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

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<tr>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>Registration and coffee</td>
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<td>10.30</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME</td>
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<td>Dr. Tristram Hunt</td>
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<td>Director, Victoria and Albert Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.40</td>
<td>SESSION 1: Historic Cast Collections: Their Uses and Reception</td>
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<td>Chair: Dr. Holly (formerly Marjorie) Trusted</td>
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<td>Honorary Senior Research Fellow, Lead Curator, Cast Courts, V&amp;A</td>
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<td>10.45</td>
<td>KEYNOTE: Three-Dimensional Memory. Plaster Casts and Evolving Museum Practice</td>
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<td>Prof. Dr. Julien Chapuis, Museum Director, Sculpture Collection and Museum of Byzantine Art, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin</td>
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<td>11.15</td>
<td>Celebrating plaster casts in Berlin. The Staatliche Museen’s Gipsformerei and its 200th anniversary exhibition</td>
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<td>Dr. Veronika Tocha</td>
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<td>Research Associate and Curator at the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin</td>
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<td>11.35</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<td>11.55</td>
<td>Chair: Dr. Michael Waldron</td>
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<td>Assistant Curator of Collections &amp; Special Projects, Crawford Art Gallery, Cork</td>
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<td>12.00</td>
<td>A museum in a portfolio: Bedford Lemere’s photographic albums of casts in the Royal Architectural Museum</td>
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<td>Ann Compton</td>
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<td>Honorary Research Fellow, University of Glasgow, Glasgow</td>
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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

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**Friday 18th January – The Lydia and Manfred Gorvy Lecture Theatre**
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 electrote type 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

Hacking the museum: Appropriation, Reproduction and Digital Culture

14.05  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 Rodrígues Echavarria, 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

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**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

**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**

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

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

16.05 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

16.10 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

16.25 Discussion
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.