



Club Fermoy

Issue 64

Dear friends and supporters,

It was wonderful to see so many people flocking to visit *Nature Revealed* before it closed on 24 May. Your support of the exhibition and catalogue which brilliantly captured the beauty of Rosa Fiveash and Ellis Rowan's botanicals is much appreciated. We are now busy preparing the galleries for the opening of ***Dancer*** this weekend, on **Saturday 7 June**. This exhibition showcases highlights from the National Portrait Gallery's collection, illustrating Australia's rich relationship with dance through 52 photographic works. Did you know David Roche was a keen dancer, especially of the Scottish reel! Keep reading to find out more about the upcoming *Dancer* event.

Our team has recently increased in size with Miriam joining us as Marketing Coordinator. For our DRG Members and regular gallery attendees I'm sure you'll meet her soon at an event. In other major news, DRG is progressing with stage 1 of the site redevelopment. Over the next 12 months you will see changes to our building, including a revamped entrance-retail experience, a courtyard café, and improvements to the Melbourne Street frontage integrating and restoring the heritage maisonettes on our east-side. You can read more about this on our website in the Engage – Giving section [here](#).

Thank you to the hundreds of people that entered their pets into ***Best in Show 2025: Australian Photographic Dog Prize*** – my co-judge Alex Cearns and I have quite the task selecting the finalists! Enjoy Club Fermoy and please consider donating to our redevelopment or to the conservation of a rare 18th century waistcoat illustrated in this issue.

Best wishes,

Robert Reason
Director, David Roche Gallery



Did you know that each year DRG is actively conserving its collection for future generations to enjoy? This year Kristin at Artlab Australia has been working on a rare and fragile textile acquired by David Roche from the Dalva Brothers in New York, in 2007. Due to the condition of this Louis XVI period embroidered waistcoat (1780–1789) it needed extensive stabilising treatment and a new mount for display. Kristin has been busy reducing staining, adding another support lining and silk grounds to larger areas of loss, as well as making copies of missing buttons.

Why save this particular waistcoat?

The embroidered palm trees and monkeys are recorded in a preparatory design drawing for the pockets known as 'Les Macaques' found in a pattern book at the Musée des Tissus et des Arts décoratifs, in Lyon, France. Just one other waistcoat of this finished design is known; and it resides in Victoria and Albert Museum, London. This makes it pretty special!

The conservation treatment costs \$8000, plus the creation of a new bespoke frame for display in Fermoy House. We seek your help in raising money toward its conservation and all donations over \$500 can be acknowledged on the credit line as well having the opportunity to view the work with Kristin, the textile conservator.

Your contribution, large or small, will make a difference to saving this rare waistcoat. All gifts over \$2 are tax deductible.

[DONATE TODAY](#)

EXHIBITION



DANCER

Opens Saturday 7 June

From letting loose in the loungeroom to enthralling audiences on stage, this National Portrait Gallery exhibition celebrates dance and dancers. Capturing the beauty of movement, self-expression and connection, the works on display in *Dancer* were collaboratively curated and choreographed by the National Portrait Gallery together with a group of local dancers.

The exhibition features 52 works from the National Portrait Gallery's collection of dance legends, including Irina Baronova, Robert Helpmann, Hélène Kirsova, Graeme Murphy, Gideon Obarzanek, Anna Pavlova, Marilyn Rowe and Janet Vernon.

DETAILS AND TICKETS

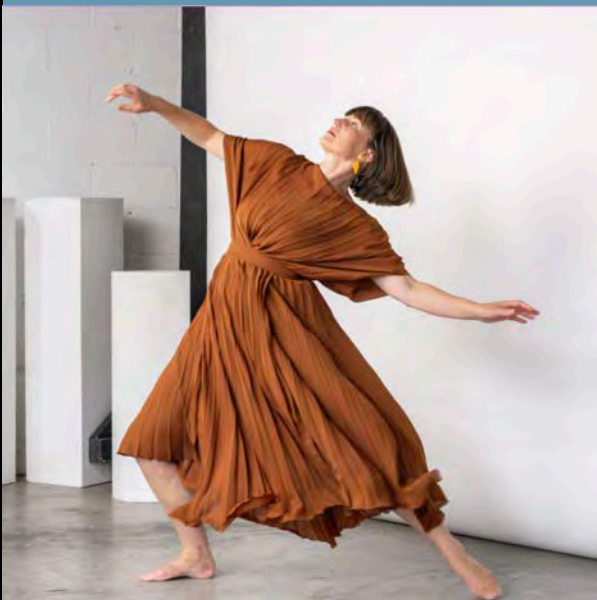
Dancer is a National Portrait Gallery touring exhibition, supported by the National Collecting Institutions Touring and Outreach Program, an Australian Government program aiming to improve access to the national collections for all Australians.

**NATIONAL
PORTRAIT
GALLERY**



Australian Government
National Collecting Institutions
Touring & Outreach Program

UPCOMING EVENT



The Art of Movement: A Workshop for Wellbeing

With dancer and
Creative Arts
Therapist,
Tanya Voges

Saturday 5 July 2:00–4:00pm at David Roche Gallery

Join dancer and Creative Arts Therapist Tanya Voges for a guided workshop that explores the powerful connection between movement and mental wellbeing.

Drawing inspiration from the photographic exhibition *Dancer*, which celebrates Australia's rich history of dance, Tanya will guide you through gentle movement explorations that engage the body, space, and time.

The photographs capturing the ephemeral nature of dance will serve as a springboard for embodied reflection and creative engagement.

Through creative and non-verbal expression, you'll discover new ways to connect with yourself and others. No dance experience is necessary—just a willingness to move and be moved.

About Tanya Voges

As a Creative Arts Therapist, Specialising in Dance/Movement Therapy (DMT), Tanya facilitates trauma-informed, psychotherapeutic sessions to support social, emotional, cognitive, physical and cultural domains. Tanya has experience working with various populations, including Mother/Baby dyads, Adult Mental Health, the disability sector and people with Stroke, Dementia and Parkinson's.

Join us at David Roche Gallery on Saturday July 5th and experience the *Dancer* exhibition through a different lens—one that honours the art of movement and its potential to support your wellbeing. Tickets only \$25. Come alone or bring a friend. Book your tickets today! For more information click the button below.

DETAILS AND TICKETS

CANINE TIDBIT



The Album of Northern Dogs



A RARE ALBUM OF DOGS FOUND

Recently discovered within David Roche's canine archive was a rare booklet and album of images celebrating Laika, breeds of spitz that are indigenous to the northern region of Eurasia.

The Album of Northern Dogs was published in 1896 by Prince Andrey Shirinsky-Shikhmatov, a Russian statesman, politician and diplomat. His keen interest in the dogs of northern Eurasia stemmed from his love of hunting, and saw him handle and judge dog breeds in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. A pamphlet written by Shirinsky-Shikhmatov accompanying the album outlines the earliest published observations for several varieties of Laika and related northern dogs.

The album is comprised of a table of measurements, a preface written by hunting expert Leonid Pavlovich Sabaneyev, and reprints of 31 photographs of Laikas surrounded by illustrations by artist Aleksei Stepanovich Stepanov. It was dedicated to Grand Duke Nicholas Nikolaevich of Russia, a grandson of Tsar Nicholas I, and the proceeds from sales of the album were directed towards the establishment of a colony for people living with Leprosy in Yakutsk, a cause that had been championed by Mercy Sister Kate Marsden.

This most interesting album records several uncommon and threatened native dog varieties, and evidences David Roche's unfaltering interest in dogs and their enduring relationship with people. Rarely seen, the album is not recorded in Australian public libraries on Trove or WorldCat, further underscoring the significance of David Roche's collection of publications and periodicals relating to dogs.

TODAY'S TREASURE

Sleep of Endymion



c.1810

Anne-Louis Girodet

This painting acquired by David Roche for his neoclassical bedroom in 1999, is based on a theme from mythology. It is a small version of a much larger painting of the same composition at the Louvre which was originally acquired by King Louis XVIII of France in 1818.

Painted by Anne-Louis Girodet de Roucy-Trioson (he liked adding extra names) it was met with adoration from the public and other artists, and regarded as 'sexy'. Girodet was a pupil of the famous artist Jacques-Louis David, and his work exemplified the first phase of Romanticism in French visual art.

The subject of our painting, Endymion, appears in both Greek and Roman mythology. In the Greek version Selene, a chaste virgin goddess of the moon, falls in love with the mortal Endymion, a youth of grace and beauty, who was said to be a shepherd. She wished to be with him forever, so she asked Zeus, the king of the gods on Mount Olympus, to grant Endymion eternal sleep so that she could visit him every night as he lay asleep on Mount Latmus in Caria. She bore him 50 daughters, who represent the fifty lunar months of the Olympiad.

Another version of the myth reads that Zeus offered the handsome shepherd a wish, and he chose to sleep and remain youthful forever. However, eternal sleep was not a gift all and was rather a punishment because Endymion had attempted to sleep with Zeus's wife.

In Girodet's painting, Endymion sleeps bathed in the light of the full moon with his faithful dog by his side. The scene is framed by the heavy, dark trees of the forest, to signify the vividness of the vision.

The poet John Keats, who was known for his mythological subjects in 1818 composed Endymion. It begins *A thing of beauty is a joy forever...* These words aptly describe Fermoy House.

Jenny J

BOOK YOUR TOUR OF FERMOY HOUSE

FROM THE ARCHIVES

David Roche
and Dance



David Roche was known to enjoy dancing, particularly the Scottish reel, and tripped the light fantastic at society events in Adelaide and abroad. Though he culled his large vinyl collection, the 200+ records that remain give insight into David's taste in music and include a wide selection of dance favourites ranging from the Philadelphia Orchestra's recording of Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake* to three LPs by Lester Lanin and his Orchestra: *Dance to the Music of Lester Lanin*; *Dancing at the Mardi Gras*; and *Lester Lanin at the Tiffany Ball*.

Lester Lanin was born in Pennsylvania in 1907, and by the age of twenty had formed an ensemble that provided entertainment for the parties of socialites in Philadelphia and New York. His big break came when his ensemble performed at the debutante ball of heiress Barbara Hutton, which earned him great fame across the United States.

Lanin's orchestra was sought after for high profile events, including bills for Presidential inauguration balls, Grace Kelly's engagement party, and the wedding reception of Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer. The orchestra was best known for the 'businessman's bounce' jazz tempo, and during the height of its popularity, as many as twelve different ensembles toured the United States to perform at weddings, exclusive events, and even the prom nights of elite schools. Though Lanin died in 2007, the orchestra still performs to this day.

David Roche's records by Lanin's orchestra include covers of timeless tunes including *I could have danced all night* from Lerner and Loewe's *My Fair Lady*, the waltz from Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin*, and *Oklahoma* from Rodgers & Hammerstein's musical of the same name.





Become a Member

DRG Members enable us to maintain David Roche's exquisite collection, present world-class exhibitions, program lectures with expert guest speakers and to fulfil our vision as a centre of excellence and a leader in decorative arts in Australia. By becoming a DRG Member, you will meet like-minded enthusiasts who share your passion for art and history, and receive many great benefits including:

25% discount off full price house tour ticket (4 times per year) and full price exhibition entry fee • 10% discount off full price purchases in the shop (this excludes online shop) and 10% off full price DRG Lecture Series tickets • Invitations to exclusive tours and special events • Advance notice of DRG programs and events • Members only events & trips.

SIGN UP ONLINE TODAY



Shop Online



Stay dry this winter season with the David Roche Gallery Umbrella range. Stand out from the crowd with three different unique designs to choose from. Its large cover will keep you out of the rain all winter long.

ONLY \$35 - [VIEW RANGE](#)

Did you miss out on our last exhibition?
Not a worry! This 144-page, richly
illustrated *Nature Revealed: Rosa Fiveash &
Ellis Rowan* exhibition catalogue is a
perfect gift for lovers of flowers and
painting alike!
\$45 - [BUY NOW](#)

SHOP ONLINE TODAY

HIGHLIGHTS AT OTHER HOUSE MUSEUMS

THE CEDARS

Nora Heysen: at home & abroad Open now!

This rich and varied exhibition showcases a wide range of Nora Heysen's subjects - portraits, still life, interiors, landscapes, genre scenes, and animal studies - offering a rare opportunity to trace the evolution of her artistic practice over eight decades.

Visitors will experience not only individual masterpieces but also preliminary sketches, giving insight into her creative process. Complementing the artworks are photographs, personal documents and objects from the Nora Heysen Foundation collection, displayed both in her studio and sitting room.

MORE INFORMATION

CARRICK HILL

Potpourri for Rose Lovers and Gardeners June 25 2025 | 10:00 AM | \$25

A presentation by Trevor Nottle about his new book titled *Potpourri For Rose Lovers and Gardeners*. He says 'the potpourri is intended to be a pleasant, thus sweet read, comprising remembrances and references to the rose, Ursula Haywards favorite flower and showing readers something of the history of the rose in particular in South Australia'.

With a career of over 45 years as a writer, lecturer and gardener Trevor's botanical knowledge in industry circles the world over. A keen plants man who has travelled widely to research for his books, Trevor still finds time as a long serving member of the Carrick Hill Gardens and Grounds committee to volunteer as a gardener most Monday mornings at Carrick Hill.

MORE INFORMATION

YOUR GIFT HELPS US DO MORE

Your donation will help David Roche Gallery reach its full potential to acquire works of art and present innovative exhibitions that will add to



the cultural life of South Australia.
Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

No matter how large or small, your gift will help us do more.

DONATE TODAY

Images in this newsletter: **Club Fermoy Banner:** Rex Wood, *Geelong Grammar graduation portrait of David J Roche* c. 1948, oil on canvas. The David Roche Collection. **Conservation:** France, *Waistcoat 1780-1789*, silk. The David Roche Collection. Artlab Australia, Kristin working on the waistcoat, 2025. Image supplied. **Exhibition:** Detail: Beau Dean Riley Smith, Wiradjuri and Gamilaraay nations, *Bennelong 2017*, from the series 'Space in between' by Jacob Nash. National Portrait Gallery. **Upcoming Event:** Tanya Voges, Photographer Morgan Sette for the Mill. Image supplied. **Canine Tidbit:** *Album of Northern Dogs (Laikas)*, Moscow, 1896. The David Roche Archive. Today's Treasure: Anne-Louis Girodet, *Sleep of Endymion* c.1810. The David Roche Collection. **From the Archives:** Three record covers by Lester Lanin, *Dance to the music of Lester Lanin*; *At the Tiffany Ball*; *Dancing at the Mardi Gras*. The David Roche Archive. **DRG Membership banner:** Germany, *Armchair (Fauteuil)* c. 1750, oak, pine, gilt, replacement silk upholstery. The David Roche Collection. **DRG Shop banner:** George Bullock, *Specimen table* c. 1815, Brazilian rosewood, brass, gilt bronze, hardstones. The David Roche Collection. **Giving:** Hubley Manufacturing Company (manufacturer), Daniel Cooke (inventor) 'Trick Dog' mechanical money box, designed 1888. The David Roche Collection



David Roche Gallery continues the work of The David Roche Foundation, established in 1999 by David J Roche AM (1930–2013).

DAVID ROCHE GALLERY

241 Melbourne St,
North Adelaide,
Sth. Australia 5006

FERMOY HOUSE TOURS
TUESDAY – SATURDAY
10AM – 12PM – 2PM

GALLERY OPEN
TUESDAY – SATURDAY
10AM – 4PM

DRG 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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