

“From Downton to Gatsby: Jewellery and Fashion from 1890 to 1929”

Date: Thursday 28 October 2021, 7.00 pm

Lecturer: Andrew Prince

Location: We cannot meet to show lectures in the normal way at present, so this is a live online lecture on Zoom. Registration is necessary.

No special equipment or download is needed – just your computer or iPad.



LECTURE SUMMARY

For the series and film *Downton Abbey*, Andrew was commissioned to make many jewels for the main characters, and this inspired him to create a talk based on this unique period. Jewellery and Fashion are often seen as two entirely separate and distinct fields of design, but this is very far from the case. In his talk, Andrew will guide us through the extraordinary decades and events between 1890 and 1929, where the great couturiers collaborated with the finest of jewellers to produce jewels and clothes of outstanding quality and glittering opulence. Along with this, he illustrates the clients and patrons who commissioned the jewels and shows how they were worn with their sumptuous gowns.

BIOGRAPHY OF LECTURER

Andrew's taste for fine 'costume jewellery' can be traced back to an antique market, where he came across a late Victorian brooch set with what he initially thought were emeralds and diamonds. They were, in fact, crystal and green glass set in silver and gold. He realised that beautiful jewellery didn't require expensive stones, and that it was the elegance of the design and the quality of the workmanship that truly mattered.

In 2002, the V&A commissioned a collection of jewels to accompany the resplendent Tiaras, Past and Present exhibition which became one of their most popular exhibits. The exposure gained by the show then led to Andrew's jewellery appearing in film.

*In 2012, he was chosen by the creators of *Downton Abbey* to supply a large collection of jewellery for the third series. The principle characters were all adorned with elegant tiaras, combs, earrings and necklaces designed and created by Andrew Prince.*

For further information on The Arts Society or the lectures please see our website below or send an E-Mail to: hamburg@theartsociety.org
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