Luxury and Power: Persia to Greece exhibition

4 May – 20 August 2023
Joseph Hotung Great Court Gallery (Gallery 35), The British Museum, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3DG

List of objects proposed for protection under Part 6 of the Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007 (protection of cultural objects on loan).

Gold pectora
2287/32

Breast adornment with bird-shaped ends, 6th – 5th century BCE

Height: 9.2 cm
Width: 5.5 cm

Lent by History Museum of Armenia, 4 Republic Square, 375010 Yerevan, Armenia

Provenance:
Found during the 1962 excavation of Б. Н. Аракеляна (B. N. Arakelyan) at Armavir Hill (about 40km east of Yerevan). It was discovered under the northern defensive walls and then given to the National History Museum in Yerevan, where it remains to the present day.

Ownership details 1933 – 1945: Undiscovered

Publications:

Journal Советская археология (Soviet Archaeology), 1968, number 4. See page 190 and Figure 1.
http://publ.lib.ru/ARCHIVES/S/"Sovetskaya_arheologiya"/_"SAL".html
**Bear-form vessel**
T-48/13

Bear-form vessel with spout on back and pouring holes in eye sockets and mouth, 1st century BCE (c.100 – 1 BCE).

Height: 22 cm  
Length: 26 cm  
Width: 15 cm.

Lent by History Museum of Armenia, 4 Republic Square, 375010 Yerevan, Armenia

Provenance:
Found in Artashat in 1982 from systematic excavations lead by Zhores Khachatryan, head of the Department of 'Archaeology of Ancient Armenia' of the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography. Entered the collection following excavation.

Ownership details 1933 – 1945: Undiscovered

Publications:
Treasures from the History Museum of Armenia, Yerevan, 2019, page 167 (in Armenia).


**Bull-shaped rhyton**
2889/20

Pottery rhyton with bull-head protome, 6th – 5th century BCE

Height 13 cm  
Length 27 cm  
Width 13 cm

Lent by History Museum of Armenia, 4 Republic Square  
375010 Yerevan, Armenia

Provenance:
It was found in Armavir in 1985 from systematic excavations lead by Gevorg Tiratsyan. Entered the collection following excavation.

Ownership details 1933 – 1945: Undiscovered

Publications:
**Silver rhyton**

Inv. No. 20

Silver rhyton terminating in a horse and rider, silver, 5th – 4th century BCE

Height 32 cm

Lent by Erebuni Historical and Archaeological Museum
38 Erebuni St, Yerevan 0020, Armenia

Provenance:
Acquired in November 1968 after chance discovery at the foot of the ancient citadel of Erebuni, in the suburbs of present Yerevan (Armenia) during construction work in Spring 1968.

Ownership details 1933 – 1945: Undiscovered

Publications:
Советская археология (Soviet Archaeology), 1971, no.1. See page 143 for details of the find, and figures 1-4 for images.

Аракелян, Б. Н. 1971. 'Клад Серебряных Изделий Из Эребуни'. Советская археология, 1971, no. 1. 143-158 (in Russian)

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**Panagyurishte Treasure. Stag**

3197

Decorated rhyton with a stag protome, gold, 4th – 3rd century BCE

Height 14.7 cm
Diameter (rim) 8.9 cm

Lent by National History Museum, Vitoshko lale 16 str. Sofia 1618, Bulgaria

Provenance:
Acquired in 1949 immediately after discovery.

Discovered as part of a treasure hoard of nine vessels comprising the ‘Panagyurishte Treasure’. In 1949, three brothers from the Bulgarian town of Panagyurishte chanced upon the hoard while digging for bricks. Soon after, the collection was inspected by an archaeologist who confirmed its antiquity. The Treasure then passed into the hands of the state, then into the collection of the National History Museum (Sofia).

Ownership details 1933 – 1945: Undiscovered

Publication:
Panagyurishte Treasure. Stag Rhyton 2.
3198

Decorated rhyton with a stag protome, gold, 4th – 3rd century BCE

Height 14.8 cm
Diameter (rim) 8.8 cm

Lent by National History Museum, Vitoshko lale 16 str. Sofia 1618, Bulgaria

Provenance:
Acquired in 1949 immediately after discovery.

Discovered as part of a treasure hoard of nine vessels comprising the ‘Panagyurishte Treasure’. In 1949, three brothers from the Bulgarian town of Panagyurisht chanced upon the hoard while digging for bricks. Soon after, the collection was inspected by an archaeologist who confirmed its antiquity. The Treasure then passed into the hands of the state, then into the collection of the National History Museum (Sofia).

Ownership details 1933 – 1945: Undiscovered

Publication:

Panagyurishte Treasure. Head Rhyton 1.
3200

Decorated rhyton in the form of a female head, gold, 4th – 3rd century BCE

Height 21.3 cm.
Diameter (rim) 7.2 cm.

Lent by National History Museum, Vitoshko lale 16 str. Sofia 1618, Bulgaria

Provenance:
Acquired in 1949 immediately after discovery.

Discovered as part of a treasure hoard of nine vessels comprising the ‘Panagyurishte Treasure’. In 1949, three brothers from the Bulgarian town of Panagyurishte chanced upon the hoard while digging for bricks. Soon after, the collection was inspected by an archaeologist who confirmed its antiquity. The Treasure then passed into the hands of the state, then into the collection of the National History Museum (Sofia).

Ownership details 1933 – 1945: Undiscovered

Publication:

Panagyurishte Treasure. Goat Rhyton.
3196

Decorated rhyton with a goat protome, gold, 4th – 3rd century BCE

Height 14 cm
Diameter (rim) 8.7-9 cm

Lent by National History Museum, Vitoshko lale 16 str. Sofia 1618, Bulgaria

Provenance:
Acquired in 1949 immediately after discovery.

Discovered as part of a treasure hoard of nine vessels comprising the ‘Panagyurishte Treasure’. In 1949, three brothers from the Bulgarian town of Panagyurishte chanced upon the hoard while digging for bricks. Soon after, the collection was inspected by an archaeologist who confirmed its antiquity. The Treasure then passed into the hands of the state, then into the collection of the National History Museum (Sofia).

Ownership details 1933 – 1945: Undiscovered

Publication:
**Panagyurishte Treasure. Bowl (phiale)**

3204

Decorated bowl, gold, 4th – 3rd century BCE

Height 3.9 cm
Diameter 24.7 cm

Lent by National History Museum, Vitoshko lale 16 str. Sofia 1618, Bulgaria

Provenance:
Acquired in 1949 immediately after discovery.

Discovered as part of a treasure hoard of nine vessels comprising the ‘Panagyurishte Treasure’. In 1949, three brothers from the Bulgarian town of Panagyurishte chanced upon the hoard while digging for bricks. Soon after, the collection was inspected by an archaeologist who confirmed its antiquity. The Treasure then passed into the hands of the state, then into the collection of the National History Museum (Sofia).

Ownership details 1933 – 1945: Undiscovered

Publication:

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**Panagyurishte Treasure. Sheep Rhyton**

3199

Decorated rhyton with a sheep protome, gold, 4th – 3rd century BCE

Height 13.7 cm
Diameter (rim) 8.9 cm

Lent by National History Museum, Vitoshko lale 16 str. Sofia 1618, Bulgaria

Provenance:
Acquired in 1949 immediately after discovery.

Discovered as part of a treasure hoard of nine vessels comprising the ‘Panagyurishte Treasure’. In 1949, three brothers from the Bulgarian town of Panagyurishte chanced upon the hoard while digging for bricks. Soon after, the collection was inspected by an archaeologist who confirmed its antiquity. The Treasure then passed into the hands of the state, then into the collection of the National History Museum (Sofia).
Ownership details 1933 – 1945: Undiscovered

Publication:

Panagyurishte Treasure. Amphora-rhyton
3203

Decorated amphora-rhyton, gold, 4th – 3rd century BCE

Height 29 cm
Diameter (body) 14 cm

Provenance:
Acquired in 1949 immediately after discovery.
Discovered as part of a treasure hoard of nine vessels comprising the ‘Panagyurishte Treasure’. In 1949, three brothers from the Bulgarian town of Panagyurishte chanced upon the hoard while digging for bricks. Soon after, the collection was inspected by an archaeologist who confirmed its antiquity. The Treasure then passed into the hands of the state, then into the collection of the National History Museum (Sofia).

Ownership details 1933 – 1945: Undiscovered

Publication:
Cylinder seal (‘Harem Seal’) and impression
AO22359

Cylinder seal with Harem scene/scene of worship before the queen or the goddess Anahita, Chalcedony (blue), 539-330 BC (Achaemenid).

Height: 3.2cm
Width: 1.4cm

Provenance:
Acquired by the Louvre in 1967

Donated by Henri Louis Marie Martin de Boisgelin (1897-1985) who inherited it from the French collector Louis de Clercq (1836-1901) and donated it to the Musée du Louvre in 1967. A career politician, de Clercq maintained an interest in antiquities and travel. Throughout the latter half of the 19th century, he acquired a vast collection of antiquities, through dealers and excavation, largely from the region of present-day Syria and Lebanon. This collection was published in seven volumes from 1885-1911 and, in 1967, it was passed to the French state by Henri de Boisgelin. This is when the seal entered the collection of the Louvre. AO22359 is published (with an image) in the 1888 volume of the de Clercq collection.

Ownership details 1933 – 1945: In collection of Henri Louis Marie Martin de Boisgelin

Publication:
Gilt-silver rhyton
AO 3093

Rhyton with gazelle protome, Silver, Gold, 539 – 330 BC (Achaemenid)

Height: 28.6cm
Diameter 13.5cm

Provenance:
Acquired by the Louvre in 1897.

Purchased from Dikran Garabed Kelekian (1868–1951) in 1897. Said to be from Erzurum (eastern Turkey). Of Turkish birth and Armenian heritage, Kelekian was a major art dealer active from 1892, when he setup his first antiquities business in Istanbul, to his death in 1951. He is known for his long-term collaboration with Henry Walters, for whom he acquired many of the Islamic objects now in the collection of the Walters Art Gallery (Baltimore, USA). Kelekian also acquired objects for the New York Met and the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. Following the opening of his Istanbul shop (1892), Kelekian opened further shops in New York, Cairo, London and Paris – all before 1900. This rhyton was probably purchased from his Paris branch.

Ownership details 1933 – 1945: In the Louvre Museum, Department of Oriental Antiquities’ collection

Publication: