Iziko Old Town House closed until further notice

Iziko Museums of South Africa

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The Iziko Old Town House will be closed until further notice due to maintenance. Iziko Museums of South Africa in collaboration with the national Department of Public Works are currently implementing important maintenance at the Iziko Old Town House. This museum will be closed until further notice.

The Old Town House, situated on Greenmarket Square, was erected in 1755-1761 in the Cape Rococo style. It served many purposes including that of the Burgher Senate, as a magistrate's court and as a police station. It also then became Cape Town's City Hall, which it remained until 1905. One of the first double-storey buildings in the Mother City, the Old Town House is home to the internationally acclaimed Michaelis Collection of artworks by 16th to 18th century Dutch and Flemish masters. Donated by Sir Max Michaelis in 1914, the collection includes works by Golden Age Masters; Frans Hals, Jan Steen, Jacob van Ruisdael, Anthony van Dyck and numerous others.

In keeping with international museum practice, the Michaelis Collection has been moved off site. Selected works from the collection will be on display at the Iziko South African National Gallery for the duration of the maintenance period.

Notes to editor:

About Iziko Museums of South Africa (Iziko)

Iziko operates 11 national museums, the Planetarium, the Social History Centre and three collection specific libraries in Cape Town. The museums that make up Iziko have their own history and character, presenting extensive art, social and natural history collections that reflect our diverse African heritage. Iziko is a public entity and non-profit organisation that brings together these museums under a single governance and leadership structure. The organisation allows *free access to all individuals on commemorative days, (*excluding the Castle of Good Hope and Planetarium). Visit our webpage at www.iziko.org.za, join our online community on Facebook (www.facebook.com/IzikoMuseums) or follow us on Twitter (@Iziko_Museums) for regular updates on events, news and new exhibitions.

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