

Catherine Mather



the sun, instead of working in it."

• **Art Appreciation:** Mather was not formally trained in art, but she has a healthy respect for the pioneers who came before her. "I have a big collection of fine art books and prints. I am inspired as I look through these pages. Sculptors of Greek antiquity, Renaissance masters and the Art Nouveau movement influence me greatly."

• **Costume Drama:** In the late 1980s, the artist's interest in elaborate wardrobes and elegant outfits led her to create antique reproduction dolls. "I thought it would be a nice way to display period costumes. Soon I became mesmerized by the beauty of porcelain. In time, I created my own original sculpted dolls."

• **Lady Luck:** Mather considers herself fortunate to have turned her hobby into her full-time

Right: Catherine Mather's "Phoebe" is a winsome, delightful rendering of a little-girl fairy. Resplendent in pastel hues, the small sprite is limited to 15.



Above: "Fleur" is part of the Fairy series. Standing 17 inches and limited to 15, the gorgeous pixie princess is made of porcelain and is priced at \$1,300.

Right: Limited to 15, "Melody" is part of the Art Deco series. She stands 17 inches, is made of porcelain, and is priced at \$1,300. "Melody" is inspired by the works of Yugoslavian painter Alphonse Mucha.



"Sometimes the doll faces can give the illusion of looking back in acknowledgment. It's a bit like the eyes of a painting following you!"



Above: The "divine" Sarah Bernhardt, the legendary French actress, is re-created in porcelain. Limited to 15, the 17-inch sultry thespian is priced at \$1,300.

Catherine Mather *(continued)*

occupation. She has a thriving market for her limited-edition dolls, her sculpted teddy bear masks, exclusive doll-mold designs, patterns and decorative wall mountings. "I'm never bored. There is always a new project on the drawing board."

• **Star Gazing:** "I have an inspiration board that I pin things on. I study the positioning and the gestures. It's not unusual to see movie celebrities pinned in among photos of supermodels and Victorian and Art Deco prints. I like to study well-known celebrities for face shape and expression. My pieces may have a hint of who inspired it, but I leave that up to the viewer to guess."

• **Future Factor:** "I always have a great number of projects to choose from. I don't think about what I will do next until I am sitting down to do it. I have 2,000 years of history and art to inspire me. I am always open to new ideas."

• **Contact:** Catherine Mather, artist@catnco.com, catnco@1earth.net, www.catherinematherdolls.com



Above: "Beth" is the personification of grace and innocence. Measuring 13 inches, the doll pays tribute to childhood purity.

Seeking New Talents and Fresh Faces

Doll artists wishing to have their work considered for possible publication in *DOLLS* "Fresh Faces" column should send in a selection of four to six recent doll pieces, along with descriptive information on each. They should also send a color photo of themselves, as well as some brief biographical/professional information. Art should be submitted as color photos, slides, transparencies and/or digital images (resolution of 300 dpi at 4" x 6" in size). **Do not email images.** Send materials by post to "Fresh Faces"; *DOLLS*, 217 Passaic Ave.; Hasbrouck Heights, NJ 07604.