

CNCS

centre for nineteenth-century studies



Durham
University

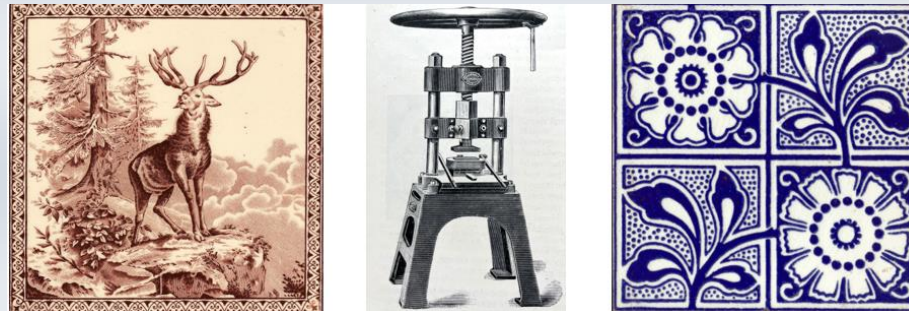
Centre for Visual Arts and Culture

The Centre for Nineteenth-Century Studies (CNCS) and the Centre for Visual Arts and Cultures (CVAC) present :

Tile Talks: A Victorian Decorative Tiles Workshop

Monday 29th April 2024, at Durham University

Palatine Law PCL054, Palatine Centre, Stockton Road, Durham, DH1 3LE, UK



This CNCS-CVAC co-hosted event brings together 3 leading experts in the field of Victorian Decorative Tiles for a lively hands-on workshop covering: tile production, conserving and collecting.

Each session will begin with a 30-minute talk from the expert followed by Q&A and 30 minutes of handling and discussion.

Join us for this full day event, with lunch provided!

Session 1: 10:30 - 12:00

William De Morgan: His Life and Tiles (Tile making, Glazing and Design Techniques)

Sarah Hardy: Director of the De Morgan Museum, De Morgan Foundation



*De Morgan's 'Bedford Park Daisy' design
(Hull Museums Collections)*

William De Morgan was a mathematician, novelist and artist, initially working in stained glass before moving into ceramics in the 1870s. With his friend and collaborator William Morris, De Morgan was embedded in the British 'Arts and Crafts' movement, becoming the most celebrated ceramicist of his generation. His designs include plants, birds, animals, fantastical creatures, Islamic motifs and mathematical

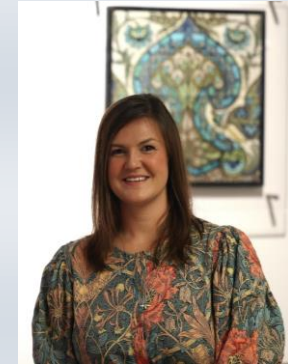
patterns. He also experimented with glazing techniques, and championed the revival of metal-glazed lusterware.

Sarah's illustrated introduction to William De Morgan's tile design, and approach to making, will include handling tiles from the De Morgan Collection.



De Morgan: Fantastic ducks design with lustre highlights

Sarah Hardy studied Art History at Durham University and the University of Manchester. She is a Victorian Arts & Crafts specialist, and has published research on William Morris's revival of embroidery, William Blake's influence on the Pre-Raphaelites, Bookbinding and the Kelmscott Press and (most recently) William De Morgan's use of mathematics in his ceramic designs, for the De Morgan Foundation's touring exhibition, *Sublime Symmetry*.



Sarah Hardy

Sarah's museum career began with education at the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge, moving into interpretation at Helmschore Mills Textile Museum, Lady Lever Art Gallery, and Two Temple Place, followed by loans and exhibitions at the National Gallery and the British Library. She completed the Institute of Art and Law Diploma on Law and Collections Management prior to joining the De Morgan Foundation in 2018, where she is Director of the De Morgan Museum

Session 2: 12:00 - 13:15

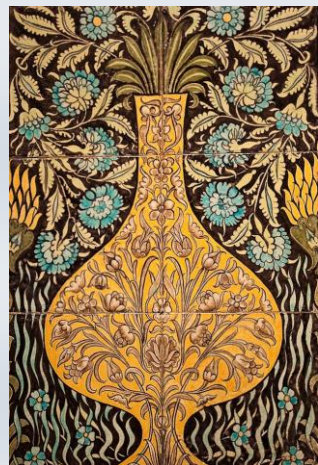
Tulips and 'Arabesques': The Profound Inspiration of Islamic Art Models in Late Victorian Ceramics

Beatrice Campi: Islamic and Indian Art Expert, Researcher and Sales Advisor

In the 19th century, the decorative 'lure of the East' captivated several Western powers including England, France, Belgium and Italy, fostering a truly hybrid, cross-cultural artistic blend of Islamic motifs with western technologies. In England, the



Iznik pottery: British Museum

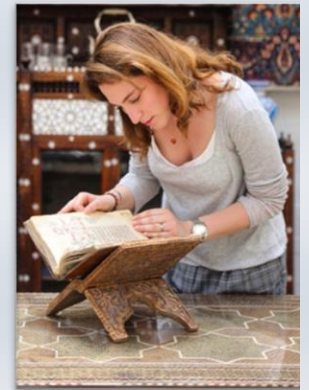


Iznik-inspired tile design by William De Morgan

British Arts and Crafts movement, spearheaded by William Morris, William de Morgan and others, yielded exquisite ceramics and textiles inspired by Ottoman Iznik pottery, Iranian tiles and illuminated manuscripts.

This session will explore Late Victorian 'Islamic' style, focusing on ceramics, and identifying the key features distinguishing Morris and de Morgan creations from contemporary artists and designers, like Cantagalli and Samson.

Beatrice Campi is an accomplished art specialist, multi-lingual professional auctioneer, and passionate researcher of Islamic and Indian art, experienced in cultural heritage. Formerly with Christie's auction house (London), in 2018 she moved to Chiswick Auctions, establishing their Islamic and Indian Art Department, handling thousands of artworks, until going freelance in 2023.



Beatrice Campi

Her recent curatorial exhibition collaborations include 'Water, Islam and Art' (MAO Museum; Turin, Italy), its twin travelling exhibition in Sharjah, UAE (2019-2021), and Persia Felix (MITA Museum in Brescia, Italy; March-July 2024). She regularly shares her research with both academic and non-specialist audiences, along with insights into Islamic metalwork, the ever-evolving art market trends, the history of legacy collections, differences and similarities between the Islamic and Western Art markets, and the intriguing world of art fakes and forgeries.

Lunch 13:15 - 14:00

Session 3: 14:00 - 15:30

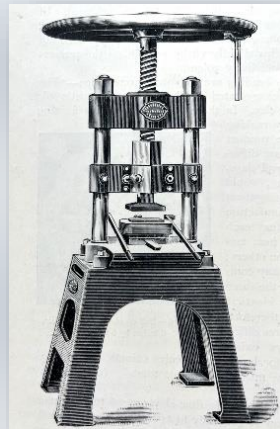
Innovations in the Production and Decoration Methods of Victorian Tiles

Hans van Lemmen: President of the Tiles and Architectural Ceramics Society



Victorian transfer printed tile from a lithographic stone

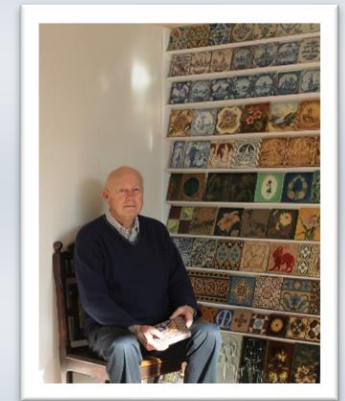
This workshop will look at improvements in encaustic tile making, the invention of dust-pressing clay tiles and new methods of transfer-printing that made the mass-production of Victorian tiles possible.



Victorian tile press

Appropriate examples of Victorian tiles will be made available for students to handle and discuss.

Hans van Lemmen taught art and design history at Leeds Polytechnic and Leeds Metropolitan University. His interest in tiles grew out of a study of Victorian architecture in Yorkshire and he is an avid tile collector who writes about the subject and has been involved in tile exhibitions in Britain and abroad.



Hans van Lemmen

Hans is the President of the Tiles and Architectural Ceramics Society. His books include *Tiles in Architecture* (1993), *Delftware Tiles* (1997) and *5000 Years of Tiles* (2013).

Hans now lives and works in the Rosa Spier Huis community for retired artists and academics in the Netherlands.