



Club Fermoy

Issue 67

Dear friends and supporters,

Spring has arrived and so has our new exhibition *Best in Show 2025: Australian Photographic Dog Prize* which opened with much excitement and anticipation last Friday evening. Co-judged by acclaimed animal photographer Alex Cearn's OAM and myself, the 80 finalist entries offer a wonderful insight into the lives of our favourite furry companions. Congratulations to our first prize winners – Alicia Adamopoulos for *Legacy of Turnix* and young photographer Isabella Rogers' *Mavis and Darcy*. Don't miss this heartwarming and uplifting exhibition and vote for your favourite work to win the People's Choice Award.

We have some wonderful events coming up to celebrate *Best in Show 2025* including Steven Miller talking about Dogs in Australian Art, the name of his sold-out publication, and our dog-friendly day at DRG on Saturday 20 September with pet sketch artist Ivana Prophet and wines by Simon Tolley. In this issue we also celebrate the life of June Ashton, a long-term employee of David Roche's Fermoy Kennels and later a loyal volunteer guide at DRG. I know she was thrilled when she learnt of the upcoming new dog prize.

Best wishes,

Robert Reason
Director, David Roche Gallery

EXHIBITION



Best in Show 2025: Australian Photographic Dog Prize

Exciting news for all dog and photography lovers! *Best in Show 2025: Australian Photographic Dog Prize* has officially opened—a heartfelt exhibition celebrating the many ways dogs continue to play a central role in our lives.

As the nation's only biennial art prize dedicated to domestic dogs, *Best in Show 2025* pays homage to the legacy of its founder David Roche AM (1930-2013) who was a canine breeder, exhibitor, judge and art collector.

From 250 entries nationwide, 80 exceptional finalists were chosen across the categories of Dog portrait, Dogs and companions, Dogs in action, and Puppies. Professional, amateur and young photographers beautifully capture the essence of the canine spirit for everyone to enjoy. Experience the joy of dogs through photography. Open Tuesday to Saturday, 10am–4pm. **Book your tickets today!**

DETAILS AND TICKETS

UPCOMING EVENT



Dogs in Australian Art

A lecture by Steven Miller

Thursday 18 September 2025, 6:00pm



Steven Miller, author and the former head of the National Art Archive at the Art Gallery of New South Wales, brings together a talk on how dogs have truly been 'the best friend' to artists, not only as subjects, but also as companions and champions.

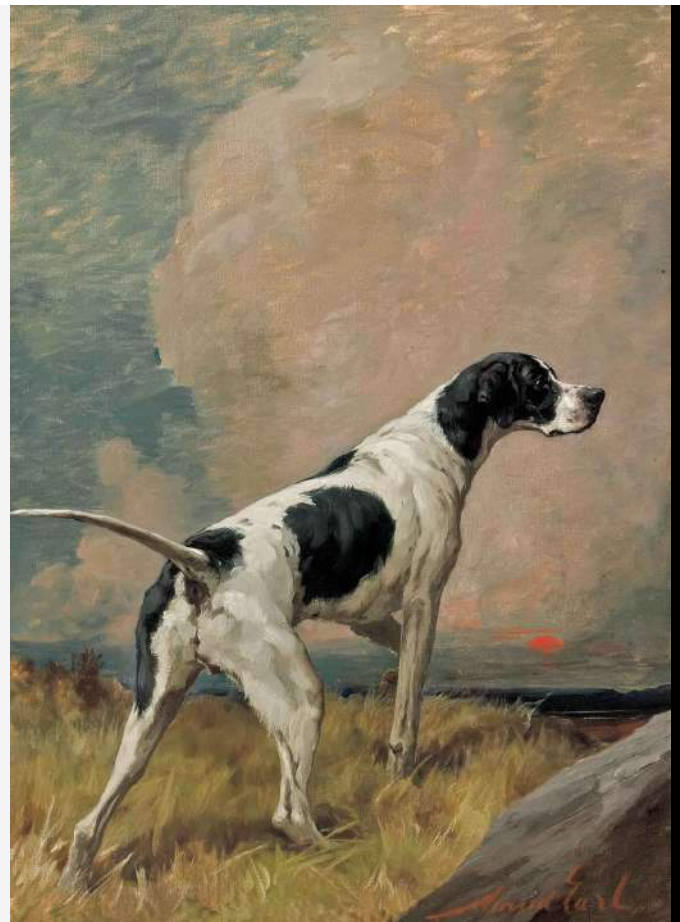
From colonial works through to contemporary installations, this lecture will explore how dogs have been artists' greatest friends and inspirations.

About the Speaker

Steven Miller has published widely on art and his popular 'Dogs in Australian Art' is now into its 3rd expanded edition. For many years, he was the head of the National Art Archive at Art Gallery of New South Wales in Sydney. He published the first history of the Art Gallery in 2021 to celebrate the institution's 150th anniversary.

Tickets are selling fast—50% already gone! Book now to avoid missing out.

DETAILS AND TICKETS



UPCOMING EVENT



Bring Your Dog Day

Saturday 20 September 2025

To celebrate *Best in Show 2025: Australian Photographic Dog Prize* David Roche Gallery is opening its gallery to dogs and their owners on Saturday, 20 September 2025. Guests can stroll through the exhibition with their four-legged companion and enjoy viewing the finalist photographs of dogs from across Australia (and don't forget

to snap a few adorable pics of your own along the way!).

Relax in the garden with wines for purchase from Simon Tolley and treat your furry friend to a custom portrait by talented pet sketch artist Ivana Prophet.

LEARN MORE



UPCOMING EVENT



Paint & Sip: Paint your pup

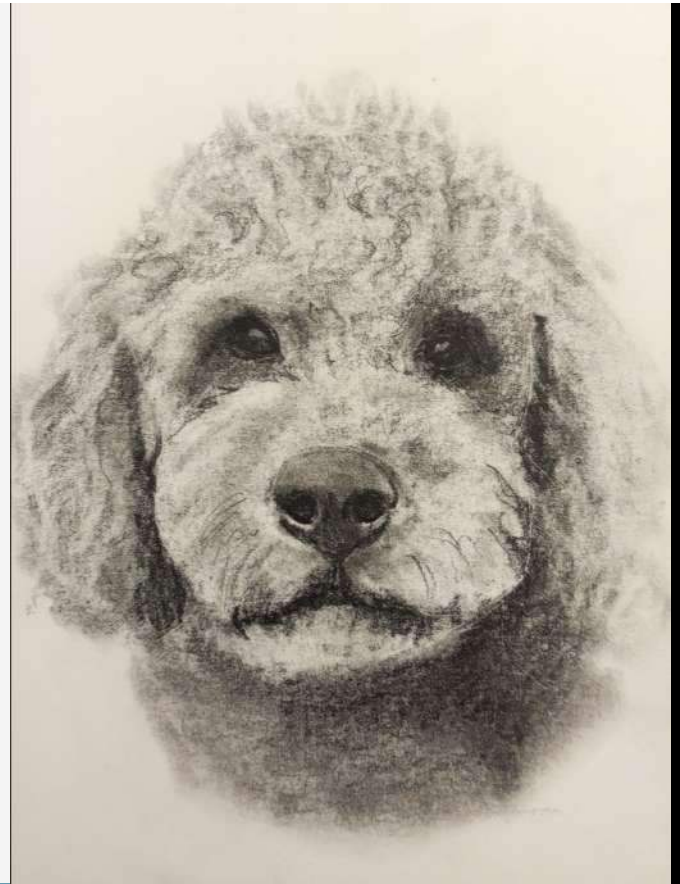
Hosted by pet sketch
artist, Ivana Prophet

Thursday 9 October 6:00pm–8:00pm

Unleash your creativity at the gallery! Join us for a wholesome evening with talented pet sketch artist, Ivana Prophet. Bring an A3-sized photo of your pup and follow

along as Ivana guides you step-by-step to create a painting of your dog using acrylic paint. Sip on your favourite drink while being surrounded by some of the gallery's collection of paintings and sculptures, all in a relaxed, artistic atmosphere. Everyone's welcome—bring a friend, no prior experience needed! Leave with a painting you'll treasure and a night full of fun memories.

DETAILS AND TICKETS



CANINE TIDBIT



A tribute to June Ashton

David Roche Gallery and South Australia's canine community were deeply saddened by the recent death of June Ashton, an international All Breeds Judge, long-term employee of Fermoy Kennels, volunteer guide at David Roche Gallery, and a lover of dogs and cats.

For nearly 35 years, June Ashton worked in the small team at David Roche's Fermoy Kennels, caring for Afghan Hounds, Kerry Blue Terriers, Smooth Fox Terriers and other breeds, such as German Shepherd, Greyhound and Chihuahua. June loved the dogs as her own and had a particular affinity with Afghan Hounds. In the kennel's later years, she had a deep admiration for Smooth Fox Terriers and loved walking them.

June's husband Malcolm, was an accomplished dog handler and successfully exhibited German Shepherd dogs and an English Springer Spaniel, Cruella de Vil. While June was not a showring handler, she was a committed, competent, and honest All Breeds Judge, who was engaged Australia-wide and in the United States.

Following the death of David Roche in 2013, June was among the foundational cohort of volunteer guides at David Roche Gallery until 2024. She unfailingly led visitors through David's home, Fermoy House, on Tuesday afternoons, and relished the ability to share her knowledge of Fermoy Kennels and her memories of Mr Roche while introducing visitors to his extraordinary art collection. June will be missed by all who knew her and valued her kindness, knowledge, and integrity.

Marie M



DRG 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

DRG Shop Online



Don't miss out on the beautifully illustrated *Best in Show 2025: Australian Photographic Dog Prize* catalogue available now online and in-store. Discover the stories behind the stunning finalist photographs.

SHOP ONLINE TODAY



Treat your furry friend to a cute, “punny” dog toy—available now in-store! Choose from a variety of unique designs and styles.

HIGHLIGHTS AT OTHER HOUSE MUSEUMS

THE CEDARS

A guided tour of The Cedars

In the heart of Adelaide Hills is the beautiful, historic home and property of renowned Australian artists Sir Hans Heysen, daughter Nora Heysen

CARRICK HILL

The Rose in Art | From Aphrodite to Barbie | \$25

The rose—seductive and sacred, political and playful— has blossomed in art for millennia. *The Rose in Art:*

and their family. A visit to The Cedars is an unforgettable look at an Australian cultural treasure and one of the world's few fully preserved historic artists' homes and studios containing the original working and living spaces of both Hans and Nora Heysen and their family.

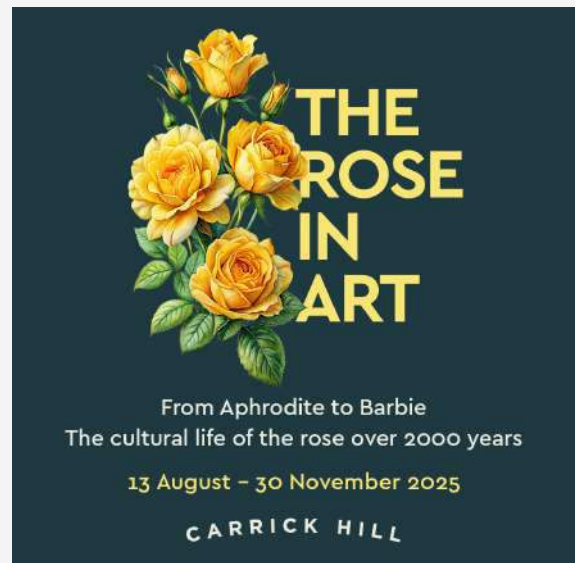
Guided tours provide in-depth information about the Heysen family, their art, and the history of The Cedars. Plan your visit today.



[MORE INFORMATION](#)

From Aphrodite to Barbie, a bold new exhibition at Carrick Hill, explores the powerful symbolism of the rose across religion, genre painting, high fashion and pop culture—from the worship of Aphrodite to the iconic Barbie.

Spanning more than two thousand years, the exhibition includes classical sculpture, still life painting, and contemporary art, with highlights such as Meissen porcelain, Fantin Latour and Schiaparelli.



[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. **Exhibition:** Michelle Petkovic, *Jasper's gaze*, 2023. **Upcoming Event:** Steven Miller. Image supplied. Linda Tegg (Australia b.1979), *Dachshund 2*, 2008. Image courtesy of the artist & Sutton Gallery, Melbourne. Maud Earl (Britain/United States 1863-1943), *Pointer at sunset*, c.1900, oil on canvas, The David Roche Collection. **Bring Your Dog Day:** Julie Brown, *Look at that tongue*, 2024. **Paint & Sip:** Dog Sketches, Ivana Prophet, images supplied. **Museums:** Heysen, The Cedars, House Tour Website. **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 eme



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