

## **Nicholas Coleridge CBE, Professor Margot Finn, and Professor Evelyn Welch, appointed as Trustees of the Victoria & Albert Museum**

The Prime Minister has appointed as Trustees of the Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A) Nicholas Coleridge CBE and Professor Evelyn Welch for four year terms and Professor Margot Finn for a two year term, commencing on 26 November 2012.

### **Biographical Notes**

#### Nicholas Coleridge CBE

Nicholas Coleridge is President of Conde Nast International, the magazine group, and Managing Director of British Conde Nast. A former newspaper columnist and Editor of *Harpers & Queen*, he joined Conde Nast as Editorial Director in 1989. He is the author of twelve books, both fiction and non-fiction. He has been Chairman of the Professional Publishers Association and Chairman of the British Fashion Council, and served on the Council of the Royal College of Art and the Marketing Board of the Prince's Trust where he also Chaired the Fashion Rocks fundraising initiative. He is a Director of the Press Board of Finance and Deputy Chairman of the Campaign for Wool, the initiative set up by The Prince of Wales to support the global wool industry. He was awarded a CBE for services to publishing in 2009.

#### Professor Margot Finn

Professor Margot Finn is Professor of Modern British History at University College London. She has held previous academic appointments at the University of Chicago and Warwick University and remains an Honorary Professor of History at the latter institution. Her publications include *After Chartism: Class and Nation in English Radical Politics, 1848-1874* (Cambridge, 1993), *The Character of Credit: Personal Debt in English Culture, 1750-1914* (Cambridge, 2003), and *Legitimacy and Illegitimacy in Nineteenth-Century Law, Literature and History* (co-edited, Palgrave, 2010) as well as several articles on British and South Asian colonial cultures. A former editor of the *Journal of British Studies* and current co-editor of *Cambridge Social and Cultural Histories*, Finn was a Vice President of the Royal Historical Society from 2009-2012 and is a member of the Higher Education Funding Council for England's sub-panel on History in the Research Excellence Framework. She is the principal investigator on a 3-year collaborative grant project funded by the Leverhulme Trust entitled *The East India Company at Home, 1750-1850*, which explores British material cultures in global contexts.

#### Professor Evelyn Welch

Professor Evelyn Welch is Professor of Renaissance Studies at King's College London where she is also Vice Principal (Arts & Sciences). She received her undergraduate degree in Renaissance History and Literature from Harvard University and her PhD from the Warburg Institute, University of



London. A specialist in Renaissance and Early Modern European art, she is the author of numerous books and articles including *Art in Renaissance Italy* (Oxford, 2000), *Shopping in the Renaissance* (Yale, 2005) and *Making and Marketing Medicine in Renaissance Florence* (Rodopi, 2011). Her current research focuses on clothing and material culture in Europe between 1500-1700. She has led a range of major research projects including the Arts and Humanities Research Council funded £5.5 million strategic programme, 'Beyond Text: Performances, Sounds, Images, Objects' and the Humanities in the European Research Area funded €1 million project: 'Fashioning the Early Modern: Creativity and Innovation in Europe, 1500-1800.' She has served as an advisor to the V&A's Medieval and Renaissance Galleries project and has worked closely with curatorial staff on the study of early modern fashion.

### **Notes to editors**

The V&A's mission statement is 'To be the world's leading museum of art and design. To enrich peoples' lives and inspire individuals and everyone in the creative industries, through the promotion of knowledge, understanding and enjoyment of the designed world.'

The V&A is sponsored by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), and is a charity exempt from registration under the Charities Act of 1993. It operates at arm's length from the Government and is governed by a board of Trustees appointed by the Prime Minister.

Trustees of the V&A give their services on an honorary basis but reasonable expenses are reimbursed.

All appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in selection or reappointment processes. In accordance with the original Nolan recommendations, there is a requirement for political activity in the United Kingdom in the past five years to be made public. Nicolas Coleridge CBE has canvassed on behalf of the Conservative Party. There are no other declarations.