

Amy Wiggin: Illustrator & Artist, Portfolio 2024







only end with the outbreak of World War I in 1914. Linking the Regency period to the golden age is a period of relative calm, where regimental balls were the order of the day. Of course, the house party existed behind closed doors – the flamboyant Lord Byron described in his poem A Country House Party how much of the politicking of the day would be settled in 'a nook apart'. But for the most part the house party was waiting in the wings – or to be more precise, in the assembly rooms of London and Bath – for the most essential ingredient to become available: money.

An influx of American tycoons are credited as being largely responsible for the country estate revelry going on in Britain by the end of the 19th century, bringing wealth generated by the Stateside industrial revolution to British shores. In the early 20th-century novel Something Fresh by English comic writer PG Wodehouse, the Earl of Emsworth remarks that 'they all seem to be millionaires in America.' House parties were often extremely grand affairs and it was Wodehouse who summed up just how elevated the company could be when he wrote: 'It was

one of those parties where you cough twice before you speak and then decide not to say it after all'.

Author and former editor of Country Life, Clive
Aslet, is in no doubt that these Americans transformed
the British house party scene. What better way to show
off your sumptuous new house with fabulous landscaped
gardens than to host parties? In his book, An Exuberant
Catalogue of Dreams, he describes the country house
revival led by the Astors at the Cliveden estate and Hever
Castle, media magnate William Randolph Hearst at
St Donat's Castle, the Prince of Wales and Wallis Simpson
at Fort Belvedere and The Gettys at Sutton Place and
Wormsley Park.

For anyone doubting the American influence on British society, Aslet has this to say: 'What became known as the "country-house look" was codified by an American. The greatest of early 20th-century gardens was created by an American. It was an American romance that caused Edward VIII to abdicate. It was even an American who enabled that most English of institutions, Lord's Cricket Ground, to build the Mound Stand.'



Illustration for Vogue International, 2021.









Illustrations for The Grand Hotel Birmingham, 2023. For usage across their website and printed materials across site. Animations also commissioned:

https://www.amywiggin.com/commissioned-work

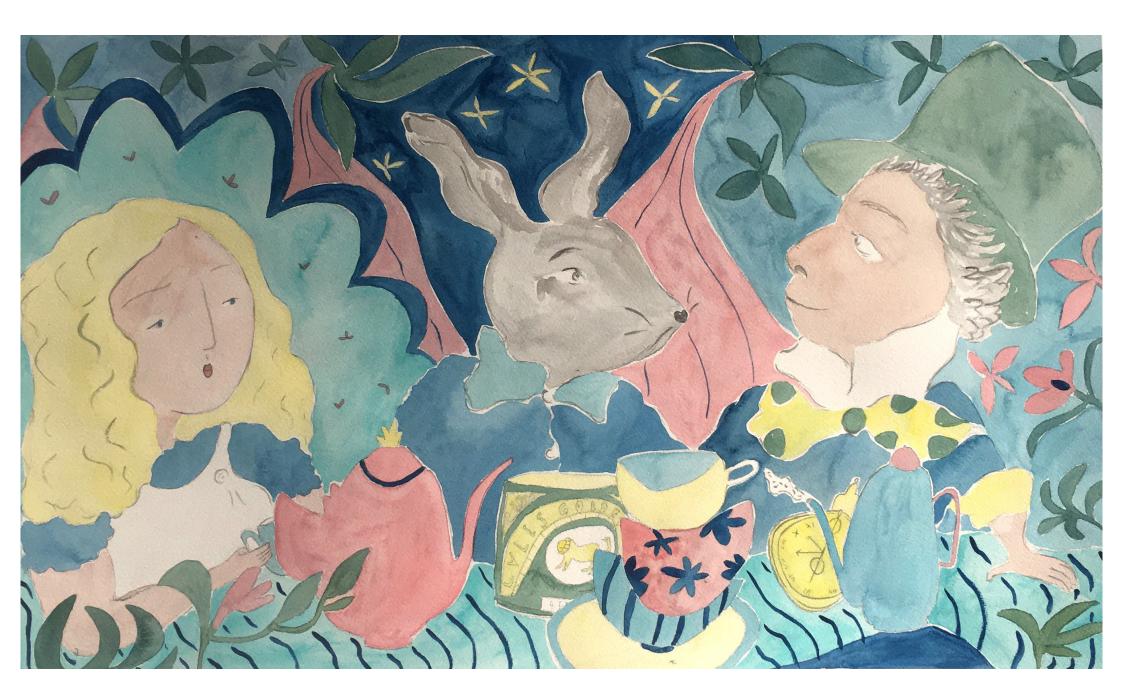


Logo & Illustration Ideation for HER Ensemble, London. 2023





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11 paintings commissioned by Visto Art, Paris. For the Randolph Hotel, Oxford. 2022.





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Personal Work, 2020-2023.

