
CLUB FERMOY

The David Roche Foundation House Museum



Emily Crockford, *Trent Zimmerman watching the sun with all the clouds and the lorikeets are singing*, from *Salon des Refusés 2021*

Club Fermoy #22

Dear friends and supporters,

Welcome to our October edition of *Club Fermoy*!

We are excited to be preparing the *Salon des Refusés 2021* to open for your viewing

pleasure on Saturday 9 October. Organised by the S.H. Ervin Gallery in Sydney, the *Salon* is always a highly anticipated exhibition that provides an alternative selection from the Art Gallery of New South Wales' Archibald and Wynne prizes. This year, Jane Watters, Director of the S.H. Ervin Gallery, was joined by Max Germanos, curator of 3.33 Art Projects and Katherine Roberts, senior curator of the Manly Art Gallery & Museum, to make the selection.

Chosen from the many hundreds of paintings entered into the competition, *Salon des Refusés 2021* consists of 35 Archibald portraits and 22 Wynne landscape entries, 47 of which have travelled exclusively to TDRF in Adelaide. Among the works are *Taylor Fontaine & The Magda Szubanskis* (Drag queen/performer) by previous Archibald winner, Wendy Sharpe, and an alternate painting of *Guy Warren (artist)* by Daniel Pata. Warren was also the subject of the winner of AGNSW Archibald Prize 2021, Peter Wegner's *Portrait of Guy Warren at 100*. Actors, artists, politicians and musicians all make an appearance alongside some superb landscape paintings by Australia's leading contemporary artists.

In keeping with this edition's focus on portraiture, Rex Wood's image of a young David Roche is discussed, and while David did not have further portraits commissioned, he most definitely collected many superb European examples of nobility, royalty and figures from history. We also continue our series looking back at David's significant canine contribution nationally and internationally, and the collection highlight of the month is a superb pair of candelabra from the Napoléonic period that form part of our impressive Egyptomania-inspired collection.

Happy reading and we look forward to welcoming you to the museum, and hopefully to the easing of border restrictions next month so that more of our interstate visitors can return.

Best wishes,

Robert Reason
Museum Director

NEW EXHIBITION

SALON DES REFUSÉS



Wendy Sharpe, Taylor Fontaine & The Magda Szubanskis (Drag queen/performer), oil on linen. Wendy is represented by King Street Gallery on William

OPENS 9 OCTOBER!

Coming to Adelaide for the first time in its almost 30 year history is the National Trust S.H. Ervin Gallery's *Salon des Refusés 2021*, the alternative Archibald and Wynne prize exhibition.

The *Salon des Refusés* was initiated by the S.H. Ervin Gallery in 1992 in response to the large number of works entered into the Art Gallery of New South Wales' (AGNSW) Archibald Prize that were not selected for display in the official exhibition.

Each year the S.H. Ervin Gallery's panel is invited to go behind the scenes of the judging process for the Archibald Prize and Wynne Prize at the AGNSW to select an exhibition from the many hundreds of works entered in both prizes but not chosen for that year's exhibition.

The resulting *Salon des Refusés 2021* is a not to be missed display of over 40 portraits and landscapes, an examination of contemporary Australian art practices that have been chosen for their quality, diversity, humour and experimentation.

Details: *SALON DES REFUSÉS 2021*

9 OCTOBER - 11 DECEMBER 2021

Open Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 4pm

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

\$8 National Trust Members. Children under 12 free.

No booking required.

In partnership with



FROM THE ARCHIVES



(Rex) Thomas Percy Reginald Wood (Australia 1908-1970), Geelong Grammar graduation portrait of David J Roche AM (1930-2013), c.1948, Australia, oil on panel, 75.0 x 60.0cm. TDRF 3038

Entering the main hall of The David Roche Foundation, visitors may notice near the front desk a portrait of a well-dressed young man, who is none other than our founder, David Roche. This portrait of David was painted in 1948 upon his graduation from Geelong Grammar, which he had attended from 1944 to 1948, and as such, he is depicted wearing his double-breasted school blazer and tie.

The portrait was commissioned by David's parents, Jack and Dorinda, who had a portrait painted of each of their children, as well as one of Dorinda. In each case, the painter was South Australian realist Thomas Percy Reginald Wood (Australia 1908-1970), who had studied at the Adelaide Central School of Art. Also known as 'Rex', Wood was a long time Roche family friend, and would often accompany the Roche family on holidays to their rural holiday properties to paint.

In the late 1930s, Rex moved to Europe, settling in Portugal, where he spent most of the remainder of his life. However, while there, he continued to correspond with the Roches, sending works back over for them, and occasionally even returning for visits.

This portrait of David had been with his mother, Dorinda, who bequeathed it to David on her passing. It hung in David's Sydney residence, before coming to Fermoy House following his own passing in 2013.

CANINE TIDBITS



Did you know...

Even in his later years, David Roche's passion for exhibiting dogs remained undiminished. However, around 2000, he came to the conclusion that he could no longer maintain the high standard of exhibiting he expected of himself for Kerry Blue Terriers and Afghan Hounds, and so he began searching for a pure breed to take him through the final stage of his life.

He had long admired Smooth Fox Terriers and one year on a trip to Sydney Royal, he saw a young stallion of a terrier that piqued his interest, and so he immediately made enquires to see if the dog might be available. The dog in question was Ch Graebrook Jaluka (also known by his call name, 'Luke') bred by Lois and Cinnamon Clarke. Luke was black and white, strong and sound and was the beginning of the Fox Terrier-era at Fermoy Kennels. He had a very successful show career and a proven producer of quality offspring, which included an exceptional bitch, Ch Fermoy Constellation, who would later have a successful show career of her own.

Sometime later, Luke was joined by another male from Graebrook who had been previously campaigned in Japan. This dog was Japanese and Australian Champion Graebrook Blak Orpheus ('Bobby') and, like his kennel mate, he had a hugely successful show career. Bobby was a most exciting and natural show dog, with David once commenting that "all he had to do was hold onto the lead".

The next decade saw David Roche breed and show numerous Smooth Fox Terriers to great success, thereby proving that he had lost none of his famed dog grooming skills even in his later years.

TODAY'S TREASURE

Showcasing the favourite pieces of our fantastic guides and volunteers in The David Roche Collection. In this edition, Geoff S. shares some research that he has been doing on a superb pair of French Empire candelabra attributed to famed *ciseleur*, Pierre Philippe Thomire.



attributed to Pierre-Philippe Thomire (France 1751-1843), after Charles Percier (France 1764-1838), design, *Pair of Retour d'Egypte candelabra*, c.1810, Paris, ormolu, patinated bronze, 66.3 x 26.5 x 13.0cm. TDRF 1871

The David Roche Collection includes a superb c.1810 pair of candelabra, attributed to Pierre Philippe Thomire (1757–1843), in the Egyptian style to a popular design of the goddess Isis standing on a pylon holding cornucopia, each issuing a candle sconce, with pseudo hieroglyphs including Anubis on a bull.

These candelabra are closely related to a pair produced by Thomire in 1805 and illustrated in the standard reference on gilded bronzes, *Vergoldete Bronzen* by Ottomeyer and Proschel (1986). The Egyptian figure is derived from a design by Charles Percier from 1800 for the supports of a centre table – his design is in the collection of the Louvre. For his design, Percier drew inspiration from a sketch by Baron Vivant Denon who had been in Egypt with Napoléon.

Thomire is regarded as the premier *bronzier* of the late 18th early 19th centuries and his fashionable neoclassical and Empire style furnishing bronzes (*bronzes d'ameublement*) established the highest standard of refined finish in the skill that the French called that of the *fondeur-ciseleur* or founder-finisher. There are 6 other objects at TDRF with an attribution to Thomire, including the Baptism of Achilles clock and the gilded ornamentation on the Louis Moinet l'Aîné 'Gossip clock'.

Similar pairs of these candelabra are in the Chancellery of the Legion of Honour in Paris, Pavlovsk Palace – which had been supplied to Emperor Paul – and French aristocrat and fashion designer, Hubert de Givenchy, also owned a pair.

And a Demidoff connection. Readers will be aware of the 1820 portrait of the young Anatole Demidoff by Robert Lefèvre (1755–1830) in the Military dining room of Fermoy House. Anatole Demidoff, as a collector, was a source of inspiration for David Roche. In March 1880, an auction of *objets d'art* from Anatole's Palace of San Donato was held in Florence, which included two pairs of candelabra featuring the same standing Egyptian figure as the pair in the David Roche Collection. So, Anatole Demidoff once owned two pairs of Percier inspired candelabra by Thomire.

ONLINE SHOP



With Christmas only a couple of months away, it's time to start thinking gifts!

And where better to find the perfect gift than The David Roche Foundation online shop? There are just so many great options...

Our [Gift Vouchers](#) are a popular choice because they are just such good value - a tour of the house AND entry into the exhibition. And with the *Salon des Refusés 2021* just around the corner, there's never been a better time to treat someone special.

The [Guide Book](#) is another excellent option - including a fascinating discussion of David Roche, Fermoy House and The David Roche Collection by Museum Director, Robert Reason, as well as wonderful pictures of all your favourite items - and all at such a great price.

We also have a variety of scarves, notebooks, pens, mousepads and much more.

Just click the button below to see these as well as what else is on offer!

Visit the shop

MEMBERSHIP



The David Roche Foundation House Museum has a wonderful new Membership program!

Sign up now and 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.

Join the TDRF membership today and be part of one of Australia's finest art institutions!

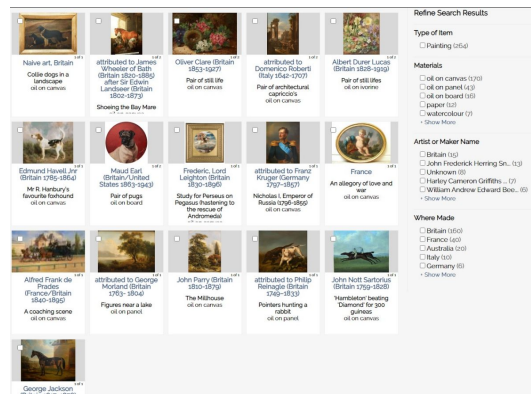
For more information about the membership or to sign up, click the button below to visit the Membership page on our website or contact memberships@rochefoundation.org.au.

Find out more

DIGITAL COLLECTION

Did you know that many of the items in The David Roche Collection are available online? Search by title, artist, type, materials, and place made to find out more about your favourite piece or discover something new.

Click the Search button below.

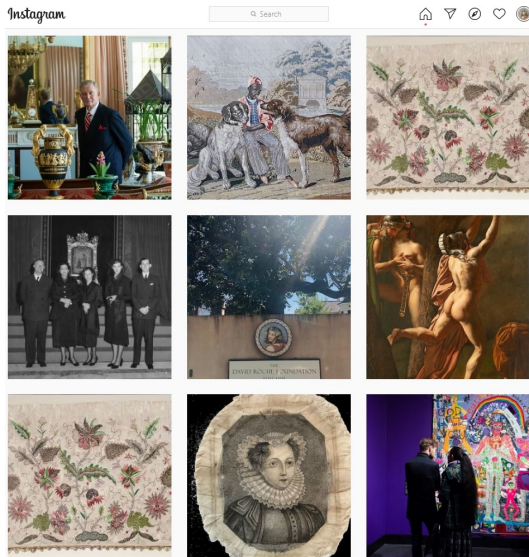


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SOCIAL MEDIA

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We provide regular content



through our social media channels. Follow us now to keep in the loop!



LINKS WE LOVE

The term *Salon des Refusés* was originally coined in 1863 for an exhibition of works that had been rejected from the French Academy's official Salon. Find out more about the history of the original Salon des Refusés and some of the artists and works that were rejected in this fascinating article by Artland magazine:

<https://magazine.artland.com/the-shows-that-made-contemporary-art-history-the-salon-des-refuses/>

The Art Gallery of New South Wales' Archibald and Wynne Prizes are the pre-eminent art prizes held in Australia for portraiture and landscape respectively. In the lead up to seeing the *Salon des Refusés 2021* at TDRF, enjoy a look back on some of the incredible winners of these prizes:

<https://www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au/art/prizes/>



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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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