

Small Wonders



Vol XVII, No 1

Winter 2008

Rosalie Whyel Museum of Doll Art
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In Passing: The History and Etiquette of Mourning *February 9th - May 25th, 2008*

Does "mourning" sound like a peculiar subject-matter for a Doll Museum exhibition? Not when you consider that dolls have always been miniature representations of humanity, in every aspect, including practices and symbolism related to the mourning process. The clothing that a person in mourning would wear has played a pivotal role in mourning traditions in most cultures throughout history. So it's no surprise that various stages of mourning fashions and accessories have also been made in doll-scale.

As our exhibit will explore historical traditions related to mourning, a primary focus will be the Victorian Period and, in particular, the mourning

practices of Queen Victoria herself. When the Queen of England lost her beloved husband Albert in 1861 she never truly recovered, remaining in "high mourning" for almost a

decade, and wearing black for the rest of her life. Victoria will be represented in doll-form in her mourning attire, via a wax portrait doll, c. 1886, along with furniture and

accessories that were collected for the doll.

Even though Americans were not under British rule, they still looked to the Queen and to England for tips on fashion and etiquette, including mourning protocol. The English codes for mourning were much more strict than those adopted by the

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An antique doll family in mourning representative of late 19th C. Costumes sewn by the late Joyce Coughlin.

from the director

HAPPY 2008! Are you as surprised as I to find yourself in this year of this century already? What amazing plans have you for making a memorable contribution to our wonderful planet or to our great society? Is this the year to begin or to actually accomplish your plan? Does your family know its own history? Have you helped document it? Do your dolls have theirs? Did you help or encourage any of Washington State's many flood victims? In a time of loss do you stumble to find words to express your feelings to the bereaved or do you actually cross the street to avoid having to speak to them just in case one of you should break down emotionally? When was the last time you wrote a letter of sympathy and not just signed your name on a card? Are you feeling uncomfortable right now? Well, our upcoming exhibit "In Passing: The History and Etiquette of Mourning" can't help you with your plans and goals, but it just might help you through the difficult process of consoling someone near to you or through the grieving process itself.

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from the director

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The long history of mourning and its many stages and rituals will be related by the dolls, of course, but also by the many beautiful and significant memory pieces and ephemera. Ranging from jewelry, incredible braided hair pieces, wax memorials, to sympathy cards, people's attire and accessories all will be presented, each acceptable at the various stages of mourning.



Various pieces of mourning jewelry including braided hair bracelet, black cameo, hair locket & celluloid pin.

To help us understand the often complex and sometimes misunderstood mourning protocol will be Museum Docent and Honorary Life Member Atha Kahler, winner of the United

Federation of Doll Clubs Award for Meritorious Service, and long a student of the history of mourning. Atha will present a program "MOURNING MEETS THE DOLL WORLD" on Saturday February 9 in the Rose Room (see page 3 of this newsletter for details). Atha has presented variations of this program at venues across the United States from the UFDC Regional Conference in Williamsburg, VA to the doll clubs of Sacramento, CA and even right here at the ROSALIE WHYEL MUSEUM OF DOLL ART a few years ago when we mounted a one day exhibit of mourning. It was so well attended and successful that attendees encouraged us to do this full scale exhibit in our Changing Gallery. At the time we borrowed the wonderful collection of Joyce Coughlin and Joyce helped set up the display in her usual talented way.

Since then Joyce has passed away and we purchased her collection from her estate intact. It is this collection, in addition to ours, with many wonderful items



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Americans and the circumstances of our War

between the States made those codes even more lenient. But in an era where death was omnipresent, and struck closer to home than any of us living today can imagine, the greatest fear was not of death itself, but that the deceased would not be properly mourned and buried.

It's a fascinating topic and you don't want to miss this opportunity to see the dolls, as well as other artifacts, including hair art, jewelry, adult and children's clothing, and so much more, from the collections of the late Joyce Coughlin, Atha Kahler, and the Museum collection.

Jill Gorman, Curator

loaned by Atha, that will be on exhibit from February 9 – May 25, 2008. The exhibit is dedicated In Loving memory of Joyce. Call ahead to reserve your space for Atha's program, see page 3 of this newsletter for further details.

Rosalie Whyel
Director

Lisa's Leaving ...



We are sorry to report that our Lisa Sheets will be moving East. Lisa filled so many roles at the Museum and Rosie's Too, we know you will miss her as much as we will. However, we wish her much luck and happiness in her new life and endeavors and know that she will be stellar at whatever she does. She says we can continue to dress her bronze statues in the Kirkland ("Betty Lou") and Redmond Parks ("Aurora and Diane"), especially in the winter when it's cold. Will do, Lisa.



From the Museum Store...

Hello and Welcome to an exciting 2008!

This year we will have lots of new and exciting merchandise, so please check in weekly. We will be cleaning out our closets and you never know what we'll find! An array of dolls for your newborn or big kid are always available.



Madame Alexander is accessorizing her dolls better than ever; extra outfits, little friends, and more! From classy Ladies to classic Icons.



Robert Tonner's new line is featuring beauties Tyler and Regina and cutie Tiny Betsy McCall.

Mourning Meets the Doll World

Program by Museum Docent Atha Kahler

Come explore the many phases and stages of mourning with this informative lecture which will discuss the protocol of mourning.



*Saturday February 9
Museum Rose Room 10am*



Seating is limited, please call the Museum at 425-455-1116 to reserve.

Make A Day Of It! Saturday February 9th

Museum Changing Gallery
Our New Exhibit "In Passing: The History and Etiquette of Mourning" opens today, the result of three sophisticated collections.
See the front page for details.

Lecture by Atha Kahler
Enjoy a program overviewing clothing, jewelry and practices of mourning throughout time.
See above for details.

Rosie's Too Sale
Find everything in the store on sale from dolls to accessories and clothes. There's always something new and wonderful!
See page four for details.

Join us for a day of History, Education, and Antiques.

Area Doll Show Dates

ANTIQUÉ DOLL & TOY MARKET*

Bellevue Inn Red Lion
Bellevue WA

Sunday January 27, 2008
11am - 4pm

CROSSROADS DOLL, TEDDY BEAR & MORE*

Puyallup Fairgrounds
Puyallup WA

Saturday March 15, 2008
10am - 4:30pm

Sunday March 16, 2008
10am - 4pm

CROSSROADS DOLL, TEDDY BEAR & ANTIQUE SHOW & SALE*

Nat'l Guard Armory
Portland OR

Saturday February 2, 2008
8:30am - 4pm

NADDA*

(Nat'l Antique Doll Dealers Assoc)
Williamsburg Woodlands Hotel & Suites
Williamsburg VA

Friday April 25, 2008
12pm - 6pm

Saturday April 26, 2008
10am - 4pm

*Look for the Museum Sales Table

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Rosie's Too Sale Saturday 11 to 4 February 9th

When you walk into Rosie's Too it looks open and airy, thanks to being newly organized by our staff. It's made all of us feel good to have a new look and with it we have added so many new, wonderful items to tempt your collecting bug! Don't forget to set aside February 9th for our upcoming sidewalk sale!

ROSIE'S TOO APPRAISAL CLINIC!
Saturday January 26th

During our open hours. These are complimentary, verbal appraisals, limit three dolls per person please.

MUSEUM MEMBER'S SALE

Members, please join us for
Tea Sets

The perfect accessory for any doll, whether a single cup or an entire serving set, tea sets are just as fun now as they were when you were little. Come see what we're serving up!

Saturday March 1st

10 am to 2pm Museum Rose Room

For more information on becoming a member and attending these special events, please call the Museum at 425-455-1116.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE GALLERY

If you have ever been to Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia, you probably felt the surge of patriotism that flows through most Americans during their first visit there. My family and I all felt it and so enjoyed our time there a few years ago, so we were very excited when the National Antique Doll Dealers Assoc., NADDA, decided to hold their 2008 show there this coming April.

Many of the dolls in our Museum seem to have stepped out of the wonderful paintings in the Museums and Galleries in Williamsburg - some looking like the 18th century children, some like the actual dolls in the paintings. One in particular that resides on permanent exhibit on the second floor is a large papier mache boy with molded curls, a velvet jacket, and plaid stockings. He so epitomizes the stylized child in the once Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Museum. Sadly, it closed shortly after we visited and its wealth of history was put in storage, including Tasha Tudor's Doll House. We have heard that the artifacts will be seen again in a museum in downtown Williamsburg close-by.

We highly recommend a visit to one of the last true historic villages of this era in our country. Of course, we also recommend a visit to our Museum where dolls of this period can be seen every day.

Plan on visiting while NADDA is there April 25 and 26, 2008, a Friday and Saturday and take in both wonderful venues! Check their website for further information - www.NADDA.org. We hope to see you there, also.

We would like to thank the following
people for their generous
donations during the last quarter:

Mary Becker

Boudoir doll, ethnic dolls, Ginny doll, children's
clothing

Mary Kay Brancheau

Glass display case

Miguel and Aracely Cooper

Pair of cloth ethnic dolls

Laura Engler

Three vinyl Goebel dolls

Leslie Gillespie

Patti Play Pal

Susan Krebs

Three handmade dolls

Janet Lloyd

"Only a Doll" book, R. Tuck & Sons, c1890

Olivia Lochmiller

Horsman baby doll

Dorothy Rozzell

Composition baby doll with original clothes

Floyd Schlau

Mattel copper head mold

Leslie Shapiro

Five Madame Alexander dolls
One Cabbage Patch doll

Susan Smith-Hatfield-Sherman

Pair of wooden Dutch dolls

Judy Stoehr

K*R #403 doll

Donna Walter

Wicker bassinet

Jane White

Antique baby clothing, shoes and baby plate

Jackie Ybarra

Wicker doll buggy and bedding

Welcome To Our New & Returning Members:

Trish Bars	Diana Boettger
Sally Brunsmann	Julie Cheetham
Violet Climer-Kennedy	LaDonna Dolan
Maylie Donaldson	Dudley Family
Jenny Eastlick	RaeAnn Feree
Ruth Gelsey	Karen Griffiths
Denise Hauck	Lori Hutchings
Dawn Jarvis	Mary Kromholz
Susan Lawson	Sherry Lundgren
Angela McCann	Andrew McLaughlin
Carol McVicar-Scott	Ann Reynolds
Laura Reynolds	Susan Royer
Julie Scott	Michele Simpson
Melissa Sousley Flaherty	
Lloyanne Wallien	

European Antique Doll and Toy Tour

March 27 - April 12, 2008
17 Days

Paris * Giverney * Rennes
* Josselin * Versailles *
Poissey * Avignon * L'Isle
sur la Sorgue * Fontaine de
Valcuse * Monte Carlo *
Florence * Bologna *
Stressa * Angera

Includes -- Superior Tourist Class
Hotels - Private Motor Coach - Daily
Hot Breakfast - Museum Entrance
Fees - Welcome Wine Reception -
Two Special Banquets - Seine Cruise
- Guided Tour of Paris & Versailles -
Portage & Gratuities - Travel
Insurance
Intermediate & advanced Antique Doll
Collectors.

Call Ellie Kringer at 425-641-7345
elliek.allplacestravel@comcast.net.



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MUSEUM HOURS:

Mon-Sat 10 to 5
Sun 1 to 5

ROSIE'S TOO HOURS:

221 106th Ave. NE Bellevue
(425) 455-0363
Thurs 11 to 8
Sat 11 to 4
Or by Appointment

Weddings at the Museum

Are there wedding plans being made in your family? The museum has been the setting for some of the most beautiful weddings and receptions in the past. Bridesmaid luncheons, rehearsal dinners, showers or any number of other events where a serene and gracious venue is desired can be fulfilled in our Rose Room, Atrium, or by renting the entire Museum. For further information call the Museum at 425 455 1116 and ask for our Event Planner, Kathleen. She will assist you in planning that perfect event for your bride or families' special affair in a setting your guests will truly enjoy.

Plan a Museum Visit and Tea!

With life as hectic and busy as it can be, why not reconnect with friends and family? Experience a day of renewal with an adult tea and stroll through the Museum Galleries. For under \$35 a piece, a group of 10 or more can enjoy two hours in our elegant Rose Room and Gardens with a full English Tea and tour through the Museum at your leisure, any day of the week. We arrange for everything, including linens and china. Take this chance to dress up, bring your childhood or favorite doll (or teddy bear) and experience the people in your life. Begin a tradition today! Contact Kathleen at the Museum, 425-455-1116.

Coming Events at the Museum

OCTOBER 27 2007 -

FEBRUARY 3 2008

**"With Strings Attached;
Marionettes, Puppets, and
Theaters"**

Changing Gallery Exhibit

JANUARY 26 2008

**Doll Appraisal Clinic
at Rosie's Too**

During Regular Hours, 11 to 4

FEBRUARY 9 2008

**Rosie's Too Sidewalk Sale
Saturday 11 to 4**

FEBRUARY 9 2008

**Mourning Program
by Docent Atha Kahler
Museum Rose Room 10am
(see page 3)**



FEBRUARY 9 - MAY 25 2008

**"In Passing: The History and
Etiquette of Mourning"
Changing Gallery Exhibit**

MARCH 1 2008

**Museum Member's Sale
Museum Rose Room 10 to 2
(see page 4)**

MARCH 23 2008

**Easter Day
Museum CLOSED**