

Shultz Characters Paula & Simon Strethill-Smith



“We began making teddy bears in 1992 after being inspired by a antique miniature bear. This was a 1920’s antique schuco teddybear.”

LEFT:
Fox
ABOVE RIGHT:
Sailor Vallentine
RIGHT:
Paula and Simon “Many moons ago.....”



PAULA STRETHILL-SMITH



Has been a miniature bear artist since 1993

Made my first bear in 1993

Became full time Bear Maker in 1993

Golden George award in 1997
Japan Teddy Bear Association 1997

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This tiny bear came into my father’s antique shop. It had a powder compact body with a mirror and the head could be removed to reveal a lipstick. This was fascinating to me and I wanted so much to own that bear. My father had a good offer for this tiny little bear so sadly I did not get to keep him. I set my mind into making my very own miniature bear which had the same appeal and charm of that little tiny bear. Over the years we have specialised in mainly miniature bears but have also added some larger bears, dogs and rabbits. Also quite recently we have designed a range of sculpted

animal characters such as foxes, deer, hare cats, dogs and even rats! We like to use antique mohair and vintage plush or velveteen when we can as this gives them the appeal and charm of old bears. But we also age and distress new mohair and alpaca fabrics. We aim to recreate a look of well loved and cherished companions. We adore the look of early old antique bears from Germany and ours have all the attributes of those traditional bears with long arms and spoon shaped paws, centre seam noses and boot button eyes with a slight raised hump on the back. We have given them extra personality by giving them vintage style clothing

BOTTOM ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT:
Barker Dobson, Celadon, Clarence, Easter Bunny in tin



