



# THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE GEORGIAN GROUP

20 West 44th St. #508, New York, NY 10036 • (212) 991-9191 • [office@americangeorgians.org](mailto:office@americangeorgians.org)

Fall 2009

Dear Friends,

Fall brings new opportunities to appreciate classic architecture and design. Our friends at the Royal Oak Foundation joined with us to sponsor a wonderful lecture on eighteenth-century furniture by Adam Bowett, which was very well attended. In October we will enjoy a **private tour of the Fall Antiques show** and see examples from the period for ourselves. We also plan a visit to **Scalamandré** to learn about eighteenth-century fabrics. Architecture itself will be the focus for **Jeremy Musson's lecture on the work of Sir John Vanbrugh**, for which space is still available. Michael Kathrens's trip to the mansions of Newport was entertaining and we were very pleased to honor Christopher Gray for all he has done to encourage a real appreciation of architecture among all New Yorkers. At a twilight reception on the roof of the Arsenal, we presented Christopher Gray with a framed copy of the lovely engraving of Fitzroy Square and a few words of respect. (We thank J. Pocker & Son for the attractive frame.) In a category of his own, **William Blake** saw the world in a completely individual way. We will see an exhibit of his work at a private view in November.

The American Friends of the Georgian Group are offering two very exciting trips in the spring. We know you will be interested to visit the outstanding examples of Georgian architecture that survive in the **Carolina Low Country**. Then in May we will be inspired as the Georgians were by the classical beauty of **ancient Rome**. We will be joined in South Carolina and in Rome by members of the Georgian Group, which should make for an even more delightful party. Details on both these trips are enclosed.

In addition to these trips far afield, we will also be offering a **day excursion to Pawling, New York**, next spring. We will visit the historic eighteenth-century houses of Quaker Hill and have lunch at the Pawling Country Club. More information on this trip will be mailed separately but be sure to save June 12 for this lovely outing.

Fall is also the time to renew your membership in the American Friends of the Georgian Group. You will receive your renewal information shortly and we hope you will respond right away. We are happy to send information to your friends as well. You can also download membership information at our website: [www.americangeorgians.org](http://www.americangeorgians.org).

We remind you again about our efforts to help support the Georgian Group by raising funds for the restoration of the windows at their Fitzroy Square headquarters. If you have not already done so, please enclose your contribution to this important project when you sign up for fall events. Every dollar you send goes directly to London and every dollar is tax deductible and greatly appreciated.

Our **annual meeting will be held at the penthouse residence of our honorary patron, Sir Alan Collins, on December 3**. Invitations will be mailed separately. We look forward to seeing you then and at all our upcoming AFGG events.



Best wishes,

John Kinnear  
President

**Antiques, Antiques, and More Antiques**  
*private tour and refreshments*  
**International Fine Art & Antiques Dealers Show**  
Wednesday, October 21, 2009, 2:00  
The Park Avenue Armory  
Park Avenue and 67th Street

This show is one of the most prestigious exhibits of fine art and antiques in the country. Furniture, paintings, sculpture, textiles, ceramics, glass, clocks, and many other objects will be on display and we will be given a very exclusive view. Anna and Brian Haughton will welcome us and Lady Tara Heffler will be our distinguished guide.

Refreshments will be served at the exhibitors' lounge following the tour.

Please reserve on the enclosed form and return it to us by October 14.

*\$45 per person.*



**Weaving History**  
*tour and reception*  
**Scalamandré Silk**  
Wednesday, November 11, 2009, 6:00  
Scalamandré Silk  
942 Third Avenue (between 56th and 57th Streets)

For almost a century Scalamandré has been creating and re-creating fabrics for the world's most famous clients. When Jacqueline Kennedy wanted a magnificent antique silk for the White House, Scalamandré reproduced it. The firm also re-created the textiles Thomas Jefferson chose for Monticello. Scalamandré is the source for the reproduction of historic fabrics not only at the White House but for the Preservation Society of Newport and the Metropolitan Museum. We will visit their showroom and be treated to an expert tour by Leslie Degeorges, director of restoration, and Ed Goodman, director of trimming. They will tell us about some of their most challenging projects and give us a behind-the-scenes look at some of their many notable reproductions.

The tour will be followed by a reception.

Please make your reservation on the form enclosed and return it to us by November 4.

*\$45 per person.*



## **William Blake and His World**

### ***private tour and reception***

Monday, November 16, 2009, 3:00

The Morgan Library

37th Street between Madison and Park Avenues

*use the staff entrance*

William Blake was considered a visionary and a nonconformist in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and would no doubt be considered so today. His *Songs of Innocence and of Experience: Shewing the Two Contrary States of the Human Soul*, from about 1794, is probably the most famous example of his work as a poet and a visual artist. This and other amazing works, including Blake's illustrations of Milton and of the Book of Job, are on display at the Morgan Library and Museum and we will be treated to a private tour by the curator, Anna Lou Ashby. Work by some of Blake's followers, who referred to themselves as the Ancients, is also in the exhibit.

Our tour will be followed by a reception at the Collectors Club, 22 East 35th Street.

Please reserve on the enclosed form and return it to us by November 9.

*\$45 per person.*

## ***SPACE IS STILL AVAILABLE FOR THIS EVENT!***

### **The Country Houses of Sir John Vanbrugh**

#### ***lecture and reception***

**Jeremy Musson**

Monday, December 7, 2009, 6:00

The Collectors Club

22 East 35th Street

Sir John Vanbrugh, 1664?–1726, is probably best known as the designer of Blenheim Palace and Castle Howard. He was also well known as an outspoken dramatist, producing two scandalous Restoration comedies, *The Relapse* and *The Provoked Wife*. They were controversial in their day for their sexual explicitness and defense of women's rights. As an architect, he was a colleague of Nicholas Hawksmoor, with whom he worked on a number of houses. On his own, he designed Seaton Delval Hall, which was inspired by the humanistic values of Palladio and adapted to a Baroque form unique to Vanbrugh. Jeremy Musson is an architectural historian, writer, and broadcaster who, in the past few years has been co-author and presenter of *The Curious House* Guest series on BBC2. He was architectural editor for *County Life* for nearly ten years, where he specialized on the English country house. He is the author of several books, including *The Country Houses of Sir John Vanbrugh*, which will be available at the lecture for purchase.



Our lecture will be followed by a reception.

Please reserve on the enclosed form and return it to us by November 30.

*\$45 per person.*

**AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE GEORGIAN GROUP  
RESERVATION FORM, OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2009**

***Antiques, Antiques, and More Antiques***

private tour and refreshments, **Wednesday, October 21, 2:00**

The Park Avenue Armory, Park Avenue and 67th Street

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places at \$45 per person

enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*Reserve by October 14

***Weaving History***

tour and reception, **Wednesday, November 11, 6:00**

Scalamandr  Silk, 942 Third Avenue (between 56th and 57th)

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places at \$45 per person

enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places at \$45 per person

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\*Reserve by November 30

***Please add your donation toward the restoration of the windows  
at No. 6 Fitzroy Square***

enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Please make your check payable to **The American Friends of the Georgian Group** and mail it to us at  
20 West 44th Street, #508, New York, N.Y. 10036

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

*Annual Meeting  
and  
Christmas Party*

**Our annual meeting and Christmas party will be held on December 3 at the residence of  
Consul General Sir Alan Collins, honorary patron of the American Friends of the Georgian Group.  
Invitations will be mailed separately.**