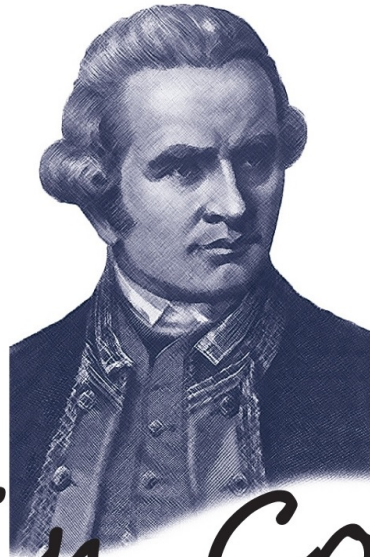


The David Roche Foundation House Museum



Captain Cook **AND THE ART OF MEMORABILIA** 30 January - 29 May 2021

TDRF: Club Fermoy #14

Dear friends and supporters,

As Adelaide looks forward to its annual season of arts festivals in February and March, we also hope this will be a time when we can welcome back many of our interstate friends to the museum. To coincide with the festivals we have curated a very special exhibition *Captain Cook & the Art of Memorabilia*, which brings together ninety historical and contemporary works of art, including the work of South Australian artists. From crochets and children's games through to charts and portraits, this exhibition explores all forms of art associated with Cook to present a fresh opportunity to reflect on colonial and First Nations peoples perspectives. A range of events and talks are scheduled over the coming months, including a wonderful opportunity to sit surrounded by the Cook exhibition while listening to the violin works of J.S. Bach, played by Jonathon Glonek. We have also teamed up with the Adelaide Festival and their 1:1 Concerts where you can enjoy an intimate musical experience surrounded by Fermoy House's luxurious interior!

Please enjoy *Club Fermoy* and our guide's write-up on some of David Roche's many convex mirrors as well as a quirky insight into the canine interests of Sir Joseph Banks. Our 'From the Archives' features David's old Viewing Gallery which, prior to regular exhibitions, was used for special events and his highly anticipated annual Christmas party. I remember meeting him for the first time on such an occasion in 2002 when, with some trepidation, I was introduced as the new decorative arts curator at AGSA. David had a formidable knowledge and needless to say I was on my best behaviour!

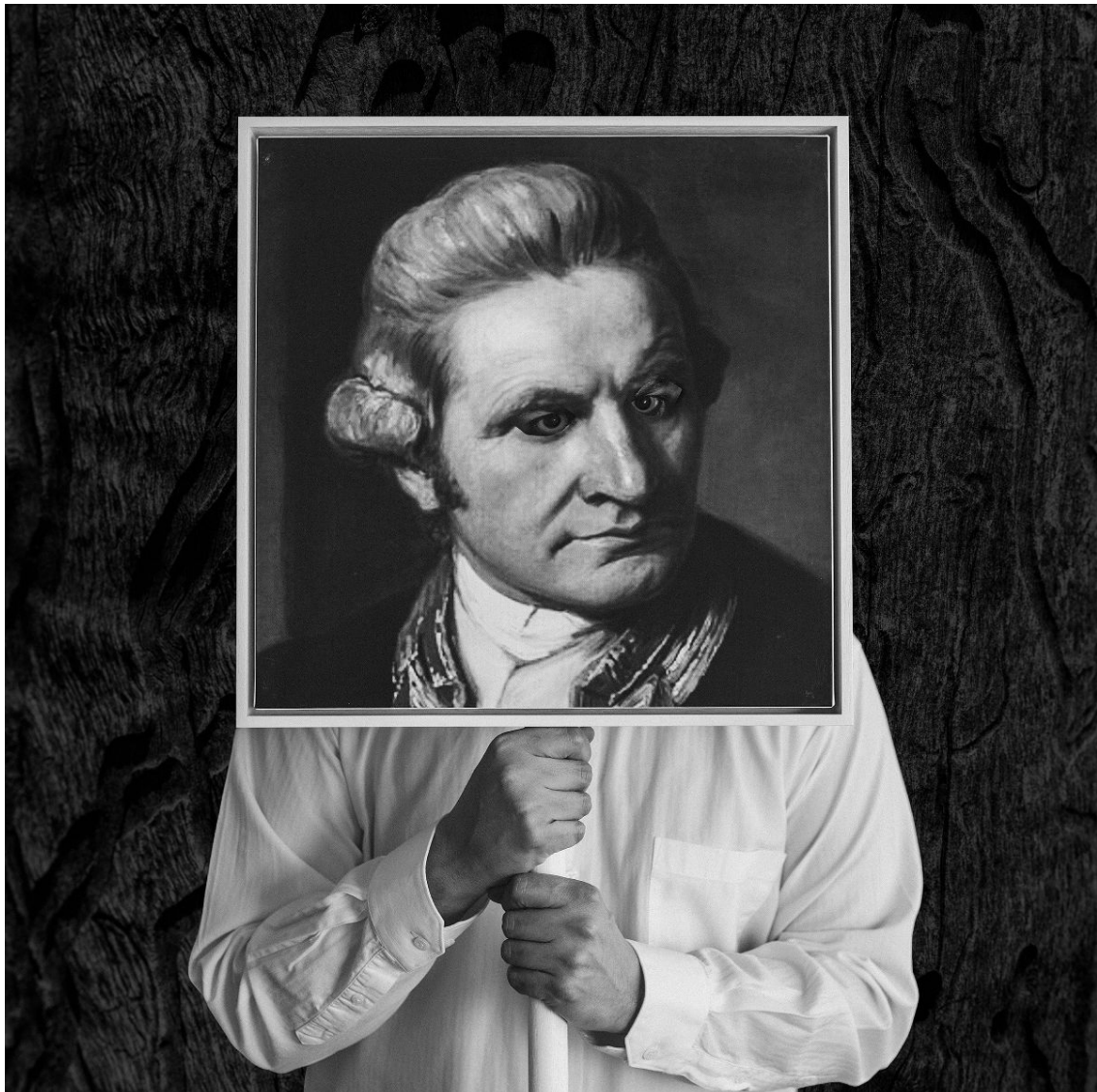
I look forward to meeting some of you at our twilight evening next Thursday and might I say Fermoy's garden is a great setting to relax and unwind with a drink and nibble. Plus, the newly planted front flowerbed with its multi-coloured vincas is looking stunning.

Best wishes,

Robert Reason
Museum Director

EXHIBITION: NOW OPEN

Captain Cook & the Art of Memorabilia



Christian Thompson (Bidjara people, Australia born 1978), *Museum of Others (Othering the Explorer, James Cook)* from the series *Museum of Others*, 2016, Australia, c-type photograph on metallic paper, 120 x 120 cm. Collection of Flinders University Museum of Art 5808. © Courtesy of the Artist and Michael Reid Sydney + Berlin 2020

Explore Captain Cook through the objects connected to him, and contemporary responses to his impact on Australia.

Come and learn about Captain Cook and the impact of his three late 18th century expeditions. See items that were once owned by Cook himself and came with him on his voyages of discovery. Hear about the ongoing effect of his 1770 arrival on the east coast of Australia for the First Nations people that inhabit this ancient country, through a powerful series of works by contemporary First Nations artists, including Christian Thompson, Ali Gumillya Baker, Daniel Boyd and Gordon Bennett.

On display for the first time at TDRF as part of this exhibition is the *HMS Resolution* table, acquired by David Roche in 2004. A wonderful piece of Regency-era furniture that contains a centrepiece made from a piece of Cook's second ship, the *HMS Resolution*, as well as cuts of wood from the various countries visited by Cook on his voyages around the Pacific.

Details: *Captain Cook & the Art of Memorabilia*

Only at The David Roche Foundation House Museum

30 January to 29 May 2021

Open Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 4pm

Exhibition ticket Adult \$15. Concession \$12. Children under 12 free.

No booking required. Please note we operate a COVIDSafe Plan.

EVENTS

Twilight evening

Thursday 11 February 2021 | 5-8PM



The David Roche Foundation is excited to announce that after a long absence, we will be restarting our popular twilight evening on 11 February 2021; so from 5-8PM, you can come and view our new exhibition, *Captain Cook & the Art of Memorabilia*, while also enjoying a performance by the *Deadly Nannas/Nragi Muthar*, as well as food and drinks. Be among the first to experience the exhibition, an artistic examination of the figure of Captain Cook and his ongoing impact on the Australian nation.

Food will be available in the forecourt provided by Adelaide's own Woodfired Pizza Company, while drinks will be available for purchase from The Foundation!

Doors open 5pm – 8pm. Tickets are available for pre-purchase or on the door for \$15 (adult), \$12 (concession). Children under 12 free. Food and drinks will be available for purchase for consumption in the forecourt and Roman room.

Pre-purchase or register your interest and pay on the door [HERE](#)

In Cook's Wake with Nat Williams

Wednesday 17 February 2021 | 6PM

Before cloth, there was tapa, or barkcloth, which was made from the inner bark of various trees in the Pacific. This versatile and often beautiful material was used for many purposes, ranging from wrapping babies and bodies, to clothing and room partitions, to being gifted or exchanged at important ceremonial occasions and in performances by Polynesian people.

The National Library holds numerous hidden tapa 'treasures' – some that have rarely seen the light of day since Cook's epic Pacific voyages. This lecture will examine the European 'discovery' of tapa cloth from the 17th century, its depiction in art and in Cook's published accounts, and its path into the Library's collections via the remarkable collector and benefactor Sir Rex Nan Kivell.

Nat Williams has worked at the National Gallery of Australia, the Art Gallery of SA, and most recently for over two decades at the National Library, Canberra.

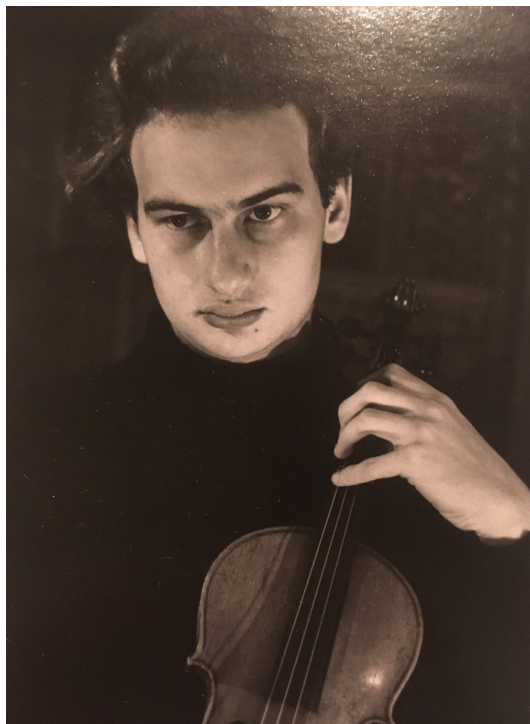
Tickets \$25 (just a few remain!)



Book Now

J.S. Bach: The entire works for Violin unaccompanied with Jonathon Glonek

Wednesday 24 February & Wednesday 3 March 2021 | 7:30PM



*** ADELAIDE
* FRINGE * 2021**
adelaidefringe.com.au

Celebrating 50 years with the violin, Jonathon Glonek presents a special set of recitals featuring the entire works for unaccompanied violin by Johann Sebastian Bach.

To be held in the Gallery wing of The David Roche Foundation, each work will be presented personally, surrounded by the wonderful works of art that make up the *Captain Cook & the Art of Memorabilia* exhibition. Each session runs for 90 minutes.

Pieces to be performed:

(24 February)

Sonata in G Minor

Partita in B Minor

Sonata in A Minor

(3 March)

Partita in D Minor

Sonata in C Major

Partita in E Major

Tickets \$40. Enjoy Charles Steiner NV Brut for purchase at intermission or after.

Book Now

TODAY'S TREASURE

Showcasing the favourite pieces of our fantastic guides and volunteers in The David Roche Collection. In this edition, John H. talks about the history of decorative convex mirrors and the fine Regency-era examples of these in David's collection on display throughout Fermoy House.



Our Favourite Pieces

The convex mirror can be traced back to 1434 when one was depicted in the famous painting 'The Arnolfini Wedding' by the Flemish artist Jan van Eyck. The Empire style convex mirror was introduced from France into England towards the end of the 18th century. At this time, they were being made in moulds by companies such as the British Plate Glass Company. This efficient and relatively cheap method created a great fashion for this type of decorative mirror in Regency England.

David has a number of fine convex mirrors in his house. The pair placed at the end of the main hallway are wonderful examples of the set formula for these mirrors. Each of the mirrors is set in a circular moulded deep, cavetto gilt frame. A series of gilt spherules are fixed at equal intervals around the whole rim. Between this and the glass there is a narrow gilt ring known as the bezel. The mirrors are then surmounted by a perched eagle standing on a branch with its wings spread. The whole is then positioned on a scrolled platform decorated with foliate designs. In their beaks, the eagles hold a black chain from which gilt balls are suspended at each end. At the base of the mirrors, there is a carved foliate ornament and pediment. Matching stylised gilt leaves decorate either side of the eagles and the pediments. They were made in Britain around 1820.

My favourite convex mirror in David's collection is the one on the landing in the Roman

room. It was made in England about 1810 and is in the manner of George Smith. It shows a number of innovative variations on the standard form. The spherules around the rim have been replaced by gilt rosettes. At the base, the normal foliate design is replaced by a screaming silen mask. At the top, the eagle has been replaced by a stylised foliate design incorporating ebonised horn and trumpet like structures. Candle sconces spring laterally from the base of the mirror and are decoratively entwined with snakes and also feature rams heads. The addition of the sconces means it is known as a girandole mirror. A very similar mirror appears in Smith's book of designs for household furniture published in 1808.

The convex mirrors in David's collection show his great decorating taste. They have the wonderful effect of adding perspective, light and space to the rooms in which they hang and on their surfaces they provide a novel perspective of the room and its contents.

February 2021

John H., Guide



Joshua Reynolds (Britain 1723-1792), *Joseph Banks*, 1773, oil on canvas

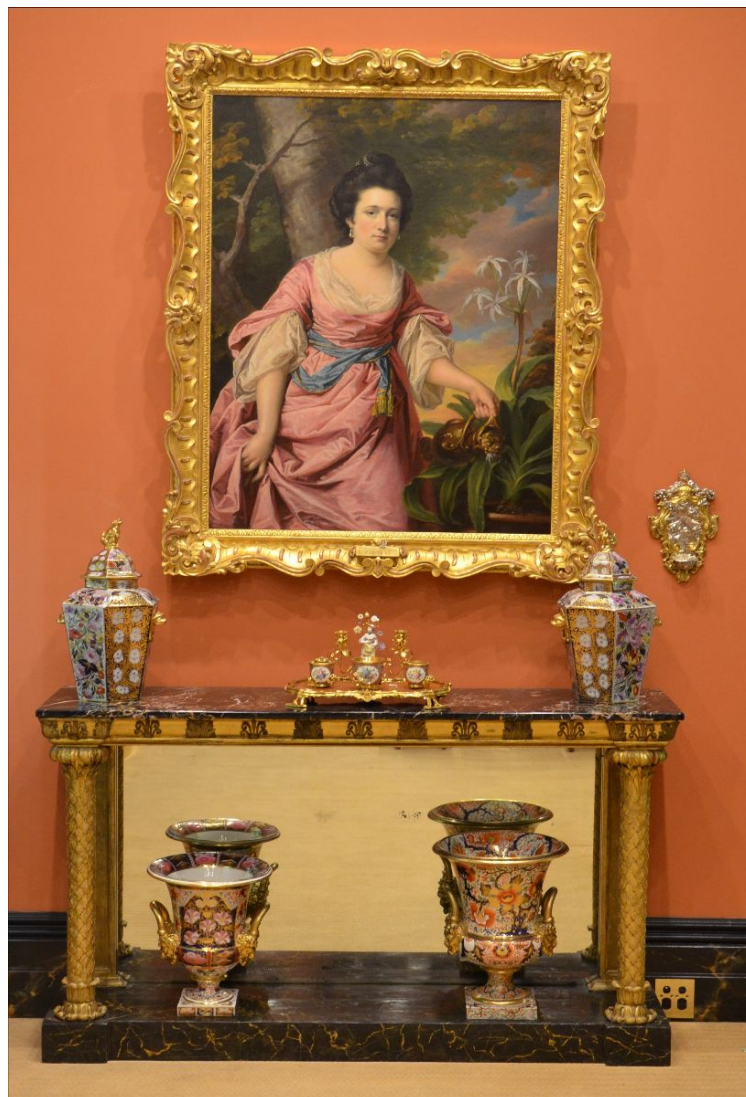
CANINE TIDBITS

Did you know...

A number of animals were part of the crew of Cook's first voyage, including two dogs, a male and a female, owned by Joseph Banks. At least one of the dogs (the female) was a greyhound named Lady; the male, named Mab, is alternately claimed to have been a second greyhound or a spaniel.

Banks, who cared greatly for his dogs, even went so far as to bring along his own handlers for them. While the handlers sadly died on the voyage, the dogs were much more fortunate, and when Cook and his crew landed at what he called Botanist (later Botany) Bay in 1770, Mab and Lady accompanied them onto the shore, thereby becoming the first European dogs to reach Australian shores.

Subsequently, the pair were of great use to the crew, as they were able to hunt and catch some of the local fauna, which provided the crew with fresh meat after many months at sea. Although the fate of Lady is unknown, Mab appears to have survived the trip back to Britain, as he is mentioned in Banks' records as having still been alive as late as 1775.



Flora (Exhibition 4), 2013/2014

FROM THE ARCHIVES

To coincide with the opening of our latest exhibition, *Captain Cook & the Art of Memorabilia*, in this edition of the newsletter, we look back on the first gallery space of The David Roche Foundation.

Prior to the opening of the gallery wing of The David Roche Foundation in June 2016, exhibitions at TDRF were held at 237 Melbourne Street, next door to David's Fermoy House, known as the 'Viewing gallery'.

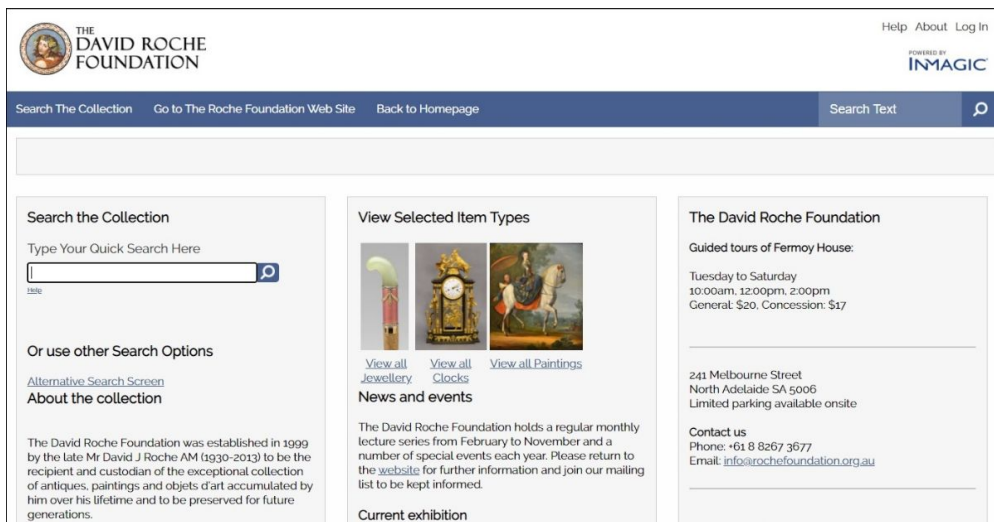
For some years, the Viewing Gallery had been used by David Roche as a venue for special by-invite-only talks and events, which David himself would always attend. In addition, for those events occurring around Christmas-time, drinks and nibbles would be provided.

Starting in 2012, David Roche, ably assisted by Martyn Cook and Ann Preston Flint, would regularly put on exhibitions consisting of pieces from his collection in this space. Ultimately, the Viewing Gallery was to see some 7 exhibitions in its time: the first three exhibitions presenting a selection of highlights from the collection, while the later exhibitions became more thematic, and covered particular sections of David's collection, such as *From the Hearth*, *Flora*, *The Human Form in Art* and *T-r-a-n-s-i-t-i-o-n*, which were all well received.

Along with these exhibitions, there were also regular talks from guest speakers, the most regular being Martyn Cook, later the inaugural Museum Director of TDRF, who was more than happy to come across from Sydney for David to talk on a wide variety of topics.



From the Hearth (Exhibition 5), 2014



Did you know that many of the items in The David Roche Collection are available online? Find your favourite piece or discover something new. Click the Search button below.

Search the collection



FOLLOW TDRF

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

In our last newsletter, we included a link to the Captain Cook Society, but Cook is not the only important member of the Endeavour voyage to have a society dedicated to him, there is also one dedicated to renowned botanist, Sir Joseph Banks. Along with Daniel Solander and Hermann Spöring, Banks collected an enormous amount of Australian flora, which is still being studied to this day. This page looks at Banks' work and achievements, including some interesting video talks about his *Florilegium*:

<https://www.joseph-banks.org.uk/>

A fascinating Cook-related event that has been held annually since 1959 is the reenactment of Captain Cook's landing at Waalumbaal Birri (Endeavour River) at

Cooktown in Queensland. Waalumbaal Birri is the location where Cook and the crew of the Endeavour spent their longest time in Australia (47 days) during their voyage up the east coast of Australia. Hear about the contact between the crew and the local Guugu Yimithirr people, their conflict and reconciliation:

<https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/earshot/cook-in-cooktown-2/8132036>



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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 and present.



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