

**RECEPTION FOR FRAME SYMPOSIUM DELEGATES**  
**REMARKS BY**  
**HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC**  
**GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA**  
**GOVERNMENT HOUSE, MONDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2026**

Good evening, everyone. I warmly welcome you all to Government House to mark the FRAME: Concept, History and Conservation Symposium.

May I begin by acknowledging the Muwinina people upon whose land we gather. I acknowledge today's Tasmanian Aboriginal Community as ongoing custodians of country. I recognise their enduring culture and deep connection to land, sea, sky, and waters.

May I extend a warm welcome to Tasmania to all the curators, conservators and industry experts who have travelled from interstate and overseas to Hobart for the third FRAME Symposium. Our local delegates are delighted to have you here for this important forum.

Your diverse program includes lectures, panel discussions and presentations focused on all aspects of picture frames. As experts in the field, I am sure you may have noticed that we have some historical frames here at Government House.

The history of this house begins in the early 1850s, when construction commenced following the neo-Gothic design of colonial architect William Porden Kay. The sandstone used to build it was taken from a quarry out the front, which is now a pond that you would have passed when driving in this evening.

The house was completed in 1857, before Governor Sir Henry Fox Young and his family moved in the following year.

The House has some 73 rooms. The furniture was ordered specially for the house and shipped out from England – and much of it remains in daily use today.

Since Sir Henry, successive Governors have hosted many different events in the State Rooms, particularly the Ballroom and here in this Drawing Room.

May I mention that it is always a good idea to look up when you are walking through our State Rooms. Each room has a unique and intricately detailed ceiling, reflecting the finest craftsmanship of the 19<sup>th</sup> century Tasmanian artisans who created the house's interiors.

Tasmania claims a significant place in the history of the arts in Australia. The Government House collection includes some outstanding historic paintings. You can see some of these here in this Drawing Room, including the striking depiction of Hobart by Knut Bull.

Alongside these historic works, I hope you will enjoy the work of contemporary Tasmanian artists around the walls.

As you came through the main hallway, you will have seen some of these works by artists including Raymond Arnold, Lola Greeno, David Keeling, Megan Walch and Richard Wastell. Most are on loan from our Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, and I am grateful to museum staff for working with us to make this possible.

This evening, may I invite you all to take the opportunity to enjoy our State Rooms, and the artworks – and frames – on display.

Please enjoy the reception and have a wonderful time in Hobart.