

Call for papers: Symposium on Morris & Co. Interiors

Wednesday 6th November 2019 at the Art Workers' Guild, London



The Morris & Co. interior is an instantly recognisable aesthetic, devised to bring art into the everyday, and give joy to both maker and user. This symposium will explore the different types of Morris & Co. interiors; private and public commissions, ranging from decorative schemes designed by the Firm to interiors created by customers, and the artist homes of William Morris and his close associates.

Domestic interiors are designed to be lived in and changes are inevitable. Tracing their development, especially when transition from private use to a publicly accessible space takes place, raises the question of authenticity. What then defines a Morris & Co. interior and what relevance do they hold in the 21st century?



The Drawing Room at Standen House, West Sussex ©National Trust Images/James Dobson

We welcome proposals for papers of no more than 20 minutes, based on original research. Suggested themes include:

- Fresh perspectives on Morris & Co. interiors and new discoveries
- Customers, collaborators and collectors: the influence of the buyer
- Fashion and taste: changing perceptions of Morris & Co. interiors
- Presenting and interpreting Morris & Co. interiors: opportunities and constraints
- Inspired by: influence on contemporary architecture and interior design

Please submit your abstract (250 words max) to co-convenors Dr Alice Strickland

(Alice.Strickland@nationaltrust.org.uk) and Carien Kremer (Carien.Kremer@nationaltrust.org.uk) by Friday 14th June 2019 at 12 noon.

This symposium is organised to coincide with the exhibition *Morris & Co: Inspired by Nature* at Standen House and Garden, June-November 2019. We hope to publish a selection of conference papers in a peer-reviewed journal or as an edited collection after the conference.