

# Dix-Neuf Sioxante-Treize

*Dix-neuf soixante-treize* is a selection of paintings and works on paper which were donated, acquired from exhibition or made on site during in the first years of the Fremantle Arts Centre<sup>1</sup>.

When Ian Templeman took control of the Arts Centre his prime responsibility was to foster the development and participation in the visual arts<sup>2</sup>. At a time when craft was king, the Centre established workshops and residency activities involving established Western Australian artists and craftspeople. Benefiting from a surge in arts funding from the Commonwealth, the Centre fostered an Artist in Residence program which involved artists and craftspeople working from studios on site for up to twelve months<sup>3</sup>. In a 2007 interview with Ian Templeman, he described the program providing opportunities for artists to work uninterrupted for an extended period while generating public access and appreciation of their craft and role in the community.

Armed with federal funds the Centre began to build upon the historical donations of the City of Fremantle's Art Collection by acquiring contemporary examples of art and craft produced by local and interstate practitioners, many of whom were participating in the Arts Centre's program<sup>4</sup>. Undaunted by the lack of a dedicated gallery for the Collection, new acquisitions were immediately installed in the common areas of the Arts Centre building, directly enhancing artist profiles and visitor experiences. Templeman moved quickly to purchase the work of prominent local painters Guy Grey-Smith and Robert Juniper and works on paper from interstate galleries by Michael Shannon and printmakers George Baldessin and Anthony Kelly, a trend which anticipated the emergence of the Fremantle Print Award in 1976.

Watercolourist Ian Worth, who was Artist in Residence in 1974, produced many works for exhibition and donated a series of watercolours to the City of the grounds and iconic Gothic building, two of which are exhibited here. Western Australian painter Craig Gough who exhibited at the Arts Centre on two occasions in the early years donated this exuberant landscape inspired painting in 1974. Accomplished and leading modernist painter Guy Grey-Smith, exhibited on numerous occasions at the Arts Centre throughout the 1970's producing exhibitions of paintings and pottery and publishing a folio of eight woodcut prints with Fremantle Arts Centre Press in 1976. A regular exhibitor at the Centre from 1978, Geoffrey Wake's dynamic painting *Dragonfly* 1973, presents a portrait of continuous movement in a web of forceful brush marks.

The Centre's early entrée into collecting with the assistance of Australia Council and City of Fremantle Council funds set the direction for future growth, producing today a significant Municipal Collection of Western Australian art.

## Dix-Neuf Sioxante-Treize City of Fremantle Art Collection 30 January - 14 March 2010

<sup>1</sup> The Fremantle Arts Centre is Fremantle's multi-arts facility and was built from the dilapidated shell of the old Fremantle Lunatic Asylum (1865-1942) to open its doors in 1973.

<sup>2</sup> Ian Templeman the first Director (1973-89) of the Fremantle Arts Centre was instrumental in responding to international trends in the delivery of arts and crafts to create a program which involved the local community providing opportunities for people to witness and participate in art making.

<sup>3</sup> At the time when the newly elected Whitlam Government was acquiring *Blue Poles* by Jackson Pollock for US\$2M for the national collection, the Australia Council funded the expansion of regional collections and Artist in Residence programs across Australia.

<sup>4</sup> Australia Council funds supported Artist in Residence Fellowships and teaching opportunities for artists such as Gary Zeck (painting/pottery), Jean Robins (pottery), Henny Coté (weaving), Kath Trendall (weaving) and Sandra Black (pottery). Dedicated funds were also used to acquire artworks from commercial galleries and the Fremantle Print Award.



**Fremantle  
ArtsCentre:**

1 Finnerty Street  
Fremantle Western Australia  
+61 8 9432 9555  
fac@fremantle.wa.gov.au  
fac.org.au

PO Box 891  
Fremantle WA 6959  
7 days: 10 - 5  
free admission



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## Check list

All artworks are from the City of Fremantle Art Collection and image/plate dimensions are given as height by width by depth in centimetres. Courtesy and © the artists.

### **George Baldessin (1939- 1978)**

*Paris, Personage, Window & Factory*  
*Smoke* 1973  
etching ed. 25  
75 .5 x 66 cm  
no. 235  
purchased with funds from the  
Australia Council 1974

### **Craig Gough (1938-)**

*Untitled* 1973  
oil paint on masonite  
84 x 81 cm  
no. 46  
gift of the artist 1974

### **Guy Grey-Smith (1916 -1981)**

*Untitled (Northern country)* 1973  
gouache  
40 x 56 cm  
no. 48

### **Robert Juniper (1929-)**

*Lynda in Landscape* 1973  
oil & acrylic paint on canvas on  
masonite  
24 x 29 cm  
no. 70

### **Anthony Kelly (1945-)**

*Cross Series # 2* 1973  
screenprint ed. 6/8  
56 x 38.5 cm  
no. 299  
purchased 1974

### **Anthony Kelly (1945-)**

*Cross Series # 4* 1973  
screenprint ed. 12/20  
44.4 x 29.8 cm  
no. 796  
purchased 1974

### **Anthony Kelly (1945-)**

*Cross Series # 3* 1973  
screenprint ed. 2/10  
44.4 x 29.8 cm  
no. 798  
purchased 1974

### **Michael Shannon (1927-1993)**

*Artist's room* 1973  
oil crayon and pencil on paper  
128 x 93.5 cm  
no. 155  
purchased 1974

### **Geoffrey Wake (1938-)**

*Dragonfly* 1973  
oil paint on canvas  
122 x 180 cm  
no. 165

### **Ian Wroth (1927- )**

*Sketch of Arts Centre* 1974  
watercolour  
40 x 63.5 cm  
no. 71  
gift of the artist 1974

### **Ian Wroth (1927- )**

*Sketch of Arts Centre (morning sun)*  
1974  
watercolour  
25.5 x 53 .3  
no. 844  
gift of the artist 1974



no. 46



no. 155



no. 71