

Experience Waddesdon as it was meant to be

THE WADDESDON MASTERCLASS
Monday, 7 June – Tuesday, 8 June 2010



Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild created Waddesdon Manor as a place to entertain his friends in the country and to show off his extraordinary collections in the last decades of the 19th century. Among the guests at his famous Saturday to Monday house parties were Edward, Prince of Wales and other members of the Marlborough House set, as well as significant figures from the fields of politics, literature, travel and 19th-century society. They enjoyed lavish meals, tours of the collection and visits to the Aviary and the ornamental Dairy, adjacent to the five-acre glasshouses. Subsequent members of the Rothschild family have enriched the collections even further, a tradition that continues to this day to encompass contemporary art.

The Waddesdon Masterclass affords participants exclusive access to the property and collections while they are closed to the public, the opportunity to stay in the Manor's luxuriously furnished bedrooms and to learn about the collections in the company of Waddesdon's curators. Some sessions concentrate on the internationally famous holdings of French 18th-century decorative arts while others cater to the individual interests of the participants. In the past these have included paintings (strong holdings in Dutch Old Masters, 18th-century British portraits and 18th-century French painting), silver, gold boxes, arms and armour, maiolica, textiles, fans, passementerie, panelling and the 16th- and 17th-century *Kunstammer* collections. There are also opportunities to explore the grounds which are at their most beautiful in the early summer. The stay is rounded off with Waddesdon's award winning hospitality, the highlight of which is a gala dinner in the Manor's Blue Dining Room. The cost of the two-day residential course is £1,500 and numbers are strictly limited to allow participants to maximise the benefits of this exclusive experience.



To celebrate the launch of Art Antiques London in 2010 and Waddesdon's partnership with this exciting new art and antiques fair, to be held in London 9 – 16 June, Masterclass participants will have the opportunity to preview the fair in the company of Waddesdon's curators on Wednesday, 9 June.



For more information about the Masterclass, please contact Kim Hallett on +44 (0)1296 653 240 (kim.hallett@nationaltrust.org.uk) and for Art Antiques London visit www.haughton.com.