# GUY BOYD ART EXHIBITION MELBOURNE SPEECH NOTES FOR HON. MALCOLM FRASER M.P.

### DELIGHTED TO OPEN EXHIBITION

GUY BOYD - DISTINGUISHED CONTRIBUTION TO AUSTRALIAN ART

- MEMBER OF MOST DISTINGUISHED ARTISTIC FAMILY
  AUSTRALIA HAS KNOWN
- LINDSAYS

### AUSTRALIA HAS EXTRA-ORDINARY RICH ARTISTIC TRADITION

OPERA
BALLET
MUSIC
PAINTING

 HARDLY AN AREA IN WHICH AUSTRALIANS HAVE NOT EXCELLED

- INTERESTING HOW MANY HAVE EXCELLED INTERNATIONALLY
   BY OWN INITIATIVE AGAINST ODDS
- NO GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE
- GOVERNMENT'S MUST BE CAREFUL NOT TO STIFLE THIS

# MAY BE INTERESTED TO KNOW

- OWN SISTER ABSTRACT EXPRESSIONIST
  - EXHIBITIONS
  - GRAPHICALLY DEPICTED CHRISTOPHER FRYS
    POEMS
  - HUSBAND AUSTRALIAN POET. •

MAY BE SURPRISING TO RECALL - BASIC INITIATIVES IN SUPPORT FOR ARTS TAKEN BY LIBERAL-NCP

# MENZIES - ELIZABETHAN TRUST HOLT - ARTISTIC FAMILY

## TOTAL MYTH THAT INTEREST STARTED WITH LABOR

- ESTABLISHED \* COMMONWEALTH LITERARY BOARD
  - \* AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL GALLERY
  - \* FIRST STEPS TO FILM CORP.
  - \* ARTS COUNCIL

# SELF - PROMOTED/ESTABLISHED CANBERRA SCHOOL OF MUSIC AS MINISTER

- EARNEST LLEWELLYN
- EXCITING PROJECT

IMPORTANT THING WITH INCREASING GOVERNMENT AID ABSOLUTE FREEDOM OF THE ARTS

## ROLE OF GOVERNMENT

- \* HELP CREATE CONDITIONS IN WHICH ARTS CAN FLOURISH
- \* ENCOURAGE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY THAT APPRECIATES ART
  - AND CAN AFFORD ART

FREEDOM OF CHOICE FOR PATRONS - FOR ARTISTS

AS IN ALL AREAS WHERE GOVERNMENT IS INVOLVED IMPORTANT THAT SUPPORT DOES NOT LEAD TO DIRECTION

ESSENCE OF LIBERAL PHILOSOPHY - FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

SOCIALISM - DIRECTION - GOVERNMENT CONTROL

- "SOCIALIST REALISM" SOVIET, CHINA
- CAN END UP WITH ART WHERE THE BEST IS NOT MUCH BETTER THAN THE WORST

### SOCIETY MUST BE OPEN TO INFLUENCE FROM OVERSEAS

GREAT THEATRE, GREAT MUSIC, GREAT ART MUST BE

INTERNATIONAL, COSMOPOLITAN - ART MUST CROSS ALL

POLITICAL FRONTIERS.

- ENCOURAGE GREAT CONTEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS HERE YOUNG ARTIST
  - PART OF JOB OF CREATING COMMUNITY AWARE
    AND INTERESTED IN ART
- AUSTRALIAN'S CAN BE IN THE VANGUARD OF THE WORLD
- EXCITING TO CONTEMPLATE WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN

### **FUTURE**

- \* ESSENTIAL FABRIC OF ART COUNCILS WILL BE
  MAINTAINED A FABRIC LARGELY ESTABLISHED BY
  PREVIOUS LIBERAL GOVERNMENTS
- \* NOT OUT TO CUT THE GRANT TO CUT WASTE
- \* I AM NOT PREPARED TO HAVE THE ARTS LOST IN BUREAUCRACY
- THERE IS SOMETHING MORE TO GOVERNING AUSTRALIA
  THAN MERE EFFICIENT ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT
- AUSTRALIA IS MUCH MORE THAN AN EFFICIENT ECONOMY
- THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT WILL MAINTAIN ITS PRESENT ROLE IN RELATION TO SUPPORT FOR THE ARTS.

AUSTRALIA CAN BE PART OF VITAL WORLD CULTURE