

### ***The Midas Touch with Lesley Uren***

Wednesday 5 May 2010, 10.15 am – 11.45 am, \$30.00

Gold embroidery has been executed almost universally and is as old as the goldsmith or weaver. The history of this magnificent and rich tradition of embroidered embellishment will be discussed including the intricate making of the thread.

*Lesley Uren is a recognised specialist in metal thread embroidery. She is a founder, and still active member of the EGV. She is currently completing embroidery for several major exhibitions to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of The Embroiderers Guild, Victoria in 2010.*

### ***Hidden Beauties: Australian Needlework Samplers with Peg Fraser***

Tuesday 11 May 2010, 10.15 am – 11.45 am, \$30.00

During the Georgian and Regency periods, English girls produced needlework samplers of exquisite beauty and workmanship. Small wonder, then, that many people are disappointed in the simple, coarse samplers of their Australian cousins.

*Peg Fraser professional historian completed her thesis on Australian samplers and invites you to explore the social history behind the humble Australian sampler and discover that the simplest objects can unlock the greatest stories.*

### ***Embroidered Flowers in the Military with Evangelia Erturk***

Wednesday 19 May 2010, 10.15 am – 11.45 am, \$30.00

This presentation will review Evangelia Erturk's 40 years of experience and focus around the use of floral emblems in Australian military embroidery and the techniques used to create them.

*Evangelia Erturk OAM is an internationally recognised master ceremonial embroiderer specialising in military embroidery, rank insignia, flags and banners.*

### ***Daughters of Victoria: Revolution, Refinement & Respectability with Vivien Caughley***

Wednesday 2 June 2010, 10.15 am – 11.45 am, \$30.00

During the Victorian era the craft of embroidery witnessed radical change in its materials and techniques, its makers, and especially its end-purposes. Much Victorian embroidery was created for domestic use to reflect the sanctity of the Home.

*Vivien Caughley is a volunteer in Applied Arts at Auckland War Memorial Museum. Her work has been published in local, international and academic publications since 2005.*

### ***Embroidering with Mr Morris with Robert Reason***

Wednesday 16 June 2010, 10.15 am – 11.45 am, \$30.00

William Morris' interest in embroidery was evident from the establishment of Morris & Co. in 1861 when he set about designing flowers that Jane Morris could embroider on curtains for Red House. Embroidery remained an integral part of the firm and due to the embroidering talents of the Barr Smith family in Adelaide, we can still savour the exceptional skill, beauty and design ethos of Morris from the collection of the Art Gallery of South Australia.

*Robert Reason is the author of Morris & Co. Designs & Patterns (2003), Gladys Reynell (2006), and co-author of Empires & Splendour: The David Raabe Collection (2008).*

### ***Period Rooms in Australian Museums: History & context with Alison Inglis***

Tuesday 30 March 2010, 10.15 am – 11.45 am, \$30.00

The lecture will examine the phenomenon of the 'period room' in Australian museums and its hey-day in the early twentieth century. Parallels in museum display in Europe and America will also be identified and the context for this exhibition practice – with its combination of fine art, decorative art and architectural design – explored through a series of case studies.

*Alison Inglis is an internationally recognised specialist in British 19<sup>th</sup> century art. With a research interest in Australian art museums and the history of collecting and display in this country. She is currently researching a book on the circulation of works of art around the British Empire between 1850–1950.*

### ***Visions of Cathay: The West's unending fascination with the East with Tony Preston***

Tuesday 13 April 2010, 10.15 am – 11.45 am, \$30.00

At its giddy height in the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century, the phenomenon of chinoiserie – the innumerable European notions of Eastern exoticism, based on 'visions of Cathay' was garnered from imported objets de vertu and often wildly unreliable

travellers' tales. This lecture will trace the fascinating waxing and waning of this fashion from the 15<sup>th</sup> century onwards.

*Tony Preston has extensive experience in the art world, nationally and internationally and was Chief Education Officer and Public Programs Coordinator at the National Gallery of Victoria.*

### ***Timeless Tin–Glaze: English Delftware with Robyn Ives***

Wednesday 12 May 2010, 10.15 am – 11.45 am, \$30.00

Tin-glazes were known in Mesopotamia about 1000BCE. The technique was revived around the 9<sup>th</sup> century, when potters in Iraq used tin to opacify lead glazes. Over time the technique spread to Europe and into England. Explore how the English created their unique English Delftware; discover the techniques, decoration and influences on production.

*Robyn Ives is a collector and lecturer on English ceramics, with a particular interest in Post Medieval English pottery; tin-glazed earthenware is a class, within this field.*

### ***What The Dickens: An introduction to Charles Dickens with Elisabeth Neales & readers, John & Margaret Leonard***

Friday 28 May 2010, 2.00 pm – 3.30 pm, \$30.00

This presentation includes biographical material and examination of five principal aspects of the novels copiously illustrated with dramatised readings from the texts.

*Elisabeth Neales is a graduate of Oxford University and has taught English and History in secondary schools in England and Australia. She is currently Secretary of the Dickens Fellowship Melbourne Branch. John and Margaret Leonard have diverse experience with the performing arts and now delight in sharing their enthusiasm for literary classics through dramatised readings.*

### ***Birds, Beasts & Flowers... Discovering Asian symbols found in The Johnston Collection with Ruth Clemens***

Thursday 10 June 2010, 10.15 am – 11.45 am, \$30.00

Numerous Asian symbols are found in The Johnston Collection, from a variety of sources or categories such as mythology, nature, Daoism, Buddhism, puns derived from the homophonic Chinese language, and so on. Through various materials employed such as porcelain, lacquer and textiles, this talk will reveal different aspects of signs and symbols to be discovered.

*Ruth Clemens is currently a Voluntary Guide at the National Gallery of Victoria with a special interest in Asian culture. She is a collector of and specialist in Chinese textiles.*

### ***Ceramics Conservation & Restoration: An illustrated talk with Penny Byrne***

Thursday 17 June 2010, 10.15 am – 11.45 am, \$30.00

Ceramics Conservation and Restoration is a highly skilled profession and in this illustrated lecture Penny will explain the processes and intricacies involved, and highlight some of the pitfalls to be avoided, including amusing anecdotes gleaned from over 15 years of practice as a freelance conservator/restorer.

*Penny Byrne is a conservator of objects, especially ceramics. A graduate of the British Antique Dealers Association program at West Dean College in the UK, Penny is based in Melbourne and works as a conservator and is a practising artist.*

### ***Staging Past & Present: Piranesi's Rome with Mary Kisler***

Thursday 24 June 2010, 10.15 am – 11.45 am, \$30.00

A Venetian who spent most of his working life in Rome, Giovanni Battista Piranesi (1720–1778) developed a passion for Roman architecture. Archaeological ruins and sculptural fragments were constantly being uncovered, and he delighted in 're-constructing' these, not only imagining how they would have looked when first built, but also creating fantastical structures of colossal proportions. Connoisseurs and critics applauded his architectural prints, but it was his poetic flights of fancy that had a major impact on the European visual imagination.

*Mary Kisler is Mackelvie Curator International Art at Auckland Art Gallery and is an art historian with a particular interest in Renaissance and Baroque art.*

### ***DATE FOR THE DIARY Fluid Borders: Oriental Carpet Study Day with Susan Scollay & invited speakers Leigh Mackay, Roger Leong & Elizabeth Cross***

Saturday 10 July 2010, 10.00 am – 4.00 pm

For further details telephone 9416 2515 or visit [www.johnstoncollection.org](http://www.johnstoncollection.org).

***Bookings for The Johnston Collection tours, exhibitions and lectures are essential. To book, phone 03 9416 2515 or email [wjohnston@bigpond.com](mailto:wjohnston@bigpond.com).***

## WHAT'S ON

TOURS, EXHIBITIONS & LECTURE PROGRAMME

TO JUNE 2010



THE JOHNSTON COLLECTION

# THE JOHNSTON COLLECTION

The Johnston Collection is a hidden treasure, a jewel in the heart of Melbourne with amazing stories to tell...



## HOUSE MUSEUM

Fairhall, the residence of the late William Johnston with an astonishing collection of Georgian, Regency and Louis XV fine and decorative arts arranged within a domestic setting.



## GALLERY

A showcase for collections and venue for a range of lectures and workshops. Individual and group bookings available.



## LIBRARY

Incorporating The Copland Decorative Arts Library and The Davidson Fine Arts Library.

## SHOP

Enjoy browsing products which have been carefully selected and inspired by the collection.

OPEN MONDAY – FRIDAY: BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Phone: 03 9416 2515 Email: wrjohnston@bigpond.com

[www.johnstoncollection.org](http://www.johnstoncollection.org)

## FAIRHALL HOUSE MUSEUM TOURS

OPTION 1

### We Three Kings Of Orient Are: Christmas at The Johnston Collection

Ends 26 February 2010

See this spectacular Tour whilst there's still time. Presented by artists and craftspeople from Geelong - City by the Bay.

### Jamie Allpress Rearranges Mr Johnston's Collection

9 March – 25 June 2010

Our Rearranging Mr Johnston's Collection series offers an opportunity to see William Johnston's collection through another person's eyes and aesthetic. This year we have invited Jamie Allpress, Director, Allpress Antiques, to give us his response to our most spectacular and special collection. William Johnston's love of beautiful things and history, as well as his eye for the exotic, all come to life in this tour which explores his collection against the background of his life.

Free entry to members of Friends of The Johnston Collection when bringing a paying guest to this Tour. National Trust discount applies to this Tour only.

### Over the Tea Cups: The Pomp & Style of Taking Tea

The elegant ritual of taking tea has long been cherished, bringing peaceful settings to mind, delicate refreshments to the palate and enjoyable conversation with friends to the heart. *Over the Tea Cups: The Pomp & Style of Taking Tea* includes a House Tour of Fairhall highlighting the history of taking tea and its accoutrements, culminating in a delightful High Tea amongst friends.

This programme will be held on the following dates:

Friday 12 March 2010, 2.00pm – 4.00pm Saturday 13 March 2010, 10.30am – 12.30pm  
Friday 19 March 2010, 2.00pm – 4.00pm

and to coincide with Mother's Day on Sunday 9 May:

Friday 7 May 2010, 2.00pm – 4.00pm Saturday 8 May 2010, 10.30am – 12.30pm  
Cost: \$45.00 per person

### Weekday Tours

The Johnston Collection House Museum Fairhall is open Monday to Friday with three tours daily at 10.00 am, 12.00 noon and 2.15 pm. Tea, coffee and shortbread is served on arrival.

Individual and group bookings are available: Adult \$22.00, Concession \$18.50 (inc. Seniors). Group rate: \$18.00 per person for groups of 8 or more (max. 22 people).

### Out of Hours Tours

Saturday morning tours are scheduled for the second Saturday of each month at 10.00 am. Evening tours are scheduled for the third Thursday of each month at 7.00 pm.

Cost: \$29.00 per person. Concession/Group rates do not apply.

## GALLERY EXPERIENCE

OPTION 2

### Flowering Needles: Embroidery from Elizabeth to Victoria

A superbly illustrated talk and exhibition: 9 March – 25 June 2010



Through embroideries from the 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, you can explore the history of this fascinating artform – the inspirations, the people, the techniques and its uses, many featuring lush flowers. Sourced through The Embroiderers Guild, Victoria in conjunction with the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations of The Embroiderers Guild, Victoria. This

exhibition has been curated for The Johnston Collection by Dorothy Morgan.

To book the Gallery Experience on a date of your choice, a minimum group booking of 4 is preferred. For individuals wanting to book into our Gallery Experience the following dates are currently available:

Monday 22 March, Thursday 29 April, Wednesday 26 May, Friday 18 June 2010.  
Time: 10.15 am – 11.45 am. Cost: Adult \$22.00, Concession \$18.50.

## DOUBLE PROGRAMME FOR GROUPS

OPTION 3

The Johnston Collection's Double Programme comprises a House Tour of Fairhall, light sandwich lunch and Gallery Experience as follows:

- 10.20 am: The Johnston Collection courtesy bus collects visitors from inside the foyer of the Hilton on the Park Hotel, East Melbourne
- 10.30 am: Tea/Coffee and shortbread served on arrival at The Johnston Collection followed by a House Tour of Fairhall
- 12.00 pm: Light sandwich lunch
- 12.30 pm: The Gallery Experience
- 1.50 pm: Programme ends and visitors are returned to the Hilton on the Park Hotel by 2.00 pm

The Double Programme is available Monday to Friday from 10.30 am to 2.00 pm for groups of 8 to 33 people. Cost: \$47.00 per person.

For individuals wanting to book into our Double Programme, the following dates are currently available: Friday 9 April, Tuesday 4 May, Wednesday 9 June 2010.

## SHOP

Our products have been carefully selected and inspired by the antiques and paintings in our collection. We also stock a series of books published by The Johnston Collection. Our ever popular and beautifully presented gift voucher is valid for 12 months and can be ordered by telephoning 03 9416 2515.

## LECTURES & WORKSHOPS PROGRAMME

### A SERIES OF FIVE LECTURES WITH SYLVIA SAGONA

Sylvia Sagona is a Fellow of the School of Languages at the University of Melbourne, specialising in 19<sup>th</sup> Century French art and society.

Book individually @ \$30.00 or all five lectures to receive a 10% discount.

### Love, Pain & the Whole Damn Thing: Deciphering the Art of the Romantic Period (1800-1850)

Tuesday 9 March 2010, 10.15 am – 11.45 am, \$30.00

The Romantic movement spread across Europe in response to the philosophy of Rousseau and emphasised man's sensitivity, idealism and his connection with nature. This lecture will investigate how artists translated onto canvas the angst and drama of the themes of love, death and melancholy and how this vision still informs the way we perceive 'True Love' in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### Dying to Please: The Romantic Heroine of the early 19<sup>th</sup> century

Tuesday 16 March 2010, 10.15 am – 11.45 am, \$30.00

The Romantic movement of the early 19<sup>th</sup> century idealised women provided they made themselves eternally unobtainable by retreat into a convent, madness or death. More beautiful and desirable in death than they ever were in life, these ethereal heroines haunted the art and literature of the early 19<sup>th</sup> century in both England and France. This lecture will investigate their creation and their legacy.

Englère Delacroix (1798 – 1863), *Geese Eating on the Ruins of Missolonghi* (1826), Musée des Beaux-Arts

### INTRODUCING TJC AFTER HOURS SERIES:

### BY POPULAR DEMAND! Power Dressing: Marie Antoinette & the fashion that brought down the Ancien Regime

Saturday 13 March 2010, 10.15 am – 11.45 am, \$30.00

This lecture will investigate the layers of social, cultural and political significance that lay beneath the seemingly frivolous changes in fashion instigated by Marie Antoinette from the time she arrived in Paris as a teenager to her death on the scaffold. By presenting herself as an individual with outrageous coiffures, male outfits and peasant dresses, she flouted French royal traditions and was considered a traitor to her class and country. Style does matter.

### BY POPULAR DEMAND! Dynasty: The story of the ill-fated Camondo family and their collections

Thursday 18 March 2010, 7.15 pm – 8.45 pm, \$30.00

The immense wealth of the Camondo bank, founded in Istanbul, transferred to Italy and then to Paris at the time of Napoleon III, allowed the brothers, Count Moise and Count Isaac de Camondo to devote their lives to collecting 18<sup>th</sup> century decorative arts. At their death, both collections were donated to the City of Paris and form the basis of the collection of the Museum of Decorative Arts. At the centre of the frantic pace of the artistic circles in Paris, they persuaded other Jewish families of the Second Empire, such as the Fould, Cernuschi and Péreire, to follow their philanthropic mission.

### BY POPULAR DEMAND! Crinoline Crisis: The effect of women's fashion on furniture & interior design in 19<sup>th</sup> century Paris

Saturday 8 May 2010, 10.15 am – 11.45 am, \$30.00

In the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century the Empress Eugénie took advantage of newly developed steel underskirts to expand the crinoline to extraordinary proportions. This move, designed originally to boost the French luxury goods trade, had repercussions not only on woman's health and her status as a decorative ornament, but on the design of furniture, the décor of rooms and the interior layout of the new mansions.

Sylvia Sagona will also be presenting a further series of lectures in the second half of 2010.

## EGV LECTURE SERIES

In conjunction with The Embroiderers Guild, Victoria 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations.

Book individually at \$30.00 or all nine lectures to receive a 10% discount.



### Bess of Hardwick (1527-1608): Matriarch, Builder, Embroiderer with Dorothy Morgan

Wednesday 10 March 2010, 10.15 am – 11.45 am, \$30.00

In a time of political beheadings and imprisonments, Bess, or Elizabeth of Shrewsbury as she became, survived four husbands, bore eight children, built stately homes and a significant business empire and still found time to embroider. Discover more about this second most powerful woman of the Elizabethan period.

Dorothy Morgan, Guest Curator of Flowering Needles: Embroidery from Elizabeth to Victoria, is an honours history graduate of Melbourne University and a keen embroiderer.

### Treasured Tools for the Embroiderer with Wendy Ritchie

Wednesday 24 March 2010, 10.15 am – 11.45 am, \$30.00

Wendy Ritchie's illustrated lecture will be based on her extensive collection of antique embroidery tools which has led to an abiding interest in their history and the history of work that resulted from their use.

Wendy Ritchie has lectured widely on this topic and is the Curator of The Embroiderers Guild, Victoria Tools Collection.

### Wrapped in Silk & Gold: A History of Stumpwork with Alison Cole

Wednesday 7 April 2010, 10.15 am – 11.45 am, \$30.00

An illustrated presentation on the history of Stumpwork, the stories behind the embroideries, the women that embroidered them and the common elements within the designs.

Alison Cole is an internationally recognised specialist in Stumpwork and Goldwork embroidery. She is the author of two books with a third in progress.

### Jane Austen's Sewing Box: Jane Austen's women & their crafts with Jennifer Forest

Wednesday 21 April 2010, 10.15 am – 11.45 am, \$30.00

An illustrated journey through the beautiful handiwork of the Regency Era. Drawing on the crafts worked by Jane Austen's friends, family and characters in her novels, a range of skills from netting and knotting to tambour and white work will be explored.

Jennifer Forest is the author of the best-selling Jane Austen's Sewing Box, a unique combination of history, literature and artistic interpretation. She works in various media including needlework, felting, knitting and screen-printing.