

Friends in February



Robert Helpmann, *Dante sonata*
gelatin silver photograph; 14 x 9 cm.
nla.pic-an12977835

were elected. Russell Doust, our previous Deputy Chair, became Chair of the Friends for 2003, and Catherine Gardner was elected as his Deputy. John Graham returned as Editor of the *Friends Newsletter*. Other members who have returned to serve another term on the Committee include Janette Bain, Terry Birtles, Jenny Gleeson and Claudia Hyles. In addition, the National Library representatives on the Committee this year are Director-General Jan Fullerton, Assistant Directors General Helen Kon and Margy Burn, and Heather Clark, Manager of the Events and Education Section.

One hundred and three Friends turned out for the Annual General Meeting and the Christmas party on 10 December. Once again it was a pleasant and spirited affair as we sipped champagne, tucked into some gourmet nibbles and reacquainted ourselves with friends old and new.

The Committee for 2003 has achieved a full complement of 16, the maximum allowable, and it contains some familiar faces as well as some new ones. The first meeting of the Committee was held on 17 December, and our office bearers

The new Committee members for this year include: John Chapman, an experienced campaigner who served three years on the Friends Committee between 1998 and 2000; Yvonne Cramer, who is a previous Chair of the Committee; Anne Murray, who comes with many years of committee experience including the Australian Early Childhood Association, Kidsafe Australia, the Woden Seniors' Club and the Chief Minister's Advisory Council on the Ageing; Margaret Nichols, who has been involved with the National Library for over 30

years; and Gordon Beckett, a career accountant and professional business management advisor who will serve as Treasurer to the Committee for the coming year. This reasonably new and enthusiastic Committee will ensure some exciting prospects for Friends in the coming year.

An exciting prospect for this month is 'Robert Helpmann and All the Rest', presented by Michelle Potter, Curator of Dance at the National Library, on Sunday 16 February. Michelle will give a presentation on her work as Curator at the Library and on the Library's dance collections, in addition to which she will speak about the recent Library publication, *A Collector's Book of Australian Dance*. In this book, Michelle explored the National Library's Pictures Collection to find examples of those spectacular, dramatic, sexy and very human moments created by our contemporary dancers and recorded by our photographers. It is both a celebration of Australian dance and of those who have captured its passion, so please join Michelle on Sunday to share her passion for dance.

JAMES HALLIGAN
Executive Officer

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 2003

Robert Helpmann and All the Rest
Michelle Potter, Curator of Dance at the National Library of Australia, will give a presentation on her work as Curator, on her book, and on the Library's dance collections.
Date: Sunday 16 February
Time: 2.30 pm – 4.30 pm
Venue: Friends Lounge
Admission: Friends \$10; others \$12 (afternoon tea included)
Bookings essential on 6262 1698, or email: friends@nla.gov.au

For bookings, details of membership and subscriptions, contact:

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