

CMAG FUND FOR CANBERRA REGION TREASURES

*Bringing major works of art of historical
significance to our community's collection*

Your region's museum, Canberra Museum and Gallery (CMAG), is sixteen years old this year. We are building an inspiring collection of visual arts and social history to help us tell the stories of our region, with integrity, depth and detail. It is a collection that embraces the spirit of our landscape, the achievement of our community, and the success of our creative producers.

The CMAG collection is built on a strong base of excellent contemporary works of art and objects that relate to the social history of our region and community.

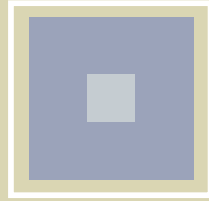
CMAG has a modest acquisition budget – just \$25,000 per year – to acquire objects for the collection. CMAG needs support from private donors to increase this limited capacity and allow us to purchase major works of art and objects of historical significance to our region.

The CMAG Fund for Canberra Region Treasures provides a new opportunity to support such important acquisitions.

Please help us to continue to develop our region's art collection for the enjoyment of all Australians, by making a contribution in support of Elioth Gruner's charming landscape, *The dry road* 1930. By so doing you will become a CMAG Fund for Canberra Region Treasures founding donor.

Together we can build a truly magnificent collection for our region.

Shane Breynard
Director, ACT Museums and Galleries



*It's the perfect
picture for the
Canberra Museum
and Gallery.*

John Olsen AO OBE

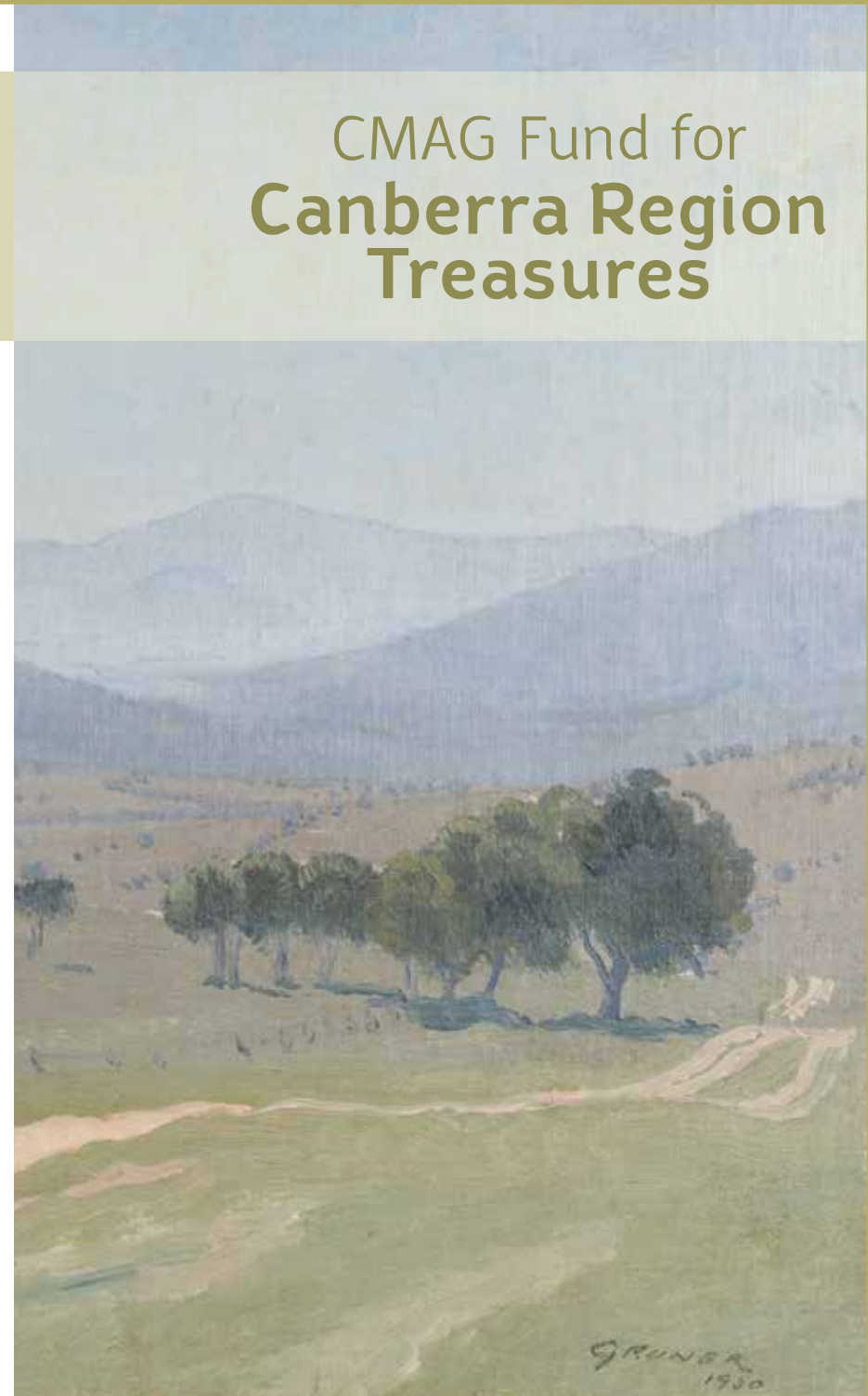
CANBERRA MUSEUM + GALLERY
Cnr London Circuit & Civic Square, Canberra City

Mon to Fri, 10am–5pm; Sat to Sun, 12–5pm
General inquiries: 6207 3968

www.museumsandgalleries.act.gov.au



**CANBERRA
MUSEUM
+ GALLERY**



Help us bring a regional treasure into the Canberra Museum and Gallery collection

This lovely landscape by Elioth Gruner (1882-1939) is a painting of the Canberra region, with a vista looking towards Mt Tennent and the Brindabella Range beyond. It is likely that the painting features the view from Fitz's Hill, south of Tharwa on the Boboyan Road, looking down into a valley with a line of trees indicating the Gudgenby River, part of the Murrumbidgee catchment. The track that features prominently in the painting, and is referred to in the work's title, was probably one established in the nineteenth century for farmers to bring stock up to the higher country to escape the dry summer heat.

Gruner travelled widely in the Canberra region from the early 1920s until his death in 1939, and is one of the few artists to spend significant amounts of time working here. He painted many superb landscapes in the Southern Highlands, the Southern Tablelands, the Monaro plateau and the Murrumbidgee River valley. He was particularly struck by the clarity of the light in the region, and these paintings represent the best work of his mature style. Gruner painted substantially *en plein air* and the Canberra region works were largely produced while he enjoyed the hospitality of local farmers and graziers.



Elioth Gruner
The dry road 1930,
oil on canvas on board,
29.4cm x 39cm

The dry road 1930 manifests the artist's skilful blend of the panoramic with the intimate. In this work Gruner's palette of soft blues, greys and greens contrasts with the straw yellow-pink of the track in the foreground, colours and tones characteristic of the Canberra region.

Elioth Gruner was born in New Zealand in 1882, and immigrated to Australia with his family the following year. As an adolescent he studied with Julian Ashton at the Art Society of New South Wales where he met the influential George Lambert; both these artists taught and inspired the young Gruner, who became an outstanding painter of the Australian landscape and one of the most successful and popular artists working in Australia from the 1910s to the 1930s. He was awarded the Wynne Prize for landscape at the Art Gallery of New South Wales seven times between 1916 and 1937.

This painting perfectly complements the Gruner painting already in CMAG's collection, *Landscape 1929*, which depicts the ancient hills and undulating rhythms around the Murrumbidgee River as it flows into the Burrinjuck Dam. Both paintings reveal an intense poetic lyricism and a striking sense of place.

Deborah Clark
Senior Curator, Visual Arts, Canberra Museum and Gallery

CONTRIBUTION TO CMAG Fund for CANBERRA REGION TREASURES

Title: Mr Mrs Ms Other

Name (in full):

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.....

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Phone: (home) (work)

Acknowledgment:

- I/we would like the donation to be anonymous
 I/we would like the donation to be acknowledged as above:

For the amount:

\$50 \$100 \$250* \$500 Other

A tax deductible receipt will be sent for donations over \$2.

*Donations of \$250 or over will entitle you to a 12 month membership of the ACT Museums and Galleries membership program (benefits are listed on our website).

Please indicate here if you would like the receipt made out to an entity (eg a foundation or company) other than yourself.

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Payment:

Please select one of these payment options:

- I enclose a cheque made out to Canberra Museum and Gallery for the amount indicated above.
 I would like to pay online by electronic funds transfer.

Please mark your donation as 'Canberra Region Treasures'

Account name: CMAG Donations

BSB: 032719 Account number: 239596

- I would like to pay by credit card. We accept:

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Cardholders name:

Card number:

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Thank you for your support.

Please send us this form to allow us to issue a receipt for tax purposes.
Address to: Canberra Museum and Gallery, PO Box 939 Civic Square,
Canberra ACT 2608

Canberra Museum and Gallery is collecting the information on this form to process your contribution and your preference for further information about CMAG's fundraising. This information will not be given to a third party other than in accordance with the Privacy Act 1988