



## Notes for guidance – Patterns of Fashion Award

- The competition is for a reconstruction, not an interpretation. The student should aim to reconstruct a garment from one of Janet Arnold's Patterns of Fashion books, as far as possible to the pattern specifications – not to a contemporary figure or to a scaled down size.
- The garment will be judged on line, silhouette and period accuracy relative to the chosen pattern and attached drawing.
- Wherever possible the student should have viewed an original garment of a similar style as the patterns are difficult to interpret. Students should also consult further scholarship such as the work being undertaken by Jenny Tiramani and Susan North (see bibliography below).
- Please refer to the attached list of archives, and their conditions of entry, as some of the garments studied by Janet Arnold are now too fragile to be viewed.
- The garments should be made in calico, or another suitable, but inexpensive and neutral coloured fabric.
- The judges will be looking at construction techniques, styling, silhouette, and period accuracy rather than colour and texture.
- Garments dated before the introduction of the sewing machine should be entirely hand sewn.
- The garment should be displayed on a stand with suitable period underpinning to achieve the correct silhouette, and photographed in high resolution for submission to the initial judging.
- Photographs should assist the judges by showing the garment as a whole: back, front and side, as well as technical close ups of the inside, and any detailed finishes highlighted by Janet Arnold's primary research. Judges will be looking at how the garment sits on the stand in order to produce an accurate silhouette.
- Please submit the photos as high quality jpegs, with your PDF (see application form).

### **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2019**

Deadline for submitting PDF and photos via email to the Costume Society – see web site for email address.

The three selected finalists will be invited to present their work for final judging on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2019 in Birmingham, as part of the Costume Society conference. You will be expected to bring your garment, a stand for display, and an A4 portfolio containing the following details:

Photocopies of the pattern from the Janet Arnold book.

Technical drawings and/or photos of the original garment that you viewed.

Background contextual research and research into underpinnings.

Accessory research, if applicable.

Anything else that you feel is appropriate to the experience of reconstruction.

Reflection on the process and any new skills acquired.

The award will be given to the student who has, in the opinion of the judges, produced a reconstruction of a garment, from a pattern in one of the Janet Arnold *Patterns of Fashion* books, which reflects the high standards presented in the books.

### **Viewing original garments from Janet Arnold, *Patterns of Fashion*.**

Sadly, many of the garments featured in Janet Arnold's book are now too fragile to be handled, and we encourage students to find similar garments of the same date to view.

**The Fashion Museum Bath** is pleased to welcome students wishing to study the 'Janet Arnold' garments. However, please do plan ahead as it can take up to 6 weeks to get an appointment in the Fashion Museum Study Facilities. It is worth noting too that if the garment that you request to view is featured in one of the Museum's exhibitions during your visit then you will be able to see it in the exhibition, but you will not be able to study the object close up. Please note too that the Museum is not able to send detailed photographs of a piece; students need to visit in person.

**The Victoria and Albert Museum**, has suggested the following alternatives, as the Janet Arnold garments are too fragile to be viewed:

#### *Patterns of Fashion 1: c.1660-1860*

All available, [T.702-1913](#) has been suggested as an alternative to T.783-1913 (page 67, c.1852-6 dress)

#### *Patterns of Fashion 2: c.1860-1940*

T.69-1937 (page 38) is on display in gallery 40, alt. [T.254 to B-1928](#)

T.22-1960 (page 56) is on display in gallery 40, alt [T.24-1960](#), [T.23&A-1960](#)

T.34-1960 (page 62) is too fragile, cannot be viewed, [T.33-1960](#) is closest alternative but also vulnerable

T.69-1966 (page 66) is vulnerable, can be viewed as reference in drawer but recommend alt [T.152&A-1960](#), which may be useful for the construction of the modesty panel.

T.214-1953 (page 70, c.1923-5) is vulnerable, can be viewed as reference in drawer.

T.48-1965 (page 86, 1940) will be on loan until October 2018, alt. [T.36-1964](#)

#### *Patterns of Fashion 3: c. 1560-1620 and Patterns of Fashion 4: c.1540 – 1660*

None of our items from these books should be viewed, they are very fragile and we wish to minimise handling. The Seventeenth century Men's and Women's Dress Patterns books are a good alternative resource for patterns.

**The Museum of London** can no longer accommodate request from students to view the Janet Arnold garments as they are too fragile. However, photographs of the objects can be viewed at: <https://collections.museumoflondon.org.uk/online/group/21610.html>

**Platt Hall, Manchester** can no longer accommodate visits from students as the garments are too fragile and the collection is currently being moved to another location.

NOTE: It is also worth checking with your local museum, as many hold collections of historic garments.

## **Suggested bibliography**

### Cut and Construction of Historical Dress

- Janet Arnold, *Patterns of Fashion 1: Englishwomen's dresses c.1660 -1860*, London: Macmillan, 1964/1972
- \_\_\_\_\_, *Patterns of Fashion 2: Englishwomen's dresses c.1860-1940*, London: Macmillan, 1966/1972
- \_\_\_\_\_, *Patterns of Fashion 3: the cut and construction of clothes for men and women 1560-1620*, London: Macmillan, 1985/1987
- Janet Arnold, Jenny Tiramani & Santina M Levey, *Patterns of Fashion 4: the cut and construction of linen shirts, smocks, neckwear, headwear and accessories for men and women c.1540-1660*, London: Macmillan, 2008

The following books may assist in the interpretation of the Janet Arnold patterns:

- Melanie Braun et al, *Seventeenth-Century Men's Dress Patterns, 1600-1630*, London: V&A & Thames & Hudson, 2016
- Susan North & Jenny Tiramani, eds. *Seventeenth-Century Women's Dress Patterns, Book 1*, London: V&A, 2011
- \_\_\_\_\_, *Seventeenth-Century Women's Dress Patterns, Book 2*, London: V&A, 2012
- Caroline Johnson, *The Queen's Servants: Gentlewomen's Dress at the Accession of Henry VIII*, Guildford: Fat Goose Press, 2011
- Caroline Johnson, *The King's Servants: Men's Dress at the accession of Henry VIII*, Guildford: Fat Goose Press, 2009
- Ninya Mikhaila & Jane Malcolm-Davies, *The Tudor Tailor*, London: Batsford, 2006
- Ninya Mikhaila & Jane Malcolm-Davies, *The Tudor Tailor*, London: Batsford, 2006
- Linda Baumgarten & John Watson, *Costume Close-up: Clothing Construction and Pattern 1750-1790*, Colonial Williamsburg & Quite Specific Media, 1999
- Nancy Bradfield, *Costume in Detail 1730-1930*, London 1968/81
- Norah Waugh, *Corsets and Crinolines*, London, 1954/1972
- \_\_\_\_\_, *The cut of men's clothes: 1600-1914*, London, 1964/94
- \_\_\_\_\_, *The cut of women's clothes 1600-1930*, London, 1968/87