Costume Society of America
44th Annual Meeting and Symposium
13-16 March 2018

Williamsburg, VA
Hosted by The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, The College of William and Mary,
and The Jamestown and Yorktown Foundation

Making Connections:
Manufacturing Knowledge through Dress Studies

Call for Papers

This symposium celebrates dress studies as a catalyst to wider communities of learning, research, and creative exploration. We forge new connections as dress studies connects across time, profession, and interest. We manufacture knowledge by "making" intellectual connections with other disciplines and "making" physical connections between clothing and the hands/body that create it. We invite the submission of abstracts that explore the exciting range of collegial relationships that are produced when dress studies and the discovery processes of "making" and "connecting" are recognized separately and as they are seamed together. How does our understanding of costume evolve or change when we physically make it ourselves or study it through unconventional avenues? What can we learn by making connections between "embodied" research and more traditional forms of academic inquiry? What connections do these contributions make to the future of our field?

Possible avenues of exploration include, but are not limited to, a consideration of:

- Making as a form of academic inquiry and/or research
- Making as a methodology
- Definitions of authorship and/or ownership as defined within a "making" process
- Making exhibitions or curated spaces
- Making connections through collaboration
- The process of developing a teaching methodology through making and/or collaboration
- Ways of making dress studies relevant to our world (i.e. connecting dress to the environment, agriculture, architecture, medicine, etc.)

We also invite papers or discussions of research into any aspect of the study or the history of dress; priority acceptance, however, will be given to presentations that focus on this year's theme.

Deadline for submission of abstracts is Monday, August 7th, 2017.
Note: The symposium will be held in March 2018 and therefore the deadline for submissions has been moved up by two months.

Suggested Presentation Formats

To fully explore "making" as a form of research and academic inquiry, our conference is organized to fully integrate hands-on presentations with the traditional lecture format within each session division. We strongly encourage innovative presentation formats that bring together making and the mind! Suggested presentation formats include, but are not limited to:

1) **Traditional, oral lecture-style paper presentations,** with or without visual aids. Please limit these to 20 minutes.
2) **Master class or demonstration.** Hands-on demonstrations will be offered an hour time slot and attendance will not be capped. If you require any special equipment or room set-up, please indicate these requests in your abstract.
3) **Workshop.** Workshops will be scheduled for a 1.5-hour OR 3-hour timeframe; please specify your time requirement in your abstract. Enrollment is limited to 15 per session. Materials costs will be reimbursed and a cost estimate should be submitted with your proposal.
4) **Professional development panel.** Panels are allotted a 90-minute timeframe. Sessions may utilize any style of presentation, from hands-on workshops or "master class" demonstrations to panel discussions or seminars. If you require any special equipment or room set-up, please indicate these requests in your abstract.
5) **Panels or discussion sessions.** Panels are allotted a 90-minute timeframe. This can be divided between 3-5 speakers and includes discussion time. Panel chairs are self-selected. See the submission guidelines below for panel-specific details for abstracts.
6) **Exhibitions.** Each exhibition is provided with a table. Audio-visual displays, props, and additional equipment are the responsibility of the presenter. Each presenter is responsible for an informal interpretation of their exhibition display during the allotted time-slot.

Abstract Submission Guidelines

Submit abstracts to Sarah Woodyard at swoodyard@cwf.org
Deadline for submission of abstracts is Monday, August 7th, 2017

1) **Header:** In the upper left-hand corner of each page of your abstract, please include your presentation title and the presentation format (i.e. "Workshop", "Paper presentation.")
2) **Word Count:** Abstracts should be no more than 500 words, excluding footnotes and/or selected bibliography.
    If part of a panel, each participant should submit a 300-word individual abstract to their panel chair, who should compile them into a single document for submission. This collective document should be headed by a 200-word description of the panel's overarching focus.
3) **Format:** Please format using 12-point Times New Roman font. Abstracts should be double-spaced with single-spaced footnotes and bibliography in the Chicago style.
4) **File Format and Title:** Submissions should be saved as a .doc, .docx, or .rtf file. The file name should mirror the title (minus subtitles) of your presentation.
5) **Submission:** Abstracts must be submitted by August 7th, 2017 to swoodyard@cwf.org. Please indicate the conference title in the subject line of your email.