



# FEED your BRAIN at the ROM

## Winter 2014 Course Outline

### **Women of Style: Influential Women and the Designers who Dress Them**

Saturdays, 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM with Dawna Pym

#### **January 18, 2014 - Early Women of Style**

We begin by discussing what qualities are necessary for a "Woman of Style" and study some of the most stylish and influential women of the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Love her or hate her, Queen Marie Antoinette of France had a notorious reputation and style. We will investigate her as well as her "Minister of Fashion" Rose Bertin. While Queen Victoria is viewed as the "Mother of the Country" she made several, important contributions to fashion. Finally, we will explore the contributions to French Haute Couture made by Empress Eugenie of France through her sponsorship of couturier Charles Worth.

#### **January 25, 2014 - Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Women of Style**

The early 20<sup>th</sup> century saw some of the most creative and rebellious women of their day. Gabrielle "Coco" Chanel exemplified the modern *Flapper* image and started new fashion trends as a result. Josephine Baker, the African American star who set Paris on its ear with her provocative, exotic style will also be discussed. Also, Wallis Simpson, one of the most scandalous women of the 30's while not considered classically beautiful was known for her distinctive style and associations with Schiaparelli. We will conclude, by looking at the original, sexy *Blonde Bombshell* style created by actress Jean Harlow.

#### **February 1, 2014 - Mid 20<sup>th</sup> Century Women of Style**

As we progress through the 20<sup>th</sup> century, prepare for some of the most well known and glamorous women of their time. Princess Elizabeth, now Queen Elizabeth II, has over her life represented an elegant, timeless style created early on for her by designer Norman Hartnell. Audrey Hepburn with her graceful, sophisticated style was the lifetime muse of couturier Hubert de Givenchy. Grace Kelly, as both movie star and princess exemplified a feminine, chic style admired on and off screen. Finally, we will explore the classic, refined look of Jacqueline Kennedy created predominately for her by American designer Oleg Cassini.

#### **February 8, 2014 - The New Generation (Late 20<sup>th</sup> C and Early 21<sup>st</sup> C)**

We conclude with a group of exciting and notorious women. Iman, the first African model of the 1970s has been a style icon since her discovery. The 1980s highlights the provocative rebirth of the *Blonde bombshell* image with Madonna. In contrast, we see the evolving style of Diana, Princess of Wales, as she blossoms from girl to woman. Our final woman of style, Lady Gaga, is known around the world for her over the top, eclectic style and revival of past designers.

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