

INTRODUCTION

**CONSERVATION
PROJECTS**

**PREVENTIVE
CONSERVATION
+
EXHIBITIONS**

**STORAGE PROJECTS
+
TRAINING/VISITS**

ICON/HLF Textile Conservation Intern

The Bowes Museum, Co.Durham
Institution supervisor: Katy Smith
ICON supervisor: Sarah Gerrish
October 2014– October 2015

This year internship in Textile Conservation had supposed a turning point in my career due to the large experience acquired not only in conservation but in other museum aspects, giving me the chance to have a rounded knowledge to face the future.

My placement in The Bowes Museum could be mainly divided in the following categories: conservation projects, preventive conservation, exhibitions, storage projects and training/visits. Regular contributions to the museum blog and Icon News are remarkable as well.



"Birds of Paradise: Plumes & Feathers in Fashion"/ Exhibition installation



2007.1.1.265/ Lace cravat/Realigning after wet cleaning process



KHP.300/Archeological textile fragments/ Surface cleaning



Tapestry/Commercial work/New display system

CONSERVATION PROJECTS

This internship had given me the chance to work with several interesting objects from their assessment to conservation and display/storage carrying out accurate documentation of any action.



CST.133/Silk brocade pair of stays/Old repairs removal



CST.133/Silk brocade pair of stays/Straps realigning



EMB.162/Silk embroidered seat cover /Old adhesive removal



2007.1.1.552/Chantilly lace veil/Humidification (Sympatex®)

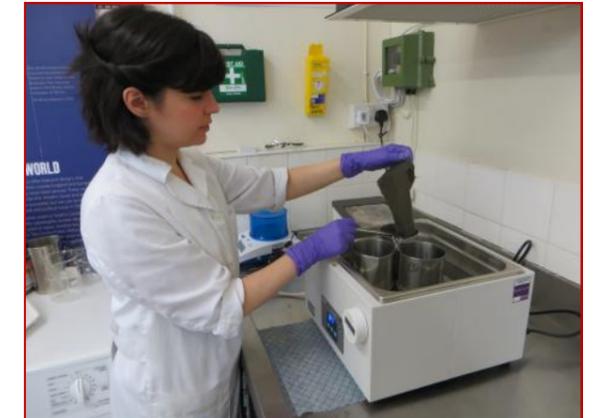


CST.1674/Officer's coat/Mount

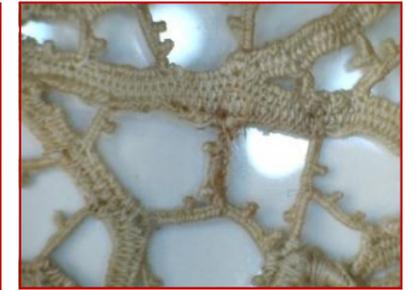


CST.1674/Officer's coat/Patch stitch support

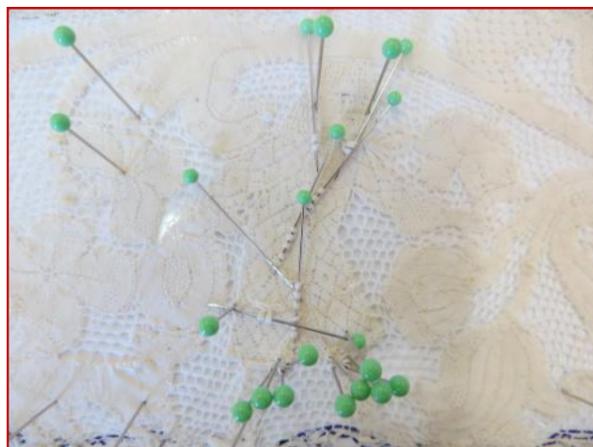
CST.1674/Officer's coat/After conservation (on custom-made mannequin)



CST.1674/Officer's coat/Dyeing fabric (for supports)



2007.1.1.197/Point de France lace panel/Consolidation



2007.1.1.110/ Lace border/Realigning & re-shaping



EMB.162/Silk embroidered seat cover /Full stitch support



CST.527/Poiret-style dress/Before and after conservation



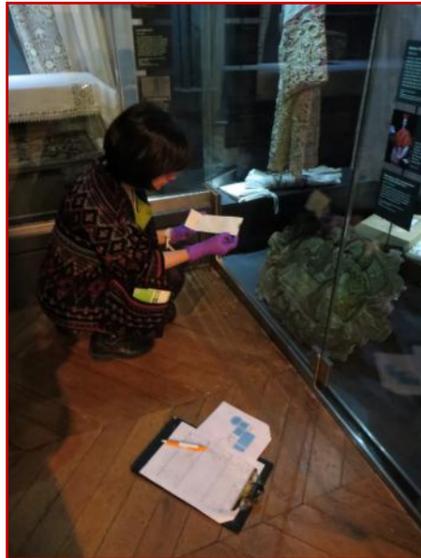
CST.527/Poiret-style dress/Surface cleaning



2007.1.1.3 & 2007.1.1.13/Lace fragments/ Wet cleaning

PREVENTIVE CONSERVATION

EXHIBITIONS



Quarterly pest monitoring



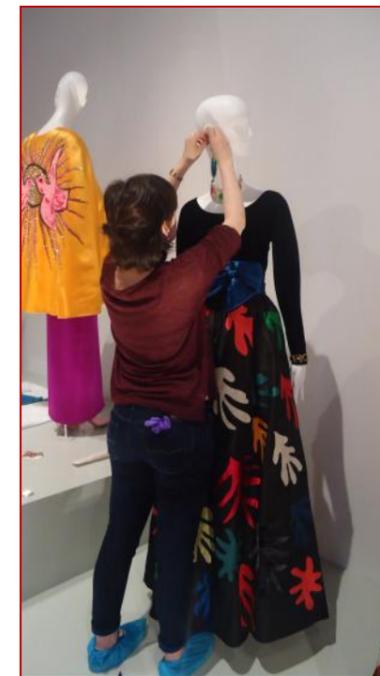
Spraying Constrain®, Costume store



CST.1007/Military jacket/Preparing object for freezer

Following the museum Conservation Technician's guidance, I had been responsible, together with my fellow intern Emily Austin, of Textile Conservation studio & stores environmental monitoring (*Hanwell*) as well as the quarterly pest traps monitoring (including seasonal moth pheromone traps) of the entire museum. Regular cleaning maintenance of Textile studio and stores had been done to avoid any pest infestation.

This year I had the chance of being involved in the installation/de-installation, including courier trip, and preparation of several temporary exhibitions; and also in the improvement and regular maintenance of the textile's permanent museum display.



'YSL: Style is eternal', installation

- ◇ *'Birds of Paradise: Plumes & Feathers in Fashion', The Bowes Museum*
- ◇ *'Women Fashion Power', Design Museum, London*
- ◇ *'Common Grounds: Lace Drawn from the Everyday', The Bowes Museum*
- ◇ *'Yves Saint Laurent: Style is eternal', The Bowes Museum*
- ◇ *Display cases, Tennans Auctioneers*



Furniture in permanent display, maintenance



Common Grounds: Lace Drawn from the Everyday', installation



Women Fashion Power', de-installation (courier trip)

RE-STORAGE PROJECTS

Re-packing flat textiles, costumes, carpets, tapestries, embroideries, bed furnishing or toys had been another big block in the internship. However, gain in importance two of them:

- ◊ *16th/17th century Bengali-Portuguese bed hangings*
- ◊ *Doll collection, managing the project & working with a group of Objects Conservation students from Durham University*



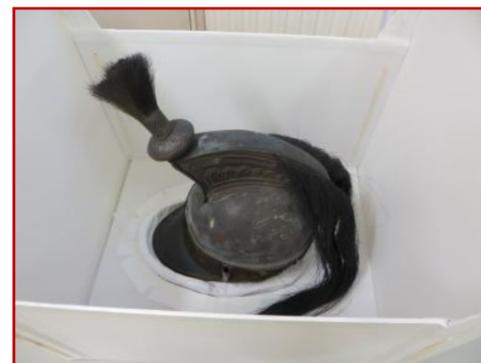
EMB.283/Bengali-Portuguese bed hangings (set of 14)/Custom-made storage system



Doll collection re-storage Project/ICON News Issue 60 September 2015



2007.1.1.287 & 2007.1.1.288/Lace bonnets/Custom-made storage system (Fosshape®)



NTC Napoleon III's bodyguard helmet/Custom-made storage system

TRAINING/VISITS

The ICON Training Budget had made possible the attendance to a long list of courses and conferences, highlighting training in conservation of relative materials (feathers, leather and paper), 2015 Conservation Advisory Networking conference and ICON events like the annual Textile Spring forum and Internship End of the Year 2015.



'Behind the scenes' tour

Visits to Conservation studios and/or stores as Burrell Collection (Glasgow), British Museum, Beamish Museum or Museum of London had been also done. By the other hand, I had increased my experience giving '*Conservation behind scenes*' tours with the idea of approaching Conservation to public, giving a further understanding of what conservation means and implicates showing them tools, materials & practical examples of objects we are working on.