

# Understanding British Portraits

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**Tudor & Jacobean workshop | 4 December 2009 | 10.30 – 15.40**  
**Painters' Hall, London | Livery Hall**

## Biographies of speakers

**Tarnya Cooper** is Curator of sixteenth century collections at the National Portrait Gallery. She co-curated the *Elizabeth* exhibition at the National Maritime Museum in 2003 and curated the exhibition *Searching for Shakespeare* at the NPG in 2006. She is currently working on a book about portraiture and the rise of the middling sorts in the Tudor and Jacobean period which includes many portraits from regional collections.

**Bendor Grosvenor** studied history at Pembroke College, Cambridge and the University of East Anglia, from where he holds a PhD in nineteenth century British foreign policy. Since 2005 he has worked as a researcher for Philip Mould Ltd, a gallery in London specializing in British art. Prior to that he worked in politics, and was recently a member of Sir John Tusa's policy review for the arts.

**Caroline Jeeves** taught in London and Buckinghamshire for 9 years and was Art & Humanities Co-ordinator in a large Nursery, First & Middle School. She joined the National Trust as Project Learning Officer at Montacute House in 2003, managing a series of DCMS funded projects; the aim of these was to provide a variety of learning opportunities through engagement with the National Portrait Gallery's collection of Tudor and Jacobean portraits at Montacute House. The post became permanent in 2007. She works in partnership with the National Portrait Gallery to facilitate engagement with the collection and a variety of audiences including schools, families, adults and young people.

**Christopher Rowell** has been the National Trust's Curator of Furniture since 2002, advising on one of the world's largest collections, which is displayed – usually in its historic settings – in the Trust's houses in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Knole, Kent, contains an unrivalled corpus of early-17<sup>th</sup>-century furniture, much of it from the royal palaces. Previous NT appointments were: Assistant Curator for the West Midlands & North Wales (1977-79); Curator for Wales (1979-86); and for the Southern Region (1986-2002). Curatorial projects include the restoration of Uppark after the 1989 fire, and of the state rooms at Petworth (1992-2002). Publications include National Trust guidebooks, articles on houses and collections (in *Apollo*, *The Burlington Magazine*, *Furniture History*\*, etc), histories of 'Display of Art' and 'Exhibition' in *The Dictionary of Art*, London 1996 (*Oxford Art Online*), and (as co-author) *Treasures from India: The Clive Collection at Powis Castle*, London 1987, *Uppark Restored*, London 1996, and *Turner at Petworth*, exh. cat., (Petworth House), London (NT and Tate Britain), 2002.

\* Relevant to the present workshop is 'A Set of Early Seventeenth-Century Crimson Velvet Seat Furniture at Knole: New Light on the 'Knole Sofa'', *Furniture History*, vol. XLII, 2006, pp. 27-52.

**Jenny Tiramani** has worked as a Costume and Stage Designer since 1977. She was Associate Designer at the Theatre Royal, Stratford East 1979-1997 and Director of Theatre Design at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, London 1997-2005, receiving the Laurence Olivier Award for Best Costume Design in 2003 for the Globe production of *Twelfth Night*. As a Dress Historian, she has given many dressing demonstrations and conference papers and in 2008 completed the late Janet Arnold's *Patterns of Fashion Volume 4: The cut and construction of linen shirts, smocks, neckwear, headwear and accessories for men and women c.1540–1660*, with Santana M. Levey (Macmillan). She is currently Visiting Professor of Costume, School of Art and Design, Nottingham Trent University.

**Robert Tittler** is 'Distinguished Professor of History Emeritus' and Adjunct Professor of Art History at Concordia University, Montreal (Tittler@Vax2.concordia.ca). A specialist in Early Modern English local and urban history, he has in recent years turned to research on Tudor and early Stuart portraiture. Amongst his nine books is *The Face of the City, Civic Portraiture and Civic Identity in Early Modern England* (Manchester, 2007). His next book will be entitled *Portraits, Painters and Publics in Early Modern England*, to be published by Oxford University Press. He is delighted to be a collaborating member of the 'Making Art in Tudor Britain' research team.