



Established in 1976, R. John Wright quickly won a large following in the world of collectible dolls. Specializing in characters from classic children's literature, and produced in small numbered editions, the dolls are made of molded felt and characterized by an extraordinary high level of quality design and craftsmanship.

In the mid-1980s, the direction of the company changed dramatically with the introduction of "Christopher Robin and Winnie-the-Pooh"



based on the original E. H. Shepard illustrations in the Winnie-the-Pooh books by A. A. Milne. Produced under license with Disney, Pooh was the first bear made by R. John Wright. Several editions of Pooh in various sizes were produced along with the other animal inhabitants of the Hundred Acre Wood.

In developing the characters from the Winnie-the-Pooh books, the company became more heavily involved in the design and production of plush items. Along the way, other famous bears were produced

under license such as Paddington Bear and The Little Brown Bear from the Raggedy Ann Stories. Many original R. John Wright bear designs were also introduced. Among these were the popular Baby Bear series - a group of five adorable bear cubs each holding an edible indigenous to their species made out of felt. For the Teddy Bear Centennial in 2002, several commemorative editions were released including the Clif-



ford Berryman Bear and a humorous caricature of Teddy Roosevelt holding the bear cub which started it all.

The first R. John Wright ticketed meal event took place in 2005 in Washington, D.C. Called "A Day



at the Circus", the event showcased 3 delightful clown bears called "Crackerjack" and one charming female performer named "Princess Dewdrop." The following year a line of nautical bears was introduced titled the "Bears-at-Sea." This series featured large size bruins outfitted in highly detailed seafaring uniforms. A Pirate King joined the group a few years later.

In 2009, R. John Wright created a commissioned set of Goldilocks



and the Three Bears for Puffin Publishers. The items were photographed in a hand built cottage as part of a new picture book with text by acclaimed author Lauren Childs. Following the book's publication, limited editions of Goldilocks and the Bears were produced. The next year saw the release of two of the most realistic RJW bears, "Café au Lait" and "Café Espresso." Both of these large-size cubs were self standing

and featured in innovative wrist movement with weighted paws.



Notable R. John Wright bear-related one-of-a-kind auction pieces have also been specially created and donated by the company for charitable causes. "Hugs Around the World" featured three bears surrounding an all-felt globe of the Earth. This large studio piece sold to the Korean Teddy Bear Museum for the high bid of \$25,000 to benefit victims of the Tsunami disaster in Southeast Asia. The following year, the largest R. John Wright



bear titled "Magnolia" (after the state flower of both Louisiana and Mississippi) sold at auction for \$10,000 to benefit the victims of Hurricane Katrina. R. John Wright also donated "Voyager" which was auctioned off to benefit the Good Bears of the World organization. "Voyager" is costumed in a detailed felt Great Coat embellished

with applied continents and navigation lines. The bear represents the Teddy Bear as a traveling explorer promoting good will and understanding among the peoples of the world.

More recently a darling series of limited edition "Toddler Bears" featured cubs wearing clothing based on vintage children's attire.

The company currently employs approximately 15 full-time production and administrative personnel. All work continues to be performed on-site under the direct supervision of John & Susan Wright. For further details on R. John Wright dolls, bears, and other animals, please visit the company's official Web site at: [www.rjohnwright.com](http://www.rjohnwright.com).



At the premiere Woburn Abbey Festival in 2017, a diminutive pair of RJW teddys dubbed 'Woburn' and 'Abbey' came seated on an authentic 'Lutyens' garden bench based on the classic UK design and handcrafted at the RJW Workshop.

The R. John Wright headquarters is located in the Green Mountains on the outskirts of historic Bennington, Vermont.



