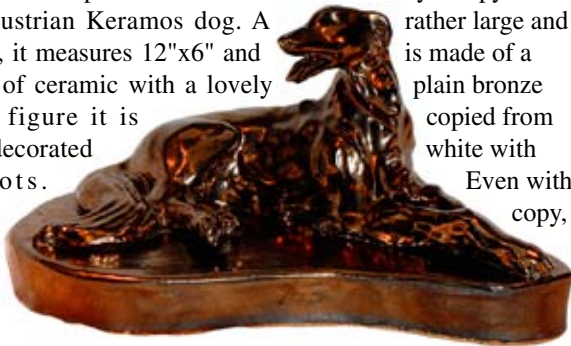


Unique Zoitiques

By Cindy Michalak

Congratulations to the winners and welcome home to all the lucky people and their Borzoi returning from the 2013 BCOA National. Now its time to lie down and kick your shoes off so you can recuperate from your vacations! And of course, that means I found a theme with which to work from; lying Borzoi, although one isn't quite in the lying position.

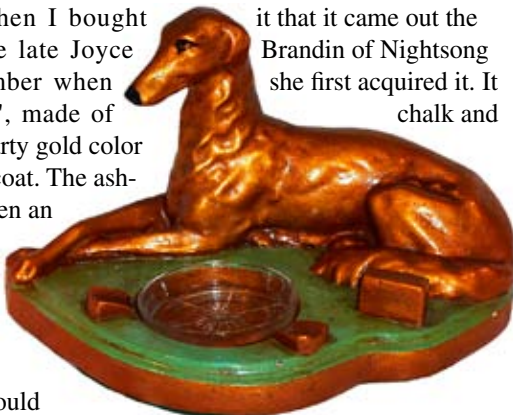
We begin with a figurine that was more than likely produced for one of the Borzoi specialties as it is definitely a copy of the reclining Austrian Keramos dog. A rather large and bulky piece, it measures 12"x6" and is made of a heavy type of ceramic with a lovely plain bronze wash. The figure it is copied from is usually decorated with white with black spots. Even with this being a copy, it is still a valuable piece and could fetch up to \$65.



This is a recent find of mine from an antique show in Atlanta, Georgia. The Borzoi attached to the napkin ring holder is also a copy, but from Japan rather than Austria. This particular Borzoi can often be found in single form, or attached to a pipe holder or bookend to name a few. It measures 4"x2½". While it appears to be silver, I believe it is simply some sort of chrome overlay. I paid \$35 for it and thought the price was reasonable.



While I know most of you may not recognize this I knew in an instant when I bought it that it came out the collection of the late Joyce Brandin of Nightsong Borzoi. I remember when she first acquired it. It measures 11"x6", made of chalk and was painted a hearty gold color with a clear overcoat. The ash-tray base was given an antique look to it when Joyce repainted it. She also gave the eyes a little character as well. I would



have loved to own more of Joyce's items when her husband Henry put them on the market but I am already overloaded with things and money is limited. I would put a value of \$60 on this uncommon piece.

Perhaps one of the most common German figures is this reclining Sitzendorf. It was an attractive piece and an American ceramics company, Holland Molds, copied it and was able to produce at a more reasonable price. The original German figure measures 10"x4" and is a little more refined, which can be expected. To make a mold of an item, you would cover the original with the casting material and end up with two halves. This would add to the outer dimension, thus making it slightly larger. The actual Sitzendorf sells for around \$75 while the Holland Mold copy is valued at about \$15-\$25.

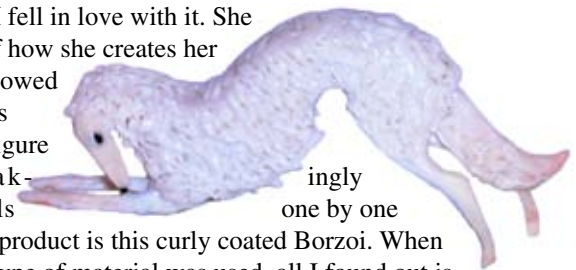


Although not the prettiest one in the bunch, this German Borzoi with puppies is still on the cute side. Normally the reclining "mama" comes as a single piece and didn't seem to interest me enough to buy; however, when I saw it with two babies attached, I decided it was a must-have. The overall piece measures 5"x2".



While the decorating (paint) is rather grotesque, it's always fun to own puppies; even if they are only ceramic! The usual single piece sells for around \$20 – add the puppies to it and the value can increase up to \$35.

One of my Facebook friends, Екатерина Нефёлова, had this on her page and I fell in love with it. She had a video of how she creates her work and it showed that she begins with a blank figure and painstakingly adds the curls one by one until the final product is this curly coated Borzoi. When I asked what type of material was used, all I found out is she calls it a "new material." It feels like some type of rubber/plastic combination. I was so enthralled with it that I bought it without asking the size and paid \$167 for it including ship-



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ping from Russia. Measuring 7"x3", I was a little dismayed at how small it was when it arrived. Taking into consideration the time and effort put into creating this, I believe it is worth it. However, I'm one of those "bigger is better" type of people and probably wouldn't have paid that much had I seen it in person.



Here is one of the rarer Rosenthals of a lovely reclining Borzoi. It has the typical superb quality and detail Rosenthal is known for. Measuring 8"x4" on a plinth, this piece is engraved with the sculptor's signature – "H. Meisel." More often than not, the Rosenthal Borzoi are usually decorated in

black and white. I think this one is more colorful in brown tones. If you have or remember the playing pair I showed several issues ago (perhaps it was in the *Borzoi Connection*), the head on this resembles those dogs. The value on this would be \$200 or more, due to the rarity.

That wraps up another fun column. I came back to figurines this time to keep your interest up, but it is difficult for me to do if I don't know what you want to see. Perhaps you can think of something that would look great with a Borzoi attached to it and I may already have it in my collection to show you. Drop me a line at borzoi@mc.net if you have any collectible questions. I may be able to answer or direct you to someone who can. Have a great summer!

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between the increased sales in processed dog food (up by 85 per cent in the past decade in an industry worth £2.14bn) and the rise of the many chronic conditions dogs are suffering from – just as we have witnessed the rise of cancers and heart disease in humans alongside the rise of 'junk food' consumption.

In an age obsessed with research and monitoring, isn't it time some worthy organisation funded research into what is really going into our dog food and the possible effect such food is having on our pet population?

Who knows, it may discover that it isn't 'breeding' that's causing our dogs to "fall apart" – the fault could well lie in their feeding.

See more at news and opinion on *Dog World's* website: <http://www.dogworld.co.uk/product.php/93438#sthash.yWXh-7krf.dpuf>

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