

Hairstyles through history. 10, 17th Century, cavalier.

Contributors

Abbott Laboratories

Publication/Creation

London : Abbott Laboratories, [1961?]

Persistent URL

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Hair styles through history

A series of illustrations by Ronald Glendening which depict the changing mode of hair dressing since the days of early Egyptian culture . . .

10

17th Century

CAVALIER

The Spanish influence on fashion declined in the seventeenth century, as did the power of Spain following the defeat of the Armada. Paris gradually took over, and although challenged from time to time over the years, maintains its position. The Cavalier mode of dress and hair style was introduced by the French around 1601-1643. Rightly, a Cavalier would have been a horseman of some equestrian skill, but his dress was followed by the dandies of Europe, many of whom would not have been seen dead on a horse.

Hair was worn long . . . if it was sparse, a generous wig was added, sometimes to the extent of incongruity. To soften it and to impart an air of dignity, fine flour was sometimes used to powder the hair. Both sexes used the curling tongs avidly.

Depicted is a dandy of the period, a gentleman whose contemporaries provided the artist, Van Dyck, plenty of scope for portraiture.

SELSUN

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