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# CLUB FERMOY

## The David Roche Foundation House Museum Newsletter

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Image: David Roche's exceptional Florentine micromosaic table-top c. 1820, and a Durs Egg flintlock duelling pistol presented by Colonel Thomas Thornton to Napoléon Bonaparte are displayed in *Fantastical Worlds* until 24 December. Photo: Sam Roberts

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## Club Fermoy #36

Dear friends and supporters,

The David Roche Foundation strives to provide local audiences with world-class exhibitions and programmes, and our events through November were certainly no exception. Our members were treated to an exclusive tour of the expansive gardens and house at Anlaby Station, South Australia's oldest merino stud. This was organised exclusively for TDRF members, and I encourage you to consider becoming a member or purchasing a membership for a loved one as a gift.

For Feast Festival we welcomed curator Nick Henderson from the Australian Queer Archives, Melbourne, who spoke on 'Queer SA in the Australian Queer Archives', and Dr Melanie Cooper's lecture 'Fears, Hopes, and Desires' gave insights into the changing face of Eighteenth century social hierarchies, art patronage and

collecting.

This week we will host our final program for 2022, the much anticipated Summer Twilight Evening. From 5.00-7.30pm on Thursday 8 December you will have exclusive access to *Fantastical Worlds* outside of normal opening hours. It's a perfect way to socialise with friends before the end of the year. To book for this very special event, [click here](#).

End of year provides an opportunity to revisit some of the great offerings TDRF has presented over the last 12 months. We began with the world first exhibition *Silhouettes: Fashion in the Shadow of HIV/AIDS*, which surveyed the work of over 20 fashion luminaries from the 1960s-1990s. *Doppelgänger and Zombies* presented new works of art developed by Dr Rochus Hinkel from historic examples in our collection, culminating The SIDA Foundation, UniSA and TDRF Research Fellowship 2020-2022. Our current exhibition *Fantastical Worlds* pairs 50 incredible works from the Powerhouse, Sydney, with over 40 of David Roche's most enchanting pieces in a glorious celebration of art and design.

TDRF will close from 25 December 2022 and reopen on Tuesday 10 January 2023. I wish you and your loved ones a safe, healthy, and cheerful holiday period, and look forward to welcoming you to The David Roche Foundation in the new year.

Best wishes,

Robert Reason  
Museum Director

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## FINAL WEEKS!!!



Image: *Fantastical Worlds* exhibition installation, September 2022. Photo: Sam Roberts

# FANTASTICAL WORLDS

For just three more weeks, The David Roche Foundation proudly hosts *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. *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.

***Free exhibition guided tours on Fridays, 11.15am***

[Exhibition entry:](#) \$15 adult. \$12 concession.  
Children under 12 free.

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COMING SOON

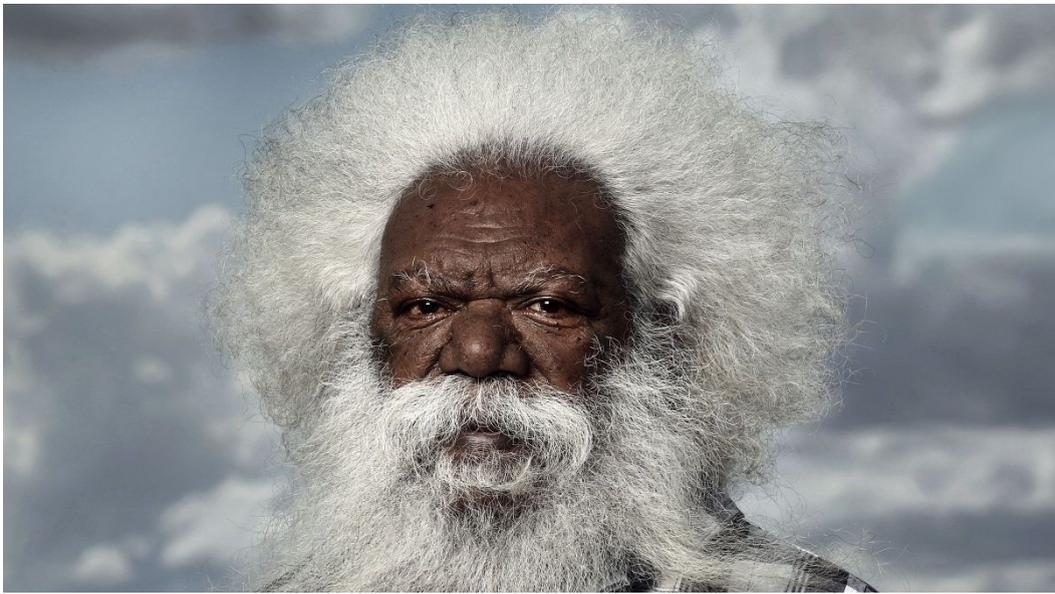


Image: Adam Haddrick, *Cordy in the Clouds* 2021 (detail). Digital print on paper

## NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC PORTRAIT PRIZE 2022

The David Roche Foundation is delighted to be the first venue for the *National Photographic Portrait Prize 2022* from the National Portrait Gallery, Canberra. Selected from a national field of entries, the exhibition reflects the distinctive vision of Australia's aspiring and professional portrait photographers and the unique nature of their subjects.

Now in its fifteenth year, the prize is one of the National Portrait Gallery's most popular annual events.

Among the 50 portraits on display are NPPP 2022 Winner Wayne Quilliam's powerful portrait *Silent Strength* 2021, depicting Aurukun man Eric Yunkaporta, People's Choice Award Winner Luther Cora's *Flora and Fauna, Giara: White Cockatoo* 2021, and includes the photography of Chris Budgeon, Tom Evangelidis, Adam Ferguson, Petrina Hicks, Bec Lorrimer, Jacob Nash, and The Huxleys.

### Details:

#### *National Photographic Portrait Prize 2022*

28 January - 1 April 2023

Tuesday to Saturday 10AM – 4PM

No booking required.

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

Children under 12 free.

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## VISITOR FEEDBACK SURVEY

You're invited to complete our Visitor Feedback Form. This will provide valuable information that will assist our future growth and development. By completing this survey, you can enter into the prize draw to win a \$50 gift voucher for use at our gift shop.

The survey will close on 16 December 2022. The TDRF team thank you for your time and consideration.

Have your say now!

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## CANINE TIDBITS



Image: Austria, *Small Pug dog wearing a red cap* c. 1850. Painted terracotta, glass. TDRF 2564.

Among the pennants, sashes, medals and trophies displayed in the dressing room at Fermoy House is a small figure of a pug wearing a cap. Mr. Roche purchased the sculpture at a Bonhams & Butterfield dog-themed auction in New York in 2006.

The pug was made in Austria in the mid-nineteenth century. It is made from pottery and its realistic eyes are made of glass. It sits with a bright red Phrygian cap atop its head - a garment that was traditionally worn across cultures in Eastern Europe, the Near and Middle East in ancient times, and adopted as a symbol of liberty and freedom since the eighteenth century. It is less likely that this sculpture has a political undertone; during the mid and late-nineteenth century there was a proliferation of novelty sculptures of dogs wearing various hats.

Mr. Roche's love of animals extended into his art collection. A larger terracotta sculpture of a pug sits in the Den at Fermoy House, and a dog-themed work of art can be seen in every room of Fermoy House.

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## FROM THE ARCHIVES



Image: attributed to Benjamin Zobel (Britain 1762-1831), *Sand picture of Percherons in harness* c. 1810. Coloured sand on paper. TDRF 2482

The Red Hallway at Fermoy House is home to an impressive selection of animal paintings, including a group of intriguing pictures made from sand. This technique, known as marmotinto, was developed by Benjamin Zobel, a Bavarian painter and pastry-chef, who worked as a master pastry-chef at the court of George III around the time he developed the technique.

When David Roche's collection was catalogued in 1998, he held two sand paintings, one depicting two goats which had been purchased in London, and one depicting four sheep. When visiting London for the Summer Olympia Fine Art & Antiques Fair during June 2005, Roche purchased a sand painting depicting two Percheron horses in full tack, in a period frame by Samuel Pearse. A fourth painting depicting sheep was purchased at a Sotheby's London auction in March 2008. This work is impressive in size and inscribed B. ZOBEL in the lower right corner.

David Roche purchased a sand painting depicting rabbits and another depicting a lion from the 2011 sale of the contents of Dysart House, Kempton, Tasmania. Dysart's owner, Leo Schofield AM had acquired the pictures from the collection of Sydney antique dealer George Auchinachie, and hung them in the master bedroom at Dysart.

See these wonderful pictures and other intriguing works of art, [book your tour](#) of Fermoy House today..

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## TODAY'S TREASURE

Showcasing the favourite pieces of our volunteers in The David Roche Collection. In this edition, Geoff S discusses a figure of St Roch seen by many visitors passing through TDRF's foyer.



Image: Spain, *Saint Roch* 17th century. Walnut, paint, parcel-gilt. TDRF 2968.

In the foyer at TDRF is a statue of St Roch (in English "Rock") purchased by David Roche in 2012. The devotional statuette is made of painted and parcel-gilt fruitwood, possibly walnut, and dates from 17th century Spain. St Roch has a wound on his right thigh, symbolic of the plague, wears a pilgrim's hat with the symbolic crossed keys and shells, has a staff and is accompanied by a child and a dog.

Roch was born in Montpellier, France, and at birth a red cross was imprinted deeply into his breast, perhaps an indicator of what was to come in his life. When he was about 20 his parents died; he gave away his substantial inheritance to the poor.

He joined the mendicant Franciscan Order and embarked on a pilgrimage visiting towns in Italy caring for those ill from the plague, and curing some simply by making the sign of the Cross over them. By the time he arrived in northern Italy, he had contracted the plague. To avoid being a burden on others, he confined himself to a hut in a forest to await his death. A local nobleman's dog found him, brought

food to him daily and licked his wounds. Recovering his health, divine inspiration directed him to return to Montpellier where he was put into prison, accused of being a spy. He died there, abandoned after 5 years.

At his death a tablet appeared on the wall of his cell containing his name and a message that those who invoked his name in intercession would be cured of the plague. During the Council of Constance in 1414 the plague appeared in Rome. Following prayers, processions and intercessions to Roch, the plague ceased. He was canonised in 1427.

Saint Roch is the patron saint of dogs, dog owners, surgeons, invalids, bachelors, falsely accused people, tile-makers, second-hand dealers, apothecaries, pilgrims, grave diggers, and diseased cattle. His name can be invoked against sicknesses including cholera, plague, skin rashes and diseases, knee problems, contagious diseases, pestilence, and epidemics. Such a list perhaps appealed to David Roche, including the similarity in surname.

Geoff S

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## EVENT

# Fantastical Worlds Twilight Evening



Thursday 8 December | 5.00-7.30PM

Join us in welcoming in the warmth of summer with our Twilight Evening!

TDRF will open late on the evening of Thursday 8 December from 5:00PM to 7:30PM to give you an extra opportunity to experience the treasures within *Fantastical Worlds*. Museum Director Robert Reason and Curator Tim Roberts will deliver pop-

up talks in the Gallery about key works and themes in the exhibition, a bar will be open for refreshments, and the gift shop will be open!

Cost: \$20, includes exhibition entry and a complimentary glass of wine on arrival. Children under 12 free.

[Book your ticket now](#)

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## EVENT

# Fringe Festival 2023 The Grosvenor Ensemble



Wednesday 1, 8, 15 March 2023

Internationally acclaimed artists Jonathon Glonek, Say Ming Foo, Heidi von Bernewitz, and Thomas Marlin come together as the Grosvenor Ensemble in March 2023 to present a stunning three part series of concerts.

Be enchanted by quartets of Beethoven and Mendelssohn, and duos of Spohr and Pleyel. To celebrate the sesquicentenary of Max Reger's birth, the ensemble will also present one of Reger's rarely played masterworks, the String Trio no. 2 in D minor Op. 141b.

[See more here](#)

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## APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

### UniSA, SIDA Foundation and TDRF Curatorial Research Fellowship 2023/24

The 2023/2024 University of South Australia, Society of Interior Designers of Australia (SIDA) Foundation and The David Roche Foundation (TDRF) Research Fellowship is now open for applications. Open to researchers and practitioners across all disciplines, the 2023 Fellowship invites applications (individual or group) that seek to shape the future of design and creative arts research.

UniSA and TDRF welcome fellowship project proposals that engage with TDRF collection and vision, reflect the legacy of the SIDA Foundation, and make use of UniSA Creative resources research expertise. Projects may come from any discipline, including but not limited to design, art, craft, material culture, or other fields within the humanities and creative arts. Proposed engagement could include traditional scholarship; design, art, craft or curatorial activities resulting in exhibition; public talks and workshops; or other activities leading to publications and/or creative works.

[See more here](#)

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## 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](mailto:memberships@rochefoundation.org.au).

Find out more

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## GIFT IDEAS

The David Roche Foundation has a wide range of beautiful products on sale which make perfect gifts this Christmas. We are even offering free shipping on purchases over \$100 if you are shopping in our online shop for the Christmas period until 16th December! Here are some of our favourite selections



This 100% silk, hand-rolled scarf features a colourful design inspired by a *Campagna vase*, made by the Derby Porcelain Factory around 1811. Only \$45.00

Buy Now



The fancy birds and butterflies on this 100% silk scarf have flown off a *plate* made at Worcester around 1770. It is sure to add a splash of colour to any outfit! Only \$45.00

Buy Now



We have a great selection of gifts online and in-store for every taste. Visit our Summer Twilight Evening on Thursday 8 December (5.00pm-7.30pm) to pick up some unique items.

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](mailto:info@rochefoundation.org.au) (with your contact details). Click and collect is available.

We now post internationally!

Visit the shop

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## COLLECTION

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

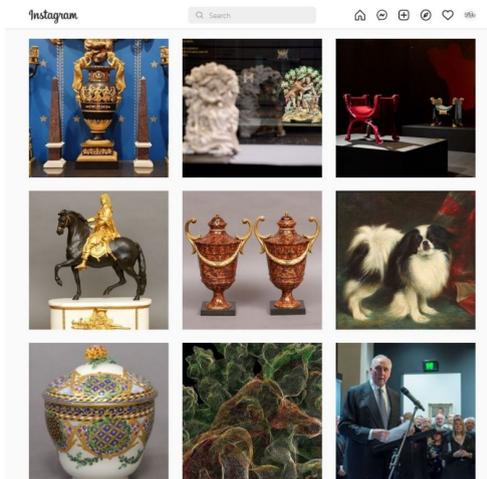
*Search by title, artist, type, materials, and place made to find out more about your favourite piece or discover something new.*



Search the collection

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## 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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## LINKS WE LOVE

Our final *Fantastical Worlds* featured artist is Kate Rohde. Based in Melbourne, Rohde's sculptures and jewellery have attracted interest around the globe. In 2015 she was nominated for the National Gallery of Victoria's Rigg Design Prize, and was interviewed about her artistic beginnings, process, and inspirations. [Watch it here.](#)

*Fantastical Worlds* also features two terrific local artists, glass artist Tom Moore and ceramic decorator Stephen Bowers. Tom Moore's website offers a bright insight into his practice and inspiration, and a gallery of work. [See it here](#). Stephen Bowers was interviewed by Jam Factory as a part of his nationally touring survey exhibition *Beyond Bravura*. [Watch it here](#).

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The David Roche Foundation will close from Sunday 25 December 2022 to Monday 9 January 2023 inclusive, reopening to the public Tuesday 10 January for tours of Fermoy House.



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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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