Koopman Rare Art

Directors Choice – Timo Koopman
The Howard Tea Kettle on Original Stand

Koopman Rare Art is delighted to be returning to Treasure House Fair at The Royal Hospital, Chelsea from 24 - 30 June 2026 at Stand 202.

In the weeks leading up to the fair, our Director's Choice newsletters will highlight some of the exceptional pieces we'll be bringing—such as this rare Kettle on its original stand.

We would love for you to join us at the fair; if you would like to attend, please e-mail info@koopman.art, and we will send you a complimentary ticket.

We hope to see you there,

Lewis, Timo and the Team at Koopman Rare Art

The Howard Kettle on Stand
An important George II Kettle on Stand
London 1741
Maker's mark of Paul de Lamerie

Bearing the coat-of-arms of Howard for Sir George Howard KB

It is wonderful to find a piece of Paul De Lamerie silver that's provenance dates all the way back to the day it was commissioned. This glorious kettle on stand with its warmer and original kettle stand highlights the importance of tea equipage in the 18th century.

Provenance:
Sir George Howard KB
And then by decent to
Major General Sir Richard Howard-Vyse, Bt.
H.R. Milner, Esq., sale, Christie's, London, April 20, 1966, lot 6 (sold for £6,500 to Anon)
Firestone & Parson
Koopman Rare Art 2012
European Private Collection 2012
Koopman Rare Art 2020

Exhibited at the Brooklyn Museum

The kettle became a standard item in the silver tea service around 1710. It was used to boil fresh water to make tea, which was served in the drawing room or parlour by the lady of the house. The maker Paul de Lamerie (1688-1751) was the son of French Huguenot parents and came to London in the 1690s as a small child, before going on to become the most successful Huguenot smith in the city. Nearly forty kettles are known to have been made by de Lamerie between 1713 and 1751. However, those recorded with their complete original stand, burner and kettle tray all intact is a mere handful.

When the Catholic King Louis XIV revoked the Edict of Nantes in 1685, Huguenots (French Protestants) were forced to leave the country. Many were craftsmen who settled in London. Their technical skills and fashionable French style ensured the luxury silver, furniture, watches and jewellery they made were highly sought after. Huguenot specialists transformed English silver by introducing higher standards of craftsmanship. They promoted new forms, such as the soup tureen and sauceboat, and introduced a new repertoire of ornament, with cast sculptural details and exquisite engraving.

The portrait is by Sir Joshua Reynolds circa 1774

Field Marshal Sir George Howard KB

Born on 17th June 1716 the son of Lieutenant General Thomas Howard and Mary Moreton. In 1725, at the age of 7, he was commissioned into the 24th Foot, of which his father was Colonel, but did not join the regiment until he was 18. As a lieutenant-colonel he commanded the 3rd Buffs at the battle of Fontenoy. He fought in the 1745 Jacobite Rebellion, at Falkirk and Culloden and was accused of treating the highlanders too harshly. He also took part in the raid on Rochefort in 1757 and commanded a brigade at the battle of Warburg in 1760.

The portrait is by Sir Joshua Reynolds c1774, and a copy was made by James Northcote, assistant to Reynolds. It was said of George Howard "that he was a man universally esteemed, highly bred and a gallant soldier, but he owed his military elevation and employment more perhaps to Royal favour than to any distinguished talents of professional services."

He was married to Lady Lucy Wentworth, daughter of Sir William Wentworth who was the brother of Thomas Wentworth, 3rd Baron Raby, 1st Earl of Strafford (2nd Creation). There must have been family tensions as uncle Lord Raby was a Jacobite sympathiser, and George had gained a reputation during the Jacobite Rebellion for excessive zeal in hunting down Highlanders after Culloden. They had a daughter, Ann Howard. They lived at Stoke Place, Buckinghamshire which he acquired in 1754. They also had a London home in Grosvenor Square where Sir George Howard died on 16 July 1796. He was buried at Great Bookham in Surrey.

1725 Commissioned into the 24th Foot
1737 Promoted to Captain
1739 Transferred to the Buffs
1744 Promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel. 2 April
1749 Colonel of the 3rd Foot (The Buffs) 21 Aug 1789 - 12 May 1763
1761 MP for Lostwithiel, Cornwall 1761 - 1768
1763 Knight Companion of the Bath (KB)
1763 Colonel of the 7th Dragoons 13 May 1763 - 20 April 1779
1766 Governor of Minorca 1766 -1768
1768 MP for Stamford 1768 - 1796
1768 Governor of The Royal Hospital 1768 - 1795
1777 Promotion to General. 6 Sep
1779 Colonel of the 1st Kings Dragoon Guards 21 April 1779 - 17 July 1796
1793 Promoted to Field Marshal. 18 Oct
1795 Privy Councillor
1795 Governor of Jersey. July 1795 - July 1796

Stoke Place, Buckinghamshire

Patrick Lamb built Stoke Place in 1690. For about 50 years he was Master Cook to several monarchs, including King Charles II, King William, Queen Mary and Queen Anne.

He was born in 1650 in the parish of St Martin-in-the-Fields in London. His father was Patrick Lamb (1613–1683), the sole merchant of wine, spirits and tobacco in the Whitehall area. His mother was Martha Russell.

Lamb started his career at an early age as pastry assistant and rose rapidly in the kitchen hierarchy. He became very prosperous and wrote a well-known, still extant book, Royal Cookery, whose front page is shown. In 1685 he prepared King James II's Coronation Feast, which was described in detail by Francis Sandiford in his book. The King was so pleased with his work that he gave him a large number of gold coins.

After Patrick had built Stoke Place in 1690, he continued to work as Master Cook for Queen Anne. When he died in 1708, the property appears to have been inherited by his son, William Lamb. In 1764 Field Marshal Sir George Howard bought the estate, which became his family's home for 200 years.

The Howard family and the inheritance of the kettle on kettle stand

Field Marshal Sir George Howard lived at Stoke Place from 1764 until 1796. He was born in 1718 into a military family. His father was Lieutenant General Thomas Howard. He had a very distinguished military career and in 1763 was appointed Colonel of the 7th (the Queens Own) Regiment of Dragoons. The following year he bought Stoke Place. Howard commissioned Stiff Leadbetter to add two wings to the house over the next few years. Capability Brown the famous landscape architect, recorded in his account book that from 1765 until 1767 he constructed a lake with islands for which he charged 800 pounds.

In 1747 he married Lady Lucy Wentworth and had one daughter Ann Howard. Unfortunately, his wife died in 1771, and he married Elizabeth Beckford. While he lived at Stoke Place the King and Queen made numerous visits to the house which were reported in the newspapers of that time. In 1780 his daughter Ann married General Richard Vyse, and the couple had one daughter Georgiana and one son Richard William Howard Vyse. Sadly Ann died while giving birth to this child in 1784. Subsequent generations adopted the surname Howard-Vyse. When Sir George Howard died in 1796, he left Stoke Place to this grandson. Richard William Howard Vyse (1784-1853) was only 12 when his grandfather died so his inheritance was placed in trust until he came of age. In 1812 he took the additional name of Howard so that his and his heirs from him on had the surname of Howard-Vyse. When he died in 1853 Richard Henry Howard-Vyse (1813-1872) inherited the property. After his death Howard Henry Howard-Vyse (1858-1927) his eldest son became the owner. Following Howard Henry Howard-Vyse's death in 1927, his eldest son Richard Granville Hylton Howard-Vyse inherited the house and with it this extraordinary kettle on stand by the most famous of our goldsmiths.

Richard Granville Hylton Howard-Vyse was born in 1883. He was educated at Eton and gained a post in the Royal Horse Guards in 1902. He was rapidly promoted and in the First World War he led several important battles. After the war he was awarded the D.S.O and the C.M.G.

For more information on the availability and price of any treasures we mention, please visit our website, email or call us.

All works shown, unless otherwise indicated, are available to view and purchase in our gallery located in 12 Dover Street, London, W1S 4LL
For all enquiries please do not hesitate to call or email on:
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