

Small Wonders



Vol XVIII, No 3

Summer 2009

Rosalie Whyel Museum of Doll Art
1116 - 108th Avenue NE ♦Phone: (425) 455-1116 ♦Fax: (425) 455-4793
Bellevue WA 98004 USA
www.dollart.com ♦dollart@dollart.com

from the director

Wherever you may be reading this, we hope you are enjoying a relaxing, yet productive, summer. The one here in the Pacific Northwest has been stellar after a winter and spring deserving of change.

The Museum has been busy since Christmas, we are delighted to say, and perhaps it is folks looking for an inexpensive way to spend their leisure time or maybe it is the huge growth of our Bellevue downtown, or possibly both. Yet, we continue to see visitors from every state and countries from around the world on a regular basis. It is exciting to meet such a wide array of our world's population in this little corner of Bellevue. It is also wonderful to see the effect the dolls have on each of them, whether an avid collector or someone interested in history or art. It verifies my love of dolls, too, and encourages our staff to work towards providing beautiful and interesting exhibits and also inventory in our two stores that speaks to every collector.

In that light, this spring and summer we have available for

Continued on Page 2...

CURATOR'S
CORNER

Your Favorite Things!

Upon the opening of our new exhibit *A Few of My Favorite Things (May 30- October 25)* the question has been posed to the Museum staff, "What would you consider to be one of your favorite dolls or other treasures in the Museum collection?". This is so not easy! But for me, if I must select one doll among very many favorites, I would have to go with the A. Marque, which is on "permanent promenade" in the *Meet the Masters* exhibit of French bébé dolls. In his sculpt

of the head, Albert Marque attained a serene and delicate beauty. If you are having a difficult day, just stop by and gaze upon this lovely doll for a few minutes and it just might put a spring back in your step. And if it's been awhile since you toured the Museum, you might be surprised to see that the doll

has been redressed in an original ethnic costume designed for the A. Marque dolls by Margaine Lacroix.

Also, among my favorites is Astonbrook, a twenty-one room 1" to 1' Victorian house by Seattle miniaturist Rosemary Zilmer. From design to completion, it took Zilmer nearly five years to create Astonbrook. Every room, from the solarium and gentleman's parlor, to the service porch and pantry, is brimming with all manner of



Albert Marque girl c1915
As she appeared in the Museum originally. Today she is restored to an original Margaine-Lacroix labeled dress- come see her!

miniatures, including everyday household necessities, artwork, collectibles, and clutter. It is wondrous and really a joy to behold.

How about you? Do you have a favorite doll, dollhouse, or other treasure exhibited at the Museum that

Continued on Page

2...

from the director

...Continued From Page 1
viewing until mid-August an exhibit celebrating the 100th anniversary of Rose O'Neill's famous **Kewpies**. The oohs and ahhs can be heard as soon as a visitor reaches the Atrium case where these little darlings are displayed. Besides selections from my collection, we have borrowed the best of Shelley's, an astute collector herself. It is easy to see how these adorable creatures have wiggled their way into hearts for all these years.



Various Bisque Kewpies and other Kewpie artifacts in our latest exhibit celebrating a Century of cuteness.

If you haven't seen our latest changing exhibit, I personally invite you to come, view, and enjoy *"A Few of My Favorite Things"*. Some of the comments by recent visitors have been "This is your best exhibit yet!" and "There are so many rare and unusual items" and also "The variety of items is unbelievable". You're sure to find something after your collecting heart in this exhibit as it relays my collecting passions for the broad array of dolls, toys, and related items. It was interesting for me to try to determine just exactly what were

my favorite items in the collection and how in the world could I choose one over another? Fashion definitely has its place there as well as the vulnerable doll or toy that has been well-loved by previous owners. But then, that perfect, rare, and beautiful doll has its place, also. I love things with a history or provenance that binds me to the past and to the one who cared enough to preserve her toy for the future. Age doesn't necessarily win out over charm, so you will see items up to the present day included. And two-dimensional has always won my heart, also.

Most of all, I believe you will see a respect for the creators of these wonderful dolls and toys. No matter the media or the means, each did what his heart inspired and the results cause us to delight in the work.

If you are curious about the "Surprise Unveiling" we did for this exhibit, sorry, you have to show up! Hint, it is in the case outside the changing gallery.

Coming soon – our winter exhibit "MIB: Dolls and Toys". What could be more exciting than peering into an original box to find that perfectly preserved "mint in box" doll or toy, or clothing? Herein lies yet another of my passions and I know yours, too. Stay tuned.

Before that, however, the museum will be celebrating our 17th Anniversary! We look forward to sharing with you and thanking you for your continued



...Continued From Page 1

you particularly enjoy seeing and sharing with your friends when you visit? We would love to hear about it! If you



1" to 1' Scale Dollhouse
Rosemary Zilmer U.S. 1985
Come see all the goodies inside!

have a story to share about your favorite things in the Museum collection (either on permanent exhibit or something you recall seeing in a changing exhibit or other special exhibit) please email us at dollart@dollart.com. Rosalie will do her best to select her favorite story, to be included in our next newsletter.

Jill Gorman
Curator

support of the Museum and our stores. Reserve **Saturday, September 12** on your calendar and remember the **SALE** at both the Museum Store and Rosie's Too goes all week! See page three for more information.

Hope to see you soon at one of our many exhibits and events!

Rosalie Whyel
Director





From the Museum Store...



Beaded Beauty

15" Bisque marked 264 CP by Catterfelder Puppenfabrik. Brown sleep eyes, pierced ears & old wig. Unusual flapper-type body with rubber hands & original finish. Wears original beautiful beaded Russian outfit & white cotton chemise. Fabulous socks & shoes, too! \$475



Simon & Halbig Beauty

19" Untinted bisque shoulder-head with deeply molded blonde curls & delicately painted features. Fully outlined deep blue irises & great shoulder molding with "V" indentation typical of S&H. Original cloth body with replaced leather arms. Antique dress & red leather boots. c1870 \$585



MIB 1981 Kruse



19" Hard plastic head on jointed cloth body- "Amelie". Blonde braids & blue calico dress with black pinafore. Excellent condition. \$575

From Eastern Europe with Love...c1930

20.5" All original & unusual Eastern European twins. Compo heads with cloth bodies. Painted features wearing muslin dresses edged in 1930s prints. Interesting jacket with wide cuffs & flared bottom. Some surface soil & doll on right has cheek chip. \$250 pr

KEWPIE TURNS 100 & WE CELEBRATE!!

Continued From Spring Newsletter...

Rose O'Neill was an experienced artist who had been making a good living for many years before the Kewpies, so when it was time to actually create a doll, she demanded perfection. A young, undiscovered sculptor of only 17 would ultimately be the one to bring her perfect drawings into perfect form. It was Joseph Kallus that sculpted the Kewpie doll- the top knot, blue wings, starfish hands, and impish smile created in bisque for all the world to hold and love. Later this young man, Joseph,

would form the very successful Cameo Doll Company in New York and not only produce composition Kewpies, but Bye-lo babies, Betty Boop, Little Annie Rooney, Disney characters, and many others.

An announcement in the Woman's Home Companion that dolls were being created just fanned the flames of excitement that was already in the air in 1913. This was the first true "doll craze" where stores were bombarded and hearts elated to own one of these sweet creations.

The Kewpie doll was initial produced in the Kestner factory, but soon

demand added additional factories in Germany, then on to Belgium, France, and the U.S.A..

Even after the dolls were produced, the public wanted more. It was a market phenomena that no one had ever seen or experienced before.

Rose O'Neill had originally been slated by her father to become a great actress. Coached by William O'Neill in Shakespeare the theatrics were not lost on her as can be seen in her plethora of illustrations and doll designs that would soon be coined as "Action Kewpies". These

Continued On Page 4...

The Museum's 17th Birthday!

Come celebrate with us and enjoy the joys of childhood!

Special activities on Saturday and lectures throughout the week!

Saturday September 12th

Birthday Cake
Party Room Fun
Door Prizes

Surprises All Day Long!

Saturday September 12th thru

Friday September 18th

Museum Store Sale
Rosie's Too Sale

Both our stores will be selling at huge savings from 10% to 70% off all week long!

Free Doll \$Money\$!!!

We'll be again giving out \$2 to \$100 "Museum Money" to be spent anytime during our Birthday month. Good towards the purchase of anything, in either Store!

Docent Highlight

It would be impossible to do all that we do, both in the museum and our stores, without the dedication of our faithful docents. We feel we cannot say enough about their involvement and contribution to the Museum. Many of them have been with us since we opened our doors nearly 17 years ago and have donated countless hours of their time and talents.

One such is LEONE MCMILLAN. Leone is one of our on call volunteers who is always there for us whether to drop into Rosie's Too for a few hours to help with inventory identifying or pricing or by phone to research a special bear or doll

for us. She is the supreme example of asking a busy person to do something. Leone and her sister, Teresa Lehmebeck, own and run the popular Antique Doll and Toy Market besides being National Antique Doll Dealer members and doing many other shows both locally and away.

Leone is one of the most knowledgeable dealers and collectors in our area and we feel so privileged to count her among our dedicated volunteers. Her total support of the Museum is appreciated and we thank her, and also ask you to thank Leone the next time you see her, for her contribution from which we all benefit. Thank You!

...Continued From Page 3
creations were added for the older, "adult audience" that also wanted to own Kewpies. They were made in bisque- falling down, marching, hugging, and being just plain comical as they appeared in Rose's stories.

Even this was not enough and within just a few years Kewpies appeared on fabric for dresses, books, paperdolls, rattles, soap, dishes, lamps, jewelry, cameras, cards, wine

stoppers, place card holders, and many, many more items. Even mascots (hood ornaments) were produced of metal for that wonderful new adult toy that was becoming more attainable to the masses: the car. The Kewpies tiny eyebrow dots are even credited with starting the thin plucked eyebrow craze!

And so it has gone for 100 years. A small benevolent elf who did good deeds in a comical, almost mischievous way has stood the test

NEWS



DOLL HOUSE NEWS

ROSIE'S TOO Rosie's Too Sale Saturday 11 to 4 August 1st

Come in to see all of our recent inventory of miniature houses and lots of miniature furniture to add to your own dollhouse or as the perfect accessory to your doll display.

ROSIE'S TOO APPRAISAL CLINIC! Saturday August 22nd

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

of time and continues to delight people around the world.

Come Visit Our Special Exhibit of Rare & Wonderful Kewpies! "Kewpie Turns 100!" on display 'til August 15th in the Museum Atrium. Dolls, Books, Illustrations, Ephemera, & More.

Area Doll Show Dates

UFDC NAT'L CONVENTION*

Atlanta Marriott Marquis Hotel
Atlanta GA

Sun July 12 - Fri July 17, 2009
Public Day Thursday July 16

ROSIE'S TOO SALE*

Rosie's Too
Bellevue WA
Saturday Aug 1, 2009
11am - 4pm

ANTIQUA DOLL & TOY MARKET*

Bellevue Inn Red Lion
Bellevue WA
Sunday August 23, 2009
11am - 4pm

CROSSROADS DOLL, TEDDY BEAR & ANTIQUE SHOW & SALE*

Nat'l Guard Armory
Portland OR

Saturday September 5, 2009
8:30am - 4pm

MUSEUM ANNIVERSARY SALE*

Museum Store
Bellevue WA

Saturday Sept 12-Friday Sept 18, 2009
10am to 5pm

Rosie's Too
Bellevue WA

Saturday September 12, 2009
11am - 4pm

Thursday September 17, 2009
11am - 8pm

KITSAP DOLL CLUB ANNUAL DOLL SHOW

Sons of Norway Hall
Bremerton WA

Saturday September 26, 2009
10am - 4pm

ANTIQUA & COLLECTIBLE DOLL MARKET

Lake City Community Center
Seattle WA

Saturday September 19, 2009
10am - 3pm

CROSSROADS DOLL, TEDDY BEAR & MORE*

Puyallup Fairgrounds
Puyallup WA

Saturday October 17, 2009
10am - 4:30pm

Sunday October 18, 2009
10am - 4pm

*Look for the Museum Sales Table

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

Leanne Adcox

Marx dollhouse, dollhouse furniture, Petite Princess furniture, room boxes, doll dishes

Amber Anderson

Pair of artist dolls with display case

Lucinda Briggs

Schoenhut doll with provenance

Susan C. Fuchs

Collection of NASB-type dolls, A.M. Florodora doll

Rolf Friele

Dollhouse books, tea set, figurines

Esther W. Howse

Nancy Ann Storybook Dolls

Susan Stebbins Galloway

Wicker doll carriage

Catherine A. Grove

Arcade washer, sinks, tub, bathroom sink, ironing board, radiators, bed, cradle, Russian doll

Susan Harmon

3 cloth ethnic dolls, small doll

Pat Lanzinger

"American Beauty" Horsman doll, composition baby and Mama Ideal dolls

Peggy Meitmann

Cloth dolls and doll parts

Florence J. Rasmussen

Sioux Indian Chief doll with provenance

Sacha Roberts

Effanbee baby doll

Jane White Vielliet

Pair of composition dolls

Mary Withers

Doll-size high chair with provenance, vintage baby shoes, doll postcards, hand-carved wooden doll with provenance, c1950s McCalls magazine, 2 reproduction bisque dolls

Welcome To Our New & Returning Members:

Sandra Barker

Valerie Fogel

Valerie Ann Hudson

Barbara Kellison

Sandy Kralovetz

Mary and Steve McArthur

Tracy Mullen

Patty Phillips

Jan Rohrmann

Marilyn Rose Smiley

Susan Stebbins Galloway

Tamara Tikhonova

Sharon Westlund

Ochiai Chieko

Elaine Garland

Estelle Johnston

Lenore Kobayashi

Ellie Kringer

Sue Molvik

Rebecca Nelson

Pat Pope

Gail Shaw

HAVE YOU HEARD? We have a new and revised **SCAVENGER HUNT!**

For all of you who have done our popular Scavenger Hunt maybe more than once, we have a new and challenging one for all ages. School groups, Scouts, home schoolers, doll clubs, anyone or group will find this to be a useful and fun tool for further enjoying the exhibits. And, if you still don't know who "WALDO" is, you soon will as there is a movie of him coming out this summer. Watch for it and "Where Is He?" in the Museum.

ATTENTION DOLL CLUBS

Our Rose Room reservations are already getting booked into the fall and winter, so don't forget to get your club on the list as soon as possible for your meeting, tea, or luncheon. Our package deals include admission to all exhibits. Or what about a summer get together for no reason but friendship??

Call Abby to reserve your date

425-455-1116.



1116 - 108th Avenue NE
 Bellevue WA 98004 USA
 www.dollart.com
 dollart@dollart.com
 425.455.1116
 fax 425.455.4793
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

**UFDC ATLANTA
 JULY 12-17, 2009**

WE WILL BE IN BOOTH 58 IN THE SALES ROOM-COME SEE US FOR WONDERFUL TREASURES - SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE, AS ALWAYS. CALL AHEAD IF YOU'D LIKE US TO BRING SOMETHING SPECIAL JUST FOR YOU!
 SEE YOU THERE!
 ROSALIE AND SHELLEY

DOLLS FOR DEMOCRACY

Special Visiting Exhibit Coming To The Museum
 The Washington State Jewish Historical Society is relaunching a special touring exhibition and kicking it off right here at the Museum!

August 18th - November 8th

This special collection of dolls entitled "Dolls For Democracy", features dolls created in the 1950s by artist Cecil Brooks. These realistic dolls depicting famous people were made to tour schools and teach children that all people can contribute to society and achieve their dreams. The group of 34 represents many different ethnicities and nationalities, including G.W. Carver, Saint Francis of Assisi, Jackie Robinson, Sacajawea, and Abraham Lincoln, to name a few!

Take this special opportunity to bring your children, students, and yourself to see these dolls and learn the important role the dolls played educating the youth of the mid-twentieth century and the important role they still play today.

Stay tuned for programs schedules!

Coming Events at the Museum

Mid April- Mid August 2009
"Kewpie Turns 100!"
 Special Exhibit
 (see page three)

MAY 30 - OCTOBER 25 2009
"A Few of My Favorite Things"
 Changing Gallery Exhibit

AUGUST 1 2009
Rosie's Too Sidewalk Sale
 Saturday 11 to 4

AUGUST 18 - NOVEMBER 8 2009
Dolls For Democracy
 Special Exhibit
 (see page six)

AUGUST 22 2009
Doll Appraisal Clinic at Rosie's Too
 During Regular Hours, 11 to 4

SEPTEMBER 7 2009
Labor Day
Museum OPEN
 Forget Working, Explore Childhood at the Museum!

SEPTEMBER 12 2009
Museum Birthday Celebration
 Museum Atrium
 (see page 3)

SEPTEMBER 12 - 18 2009
Museum Anniversary Sale
 Museum of Doll Art & Rosie's Too
 (see page 3)

OCTOBER 31 2009- FEBRUARY 21, 2010
"Mint In Box: Dolls and Toys"
 Changing Gallery Exhibit