



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Images available on request

Media Contact Only:
Lynn Rossotti
(202) 243-3975
lrossotti@HillwoodMuseum.org

TWO UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT HILLWOOD HIGHLIGHT FASHION AND DESIGN FROM THE EXHIBITION *PRÊT-A-PAPIER: THE EXQUISITE ART OF ISABELLE DE BORCHGRAVE*

On October 11, a conversation with costume collector Martin Kamer explores the influences of his 18th- and 19th-century costume collection on de Borchgrave; author Brian Coleman reveals the splendid world of *Fortuny Interiors* on October 24.

WASHINGTON—The influences of 18th-and 19th-century fashion and the sumptuous designs of Mariano Fortuny on the work of Isabelle de Borchgrave are explored in two programs at [Hillwood Estate, Museum and Gardens](#) this month. From 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, October 11, costume collector [Martin Kamer](#) engages in a discussion with Hillwood curator Liana Paredes about his work with de Borchgrave and his important assemblage of 18th- and 19th-century European costumes. On October 24, from 6 to 8 p.m., [Fortuny Interiors](#) author, Brian Coleman, explores the famed designer's passion for textiles.

Martin Kamer

When artist Isabelle de Borchgrave became interested in historical costumes, she turned to renowned costume collector Martin Kamer and his museum-quality dresses from the 18th and 19th century. The rare opportunity to examine the dresses—their sumptuous fabrics, interesting seams, and intricate construction—inspired the artist to begin creating the unique paper costumes that are now appearing in the exhibition [*Prêt-à-Papier: The Exquisite Art of Isabelle de Borchgrave*](#).



[Creations Isabelle de Borchgrave](#)

Kamer, who worked with stage legends such as Rudolf Nureyev during his career as a designer, now focuses on selling antique and historic clothing to major museums around the world. In 2009, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art acquired Kamer's substantial European fashion collection, including more than 250 outfits and 300 accessories dating from 1700-1915. Liana Paredes, Hillwood chief curator and curator of [*Prêt-à-Papier*](#), will lead a conversation with Kamer, exploring in-depth his work

with de Borchgrave and his collection. This program will also feature rich images from Kamer's personal photography of his collection.

Details

A Conversation Between Martin Kamer and Liana Paredes

Thursday, October 11 from 6 to 8 pm

6-6:45 p.m. Exclusive [member](#) reception

6-7 p.m. Arrive early to explore Hillwood and the exhibition *Prêt-à-Papier* in the Mansion and Adirondack Building

7-8 p.m. Conversation with Martin Kamer

Price: \$20, \$10 Hillwood members, \$7 students

Fortuny Interiors

In his book *Fortuny Interiors*, author Brian Coleman traces the famed designer's love affair with textiles to "the most beautiful, timeless and unique fabrics in the world." For a century, these sumptuous textiles have created beautiful homes, complete with Fortuny sofas, pillows, draperies, bed coverings, and table linens. Artist Isabelle de Borchgrave was inspired by Fortuny's fashion designs, and her re-creations of his diaphanous dresses can be seen in *Prêt-à-Papier*. After the lecture, Coleman and photographer Eric Kvalsvik, who photographed the interiors for *Fortuny Interiors*, will be available to sign copies of the book, which are for sale in the Museum Shop.

Details

Fortuny Interiors

Wednesday, October 24 from 6 to 8 p.m.

6-6:45 p.m. Member reception with the author

6-7 p.m. Arrive early to explore Hillwood's exquisite interiors and the exhibition *Prêt-à-Papier* in the Mansion and Adirondack Building

7-8 p.m. Lecture and book signing

Price: \$20, \$10 Hillwood members, \$7 students

GENERAL INFORMATION

Location: 4155 Linnean Avenue, NW, Washington, DC
Metro: VanNess/UDC, Red Line (20 minute walk)

Information: (202) 686-5807 for information or www.HillwoodMuseum.org

Hours: Tuesday through Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm; [Select Sundays](#), 1 to 5 pm. Closed Mondays, most holidays, and for several weeks in January.

Café: The [HILLWOOD Café](#) serves lunch Tuesday through Saturday from 11:00 am to 3:30 pm.
Afternoon Tea is served on Sundays only from 1 to 3:30 pm.
Express Dining, featuring a quick selection of sandwiches, salads, snacks, and beverages (cash only) is available Tuesday through Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm and Sunday from 1 to 4 pm.

Call (202) 686-5807 for café reservations.

**Suggested
Donation:**

\$15, \$12 seniors, \$10 college students, \$5 for visitors age 6 to 18.
No donation is suggested for children under 6.

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One of the premier art collector's museums in the United States, Hillwood Estate, Museum and Gardens is dedicated to enlightening and engaging visitors with an experience inspired by founder Marjorie Merriweather Post's passion for excellence, gracious hospitality, and intent to preserve and share the beauty and history of her collections, garden, and estate. Home to the foremost collection of Russian imperial art in the United States and impeccable French furnishings and objects, Hillwood is set upon 25 acres of gardens and surrounding woodlands in northwest Washington, D.C. Twelve acres of enchanting formal gardens include a Japanese-style garden, a Rose Garden, and a French parterre.