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CREST OF A WAVE: Rebecca Hossack, with a work by artist David Farrer, is among the new exhibitors in Glasgow this year. Picture: Chris James

Art lovers looking to snap up a square deal in city

PHIL MILLER

THE huge white pavilions of the Glasgow Art Fair, which opens to the public tomorrow, were adorned with hundreds of paintings, sculptures, installations, drawings and etchings yesterday.

Nearly £1m worth of pur-

chases were made at the largest fair of its type outside London last year, and this year organisers - and a record 53 participating galleries - hope to match that figure.

In the collection of large tents in George Square in the city, gallery owners unpacked and hung hundreds of exhibits

which they hope to sell to the thousands of visitors to the annual show.

The fair features a new small lecture theatre, a larger area for Extension, the space given to galleries who sell more contemporary art, and a relaxed area called Spin between the main pavilion and Extension.

Now in its ninth year, the fair attracts about 16,000 people between April 15 and 18. Among the new exhibitors this year is the Rebecca Hossack Gallery, who also sell works at art fairs in the US, and are experts in Aboriginal art.

Ms Hossack, former official cultural attache for the Aus-

tralian High Commission in Britain, said: "We came because so many people told us how good this art fair was."

"Collectors told us what a fun and successful event this is. You always have a mixture of optimism and caution before an art fair but we are hopeful it will do well."