hugh Roberts, Surveyor Emeritus of the Queen’s Works of Art
London, England

The lecture will look at King George IV's taste for Oriental-style architecture and works of art, with particular reference to the architecture and interiors at Carlton House, the King's principal London residence when Prince of Wales and Regent, and Brighton Pavilion, the King's marine residence on the south coast. The period covered will be from the early 1780s to the late 1820s.

12:00 p.m.  Lunch
Hotel Viking  Optional. Fee. Advance registration requested.

2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
Concurrent lectures and tours

The Gift of Inspiration: The Lucy Aldrich Asian Textile Collection at the RISD Museum
Laurie Brewer, Assistant Curator of Costume and Design
Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI
Location: The Elms Ballroom

Between 1935 and 1955 Lucy Truman Aldrich (1869-1955) donated more than 700 works to the Museum of Art at RISD, forming the heart of the Museum’s Asian textile holdings. From her first trip to Asia in 1919, to her final trip in 1923, Miss Aldrich amassed one of the broadest and richest single collections of Asian textiles in the U.S. This lecture will focus on her collecting trips and the role these objects have had on the formation of the Museum’s Costume and Textile department. It will also address the innovative textile designs produced by the newest generation of RISD designers.

A Delightful Setting for After-Dinner Bridge: The Usage of the Chinoiserie Rooms and Gardens at Winterthur
Maggie Lidz, Estate Historian
Winterthur Museum, Winterthur, DE
Location: Rosecliff Salon

In the 1930s and 40s, H.F. DuPont entertained constantly at his Delaware estate. The Chinoiserie areas that he created there, The Peony Garden which begins with a pagoda and ends with a moon gate, the silk-lined hall outside the Philadelphia Bedroom, the kaleidoscopic color in the Chinese Parlor, were among his most successful designs. Who used these spaces and how? This lecture shares a look at the family, their friends, and the butlers, footmen, maids, and gardeners who once routinely inhabited Winterthur.
Tour: Interior Treasures of Marble House
Charles J. Burns, *Associate Curator for Research*
The Preservation Society of Newport County

Location: Marble House
Drawing inspiration from the Louvre, Versailles, and other historical sites, the creative team of Alva Vanderbilt, Richard Morris Hunt and Jules Allard forged a design alliance that defined Vanderbilt style. Mr. Burns will lead a tour of Marble House, pointing out the decorative elements that make it Mrs. Vanderbilt’s Versailles revisited.

3:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m.

Transplanting Chinese Motifs Into American Garden Landscapes
Judy Bullington, *Art Department Chair*
Belmont University, Nashville, TN

Location: The Elms Ballroom
A frequently referenced, but seldom analyzed, aspect of Early American gardens was an emerging taste for the Chinese Manner. Oriental motifs were among the visual elements grafted onto more conventional forms used for the summer houses, temples, fences, and bridges that embellished the grounds of grander Georgian-era homes. Examining the depictions and descriptions of these fashionable designs reveals a largely romanticized understanding of Chinese models transmitted primarily through two sources: the influence of English landscape practices that embraced chinoiserie and decorative motifs on trade goods including ceramics, wallpaper, and textiles.

“New Cabinets Out of Old Skreens”: The Early Taste for Asian Lacquer and the Development of Japanning in London and Boston
Tara Cederholm, *Vice President*
Brookfield Arts Foundation, Salem, NH

Location: Rosecliff Salon
This talk will explore the early importation of Asian lacquer to Europe and the development of japanning as a low cost and local substitute in London along with its flourishing in early 18th century Boston. Ms. Cederholm will present new ideas for design sources for japanners as well as explore the traditional theory that the 1688 *Treatise of Japanning, Varnishing and Guilding*, by Stalker and Parker, supplied the exotic imagery found on these pieces.

Exhibit Tour: Reinventing the Colonial: The Charles Follen McKim Photographs
Caitlin M. Emery, *Research and Interpretation Coordinator*
The Preservation Society of Newport County

Location: Isaac Bell House
As a founding member of McKim, Mead & White, Charles Follen McKim was at the forefront of design in the late 19th century. In 1874 he published 29 black and white photographs of buildings, architectural details, furniture, and landscapes taken in and around Newport, Rhode Island. Join Ms. Emery for a special preview of this exhibit, which explores the role the portfolio played in shaping the Colonial Revival. *Exhibit created in partnership with The Newport Historical Society.*
Tuesday, April 29
Lectures at Hotel Viking Conference Center

8:00 a.m.  Registration & Coffee Service

9:00 a.m.  Future of Museums: A Global Perspective
Trudy Coxe, CEO & Executive Director
Laurie Ossman, Director of Museum Affairs
The Preservation Society of Newport County
New methods and technologies encourage collaboration and access across borders and oceans. Hear how the Preservation Society is embracing these new opportunities to protect, preserve, and present its unparalleled collections.

9:30 a.m.  From Chinamania to “Choice Specimens of Eastern Pottery”: Whistler’s Peacock Room and Asian Ceramics
Lee Glazer, Associate Curator of American Art
Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery
Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.
This talk will look at the ways in which the Peacock Room, James McNeill Whistler’s famed decorative interior, has intersected with the history of collecting Asian ceramics in the West. Begun as a Victorian dining room filled with Chinese blue-and-white porcelain of the Kangxi era, it later became an aesthetic laboratory where the Gilded Age collector Charles Lang Freer juxtaposed a wide variety of roughly textured, subtly glazed ceramics from all over Asia. Far from being a static icon of Victorian aestheticism, the Peacock Room has had a dynamic, international history.

10:30 a.m.  Break

11:00 a.m.  East Asian Lacquer on French Furniture: Eighteenth-Century Workshop Practice
Carolyn Sargentson, Senior Honorary Research Fellow
French furniture mounted with panels of old Japanese lacquer was among the most highly prized works of decorative art in 18th century Paris. Recent research on the French furniture collection at the Victoria & Albert Museum offers new insights into commercial and workshop practices relating to this decorative strategy. Imported into Paris from the east, such lacquer panels were more robust than we might think. A combination of technical analysis and art historical methods reveals in substantial detail the steps involved in creating these spectacular works of art out of old materials and new cabinet-work, and offers insights into how craftsmen damaged, preserved, and finally came to understand this new material.

12:00 p.m.  Lunch
Hotel Viking Optional. Fee. Advance registration requested.
Tuesday, April 29
2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
Concurrent lectures and tours

“Europeanoiserie”-The Qianlong Emperor & Western Influence in 18th-Century Chinese Art
George McNeely IV, Vice President for Strategic & International Affairs
World Monuments Fund, New York, NY
Location: The Elms Ballroom
During the long reign of the Qianlong Emperor (1711-1799), a great military leader, art collector, scholar and writer, the Chinese court experienced an unusual wave of interest in Western-style painting, architecture and garden design. With the assistance of European Jesuit missionaries trained in the arts, the Qianlong Emperor created a remarkable series of European-style buildings and gardens, at the Old Summer Palace in Beijing. While that complex was largely destroyed in the Second Opium War, a remarkable survival of the period is the Qianlong Garden complex in the Forbidden City, which is currently undergoing a multi-year restoration by the Palace Museum and World Monuments Fund. Mr. McNeely will explore this unusual period of European artistic influence on Chinese culture.

Tour: Splendors of the China Trade
Christopher Lehrbach, Assistant Museum Affairs Coordinator
The Preservation Society of Newport County
Location: Chateau-sur-Mer
Built in 1852 and transformed in the 1870s by Richard Morris Hunt, Chateau-sur-Mer represents the pinnacle of High Victorian style and Newport’s beginnings as a social capital. Built for China Trade merchant William Wetmore, the house remained in the family until the 1960s when it was acquired by the Preservation Society. Experience the master craftsmanship of Hunt and Florentine carver Luigi Frullini and enjoy collections highlights like the striking French-made Japonesque torchères on the main staircase.

Tour: The Layering of Kingscote: 1864 - 1972
Charles Burns, Associate Curator for Research
The Preservation Society of Newport County
Location: Kingscote
Designed by Richard Upjohn, Kingscote was completed in 1841 for the George Noble Jones family of Savannah. The Jones family sold Kingscote to China Trade merchant William Henry King in 1864. King filled the house with his Chinese-bought ceramics, paintings and furniture. Subsequent generations added American and European fine and decorative arts, creating a highly eclectic collection set against Gothic Revival and Aesthetic Movement interiors.
3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

**Americana Exotica: J.A. Lloyd Hyde’s China Trade Revival**
Jennifer Carlquist, *Independent Historian*
**Location: Rosecliff**
J.A. Lloyd Hyde was among the most colorful antiquarians of the 20th century. He traded nearly every kind of antique, but cultivated a reputation as an expert in the China Trade. He repeatedly crisscrossed the globe searching for antique luxury goods such as textiles, lighting equipment, and *Oriental Lowestoft*, the subject of his iconic 1936 book on Chinese Export porcelain. His residences in Manhattan, Old Lyme, and Newport demonstrated his flair for mixing American, European, and Asian antiques—and a propensity for keeping his best finds to himself.

**Exhibit Tour: Exploring the Atlantic Trade Through Hunter House**
Caryne Eskridge, *Curatorial Fellow*
The Preservation Society of Newport County
**Location: Hunter House**
Hunter House and its collection tell stories that connect Newport merchants, craftspeople, slaves, sea captains, and many others to the Atlantic Trade. Ms. Eskridge will provide a preview of her innovative exhibition *Point to Point: Hunter House and the Constellations of Communities*, which opens at Hunter House in June.

**Trading, Using and Collecting Chinese Export Porcelain in America, 1600-1940**
Ronald Fuchs II, *Curator of the Reeves Collection*
Washington & Lee University, Lexington, VA
**Location: The Elms Ballroom**
This lecture will focus on Chinese export porcelain over three and half centuries of use in America, with a special focus on Chinese export porcelain in Rhode Island. It will examine export porcelain as it goes from a curiosity in the 17th century, to a valuable trade commodity and luxury tableware in the 18th century, to a more common utilitarian ware in the 19th century, to its transformation into a treasured antique redolent of America’s past in the 20th century.

7:00 p.m.  **Dinner at The Breakers (1895)**
Celebrate this year’s theme of East Meets West with an intimate gathering amidst the grandeur of the Great Hall at The Breakers. Enjoy a seated dinner and discuss the enduring lure of Chinoiserie with your fellow Symposium attendees.
Wednesday, April 30
Lectures at Hotel Viking Conference Center

8:30 a.m.  Registration & Coffee Service

9:30 a.m.  The Spell of China: Eastern Design Influence on Newport Art and Architecture
Paul Miller, Curator
The Preservation Society of Newport County
In August 1914 Alva Vanderbilt Belmont, to the general amazement of the New-
port summer colony, unveiled her Chinese Tea House designed by Hunt & Hunt,
architects, launching a general enthusiasm for Asian inspired motifs, distracted
only by the onset of WWI. This was the latest in a long chain of artistic efforts in
Newport to interpret Chinese culture. The lingering impact of those earlier efforts
and the more contemporary influences on Mrs. Belmont’s taste and thought will
be the focus of Mr. Miller’s presentation.

10:30 a.m.  Break

11:00 a.m.  Designing Fantasy: The Chinoiserie Revival in 20th Century Interiors
Noel Fahden-Briceño, Category Manager
Vintage and Antiques, One Kings Lane
Chinoiserie design influences, especially wall decoration, constituted a significant
trend in high-style interiors during the early 20th century. By exploring the ties
between leading antique dealers, collectors and tastemakers, Ms. Fahden-Briceño
will examine Chinoiserie’s potential for constructed fantasy and escapism in the
most rarified environments.

12:00 p.m.  Lunch
Hotel Viking Optional. Fee. Advance registrations requested.

1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.
Historic buildings open for independent touring
Symposium attendees will be admitted free of charge by presenting
their Symposium badge at the following properties:
    Redwood Library and Athenaeum (1748)
Newport Art Museum, J.N.A. Griswold House (1864), open until 4:00 p.m.
The International Tennis Hall of Fame, Newport Casino (1881)
Preservation Society Properties: Chateau-sur-Mer (1852); Marble House (1892);
The Breakers (1895); The Elms (1901); Rosecliff (1902)
The Museum of Newport History at Brick Market