

# Art Galleries



## Who's who

William Matthew Hodgkins, lawyer and artist, was born in England in 1833. He emigrated to Australia in 1859 and then moved to Dunedin. Employed at first as a law clerk, he was admitted to the Otago Bar in 1868. Although his reputation as an artist is eclipsed by that of his daughter, Frances, his reputation as a landscape painter is possibly higher now than in his lifetime. He died in 1898.

Dunedin has a great range of galleries that mean you can see historic or modern, local or overseas, student or professional art; photography, sculpture, paintings or prints.

The appreciation, production, collection and selling of art has been an important part of the city at least as far back as 1875 when the Otago Art Society was established by William Matthew Hodgkins. Less than a decade later, in 1884, Hodgkins succeeded in founding the Dunedin Public Art Gallery as well. It was the first public art gallery in New Zealand and has been described as having New Zealand's most important assembly of foreign paintings. These include works by Monet, Turner, Constable, Bonnard and Burne-Jones, a fine collection of Japanese prints and some spectacular examples of the decorative arts. The gallery also houses one of the most important collections of New Zealand art, including a number of works by Frances Hodgkins (daughter of William).



Exhibition banner flying outside the Dunedin Public Art Gallery in the Octagon

The Hocken Collections, established in 1910, also has important holdings of New Zealand archives and art works as part of its collections and a dedicated space for changing exhibitions. In more recent years, the Blue Oyster Gallery, Bosshard Gallery, Marshall Seifert (now the Brett McDowell) Gallery, Milford Galleries Dunedin, Moray Gallery, Port Gallery, the Salisbury House Gallery, and the Temple Gallery have all played important roles in giving artists a place to show their work, and continue to contribute greatly to Dunedin's vibrant art scene.



Salisbury House Gallery, located in The Manse – a restored 1870s building in Smith Street

