

QAG Exhib.
Catalogue
Pre 1960



MEMORIAL EXHIBITION

W. G. GRANT

APRIL 13 - MAY 6, 1954

QUEENSLAND NATIONAL ART GALLERY



INTRODUCTION *By E. A. Ferguson*

Meeting W. G. Grant was an inspiration. His outlook on life and art was gay and adventurous; his approach to problems was courageous; and his belief in the value of great art was boundless.

In my opinion, he was perhaps the most potent single influence in Queensland Art Gallery circles in recent years, because he believed, passionately, that the function of a Public Art Gallery is to enable people to see the best works of great artists. He strove to buy for the Gallery major paintings of the Australian Artists and to permit those paintings to work their magic.

Like all pioneers, he found the pathway in art strewn with obstacles. In his early days as an artist, there was a poor Art Gallery, meagre funds for paintings and an uninformed public who bought few pictures. He was sure success would come, not for himself as artist, but for the Queensland National Art Gallery.

As a Trustee of the Gallery, he supported every progressive move; he was confident that, in the not very distant future, we in Queensland would have a worthy Art Gallery and a worthy art collection.

I admired his attitude towards the public. He knew that his own art work would not, during his lifetime, appeal to many of them, but he knew he was right and he kept on keeping on and painting to the end.

I am pleased that this Memorial Exhibition has been arranged at the suggestion of our Director, Robert Haines.

It is a tribute to a great artist and a gentleman. It will, I hope, enable Queenslanders to appreciate that an artist of quality lived with them for more than half a century and has now passed on. I trust that the public will see his works and come to enjoy them as those of us who knew him did.

In his works of art he still lives. His happy personality; his sense of humour; and, above all, his keen appreciation of beauty in all its forms are there for all to see. I wish this Grant Memorial Exhibition every success.

AN APPRECIATION *By C. H. Lancaster*

The late W. G. Grant can rightly be regarded as one of Queensland's outstanding artists.

He was essentially an individualist, not tied to any School or fashion of the moment, but always followed his own line of thought, whilst never losing sight of the fundamental principles governing all great art.

His views on art were sound and his approval of the work of his fellow artists was much sought after, and if, in his opinion, this could not be given, his nature was such that he never said an unkind word about any work, provided that it was a sincere effort.

He was a life member of the Royal Queensland Art Society and was one of its early Treasurers; a member of the Darnell Fine Arts Committee of the University of Queensland; and a Trustee and member of the Art Advisory Committee of the Queensland National Art Gallery.

His work was much better appreciated in the Southern States, where he exhibited regularly with the Victorian Artists Society, of which he was a member.

He is represented in the Queensland National Art Gallery, the Darnell collection and many private collections, and time will prove the true value of his contribution to Queensland Art.

CATALOGUE

OILS			
		16	HILL SIDE
1	EVENING	17	CHINAMAN'S BRIDGE
2	THE GARDEN SEAT	18	STILL LIFE
3	BLUE AND GREEN	19	CLEVELAND
4	THE GOATS	20	MORNING
5	MORE GOATS	21	VENETIAN BLINDS (Illustrated)
6	THE BAY	22	CASTLE HILL
7	MORNING LIGHT	23	HIBISCUS
8	ROSES	24	FLOWERS
9	THE BLUE GATE	25	THE SAIL
10	IN ROMA STREET	26	POINT ARKWRIGHT
		27	CREEK, CAIRNS
WATERCOLOURS		28	FISHING BOAT
11	EVENING	29	CUT FLOWERS
12	HILLS AT KURANDA	30	DONKEYS
13	VIRGINIA CREEK	31	CHINESE HUT
14	AFTER THE BUSH FIRE	32	EMMANUEL COLLEGE
15	TANGLED TIMBER	33	WOMAN AND GOATS

QUEENSLAND NATIONAL ART GALLERY

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