



Hawke's Bay Museum and Art Gallery houses a unique fine art collection. The gallery walls are most often hung with the prestige works from this collection – pieces which have been selected as high quality examples and framed to a professional conservation standard. Careful storage, handling and environmental controls are in place to ensure that our fine art collection will endure, to the best of our ability, for future generations.

Unfortunately though, some of the treasures of our art collection have not survived the passing years unscathed, coming to us in various stages of disrepair. Despite their condition,

these works remain important records of our region's rich creative history. With careful conservation, efforts can be made to improve the outlook for these paintings – cleaning, repairing and stabilising the works to bring them up to an exhibition standard.

Rescue Me introduces viewers to what is involved in the conservation of each artwork, revealing something of the process, time and cost involved with this important task. The exhibition also showcases some of the successes of the ongoing project – artworks which have been adopted by generous supporters and preserved for the future.

In 2007 the Friends of the Hawke's Bay Cultural Trust – Ruawhāro Ta-u-Rangi expressed their desire to help with the care and conservation of this collection. The *Adopt a Painting* project was initiated, inviting people to see and understand the plight of these artworks and make a practical contribution towards their care.

Rescue Me is part of this fundraising project, raising money for the conservation of 22 artworks in the collection. Viewers are offered an opportunity to 'adopt' a painting, a unique role which will be recognised by generations to come.

rescue me

rescue me

The Adopt a Painting Project

21 August 2009 – 31 January 2010

Exhibition opening

Thursday 20 August at 5.30pm

Friends Evening Thursday 12 November at 5.30pm

Join us for the opportunity to find out about the conservation of artworks. Hear an expert talk about how to look after your own artworks and the treatments involved in the conservation process. Learn about recently conserved artworks from the *Adopt a Painting* project.

HBCT Friends are free, \$5 general public or join as a Friend on the night.

For more information please contact

Pam Joyce

Marketing Team Leader

PH: 06 835 9245

Email: pjoyce@hbmag.co.nz

HAWKE'S BAY **MUSEUM & ART GALLERY** NAPIER

www.hbmag.co.nz