



Screens, Greens and Washing Machines:

The Life and Work of Margaret Barwick

5 December 2007 – 26 March 2008

Washing machines are able to wash, rinse, and wring clothes all in a single operation. In many ways Margaret Barwick is the ultimate metaphorical machine, fulfilling the role of homemaker and mother, but able to switch roles on demand to handle the complexities of life as an artist, horticulturalist, diplomatic wife, writer, and teacher.

When speaking to Barwick about her busy life there is definitely a sense that “it will all turn out in the wash”, but an over-riding need to create is at the forefront of her mind at the beginning of each day.

This exhibition highlights the many achievements during the course of Margaret Barwick’s life and allows the viewer a period of quiet reflection to contemplate these many accomplishments.

David Bridgeman, Curator

Margaret Barwick—artist, horticulturist, diplomatic wife, teacher, and friend—has had a lifelong interest and passion for tropical plant life that is rivalled only by her love of painting. This exhibition explores these various vehicles for artistic expression and in doing so celebrates the life of a unique individual whose endless creative energy has provided inspiration for seasoned art collectors, aspiring artists, and avid gardeners alike.

Natalie Urquhart (nee Coleman), Associate Curator

