



Cast Courts Conference

Celebrating Reproductions: Past, Present and Future

17-19 January 2019, 10.00-17.00

Lydia and Manfred Gorvy Lecture Theatre, Hochhauser Auditorium, V&A

Supported by the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art

The V&A has collected copies in plaster, electrotype and photography since its inception. To celebrate the re-opening of the Cast Courts in November 2018 after extensive renovations, we will discuss the functions and fates of historic copies. Join experts and practitioners to discuss the ongoing value and interest in copying in the digital age and explore how research continues to further our understanding of the material and conservation of plaster casts and electrotypes.

PROGRAMME

Thursday 17th January – The Lydia and Manfred Gorvy Lecture Theatre

10.00 **Registration and coffee**

10.30 **INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME**
Dr. Tristram Hunt
Director, Victoria and Albert Museum

10.40 **SESSION 1: Historic Cast Collections: Their Uses and Reception**
Chair: Dr. Holly (formerly Marjorie) Trusted
Honorary Senior Research Fellow, Lead Curator, Cast Courts, V&A

10.45 **KEYNOTE:** *Three-Dimensional Memory. Plaster Casts and Evolving Museum Practice*
Prof. Dr. Julien Chapuis, Museum Director, Sculpture Collection and Museum of Byzantine Art, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin

11.15 *Celebrating plaster casts in Berlin. The Staatliche Museen's Gipsformerei and its 200th anniversary exhibition*
Dr. Veronika Tocha
Research Associate and Curator at the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin

11.35 Discussion

11.55 *Chair:* Dr. Michael Waldron
Assistant Curator of Collections & Special Projects, Crawford Art Gallery, Cork

12.00 *A museum in a portfolio: Bedford Lemere's photographic albums of casts in the Royal Architectural Museum*
Ann Compton
Honorary Research Fellow, University of Glasgow, Glasgow

- 12.20 *Inside Domenico Brucciani's Galleria delle Belle Arti, 1864-1880*
Dr. Rebecca Wade
Assistant Curator (Sculpture) Leeds Museums and Galleries, Leeds
- 12.40 Discussion
- 13.00 LUNCH BREAK**
- You might like to take this opportunity to visit the Cast Courts. There will be Conservators and Curators in the galleries to answer questions.*
- 14.00 SESSION 2: The Presentation of European Cast Collections in the 19th and 20th Centuries.**
Chair: Dr. Eckart Marchand
Assistant Archivist at the International Research Project Bilderfahrzeuge, The Warburg Institute, London
- 14.05 *The Berlin Cast of the Sanchi Gate – its Origin, Significance and Future Perspectives*
Martina Stoye
Curator for South and Southeast Asia, Museum of Asian Art Collection South, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin
- 14.25 *The Purpose of Casts in the Architectural Practice of Sir John Soane*
Helen Dorey, MBE
Deputy Director and Inspectress, Sir John Soane Museum, London
- 14.45 Discussion
- 15.00 Refreshment break**
- 15.20** *Chair:* Helen Valentine
Senior Curator at Royal Academy of Arts, London
- 15.25 *Exceptional Generosity: The Dispersal of the Cast Collection of the Metropolitan Museum*
Prof. Martha Dunkelman
Professor Emerita at Canisius College, Buffalo, New York
- 15.45 *America's Last Great Cast Collection (Carnegie Museum)*
Alyssum Skeie
Program Manager, Heinz Architectural Center, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh
- 16.05 Discussion
- 16.20 End of Day**
Angus Patterson
Senior Curator, V&A / Lead Curator of the Cast Courts Central Gallery

10.00 **Registration and coffee**

10.10 **INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME**

Dr. Antonia Bostrom
Director of Collections, Victoria and Albert Museum

10.15 **SESSION 1: Electrotypes**

Chair: Dr. Olivia Horsfall Turner
Senior Curator of Designs, V&A

10.20 *'An experimental arrangement': The Origins of the V&A's electrotype collection*

Dr. Alistair Grant
Research Fellow, V&A / Teaching Fellow in Art History, University of Sussex

10.40 *'Ticklish Work.' The V&A's electrotyping mission to Russia, 1880-1881*

Angus Patterson
Senior Curator, V&A / Lead Curator of the Cast Courts Central Gallery

11.00 Discussion

11.15 **Refreshments**

11.35 *Chair:* Dr. Sally Foster
Lecturer in Heritage and Conservation, University of Stirling, Stirling

11.40 *Art, Culture and Technology: The Late Nineteenth-Century Market for Facsimiles of Irish Jewellery and Metalwork*

Dr. Tara Kelly
Independent Art/Design Historian

12.00 *'For General Purposes of Public Instruction': The sale of reproductions at the South Kensington Museum sales rooms*

Dr. Jamie Larkin
Assistant Professor of Creative and Cultural Industries

12.20 Discussion

12.40 **LUNCH BREAK**

You might like to take this opportunity to visit the Cast Courts. There will be Conservators and Curators in the galleries to answer questions.

14.00 **SESSION 2: The Future of Reproductions in the Digital Age**

Chair: Al Gury, MFA
Chair of the Paintings Department, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Pennsylvania

14.05 *Hacking the museum: Appropriation, Reproduction and Digital Culture*

Dr. Oonagh Murphy

Lecturer in Arts Management, Institute for Creative and Cultural Entrepreneurship,
Goldsmiths, University of London

- 14.25 *Scan the World*
Jonathan Beck
Founder, Scan the World
- 14.45 Discussion
- 15.00 Refreshments**
- 15.20 *Chair:* Brendan Cormier
Senior Curator of Design, V&A
- 15.25 *Two Reproductions one Century Apart: Restoring the Minbar of Mamluk Sultan Husam al-Din Lajin*
Omnyia Abdel Barr
Conservation Architect, Egyptian Heritage Rescue Foundation
- 15.45 *Mould Store: Exploring the Preservation of the former Spode Factory's Post-Industrial Heritage through Digital Technologies*
Prof. Neil Brownsword, Professor of Ceramics, Staffordshire University / University of Bergen
Prof. Tim Weyrich, Professor of Visual Computing, University College London
Dr. Karina Rodríguez Echavarría, Principal Lecturer, University of Brighton
- 16.05 Discussion
- 16.20 End of Day**
Angus Patterson
Senior Curator, V&A / Lead Curator of the Cast Courts Central Gallery

Saturday 19th January – Hochhauser Auditorium, Sackler Centre

- 10.00 Registration and coffee**
- 10.30 INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME**
Dr. Antonia Bostrom
Director, of Collections, Victoria and Albert Museum
- 10.40 SESSION 1: The Plaster Cast: Historic Materials and Techniques**
Chair: Prof. Bill Sherman, Director of the Warburg Institute
- 10.45
19th Century Innovations in the conservation of Plaster Casts
Dr. Emma Payne
Leverhulme Early Career Fellow, Department of Classics, Kings College London
- 11.00 *200 Years historical plaster mould techniques in the Gipsformerei*
Farhad Burg

Practitioner Gipsformerei, Berlin

11.15 *Restoration of Brivio monument, Brera Academy, Milan*
Flavia Berizzi
Conservation Dept of Brera Academy of Fine Arts, Milan

11.30 Discussion

11.50 SESSION 2: The Plaster Cast: Structural Issues

Chair: John Stewart
Senior Architectural Conservator at Historic England

11.55 *3D non-destructive mobile investigation of immobile art objects with Computed X-ray Tomography (mobile CT)*
Aurelia Badde, Private Conservator, Berlin
Dr. Illerhaus, BAM (Federal Institute for Materials Testing) Berlin

12.10 *Cathodic Treatment to Six Stucco Muses in the Great Hall of Seaton Delaval, National Trust Property*
Graciela Ainsworth
Director, Graciela Ainsworth Sculpture Conservation

12.25 *The Plaster Casts Collection at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts of San Fernando: What is hidden?*
Ángeles Solís Parra
Conservator, The Real Academia de Bellas Artes de San Fernando, Madrid, Spain

12.40 Discussion

13.00 Lunch Break

14.00 *Presentations in the Cast Courts of recent conservation*
The V&A Conservation Team

15.45 Refreshments

16.05 SESSION 3: The Plaster Cast: Damaged Casts and Treatments

Chair: Jennifer Dinsmore
Lecturer City and Guilds of Art School, London

16.10 *The Plaster Casts of the Glasgow School of Art: Damage, Conservation and Reproduction*
Dr. Thea Stevens
Lecturer and Academic Coordinator, The Glasgow School of Art

16.25 *The 'Fasting Buddha' From The Museo Indiano di Bologna: restoration project and technique studies – observations about the Gandhāra plaster casts.*
Prof. Augusto Giuffredi
Professor of Stone and Plaster restoration, Accademia di Belle Arti di Bologna

- 16.40 *The plaster cast collection of the National Museum of Antiquities, Leiden: conservation of an iconic collection of reproductions*
Dr. Renske Dooijes
Conservator of Ceramic, Glass and Stone, Rijksmuseum van Oudheden
- 16.55 Discussion
- 17.15 End of Day**
Charlotte Hubbard
Head of Sculpture Conservation, V&A
- 17.20 End of Conference**

The programme is subject to change without warning.