

# Close-Up & Personal

Eighteenth Century Gold Boxes  
from the Rosalinde & Arthur Gilbert Collection



The  
Fitzwilliam  
Museum  
CAMBRIDGE

Snuffbox engraved with a seated and a standing figure, Paris, 1750-54, Jean-François Besson. The  
Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Collection on loan to the Victoria and Albert Museum, London.

24 March - 6 September 2015

FREE ADMISSION



The Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge  
Friday 26 June 2015, 10:30 – 16:30

**Gold boxes: manufacture and  
marketing from the 18<sup>th</sup> century to the  
present day: A Rosalinde and Arthur  
Gilbert Collection Study Day**

Lavish and intricate gold boxes of the eighteenth century are amongst the most beautiful objects ever made. These delicate and refined miniatures contained snuff – powdered tobacco. These boxes enjoy a unique status as objects of desire. Speakers including expert auctioneers, conservators, curators, goldsmiths, and scholars will celebrate their exquisite materials and subtle significance.

The day is made possible through the generosity of the Gilbert Trust for the Arts, London.

**£10. booking essential.** To book tel: 01223 332904 or email: [education@fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk](mailto:education@fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk)

**Programme for the Day:** \* Please be aware this programme may be subject to change.

**10.30 Registration and coffee**

**11.00 Welcome and introduction**

Heike Zech, Senior Gilbert Curator, Victoria and Albert Museum

**11.10 Buying and selling gold boxes**

Vanessa Brett, Independent Scholar, Wiltshire

**11.35 Swiss automata of the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries**

Julia Clarke, Independent scholar and consultant to Sotheby's, London

**12.00 From London to St Petersburg: the career of the Swiss craftsman Jean-Pierre Ador**

Roger Smith, Independent scholar, London

## **12.25 In a Rush: California's Twentieth-Century Collectors of Gold Boxes**

Rosie Mills, The Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Foundation Associate Curator, Los Angeles County Museum of Art

## **12.50 Discussion**

## **13.00 Lunch provided**

## **14.00 Attention to detail: Case studies**

Chaired by Tessa Murdoch, Deputy Keeper, Sculpture, Metalwork, Ceramics and Glass

### **14.10 Diamonds and Coloured Gems: What Lies Beneath**

Joanna Whalley

Gemmologist and Senior Metals Conservator

Victoria and Albert Museum



### **14.30 Micromosaics**

Heike Zech,

Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Senior Curator,

Victoria and Albert Museum



### **14.50 Enamels**

Sheila McDonald, Enameller and Jeweller, in conversation with  
Mélodie Doumy, Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Assistant Curator,  
Victoria and Albert Museum



### **15.10 Chasing gold**

Rod Kelly, Contemporary goldsmith, Norfolk



## **15.30 Discussion**

## **15.45 Tea & Coffee**

**16.00 Study visit to *Close-Up and Personal: eighteenth-century gold boxes from the Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Collection* accompanied by the curators**

## **16.45 Fitzwilliam Museum closes**