[your address]

[name and organisation address]

[date]

*CELEBRATING 50 YEARS 1965 - 2015*

Dear [name]

**THE COSTUME SOCIETY JUBILEE CONFERENCE “THE POWER OF GOLD” 3– 5 July 2015, V&A MUSEUM, KERRY TAYLOR AUCTION IN AID OF THE COSTUME SOCIETY**

Since its formation fifty years ago the Costume Society has been at the forefront of the object based study of all aspects of clothing and fashion. Our members are Curators, Academics, Designers, Conservators and informed enthusiasts and our audience is wide reaching. The Society supports learning through Awards, Bursaries, Conferences, Events and its peer reviewed academic journal *Costume*.

The 50th Anniversary Conference is being held at the Grade I listed Lydia and Manfred Gorvy Lecture Theatre (capacity 350) at the V&A Museum. On Saturday evening the Society will host a Gala Dinner at the Queen’s Tower Room, Imperial College where we will be holding a fundraising auction by **Kerry Taylor Auctions**. Our Keynote speakers are:-

* **Natasha Awais-Dean**, Independent Scholar, Men and Jewellery in Tudor and Jacobean England
* **Geoffrey Munn OBE,** In Conversation with the Jewellery Specialist, BBC Antiques Roadshow
* **Amanda Vickery,** Professor of Early Modern History, Queen Mary, University of LondonMutton Dressed as Lamb?  Fashioning Age in Georgian England
* **Claire Wilcox**, Senior Curator, Fashion and Textiles, V&A, Alexander McQueen: Savage Beauty

**Kerry Taylor Auctions,** established in 2003 is the world’s leading auction house specialising in vintage fashion, fine antique costume and textiles and was featured in Channel 4’s ‘**Princess Diana’s Dresses: The Auction**’, broadcast in July 2013, which covered the company’s historic auction of ten of Princess Diana’s dresses - the most ever exhibited and auctioned in the UK.

Kerry regularly handles the sale of important costume and textiles from the 17th century onwards having experience in many international high profile sales. More information may be found at [www.kerrytaylorauctions.com](http://www.kerrytaylorauctions.com)

In support of the Auction, the Chair and Trustees would be most grateful to receive a donation of [ description ]. All funds raised from the auction will assist the Society with its ongoing invaluable research which makes a significant contribution to the history of dress and study of contemporary fashion; as well as helping students in their practical and theoretical practice.

In anticipation of your valued support.

Yours sincerely

DEIRDRE MURPHY

CHAIR

[www.costumesociety.org.uk](http://www.costumesociety.org.uk) conference@costumesociety.org.uk