
CLUB FERMOY

The David Roche Foundation House Museum newsletter

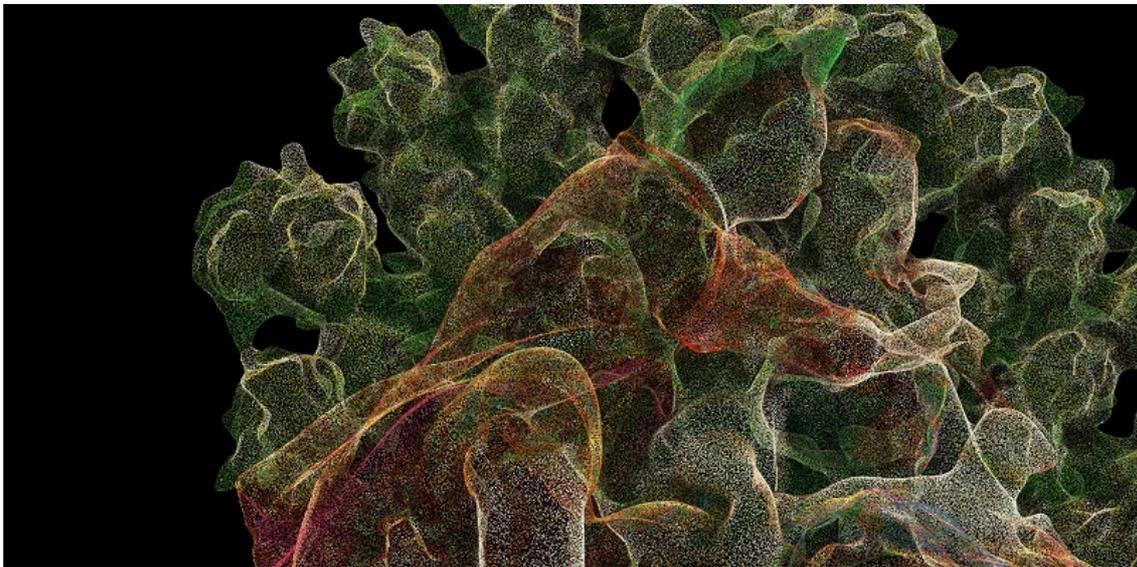


Image: A digital work of art inspired by Chelsea Porcelain Factory's *The Music Lesson*, to be displayed in our upcoming exhibition *Doppelgänger and Zombies*, opening 1 July 2022.

Club Fermoy #30

Dear friends and supporters,

We are now in our final days of *Silhouettes: Fashion in the shadow of HIV/AIDS*. To celebrate the conclusion of this ground-breaking exhibition, we will present several programs across the exhibition's last week. Exhibition curator Skye Bartlett is delivering a tour on Friday 10 June, and Melbourne based writer, artist, and advocate Dr Sally Gray will share memories of her close friend in *David McDiarmid: Art, Politics, Fashion and AIDS*. Further details can be found in this newsletter, and there are still a few exhibition catalogues remaining for further reading or a gift.

We welcome Timothy Roberts, who has taken up the role of curator following the departure of Nathan Schroeder in March this year. Tim hails from Brisbane, where

he previously worked as Assistant Team Leader, Protection and Visitor Services, Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art (QAGOMA). He is also published on topics of Australian art heritage, decorative arts, and material culture, and has assisted the curation of *With Heart & Hand: Art Pottery in Queensland 1900-1950* at Griffith University Art Museum, and the Foundation's current exhibition *Silhouettes*.

The exhibition *Doppelgänger and Zombies - Decorative Arts in the Digital Age* will open on 1 July and is the culmination of Associate Professor Rochus Hinkel's SIDA Foundation, UniSA and TDRF Curatorial Research Fellowship in Interior Design and Decoration (2020-2022). Several special events are planned throughout this exhibition, which runs until 23 July, including talks, tours and an auction. We look forward to you joining us for this exploration into new directions for decorative arts and design.

Best wishes,

Robert Reason
Museum Director

EXHIBITION

SILHOUETTES

Fashion in the Shadow of HIV/AIDS



Image: Fashion by Giorgio di Sant'Angelo in *Silhouettes: Fashion in the Shadow of HIV/AIDS*.

FINAL DAYS!

There is just over a week remaining to explore *Silhouettes: Fashion in the shadow of HIV/AIDS*. Curated by Skye Bartlett (SAMESH), *Silhouettes* explores the lives and works of some of fashion's brightest stars from the late 20th century. Household names like Halston and Moschino stand alongside revolutionary black designers Willi Smith and Patrick Kelly, and Australian artists Brenton Heath-Kerr, David McDiarmid, and Peter Tully.

Recently, Chelsea Fernandez interviewed Skye Bartlett and Timothy Roberts for *Fresher Magazine*. You can read the article in full [here](#).

Silhouettes must end on Saturday 18 June. In the closing week, a number of special programs are being hosted, including a tour with Curator Skye Bartlett at 11.15am on Friday 10 June, and a lecture by Dr Sally Gray on [David McDiarmid: Art, Politics, Fashion and AIDS](#) at 6.00pm, Thursday 16 June. Book your ticket now!

[Details:](#)

Silhouettes: Fashion in the Shadow of HIV/AIDS

Until 18 June 2022

Tuesday to Saturday 10AM – 4PM

No booking required.

Exhibition entry: \$12 adult. \$10 concession.
Children under 12 free.

Guided tours of *Silhouettes*

Each Friday 11:15am
(Curator's tour 10 June)

Register for a guided tour

COMING SOON

DOPPELGÄNGER AND

ZOMBIES

Decorative Arts in the Digital Age



Doppelgänger and Zombies is a critical and artistic, experimental and provocative exploration of what it means to engage with decorative arts in our digital age. This exhibition presents new creations based on digital copies of some of the master pieces from David Roche's collection of 17th and 18th century decorative arts objects. Newly interpreted, they are modified and translated into objects of the 21st century using digital crafting techniques and advanced fabrication technologies.

The creative research by the Research Fellow Dr Rochus Hinkel, from the Melbourne School of Design and Co-Director of the Advanced Digital Design and Fabrication Research Hub at The University of Melbourne is complemented by a reflection and presentation on the processes and outcomes of the Fellowship. A limited edition of 21st century decorative arts objects will be available via a public auction offering physical and digital collectables, including NFTs.

Doppelgänger and Zombies is the FINAL exhibition during the two-year-long investigation of The SIDA Foundation, UniSA and The David Roche Foundation's Research Fellowship in Interior Design and Decoration.

Details:

Doppelgänger and Zombies
Rochus Urban Hinkel

Decorative Arts in the Digital Age
Exhibition of Archetypes, Cyber Crafts and Collectibles

1 July to 23 July 2022

Tuesday to Saturday 10AM – 4PM

No booking required.
Exhibition entry: free.

FROM THE ARCHIVES (INTO THE FUTURE)



Image: The Hon. Paul Keating officially opening the museum in June 2016.

When David Roche passed away in 2013 the Foundation's Board was left with an enormous task of transforming his residence Fermoy House and extensive private collection into a public museum. David, inspired by visiting the best house museums in world, created an unparalleled collection of European decorative arts with a wish that people enjoy his home as he had done for nearly 60 years. Led by Martyn Cook, one of David's dealers, and confidante of 30 years, plans were developed in conjunction with WBL architects to seamlessly join Fermoy House to a new gallery wing based on the footprint of the 2008 exhibition of 'highlights' from David's collection held at the Art Gallery of South Australia. On the 3rd of June 2016 the realisation of this vision was officially opened by former prime minister of Australia, Paul Keating.

As we celebrate our sixth anniversary, David's home and collection continue to surprise and delight thousands of visitors a year. A unique ongoing programme of exhibitions and events has quickly established the museum as a place to enjoy historical and contemporary decorative arts and design alongside the visual arts. There is, however, much more to be done to realise David's 'greatest wish that one day my small Foundation be known internationally for its diversity and great quality'

from *Empires & Splendour*, 2008. That remains our mission as we seek to build upon the Foundation's successes through funding new galleries, workshop spaces, open access to the collection and library, and a superb auditorium for events and performances. If you want to know more please contact Robert Reason, Museum Director, and all donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible. Simply visit www.rochefoundation.com.au/giving/

TODAY'S TREASURE

Showcasing the favourite pieces of our team in The David Roche Collection. In this edition, new curator Tim Roberts discusses a Sèvres porcelain *pot à sucre Hébert*.



Image: Sèvres Porcelain Manufactory, *Sugar pot and cover (pot à sucre Hébert)*, c.1775. TDRF Reg. 2423.

This sugar pot is certainly not the largest piece in The David Roche Foundation's collection, but despite its diminutive proportions, this piece still manages to pack considerable visual punch. Standing just under 10cm in height, the surface of this *pot à sucre Hébert* produced at the Sèvres Porcelain manufactory around 1775 is richly decorated with medallions in underglaze colours, over which diaper and trellis patterns have been painted in overglaze enamels and gilding. The lid's knob is formed as a brilliant pink and yellow carnation.

The intense colourings and intricate detail of the *frises riches* pieces produced at the Sèvres manufactory not only showcased the talent of the decorators and gilders, but also subtly evidenced the wealth of the piece's owner through their distinguished taste. Regrettably, the decorators who contributed to this work are unknown, but the quality of the detail underscores their ability.

Mr Roche acquired this piece at a London auction in 2004, and today it sits alongside other superb examples of French porcelain in the Drawing Room at Fermoy House.

CANINE TIDBITS



Image: Lilian Cheviot *Japanese Chin* c. 1920. TDRF Reg. 386

Visitors to Fermoy House may observe that there is not one room without a work of art or decorative object that features a dog. This is true even of the Chinese bathroom. Hanging over Scalamandr 's renowned 'Shanghai' pattern wallpaper is a portrait of a Japanese Chin painted by English animal painter Lilian Cheviot c. 1920s.

The Chin may have originated in China and was an established breed in Japan by the time European trade commenced in the sixteenth century. Some dogs travelled to Europe as early as the seventeenth century as gifts exchanged during diplomatic business, but dogs (then known as Japanese spaniels) were being shown in Europe and the United States by the later decades of the nineteenth century, and were popular pets among the upper echelons of society. Alexandra of Denmark owned a Chin named 'Punch' during the 1890s. Punch no doubt would have been an important companion to her following the death of her eldest son Prince Albert Victor in 1892.

Among Mr Roche's library of dog-related publications is a copy of *The Complete Japanese Chin* by Pamela Cross Stern and Tom Mather. This signed copy was presented to Mr Roche by the authors, with Pamela Cross Stern and W Brian Conn of Sternroc Kennels remembering one of their greatest Chins, Ch. Sternroc Dikki in their inscription. The publication features a reproduction of Cheviot's painting on the dust jacket.

EVENTS

David McDiarmid: Art, Politics, Fashion and AIDS



A talk by Dr Sally Gray
writer, artist and advocate

Image: David McDiarmid, Sydney. Photograph by C. Moore Hardy, 1993

Thursday 16 June | 6PM

Australian queer artist David McDiarmid (1952-1995) is best known internationally for his fiercely courageous and darkly humorous art works created in the face of his sero-positive HIV status from 1986. Centring on the artist's life and work, Sally Gray's talk will range over the personal and the political: art; fashion; friendships; collaborations; parties; inspirations; influences and histories. The presentation will cover McDiarmid's search for creative modalities to encompass early Gay Liberation; triumphant pre-AIDS cruising and dance party worlds and response to the personal and political impact of HIV/AIDS.

About the speaker

Dr Sally Gray wrote her PhD on the life and work of her long-term friend Australian queer artist David McDiarmid. She was executor of the McDiarmid estate following David's death of AIDS-related conditions in 1995 and is the copyright holder for his artistic works.

As curator of the McDiarmid creative legacy she has facilitated David's inclusion in numerous cultural events, screenings, exhibitions and publications globally; including the presentation of his *Rainbow Aphorism* series of digital works throughout London's Underground stations in 2017 in collaboration with Art on The Underground.

Book Here

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

ONLINE SHOP



We still have a handful of catalogues remaining for *Silhouettes: Fashion in the Shadow of HIV/AIDS*. This 164-page catalogue has attracted national and international interest, with copies acquired by the research libraries of the National Gallery of Australia, National Gallery of Victoria, Art Gallery of New South Wales, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. It includes entries and beautiful photographs for each of the 120 works on display, as well as essays by guest curator Skye Bartlett, art historian and collector Tim Roberts, acclaimed curator and fashion historian Daniel Milford-Cottam, and much more. Get it now for just \$35 while stocks last (plus postage & handling or click and collect in Adelaide).

Also in-store and online are *Willi Smith: Street Couture* (Rizzoli, 2020, \$40), *Black Designers in American Fashion* (Bloomsbury, 2021, \$55), and the now out-of-print *Halston: Inventing American Fashion* (Rizzoli, 2014, \$140). These will not last.

Order online at <https://www.rochefoundation.com.au/shop/> or by calling us on (08) 8267 3677 or emailing us at info@rochefoundation.org.au (with your contact details).
Click and collect is available.

Order today before it's too late!

Visit the shop

COLLECTION

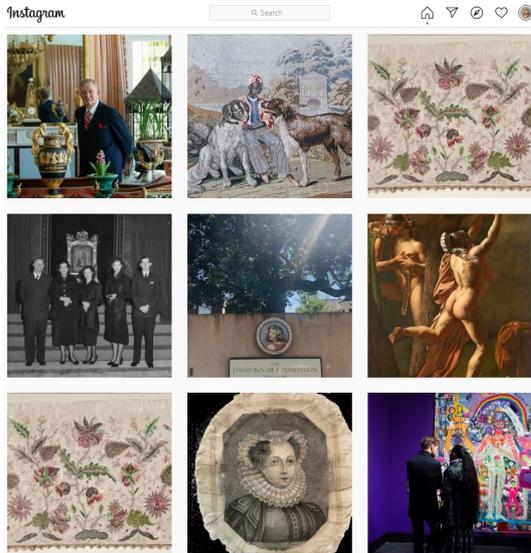


Did you know that many of the items in
The David Roche Collection are available to view online?

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

Search the Collection

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.



Facebook



Instagram

LINKS WE LOVE

Some of you may have noticed the May 2022 edition of *Vogue Australia* profiled four First National models including Elaine George, the first Indigenous model to feature on a cover of *Vogue Australia* in 1993. The magazine has released an [interview](#) with the models and an [editorial](#) on Elaine George's ongoing commitment to First Nations Fashion and Design.

The Fashion Institute of Technology, New York City - Alma Mater of *Silhouettes* featured designer Frank Masandrea - has developed the Fashion History Timeline. Encompassing examples of clothing, depictions of clothing in art, techniques and tools used in the making of garments, biographies of notable industry professionals and a glossary of terms, this resource is a must for anyone interested in expanding their knowledge of fashion.

<https://fashionhistory.fitnyc.edu/>

Silhouettes

Fashion
in the shadow of HIV/AIDS
29 Jan – 18 June 2022



THE DAVID ROCHE FOUNDATION
ADELAIDE
House Museum

Presented in
partnership with:



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House Museum

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



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