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## The Arts

### Currents | Suzanne Slesin

#### A Decorative Corner of Academe

**T**HERE'S nothing like an exhibition with the title "Along the Royal Road: Berlin and Potsdam in Porcelain and Painting, 1815-1848" to re-

mind us of the scope and scholarship of the decorative arts.

Fittingly, the show marks the opening of the Bard Graduate Center for Studies in the Decorative Arts, an international study and exhibition space in a Beaux-Arts townhouse at 18 West 86th Street.

The institution offers a two-year program toward a master's degree in the history of decorative arts, and it plans to invite the public to a series of exhibitions and lectures. The first show runs from Oct. 16 to Jan. 30. It will include a porcelain plate, left, with a view of the Gendarmenmarkt in Berlin in 1842.

"Cast Iron From Central Europe, 1800-1850" will be shown from March 3 to June 12, 1994. Onward and upward with the arcane.

