



Christchurch City Council

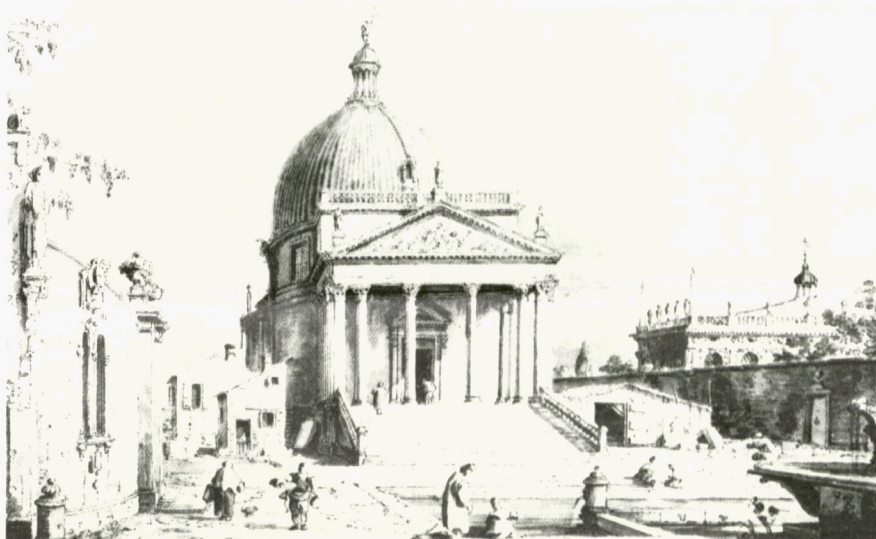


The Robert McDougall Art Gallery

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Robert McDougall Art Gallery
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Antonio Canal (called Canaletto) 1697-1768 Italian *An Imaginary View with S. Simeone Piccolo* pen and brown ink, with grey wash over graphite. The Detroit Institute of Arts.

CANALETTO—Master of Venice

14 August - 25 September

An NZI Corporation Exhibition
organised by the Auckland City Art
Gallery.

The most famous of 18th century view painters Canaletto is also one of the most popular of old masters. The image many people have of Venice is in fact based on Canaletto's paintings which have been extensively reproduced.

This exhibition comprises a fascinating selection of Canaletto's paintings and drawings as well as his extraordinary series of etchings which some historians consider to be the most personal expression of his genius.

The paintings depict St Mark's Square (one of Canaletto's most popular subjects), The Molo during the spectacular maritime procession on Ascension Day, the mainland village of Dolo and two imaginary landscapes in which Canaletto combined aspects of different views in a capricious composition.

The etchings are a landmark in the history of the medium. Suffused with a scintillating luminosity which is a result of Canaletto's distinctive calligraphic style the thirty two etchings of this series depict views of Venice, nearby mainland towns and alpine locations further to the north, as well as imaginary landscapes in which Canaletto sought ideal compositions.

Assembled from collections in England and America **Canaletto: Master of Venice** transports the viewer not only to Venice, the greatest of all maritime cities, but further—to an ideal world just beyond reality—the world of Canaletto's imagination.

The Gallery will be showing as an adjunct to the Canaletto Exhibition works by Doris Lusk and W. A. Sutton—their views of Venice.

Art
Life

DAVID HOCKNEY—Photographs

31 July - 7 September

Hockney's Photographs, an exhibition of photocollages by the internationally renowned artist, David Hockney, is destined to clock up huge attendance figures at the Gallery.

Widely acclaimed when first shown at the Hayward Gallery, London, and since then, a similar outstanding success in Japan, it is estimated that Hockney's Photographs will attract over 70,000 viewers during the five months the show is in this country.

David Hockney has been described as the most popular serious artist in the world, a reputation derived from a talent that is not limited to any particular media. At various stages in his career as a painter, his work has ranged from disciplined realism to fluent, spontaneous and highly coloured works. Over the years, the designing of sets for opera and the theatre has tended to be an increasingly important part of his work.

Until early in 1982, however, Hockney regarded photography as little more than a hobby, albeit one that he pursued vigorously, composing, rather than just filling, the pages of hundreds of albums with photographs of family, friends, places and incidents. But to Hockney, photographs were but a recorded instance, lacking the layering of time and depth of experience that the very process of applying paint to a canvas lent to painting.

This was to change when a curator, involved in selecting some of his album photographs for a Centre Pompidou exhibition, left Hockney a polaroid camera and several dozen packets of film. Using these Hockney shot and assembled a collage of his Los Angeles house. The result, he saw, tended to succeed where individual photographs



David Hockney *Christopher Isherwood Talking to Bob Holman, Santa Monica, March 14, 1983*, Photographic Collage.

failed. This, and subsequent photocollages, captured the "discrete separate glimpses which . . . build up into our continuous experience of the world." (John Sturman). Each component of the collage, while being taken from the same general point of view, presents a different vision and focus of the whole. In "Gregory Swimming" (35), many images demonstrate the progress of the swimmer around Hockney's painted pool while "Luncheon at the British Embassy, Tokyo" (88) does not record an instant within the luncheon, but is rather a vision of an extended event replete with incidents, such as the maid at the sideboard and the passing of different conversations. The element of elapsed time is evident in "Gregory watching the snow fall" (93) by the different images of Gregory's face. Two look out at a snow covered Japanese garden from the warmth of his bed, while the third gazes back at Hockney focusing attention on the presence of the artist, a presence already acknowledged by a pair of feet in the bottom of the

work. It is a tranquil and haunting work.

Comprising 101 works, many of them of a grand and impressive scale, the exhibition **Hockney's Photographs**, is a 'tour de force' of an important part of the work of one of the world's leading contemporary artists. It is certainly the most important Hockney exhibition yet to come to New Zealand. A prestigious catalogue with 18 full-colour plates of Hockney's photographs has been especially produced for the New Zealand tour.

Hockney's Photographs has been brought to New Zealand by the British Council with the support of British Paints. International freight to Australia, where the exhibition tours after New Zealand, will be covered by the New Zealand Line and the Australian National Line. Assistance has also been provided by the QEII Arts Council. The New Zealand tour has been organised by the New Zealand Art Gallery Directors' Council.

WORKING MEN

Glenn Busch Photographs

"Working Men", Lyttelton photographer Glenn Busch's remarkable images documenting men at their work has received wide acclaim and exceptional attendances in its tour throughout New Zealand.

The unavoidable scheduling of the Canaletto exhibition in August has meant that the Gallery, with its limited space, cannot present "Working Men". At the artist's request and with the permission of the National Art Gallery, the exhibition will now be shown at the Christchurch Public Library.

New Exhibitions Technician

The Gallery was sorry to lose from its staff its popular Exhibitions Technician Hubert Klaassens who has left Christchurch to make his home in Nelson.

His position will be filled by Mr Martin Young, an experienced museum officer who comes to us from the staff of the Southland Museum. We welcome Martin to the Gallery team and to Christchurch.



ACQUISITIONS

The following works have been recently purchased:

Barry Cleavin

FISHBED WITH XIPHACTINUS
AND PIPLOMYSTUS

Etching/Aquatint A/P Imp

Barry Cleavin

ANATOMY OF A PREDATOR
(ANZUS) FROM TRIAD 1986

Etching 10/40 Imp

Barry Cleavin

CHILDSPLAY 4 1984

Etching/Aquatint 6/20 Imp

Barry Cleavin

NUCLEAR FOSSIL 1985

Etching/Aquatint A/P Imp

Barry Cleavin

BIRDS OF A FEATHER FOR ANZUS
TRIAD 1984

Etching/Aquatint 4/40 Imp

Angus Gray

UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY
BUILDING 1945

Watercolour

Joanne Braithwaite

ANNUAL FETE 1985

Oil on Hessian

Grahame Sydney

FOR HIRE 1977

Watercolour

Donald C. Peebles

UNTITLED A4

Acrylic on Canvas

Gordon Crook

SOME MOMENTS DARKER

Pastel on Paper

Robert Shay

RED DEER 1985

Slip cast earthenware

Edward Bullmore

HIKURANGI SERIES LONDON

Mixed media

Graeme Cornwall

TAKE FIVE 3/15

Lithograph

Bill Hammond

THE LOOK OF LOVE PLUS THE
SOUND OF MUSIC

Enamel on Board

Olivia Spencer Bower

AKAROA

Watercolour

Olivia Spencer Bower

HOKIANGA

Watercolour

Olivia Spencer Bower

GIRL IN A GARDEN

Watercolour

Alan Pearson

TEATRO del BAROQUE 1983

Oil on Canvas

Russell Clark

VIEW FROM THE PIER 1964

Oil on Board

Jane Zusters

POST MODERN DAY DREAM

Acrylic on Canvas



Jane Zusters, *Post Modern Day Dream*, Acrylic on Canvas (Detail).

The following works have been presented:

Angus Gray

FROM THE BOTANIC GARDENS

Watercolour

Presented by Mrs M. Gray

William Menzies Gibb

THE ESTUARY NEW BRIGHTON

1920 Oil on Canvas

Presented by Mrs M. Bradshaw

FRENCH OPERA POSTERS OF 'LA BELLE EPOQUE'

14 August - 21 September

An exhibition of French opera posters of "la belle epoque" is currently touring New Zealand, until March 1987.

This exhibition has been kindly loaned from the collection of the Heugel family, France, who were the most important publishers in the field of lyric art during "la belle epoque".

Although original works of art, opera posters were also a new mode of expression to be understood in a context of mass production and popular art. Using well-known lithographic techniques artists intended to evoke in one single image the contents of a four act opera. The exhibition touring New Zealand consists of a collection of 41 lithographic posters of operas and operettas and is unique in its class being both a summary of the history of music and a survey of the work of poster artists of this period.

This exhibition is presented under the auspices of the French Cultural Services, Wellington, and the tour has been organised by the New Zealand Art Gallery Directors' Council, kindly sponsored by Champagne Taittinger in association with Wilson Neill Wines Ales Spirits, Wellington.

PETER SIDDELL—Paintings

18 August - 21 September

In this invitation exhibition the

Auckland painter Peter Siddell presents a number of works painted between 1970 and 1986. None have been exhibited before, and all are concerned with the familiar topic of the architecture and landscape of his home town.

The style he developed to depict houses is strongly realistic with precise attention to architectural detail. This realism is not an end in itself but a vehicle for 'mood'. Siddell states "I want to create; hopefully a still image that lingers in the memory. This is why I don't include peeling paint, washing hung out in backyards, unmentionable litter on footpaths, cars or people in my paintings, as they tend to give a narrative interest which can work against the mood I want to create."

None of the scenes, although strongly redolent of suburban Auckland, are of real places. They are built up in the studio from sketchbooks, recollections and imagination. This exhibition of Siddell's own images of suburban Auckland have a unique typicality, and although they depict no place at all we feel we know exactly where it is, and the images linger in our memory.

DOWNTOWN CHRISTCHURCH Photographs by David Cook

4 August - 31 August

"Downtown Christchurch" is an ongoing photographic project which began in the summer of 1982. Cook wanted to take a second look at his hometown; it was an environment which had become far too familiar to him. The standard postcard presentation of Christchurch is one of a city blossoming from a central Anglican Cathedral, graced by its Avon River and inner city parks, the Antipodean English city. He decided to take a hard-edged humour in picturing the people in the midst of these cliches.

Friends of the Robert McDougall Art Gallery

President—Robert Erwin 558-675

Secretary—Pat Unger 518-506

Treasurer—Chris Brocket 557-133



THE ART EVENT OF THE YEAR

The Committee has been considering many plans for ways our organisation can raise and use our financial resources to provide an even greater support for the Gallery. We believe that the Friends should always have sufficient funds in hand to enable the purchase of important art works that may be offered for sale at any time. We hope that in future the Gallery will no longer have to pass over opportunities to acquire art works that may be vital to our collection.

The first major fund raising event promises to be a stimulating and exciting major art occasion. Although plans are not yet finalised we can give you some information. The Friends have invited Marshal Siefert from the Marshal Siefert Gallery, James Mack from the Dowse Art Museum, and Peter Webb from the Peter Webb Galleries, to express their ideas and knowledge about buying and selling art. This will include all the broad aspects of art as an investment in public and private as well as corporate spheres.

The venue is to be the Chateau Regency, Wednesday 17 September, 7.30 p.m. As tickets will be strictly limited to 300 these will be offered to the Friends first and then to the public. If you want to ensure your attendance you may order now.

COMING

QIN SHIHUANG: THE CHINESE BURIED ARMY

25 October - 7 December

This unique exhibition will consist of artefacts excavated from the archaeological pits of the tomb of Emperor Qin Shihuang. The exhibition is being toured with the permission of the Ministry of Culture of the Government of the People's Republic of China and is sponsored by the New Zealand Insurance Company Ltd.

NEW MEMBERS

G.J. Beaven Mr & Mrs F.J.N. McKee
Mary Caldwell Mrs Isobel Matson
Mrs M. Curnow Mrs Marjorie Olsen
Mr & Mrs L.J. Everett Adrienne Parton
R.S. & S.E. Ginders
Margaret H. Pickering
Mrs C.H. Hamilton Gabriele Reade
Louise Harvey R. Souter
Arleen S. Hutt L.P. Switzer
M.H. & M.G. Mabin Mrs E. Watson



Petrus van der Velden *The Dutch Funeral* Oil on Canvas. Presented by Mr H.C. D. Van Asch, 1932.

THE RESTORATION OF A MAJOR PAINTING BY PETRUS VAN DER VELDEN

On 17 March the finely restored painting *The Dutch Funeral* by Petrus van der Velden was unveiled.

This is a key painting by an artist of vital importance to the development of painting in the region. Van der Velden came to Christchurch in 1890 from the thriving art community of The Hague within which he developed a sound reputation. He brought this painting with him from Holland as it belonged to his major 'Marken' series which focussed on the harsh life of the poor fishing community. Along with the 'Otira' paintings these two series make up van der Velden's most important works.

The Dutch Funeral was presented to the Gallery in 1932 by Mr H. C. D. Van Asch. Descendants of the Van Asch family and other members of the Dutch community were present at the painting's unveiling. Friends of the Gallery are most grateful for the efforts of John Brandts-Giesen who organised the fund raising for the restoration of this work. The Dutch Community's donations enabled this important work to be carried out. This interest and generosity ensures the close relationship between this group and one of the most outstanding artists of New Zealand's past.

COMING EVENTS

- July 'Time Away'—Alan Pearson paintings to 20 July
 Oro del Peru Treasures of the Incas to 13 July
 'The Fire this Time' Patrick and Gil Hanly to 13 July
 Artists Project, Grant Corbishley to 3 August
16 Friends Coffee Morning, 10.30 a.m. Mr G. Glausiuss will talk on Persian rugs.
31 David Hockney Photographs to 7 September
August 4 David Cook Photographs to 31 August
14 Canaletto—Master of Venice to 25 September
 Doris Lusk and W.A. Sutton—Views of Venice to 25 September
 French Opera Posters to 21 September
18 Peter Siddell Paintings to 21 September, Opening 7.45 p.m.
20 Friends Coffee Morning, 10.30 a.m. Professor K. Strongman will speak on the Psychology of Art.

Exhibition dates and programmes could vary slightly.