



*Glass Society - Talk Live & on Zoom*  
*The Annual Robert Charleston Lecture*

# **Katharine Coleman MBE**

## *The Hedwig Glasses*

Thursday 29th June, 7pm BST, on Zoom

Who made the Hedwig Glasses? How, when and where were they made? Many theories have been proposed regarding this mysterious and unique group of some fourteen relief cut and polished early medieval glass tumblers now scattered among the treasuries and museums of Northern Europe and America. Their known story is certainly intriguing, especially the pair associated most closely with Hedwig (a medieval Norman-Silesian saint) herself.

In 2016, leading glass engraver Katharine Coleman MBE assisted practical research by Professor Jeremy

Johns (Professor of the Art & Archaeology of the Islamic Mediterranean) and Elise Morero at Oxford University, into the cutting and polishing of the famous Fatimid rock crystal ewers, and that of the glass Hedwig Beakers.



By further examining highly magnified photographs of the cut surfaces of almost all the Hedwigs glasses as well as reading extensively in the Rakow Library in Corning, Katharine aims to make a useful contribution to the Hedwig debate. This talk outlines the results of her work so far.

*Picture: Hedwig glass once owned by Martin Luther, Wikipedia Commons/ Kunstsammlungen der Veste Coburg*

**TO BOOK:** To attend in person at the Art Workers Guild, London, or on Zoom: Please contact David Willars at [gsocfinancial@gmail.com](mailto:gsocfinancial@gmail.com), saying how you wish to attend. Please note, places are limited.

- At the Art Workers Guild, 6 Queen Square, London WC1N 3AT\*, we will meet in the upstairs Gradidge Room for refreshments from 6.30pm (note 7pm start time). Please let us know the number of people coming, at £15 each (members; guests £20) with payment direct into the Society's account (ask for details if needed) or cash on the night. (\*Nearest Underground stations: Russell Square or Holborn).
- If joining on Zoom (still free), you will be sent details of how to join the meeting before the 29th June.

*Next Meeting: 3rd October, on Zoom.*