

TJC



AT HOME WITH TJC | STORIES FROM THE COLLECTION

Hello friends, supporters, and communities,

We hope this newsletter finds you safe and well.

This week we are excited to share a new addition to our Collection, a stunning Rococo style platter, which was purchased with funds generously donated by TJC Ambassador Andrew Dixon. The platter is currently on display in The Blue Room, as part of *OBJECTS OF MY AFFECTION: Stories of Love from The Johnston Collection* (9 March - 24 August 2021).

After a challenging 2020, TJC has designated 2021 as *A YEAR OF LOVE*. We look forward to sharing new exhibitions and events with you all - celebrating William Johnston's love for his collection, our love for you: our wonderful community, and your love and support of us in return.

Don't forget that you can also learn more about our Collection via our [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) and [Twitter](#) which regularly feature highlights from our Collection and past exhibitions.

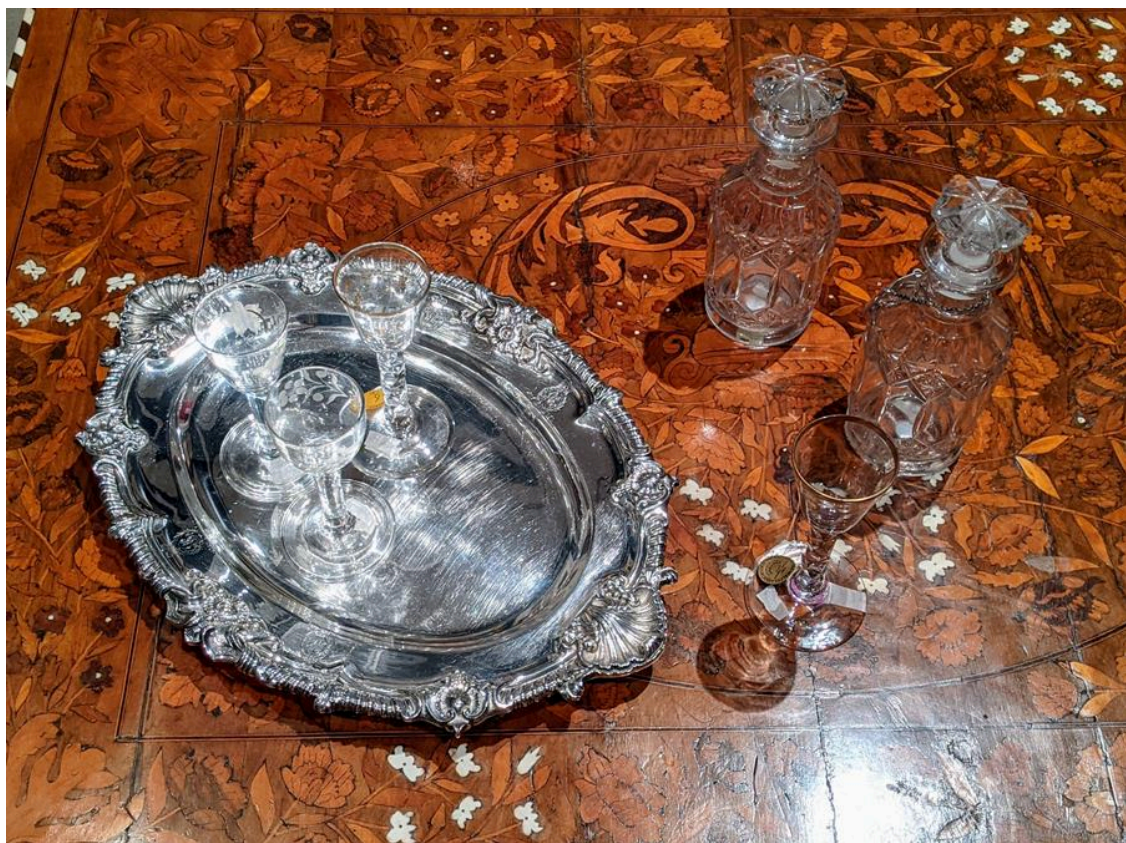
Take care, and stay safe, and be kind.

Your ongoing support means a lot to us at this time. As an independent self-funded museum, the current period of unplanned closure represents a real challenge. If you're able to help, you can donate via the link below, or buy something from our [online shop](#). All profits go towards the upkeep of TJC. Thank you.

SUPPORT US

A PLATTER FIT FOR A KING

This oval platter or meat dish features a heavy gauge rocaille cast finely chased gadrooned border with shell and acanthus foliage forms and shell handles. It has two pairs of engraved monograms to the rim, one within the Garter motto, the other within a ribbon tied oak and laurel leaf cartouche all below the Royal crown. The monograms are those of King William IV (1765-1837) and Queen Adelaide (1792-1849).





manufacturer: William Bateman (English, active 1839-1843); II
 retailer: Rundell Bridge and Rundell (English, estab. 1787, closed 1843)

platter

1836, London

420 x 310 mm, Silver weight: 1712 gr

purchased with funds provided by TJC Ambassador, Mr Andrew Dixon, Melbourne, 2021

(A1477)

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This platter forms part of an extensive service supplied by Rundell's to the Royal family, circa 1835.

The dinner service was then gifted to Albert Denison, 1st Baron Londesborough by Queen Adelaide.

Denison's mother Elizabeth was the last mistress of King George IV from 1820 to 1830. She had previously been the Duke of Wellington's mistress from 1817. She, her husband, and children were well established at court and greatly benefitted from lucrative offices and gifts. Elizabeth was banished by King William IV on the former King's death. After William's death his wife, Queen Adelaide made many generous bequests, this dinner service being one of them.

A large portion of the service, weighing 10,000 ounces in all, was sold at Christie's by William, 1st Earl of Londesborough in 1898.

This platter was acquired by TJC thanks to generous financial support from TJC Ambassador Andrew Dixon. Andrew writes:

When I came across this meat serving dish at a recent Melbourne auction I realised it was somehow familiar. I was drawn in by the Rococo design with very fine shell handles and what appeared to be Royal monogrammes.

After some Googling I realised it had a notable Royal connection with the monogrammes of both King William IV and Queen Adelaide. I discovered it was originally part of a very grand service of 168 dinner plates and various serving dishes supplied by Rundell, Bridge and Rundell around 1836.

In 1898 much of this service was sold at Christies by the descendant of one of the Royal retainers to whom it was gifted by Queen Adelaide.

I thought it might add to the stories told by objects at TJC and offered to support its purchase.

Andrew was President of The Friends of TJC (2003-2005), was appointed Honorary Life Member (2006), and made an inaugural Ambassador (2008). He has donated to the collection and supports the acquisition of English 18th century ceramics, glass, silver, as well as additions to the Reference Library. Andrew became involved at TJC as a volunteer in mid-2000, soon after Nina Stanton's arrival as the Director. He was impressed with how she shared her deep passion for the appreciation of the stories and characteristics of beautiful objects. Andrew recalled that, "Stanton was very encouraging of my interest I got great satisfaction from researching items in the Collection." Over time, Dixon's appreciation of TJC grew and was reinforced by generous donations to the fine art, silver, and glass collections to complementing Johnston's legacy.

As well as celebrating William Johnston's collection, our current exhibition *OBJECTS OF MY AFFECTION: Stories of Love from The Johnston Collection* also highlights the generous contributions and donations made by other Melbourne collectors, such as Andrew, over the last thirty years.

We invite your to join us us as we celebrate our remarkable milestone of 30 glorious years of sharing Johnston's gift of love to the people of Victoria.

BOOK A TOUR



Explore our new exhibition *OBJECTS OF MY AFFECTION: Stories of Love from The Johnston Collection* (9 March - 24 August 2021)

Book your tickets now to discover Melbourne's hidden cultural gem - the Fairhall exhibition-house.

BOOK NOW

SHOP



We have a new online shop! We are thrilled to offer an improved visitor experience and extended product range, as well as a new clearance section where you can find beautiful products at reduced prices.

We hope you love it as much as we do!

**BROWSE THE NEW
SHOP**

YOUTUBE



Explore our past exhibitions via our YouTube channel.

WILLIAM JOHNSTON'S EMPORIUM | Hecker Guthrie rearranges William Johnston's Collection (11 Mar - 28 Jun 2016)

TJC YOUTUBE

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'the cup that started a collection'

Support TJC with a tax-deductible donation to our *OPENING DOORS* fund to ensure the vibrant continuation of our work in 2020 and beyond.

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Image Credits:

detail from *OBJECTS OF MY AFFECTION: Stories of Love from The Johnston Collection* as part of our ongoing 'WILLIAM JOHNSTON: His Residence & Collection' series being held from 9 March - 24 August 2021

image | adam luttick | luts photography | melbourne, vic

detail from *OBJECTS OF MY AFFECTION: Stories of Love from The Johnston Collection* as part of our ongoing 'WILLIAM JOHNSTON: His Residence & Collection' series being held from 9 March - 24 August 2021

image | The Johnston Collection

manufacturer: William Bateman (English, active 1839-1843); II, retailer: Rundell Bridge and Rundell (English, estab. 1787, closed 1843), **platter**, 1836, London | 420 x 310 mm, Silver weight: 1712 gr, purchased with funds provided by TJC Ambassador, Mr Andrew Dixon, Melbourne, 2021 (A1477)

image courtesy Phillips Auctions

[Derby porcelain factory, Derby], detail of square plate (from a ten-piece dessert service), England, circa 1820-30, bone china, gilt decoration | 40 x 240 x 240 mm The Johnston Collection (A0412.2-1989), Foundation Collection

Card (Laura Stoddart): Red Berries

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