

## Bronya Arciszewska - Internship at The Tudor Tailor

Soon after completing my history degree at Oxford University, I began a research project and editorial internship with The Tudor Tailor. I had written my thesis on the subject of Elizabethan sumptuary law and the internship provided a valuable opportunity to expand upon my research. Jane was incredibly encouraging and supportive and I was able to benefit from her expertise and vast knowledge of Tudor dress whilst contributing my own findings and ideas. Once the parameters of the project had been established, I undertook a period of independent research, collecting and collating sumptuary stipulations. It was very satisfying to have personal responsibility for a well-defined project and a great way to continue to develop my research style beyond an academic environment.

Having completed the sumptuary record, I went on to work on the *The Tudor Child, Clothing and Culture 1485 to 1625* as an editorial intern. I was primarily focusing on image sourcing for the book and securing copyright permissions. This was an interesting mix of investigative and administrative work. Using online art databases, I located sources and communicated with collections and private owners to secure their inclusion in the publication. This was a great opportunity to continue to explore my interest in Tudor costume and to enhance my own knowledge whilst contributing to the completion of an exciting new publication. I really enjoyed contacting the various organisations and private estates which owned the images' copyrights and I was able to explore new collections and artefacts that I had not previously encountered. It was also really useful to have the freedom to work from home.

Overall, my internship at The Tudor Tailor was a highly positive experience, particularly great for allowing me to utilise my own knowledge and skills, completing projects that were specifically relevant to me and my experience, whilst working under the support of great expertise, guidance and advice. I was able to work towards satisfying outcomes, completing a new record of sumptuary law and playing a meaningful role in a new Tudor Tailor publication.

After finishing my internship, I went on to complete a masters in Costume Design for Performance at London College of Fashion where I continued to be inspired by Tudor costume. Since graduating I have been working as a freelance costume designer and my background in costume history has proved to be a valuable asset when designing for period projects in addition to providing general inspiration. I view my time with The Tudor Tailor as having been a great opportunity to continue to research and expand my knowledge of an area of great personal interest as well as allowing me to develop new editorial skills and knowledge, giving a great foundation on which I hope to continue to build in the future.

Visit Bronya's website at: <http://bronyaarciszewska.wix.com/design>