



# Museum of Fine Arts Boston

## Fashioned by Sargent

### Wednesday, January 10

**8:15 am** – Meet and board the bus at the State Street parking lot located across from the Springfield Main Library.

**8:30 am** – Depart from the Museums' State Street parking lot. We'll make one rest stop on the way.

**10:30 - 11 am** – Estimated arrival at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston - Organized with Tate Britain, "Fashioned by Sargent" explores John Singer Sargent's complex relationship with his often-affluent clients and their clothes. We'll enjoy a self-guided tour of the special exhibition that reveals Sargent's power over his sitters' images by considering the liberties he took with clothing styles to express distinctive personalities, social positions, professions, gender identities, and nationalities. The exhibition features style icons like Madame X, Lady Agnew, and Dr. Pozzi at Home.

Alongside about 50 paintings by Sargent, over a dozen period garments and accessories shed new light on the relationship between fashion and this beloved artist's creative practice. The parallels between the real garments and Sargent's interpretations are highlighted to the fullest. Most striking is a stunning beetle-encrusted gown which is on display next to Sargent's larger-than-life "Ellen Terry as Lady Macbeth" (1889). The dress is the exact garment featured in the portrait, and its glittering allure still beckons despite being over a century old. The room also features alternative perspectives on how Sargent sometimes used sitters clad in culturally appropriated clothing. Showing the dresses alongside the paintings showcases how and why Sargent and his audiences were drawn to clothing that was labeled as flashy or performative. There will be free time to explore the MFA's permanent collection before and after our timed tickets to "Fashioned by Sargent."

**Lunch is on our own at one of the MFA's dining locations.**

**3 pm** – Board the bus and depart for the return to Springfield with an estimated return by 5:30-6 pm.

**What to bring:** snack and a beverage for the bus. Please dress in layers and the temperature varies on the bus. Items may be left on the bus while touring. Bottled water is provided on the return.

**Cost:** \$145, Members, \$170, nonmembers; includes timed and general admission, bus travel and driver tip.