

Dressing The Early Modern Network Conference 2019

Dress under the Microscope: Contributions of Science and Technology to the Study of Early Modern Dress



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Thursday and Friday 12-13 September 2019, in collaboration with the TTT Network, CHAM - FCSH/NOVA, at the National Museum of Theatre and Dance, Lisbon, Portugal

The study of dress in the early modern period is an interdisciplinary field that depends not only on the contributions of historical, art historical and conservation investigations, but also benefits from the latest scientific developments. The field of digital humanities has opened up vast possibilities of data analysis, and scientific research contributes to our knowledge and understanding of the materiality and construction of garments. The application of analytical techniques for dyes, metal threads and fibres are often required in order to date textiles, attribute accurate origins and properly value specific textiles and the materials of which they were made. The analysis of weaving and embroidery techniques is also frequently undertaken in order to reconstruct faded motifs and colours. Therefore, the contribution of scientific analysis as an added field in 'the interdisciplinary' mix is indispensable for creating a complete picture of how a garment, hat or shoe was created. It also aids in detecting old restorations, interventions or later additions and repairs to textiles and garments. Furthermore, historical reproductions through 3D and 4D digital models provide a fresh perspective to this ever-expanding field.

The conference aims to generate a discussion around specific examples of how science and technology complement other approaches in the interdisciplinary field of early modern dress. Whether looking at innovative conservation treatments, cutting edge technological reconstructions, the digitisation of various sources or optical image recognition, science and technology have helped us to understand and value historical garments and textiles.



DAY 1 - THURSDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

10:00 Registration

10:00-10:30 Morning Coffee and Tea

10:30-11:00 Welcome

11:00-12:30 Session 1: When Was it Made and What Is it Made of

Chair: Suzan Meijer (Rijksmuseum Amsterdam)

11:00-11:20 *Speed Dating or Slow Dating? The Challenges of Interdisciplinary Analysis of Early Modern Materials*

Jane Anne Malcolm-Davies (Centre for Textile Research, University of Copenhagen & The Tudor Tailor)

11:20-11:40 *Examination of Metal Thread for Comparison of 16th-Century Bobbin Made Gold and Silver Borders*

Lena Dahrén (Uppsala University)

11:40-12:00 *Identifying Plant Fibre Finds from Hailuoto, Northern Ostrobothnia, Finland*

Jenni A. Suomela (University of Helsinki)

12:00-12:30 Discussion

12:30-14:00 Lunch break

14:00-15:30 Session 2: How it Was Made

Chair: Maarten van Bommel (University of Amsterdam)

14:00-14:20 *Characterization of an 18th-Century Robe à la française from the Gemeentemuseum Costume Collection in The Hague (the Netherlands)*

Cesar Rodriguez Salinas (Gemeentemuseum Den Haag)

14:20-14:40 *Stitching History Together: Using Scientific Methods and Citizen Science to Understand Early Modern Stockings*

Piia Lempiäinen (Aalto University)

14:40-15:00 *Proceeding Precious Pearls: Using Material Science and Technical Studies on 17th-Century Objects Embroidered with Pearls*

Marjolein Koek (Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam)

15:00-15:30 Discussion

15:30-16:00 Coffee and Tea Break

16:00-17:30 Session 3: What it Looked Like

Chair: Suzan Meijer (Rijksmuseum Amsterdam)

16:00-16:20 *Gold and Silver Discovered: Two Archaeological 17th-Century Textile Finds Adorned With Metal Threads Revealed by EDX- analysis and X-radiography*

Maj Ringgaard (Centre for Textile Research, University of Copenhagen)

16:20-16:40 *'Seeing' What it Was Like without Touching: A Replica Approach for Holistic Research*

Annelena de Groot (independent)

16:40-17:00 *Applying Material Culture to the Study of an Eighteenth-century New Hispanic Court Dress as Means for Conservation*

Laura G. García Vedrenne (Fine Arts Museum San Francisco)

17:00-17:30 Discussion

DAY 2 - FRIDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

10:00-11:30 Session 4: Digital Data Analysis

Chair: Jessica Hallett (CHAM-Centro de Humanidades)

10:00-10:20 *The CarpetACT Project: A Non-Invasive Automatic Approach for Unprecedented Interpretations about The Construction of Islamic Carpets*

Ana Filipa Serrano (Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands)

10:20-10:40 *Using Multimedia Data Programs for Detailed Analysis of Early Modern Dress*

Cecilia Aneer (Textile Studies, Department of Art History, Uppsala University)

10:40-11:00 *Re-Dressing the Evidence: A Database of Henrietta Maria's Clothing Accounts*

Erin Griffey (University of Auckland)

11:00-11:30 Discussion

11:30-14:00 Lunch Break and Museum Tour/Visit

14:00-15:30 Session 5: In Search of Historical Evidence

Chair: Maarten van Bommel (University of Amsterdam)

14:00-14:20 *Newspanish Red: Antonio Alzate and the First Scientific Observations of Grana Cochinilla*

Andreia Martins Torres (CHAM-Centro de Humanidades)

14:20-14:40 *A Black Powdered Enigma: Soiling as Historical Evidence Depicted on a British Military Jacket from the Late 18th Century*

Eva Maria Catic (Centre for Textile Conservation, University of Glasgow)

14:40-15:00 *From Microscope to Archive and Back Again: How Microscopes, Social Media, and Collaboration Can Lead to New Findings in Dress History*

Sophie Pitman (Aalto University)

15:00-15:30 Discussion

15:30-15:45 Closing Remarks

15.45-17:30 Farewell Coffee and Tea

Organisation

Jola Pellumbi and Sara van Dijk (Dressing the Early Modern Network)

We would like to thank TTT network, CHAM and the National Museum of Theatre and Dance & National Museum of Costume for hosting this event and for their collaboration with various aspects of organising. With special thanks to Ana Serrano, Maria João Ferreira, Ana Claro, Raquel Santos, Andreia Martins Torres.