Unique Zoitiques

By Cindy Michalak

The dog days of summer are nearing the end, the neighbor kids are back in school and the days are growing shorter. Around here there aren’t many shows, so now the show season is starting back up and I’ll be able to get back out there. However, for now, it’s the “same old/same old” for me; that is except for a few new Unique Zoitiques I added to my collection over the summer. Yep! That’s what I chose to write about and hopefully you will be as excited about some of these items as I am!

When I purchased this 8½″ German-made woman walking Borzoi, I didn’t realize I already had one. So when I went to put it in one of my cabinets, I glanced over and saw another one like it in a different cabinet, but to my amazement, noticed that one was only 6″ tall. So basically it is one I don’t have, because it is in a larger size. It is your typical glazed ceramic material and nothing earth-shattering, but still a lovely collectible. The smaller version sells for around $15-$25 and is more common than the large version, thus I value my new one at $50.

Fasold & Stauch is actually the newer name of the Bock Wallendorf Thuringia, Germany factory. I didn’t know that for the longest time and whenever I saw one, I thought how odd it was that it resembled the works of Bock Wallendorf. While their porcelain is nice enough, I never thought the sculpting had that great of detail in it. There are no stark lines in the face or hands as it almost appears “blurred-like”. This lovely 9″ Diana the Huntress is one I had never laid my eyes on before and I was quite amazed I wasn’t bid up on it as I purchased this for a mere $45. Although in undecorated form, with only a gold highlight on the base, value on this could be as much as $100 to the right collector.

Who hasn’t heard of Goebel porcelain? They have been around seemingly since the beginning of time! Well, maybe not that long but they have been in existence since 1871. This lovely lady and Borzoi is made of porcelain and measures 7½″ tall. The woman looks lovingly down at her Borzoi, the way almost anyone would. On the other side of her, she is holding her bonnet against her dress. This is a less common lady & Goebel than the very popular “woman in pink” that has a black and white Borzoi standing in front of her. Being on the uncommon side, this is valued around $200.

This porcelain was made to look like a Russian woman on purpose, as she is titled “Olga.” Made in England by the world renowned Royal Crown Derby Company, this highly decorative piece measures 6″ tall. This is a very rare piece that I have searched over the years for after seeing one at a fine antique show back in the early 1980s. That one was priced way out of my range, however, when this came along at a more reasonable price I snatched it up, although the shipping from China was almost as much as the figure. Sadly the dog is missing one of its front feet, but after looking for this for so long, it was simply a minor detail to me. Perhaps I will have it repaired one day but for now, I place it in a cabinet where it is hard to see the missing piece. In perfect condition this would be valued at $350; in its current state, perhaps $100.

Getting back to Goebel is this beautifully glazed ceramic head-study measuring 5″ tall by 8½″ wide. I pined over this piece for 3 months before finally purchasing. It came direct from Germany but had gotten lost in the mail. I worked with the cabinet where...
post office for 2 months before giving up. I received my money back from eBay after filing a claim and then one day I got a call from the post office telling me it had been found and was being delivered the following day. So I actually waited 5 months before laying my eyes on it. Being an honest person, I contacted eBay to let them know it arrived but they told me I didn’t have to pay for it due to how long it took. However, I contacted the seller and found out they had to pay back money I received so I sent them the full amount anyway. I couldn’t look at it on a daily basis knowing it was not paid for so now I can gaze upon it lovingly without guilt. Very rare and valued at $200.

Heart-be-still; I adore this next head study. It measures a large 9” and is made of a thick and heavy ceramic. There is an engraved mark of “Mari Original” on the backside without a date. The detail of the well sculpted hair is remarkable. It’s pretty to look at via picture form but in person it will knock your socks off. The reason I love this so much is that it resembles my own beautiful champion youngster Zydeco. While I couldn’t locate any information on the artist, I would venture to say they are quite successful. I held my breath waiting for the auction to be over and I was delighted to have won this for under $60. Value to me is priceless but I’d have paid up to $200 had I seen it in an antique shop.

My best for last this time has become one of my most favorites in my vast collection. Haas & Czjzek has been a fine porcelain manufacturing factory since 1879 out of Czechoslovakia. Living up to its name is this gorgeous 7” lady sitting with her arm around her pretty Borzoi. This very rare figurine reeks of elegance. Fine china is an understatement for the workmanship involved in this porcelain. From the lovely placed curls on the Borzoi down to the painted eyebrows of the lady, as I look at it, I almost get goose bumps. Never having seen this figurine before, and knowing what some collectors would pay for such a beauty, I value this at $400. Yes; it is that beautiful in person.

Thank you for allowing me into your home to show you what new Borzoi items I managed to find over the past few months. Keep your eyes peeled for that next collectible to be added to your Unique Zoitiques collection too!