

For Immediate release – September 2016

Contact: Sasha Danker

Sasha@handembroidery.com

0207 580 7488

Hand & Lock

86 Margaret Street

London, W1W 8ET



Hand & Lock Announce Support of V&A Exhibition

Hand & Lock have been producing the world's finest hand embroidery since 1767 and specialise in embroidery and monogramming for the military, the Royal Family and fashion houses as well as creating bespoke individually crafted embroidery. Hand & Lock is therefore delighted to announce their support of the Opus Anglicanum: Masterpieces of English Medieval Embroidery exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A). To complement the exhibit, Hand & Lock will host a series of expert speakers and teachers revealing the stories and techniques of the embroideries featured in the exhibition. Hand & Lock will offer three evening talks exploring the historical context, embroidery techniques, artistic symbolism, the technical and artistic evolution and the cultural impact of the art form. Hand & Lock will also be inviting students and enthusiasts to visit the Central London atelier to learn the medieval embroidery techniques first hand with six classes that will take place throughout the duration of the exhibition. For those attending the talks and workshops, a complimentary ticket to the V&A exhibition will be provided.

Hand & Lock are celebrating their 250th anniversary in 2017 as the world's most renowned embroidery house and are therefore proud to celebrate the art of embroidery through their support of the Opus Anglicanum exhibition. During the Middle Ages, intricate embroidery techniques were employed in the service of the church and royal court. From the 12th to the 15th centuries, England enjoyed an international reputation for the quality of its luxury embroideries and much of the precious handmade work was commissioned by Kings, Queens and Popes. Opus Anglicanum, as the desired embroidery skills came to be known, continued to be revered and techniques from this skill are still used by Hand & Lock today in their work with fashion couture houses.

Hand & Lock pride themselves in preserving the art form and keeping the tradition of embroidery alive in today's contemporary fashion, ecclesiastical and military work using historical techniques. In celebration of Hand & Lock's 250th anniversary and the evolution of embroidery into contemporary work, Hand & Lock will be presenting a series of special conferences and exhibitions which will take place in Sydney, Chicago and London. The conferences will consist of must-see talks from international expert speakers who will discuss the lessons of the past, challenges of the present and opportunities for the future. In Sydney and Chicago, a small touring exhibit curated with the help of University of the Arts London and the Textile Research Centre will be presented. In London this exhibition will be expanded, becoming a rare and exciting opportunity to see some of the finest embroideries in the world.

-ENDS-

Editors Notes:

- Hand & Lock have been producing the world's finest hand embroidery since 1767. From Civilian and Military Regalia through to Ecclesiastical and Couture, they specialise in bespoke, individually crafted embroidery.
- A number of embroidery-focused events, short courses and practical workshops complement the exhibition. More information available at <http://handembroidery.com/home/hand-lock-x-va/>
- Hand & Lock will be celebrating 250 years of embroidery in 2017 with a series of special conferences and exhibitions in Sydney, Chicago and London. at <http://handembroidery.com/about/250-years-global-celebration>

For any additional information or images please contact Sasha Danker on 020 7580 7488 or at sasha@handembroidery.com

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