Gilding the Lintel
Thanks, Benjamin Moore & Co.!
With the exterior east wall restoration now complete, we are moving indoors.
Thanks to a $30,000 grant from Benjamin Moore & Co., we are undertaking a thorough scientific analysis of the history of paint finishes of the Merchant's House interiors.
Phase one, the ground-floor family room, hall, and kitchen, is under way. The results of the study will appear in the next newsletter, and repainting in original colors will take place soon after.

"Good Talk and Good Wine"
(Make a Very Good Party)
Thomas Jefferson said it and we believe it; so on Thursday, April 6, 2003, from 6:30 to 9 p.m., we will celebrate the 26th birthday of the father of American Classicism.

Two-piece day dress of silk taffeta from the Tredwell group of dresses in the Merchant's House Museum costume collection. The dress dates from 1838-41. The drawing was sketched in 1935 for the Index of American Design, a federal arts project.

In addition to the Tredwell dresses, the collection includes outerwear, undergradments, and accessories with an established Tredwell provenance as well as other 19th and early 20th century articles of dress accessioned by the Museum. Altogether there are approximately 420 items spanning the years 1805 through 1914. Only the Brooklyn Museum and the Metropolitan Museum of Art can boast a more significant collection.

For a year, beginning on April 24, the costume collection will be the subject of a changing exhibition. A typical dress from each of the decades, 1830-1880, will be featured every other month. The exhibition will begin with a muslin dress from the 1800s. Amazingly, this ankle-length dress with its enormous leg-of-mutton sleeves and empire waist is, after all these years, in pristine condition.

Merchant's House Costume Collection Reflects the Changing Silhouette of Fashion in the 19th Century

Yes, Indeed! I (We) would like to become a member of the Merchant's House Museum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Level</th>
<th>Annual Fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Good Neighbor</td>
<td>$250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family/Household</td>
<td>$75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friends</td>
<td>$125</td>
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<td>Cultural Hero</td>
<td>$250</td>
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<td>Leading Light</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paragon of Virtue</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Citizen/Student</td>
<td>$25</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Enclose a check made out to the Merchant's House Museum and mail to 29 East Fourth Street, New York, NY 10003, or charge your contribution. □ Visa □ Master Card □ American Express

Card No.__________ Exp. ______ Signature __________

You may be eligible for a matching contribution from your employer. If so, please enclose a matching gift form.

Name

Address

City State Zip Tel.

The Merchant's House Museum is New York City's only family home preserved intact—inside and out—from the 19th century. A National Historic and New York City landmark, the house was built in 1822 and was home to a prosperous merchant family for 100 years. Visit Thursday-Monday, 1-5 p.m. 29 East Fourth Street, New York, NY 10003 212-777-1089 www.merchantshouse.com
**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**EXHIBITIONS**

Through Monday, April 28

- **Flirting with Fans—The Language of Love in the 19th Century**
  Features fans (we have 17), pansies, and gloves from the collection.
  "...a fascinating and well-researched undertaking, providing more than enough swoon-inducing romance for the tenderhearted." *Time Out New York*

- **Elegance Restored—An 1840s Dress from the Treadwell Collection**
  A restored cotton voile dress worn by one of the Treadwell women in the 1840s is now on display, along with a photographic step-by-step record of the restoration process. The work was done by FIT graduate student Helen Kapodistrias.

Open Thursday, April 24

- **The Changing Silhouette of Fashion—Six Decades of Treadwell Costumes**
  The first costume in our parade of fashions from the collection will be on display.

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**THURSDAY, APRIL 10**

- **Mid-April to Mid-May Bulbs-a-Burstin’**
  We’ve planted our garden with over 300 bulbs this year! Come “smell the dirt” and view the brilliance of spring as multiple varieties of crocus, snowdrops, daffodils, and grape hyacinths make their showy appearance in our garden.

- **Sunday, May 11**
  Seating at 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m.
  **Mother’s Day Tea in the Garden**
  Celebrate with a traditional afternoon tea in our garden. Butter milk scones with clotted cream and jam, finger sandwiches, delicate “pretty” cakes, and frosted confections, served with pots of brewed English tea.
  Includes House tour $40 per couple, additional guest per couple $15. Reservations required.

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**FRIDAY, APRIL 25**

- **Lecture: The Changing Silhouette of Fashion**
  Marcus Morinomo, costume historian, will trace fashion through the decades with a slide lecture highlighting costumes from the Museum collection. $15 members $10.

  For reservations, call 212-777-1069 or e-mail nyc1832@marcushouse.com

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**SPRING WINE TASTINGS**

In collaboration with our NoHo neighbor

**ASTOR WINES & SPIRITS**

- **Spring Bouquets**
  Thursday, April 17, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
  We celebrate the arrival of spring and brighter days with dazzling, fresh wines from around the world.

- **Heading for the Hamptons**
  Tuesday, May 20, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
  Some of the world’s best wines are right in our own backyard. Begin the Memorial Day weekend and launch of summer with the best of Long Island wines.

- **Rose with the Roses**
  Thursday, June 26, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
  Intoxicating your senses of sight, sound, and taste on an early summer night in our garden—we’ll be tasting the pick of this summer’s Roses in every hue of pink.

  Each night, Astor’s resident oenologists will present a selection of wines, which will be paired with delicious hors d’oeuvres, including pies and terrines courtesy of our friends at Les Trois Petits Cochons.

  Each tasting $45. Space is limited! Reservations must be paid for in advance. Cancellations and full refunds up to 48 hours in advance.

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**JUNE 5-16**

May 15-26 tour sold out!

**Travel Tour: 18th Century Sweden, The Golden Age of Gustavian Style**

During his reign from 1771-1792, Gustav III transformed Sweden from a once-removed European country into the “Prist of the North.” This 11-day tour includes lectures and guided tours of many of the magnificent palaces, castles, fortresses, and magnificent ancestral country homes, some private, that reflect Gustavian style.

For information and a brochure, contact Thomas Hayes, Classical Excursions, P.O. Box 724, Stockbridge, MA 01262, (413) 298-3799.

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**NEW YORK, NY**

City of New York Parks & Recreation

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**MERCHANT’S HOUSE MUSEUM**

29 East Fourth Street