



20

20

**GARTH TAPPER**

1927 - 1999  
*Pamela Bish*  
 Oil on board 37 x 31  
 Signed & dated 1949  
 8,000 - 12,000

Provenance:  
 Foster Clark Collection  
 Submitted to Carnegie Scholarship, 1952.

Illustrated p. 22 *Garth Tapper - New Zealand Painter* P Tapper & Elva Bett, 1998

Note: The works dimensions are published as 72 x 56.5 cm in *Garth Tapper - New Zealand Painter* P Tapper & Elva Bett, 1998 This is a misprint - the correct dimensions are 37 x 31 cm.

*This portrait is highly rated by Tapper as a good example of how fortunate he was to study under A J C Fisher, A W S McLaren, Lois White and Ida Eise. Elva Bett, 1998*  
 Text: affixed verso

21

**GARTH TAPPER**

*Figure from Life Study 'Mavis'*  
 Oil on board 72 x 56.5  
 Signed & dated 1949  
 Inscribed verso  
 8,000 - 12,000

Inscription verso reads: *'Mavis' Figure from life study at the Elam School of Art, 1949. A 4 day study & bloody hard too (24 hours)*

Provenance:  
 Foster Clark Collection  
 Submitted to Carnegie Scholarship, 1952.

Illustrated p. 23 *Garth Tapper - New Zealand Painter* P Tapper & Elva Bett, 1998

**The Foster Clark Collection**  
**Works by Garth Tapper, Ray Crook**  
**& Others Lots 20 - 39**

The Collection features eighteen works by Garth Tapper, the best examples of which are included in this catalogue. Remaining drawings by Tapper will be offered in our *Contemporary, Foreign & Collectable* art auction 20 November, along with further interesting works by associated artists.

Foster Clark, a successful artist and illustrator in his own right, first met tutor Garth Tapper during his time at Auckland's Elam School of Fine Arts. Tapper attended Elam from 1945 to 1951 and lectured in painting during his final year. Prior to Tapper's departure for Europe, where he studied at the Slade and Chelsea Schools of Art, the two artists formed a friendship which was to last a lifetime.

Foster Clark gained his Diploma of Fine Art and taught for two years in Auckland before founding a screenprinting company in the 1960s. During the 1970s he manufactured his own range of swimwear but went on to become a full time artist exhibiting in Cairns, Australia. It was here that he befriended fellow artist, Ray Crook. These days Foster resides in the Bay of Islands, travelling to Cairns each year to exhibit his screenprints and original works.

This collection contains two Tapper portraits of particular note, both painted in 1949. They were successfully submitted to the Carnegie Scholarship in 1952. This scholarship enabled the artist to travel and study in England during the early 1950s. A rare portrait of Anne Tapper, the artist's wife features along with the poignant last portrait, *Lorraine, the Fish Girl* completed shortly before Tapper's death in 1999.

Works by Ray Crook were acquired directly from the artist. Jan Nigro's *Jane & Kelly* and Emily Jackson's *West Coast Landscape* were purchased at auction from International Art Centre in the early 1990s.

