

Unique Zoitiques

By Cindy Michalak

With the National over and everyone settling back into their normal routine, I'd like to send congratulations to all that managed to win or even make it there this year. For us, it was just a little too far but we are hoping to make it next year and our hotel reservations have already been made. With no rhyme nor reason for this quarter's exclusive BCOA Unique Zoitiques column, my desire focused on plates. Plates are often ignored due to most of them only being a decal transfer or because they are hard to place within a cabinet. I will include more than just the transfer type plate, so let's get going!

an actual painting. It would have been nice if the entire dog was included in the scene rather than chopping its legs off as well as one foot of the woman. It measures 8¾" and value is around \$25.



Probably one of the more well-known German plates is the Greyhound racing against the Borzoi. What is strange about this piece is that the Borzoi is a color you wouldn't normally see



in collectibles from the 1960s, which I believe this plate and bowl are from. I included the bowl as it is the only one I have seen with this transfer on it. I also have a plate that is a little larger (11") than the one pictured but felt it didn't need to be included here. The bowl measures 8" and is marked RWC Bavaria and has a lusterware glaze to it. It could date back to the early 1900s. The plate is marked "Three Crown China Germany" and measures 10". The plates run about \$35; however, the rare bowl should fetch \$55.



A 2-dimensional plate of lady walking thru the garden with her Borzoi. It looks like they live on the ocean and the time period depicted seems to be the late 1800s donning her bonnet and long southern belle type dress. It has a green stamp mark on the back of Made in Germany around an oval that states S&R New



This Tove Svensen Made in Denmark plate was done in delft blue, which is well known to Danish porcelain. I believe this was mass-produced and is easy to find. It measures 8". Due to commonality, I believe this to be worth about \$25.

Ridgway Pottery of England measures 10". From what I can tell from researching the mark on the back, this dates back to the 1890s, so is quite old. On this particular plate, it appears there

was a pin-size bubble in the firing process where glaze was missed. There's also a spot under the glaze that looks to be missing a small portion of the color. The edges have silver trim to the plate. Apparently this was part of the Coaching Days and Coaching Ways Series on an amber brown transfer ware pottery with black transfer.



Although not a favorite of mine, this is valued at \$100.

This Fitz & Floyd plate is from their Fashion Plates Series and is titled Le Chien. At the bottom of the mark it states MM, which I believe is the Roman numeral for the year 2000. Since I have seen several of these in the past, I assume it is a transfer and not

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York, which was probably the importing company. It measures 9" and can sometimes be found on auction. Value is around \$40.

This is one of my favorite plates and is more like a statue plastered



into a plate as it is 3-dimensional. The lady and her Borzoi stand amidst a flower cart that perhaps she was purchasing flowers from. I've seen this with the dog in a few different colors in the past but in recent years have not seen this particular plate. The back has a blue foil sticker in the shape of a shield that reads "Empress by Haruta Japan."

The 10½" plate is less common and I value at around \$65.

Sally Fricker, an artist from Australia, designed this gorgeous plate by almost engraving the Borzoi and scene into the plate.



It is a hand painted ceramic with high gloss. I actually use this platter for holiday gatherings. Of course I tell

everyone to be VERY careful when handling the platter. It is a perfect size measuring 13½" x 10". This is a rare piece I bought several years ago and I value it at around \$100.

My best for last are wooden plates with a strange scene. I am having a hard time deciphering just what the fencing is that the Borzoi



is supposed to be standing within. Was it a worn down cage or a fenced area that they only captured a few of the chainlinks. Is it supposed to look like it has dimension to it the way it was painted? I'm not sure. What I am sure about is the Borzoi are made of plastic and appear to be standing on a giant rock. The way the trees are painted reminds me of an Asian-type setting. The back is stamped in black lettering: Hand painted Made in Holland. The plates each measure 8¾", while the plastic Borzoi are 3" long. It is not known whether the Borzoi were added as an afterthought or produced to include them as original. Very rare and the only ones I have ever seen, I value them at \$125 for the pair.

As we enter the summer months, I want to say that I hope everyone has big wins and lots of fun with their dogs. Treat them with love and respect, the same as they do for you. Borzoi want nothing more than to please you and receive that love and adoration back tenfold. My wish is that this finds everyone and their dogs in good health and happiness. Until next time...