

CLUB FERMOY

The David Roche Foundation House Museum Newsletter

Issue 44



Image: Regine Schwarzer's objects and jewellery are on display in the Roman Room and Gilded Aviary as a part of SALA.

From the Museum Director

Dear friends and supporters,

As winter enters its final month so too does our exhibition *Arthur Boyd: The Life of Saint Francis* from the collection of the National Gallery of Australia. If you're yet to visit don't let the opportunity slip by as this is the largest and only the third showing of work from Boyd's Saint Francis tapestry suite in fifty years. Visitors have been unreserved in their praise of these monumental works and art critic Jane Llewellyn wrote a "fascinating exhibition that needs to be visited in person to fully appreciate the depth, vibrancy and scale of these incredible tapestries" for June's InReview.

Throughout August TDRF is thrilled to be part of the SALA Festival again by providing our collection as inspiration to talented local craft and design artists. This year object and jewellery maker, Regine Schwarzer, has responded by creating a series of exquisite work that examines functional utensils, precious containers, and jewellery.

In this issue you can learn more about David's purchase of a Heinrich Schmidt military portrait for his dining room from volunteer Geoff while our canine tidbit explores a commission given to the talented Australian wildlife artist Jeremy Boot.

Best wishes,

Robert Reason

FINAL WEEKS!



Image: Arthur Boyd (designer), Tapeçarias de Portalegre (manufacturer), *St Francis when young turning aside* 1972. High warp tapestry. Collection: National Gallery of Australia, purchased 1975. Arthur Boyd's work reproduced with the permission of Bundanon Trust.

ARTHUR BOYD THE LIFE OF SAINT FRANCIS

Celebrated Australian artist Arthur Boyd and his vision of the endearing medieval Italian saint, St. Francis of Assisi, comes to Adelaide from the collection of the National Gallery of Australia.

Rarely seen, a selection of Boyd's large, and spectacular tapestries illustrating the life of the saint are joined by sketches, pastels and lithographs exploring the universal human conditions of love and pain, sacrifice and compassion. Only at The David Roche Foundation.

**ARTHUR BOYD
THE LIFE OF SAINT FRANCIS**

**Until 2 September 2023
Tuesday to Saturday
10AM - 4PM**

No booking required.

**\$15 Adult. \$12 Concession.
\$11 TDRF Member.
Children under 12 free.**

PRINCIPAL LENDER



**Guided Tours
Thursdays 11:30AM**

[Book your tour here](#)

REGINE SCHWARZER DELIBERATIONS ON FERMOY



Image: Regine Schwarzer *Banksia container* 2023, *Pill container* 2023, *Papaver somniferum container* 2023. Photo: Sam Roberts.

When visiting The David Roche Foundation House Museum, Regine Schwarzer's attention was immediately drawn to the diverse, small-scale, precious, utilitarian artefacts held in cabinets throughout Fermoy House. These treasures prompted her to research their historical uses, and to contemplate what the objects meant to the people that lived with them many years ago.

Schwarzer has created small objects for daily use and appreciation: containers, canisters, tea caddy spoons, toothpick holders, spice dishes with spoons, bodkin cases, and other objet d'art. Often thought as commonplace or designed for their utility, these have been elevated beyond the everyday through the use of precious metals, gemstones, rocks and minerals. A selection of jewellery and works from the artist's archive are also displayed.

Regine Schwarzer: Deliberations on Fermoy is proudly presented by The David Roche Foundation as part of the South Australian Living Artists Festival.

SALA

ARTIST TALK

Join Regine Schwarzer for a free talk discussing her practice, her experience exploring David Roche's collection of decorative arts, and the works she has created for *Deliberations on Fermoy*.

Dates: Saturday 5 August 2023, 3PM | Saturday 2 September 2023, 3PM

Cost: Free, please register your attendance using the link as spaces are limited.

[Register here for your free ticket](#)

REGINE SCHWARZER DELIBERATIONS ON FERMOY

1 August – 9 September 2023
Tuesday to Saturday 10AM – 4PM

Free entry (Roman Room and Foyer spaces only), no booking required. Selected works on display are available for purchase.

Entry to *Arthur Boyd: The Life of Saint Francis* and Fermoy House is not included, tickets may be purchased separately.

CANINE TIDBITS



It has often been said of David Roche that there were two constants in his life: his drive to create his collection of decorative and fine arts, and his dedication breeding and exhibiting pure bred dogs. These distinct passions came together in the important collection of animal art he developed throughout his life, notably some fabulous dog paintings.

The dog paintings were not confined to the house. Art was also displayed on the walls of the kennels, including watercolours, sketches and a very large oil painting of three Afghans by Donald H Green commissioned by David in 1972. Framed photographs celebrated David's dogs winning at major shows, and David judging at overseas appointments.

The last dogs to be imported into Australia by David were two Smooth Fox Terriers, a bitch from Belgium, Ch Belfox Bigoudi, and a male from Hungary. David wanted to commission a portrait Bigoudi, and with input from Martyn Cook he was able to secure the services of the hugely talented Jeremy Boot. The illustrated pastel sketch was last on the wall of Fermoy Kennels.

TODAY'S TREASURE

Showcasing the favourite pieces of our volunteers in The David Roche Collection. In this edition, Geoff S writes about a distinctive portrait displayed in the Military Dining Room at Fermoy House.



Image: Heinrich Schmidt, *Officer of the Hussars* 1817. Oil on canvas, TDRF 308.

A striking portrait by German artist Heinrich Schmidt (1757–1828) hangs in the Military Dining Room at Fermoy House. Painted in 1817, the work depicts a young man dressed in the resplendent dolman and pelisse worn by Hussars. According to military historian Ronald Pawly, details of the uniform, shoulder strap, and crimson and silver belt sash designate the sitter as a Sub-Lieutenant of the *Guardia d'Interna Sicurezza* (internal security guard) of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies.

The *Guardia* was formed in 1813 to uphold order in the city of Naples, and its members were recruited exclusively from the commercial circles, liberal professions, small landowners and dignitaries of Naples. It is likely, therefore, that the sitter - whose identity awaits rediscovery - was a Neapolitan. The Kingdom of the Two Sicilies emerged out of the 1815 Treaty of Castalanza, which ended the Neapolitan War. The treaty restored Ferdinand I de Bourbon as ruler, who retained the Guardia as evidenced by the FB monogram on the shoulder strap's silver shield.

Schmidt was born in Otweiler, Saarland and trained as a painter in Saarbrücken and Mannheim. He moved to Rome in 1787 where he met Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, who called him "il Fornaro" – the baker. In 1792 Schmidt married his model, Theresa Banducci.

As French troops advanced towards Rome during the Revolutionary Wars, Schmidt moved to Naples in late 1797. He later received numerous commissions from Napoleon's brother-in-law and King of Naples (1808–1815), Joachim Murat, including a portrait of him now at the Palace of Caserta. At the end of the 18th century, Naples was the largest city in Italy and the third largest in Europe, attracting the best artists, composers, and musicians.

Geoff S

Book a tour of Fermoy house today to see this treasure and many more!

[Book now](#)

MEMBERSHIP



Are you a regular visitor to The David Roche Foundation House Museum? Even if you're not but are keen to support the work of the Foundation, then becoming a TDRF Member would be the ideal thing for you!

TDRF Members enable the Foundation to maintain David Roche's exquisite collection, present world-class exhibitions, program lectures with expert guest speakers and to fulfil its vision as a centre of excellence and a leader in decorative arts in Australia. By becoming a TDRF 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)
- 25% discount off full price exhibition entry fee
- 10% discount off full price purchases in the shop (this excludes online shop)
- 10% discount off full price TDRF Lecture Series tickets

- Invitations to exclusive tours and special events
- Advance notice of TDRF programs and events
- Members only events & trips

Become a TDRF Member

To become a TDRF Member, please call into the museum or download the membership application form here www.rochefoundation.com.au/membership/

Please return your completed form by post or by dropping it off at the museum.

For further information please e-mail memberships@rochefoundation.org.au or phone 08 8267 3677.

[Find out more](#)

GIFT SHOP

The David Roche Foundation has a wide range of beautiful products on sale which make perfect gifts or a treat for yourself. Here are some of our favourites.



TDRF has its very own 1000 piece puzzle, featuring the Butcher's Shop diorama from the kitchen at Fermoy House– it will keep you busy for hours!!

Only \$30.00

[Buy Now](#)



Australian made from 100% cotton, this eye-catching tote bag features a bright and colourful detail from the George Bullock Specimen table!

Only \$25.00

[Buy Now](#)

Order online at <https://www.rochefoundation.com.au/shop/> or by calling us on (08) 8267 3677 or emailing us at info@rochefoundation.org.au (with your contact details). Click and collect is available.

We now post internationally!

[Visit the shop](#)

EVENTS AT A HOUSE NEAR YOU

Our friends at Carrick Hill and The Cedars offer wonderful experiences and events. Here's what's on:

CARRICK HILL

Opens Wednesday 2 August

Adelaide Mid-Century Moderns: émigrés, mavericks and progressives

This exhibition will be the first survey of Adelaide modernism during the 1950s and 1960s, extending from the influx of European émigré artists who arrived in Adelaide around 1950, through the heyday of mid-century modernism, to the arrival of Pop and post-painterly abstraction in the late sixties.



Adelaide Mid-Century Moderns has been made possible as a result of the generous loan by AGSA of paintings, works on paper and archival material from its collection, including many rarely seen works. These are supplemented by loans from private collections.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

As part of *Adelaide Mid-Century Moderns: émigrés, mavericks and progressives*, several public programs are being held throughout August.

John Dallwitz and Maria Zagala in conversation

Friday 18 August 2023, 5:30PM - 7:30PM

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Dr Margot Osborne: Mid-century Modern in Adelaide from 1950-1970

Wednesday 23 August 2023, 5:30PM - 7:30PM

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

THE CEDARS

Whether you enjoy art as a form of expression, or are a budding green thumb, there are some wonderful experiences available in the coming weeks at The Cedars!

White Glove Talk: Photography

Saturday 12 August 2023, 1PM - 3PM | Limited tickets remain

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Art Class: Expressionist Landscapes

Saturday 19 August 2023, 10AM - 3PM | Limited tickets remain

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Seasonal Garden Talk: The Joy of Spring at The Cedars

Saturday 2 September 2023, 2PM - 3PM

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



Carrick Hill Image: Wladyslaw Dutkiewicz (1918-1999) *Calligraphy* c. 1952, oil on canvas. Art Gallery of South Australia. Gift of the Dutkiewicz family, 2000.

COLLECTION

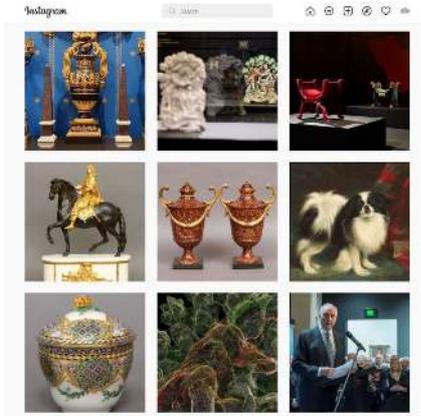
**Did you know that many of the items in
The David Roche Collection are available
to view online?**

*Use our collection search to find out more
about your favourite piece or discover
something new.*



Search the collection

KEEP IN TOUCH



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



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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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