

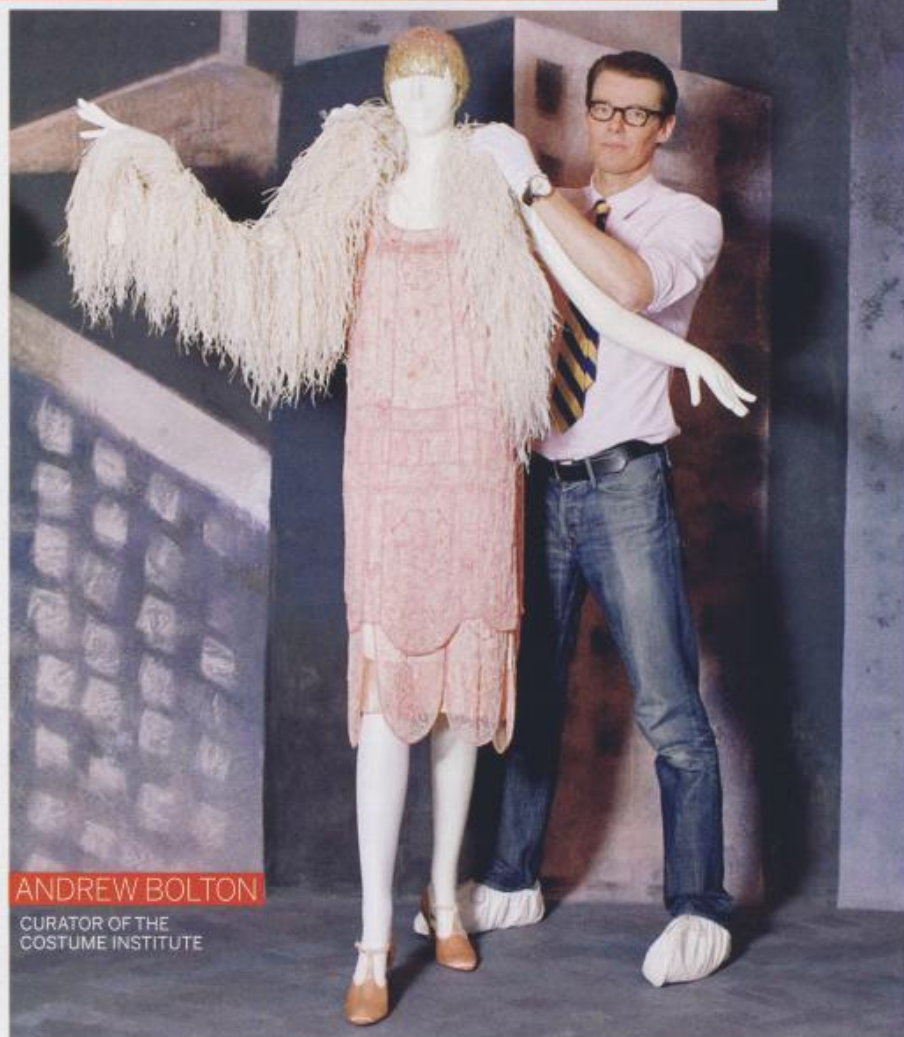
contributors

On the Ball

Discovering masterworks of the Brooklyn Museum Costume Collection—Lanvin's Phèdre evening dress and Charles James's *La Sirène*—was curator Andrew Bolton's favorite part about coordinating this year's, "American Woman: Fashioning a National Identity" at the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Costume Institute. For the exhibition, underwritten by Gap, he "imbued the archetypes of American femininity from the 1890s to 1940s with contemporary resonance, a challenge met with the help of [creative consultants] Nathan Crowley and Trey Laird, and Julien D'Ys." The boundlessly innovative D'Ys returned as head wig designer, transforming mannequins into dazzling embodiments of American womanhood. Doing their part to make the celebratory gala equally dazzling were event designer Raúl Ávila and *Vogue*'s Sylvana Soto-Ward, who admits, "The biggest challenge was devising a table layout for 728 guests. Because we were in the American Wing this year, there were many sculptures to maneuver around. We must have gone through 50 iterations before completing our final plan mere hours before the event."

—GENEVIEVE BAHRENBURG

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ANDREW BOLTON

CURATOR OF THE
COSTUME INSTITUTE



SYLVANA SOTO-WARD

VOGUE'S
DIRECTOR
OF SPECIAL
EVENTS IN
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JULIEN D'YS

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