



McCubbin: Last Impressions 1907–17

A National Gallery of Australia Travelling Exhibition

**McCubbin: Last Impressions 1907–17 is on display at the Art Gallery of Western Australia
Friday 11 December 2009 – Monday 29 March 2010**

McCubbin: Last Impressions 1907–17 is a fresh look at McCubbin's late work. It concentrates on the last 11 years of his life when he produced his most vibrant works, ones which express his sense of delight in, and comfort within, the Australian landscape.

The first comprehensive McCubbin exhibition in 18 years, and the first to focus on his later works, *McCubbin: Last Impressions 1907–17* features 72 works from all the major galleries in Australia, including several from the National Gallery of Australia's collection, and 25 rarely publicly displayed works from private collections.

For well over a century, Frederick McCubbin has been one of Australia's best-loved artists. Born in Melbourne in 1855, he was the city's first major painter, and together with other iconic Australian impressionists, was a leader in the visual arts in the 1880s and 90s. In 1907, his work changed radically after he viewed the works of Turner, Constable and Monet on a trip to Europe. McCubbin's subjects became more modern, he painted with brighter colours and his paint handling techniques were more experimental and adventurous - especially in his use of a palette knife.

McCubbin: Last Impressions 1907–17 surveys a range of joyous paintings covering landscapes, seascapes, views of docks and industry, city life, portraits and interiors. It includes some of Australia's greatest works of the Federation period, as well as a number of McCubbin's intimate sketches.

Art Gallery of Western Australia Director Stefano Carboni said, "I am delighted that the Gallery is presenting the *McCubbin: Last Impressions 1907–17* exhibition, which is sure to be one of the highlights of Perth's cultural calendar this summer. I would encourage art lovers to take the opportunity to enjoy these inspiring and remarkable works, including two paintings from the State Art Collection – *The Old Garden* and *Self-portrait*."



Frederick McCubbin
The Old Garden c1910
oil on canvas
56 x 91.5cm
State Art Collection, Art Gallery of Western Australia
Purchased with funds from the Great Australian Paintings Appeal, 1978

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The National Gallery of Australia is an Australian Government Agency

Admission charges apply.
Adults \$12, Foundation/ Friends Members/ Concessions \$8,
Children 16 years and under \$6,
Family Ticket (2 adults + 2 children) \$30.

McCubbin Events and Public Programs

Sunday 13 December at 1pm

Curator's Perspective Talk

Join exhibition curator Dr Anna Gray, Head of Australian Art at the National Gallery of Australia, for a special introduction to McCubbin.

Admission charges apply.

Thursday 17 December 6-8pm

McCubbin Fine Wine and Cheese Tasting Evening

View the *McCubbin: Last Impressions 1907–17* exhibition then join *Sunday Times Magazine* wine columnist and author Peter Forrestal (2009 Australian Wine Communicator Award) to sample Victoria's cool climate premium wines and cheeses from the Mount Macedon Region.

Cost \$33.00 per person, bookings essential.

Sunday 14 February 10am-1pm

Family Day – Fall in love with McCubbin!

Join us to celebrate the *McCubbin: Last Impressions 1907–17* exhibition.

Free exhibition entry for children until 1pm.

A day filled with fun and entertainment for the whole family! Children can get hands-on in art-making activities, watch the amazing art of ice-sculpting, and see and participate in bush band performances. You also can have your face painted, play historical games, follow the children's Art Trail, and listen to storytellers and bush poets.

Sunday 21 February at 2pm

Free Tour and Talk

Understanding Australian Art History – The Heidelberg School.

Primarily designed for a culturally diverse audience, this tour will identify the significance of the Heidelberg artists' contribution to Australian art history and discuss their themes and techniques. Works from the State Art Collection and *McCubbin: Last Impressions 1907–17* exhibition, will be used to illustrate the talk.

Bookings essential. Exhibition admission charges apply.

Thursday 25 February at 10am

Bush Babies Tour – For Grown ups and little ones.

Enjoy a guided tour of the McCubbin exhibition followed by refreshments in the Gallery Café. Babies and toddlers free, adult admission charges apply, see our website for details.

Bookings essential.

Sunday 28 February at 2pm

Curator's Talk

Join the curator of Historical Painting, Sculpture and Design, Melissa Harpley, from the Art Gallery of Western Australia, for her insight into the life and work of McCubbin.

Admission charges apply.

For all bookings:

Call: 9492 6644 or email: public.programs@artgallery.wa.gov.au

Activities can be subject to change. Check our website for details: artgallery.wa.gov.au

Opening hours 10am–5pm Wednesday–Monday.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, INTERVIEWS AND IMAGES CONTACT:

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