

FACT SHEET

Vanderbilt House Party - The Gilded Age Exhibition Fact Sheet

- ❑ Biltmore is hosting *Vanderbilt House Party - The Gilded Age*, a new exhibition running Feb. 8 through May 27, 2019.
- ❑ The exhibition showcases 55 outfits and more than 500 attributing objects throughout Biltmore House. The exhibition includes attire spanning the 1895-1910 era.
- ❑ Many of the outfits are recreations of fashions favored by the Vanderbilts and their guests. Oscar-winning Costume Designer John Bright and his team at Cosprop, London worked in collaboration with Biltmore's curators, researching fashion magazines of the era and studying archival photography and portraits from Biltmore's collection to create the designs.
- ❑ Bright and company created and furnished the costumes for Biltmore's 2015 *Dressing Downton* exhibition of costumes from the PBS Masterpiece TV series "Downton Abbey."

Special exhibition audio guide

- ❑ *A Vanderbilt House Party* includes a closer look at the preparations for a celebration in Biltmore House, providing an insider's perspective of party preparations as though today's guests were present for a 1905 house party.
- ❑ The exhibition is enhanced by a new Premium Audio Guided Tour including innovative sound techniques.
- ❑ The storyline was inspired by guests who were actual friends and family of the Vanderbilts', who visited Biltmore and signed its Guest Book, now in the archives. Inspiration was also drawn from letters, newspaper accounts and Biltmore's oral history program.

Gilded Age fashions in Biltmore House

Costume locations throughout Biltmore House include:

- ❑ **The Breakfast Room:** The Breakfast Room features a Biltmore House butler in a day suit.
- ❑ **Salon:** The Salon includes outfits worn by Jay and Adele Burden, and well as George Vanderbilt.

- ❑ **Music Room:** Opera singer Elizabeth Mayo Dodge is in a day dress in the Music Room.
- ❑ **Library:** Four outfits in the Library include George Vanderbilt in a formal day suit, as well as Edith Vanderbilt, Edith Wharton and Teddy Wharton.
- ❑ **Tapestry Gallery:** There are multiple scenes in the Tapestry Gallery including George Vanderbilt, Maria Louisa Vanderbilt, Edith Vanderbilt and Cornelia Vanderbilt.
- ❑ **Second Floor Living Hall:** The Second Floor Living Hall features ensembles on Pauline Merrill, as well as Cornelia, Edith and George Vanderbilt.
- ❑ **Mr. Vanderbilt's Room:** A valet stands by in Mr. Vanderbilt's Room.
- ❑ **Oak Sitting Room:** The Oak Sitting Room features John Nicholas Brown, Cornelia and Edith Vanderbilt and Emily King.
- ❑ **Mrs. Vanderbilt's Room:** Lady's Maid Martha Laube is in Mrs. Vanderbilt's Room.
- ❑ **Third Floor Living Hall:** The Third Floor Living Hall includes Lila and William B. Osgood Field, Corinne and Douglas Robinson and Edith and Ernesto Fabbri.
- ❑ **Damask Room:** A maid can be found in the Damask room.
- ❑ **Claude Room:** Houseboys are located in the Claude Room.
- ❑ **Louix XV Room:** Opera Singer Elizabeth Mayo Dodge can be found in the Louix XV Room in a dressing gown.
- ❑ **Bowling Alley:** In the Bowling Alley, Ernesto Fabbri and Willie Field engage in a game of bowling featuring bowling attire.
- ❑ **Main Kitchen:** The Main Kitchen includes a chef and maid.
- ❑ **Servants Dining Room:** Coachman William Matthews can be found in the Servants Dining Room.
- ❑ **Laundry:** The laundry features a maid.
- ❑ **Banquet Hall:** The Banquet Hall showcases 11 ensembles as the celebration comes to fruition, including George and Edith Vanderbilt in evening wear, as well as Elizabeth Mayo Dodge in a gown on the Organ Loft as she prepares to perform. In addition you will find two footmen, Florence Vanderbilt Thombly in a butterfly dress, Hamilton Twombly in a white tie, Lila and Willie Field in evening wear, and Catharine and Joseph Hunt in evening wear.