

# Unique Zoitiques

By Cindy Michalak

Summer is nearly over, all the kids have gone back to school in my area, and the dog shows are finally starting back up in my neck of the woods. In trying to find a theme for this quarter's column, I saw that I had several porcelains that have people wearing hats while out with their Borzoi, and so the column follows that notion. I have two that I particularly love couldn't decide which to save as best for last, so you decide between the final two pieces that you believe are the best of the bunch.



I will begin with this uncommon Germany marked bisque porcelain. The little boy appears to be out hunting with his Borzoi with a giant horn that accompanies his attire. Measuring 10" tall, the pretty Borzoi sits at his side awaiting his tally ho command. The Borzoi has a lovely fluffy tail and the ears are close to correct. Due to it not being a very common statue, I value this piece at \$50.

Surely everyone has heard of the Royal Doulton porcelains as they have been in existence since at least mid 1800s and mostly produced porcelain dinnerware.

I'm uncertain when they ventured into the figurine production, but many earlier pieces were done in with a cobalt blue coloring. This particular piece is part of their newer production, although this was made in 1996. All true Doulton pieces are marked with the letters HN followed by a number for easier reference. This particular

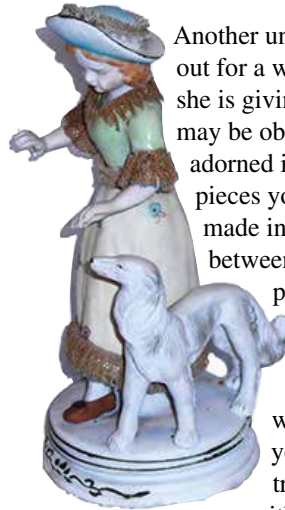


piece is HN3803 and measures 9½" tall. My piece was also hand-signed in gold by the modeler Murlan Kowski 1997 (as far as I can make out). Daisy, as she is titled, came in several different hat and matching coat colors including pale blue, green pink and yellow and her Borzoi are exquisite. The value on this is around \$150 and is no longer in production.



Here is another uncommon piece, although not quite as pretty as the Doulton. The Borzoi isn't bad, except the ears kind of disappear into the neck. I believe they sometimes do this because they are unsure of how the ear should appear. Wearing a pretty sun bonnet, this lady has what appears to be a sable Borzoi,

which is odd for artists to paint. The size is 8½" tall and has a very faint stamped blue mark on the bottom, which I am unable to decipher. I'll be the first to admit I don't know everything about all of the pieces in my collection; especially if I've never seen or heard about it before, which is the case with this one. My personal value of this statue is around \$65.



Another unique item shows this darling little girl out for a walk with her Borzoi. It almost appears she is giving the dog a hand command to halt so may be obedience training. The girl's outfit is adorned in lace similar to the Dresden, Germany pieces you often encounter, although this was made in Occupied Japan, which would date between 1945 and 1952. A very delicate bisque porcelain that is uncommon to rare. It is 9" tall and valued at \$75.

A hunting we will go, as you have your trusty Borzoi with! This

woman means serious business with rifle in hand and her very large Borzoi ready to hit the trail. It resembles a typical Staffordshire type of porcelain; however, it was made in Germany. At only 6" tall, it is once again a very rare piece valued at \$75.



The first of the best for last is one I simply adore. A very colorful item, as you can see has a boy who appears to be from medieval times and obviously of royal ancestry. His gorgeous black tri-colored Borzoi wears a beaded stretch collar, wearing from age. A bird watches over the two as they discuss the events of the day. There is a pocket or vase type area

in the back of the figure. This was done in porcelain bisque and measures 8½" tall x 7" wide. Although it has no maker's mark, I would guess it was made in Germany. Yet another very rare statue, I value this at \$200.

Continued on page 24

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## UNIQUE ZOITQUES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3



Hard to decide, but I determined this as the best for this column. A remarkably well-detailed and decorated figure with shiny gold cuffs, beading and shoes, very fancy plumes in his hat with a lovely cream colored Borzoi to match. As rare as the one above, here we have a 10" x 8" piece that was so nicely painted, I sometimes find myself just staring at it for long periods of time. This is also made of bisque porcelain. I like the fact the dog is true to nature showing bonnet ears while at attention. The only mark is a mold number that I believe to be German. Having never seen another, I will also place a value of \$200 on it.

While there is no actual book that will give you exact values on items, that usually rests with the person selling the item or the person that wants it in their collection. There's no real scientific calculation that can be made to determine the values other than the desire to own such pieces. That means

it is left up to you, the collector to make that determination. I can only give you an idea on values. Until next time, I hope your Borzoi give you pleasures beyond your wildest dreams and ask that you give them a giant hug from me!