The Peabody Essex Museum revisits the golden era of cruising in its new exhibit

**TIPS FOR TOURING HERE AND ABROAD**

---

**Opulence and elegance on the high seas**

The Peabody Essex Museum revisits the golden era of cruising in its new exhibit "Ocean Liners: Glamour, Speed and Style" running through Oct. 9 at the Peabody Essex Museum.

---

**By Christopher Mother**

“I was riveted by the idea that the ocean was once not just a source of entertainment, but a source of contemplation,” said Dan Finamore, the Peabody Essex Museum’s curator of marine art and history, “That’s really where this obsession began.”

The Peabody Essex maintains an extensive collection of maritime technology, but Finamore said there has been little focus on the cultural impact of luxury ocean liners. “Before World War I, there were investigations, and they kept going with the marketing statements that ‘we fixed it, and everything will be OK now.’ People always want the big- gest, best, latest, and greatest. That’s what the Titanic represented.”

But at PEM, the show moves to the first of its kind. After its debut in Salem, the show, which it is billing as the first of its kind, is moving to Salem and肚子 through Oct. 9.

“People have very special affinity for the cruise ships. I’ve also learned over the years that ocean liners were actually created to float on spaces one could conceive of that the most opulent hotel on the top of that, there’s the whole promotional side of ocean liners as a concept to a posh way to vacation?”

“No one had ever really focused on ocean liners as a means of conveying and communicating design ideas, and cultural values,” he said. “When you think of them, there’s the whole promotional side of ocean liners.”

The PEM exhibit features nearly 300 works such as paintings, sculptures, furniture, lighting, wall panels, textiles, mahogany, porcelain, glassware, and ceramics. Finamore teamed with a curator from London’s Victoria and Albert Museum to create the show, which it is billing as the first of its kind. But at PEM, the show moves to the Victoria and Albert in 2018.

“We chatted with Finamore about the gallery and what these floating hotels, and what it was like aboard the ships before norovirus and noroviruses.

Where do you see a rise in the Italian and American ships? People often think of the Titanic when they think of the Oceanic and ships of those. Did the sinking of the Titanic dampen enthusiasm for cruising? That’s an interesting question. I haven’t even any firm documentation that shows that people stopped traveling. It was still the heyday. The things that stopped people, of course, were things like the Titanic. People took trips on the Titanic when the Germans had already announced they were looking to sink an ocean liner.

The Titanic was really shocking its day. There were investigations, and they kept going with the marketing statements that ‘we fixed it, and everything will be OK now.’ People always want the big-gest, best, latest, and greatest. That’s what the Titanic represented. We ask, ‘What did we see that today that compared to cruise ships that are introduced every year? There was a different kind of ex- pense 100 years ago.’

The Peabody Essex Museum revisits the golden era of cruising in its new exhibit "Ocean Liners: Glamour, Speed and Style." (below) from Providence and Las Vegas. Food and drinks are available; no alcohol served. www.pem.org, 866-745-1876. Adults $20; seniors $18; students $12.

---

**MUSICAL CD FOR TRAVELING DOGS**

"Something Songs for Traveling Dogs" is a collection of tunes based on a musical for traveling dogs approved by dogs. "Indeed, these songs were crafted after canine focus groups who rated more than 200 dogs nationwide — were questioned on their communication as to their preference in music and content. The dog’s responses were then used as guiding music and lyrics resulting in a unique album of songs such as “Escape Dog,” “Restart My Life” and “My Dog’s Back.” It can also help ease separation anxiety when leaving your dog in kennel, and is used in shelters and by veterinarians for dogs to recovery. CD ($16.99). digital download for individual songs ($1.29). laurelcanyonanimalcompany.com/product/Dogs_Happy

---

**THE CONCIERGE**

You had the Mauretania, the Titanic, the Lusitania. People always want the biggest, best, latest, and greatest. That’s what the Titanic represented. When the Germans had already announced they were looking to sink an ocean liner.

The Peabody Essex Museum revisits the golden era of cruising in its new exhibit "Ocean Liners: Glamour, Speed and Style." running through Oct. 9 at the Peabody Essex Museum. Adults $20; seniors $18; students $12. www.pem.org, 866-745-1876. Christopher Bader can be reached at mbader@globe.com. Follow him on Twitter @Chris_Mother.