

The Journal of Dress History:

Submission Guidelines for Exhibition Reviews



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Introduction

The Journal of Dress History (JDH) is the academic publication of The Association of Dress Historians (ADH) through which scholars can articulate original research in a constructive, interdisciplinary, and peer reviewed environment. The ADH supports and promotes the study and professional practice of the history of dress, textiles, and accessories of all cultures and regions of the world, from before classical antiquity to the present day. The ADH is Registered Charity #1014876 of The Charity Commission for England and Wales.

The Journal of Dress History is published solely for educational purposes and is non-commercial: journal issues are not for sale or profit. The Journal of Dress History is run by a team of unpaid volunteers and is published on an Open Access platform distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is cited properly.

Complete issues of The Journal of Dress History are freely available on the ADH website, www.dresshistorians.org/journal.

Submission Eligibility

If you would like to discuss an idea for a potential exhibition review, please contact the Exhibition Reviews Editor at exhibitions@dresshistorians.org.

Both members and non-members of The Association of Dress Historians (ADH) are invited to discuss their exhibition review ideas.

However, only ADH members can publish in The Journal of Dress History. Potential exhibition reviewers must ensure that their ADH membership is current before securing an exhibition for review.

ADH membership is open to anyone with an interest in the field. Become a member today! ADH memberships are only £10 per year and are available at www.dresshistorians.org/membership.

The ADH receives no public funds, is a non-profit educational charity run by a team of unpaid volunteers and is wholly funded by annual memberships and donations. Membership dues contribute to our ongoing support and promotion of the study and professional practice of dress history.

Submission Guidelines for Exhibition Reviews

The Purpose of Exhibition Reviews

The purpose of publishing exhibition reviews in The Journal of Dress History is twofold:

1. To demonstrate the depth and breadth of current exhibitions within the discipline of dress history
2. To help readers of The Journal of Dress History determine if they should attend the exhibition

Exhibition Reviewers' Responsibilities

Exhibition reviewers are responsible for ensuring that their submitted exhibition review contains accurate facts, dates, grammar, spelling, and adheres to the following exhibition review guidelines.

All exhibition reviews will be edited by the editorial team of The Journal of Dress History; however, the editorial team might not have attended the exhibition under review. Therefore, the exhibition reviewer alone is responsible for providing accurate facts, dates, grammar, spelling (especially of names, references, etc. within the exhibition, which the JDH editorial team cannot verify).

The reviewer must rely on the information published in (and for) the actual exhibition, not that which is featured on a website (as, for example, curators' names (and the order in which they appear) are guaranteed accurate in the exhibition but not necessarily elsewhere on the internet).

Exhibition Reviewers' Acknowledgements

By submitting an exhibition review to The Journal of Dress History, reviewers acknowledge and accept that:

- As an exhibition reviewer you do not hold any bias or conflict of interest; for example:
 - Do not write an exhibition review if you personally know the curator of the exhibition under review.
 - For example, friends cannot write reviews of friends' exhibitions in The Journal of Dress History.

- Do not write an exhibition review if the exhibition under review was curated by the same museum or venue for which you (the reviewer) works (or for which you have had an established relationship).
 - For example, if you work at The Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A), then you cannot write a review of a V&A exhibition.
- Do not write an exhibition review if you were mentioned anywhere in the exhibition.
 - For example, if you were interviewed for the exhibition or were mentioned in the Acknowledgements, you are disqualified from writing the exhibition review.
- The review is the author's original work and has not been published elsewhere;
- Once the review has been accepted for publication in *The Journal of Dress History*, the review cannot be revoked by the reviewer;
- The review contains neither plagiarism nor ethical, libellous, unlawful statements;
- All reviews are subject to editorial revision before publication.
- Exhibition reviewers acknowledge and accept that some of their published exhibition review text might be posted publicly elsewhere, such as on museums' websites to support their marketing or publicity initiatives.

Substance

- In the opening paragraph of the review, the reviewer should:
 - include some insight into the lead curator's (or curators') background, experience, or qualifications
 - Credit additional exhibition team members, if known or if possible
 - include some insight into the venue
 - comment on the accessibility of the exhibition, such as:
 - lighting levels
 - available seating
 - if there were hearing loops available
 - if it was wheelchair accessible
 - if there are any accessible events like tours for hearing or sight impaired visitors
 - mention if the exhibition is touring and/or if the reviewer is reviewing the original iteration of the show.

- Exhibition reviews must contain a critical analysis of the exhibition, which could include the following five steps, in this order (as a suggestion):
 1. Provide an overview of the venue and exhibition
 2. Identify important information in the exhibition
 3. Place this exhibition into the wider context and literature
 4. Critically analyse the exhibition, including:
 - Organisation and clarity of writing and artefacts
 - Identification of logical flaws
 - Critical assessment of research methods
 - Use of sources
 5. In conclusion, articulate an academic opinion of the exhibition
- At the end of the exhibition review, reviewers must provide guidance on whether the readers of *The Journal of Dress History* should consider attending the exhibition or view the work as an important point of reference for a particular field.
- Errors of fact or typographical errors can be pointed out in the review but should not be dwelt upon unless the reviewer feels the errors compromise the validity of the work as a whole.
- Please be kind and balance critical observations with a recognition of the contributions that the exhibition might offer.
- Criticism must be substantiated with reference to appropriate alternative scholarly work.
- Reviews must aim to be professional, courteous, and temperate and not include attacks on the author as personal attacks will not be published.
- Due care and attention must be paid to diversity, equality, and the avoidance of generalisations.
- Footnotes are not permitted.

Form

- Exhibition reviews must be between 700 words (minimum) and 1300 words (maximum), which includes everything: the review, the exhibition title information at the top of the review, the copyright information, and the required 150-word (maximum) reviewer's biography.
- When writing the review, reviewers are required to follow the Editorial Styleguide, which is published on www.dresshistorians.org/journal.
- Exhibition reviews must be submitted as a Word document (.doc or .docx).

- The Word document must be saved with the reviewer's first name/last name, in this format:
Exhibition Review, Sally Ford.docx
- Reviews must begin with the exhibition title, the curators' names, the exhibition venue, city/county/state/province/country, exhibition dates (including day/month/year), and ticket price (in British pounds); for example:

Haute Bordure, Curated by Eveline Holsappel, Assisted by Anne-Marie Segeren, for Fries Museum, Leeuwarden, Netherlands, 16 March 2021-18 July 2021, Tickets £12.00.

(Note that exhibition titles are italicized (as are book titles), along with the comma that may appear after the title.)

- When including quotations, use “double” quotation marks.
- An exhibition review should include a review of the actual exhibition—and not inclusion of the exhibition catalogue or accompanying book publication. Therefore, book quotations should not be included in an exhibition review.
- When writing an exhibition review, never utilise first person singular (I, me, my, mine) or first person plural (we, us, our, ours). Never utilise second person singular or plural (you, your, yours). Instead, only utilise third person singular (he/she/it, him/her/it, his/her/its, his/hers/its) or third person plural (they, them, their, theirs).
- At the end of the exhibition review, insert the copyright information (as the reviewer will hold the copyright to their own exhibition review) and email address in the following format:

Copyright © 2021 Reviewer's Firstname/Lastname

Email: abc@xyz.com

- Exhibition reviewers are required to include an email address following the copyright notice.
- The reviewer is required to insert their 150-word (maximum) biography (written in essay format in the third person), which will be published with the exhibition review.

Upon Publication of an Exhibition Review

Upon publication of an exhibition review in *The Journal of Dress History*, the reviewer will receive an official PDF of their individual review. The official PDF will include the cover page, which is integral and required as it demonstrates (legal and academic) legitimacy.

Reviewers are invited to download the entire journal issue PDF and post it to their own personal or professional websites, or (preferably) reviewers can provide a link so others can visit our official journal webpage.

Reviewers are also welcome to visit our journal webpage and right-click on the front cover of the journal to download a JPG of the front cover, if reviewers want to post the front cover on their own personal or professional websites.

Our journal is Open Access, so reviewers are freely able to share the journal.

Each reviewer owns the whole copyright to their individual review published in *The Journal of Dress History* (which is beneficial to the reviewer and which is different than many other academic journals).

All published exhibition reviews are automatically sent by the Exhibition Reviews Editor directly to the exhibition curator(s) and exhibition venue.