

**THE ARTS
& CRAFTS
MESSENGER**

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
COLORADO ARTS & CRAFTS SOCIETY

www.colorarts-crafts.org

VOLUME 25, NO. 1, WINTER 2023

CACS 
Winter
Symposium

SATURDAY,
JANUARY 21ST, 2023, 4PM
Zoom Conference

We will hold our
CACs Winter Symposium and annual meeting
virtually again this year via Zoom.
Login info on page 11.

MINDING THE GAP:

*Art and Craft, Architecture and
Decorative Art at the
Victorian Society's Summer Schools*

ABOUT OUR SPEAKER

For nearly 12 years (until fall 2015), Anne Mallek was the curator at The Gamble House in Pasadena, one of the finest architectural examples of the American Arts & Crafts Movement. Previously, she worked at The Huntington Library, where she was responsible for cataloging and researching their extensive collection of William Morris and Morris & Company material. In 2008, Anne served as co-curator of the national traveling exhibition, A "New and Native" Beauty: The Art and Craft of Greene & Greene, and was co-editor and contributing author of the accompanying publication. Anne holds a BA in English Language and Literature from the University of Oxford in England, and an MA in 19th century British art from the Courtauld Institute of Art,

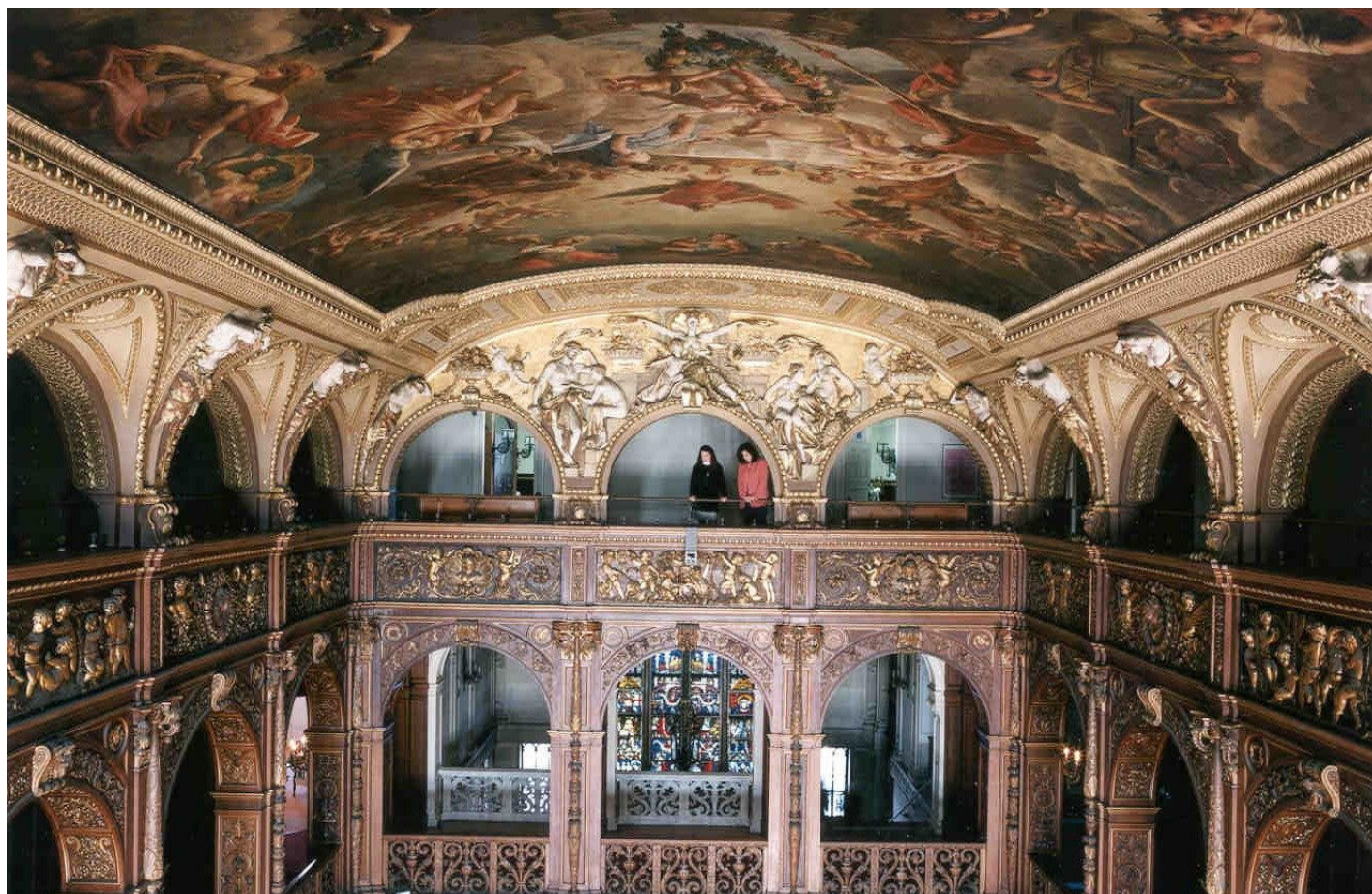


Anne Mallek

London. Since 2016, Anne has served as the Summer Schools Administrator for the Victorian Society in America, and more recently has organized and hosted their online lecture series. She is an alumna of both the Newport (2009) and London (2002) Summer Schools.

(continued on next page)

Victorian (cont.)



A Personal Perspective

By Cynthia Shaw

In June of 2005, I spent a glorious and gratifying 10 days in and around Rhode Island attending the Victorian Society's Newport Summer School. Housed in the charming Ochre Lodge next door to The Breakers (the Vanderbilt family's legendary mansion), and only a short walk from the breathtaking Cliff Walk overlooking the Atlantic, I befriended a group of other aficionados from all over the country. And, I became re-acquainted with Richard Guy Wilson, the Newport program's long-time director...and my former professor and chair of the Architectural History department at the University of Virginia, where I obtained a master's degree in architectural history and historic preservation in 1985 (and first fell under the spell of the Arts and Crafts movement). Each day we either enjoyed a lecture inside our classroom on the

Newport Summer School @ Ochre Court (Newport, RI)

campus of Salve Regina University, walked all over Newport, or took field trips to places like Providence, RI (Fleur-de-Lis Art Club, 1885 by Sydney Burleigh) or Easton, MA (Ames Gate Lodge, 1880-81 by H. H. Richardson).

Eight years later, I decided it was time to enroll in the Society's London Summer School, headed up by decorative arts expert Ian Cox. Here, over the course of two weeks, my tireless companions and I enjoyed daily excursions from our high-rise hotel all over the city (touring such landmarks as Westminster Palace, St. Pancras Hotel, the Royal Courts of Justice and All Saints Margaret Street). Then there were the fabulous forays into the beautiful English countryside (with several days spent in the Midlands and the West Country, plus Liverpool and Manchester). And let's not forget Liberty's amazing Tudor-Revival department

(continued on next page)

Victorian (cont.)



Newport Summer School @ Greenvale Farm (Portsmouth, RI)

store and all the iconic British pubs! Once again, I was beside myself with joy as I visited so many of the architectural wonders I had only seen in photographs and slides (though I had been to London three times before, my fondest memory of my first visit at age 12 is still the time I plucked grass off the lawn of John Lennon's house)!

In sum, the education and enlightenment experiences offered by the Victorian Society are enough to turn participants into lifelong erudite. And the camaraderie that develops during these intense immersions is everlasting. Don't deprive yourself of such a rare and unique opportunity!



Chicago Summer School @ Robie House



Chicago Summer School @ the Auditorium Theatre

Victorian (cont.)

ABOUT VSA

The Society is the only national non-profit organization committed to historic preservation, protection, understanding, education, and enjoyment of our nineteenth and early twentieth century heritage.

The Victorian Society in America was founded in 1966 as a sister organization to the Victorian Society in the U.K., by such legends of historic preservation as Brendan Gill, Henry-Russell Hitchcock, and Margot Gayle. So outraged were they by the 1964 destruction of New York's magnificent Pennsylvania Station [McKim, Mead, & White, 1910] that they formed the Society to ensure that other important structures did not fall to the wrecker's ball.

Since then, VSA has fulfilled its mission through publications, symposia, architectural tours, and its famous Summer Schools in Newport, Rhode Island, Chicago, Illinois, and London, England, and has made tremendous contributions to the preservation of many historic buildings. Indeed, Old House Journal included the founding of the Victorian Society as one of the 25 most significant milestones in American preservation.

There are 12 registered Chapters of the Society around the country hosting a wide range of local events and lectures. There is also an active Summer Schools Alumni Association that sponsors exceptional architectural tours all over the world. For more information, visit: victoriansociety.org/summer/schools

UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 21, 2023

CACS Annual Winter Symposium

Guest Speaker Anne Mallek

"Arts and Crafts Architecture and Decorative Arts at the Victorian Society's Summer Schools"

4pm Via Zoom

FEBRUARY 16, 2023

The Craftsman Reception

Grove Park Inn's Skyline Room, Asheville, NC

arts-craftsconference.com

FEBRUARY 17-19, 2023

National Arts & Crafts Conference

Grove Park Inn, Asheville, NC

arts-craftsconference.com

APRIL 6, 2023

Artist Lecture Series - Trinidad State College

"An Artist's Journey: Revitalizing Art Nouveau in the American West" by Julie Leidel

5:30 - 6:30pm TSC Campus Trinidad, CO

APRIL 7, 2023

First Friday Opening Reception:

Solo Exhibition of Julie Leidel

Kuehl Fine Art Gallery + A.R. Mitchel Museum of Western Art

150 E. Main St. Trinidad, CO 81082

On exhibit April 7-30, 2023

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

For The 36th National Arts and Crafts Conference

By Kate Nixon



The National Arts and Crafts Conference at the Grove Park Inn in Asheville, North Carolina

One annual tradition that Arts and Crafts enthusiasts and collectors from around the country can look forward to is the ability to get together with longtime friends and talk about what they collect. At the National Arts and Crafts Conference at the Grove Park Inn, the Small Group Discussion sessions are offered as a chance for a focused discussion on a given topic. From ceramics to furniture identification to textiles to lighting, there are a number of topics to choose from during the annual weekend event in Asheville. For the 2023 conference, the topics have now been posted in their current order at Arts-CraftsConference.com - favorite sessions for a wide variety of collectors have returned in addition to new subjects by longtime conference attendees and experts in their field.

These beloved discussion sessions were created out of a need for conference attendees to ask questions of a speaker and discuss a topic given as a seminar; these hour-long group chats turned into an annual tradition that have continued for 35 years – soon to be 36. As these sessions do not require any registration and allow the freedom for attendees to come and go as you please, the sessions take place all over the hotel in meeting rooms, next to the Presidential Lounge, in the heritage ballroom and even in the coziest of spots within the hotel. Our discussion group leaders are all volunteers, most of whom continue to come back year after year in the hopes of spurring a great discussion with returning attendees and those new to the conference. Below is the conference list of small group discussions.

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SMALL GROUP (cont.)

POTTERY AND CERAMICS

An Evolution of Ceramic Beauty:
Which Era of American Art Pottery is Your Favorite?
with Christine Boone and Patti Bourgeois of the
AAPA.

The Women of Weller Pottery
with Linda Carrigan & Jean Oberkirsch

ARTS & CRAFTS FURNITURE

Spotting Furniture Fakes, Forgeries & Repairs
with N. Gordon Gray.

New Building My Own Arts & Crafts Furniture:
Where Do I Start?
with Stewart Crick (Sunday)

LIGHTING

Collecting the Wooden Lamps of the Arts & Crafts
Movement
with Jill-Thomas Clark

ART & PRINTS

Prints & More: Finding the "Art" in Arts & Crafts
with Steve Thomas.
Collecting the Artists and Designers of the Roycroft:
Hunter, Denslow, Fournier, McClandish and others
with Robert Rust

BOOK CLUB DISCUSSIONS

Ragtime by E.L. Doctorow
with Pat Bartinique
The Octopus: A Story of California by Frank Norris
with Pat Bartinique

HOME RENOVATION & ARCHITECTURE

Remuddling, Remodeling or Restoration?
with Norman Blankenship.
Live and Learn: Sharing Mistakes and Missteps in
Renovation
with Patricia Poore and Brian Coleman of Arts &
Crafts Homes
A Restoration Update for the Gustav Stickley House
with Amy Shook-Perez.

DESIGN, STYLE & PHILOSOPHY

Creating Harmony: How Do I Use the Arts & Crafts
Philosophy in Organizing My Landscape?
with Rick Taylor
What's Your Line? Exploring Favorite Forms in the
Arts and Crafts Movement
with Andre Chaves and Dianne Ayres
The Arts and Crafts Philosophy: Vision or Fantasy?
with Pat Bartinique
Collecting the Prairie School Today
with Allen Hazard

SPECIAL SESSIONS

Introducing Beginners to Arts & Crafts: How Do I
Share My Passion?
with Vonda Givens, The Stickley Museum at
Craftsman Farms
A 35-Year Retrospective on the National Arts and
Crafts Conference and Shows at the Grove Park Inn
with David Rudd and Director Emeritus Bruce
Johnson



*A Small Group Discussion during the
National Arts and Crafts Conference at
the Grove Park Inn in Asheville, North
Carolina, February 21, 2014.
Photo by Ray Stubblebine*

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SMALL GROUP (cont.)

While a number of discussion sessions are held by speakers relating to their seminar topic, by expert collectors passing on their advice to others, or those who have put together an educational display as part of the shows, others will concentrate on design & architecture, philosophy, and home renovation. Two special sessions have been scheduled this year - The Stickley Museum at Craftsman Farms will return in February to talk at a special time on Saturday about sharing your passion with those new to the Arts and Crafts movement. Additionally, a brand new session has been scheduled on Sunday of the conference weekend: a 35-year retrospective on the history of the Arts and Crafts conference, led by David Rudd of Dalton's American Decorative Arts and the GPI Conference Director Emeritus himself, Bruce Johnson. Longtime conference attendee Jill Thomas-Clark will conduct a

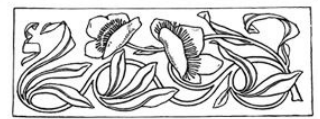
small group discussion on collecting Arts and Crafts-era wooden lamps – a continuation of a discussion one may hear at David Van Epps in-show demonstration on the rare lamps of Charles Limbert!

Want to sign up for the 36th National Arts and Crafts conference? Great news: there's still time to reserve either an Arts and Crafts package at the Grove Park Inn (includes registration for the conference and room and board for Friday and Saturday night, additional nights are extra) or if you want to stay elsewhere, call the office at (828) 628-1915 to purchase your conference registration and get access to all the fantastic discussion topics and seminars, tours, demonstrations and more. Check out our website at arts-craftsconference.com for all the information you'll need for the entire conference. We hope to see you soon!



ARTIST CORNER

LIVING ARTISTS INSPIRED BY THE ARTS & CRAFTS MOVEMENT



by Julie Leidel

In this installment of our Artist's Corner, I'd like to introduce you to Drew Jensen. Drew and I met in the summer of 2021 at the Cheesman Park Art Festival and we got to talking about his connections to the Roycroft in East Aurora, New York. Not only is Drew a talented photographer, and fellow Roycroft Artisan, but his family has ties back to the original Roycroft. His great-grandfather was a Roycrofter and ran some of the printing presses for Elbert Hubbard on the Roycroft campus back in the early 1900s. We plan to share some amazing family photos and stories in an upcoming article, but let's use that as a teaser and introduction to a fellow CACS member, and long-time admirer of the Arts and Crafts Movement.



*Roycroft Renaissance Artisan Drew Jensen,
Photographer*

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ARTIST CORNER (cont.)

Drew Jensen is a Fine Art and Lifestyle Photographer now living in Denver, with many roots in upstate New York. He grew up in Orchard Park, NY and got his BS in Studio Art from Nazareth College of Rochester, with a concentration in film and digital photography. In 2022, Drew applied and was accepted as a Roycroft Renaissance Artisan in photography. Drew also is a woodworker, and has created the beautiful solid wood frames you see adorning his photography.

For almost 15 years Drew has been photographing the world around him, compiling a body of work that isn't just meant to be visually appealing, but thought provoking. In his own words, "Photographs hold great power. They freeze time, connecting the past with the present. They tell stories, and have the ability to teleport viewers to places they've never been. Photographs evoke emotions and associations unknown to the viewer, until the image speaks to them. Photographs are magic." To check out Drew's photography, go to drewjensenphotography.com where you can purchase his stunning works.



Kenosha Aspens No. 1, by Drew Jensen

Drew's love of photography doesn't stop with capturing the perfect photo. He wants to enhance the entire experience of holding the camera and having the right equipment so that each individual camera becomes a true extension of the photographer. Drew has a wonderfully successful business creating and selling meticulously crafted wooden camera buttons and accessories for fellow photographers. (Artisanobscura.com). In his wood shop, Drew has over 15 different exotic woods he turns on his lathe. His accessories can be custom designed with laser-cut decoration for almost any camera out on the market. He believes that artisans should be inspired by the tools they use to share the world's beauty.



Cumulus No. 2 and frame, by Drew Jensen



If you are a fellow photographer and want to learn more about Drew's accessories, go to Artisanobscura.com

A PAUSE TO OUR ANNUAL GATHERING OF THE GUILDS

By Julie Leidel

We've held our annual Gathering of the Guilds for over 18 years in some form or fashion. Truth be told, the landscape has changed many times along the way. In the early 2000s, national artists would travel from all over the United States and come to Arts and Crafts focused contemporary exhibitions in California, Oregon, Washington, Minnesota, North Carolina, New York, and Colorado just to name a few. We were lucky here in Colorado to have many artisans travel to be with us at the beautiful Boettcher Mansion. They specialized in dozens of mediums ranging from metal to wood, painting to wood block printing, ceramics to textile, glass to leather. For a long time, all of our invited artisans were threaded together with the Arts and Crafts Movement at the core of their design inspiration. Many would love to give presentations on their work, historical talks on preservation, and ongoing restoration activities.



2011 Gathering of the Guilds at Boettcher Mansion



2016 Gathering of the Guilds at Boettcher Mansion

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A PAUSE (cont.)

The last decade has seen a national decrease in these niche Arts and Crafts shows, due to a shrinking population of interest by the general public. As with the original Arts and Crafts Movement, there is a time where everything is in vogue and in style, and then there's a period where interest falls flat, and collectors move on. The 36th National Arts and Crafts Conference held annually in Asheville, NC is still a masterful and thriving conference that continues to grow every year, kudos to the directors, Bruce Johnson and Kate Nixon! But many others shows have folded altogether due to small turnout from buyers and the rise of online sales. For over a decade, we too have had to pivot because many of these amazing national artists just couldn't travel for national shows any longer as interest from the public started to wane. We changed our event from a strictly Arts and Crafts show, to a gathering of local artisans and guilds, hoping to keep our show vital and relevant. This worked beautifully for many years, especially when we could utilize the interiors and exterior of the historic Boettcher Mansion, rent free.



2019 Lecture by Jeff Icenhower at AMC

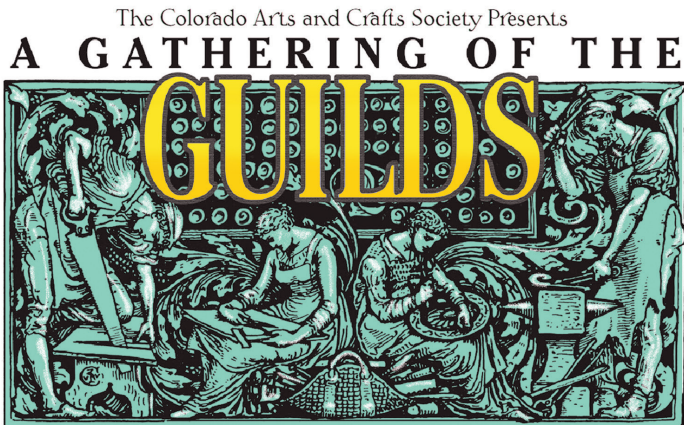


2019 Gathering of the Guilds at AMC

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A few years back, the Colorado Arts and Crafts Society no longer had the Boettcher Mansion as our unofficial headquarters. So we had to find a new home for our show at the American Mountaineering Museum (AMC) in Golden. This was a great venue for the three years we were there, but the atmosphere changed when we couldn't nestle into the Boettcher grounds on Lookout Mountain. When you add the Covid-19 pandemic into the mix, we had a very hard time finding enough local artisans who were inspired by the Arts and Crafts Movement to come and display their artwork. We expanded to include other types of artwork outside the scope of our organization. This too was successful, and many of you have enjoyed our ever-changing annual event. Selling our CACS library last year to interested buyers was a huge milestone for our organization because we were able to find many new homes for our collection. Having these wonderful books see the light of day, rather than the inside of a storage unit does the heart good.

So in the spirit of knowing that nothing really stays the same, at our December board meeting we voted to pause the Gathering of the Guilds and focus more on events that align and speak to our core mission as an organization. We've loved bringing you the Gathering of the Guilds, and we thank you deeply for your support through the years. Growth for our society can also be found in recognizing our strengths, and refocusing our efforts with hope to bring it back one day.



**ZOOM Info for
CACS Winter Symposium**

Topic: CACS Winter Symposium
(Begins with annual Board Meeting)
Time: Jan 21, 2023 04:00 PM Mountain Time
(US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88377639191?pwd=STRTeHhucTBJSENIaXFxSXJMbm93dz09>
Meeting ID: 883 7763 9191
Passcode: CACS

The Arts & Crafts Messenger, the newsletter of the Colorado Arts & Crafts Society, is published quarterly for the society's members as part of their membership contribution.

Send comments to julie.leidel@gmail.com.
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A Year of CACS Membership

Annual membership fees are below.

You can make your membership payment through PayPal to:
[Paypal.me/CACSmembership](https://www.paypal.com/US/membership).

Checks can also be made out to the Colorado Arts & Crafts Society and mailed to: Beth Bradford at 413 S. Humboldt St. Denver, CO 80209.

Please contact our membership chair, Helene Arendt at CACSmembership@gmail.com with any questions.

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Full-time-student membership | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Artisan/Guild membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Family membership (same address required) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$30 Individual membership |
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Clip out this message and send it along to your friend:

This is your ticket
To a world of
Beauty and Delight



A Year's
Membership
in the Colorado
Arts and Crafts
Society!