

**THE 'WINTER CELEBRATION' FUNDRAISING EVENT HOSTED BY THE
TASMANIAN MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY FOUNDATION
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
TASMANIAN MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY, THURSDAY 23 JUNE 2022**

Good evening and welcome to this special Winter Celebration fundraising evening for the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery Foundation.

I begin by paying my respects to the traditional and original owners of this land: the palawa people. I acknowledge the contemporary Tasmanian Aboriginal community. I recognise a history of truth, which acknowledges the impacts of colonisation upon our First People. I stand for a future that respects and acknowledges Aboriginal stories, culture, language and history.

May I also acknowledge Minister for the Arts, Elise Archer MP, and our very special guests for the evening, Mr Elias and Mrs Colleen Jreissati and family.

Mr and Mrs Jreissati and their family have flown to Hobart to deliver, for an extended period of display, the painting, Eugene Von Guerard's *View of Hobart Town, with Mount Wellington in the background 1856*, a work widely acknowledged as one of the finest colonial paintings of Hobart Town.

Shortly, we shall be going upstairs to view it and to hear from an expert, Dr Ron Radford about the painting.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognise the significant work of the TMAG Foundation to support our Museum and Art Gallery.

Through events such as this tonight and the support of generous donors like all of you, the Foundation has raised more than six million dollars for TMAG since 1984. These funds have been used to support art acquisitions, exhibitions, research, conservation of the collection, and education programs.

Your abiding devotion to our TMAG has ensured its position as one of our major Australian cultural institutions. At the heart of the TMAG and the Foundation is a community of supporters who meet to enjoy Tasmania's art, science and history.

This loan by the Jreissati family adds significantly to our TMAG collection, the painting having particular importance for Hobart. On behalf of all Tasmanians, I thank Elias and Colleen for their generosity, and acknowledge their ongoing and considerable support to TMAG. May I also acknowledge their substantial philanthropic work throughout Australia.

We shall shortly enjoy another example of your generous support, as the wines for this evening and for all Foundation functions, have been provided by your Levantine Hill Winery.

In conclusion, may I ask you all to join me in thanking Elias and Colleen for their loan and for coming here tonight. [call for applause]. Thank you also to the Foundation for arranging this function.

Thank you.