

Original Costume Museum Society

Newsletter

Volume 5, Issue 1, January 2008
January 28, 2008

Contents:

- * OCMS News
 - * Members Events
 - * Around Town
 - * New Publications
 - * Websites to Visit
-

OCMS NEWS

Welcome New Board Trustees

We are pleased to introduce and welcome the following members to the Board of Trustees:
Ann Daskal, Betty Done, Maureen Attwell and Wendy Nicholls (Board Nominations Chair).

Get on Board – the OCMS Board!

With the OCMS Annual General Meeting around the corner (April 28), it's that time of year again when the Nominations Committee seeks out individuals wishing to join the driving force behind this important society. As members, we already believe in the need for a museum of costume in greater Vancouver. Now is the opportunity to contribute your voice and talents to the cause by becoming a trustee or officer.

Being an OCMS board member is a fun and rewarding experience. If you or someone you know may be interested in joining the OCMS board, please contact Wendy Nichols 604-940-5996 or wendynic@dccnet.com, and a member of the Nominations Committee will provide you with more information about the board, its responsibilities, and the goals of the OCMS.

As a slate of nominees must be in place by the middle of March for election at the AGM in April, please do not delay in expressing your interest in "getting on board."

Request for a Volunteer

The OCMS is looking for one volunteer to assist Honourary Curator Ivan Sayers with collection management organization at Hycroft on Tuesday, February 12, and Tuesday, February 26 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. To volunteer, please call Ivan at 604-872-1230.

OCMS Participates in City of Vancouver Facility Priority Workshop

On January 21, OCMS Trustee Ann Daskal, President Donna Bryman, and Honorary Curator Ivan Sayers participated in a workshop for cultural groups interested in locating or changing space within Vancouver. The City of Vancouver is creating a priority plan for the future development and allocation of spaces, so dozens of representatives from heritage and visual, performing, and literary arts organizations gathered for discussion of big and little ideas that would shape this plan. Further meetings and workshops will be held.

It is clear there are many cultural organizations, like the OCMS, that have challenges finding acceptable, affordable space within Vancouver.

OCMS Space Needs Now and in the Future

The OCMS is pleased to have signed another year long lease for work space within the University Women's Club of Vancouver at Hycroft, as well as an agreement for the rental of rooms for the presentation of lectures and fashion shows.

The relationship with the UWC has been beneficial, but it is likely that the OCMS will have to find new accommodations beginning January 1, 2009. Therefore, if anyone knows of a clean, dry, secure, 500-700 square-foot space that has an affordable rent, please let the OCMS know whom to contact for further details. The OCMS will not move out of Hycroft until the end of the year, but searching for rental space is usually a lengthy process. The Board would appreciate your help in finding appropriate future rental space.

OCMS EVENTS

Sunday, March 2, 2008

The History of Children's Corsetry

Lecture with Melanie Talkington

For hundreds of years women have used corsets to alter the proportions of their bodies. Their acceptance of these garments often started when they were very young. In some households, girls of two or three years of age wore waist binding 24 hours a day. Join **Melanie Talkington**, corsetiere and collector of historic corsetry, as she explores the psychology and history of girls' corsetry of the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. Original corsets, commercial premiums and advertisements, and corsets designed as accessories for dolls will illustrate the theme.

Sunday, April 6, 2008

Fashion on the Frontier: Vancouver Clothing of 1886

Slide Show and Lecture with Ivan Sayers

Happy birthday, Vancouver! When Vancouver was incorporated as a city on April 6, 1886, it had graduated from being a sawmill town to being nominated as the western terminus of the transcontinental Canadian Pacific Railway. Although the city was a rough and tumble place, the local inhabitants aspired to a degree of sophistication that required fashionable dress. Vancouver fashion historian **Ivan Sayers** presents a slide show and lecture on the styles of clothing typical of what was worn by men and women in the new city at the time of incorporation. Actual garments from the period will be on display.

Monday, April 28, 2008

Original Costume Museum Society Annual General Meeting

Mark your calendars - the Annual General Meeting of the OCMS has been called for the evening of Monday, April 28. More details regarding time and location to come.

Sunday, May 4, 2008

Shanghai, the Paris of the East

Slide Show and Lecture with Ivan Sayers

The city of Shanghai has a mystique that conjures up images of power, wealth, and drama. It was one of the first cities in China to include a diverse, international population and one of the first to accept European fashion. Highly skilled Chinese sewers, directed by European design and

designers, began a fashion industry, which reached the highest level of quality. **Ivan Sayers** presents a talk and slide show illustrating aspects of Shanghai fashions from the 1890s to the 1940s, including photographs from the albums of Leonard McCann, whose family lived in China from 1864 to 1949. Men's and women's clothing from Shanghai department stores, furriers, and professional and amateur designers will be on display.

All programs (except "La Belle Époque" tour) are presented at 2:00 pm
Hycroft, 1489 McRae Avenue, Vancouver
Tickets available at the door: \$20 per person
\$18 per OCMS adult member / \$10 per OCMS student member
General Admission

MEMBERS EVENTS

February 4, 2008

Baroque to Neo-Classical Fashion: Women's Clothing of the 18th Century

Series of six lectures by Ivan Sayers

UBC Continuing Studies

The 18th century was a time of great social and political change. These changes included the rise of an affluent middle class and a new urban population. At the beginning of the 18th century, changes in fashion were an amusement for the privileged few. But as international shipping became more efficient, as mechanized production became more successful and as the new middle and working classes developed disposable income, fashion and its whimsies gradually became more universal. This lecture series discusses the transition from the grand "bizarre" silk gowns worn by the rich and powerful in the Baroque period to the light, frivolous, taffeta creations of the Rococo years and then to the democratic white muslin shifts worn in the neo-classical period.

Mr. Sayers illustrates his lecture with actual 18th century gowns, underwear, lace and grooming items from his vast collection of costumes.

Mondays, February 4 - March 10, 2008
10:30 am -12:30 pm
University of British Columbia Robson Square, Vancouver
Course fee: \$135, seniors \$120, students \$175
More information: Joanne Savory, 604-822-1462
<http://www.cstudies.ubc.ca>

February 8, 2008

Chaperones, Coquettes and Courtship

Fashion Show by Ivan Sayers

DAC at SFU

Benefit fashion show for breast cancer.

Doors at 5:45 pm
Diamond Alumni Club
Simon Fraser University, Burnaby
Cost: \$20
More information: 604-599-0244 (after 7:00 pm)
<http://www.sfu.ca/dac/>

February 24, 2008

From Ducktails to Dior: Men's and Women's Clothing from the 1950s

Fashion Show by Ivan Sayers
Langley Centennial Museum

In collaboration with Mr. Sayers, the Langley Centennial Museum will be hosting a fashion show featuring fabulous 1950's styles, coupled with Mr. Sayers interesting and entertaining commentary. In conjunction with the museum's exhibition of the same name.

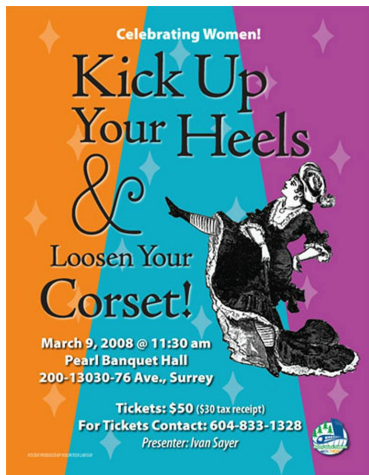
Fort Langley Community Hall
9167 Glover Road, Fort Langley

For more information and tickets, call 604-888-3922 or email information@langleymuseum.org
<http://www.langleymuseum.org>

March 9, 2008

Kick Up Your Heels & Loosen Your Corset

Fashion Show by Ivan Sayers
Ad Hoc Coalition for Women's Equality and Human Rights



Celebrating women for International Women's Day (March 8). Presented by Surrey-Green Timbers NDP MLA Sue Hammell.

11:30 am
Pearl Banquet Hall
200 – 13030 – 76th Avenue, Surrey
Tickets: \$50 (\$30 eligible tax receipt)
604-833-1328

March 13, 2008

Sports Fashions Through the Ages

Lecture by Ivan Sayers
Surrey Museum

Join Fashion Historian Ivan Sayers for an entertaining look back at what cyclists and sports enthusiasts wore in days gone by.

7:00 - 8:30 pm
Surrey Museum
17710 - 56A Avenue, Surrey
Must pre-register, call: 604-592-6956
1 Session \$7 / 582518

<http://www.surrey.ca/Living+in+Surrey/Heritage/Heritage+Services+and+Facilities/Surrey+Museum/default.htm>

March 25, 2008

History of Knitting

Lecture by Ivan Sayers

Richmond Textile Arts Guild

7:00 pm

Richmond Community Centre, Richmond

For more information contact: Shirley Shields 604-943-2230

AROUND TOWN

February 9-10, 2008

Best of the West Antique Expo – Cabin Fever

TRADEX Centre



Cabin Fever is running rampant in the BC antique show scene. There have been no large shows for over three months. Dealers are feeling the effects of being cooped up during a long, dreary winter. Collectors haven't seen their favourite dealers since last fall. They are becoming anxious to get out on the antique show trail again. Both groups are suffering from cabin fever.

The cure is coming.

Top dealers from across Canada. BC's biggest show and sale, more than 80 dealers, 60,000 square feet of antiques and collectables. Buy formal and country furniture, fine art, books, antique jewellery, glass and china, vintage collectibles, advertising, art deco, clocks, lighting and antique identification clinic.

TRADEX Centre, Abbotsford

10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Admission: Adults \$6 / Parking \$3

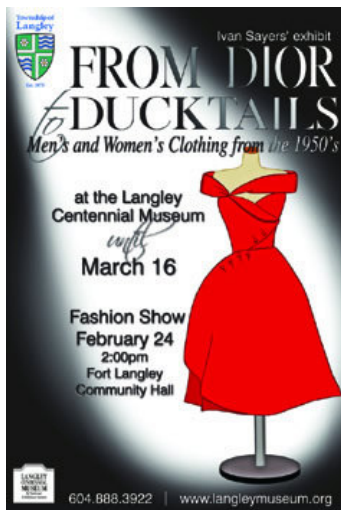
Online discount \$1 at:

http://www.antiqueshowscanada.com/abbotsford_cabin-fever.htm

Until March 16, 2008

From Ducktails to Dior: Men's and Women's Clothing from the 1950s

Langley Centennial Museum



The museum's newest exhibit, "From Dior to Ducktails: Men's and Women's Clothing from the 1950s," kicks off a year in which the 1950s - and the Museum's 50th birthday - is celebrated.

Open from January 19th to March 16th, and created by local fashion historian Ivan Sayers, the exhibit will showcase a range of outfits and include stories about the styles, the clothing itself, and their owners.

Langley Centennial Museum
9135 King Street, Fort Langley
For more information: 604-888-3922
<http://www.langleymuseum.org>

Until March 23, 2008

Women's Fashion of La Belle Époque: 1890-1914

Vancouver Museum

La Belle Époque or 'beautiful era' is the term used to describe those years of comfortable well-being experienced by France and the rest of the Western World from the late nineteenth century to the beginning of World War I in 1914.



For truly fashionable women, *La Belle Époque* called for lavish display achieved with poise and elegance. Silhouettes changed many times throughout the period, and novelties in fashion came and went in quick succession.

This exhibit curated by Ivan Sayers, one of Canada's leading experts in historical women's fashions, dives into the elegance and inventiveness of *La Belle Époque*. The garments astound with vibrant colours, rich fabrics, fringes, beadwork, and fur. Parisian haute couture was the arbiter of styles and silhouettes. Even in distant Singapore, Stockholm or Vancouver, fashionable ladies could pour over photographs of the latest Paris trends in style magazines.

Vancouver Museum
1100 Chestnut Street, Vancouver
<http://www.vanmuseum.bc.ca>

April 11, 2008
Sail the Titanic
Edie Hats

Join Edie Hats for an evening of fine dining and grand fashions as they once again transform their shop into a gateway to another time. Dress to impress your fellow passengers on a journey into the glamour of 1912 first-class travel.



There will be a fashion show of period clothing that would have been worn on the Titanic, courtesy of renowned Vancouver historian Ivan Sayers. Edie Hats will be your host for yet another unforgettable evening, this time on the Titanic.

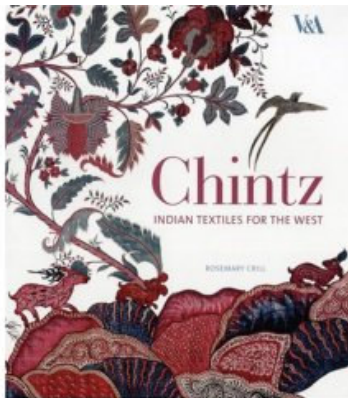
For more info call Edie Hats at 604-683-4280.

Edie Hats
11 – 1666 Johnston Street, Granville Island, Vancouver
<http://www.ediehats.com>

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Chintz: Indian Textiles for the West

Author: Rosemary Crill
Victoria & Albert Museum



In the past hundred years or so, 'chintz' has come to mean any floral printed furnishing fabric. Its origins as a hand-drawn and dyed fabric from India are often forgotten, but it is with these rare earlier chintzes that this book is concerned. It explores in detail the background and development of this beautiful technique and looks at the use of chintzes in Europe from the early 17th century to the mid-19th century, first as bed-curtains and wall-hangings and later for popular men's and women's dress. The V&A's collection, published for the first time in glorious colour and including close-up details, will interest interior designers, textiles students and those involved in fashion.

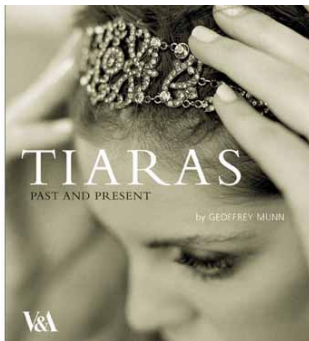
Rosemary Crill is senior curator in the V&A's Asian Department. She is joint editor of *Dress in Detail* from *Around the World*, *Indian Embroidery* and *Indian Ikat Textiles*.

Release date: February 1, 2008
Hardcover
ISBN-13: 978-1851775323
\$55

Tiaras: Past and Present

Author: Geoffrey Mun

Victoria & Albert Museum



Originally published to accompany the popular exhibition at the V&A, and now available for the first time in paperback, *Tiaras* is a sparkling celebration of these beautiful jewels. Featuring diadems, wreaths and head-dresses and ranging from delicate antique pieces to contemporary designs, this jewel of a book is a delight for anyone interested in fashion and precious gems.

Geoffrey Munn traces the history of the tiara, illustrated with striking examples by famous designers such as Fabergé, Cartier, Versace and Westwood. Originally worn by royal and aristocratic ladies as symbols of status and

by brides as symbols of love, tiaras are now enjoying a revival as a fashion statement.

Geoffrey Munn is managing director of Wartski, Jewelers by Appointment to the British Royal Family. He is also a well-known British media personality who frequently appears on television and radio, in particular as the jewelry expert on the British version of *Antiques Roadshow*.

Release date: May 1, 2008

Paperback

ISBN-13: 978-1851775347

£12.95

Have a great new publication to share? Send it to us!

WEBSITES TO VISIT

Victoria & Albert Museum – Fashion, Jewellery & Accessories

The Victoria and Albert Museum has collected dress since its earliest days.



The collection covers fashionable dress from the 17th century to the present day, with the emphasis on progressive and influential designs from the major fashion centres of Europe. The V&A collections also include accessories such as jewellery, gloves and handbags.

Image: Silk satin gown and petticoat, embroidered with chenille thread and ribbon, trimmed with satin, silk bobbin lace, feathers and raffia tassels, lined with silk and linen, hand-sewn. France (probably). 1775-1780.

<http://www.vam.ac.uk/collections/fashion/index.html>

Have a great costume or vintage clothing website to share? Send it to us!

The **Original Costume Museum Society** has been working towards the creation of a museum of historic fashion and fabric arts since 1992. During that time its members have produced exhibitions at numerous museums in the Lower Mainland of British Columbia and on Vancouver Island. Its members have presented historic fashion shows and educational programs about the history of fashion at trade schools, colleges, universities, libraries, theatre groups, museums, and a wide range of charitable organizations. Its collection of historic fashion, ethnic clothing, and flat textiles ranging in date from circa 1800 to 1985 has grown significantly.

Original Costume Museum Society

PO Box 39146
Point Grey RPO
Vancouver, BC V6R 1Z0
604-872-1230 damozel@shaw.ca

SUBSCRIBE/UNSUBSCRIBE

Was this newsletter forwarded to you? You can subscribe to receive the Original Costume Museum Society Newsletter by:

* Sending an email to damozel@shaw.ca with the subject line "subscribe OCMS newsletter" and your name in the body of the message.

To remove your name from this email list, please send an email to damozel@shaw.ca with the subject line "unsubscribe OCMS newsletter" and your name in the body of the message.

You are receiving this email as a service of the Original Costume Museum Society. We do not rent, exchange, sell or give this email list to any other organization. If you have any questions about your privacy, please call 604-599-4181 or email damozel@shaw.ca