



THE JOHNSTON COLLECTION

A Museum of Fine and Decorative Arts, East Melbourne

incorporating

House Museum, Gallery Reference Library

ABN 87 194 940

MEDIA RELEASE

Many artists and craftspeople from Victoria's South West region - Warnambool and its environs - are busy putting the final touches to their exquisite creations which will feature in the exhibition *My Cup Runneth Over: Christmas at The Johnston Collection*.

The Johnston Collection, a museum of fine and decorative arts in East Melbourne (www.johnstoncollection.org) has an annual Christmas show which is presented by a different region from Victoria each year. This year we are honoured to have artists and craftspeople from the South West region working on what will be a truly spectacular and beautiful show.

Participants include The Embroiderers Guild, Victoria (South Western Branch), Whale Bone Gallery Port Fairy, the Cobden CWA, Cobden Quilters, Colac Quilters, Fitzroy River Quilters in Heywood, Warnambool Lacemakers, and a number of independent artists from towns such as Birregurra, Killarney, Portland and Elliminyt.

Jenny Bakos, team leader of The Embroiders Guild, Victoria (South Western Branch) said, 'We've been working on this project for over a year now. This is one of the big meetings when we get to see the work being created by the other groups and independent artists. It's an exciting moment as it's just before we put the finishing touches to our pieces and prepare to take them to The Johnston Collection in East Melbourne.

'It's an inspiring project for everyone to be involved with,' says Bakos 'not only for our group but for all the others as well. We get to see what they have been doing. There's a great deal of creative talent in our area. It's an enormous challenge to create works based on the design brief given to us by The Johnston Collection.'

The Johnston Collection is a house museum with an amazing collection of Regency, Georgian and Louis XV antiques arranged within a domestic setting, with three guided tours daily Monday to Friday. William Johnston (1911 – 1986) was an antique dealer and collector who bequeathed his former residence and collection to the people of Victoria.

Each year a region in Victoria is invited to create works based on an aspect or item in the Collection or the life of Mr Johnston. Previous regions have included Bendigo, Castlemaine, Ballarat and Geelong.

My Cup Runneth Over: Christmas at The Johnston Collection opens Wednesday 3 November 2010 and continues until 25 February 2011.

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The Johnston Collection is a gift to the people of Victoria from William Robert Johnston
Administered by the W R Johnston Trust

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