



## **Paradise (re)Visited:**

19<sup>th</sup> Century Jamaican Landscapes from the collection of Hugh and Pam Hart

August 6<sup>th</sup> – October 7<sup>th</sup> 2009

This exhibition of early 19th century lithographs features works by renowned artist Joseph Bartholomew Kidd, and supporting works by Belanger, Robertson, Hakewill, Whitty, Cartwright and Duperly. Capturing a high idealised vision of Jamaica, these itinerant British artists provided the earliest popular understanding of the Caribbean region in the West, prefiguring the trend for romantic landscapes in the later 19th century.

Their subject matter ranges from exotic landscapes, to plantation houses, ships, and daily life, offering a unique portrait of Jamaican culture, and by association parts of our own, at a pivotal historical moment. Gathered together these works are more than a survey of colonial art. They provide a vehicle through which to discuss our region's history, to address important political and social issues, and to question 'how' and 'why' the Caribbean has been depicted in certain ways, or through certain 'gazes'; questions which are as relevant to our lives today as they were in the 19th century.

Natalie Urquhart, Curator