

Special Member Excursion to Winterthur

On Sunday 19 August 2018, our Special Member Excursion visited Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library in Delaware. Founded by Henry Francis du Pont, Winterthur is the premier museum of American decorative arts, reflecting both early America and the du Pont family's life here. Its 60-acre naturalistic garden is among the country's best, and its research library serves scholars from around the world.

Society member and Winterthur Historian and Director of Interpretation Jeff Groff organized a special "behind the scenes" program for us that included (despite the unfortunately rainy weather) a tram tour of the gardens with views of the outdoor installation *Follies: Architectural Whimsy in the Garden*, his very informative lecture entitled *Life at Winterthur 1900–1970* discussing the fascinating history of the property and the du Pont family, a guided house tour, and an opportunity to visit the museum and the spectacular special exhibition *Dining by Design: Nature Displayed on the Dinner Table*.

For more information about Winterthur, and the special exhibits, you can visit their website at <http://www.winterthur.org/>

— John O. Senior

FAR RIGHT: View into the main room of the *Dining By Design* special exhibition. RIGHT: Detail of folded napkins display. BELOW RIGHT: Detail showing painted dishes. BELOW LEFT: Interior view of the stunning Chinese Parlor, seen during the guided House tour.

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ABOVE: A view of the north side of the main House.
BELOW: One of two covered trams used for our guided tour of the grounds, with intrepid riders aboard.
LEFT: Two of the "follies" seen on the tram tour.
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