

What role has luxury production played in developing innovative technologies, and conversely, in preserving artisanal skills that would otherwise disappear? How are luxury makers trained, and what narratives can be told about their professional identity, work habits, and traditions? What is the implication of luxury's dependence upon high-value raw materials such as gemstones, fur, and precious metals? What organizational structures have existed to support luxury production, and how do these relate to constructions of nationhood?

All of these questions can be applied across a wide historical span, but in the contemporary framework new issues arise – concerning the digital, new approaches to value creation, the increasing interpenetration of the luxury sector with previously distinct disciplines like fine art and industrial design, and the way that 'experience' itself has become a luxury.

We will attempt a synthetic workshop in which historical and contemporary specialists can investigate these issues in a collaborative and comparative way.

The Network

The Leverhulme International Network 'Luxury & the Manipulation of Desire' aims to connect the long history of luxury with the importance that luxury has assumed in contemporary society. It does so by fostering dialogue between academics and curators based in partner institutions and experts, journalists and business people working in the luxury sector internationally. The Network is part of the research activities of the Global History and Culture Centre at Warwick University.

Network Partners

Giorgio Riello – Network Co-director
University of Warwick

Rosa Salzberg – Network Co-director
University of Warwick

Glenn Adamson
Victoria and Albert Museum

Catherine Kovesi
University of Melbourne

Maria Giuseppina Muzzarelli
University of Bologna

Peter McNeil
University of Stockholm and UTS Sydney

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THE LUXURY NETWORK

The Production of Luxury: Skills, Materials, and Networks

V&A, London, 4-5 July 2013



Logos

Thursday 4 July 2013

10.00 – 10.30 (Seminar Room A)

Welcome:

Glenn Adamson, V&A

Outline of network objectives:

Giorgio Riello, University of Warwick

10.30 – 12.00

Session 1: Luxury and Exclusivity

Chair: **Rosa Salzberg**,
University of Warwick

Speakers:

Lisa Skogh, University of Stockholm,
'Amateurship, Patronage and the
Consort. Luxury and Knowledge in the
Early Modern German Princely Context'

Neil Taylor, 'The Ancien Régime Dies
Hard in England': The Place of Luxury in
the People's War'

Gertrud Lehnert, University of Potsdam,
'Producing Exclusivity: Fortuny, Etro and
Remembrance of Things Past'.

12.00 - 12.45

Object Session

Luxury for the Lower Sorts

Angela McShane and
Angus Patterson, V&A

12.45 – 14.00

Lunch

14.00 – 14.30

Object session

Luxury and Contemporary Design

Naomi Filmer and **Oliver Ruuger**,
London

14.30 – 16.00

Session 2: Luxury and Materiality

Chair: **Marta Ajmar**, V&A

Speakers:

Richard Checketts, University of Leeds,
'The Value of Broken Glass'

Marlise Rijks, Ghent University and the
Max Planck Institute for the History of
Science, Berlin, 'Collections and Coral:
Trading and Crafting Precious Metals,
Stones, and Naturalia in Seventeenth-
Century Antwerp'

Hannah Greig, University of York, 'What
was a Duchess without Diamonds?
Jewellery and Identity in Eighteenth-
Century London'.

16.00 – 16.30

Closing Comments Day One

Marcia Pointon, London

16.30

Site visit – To West End and Bond Street
producers/retailers
(group divides in two)

19:00

Dinner, Malabar Junction Restaurant
107 Great Russell St, London, WC1B 3NA

Friday 5 July 2013

09.30 – 10.45

Please Report at Secretariat Gate at 9.20

Exhibition tour of 'Treasures of the Royal
Courts: Tudors, Stuarts and Russian Tsars'
with **Angus Patterson** and **Frances
Parton**, V&A

11.00 – 12.45

Session 3: Luxury, Artisans and Systems of Production

Chair:

Giorgio Riello, University of Warwick

Speakers:

Luca Mola, European University Institute,
'Luxury Goods and Innovation in
Renaissance Italy: A Proposal for Future
Research'

Catharine Rossi, Kingston University,
'Production, Place and Politics:
Designing Luxury in Italy from Post-War
to the Present'

Ulrich Lehmann, University of the
Creative Arts, 'Luxury and
Contemporary Art'.

12.45 – 14.00

Lunch

14.00 – 14.45

(Seminar Room One, Sackler Centre)

Object Session

Italian Postwar Fashion

Sonnet Stanfill and **Lucia Savi**, V&A

15.00 – 15.45

Object Session

Reconstructing Historical Garments

Ulinka Rublack, University of Cambridge
and **Jenny Tiramani**, The School of
Historical Dress

15.45 – 16.15

Tea

16.15 – 17.30 (Seminar Room 3)

Keynote Lecture:

Daljit Singh, Happiness,
'The Department of Luxury'

Respondent:

Lynda Relph-Knight,
Design writer and consultant

17.30 – 18.30

Concluding discussion,
chaired by **Glenn Adamson**