
CLUB FERMOY

The David Roche Foundation House Museum newsletter



Image: *Fantastical Worlds* installation view, August 2022. Photo: Sam Roberts

Club Fermoy #33

Dear friends and supporters,

In August we threw open our doors to *Fantastical Worlds*, an exhibition developed by Powerhouse, Sydney. Exhibition curator Eva Czernis-Ryl has brought together over 90 works from the Powerhouse Collection and The David Roche Collection to create a series of breathtaking tableaux which promises to stimulate the imagination. We are pleased to have received strong attendance to the exhibition in its opening weeks, and I encourage you to visit soon before the crowds.

This month, we present our first programme associated with the exhibition. Curator Eva Czernis-Ryl will discuss how she turned *Fantastical Worlds* from concept into reality, and reveal stories behind key works in a talk on Thursday 22 September at

6pm. Tickets to this event are limited, so book early to avoid disappointment.

Our 2022 SALA exhibition, *Reframing* by Adelaide sculptor Georgina Mills, has been enthusiastically embraced, with a number of works selling and Georgina and friends have been popping in to the Roman Room to sketch sculptural works from our collection. We are delighted to extend the exhibition for a few more days, so get in quick before Saturday 10 September, for a last look at these stunning works.

Finally, Nine network and Nine Gem will screen *Antiques Down Under*, an eight-part series dedicated to art and antiques on Fridays at 7.30pm from 30 September. Acclaimed collectors and presenters Gregory Bickford and Claudia Chan Shaw will uncover intriguing stories of Australia's treasures and collectibles (including TDRF!) while travelling the country visiting antique fairs, cultural museums, galleries, private collections, historic homes, and back-yard sheds.

Best wishes,

Robert Reason
Museum Director

CURRENT EXHIBITION



Image: Peter Chang, *Bracelet*, plastics and silver, Scotland, 2004. Powerhouse collection, purchased 2005. Photo: Marinco Kojdanovski

FANTASTICAL WORLDS

The David Roche Foundation is proud to host *Fantastical Worlds*, a travelling exhibition developed by Powerhouse museum, Sydney, comprising playful arrangements of old and new.

The Powerhouse collection holds many objects that instil a sense of wonder. Made using a wide range of materials and techniques, they seduce us with their otherworldly beauty, stimulate our imagination and shed light on how we perceive ourselves and the world.

Fantastical Worlds is developed around works from four artists and designers: Timothy Horn, Alexander McQueen, Kate Rohde and Timorous Beasties. Inspired by elaborate European art styles from the past such as Baroque, Rococo and Empire, they imaginatively transform historical ideas, forms and patterns into striking 21st century creations. Playful arrangements of new and old complement these artworks, revealing creative brilliance behind contemporary and historical designs. For this iteration of the exhibition, Powerhouse ceramics, jewellery, silver, textiles and fashion are joined by decorative arts objects and paintings from The David Roche Foundation in a wondrous offering of dazzling form, ornament and colour.

Details:

Fantastical Worlds

Until 24 December 2022

Tuesday to Saturday 10AM – 4PM

No booking required.

Exhibition entry: \$15 adult. \$12 concession.

Children under 12 free.

FANTASTICAL WORLDS GUIDED TOURS



Image: Kate Rohde, *Deer vase* (detail) 2016. Powerhouse collection, purchased 2017. Photo: Sam Roberts

Learn more about the pieces in *Fantastical Worlds* by joining a tour led by one of our passionate volunteers. Tours take place each Friday at 11.15AM, and are free with your exhibition ticket. Numbers are limited, so be sure to book to reserve your place!

Book your ticket now

Don't forget to take a look at our *Fantastical Worlds* merchandise next time you visit. Our range includes the newly published book *Lee Alexander McQueen: Mind - Mythos - Muse*; Andrew Wilson's acclaimed biography of Alexander McQueen *Blood Beneath the Skin*; and a selection of tea towels designed by *Fantastical Worlds* collective Timorous Beasties. These items are only available in-store!

CLOSING SOON!



Image: Georgina Mills, *I look at and see through you* 2020

SALA 2022 Georgina Mills

Due to the wonderful response to her work, TDRF is proud to extend Adelaide sculptor Georgina Mills's exhibition *Reframing* until Saturday 10 September. *Reframing* aims to influence the viewer's position on classical art in Australia and to see it placed amongst the contemporary art scene. A progression of sculptures illustrate Georgina Mills' figurative development from her studies at Florence Academy of Art and Post-graduation artist residency in Italy to her current work created in Adelaide.

Reframing is an opportunity for Georgina to hold a 'mirror' to her growth as an artist and for us all to more fully appreciate figurative sculpture. See how her academic training in Florence has informed and changed to meet her current environment in Australia. This exhibition must close on Saturday 10 September, see it now!

Details:

SALA 2022
Georgina Mills: Reframing

must close 10 September 2022

Tuesday to Saturday 10AM – 4PM

No booking required.

Exhibition entry: free.
Roman Room Only



FROM THE ARCHIVES



Image: Rupert Bunny, *Waterfront at Bandol, France*, c. 1929. Oil on panel. (TDRF 761)

In May 1990 Mr Roche admired an oil sketch by Rupert Bunny at a local antique dealer in Adelaide, and purchased it for his collection. It is one of a small number of Australian works in the collection, but depicts a distinctively French subject – the seaside resort of Bandol in the south of France.

Rupert Bunny was born on 26 September 1864 in Melbourne. After a brief education in Engineering, Bunny studied painting under George Folingsby at the National Gallery School in the early 1880s, before travelling to London where he studied under Philip Calderon at St John's Wood Art School in 1884-85. He then moved to Paris, where he received tutelage at the studio of Jean-Paul Laurens and at the Academie Colarossi in the late 1880s.

Bunny was one of Australia's most successful expatriate artists, exhibiting widely in France, Britain, and Australia during his lifetime. This sketch depicts the waterfront at the seaside resort of Bandol, which Bunny painted several views of in 1929. The artist's light, quick brushstrokes indicates it may have been painted en plein air, and the reflection of the large hotel in the water evidences Bunny's skill.

This sketch was property of Major Aeneas John Lindsay McDonnell, once partner to Macquarie Galleries in Sydney, Private Secretary to the Governor of Queensland, an Australian representative on the Commission of Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives (better known as the 'Monuments Men'), and London advisor to the Felton Bequest for the National Gallery of Victoria. His distinguished career saw him granted an honorary title of lieutenant colonel, and he was awarded the honour of Officier de l'ordre national de la Légion d'honneur for his services to France.

TODAY'S TREASURE

Showcasing the favourite pieces of our volunteers in The David Roche Collection. In this edition, Ruth W discusses *Grey Stallion* by Abraham Cooper.



Image: Abraham Cooper R.A. (1787-1868), *Grey Stallion (Millenium)* 1820 (TDRF 2200)

Grey Stallion by Abraham Cooper hangs in Fermoy House above the door to the Chinoiserie bedroom, and fits well into the hallway, alongside other horse paintings from the 18th and 19th centuries.

The grey stallion in this painting has been suddenly frightened by the approaching storm. It jerks backwards and the bridle flings forward with that movement. The tail, mane and forelock swirl forward adding drama to the scene. The eyes of the stallion portray the shock reaction and fear of the horse. Cooper shows a tremendous feel for the panicking horse.

The horizon is low set and is lit by a streak of light, reflected in the top left corner in the ominous storm clouds. There are no other features in the landscape with the remainder of the background being painted in muted browns. The red saddle cloth in the centre has the effect of anchoring both the stallion and the painting.

Abraham Cooper's life is a rags to riches story. As a lad growing up in Greenwich, London, he was attracted to the theatre and actually performed in the pageant scenes and mini battles tableaux at the Astley Theatre. He used much of his leisure time in making sketches of dogs and other animals. At the age of thirteen he was employed as a young stable hand for Sir Henry Meux who owned a London brewery. He had no formal art training, but bought a manual on painting, learned something of the use of oil-colours, and at the age of twenty-two he painted a picture of a horse on a canvas hung against the stable wall. This was his lucky break. Sir Henry was impressed, he purchased the portrait and continued to promote Cooper's artistic endeavours.

Cooper was introduced to Benjamin Marshall, a leading animal painter at the time. Marshall had been a follower of George Stubbs, the most outstanding painter of the genre of horse art. In the studio of Marshall, Cooper would have been exposed to the most proficient and fashionable trends in animal portraiture at that time. In 1814, aged 27 he began exhibiting paintings and in 1816 he won a prize for his *Battle of Ligny* [private collection, displayed at Petworth House]. In 1817, after exhibiting another painting, *Battle of Marston Moor* he was made Associate of the Academy, and was finally elected to the Royal Academy in 1820.

Cooper received commissions from many wealthy patrons to paint their animals, including many of the famous racehorses of the day. He produced over 400 works, many of which were reproduced as lithographs and published in various sporting magazines. Original works are held in private collections, art galleries and a bound folio is held at the British Museum.

Ruth W

To see Abraham Cooper's Grey Stallion and other enthralling equine paintings, [book your tour](#) of Fermoy House today.

CANINE TIDBITS



Image: Ch. Dzum Pollyannah (with Mr Roche) going Best in Show at the Adelaide Royal Show under Pam Cross Stern.

The beginning of Spring heralds the start of The Royal Adelaide Show which is held annually by the Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society of SA. The RA&HS was established in 1839 and is 183 years old. In 1959, the first Dog Competition was held at the Royal Adelaide Show where a Pekingese won the top award.

The Royal Shows were a very important part of David's life in dogs and he has been highly successful. The presentation of his dogs was second to none and always created a lot of interest, especially if he was exhibiting a new import.

David imported a young Kerry Blue Terrier in the late 70's, Eng Ch. Granemore Kilfenora (IMP UK) who went on to win Best In Show at Adelaide Royal in 1979 and again in 1981.

Not to be outdone the lovely golden Afghan bitch, Ch Dzum Pollyannah won Best in Show at Adelaide Royal three years in succession. Pollyannah was bred by Cathy and Peter Frost of Dzum Afghans and sired by David's Ch Coastwind Holyman (IMP USA).

Judging at Adelaide Royal in 1988 David awarded Best in Show to the Pekingese Ch Tao Peregrine, owned by Mrs L Walsh.

June A



Image: Eng Ch. Granemore Kilfenora (with Mr Roche) going Best in Show at the Adelaide Royal Show under Katuso Harase. Photo: K. Barkleigh Shute

EVENT

Meet the Curator

Making Fantastical Worlds



Image: *Fantastical Worlds* installation view, August 2022. Photo: Sam Roberts

Thursday 22 September | 6PM

In her illustrated talk, Powerhouse museum curator Eva Czernis-Ryl will take you behind the scenes of curating *Fantastical Worlds*. From selecting new Powerhouse acquisitions by contemporary artists inspired by Baroque, Rococo and Empire styles, to exploring incredibly rich Powerhouse and TDRF collections to create playful 'conversations' with historical works, Eva will talk about aspects of her combined art historical and visual thinking approach behind the exhibition's development.

About the speaker

Eva Czernis-Ryl is an art historian, author and award-winning curator at the Powerhouse museum in Sydney. Eva specialises in European and Australian art and design from the 18th century until the present. She was curator for the Powerhouse's Willoughby Bequest 2020 Commissioning Program that supported six Australian artists to create new works for the permanent collection.

Book your ticket now

EVENT

An Artistic Afternoon

Kate Rohde

Jordon Gogos and Denis Vukcevic

Stephen Bowers



Image: detail of *Deer Vase*, Kate Rohde, 2016. Powerhouse collection, purchased 2017; *Outfit Look 28, The Witchy Poo*, Jordan Gogos with Denis Vukcevic, Iordanes Spyridon Gogos, 2021. Powerhouse collection, purchased 2022; *Pair of vases (flowers and birds)*, Stephen Bowers, 2021. Private Collection, Adelaide.

Saturday 8 October | 1PM-4PM

Spend your Saturday meeting *Fantastical Worlds* artists and designers Kate Rohde, Jordan Gogos and collaborator Denis Vukcevic, and Stephen Bowers. Hear about about their ideas and artistic practice in a lively afternoon of discussion and design. Light refreshments included.

About the speakers

Kate Rohde is known for her sculptural object and installation practice. Significant exhibitions include *Magic Object; the 2016 Biennial of Australian Art* at the Art Gallery of South Australia, *Obsessed: Compelled to make* at the Australian Design Centre, which toured numerous venues around Australia

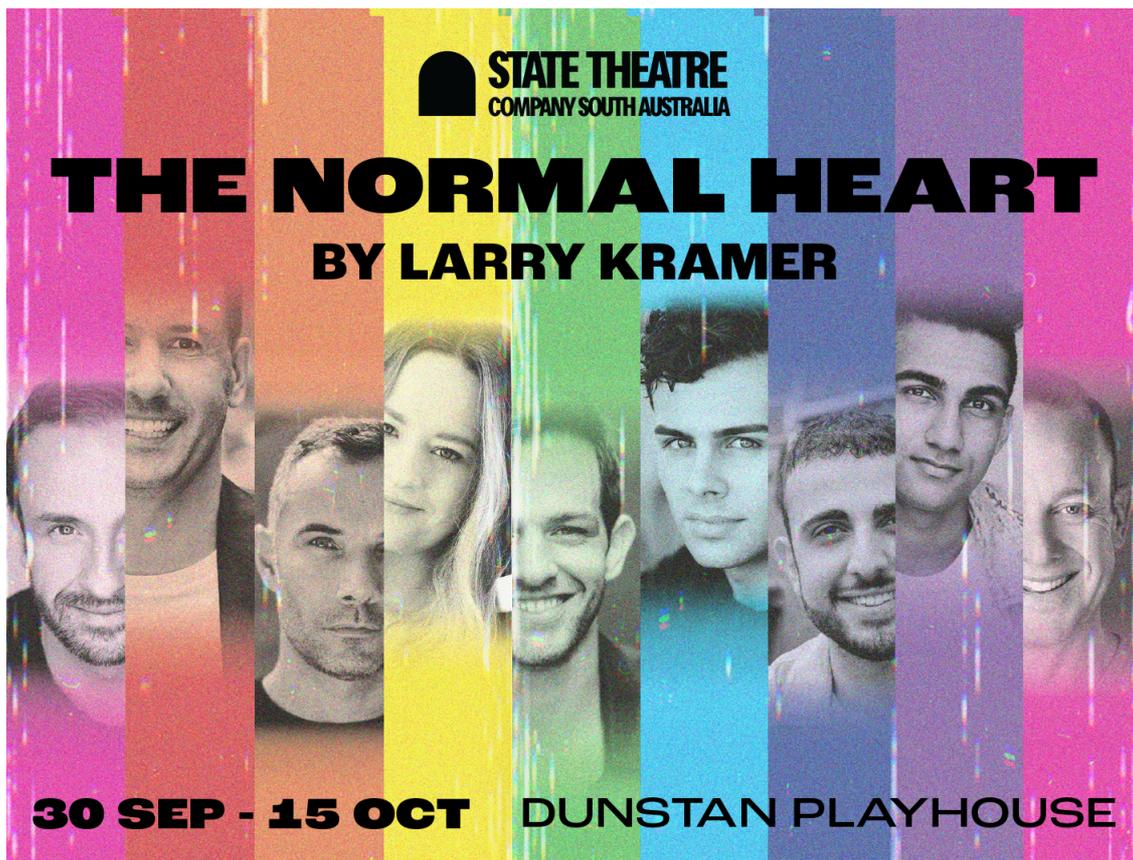
from 2018 – 2022, and *Myth Making* at Horsham Regional Art Gallery in 2022.

Jordan Gogos is known for functional art and compression wall textiles, as well as his eponymous fashion label, Iordanes Spyridon Gogos. He works with repurposed, recycled and dead stock textiles, given to him by friends and colleagues. His functional sculpture is made from folded and welded sheet metal without the need for hardware.

Stephen Bowers is known for his exuberant ceramic decoration, which references and responds to craft traditions, natural history, memory and commentary. He has participated in landmark exhibitions within Australia and overseas, and is represented in most major Australian public collections.

Book your ticket now

SPECIAL OFFER



Exclusive discount for The David Roche Foundation subscribers

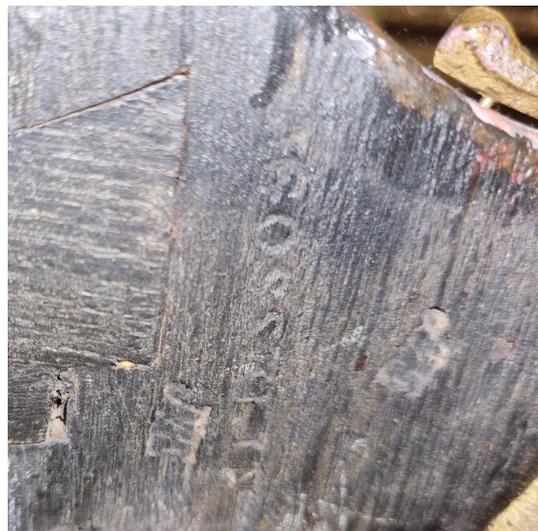
State Theatre Company South Australia presents *The Normal Heart* by Larry Kramer, the epic semi-autobiographical play about the AIDS epidemic in 1980s New York, for the first time on the South Australian mainstage, 30 September – 15 October 2022 at the Dunstan Playhouse.

This landmark production is a political drama of epic Shakespearean proportions and a thrilling tale of family, friendship, love and betrayal. Documenting Larry Kramer's activism on the frontline of the AIDS crisis, this Tony Award winning masterpiece will enchant a new generation under the direction of Helpmann Award winner Dean Bryant (*Torch the Place*), with a star ensemble cast led by State Theatre Company South Australia Artistic Director Mitchell Butel in the pivotal role of Ned.

We're pleased to offer an exclusive discount for The David Roche Foundation subscribers. Get \$10 off the price of adult tickets to any performance of *The Normal Heart* by entering the code ROCHE10 at checkout when booking online. [Click here to book](#)

CURATOR'S CORNER

During the installation of *Fantastical Worlds*, Museum Director Robert Reason uncovered the maker of the case of a mid-18th century cartel clock.



This ormolu-mounted cartel clock has long yielded surprises. Formerly in the collection of the Bonython family, David Roche acquired the clock in 1990 and had it conserved, and was delighted to see the fresh colours of the vernis martin decoration revealed after old, smoky varnish was removed.

The relocation of the clock from the Chinese bedroom for display in *Fantastical Worlds* provided an opportunity to examine the clock. Museum Director Robert Reason noticed stamped impressions of GOSELIN and the JME monogram used by members of the Jurande des Menuisiers-Ébénistes on the clock's rear right leg.

Antoine Gosselin was born in Sarton, France in 1731. He was named a Master by the Jurande des Menuisiers-Ébénistes on 9 July 1752, and operated out of his workshop on rue du Faubourg Saint-Antoine, opposite the rue de Charonne. Gosselin was highly regarded during his lifetime, and is known to supply clock cases to a variety of horologists, including Julien Le Roy among others.

Gosselin's son Adrien-Antoine followed in his father's footsteps, and established a

workshop on rue Duplessis, Versailles after being named a Master on 9 November 1772. He secured commissions for the Palaces of Versailles and Saint-Cloud, and made work for Jacques Necker and Charles Alexandre de Calonne, Comte d'Hannonville.

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



Know someone who has everything? Why not give them the gift of art with a gift voucher to tour The David Roche Collection! Each gift voucher entitles the recipient to a tour of Fermoy House and admission to any temporary exhibitions displayed in the Museum. Pair this with a lunch nearby and treat your loved one to a truly memorable experience.

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.

P.S. Don't forget to take a look at our *Fantastical Worlds* merchandise next time you visit. Our range includes the newly published book *Lee Alexander McQueen: Mind - Mythos - Muse*, and a selection of tea towels designed by *Fantastical Worlds* collective Timorous Beasties. These items are extremely limited and are only available in-store!

Visit the shop

COLLECTION

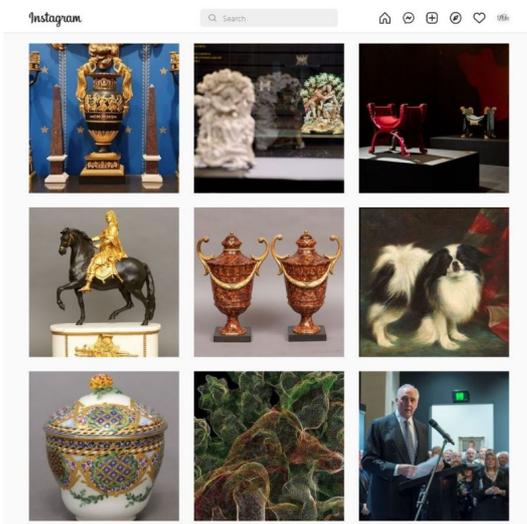


Did you know that many of the items in
The David Roche Collection are available to view online?

*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

Our *Fantastical Worlds* featured artist this month is Timothy Horn. Born in Melbourne and now living in Truro, Massachusetts, visit Horn's [website](#) to learn more about the artist and see more of his enthralling works of art.

The Royal Adelaide Show was a steady feature of David Roche's calendar. If you love dogs and are planning on visiting the Royal Adelaide Show this year, take a look at the dog competition schedule [here](#).



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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.