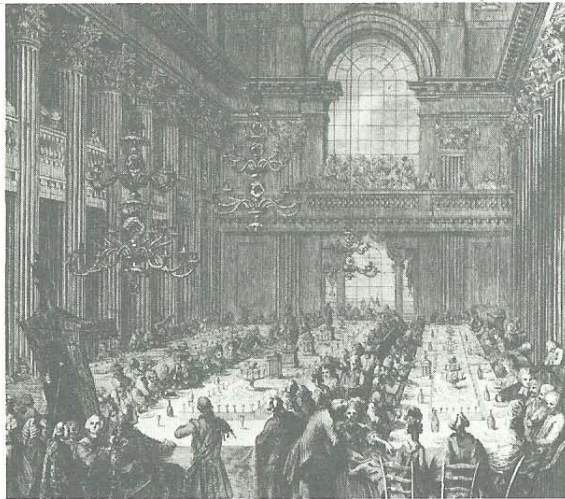




*London  
by Invitation Only*



December 6<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup>, 1998

Jessica Deutsch

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Unlock the traditions of the City of London, the famous square mile of what is the real London. In this five-day program we take you, by special invitation, into its heart. Though you may have visited London often, this is an area rich in history, which you cannot experience on your own. We visit ancient Guilds and Orders, and dine in beautiful livery halls and private clubs. We give you a taste of life in Georgian times through entrée to private homes and collections and through a special candlelight evening that recreates the spirit of the period.

Together with an expert faculty, we traverse time as we take a unique look at London as Window of the World. We step into its Roman past and see its ancient walls. At St. Paul's, recognized on its completion as being one of the finest churches in Europe, we examine the work of Christopher Wren who rebuilt London after the Great Fire. At the Tower of London we enjoy a private viewing of the Crown Jewels. At the College of Arms, we explore the meaning of heraldry and view coats of arms dating back to the 15<sup>th</sup> century. The highlight of our trip is with the Lord Mayor as we join the Worshipful Company of Fan Makers at The Mansion House, one of the grandest Georgian palaces in London, for a formal banquet complete with all traditions.

This is a London known and enjoyed only by true Londoners. We, together with

our hosts, invite you to share it with us.

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## Schedule

### Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>

Check into the White Hall Hotel, a small luxury hotel. The hotel was formerly a Georgian residence and has been magnificently restored.

Afternoon transfer by bus to *The College of Arms* to learn the meaning of heraldry. Heraldry came into existence in the early Middle Ages when knights in battle had to be identified by their Coats of Arms. Here are books with records dating back to the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Major William Hunt, Portcullis Pursuivant of Arms, will speak on the history of heraldry and the Court of Chivalry and illustrate his talk with interesting and amusing records. This is a private showing on a Sunday and you will not want to leave.

Dinner at *The Oxford and Cambridge Club* in Pall Mall. Private clubs such as this were originally for gentlemen only, and are housed in exceptional surroundings in large former private homes. They are open to members only and we attend by special invitation. After dinner lecture by *Gaye Blake-Roberts*, Curator of The Wedgwood Museum, on "*London, Window of The World*". She will trace the development of the city from the 17<sup>th</sup> century. London at this time was the *entrepôt* of Europe and the commercial capital of the world. The center of this profusion of energy was the six hundred and seventy acres governed by an ancient Corporation, at the pinnacle of which was the Lord Mayor - this being The City of

London.

### Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup>

Experience *St. Paul's* anew with *Stephen Parissien*, Assistant Director, The Paul Mellon Foundation. Founded in the 7<sup>th</sup> century the Cathedral was destroyed in The Great Fire in 1666. Its rebuilding with designs by Christopher Wren was begun in 1675 and not finished until thirty-five years later. Professor Parissien takes us through the church and then to nearby late 17<sup>th</sup> century structures including the house of *Dr. Johnson*. Lunch at an 18<sup>th</sup> century inn.

The City of London has been governed from the area occupied by *Guildhall* for over 800 years. Today it is the home to the Corporation of London, the City's local authority. The Lord Mayor and Sheriffs are still elected and admitted to office each year within the Guildhall walls. The *Great Hall* is a rare example of medieval civic architecture. Following our tour of the hall we visit the *Guildhall Library*, which contains a unique collection of London documents, prints and maps, the purchase deed of a house in Blackfriars marked with Shakespeare's signature and various folios of his plays.

Time to relax at the hotel before we depart for an evening private champagne reception at *The Tower of London*. We will be greeted by a Yeoman Warder and taken on a brief tour en route to the *Crown Jewels*. Inside these walls, princes have been murdered, spies shot and traitors tortured on the rack. Here Anne Boleyn and Lady Jane Grey walked out to execution on Tower Green. The Yeoman Warder will share some of these eerie

tales of the Tower's most colorful history. Our reception will be in the *Hall of Monarchs* within the Jewel House. Here the Chief Exhibitor will open the Treasury and allow viewing of the jewels.

### Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>

Transfer to the City to *The Museum of London* where we have a lecture with *Professor Christopher Kelly*, Professor of Classics at Cambridge University on "*Londinium*", its establishment, the destruction of the first Londinium by the Queen Boadicea of the Icenii tribe of Norfolk, the building of a new and finer town and its history until the Romans abandoned the city. At the museum we see a section of the ancient Roman wall and an exhibit showing life in London in Roman times. Private tour of the museum with *Gaye Blake-Roberts* who takes us through scenic displays of rooms which set out the history of London.

We begin our study of the Guilds with *Ian Green*, Learned Clerk of the Worshipful Company of Fan Makers, who will explain the meaning of these companies. Our first stop is at the grand, historic and atmospheric hall - *Skinners Hall*. After lunch Mr. Green, shows us a selection of prized fans dating back to the 18<sup>th</sup>-century. We continue with a visit to *The Drapers Guild*. The highly important merchants in woolen cloth had an association as early as the 12<sup>th</sup> century. At *Drapers Hall* we see many works of art ranging from furniture to carpets to paintings, including portraits of the royal family and Lord Nelson, a member of the company.

Dinner at the *Tallow Chandlers*. This