



N E W S   R E L E A S E

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**MARKING 30 YEARS OF PRESTIGIOUS DESIGN**  
**BAKER® EXPANDS ITS BEST IN CLASS STATELY HOMES COLLECTION**

**CHICAGO** (October 16, 2010) – For those looking for the very best in heirloom-quality furnishings, nothing rivals the exquisite assortment that comprises the Stately Homes Collection by Baker. At the Fall 2010 International Home Furnishings Market in High Point, N.C., Baker unveiled seven new pieces to the collection, including occasional tables, dining side and arm chairs, a sofa and a lounge chair, all of which come with exceptional pedigree. Hand-selected by the foremost authority on English antiques, Sir Humphry Wakefield, Bt., they have been faithfully reproduced from originals found in the most celebrated castles and estates in the United Kingdom.

The exceptional forms have been brought to life with meticulous attention to detail and skilled craftsmanship. The Stately Homes Collection also boasts a remarkable finish story involving extraordinary handwork and artistry that highlights the aristocratic forms. Working with mahogany and walnut solids, sympathetic artisans use Old World skills to carve the intricate ornamentation that distinguishes each piece. Dramatic ebonized and lacquered finishes; fine chinoiserie; ebony, walnut and mahogany veneers; and striking gold leaf accents all serve to define each piece as the luxury object it was originally intended to be. Copied from museum-quality originals, this furniture is adaptable to a variety of settings. It is meant to be both treasured as showpieces and enjoyed as functional pieces of furniture. A signed and numbered certificate of authenticity is presented with each piece to commemorate its remarkable past and pay homage to the grand stately home from whence it came.

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“The Stately Homes Collection has always represented the pinnacle of hand-craftsmanship and design excellence,” said Gregory Heller, director, merchandising, Baker Knapp & Tubbs, Inc. “The pieces selected for this Market best highlight Baker’s finishing and carving techniques, as well as our use of superior materials. We expect that these pieces will be passed down through families and admired and loved by future generations.”

Included in the discriminating selection is a Regency Lacquer Occasional Table offered in three stunning variations. The original was designed in 1822 by royal cabinetmaker, George Bullock, for Blair Castle. A shaped rectangular top rests above a frieze fitted with a single drawer. The table is raised on slender saber legs and joined by a convex shelf. The legs terminate to scrolled feet unusually raised on high tapering toes with brass ferrules finished in Polished Bronze. The table is offered in an undecorated version finished in Manor House Black while the second and third options are each decorated in a fine chinoiserie offered in either Manor House black or a glossy Vert de Bronze green finish. The graceful form is accentuated with a simple band of solid brass that surrounds the table top.

A splendid and complex Red Tortoiseshell Center Table was reproduced from an original owned by the Duke of Roxburghe, where it has graced the magnificent halls of Floors Castle in Roxburghshire, Scotland. This piece would have represented the height of spangled luxury at the court of King Charles II in the 1670s. It has a molded rectangular top decorated in a chinoiserie design of gilded and colored figures, birds and flowers on a faux red tortoiseshell ground. The surrounding frieze is similarly decorated and fitted with two drawers. The table is supported by boldly scrolled legs carved and gilded with acanthus leaves on the knees and rosettes on the supports. The legs are united by a shaped stretcher rail raised on turned bun feet that are carved and gilded with a floral design in relief.

Another rare find are the early 18<sup>th</sup> century Queen Anne Side and Arm Chairs from Antony House in Cornwall, England. Crafted from walnut, the chairs feature a rectangular, tight upholstered back with gently rounded edges and tight upholstered seat. The arms are designed in a sweeping shepherd’s crook. Front cabriole legs are carved on the knee with shells, scrolls and pendant foliage, while the splayed cabriole back legs are embellished with moldings and scrolls before terminating in pad feet.

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Hailing from fabled Chatsworth is a 17<sup>th</sup> century cocktail table that is offered in 50-inch and 58-inch sizes – a masterful example of practical elegance that is distinctive and beautiful. A rectangular top in matched Macassar ebony veneer is supported by a gilded, cushion-shaped frieze carved with acanthus leaves. Square tapering cabriole legs terminate to carved and gilded hairy paw feet.

Rounding out the new introductions are two upholstered forms, a George IV Sofa and a Russian Regency Arm Chair. The George IV Sofa from the majestic Howick Hall in Northumberland is offered in both skirted and unskirted versions. Featuring a multi-pillow back and a back that terminates to a twin scallop detail on each side, the silhouette is eye-catching from all angles. Scrolled, flaring arms flank two 22x22 boxed back pillows, two 18x18 knife edge cushions and a centering 22x22 knife edge cushion and two plush Baker Comfort seat cushions. The skirted version has center and side decorative single kick pleat flounces, while the unskirted style rests on four elaborately carved exposed legs finished in Mahogany.

The Russian Regency Arm Chair from Wilton House found its way there through the marriage of the 11<sup>th</sup> Earl of Pembroke to Countess Catherine Vorontsova in 1808. The daughter of the respected Russian ambassador to England, she brought many pieces of exquisite Russian furniture to the already grand Wilton. This distinctive reproduction has a shaped rectangular back and scrolled, sweeping arm rests. The chair is elaborately decorated with gilded moldings and rests on four square tapered and molded legs that terminate in solid brass toes and casters. Its strong lines and solid form combine to create a chair that is at once masculine in nature and elegant of form. The casters provide easy mobility, and the supremely comfortable upholstered back and seat assure that this will be a favorite spot for relaxing.

With Baker's extraordinary access to the remarkable original pieces through its association with Sir Humphry, which began in 1980 and continues today, as well as the unparalleled ability to reproduce those originals with painstaking craftsmanship and expertise, the company is able to present a selection of furnishings that are unmatched in today's world of cookie-cutter design. For those who want to invest in fine furniture with an enduring appeal, there is nothing that quite compares to Stately Homes.

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Baker Knapp & Tubbs, Inc. includes Baker furniture, Baker Knapp & Tubbs Showrooms, and Baker Stores. Along with McGuire Furniture Company, Ann Sacks tile, stone and plumbing company, Kallista plumbing, and Mark David hospitality furniture, it is part of the Kohler Interiors Group, a wholly owned subsidiary of Kohler Co., a global leader in kitchen and bath designs.

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