

A close-up photograph of a terracotta sculpture of a young man with curly hair, looking upwards. The sculpture is set against a background of ornate, colorful decorations, including a large, golden, textured object on the left and various floral and geometric patterns in the background. The text "British Art Studies" and "April 2017" is overlaid on the image.

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Cover image: Francis Alexander Skidmore and Sir George Gilbert Scott, Hereford Screen (detail), 1862, painted wrought and cast iron, brass, copper, timber, mosaics, and hardstones. Collection of the Victoria & Albert Museum, London, Given by Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, Coventry (M.251:1 to 316-1984).. Digital image courtesy of Justin Underhill

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Conserving and Restoring the Hereford Screen, Diana Heath



Conserving and Restoring the Hereford Screen

Diana Heath

Abstract

In this film, the Victoria and Albert Museum's Head of Metals Conservation, Diana Heath, describes her involvement in the intricate conservation and restoration of the Hereford Screen over a number of years. From her first encounter with the screen in 1983, as its fragments arrived in the conservation studio packed in cases stuffed with straw, to the return of the screen to its former glory when it was installed as a whole object in the Metalwork Galleries above the main entrance to the Victoria and Albert Museum, Diana Heath guides us step-by-step through the restoration process of one of the most significant pieces of nineteenth-century metalwork.

Authors

Head of Metals Conservation at the Victoria and Albert Museum, London

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[Watch Video](#)

Figure 1.

Diana Heath, *Conserving and Restoring the Hereford Screen*, video essay, 2017. Digital image courtesy of Film by Jonathan Law

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