

TJC



AT HOME WITH TJC | STORIES FROM THE COLLECTION

Hello friends, supporters, and communities,

We hope this newsletter finds you safe and well.

This week marks thirty years since TJC opened to the public, so we continue our series of stories about our museum's origins. Read on to hear from TJC's inaugural director Judith Heaven about what was involved in the process of opening Johnston's collection to the people of Victoria.

Don't forget that you can also learn more about our Collection via our [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) and [Twitter](#) which regularly feature highlights from our Collection and past exhibitions.

Take care, and stay safe, and be kind.

Your ongoing support means a lot to us at this time. As an independent self-funded museum, the current period of unplanned closure represents a real challenge. If you're able to help, you can donate via the link below, or buy something from our [online shop](#). All profits go towards the upkeep of TJC. Thank you.

SUPPORT US

NOW WE ARE 30 | 3

Thirty years ago The Johnston Collection opened *Fairhall*, the exhibition-house to the public for the first time on 19 November 1990.



Fairhall, East Melbourne, Photograph by Simon Griffiths, 2020



Judith Thompson, first Director of TJC
The Age 10 October 1990

Judith (nee Thompson) Heaven, inaugural director (1989-1991) recalls, "It had taken four years to create the museum. There was much to do. A new Trust had to be created and foundation Trustees appointed. There was the real estate to be sold and tenants relocated."

The Trustees engaged Peter Lovell as heritage architect, David McCabe as museum designer, Susan Abasa from Art Museums Association to advise on the initial set-up of the museum, and John Patrick as garden advisor.

"It was necessary to establish which pieces would form the Collection. Inventories were made of items in his townhouse [*Fairhall*], country house [*Chandpara*], shop, [*Kent Antiques*], and in storage both in Melbourne and London. It was a mammoth task."

“The setting up of East Melbourne was hard work but devising the room displays was a lovely challenge. Johnston himself constantly moved his pieces around, and specified in his will that this should continue to happen in the museum. Robert Buckingham, the Public Program Manager and I devised tours.”

“There were difficulties with getting permission to run *Fairhall* as Johnston wished ... and we worked around what was permissible, such as arranging visitors to be transported to the museum by bus.”

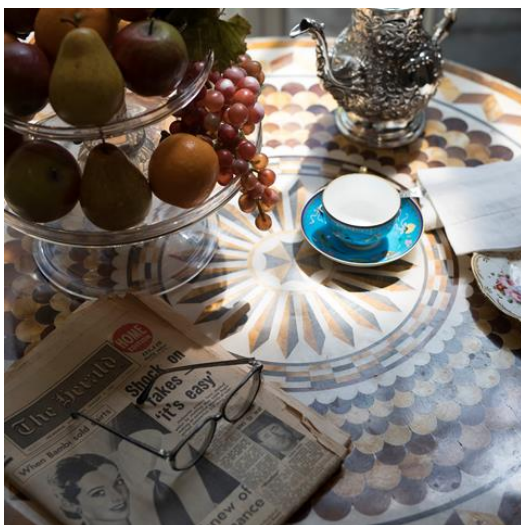
“We opened in November 1990, exhausted, proud of our achievements but delighted with the praise we received from peers and public alike.”

Since 1990, The Johnston Collection as welcomed over 275,000 visitors who have enjoyed over 90 special exhibitions, dozens of study days, hundreds of lectures and workshops as we share our stories and inspire communities. Adding to William Johnston’s legacy, The Johnston Collection is a now a multi award-winning and critically acclaimed museum.

Continue with us as we celebrate our remarkable milestone of 30 glorious years sharing Johnston's vision and Collection with the people of Victoria.

We look forward to welcoming you back to TJC from Thursday 1 December 2020.

BOOK NOW



TJC VIRTUAL LECTURES

Browse our current virtual lecture program with something for everyone! Travel the word with Kenneth Park, or delve in to your favourite literary classics with Susannah Fullerton, as well as guest lectures covering a wide range of topics.

BROWSE LECTURES

VIRTUAL TOUR



Explore our current exhibition *AN INTERIOR LIFE | William Johnston and his Collection* from the comfort of your own home via our virtual tour.

You can also explore our Collection of fine and decorative art objects online [here](#).

EXPLORE

SHOP



Shop our range of curated gifts for loved ones, or a treat for yourself!

New categories now live:

[**Books & Magazines**](#)

[**Gifts**](#)

[**Homewares**](#)

[**Stationery & Cards**](#)

[**Textiles**](#)

[**TJC Editions**](#)

SHOP ALL

JOIN | RENEW



Join The Friends of The Johnston Collection and become a part of a social network of people who support the world of visual art and design.

Your support helps us to continue to care for our Collection and present our award-winning program of exhibitions and events.

MORE INFORMATION

Principal Funder The WR Johnston Trust	Major Supporter PUNT ROAD YARRA VALLEY	Volunteer Support Majorie May Kingston Trust	Collection Support The Friends of The Johnston Collection Christine Bell Andrew Dixon Nina Stanton	Bequests Merell Browne MDIA Alwynne Jona OAM Nina Stanton	In Kind Support Christine Bell Peter Gray  print design websites Abbotsford / Richmond 
Major Partner The Friends of The Johnston Collection				Nominated Bequests P. Anthony Preston	



'the cup that started a collection'

Support TJC with a tax-deductible donation to our *OPENING DOORS* fund to ensure the vibrant continuation of our work in 2020 and beyond.

DONATE

Image Credits:

detail from *AN INTERIOR LIFE* as part of our ongoing 'WILLIAM JOHNSTON: His Residence & Collection' series being held from 17 February 2020 - 20 November 2020

image | simon griffiths

Fairhall Facade

image | simon griffiths

Judith Thompson, first Director of TJC, *The Age* 10 October 1990

detail from *AN INTERIOR LIFE* as part of our ongoing 'WILLIAM JOHNSTON: His Residence & Collection' series being held from 17 February 2020 - 20 November 2020

image | adam luttick | luts photography | melbourne, vic

Virtual tour screenshot

Rossetti notecards

detail from *AN INTERIOR LIFE* as part of our ongoing 'WILLIAM JOHNSTON: His Residence & Collection' series being held from 17 February 2020 - 20 November 2020 showing **figure (cat)**, Germany, circa 1895-1917, in the style of Émile Gallé (French, 1846-1904), Porzellanfabrik Mitterteich, (Max Emanuel & Co. (Mosanic) est. 1887-2006), earthenware, glazed | 310 x 210 x 150 mm, collection of The Johnston Collection (A1409-2017), gift of William and Deirdre Brown, Melbourne

image | adam luttick | luts photography | melbourne, vic

HELLO@JOHNSTONCOLLECTION.ORG

+61 3 9416 2515

PO BOX 79

EAST MELBOURNE VIC 8002

ABN 87 194 940 961 | ACN 075 028 287

