



Club Fermoy

Issue 77

Dear friends and supporters,

Thank you to everyone who made *Making Old New* such a successful 10th anniversary exhibition, and we're delighted to share in Club Fermoy acquisitions from the show which now form part of the permanent David Roche Collection. Coming Friday 14 August is *Salon des Refusés 2026* with its broad range of portraiture and landscape painting by some of Australia's leading artists and our wonderful SALA show *Fiona McIntosh: Collections* is available in the Roman room throughout August.

In this issue you can learn more about a superb Gardner Porcelain Teapot acquired by David and we celebrate the late June Ashton and her bequest to the Gallery. We also welcome our new curator Peta to DRG and members and regular visitors will no doubt meet her in the coming months.

I know I keep saying the café will open shortly, but it really will, and as soon as this happens you can expect postings on social media announcing its launch!

Best wishes,

Robert Reason,
Director, David Roche Gallery

UPCOMING EXHIBITION



Salon des Refusés 2026

The 'alternative'

Archibald and Wynne Prize selection

14 August – 24 October

Returning to Adelaide exclusively at David Roche Gallery, *Salon des Refusés* features over 50 remarkable portrait and landscape paintings. Ticketed exhibition.

LEARN MORE

CURRENT EXHIBITION



Fiona McIntosh: *Collections*

28 July – 29 August

Through the historical lens of the Wunderkammer and natural history collections, fibre artist Fiona McIntosh translates unseen worlds into tactile, wool-based forms. These otherworldly interpretations - familiar yet unknowable - blur boundaries and suggest new ways of seeing and understanding the hidden world around us. Her fascinating works are displayed in the Roman Room. Free entry.

LEARN MORE

NEW TO THE COLLECTION

As David Roche Gallery marks its tenth anniversary, we are pleased to announce the acquisition of a group of works from *Making Old New: DRG 10th Anniversary*, our exhibition commemorating this significant milestone. Their addition to the David Roche Collection creates a legacy of the Gallery's tenth anniversary celebrations.

The works, by esteemed artists Stephen Bowers, Takeshi Iue, Tom Moore and Nick Mount, were chosen for their connection to David's life and collecting passions. They also reflect our founder's desire for DRG to be a 'living' collection that would grow with judicious acquisitions.

The acquisition of these works, each inspired by the extraordinary objects and interiors of Fermoy House, reflects the enduring dialogue between past and present that lies at the heart of the Gallery. By welcoming them into the permanent collection, we not only commemorate this special milestone but also ensure that the creative conversations sparked by *Making Old New* will continue to inspire visitors for years to come. Look out for them on your next tour of Fermoy House!



Stephen Bowers

Grey Kangaroo 2026

Red Kangaroo 2026

Takeshi Iue

Diorama 2026

Tom Moore

Brussels 2026

Fabled Chosen Kin 2025 (not illustrated)

Nick Mount

Cane 2 2026 (not illustrated)

Cane 5 2026 (not illustrated)



TODAY'S TREASURE



PROVENDER,
FAVERSHAM

July 2003

To Whom it may concern,

Russian porcelain chocolatiere by Gardner factory.
Period of Elizabeth Petrovna circa 1741-1761.

Cone shaped on raised foot, painted with
floral sprays and garlands. The domed cover
with an overturned urn. Height 20cm (7 7/8").

This belonged to my Grand Mother Grand Duchess
Xenia, who was the eldest sister to Tsar
Nicolas II. My father gave this to me.

Yours faithfully,

Oleg Romanoff

**Gardner Porcelain
Manufactory
G. I. Kozlov designer**

Teapot c. 1780

This teapot is an example of some of the earliest porcelain pieces produced by Gardner, and has strong provenance to the Romanoffs, the last Imperial family of Russia.

The decoration is based on Meissen porcelain of the time, imitating the 'strewn flowers' style. This design and decoration were for the 'Everyday Service' (*Sobstvennyi*) of Catherine the Great, produced from the 1760s to the 1790s. This service was for non-

ceremonial court use throughout the Russian palaces, for daily personal use by the Imperial family rather than for special occasions or guests. While the Imperial Porcelain Factory received the primary commission of this service, supplementary and replacement pieces were created by the Gardner Factory. The form of the teapot can also be seen in the famous 'Orlov Tea Service', although decorated differently.

This teapot remained in the Imperial family within one of their palaces until it came into the possession of Grand Duchess Xenia Alexandrovna (1875-1960), the oldest sister to the last Tsar of Russia, Nicholas II. It is unclear how the teapot left Russia, whether it was one of very few personal items brought by the escaping Romanoff family, or whether it was later tracked down and reunited with the family. What is known is that after Grand Duchess Xenia's death, the teapot was given by her son Prince Andrei Alexandrovich (1879-1981) to his daughter, the Grand Duchess' granddaughter, Princess Olga Romanoff. She kept the teapot for a number of years before selling it in 1997, when David Roche purchased it.

One of the great charms of the teapot is the note it contains, sent by Princess Olga Romanoff in 2003, verifying its provenance from the Grand Duchess down to herself and written on stationery from her estate, Provender House.

Erin B.
DRG Assistant Curator

FROM THE ARCHIVES



June Ashton (1952-2025)

**Fermoy Kennels 1982-2013
DRG Volunteer Guide
2013-2024**

Following June Ashton's passing in July 2025, her sons generously donated archival materials and objects to DRG in accordance with her wishes. Among the bequest were several ceramic objects that David Roche had gifted to June during her years as an employee of Fermoy Kennels and as a friend. We are delighted that these objects have returned to Fermoy House and are now on display in David's dressing room.

June spoke fondly of her time with Mr. Roche and the excitement of gathering around the small Australian cedar table in the kitchen to see what treasures had arrived in the latest parcel. Not every acquisition met with her approval, however, and she was never afraid to offer her honest opinion. “You’ll go too far one day, my girl,” David would tell her when she questioned any of his purchases.

Visitors who joined June’s Tuesday house tours will remember her enthusiasm for the many dogs represented throughout the collection. She considered them among the highlights of the house and delighted in sharing their stories. June also played an important role in developing the dressing room displays of dog-show awards, trophies, and ribbons that celebrate the dogs of Fermoy Kennels.

The return of these treasured objects provides a fitting reminder of June’s long association with Fermoy House and her enduring friendship with David. We hope she would be pleased to be represented in one of the spaces dedicated to the ‘dog world’ that she loved so dearly and to which she contributed so much.

MEET OUR NEW CURATOR



Peta joins us from CreateSA, where she most recently served as a Senior Advisor in the Policy team. Since completing a Master of Arts in Curatorial and Museum Studies at the University of Adelaide in 2009, Peta has held a range of roles with organisations including the Art Gallery of South Australia, Guildhouse and Object: Australian Centre for Craft & Design.

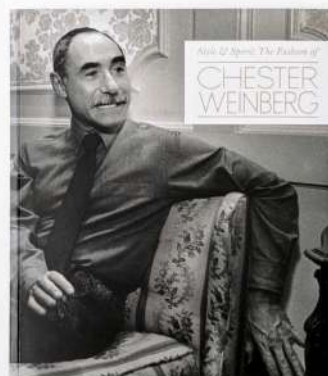
She brings experience in curatorial practice, program development and delivery, and arts funding, together with a longstanding interest in Australian craft and design, an area in which she has a strong personal as well as professional connection. Outside the gallery, Peta works alongside her husband, contemporary artist Jason Sims, and spends much of her spare time keeping up with the busy schedules of their three school-aged children.

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Missed one of our previous exhibitions?

Discover remarkable stories, and delve deeper into subjects including Fabergé, Chester Weinberg, and more through our beautifully illustrated exhibition books. Perfect for art lovers, collectors, or anyone looking to be inspired and learn something new.

[BROWSE BOOKS](#)

DR G Become a Member



As a valued member, you play an essential role in preserving David Roche's collection, supporting the presentation of world-class exhibitions, and program lectures with expert guest speakers. Sign up and enjoy a range of exclusive benefits, including 25% off Fermoy House tours, 25% off exhibition tickets, 10% off the Gallery Shop, and much more. Plus be the first to hear about our upcoming events to avoid missing out!



LEARN MORE

OTHER ART HIGHLIGHTS



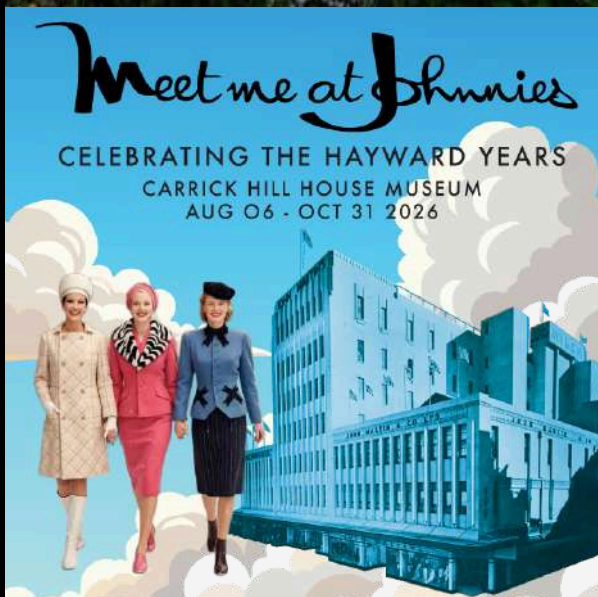
THE CEDARS

Birds of The Cedars Painting Course

8 – 29 August 2026

Immerse yourself in the surroundings of The Cedars, the home of two of Australia's most celebrated artists, Hans and Nora Heysen. A four-part Saturday workshop series capturing the birds that call The Cedars home, guided by artist Zinia King. No prior painting experience is needed — you'll be guided through every step, and finish the course with the confidence and techniques to keep painting birds with ease and enjoyment.

LEARN MORE



CARRICK HILL

Meet Me at Johnnies!

6 August – 31 October 2026

'Meet Me at Johnnies! Celebrating The Hayward Years at John Martin's' is an exhibition exploring the golden age of Adelaide retail and the enduring connection between the Hayward family and John Martin's Department Store. Discover how "Johnnies" became a beloved South Australian institution and a defining part of city life for generations.

LEARN MORE

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. **Exhibitions:** Stewart MacFarlane, *Scott Hicks*, oil on canvas 61 x 51cm. Fiona McIntosh: *Collections* works, Sam Roberts Photography. **New to the collection:** Stephen Bowers, *Red Kangaroo*, *Grey Kangaroo*, 2026, Connor Patterson Photography. Tom Moore, *Brussels*, 2026, Connor Patterson Photography. Takeshi Iue, *Diorama*, 2026, Connor Patterson Photography. **Treasure:** Gardner Porcelain Manufactory (Russia 1766-1892) G. I. Kozlov, designer, Teapot, c. 1780, porcelain,



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,
SOUTH 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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