

August Friends



On 12 June, the Friends hosted *The Twin Histories of Alexandria and the Bibliotheca*, an illustrated lecture given in the National Library's theatre by Lorenzo Montesini, the Chairman of the Australian Friends of the Alexandrian Library in Egypt. A colourful and distinguished crowd of 180 people turned out for a light-hearted and energetic display that covered the history of the last few thousand years of this fascinating city and its library, with anecdotes about some of the more notorious events and personalities along the way. The lecture was followed by a reception in the foyer. Included in the audience, from the Arab Republic of Egypt, were His Excellency Ambassador Megahed and his wife, and the Consul-General Ahmed El-Kewaisny. The Director-General of the National Library, Jan Fullerton, also attended, as did the Rev. Dr Peter Hollingworth and Mrs Hollingworth.



Friends are encouraged to attend this month's event *Journey through the Mind—Making the Exhibition* with Irene Turpie, Assistant Curator

The Director-General, Ms Jan Fullerton, presents Lorenzo Montesini with a gift from the National Library to the Australian Friends of the Alexandria Library, following his lecture on 12 June

Exhibitions. Coming from a teaching background, with a Masters degree from Edinburgh University and additional qualifications in curatorship and art history, Irene has been with the Library for eight years. Her enthusiasm is obvious when she explains that one of the great enjoyments of working at the National Library, as opposed to a gallery, is that the Library collects objects for their documentary value rather than simply for their aesthetic merit. Consequently, Library exhibitions are interesting, not just for the actual images on display, but for the light these images can shed on social and cultural aspects of a period. Join Irene on Tuesday, 12 August at 12.30 pm as she shares her expertise and discusses the various elements that must be considered when curating an exhibition such as *Travellers Art*. Entry is by donation.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 2003

Journey through the Mind—Making the Exhibition
Travellers Art Assistant Curator, Irene Turpie, will share the experience of creating the exhibition.
Date: Tuesday, 12 August
Time: 12.30 pm
Venue: Exhibition Gallery
Admission by donation

***Tales from Near and Far* by Bernadette Cruise**
Book launch by Don Aitkin
Date: Wednesday, 20 August
Time: 12.30 pm
Venue: Friends Lounge
Free admission

For bookings, details of membership and subscriptions, contact:

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And finally for August, Ginninderra Press is celebrating another publication. Join them in the Friends Lounge on Wednesday, 20 August at 12.30 pm as Don Aitkin launches Bernadette Cruise' *Tales from Near and Far*. The launch will feature a recital of music on the dulcimer. See you there.

JAMES HALLIGAN
Executive Officer