
CLUB FERMOY

The David Roche Foundation House Museum



Salon des Refusés 2021 at TDRF

Club Fermoy #23

Dear friends and supporters,

Spring has delivered South Australia some wild weather and be sure to visit our 'wild' exhibition *Salon des Refusés 2021* of contemporary Australian portraiture and landscape painting before it closes in early December. To celebrate the first time that this nationally important exhibition has toured to South Australia, Sylvia Sagona will join us to discuss the history of the French salon system then, later in November, Rhoda Tjitayi and the APY Gallery, Adelaide, will talk about her painting *Piltati Tjukurpa* selected for *Salon des Refusés 2021*. Keep an eye out for our upcoming email on Rhoda's talk as well as our last *Twilight Evening* for 2021 on Thursday 2 December. Pencil in the date now for this popular evening event!

Starting next Thursday, Fermoy House will also be the site for a new experimental project examining four items from the collection through the lens of digital copies. Read more about Dr Rochus Hinkel's exhibition in the newsletter and in just over a week's time enjoy an armchair viewing of Fermoy House from your home as this exciting project makes David Roche's house available to you anywhere in the world.

We bring you more fascinating stories about David Roche and his dogs in the ever popular Canine Tidbits and Today's Treasure sections, as well as an ever increasing range of uniquely designed items after our collection for sale in our Online Shop. Please support us by purchasing something this Christmas. Or for the friend who has everything why not buy them a gift voucher to the museum?

Happy reading as always.

Best wishes,

Robert Reason
Museum Director

EXHIBITION

SALON DES REFUSÉS



Sally Robinson, Veena Sahajwalla (professor, scientist, engineer and inventor)

Now in its final weeks, the National Trust S.H. Ervin Gallery's *Salon des Refusés 2021* is a not-to-be-missed exhibition of over 40 pieces picked from the many hundreds of incredible works entered into Archibald and Wynne prizes, but not chosen for the main exhibition. The resulting *Salon des Refusés 2021* is a fascinating survey of contemporary Australian portraiture and landscapes, with works chosen for their quality, diversity, humour and experimentation.

Details: *SALON DES REFUSÉS 2021*

UNTIL 11 DECEMBER 2021

Open Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 4pm

Exhibition entry \$12 adult. \$10 concession.

\$8 National Trust Members. Children under 12 free.

No booking required.

In partnership with



PODCAST



Recently, Nathan, our Assistant Curator, sat down with artist, Robyn Sweaney, to discuss her photo-realist work, *All Our Histories*, currently on display as part of the Wynne prize section of the 2021 *Salon des Refusés*.

Hear Robyn speak about her artistic process, why she has been painting images of suburban houses regularly since 2003 and what it was about these three particular houses that caught her attention.

Listen now

UPCOMING EXHIBITION



The Doppelgänger

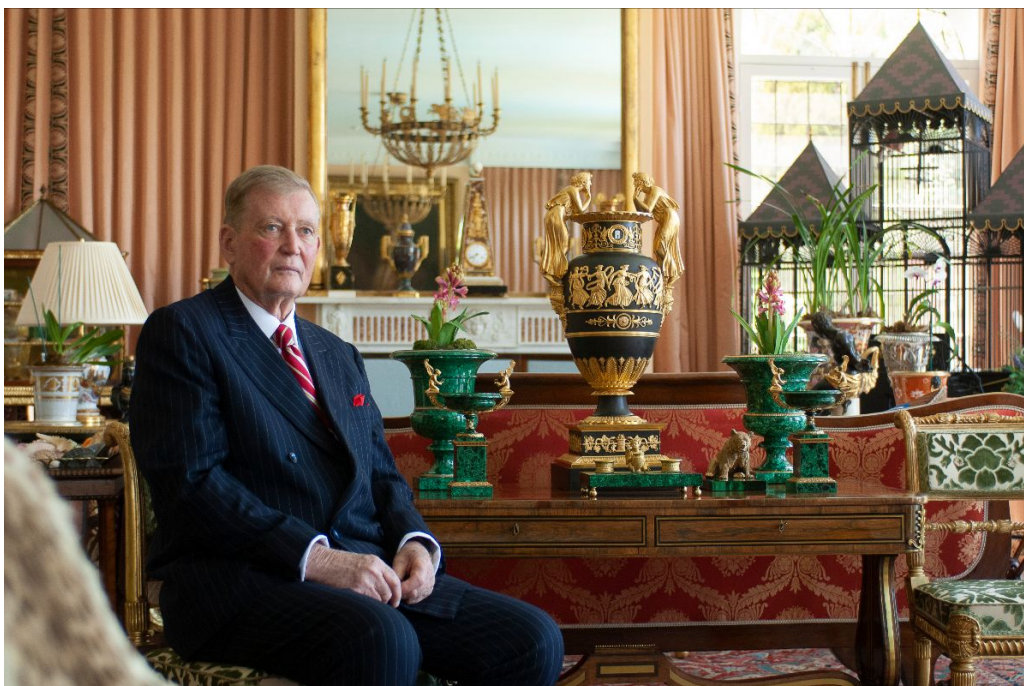
Explorations on the Original and the Copy in the Post-Digital Age

The David Roche Foundation, in association with the University of South Australia and the SIDA Foundation, presents the first part of The Doppelgänger exhibition by Dr Rochus Hinkel, winner of the 2020 Research Fellowship in Interior Design and Decoration.

Earlier in 2021, Fermoy House and four items from The David Roche Collection were documented using video recordings, 360 degree photography, and 3D scans to create digital copies to explore the potential and limitations of digital technologies in design, and to experiment with the original works to offer novel perspectives, alternative realities and new forms of representation.

From 11 November until 16 December, visitors will be able to view these digital representations of The David Roche Foundation's collection and spaces as part of a tour of Fermoy House and online via our website. And there is more to come in 2022.

FROM THE ARCHIVES



David Roche in the Roman room, with the gilded French aviary in the background, 2008.

Photograph by David Mariuz

Currently on display in the main hallway of TDRF is David Roche's beautiful gilded French aviary. Made c.1980, it was upgraded a few years later with gilding as well as some choice neoclassical features (according to David's own specifications).

During David's lifetime, the aviary was located in the corner of Fermoy House's Roman room to the right of the fireplace (see above image), where it was home to a variety of birds over the years. Indeed, David enjoyed having life in the house as much as possible - be it in the many plants and flowers throughout Fermoy House, or these lovely little birds; and being David, he always preferred something exotic.

In the early years of the aviary, it was inhabited solely by Gouldian Finches, which were then joined by a pair of Scarlet-chested parrots, all of which David bought on account of their bright and colourful plumage - yet more proof of David's love of the bright and colourful. After one of the parrots subsequently passed away, he replaced it with a number of Bourke's parakeets. At the time of David's passing in 2013, only the parakeets remained, and these, according to David's wishes, were ultimately returned to the breeder.

Today the aviary no longer contains any live birds, but instead is replete with a variety of wonderful pieces from David's ceramic collection, including figures by the renowned British Derby and Bow Factories, beautifully illustrated plates with animals by Coalport, and part of a c.1805 Paris Porcelain *Zoological coffee and tea service* with further depictions of exotic animals (the rest of which can be seen as part of a tour of Fermoy House).

CANINE TIDBITS



David Roche receiving Best in Show for *Granemore Kilfenora* at the Adelaide Royal Show, 1979

Did you know...

David Roche was a great supporter of the major Australian Royal Shows and although he was regularly overseas buying new pieces for his collection or on judging assignments at famous international Dog Shows, he usually tried to be in the country for at least the Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney Royals. Of course his home state was a priority, while Sydney was always a home away from home as he had a house there on View Street (see Club Fermoy edition #20) making it so much easier for the comfort of the dogs.

David and his dogs were hugely successful over many years at the Royal Agricultural Society Shows across Australia with the Afghan Hounds and the Kerry Blue Terriers winning consecutive Best in Show Awards on several occasions. Indeed, at the time of his retirement from actively exhibiting in 2012, he had amassed the amazing total of 19 Best in Show Awards at Royal Agricultural Society Shows, at the time the highest tally for any exhibitor.

TODAY'S TREASURE

Showcasing the favourite pieces of our fantastic guides and volunteers in The David Roche Collection. In this edition, Helen B. discusses her love for two miniatures of dogs by Minnie Fox on display in Fermoy House's Yellow drawing room.



Minnie Fox (née Gurnell) A.R.M.S. (Britain 1875-1976), *Two miniatures of terriers*, c.1920, London, painted ivory?, 5.0 x 4.0cm. TDRF 2401

Situated in the glass terrarium in Fermoy House's Yellow drawing room, there are two wonderful c.1920 hand-painted circular ivory miniatures by Minnie Fox, one of a smooth fox terrier, the other of a wirehaired fox terrier. I suggest that these types of miniatures were often mourning mementos – a treasured memory of a loved and prized dog that has passed away.

Mrs Minnie Fox (née Gurnell) (1875–1976) trained in London (probably Slade School) with her contemporaries Cecily Mary Barker and Hannah Barlow. In 1914, she was made an Associate of the Royal Miniature Society. She exhibited four times at the Royal Academy and five times at the Royal Miniature Society.

Both miniatures would have appealed to Mr Roche for two reasons: first, they are exquisitely painted in fine detail and second, they accurately reflect two breeds of which David was exceptionally fond (famously breeding smooth haired terriers to great success).

What attracted me to these two works was the similarity of a piece of jewellery I have in my own collection. The style, the portrayal of a dog and the palette are all reflected my own miniature of a Great Dane. I have been brought up with this breed all my life, and have owned nine Great Danes since I was married.

I began researching Mrs Fox and to my delight on an English Gallery website, I located my actual miniature (below right). It is cited c.1915 and set in gold.

Minnie Fox was an owner and breeder of Fox Terriers and Great Danes. She was a founding member of the Great Dane Club in England, which made my research all the more satisfying. I even located a photo of her with one of her Great Danes (below left). Some of the works she has painted are of her own Great Danes - including 'Lass of

Walmesley', a prize winner, below right.

Mr Roche's excellent eye for dog portraits lead him to acquire these two fine miniatures of terriers. In researching them, I have solved one of my personal jewellery puzzles, which has given me a wonderful connection to the Foundation's collection.



ONLINE SHOP



Stuck for ideas for Christmas gifts?

Then check out our online shop! We have lots of gifts including pens, notebooks, scarves,

umbrellas, books, jigsaws and our beautiful **new** Flowers tea towel, printed in Australia on 100% cotton! We can even wrap them in Christmas TDRF ribbon to make them look extra special.

Christmas is just around the corner so don't delay, order your gifts today!

Just click the button below to see these as well as what else is on offer!



[Visit the shop](#)

MEMBERSHIP



Have you considered joining The David Roche Foundation House Museum membership?

By joining, you will be able to enjoy a variety of fantastic benefits, including:

- **access to exclusive tours and special events**
- **a 25% discount on house tours and exhibition entry fees**
- **10% off lecture tickets**
- **10% off shop purchases**
- **and so much more!**

In addition, you will be supporting TDRF to continue presenting world-class exhibitions, lectures with expert guest speakers from across the country and acquiring important pieces to add to the Collection.

Sign up to TDRF membership today, so you can be part of one of Australia's finest art institutions!

For more information about the membership or to sign up, click the button below to visit the Membership page on our website or contact memberships@rochefoundation.org.au.

Find out more

DIGITAL COLLECTION

Did you know that many of the items in The David Roche Collection are available online?

Search by title, artist, type, materials, and place made to find out more about your favourite piece or discover something new.



Search the collection

NEW PIECES ADDED!

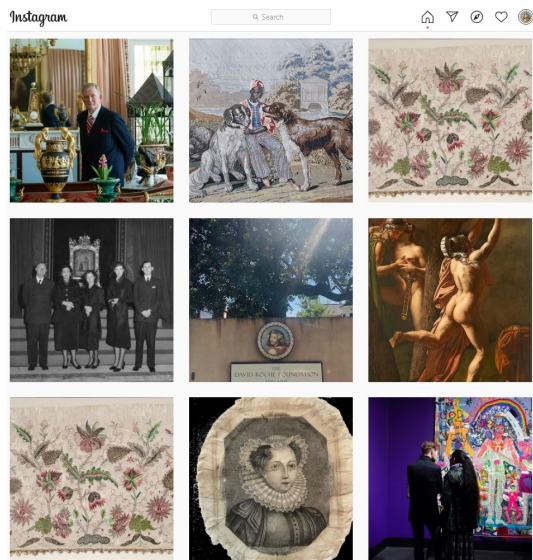
We are always adding new items to the database, and this edition we have a number of delightful naive pieces from David's kitchen, including Children's ABC plates, Whieldon-style plates, tureens, jugs and an entertaining novelty Three Little Pigs and Big Bad Wolf jug from the 1930s.

See the new additions

SOCIAL MEDIA

We are on Facebook and Instagram!

We provide regular content through our social media



channels. Follow us now to keep in the loop!



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TDRF acknowledges the Kaurna people as the traditional owners of the Adelaide region. We recognise and respect Kaurna heritage, beliefs and spiritual relationship with Country, and we pay our respect to Elders past, present and emerging.



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