

Lynda Hillyer. FIIC; ARC.

Read English, History and Psychology at the University of London. Began her museum career at the British Museum in 1974 as a museum assistant designing and making Perspex display mounts for the Department of Medieval and Later Antiquities. Joined the Department of Oriental Antiquities in 1975 as an assistant conservator and worked on ceramics, stone, bronzes, lacquer and wallpaintings. Transferred to the Museum of Mankind in 1977 (part of the British Museum) to work on ethnographic material and specialised in fibres. Joined the textile conservation studio of the Victoria and Albert Museum in 1981 and was appointed Head of Studio in 1989 where she was responsible for a team of 8 conservators working on a comprehensive collection of approximately 150,000 textiles.

Three month secondment to Mehrangarh Museum in Jodhpur in 1987-88 on the storage of their reserve collection of textiles.

Currently working in private practice and on a part time contract at the Victoria and Albert Museum. Appointed consultant to the Calico Museum of Textiles in Ahmedabad in 2009.

Specialisms include the conservation of Indian textiles and the study of the use of adhesives in textile conservation.

Fellow of I.I.C (International Institute of Conservation)

ARC (Accredited Restorer Conservator ICON – Institute of Conservation)

Lynda Diane Hillyer

Date of birth: 6th January 1947

Nationality: British

Status: Single

EDUCATION	Goldsmiths College, University of London Read English, History and Psychology	June 1968
	Hammersmith and West London College Chemical Science for Conservators	June 1977
	Aylesbury High School for Girls 11 'O' levels 3 'A' levels English, History, Geography	June 1965

Currently working in private practice and on a part time contract at the Victoria and Albert Museum. Consultant to the Calico Museum of Textiles, Ahmedabad, India.

**Head of Textile Conservation,
Victoria and Albert Museum,
Cromwell Road,
London SW7 2RL**

September 1989 – January 2007

Responsible for a team of 8 conservators working for 6 curatorial departments with a comprehensive collection of approximately 150,000 textiles. Organisation of work for major exhibitions, loans and departmental displays. Condition and risk assessment of a wide variety of objects and organisation of surveys to assess and devise programmes of preventive work. Advising on the conservation, storage and display of a wide variety of textile objects. Responsible for selection of staff, students and interns. Responsible for staff development and for the planning of teaching programmes for MA students, interns and visiting museum professionals. Supervision of contract staff. Other areas include: the selection of and fundraising for major pieces of equipment. Initiating and maintaining research projects with both curatorial and scientific staff. Lecturing within the museum, within the textile conservation profession and to outside organisations. Devising and running workshops on conservation practice. Representing the textile conservation section both nationally and internationally; acting as courier for major loans abroad. Member of the Senior Management Group of the Conservation Department.

- Fellow of IIC
- Accredited Member of UKIC (ARC)
- Member of the organising committee for the UKIC Conference *Lining and Backing* 1995
- Assistant Co-ordinator of ICOM Textiles Working Group 1999-2002
- Member of the Board of Studies at the Textile Conservation Centre, 1993-1999 and visiting lecturer. External Examiner for the Textile Conservation Centre MA course in conservation.
- Member of the Advisory panel for the Council for the Care of Churches

Mehrangarh Museum, Jodhpur, India

3 month secondment to catalogue reserve collection of textiles and improve storage of textile collection

November 1987-January 1988

Victoria and Albert Museum

Appointed Senior Conservation Officer in 1984. Responsible for the conservation and documentation of a wide range of textiles from the Museum's collections. For the organisation of work for exhibitions, the teaching of students and junior staff, lecturing both within the museum and to outside institutions, initiating research into the cleaning of archaeological textiles and supervision of MA project carrying out research into the washing of degraded linens at UMIST (University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology)

June 1981- September 1989

British Museum, Department of Ethnography, Museum of Mankind

Conservator specialising in the conservation of fur, leather, fibres and textiles

1977-1981

British Museum, Department of Oriental Antiquities

Assistant Conservation Officer working on stone, lacquer, metals, coarse pottery,
porcelain and painted surfaces 1975-1977

British Museum, Department of Medieval and Later Antiquities

Museum assistant, designing and making perspex mounts for support and display of
objects. 1974-5

Previous Employment

National Poetry Secretariat 1973-4
Shelter, campaign for the Homeless 1972-3
Freelance Environmental Campaign 1971-2
Friends of the Earth, Environmental Pressure Group 1970-1
Abelard Schumann, Children's Book Publisher, Editorial Assistant 1970-1

Lynda Hillyer: Publications

Advances in Adhesive Techniques – The Conservation of 3 Coptic Tunics in *'The New Textile Conservator'* edited by Frances Lennard and Patricia Ewer, *Elsevier 2009, In press*

The Dance of the Avant-gardes. An Exhibition on the Art of 20thC Dance *The Dancing Times, February 2006.*

Working for Diaghilev *Conservation Journal*. Summer 2005. no.50

The Ardabil Carpet – a New Perspective *Conservation Journal*, 49, Spring 2005

13th ICOM-CC Triennial Meeting - Rio de Janeiro (Editorial), *V&A Conservation Journal*, 43, Spring 2003

The Role of Contact/Pressure Mounting in Textile Conservation: Some Recent Applications of US Techniques (Windsor, D., Hillyer, L., Eastop, D.,) *ICOM-CC Triennial Meeting; Rio de Janeiro, 2002*

Adhesives Yesterday. *Canadian Conservation Institute Workshop* in collaboration with the V&A and the British Museum, April 2002

The Re-assembly of a 17th-Century State Bed (Hillyer, L., Gentle, N., Balfour, D.,) *The Conservator*, 24, 2000

How to Make a Balanced Decision in Conservation - A Review of Risk Assessment for Object Conservation by Jonathan Ashley-Smith *Art Newspaper*, 103 (May 2000) (also published in *Papier Restaurierung*, 1/5, 2000]

Scottish Bed Fit for a King is Remade (Hillyer, L., Murdoch, T.,) *V&A Magazine* September-December 1999

Re-evaluating Adhesives - Current Work in the United Kingdom *International Perspectives on Textile Conservation*, edited by D. Eastop and A. Timar-Balazsy London, 1998

Communication (Editorial) *V&A Conservation Journal*, 29, October 1998

Textile Conservation - Museum and National Trust Approaches - A Review of 'Standards in the Museum Care of Costume and Textile Collections' (Museums and Galleries Commission, London, 1998) and **'Textiles in Trust'** ed. K. Marko (Archetype Books in association with the National Trust) *Art Newspaper*, 85, (October 1998)

The Conservation of an 18th-Century Silk Theatre Programme. *Chemical Principles of Textile Conservation*, edited by D. Eastop and A. Timar-Balazsy (Oxford, 1998)

Developments in Decision Making - The Conservation of Two Coptic Tunics (Hillyer, L., White, S.,) *Postprints of the UKIC Adhesive Forum: Past Treatments Revisited; London, 1997*

Evaluating the Use of Adhesives in Textile Conservation - An Overview and Surveys of Current Use (Hillyer, L., Tinker, Z., Singer, P.,) *The Conservator*, 21, 1997

Can Productivity be Productive? (Ashley-Smith, J., and Hillyer, L.,) *Preprints of the Conference: Fabric of an Exhibition - An Interdisciplinary Approach, CCI, Ottawa, September 1997*

The Cleaning of Degraded Linen (Cooke, W.D., Babakhani, A., Hillyer, L.,) *The Conservator*, 20, 1996

The Textile Conservation Studio *V&A Conservation Journal*, 20, July 1996

Beating Unwanted Bugs (Hillyer, L., and Blyth, V.,) *V&A Conservation Journal*, 10, January 1996

The Queen of Oudh - Conservation and Research *Postprints of the UKIC Meeting: Costume in Context; Bath, March 1996*

UKIC Lining and Backing Conference *V&A Conservation Journal*, 18, January 1996

Supporting Fragile Textiles: The Evolution of Choice (Brooks, M., Eastop, D., Lister A., Hillyer, L.,) *Preprints of the UKIC Lining and Backing Conference; London, November 1996*

Kalamkari - The Conservation of Indian Painted Textiles *Postprints of the Conservation of Eighteenth-century Painted Silk Dress*, ed. C. Paulocik. *The Costume Institute, The Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Graduate Program in Costume Studies, New York University 1995*

Research in Progress: An Evaluation of Research into Adhesives at the V&A. *Newsletter of the ICOM Textiles Working Group*, 2, 1993

Review of the 2nd International Conference on Biodeterioration of Cultural Property. *Conservation News* July 1993

Textile Conservation in Russia. *V&A Conservation Journal* 6, January 1993

Carpet Beetle: Methods of Control at the Victoria and Albert Museum, London. *2nd International Conference on Biodeterioration of Cultural Property; Yokohama, Japan, 1992*

Carpet Beetle - A Pilot Study in Detection and Control. (Hillyer, L., and Blyth V.,) *The Conservator* 16, 1992

The Use of Adhesive Techniques at the Victoria and Albert Museum. *Newsletter of the ICOM Textiles Working Group* 1, 1992

Frank Lloyd Wright in Japan. *V&A Conservation Journal*, 1, October 1991

The Nehru Gallery of Indian Art, *Conservation News*, 44, March 1991

The Conservation of a Group of Wallhangings at Ham House, Surrey *Postprints of the SSCR Furnishing Textiles Conference; Glasgow, 1990*

The Cleaning of Archaeological Textiles *UKIC Occasional Papers*, 10, 1990

India Revisited *Conservation News*, 37, November 1988

Research into the Cleaning of Archaeological Textiles *Archaeological Textiles Newsletter*, 5, 1987

The Conservation of a Group of Painted Mummy Cloths from Roman Egypt *Studies in Conservation*, 29, 1984