

Women's Forum

Sharing Wisdom

September

This year marks the twentieth anniversary of the September 11th attacks. With profound reverence Women's Forum honors those who were lost and joins our country in mourning their loss.

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Dear Ladies,

September always seems to feel like the "real" start of the new year. Since my school days, the Fall season always signaled a change far beyond the cooling temperatures. Back then, the end of Summer and the return to the dreaded classroom were not especially welcomed. But...Fall did bring on the fun of cheering for our football teams, Halloween and the holidays, three big favorites.

Having chosen to pursue a career in fashion as a designer, I joined an industry that viewed Fall as its primary season. Long before summer was a memory, my studio was buzzing with the whirr of sewing machines and the racks in my shop were filling with the most vibrant array of new styles, colors and textures. And, joyfully, having designed through the opulent '80's, when

"More is More" was the credo, the creation of new and exciting clothing and accessories, the staging of shows to promote the line, and then the affirmation by my clientele with excellent sales was career nirvana! I hope our current crop of new designers get to experience an era like the '80's sometime.

In keeping with the richness and beauty of the Fall season and with a nod to the bejeweled '80's, we return to the splendor of the GILDED AGE.

JOHN SINGER SARGENT was a prolific and brilliant artist, the rage among the glitterati who wanted to be immortalized by *him and him alone*. The iconic portrait of the startlingly beautiful and elegant Amelie Gautreau - Madame X, put him "on the map" for the scandal it provoked at the Paris Salon. Now, it is one of the masterpieces of the permanent collection at the Met and by his own account, his best work. With a career that had more twists and turns than the fluttering leaves of Autumn and with a cast of Gilded Age celebrities (some of which we have already come to know in our study of the era), the life of John Singer Sargent and his extraordinary body of work is the story of yet another American titan.

For the link to the videos and to join in the programs please contact us at [womensforumusa@gmail.com](mailto:womensforumusa@gmail.com). Your address will then be added to the email distribution list for detailed announcements of all events.

Happy Labor Day!

Best always,

Evelyn