

Original Costume Museum Society

Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 3, June 2008

June 13, 2008

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OCMS NEWS

Important Letter to the Members

Dear OCMS Member;

The programs and exhibitions produced by the Original Costume Museum Society are wonderful things. You show your support for them through your membership, but did you know that the delivery of these services is in jeopardy.

The Original Costume Museum Society is operated on a proverbial shoestring, which is not meant to be a fashion pun. Rather, it is a serious statement about how careful the Board of Trustees is with the assets of the society. However, expenses for the care and maintenance of the OCMS collection of historic garments continue to rise. Program presenters must receive honoraria for their special efforts and a room rental fee must be paid for each program. Unfortunately, program fees and membership dues do not cover all of these costs.

Annual fundraising efforts are essential. Last year a raffle was held. Later this year the board will be organizing another fundraising event. Still, funds are needed immediately to meet necessary expenses.

Therefore, this is a plea for financial donations from members of the society. Please support the OCMS with a special donation, so that the Original Costume Museum Society can continue to operate successfully. Donations of \$20.00 or more are eligible for tax receipts, but any size donation would be appreciated.

The goal for this donation drive is \$5,000 so please give generously. Kindly send a cheque to:

Original Costume Museum Society
PO Box 39146
Point Grey RPO
Vancouver, BC V6R 4P1
(make cheques payable to: "Original Costume Museum Society")

Thank you for your past support. Please contribute during this fundraising drive.

Sincerely,

Donna Bryman
President

Board of Trustees of the Original Costume Museum Society

At the annual general meeting of the OCMS on April 28, 2008, the following board was elected:

President: Donna Bryman (2008-2010)
Vice President: (vacant position)
Treasurer: Andrew Nichols (2008-2010)
Secretary: Sandra Scott (2008-2010)
Trustees: Maureen Attwell (2008-2010)
Ann Daskal (2008-2010)
Betty Done (2008-2010)
Wendy Nichols (2008-2009)

Renee Fulsom continues in the second year of her term as a trustee.

At the June board meeting, the following people were appointed to positions on the board until the next annual general meeting:

Peter John Voormeij (Trustee)
James Rogers (Trustee)
Wendy Nichols (Vice-President)

Thanks for Years of Dedicated Work on the OCMS Board

The April AGM saw the retirement of two long-time members of the OCMS board: Laura Offley, who served as Membership Secretary, Newsletter Editor, and past President of the society, and Melanie Talkington, who served for many years as Treasurer. Their advice and hard work will be difficult to replace. Luckily, Laura has agreed to continue to coordinate membership and edit the newsletter (while she cares for newborn daughter Lydia), and Melanie is still coming up with great ideas to help us out (while she cares for her new corset store "Lace Embrace Atelier" located at Main and 16th in Vancouver).

To Laura and Melanie, thank you for your years of board service. Best of luck with your new ventures and adventures. Thanks for continuing to help out.

Reminder – Storage Space Needed

If you know of 500 to 700 square feet of secure, heated, reasonably priced rental space that is available beginning December 1, 2008, please contact President Donna Bryman at 604-224-6769 or dbryman@telus.net

So Much Work to Do – Can You Help?

The entire board is working hard to make the OCMS a great success in many ways:

- A website is being designed
- Fundraising events are being organized
- Garment covers to protect the historic clothing collection are being sewn
- Fall programs are being coordinated

Can you help, too? If you are interested in volunteering to help with fundraising, please call Wendy Nichols at 604-940-5996.

If you are interested in volunteering to sew garment covers and padded hangers (materials and pattern supplied), please call Betty Done at 604-224-9357.

OCMS EVENTS

Sunday, June 15, 2008

OCMS at Car-Free Vancouver Day

Come out to *Car-Free Vancouver Day* on Sunday, June 15 and visit the OCMS booth on Main Street from 4:00 to 10:00 pm. The table will be located on the northeast corner of Main Street and 16th Avenue. Then wander among the other booths and enjoy the festive atmosphere.

<http://carfreevancouver.org/>

OCMS FALL PROGRAMS

Mark your calendars on these dates. Programs so interesting they almost make you wish summer was over...almost!

Sunday, September 21, 2008

Fashion in the Forest: What British Columbians Wore in 1858

Ivan Sayers celebrates the 150th birthday of British Columbia with an illustrated lecture and display of original clothing typically worn by men, women, and children in the 1850s. Newspapers, magazines, and letters brought the colonists news from the world they had left behind, including fashion updates on fabrics, colors, and stylish shapes. Early BC photographers documented the local fashions worn by politicians, business people, brides, and grooms. Photographs of farmers, fishers, loggers, and miners also show a sense of colonial style.

For those thinking of constructing a period reproduction, costumer Patrice Godin will complete the afternoon with suggestions for patterns, fabric choices, and hairstyles that fit an 1858 theme.

Sunday, October 5, 2008

The Costume Designer's Process: From Concept to Camera

As movie and television industries increasingly strive for higher standards of historical accuracy in their productions, the authenticity of period costumes becomes essential. The creative challenges of developing realistic period fashion, be it glamorous or everyday or even fantastical, have led to a growing interest in theatrical costuming as a career.

Jane Stills, costume designer and Chair of the School of Motion Picture Arts at Capilano University, will discuss training, options, and opportunities in costuming for stage and screen. Illustrating her presentation will be a display of actual wardrobe pieces worn by movie and television personalities.

Sunday, November 2, 2008

1960s Fashion from the Salon to the Street: Paris, London, San Francisco

In the 1960s, there were three distinct "looks" in women's fashion. The first, from 1960 to 1963, was dominated by the bouffant Parisian styles of the late 1950s. The second was the mod/mini style popularized by Carnaby Street in London. The final style was the counter-culture, hippy wardrobe of San Francisco.

Join Ivan Sayers as he discusses 1960s fashion and fashion icons, like Jacqueline Kennedy, Audrey Hepburn, and Twiggy, while showing original garments from the Original Costume Museum Society's collection, including garments by Dior, Balenciaga, Heim, Givenchy, Cardin,

Desses, Patou, Connolly, and Mary Quant. Vancouver designers, such as Lore Maria Wiener, Vera Ramsey, and Evelyn Roth will be represented as well.

All programs 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

EVENTS AROUND TOWN

June 15, 2008

Grand Opening Corset Soirée

Lace Embrace Atelier Inc.

Lace Embrace Atelier Inc. is pleased to announce the grand opening of its first retail location at 219 East 16th Avenue, located in historic Mount Pleasant of Uptown Vancouver.



The day will begin at noon with live lingerie window models wearing the latest styles of Lace Embrace corsets and lingerie. A tantalizing array of erotic images and scenery will entice the senses and titillate the soul.

Join the celebrations with an impromptu Corset Soirée. Come early and prepare your outfit with our wide range of finery. Lace Embrace Atelier are specialized corset makers, recreating corsets and lingerie of a by-gone era. Would you like to dress as Scarlett O'Hara, a pin-up beauty or a modern diva?

They have it all, from corsets, to sexy sequined lingerie, costumes, stockings, petticoats and so much more.

All day performances of live music, dancing and gaiety will take place from 4-10pm. The lineup includes Cancan dancers, burlesque performances and the ever-passionate tango to complete the evening. These festivities are in collaboration with Car-Free Day. Main Street will be closed to traffic between 12th and 16th Avenue for a street party in the neighborhood from 4-10pm.

11:00 am – 10:00 pm
Lace Embrace Atelier
219 East 16th Avenue, Vancouver
604-737-1119
www.laceembrace.com

July 1 – September 2008

Historic Travel Clothing Exhibition

Cross the Lions Gate Bridge, cross the Iron Workers Memorial Bridge, or take a ride on the Seabus. Visit the railway station by the waterfront in North Vancouver between July 1 and September 2008 and see a display of historic travel clothing organized by Ivan Sayers.

It would benefit the OCMS to have volunteers at the exhibit occasionally to distribute promotional material and to encourage membership in the OCMS. Anyone wishing to volunteer please call Donna Bryman at 604-224-6769 or email dbryman@telus.net

North Vancouver Museum and Archives
Pacific Great Eastern Railway Station
Foot of Lonsdale Avenue, North Vancouver
Free admission
604-990-3700
<http://www.district.north-van.bc.ca/nvma/>

July 15, 2008

Tailor Made wins in LA and Repeat Air Date

"Tailor Made: Chinatown's Last Tailors" has won the prestigious Golden Reel Award for Best Short Film at the 2008 Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival.

Directed by Calgary director Leonard Lee and Vancouver filmmaker Marsha Newbery, "Tailor Made" follows 80-something brothers Bill & Jack Wong for one year as they face the reality that they're getting too old to run the little tailor shop their father opened in 1913...and letting go isn't easy. With tailoring being a dying trade, finding someone to take over the family business has proved impossible, but Bill refuses to give up. From taking on a fashion journalist as an apprentice, to selling the shop to a young hotshot corporate tailor, Bill becomes especially determined and pulls out all the stops.

Catch "Tailor Made" on The Lens on Tuesday July 15th at 7pm PT (10pm ET), 10pm PT (1am ET) and 1am PT (4am ET) on CBC Newsworld.

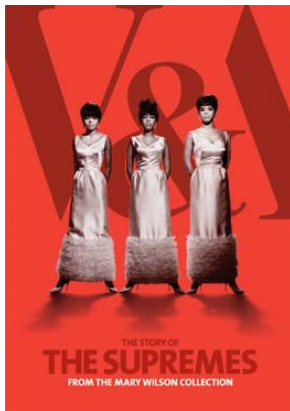
http://www.cbc.ca/thelens/program_120208.html

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

May 13 – October 19, 2008

The Story of the Supremes from the Mary Wilson Collection

Victoria & Albert Museum, London, UK



The performance costumes of The Supremes, one of the most successful groups of all time, are on display at the V&A this summer. On show are over fifty outfits that chart the changing image of the group, from their dresses in the early days as The Primettes, to the glamorous Hollywood designs worn at the height of their fame.

The display includes costumes worn by the original Supremes - Mary Wilson, Diana Ross and Florence Ballard, as well as the 70s Supremes. It examines how the group was carefully styled by Berry Gordy and his Motown associates to appeal to the widest possible audience.

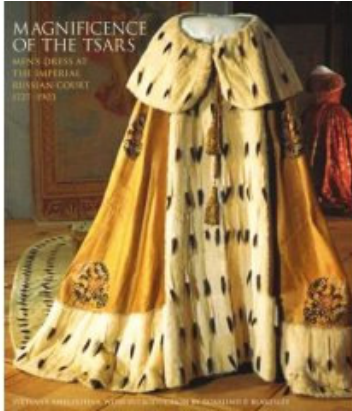
http://www.vam.ac.uk/collections/fashion/exhibition_supremes/index.html

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Magnificence of the Tsars: Men's Dress at the Imperial Russian Court 1727-1903

Authors: Svetlana Amelekhina and Rosalind Polly Blakesley

Publisher: Victoria & Albert Museum



With specially commissioned photographs of never-before-seen clothing, *Magnificence of the Tsars* celebrates the majesty of masculine uniform in Russia at its finest. The luxurious, opulent lifestyles enjoyed by the Russian tsars, their families, and courts were among the world's most extravagant for nearly two centuries, continue to be a source of endless fascination today. In this exquisitely illustrated collection, the grandeur of Imperial Russia is displayed in full. Starting in the 1730s with exquisitely embroidered coats and elaborately patterned silks from the wardrobe of Tsar Peter II these resplendent garments document a unique dialogue between military uniform, court dress, European fashion, and traditional Russian dress.

Svetlana Amelekhina is Curator of Imperial Dress at the Kremlin. Rosalind Polly Blakesley is a Fellow of Pembroke College and Senior Lecturer in the History of Art at the University of Cambridge. A specialist in Russian art, she has worked extensively in Russia, and curated exhibitions in London, Moscow and Washington, DC.

Release date: October 8, 2008

Hardcover

ISBN-13: 978-1851775507

\$60

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

WEBSITES TO VISIT

Create a Tartan

Here is a fun web page brought to you once again by the Victoria & Albert Museum – creating a tartan. This web-based activity was created during the 2004 Vivienne Westwood exhibition.

Patterned woollen cloth used for kilts has been popular in Scotland for hundreds of year. Patterns were standardised during the 1800s when factory made tartans became popular. Certain patterns are traditionally associated with clans, although the history of the patterns is quite complex.

Tartan patterns are created by the use of different coloured wool for the warp (the vertical threads on a loom) and the weft, which goes left to right in the weaving.

http://www.vam.ac.uk/vastatic/microsites/1231_vivienne_westwood/tartan.html

Cocoon – Seeing Comes Before Words: Textile Lexicon

A lexicon of rug and textile terms with emphasis on Central Asian textiles.



Cocoon was established in 1996 by Seref Ozen and Mustafa Gokhan Demir. Located in the historic Arasta Bazaar, in the shadows of the Blue Mosque of the Sultan Ahmet district of Istanbul, Cocoon specializes in rugs, flatweaves and textiles from Central Asia as well as Persia and Anatolia.

Seref Ozen is considered to be one of the foremost authorities in the world on Central Asian textiles and Cocoon has become synonymous with quality service among collectors around the world.

<http://www.cocoontr.com/dictionary.php>

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

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