

eleven dot post your magazine from the wendt & kühn workshops post





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DEAR READERS,



Welcome to the 2011 edition of the eleven dot post where, as always, we invite you to take a fun and fascinating journey through the past and present of our Grünhainichen workshops. Many of you have been friends of the brand Wendt & Kühn for many years. Not only are you familiar with our unmistakable figures, but also the family behind the company for over 95 years. After a change in company management, I have been working closely with my brother Florian

Wendt to help guide Wendt & Kühn into the future while respecting our family's long-proven tradition. Naturally, the popular eleven dot post customer magazine from our workshops is and will remain part of that tradition. I hope you enjoy this new informative edition you now hold in your hands.

As you flick through this edition, you will certainly note: That which was attractive in previous eleven dot post issues is now even more stunning. We've embraced a somewhat more generous design in this issue. We've also started a new permanent column: "Continuing tradition". Because all the stories, anecdotes and wonderful memories that make their way here to our Grünhainichen headquarters from readers and collectors of Wendt & Kühn figures around the world touch our heart each and every time, we've decided to feature one of these stories in each issue. We're starting in this edition with a journey from Grünhainichen to the other end of the world: Read how one of our famous eleven dot angels found a new home in Australia (page 18).

There's also now a handy lexicon on various traditional production aspects within the walls of our historic buildings. And important to all our passionate collectors: We will still continue to inform you which pieces will leave the current collection as of the following year. Meanwhile, you can send your own personalized greetings anywhere in the world with the heartwarming postcard included on page 12/13. Perhaps the person who receives your card will become just as taken with the charm and cheeriness of our figures, music boxes and Angel Musicians as you are. After all, we love welcoming ever more friends into the fold of our global Wendt & Kühn family.

Did your first glance at this issue's cover photo evoke thoughts of Christmas? Here in Germany, Wendt & Kühn Marguerite Angels are diligent little helpers when preparing for the year's biggest holiday. They cook, tinker, sew ... Incidentally, their roots go all the way back to a product group conceived by Olly Wendt around 1930. The whole story behind them awaits you on page 12.

And as Christmas draws closer, we'd like to know how you celebrate the holidays. Exuberantly and elaborately? Do you string colored lights throughout your entire house? Or are you somewhat more subdued and reflective? Where do you arrange your collection of Angel Musicians and music boxes? Won't you please drop us a line at info@wendt-kuehn.de or by letter – even include a photo if you can. We would love to hear from you.

But, as always, wherever you'll be celebrating Christmas in 2011, we wish you the best one yet!



Claudia Baer, née Wendt



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 at year's end

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A FLOCK OF CHRISTMAS TREE ANGELS

hat are your favorite Christmas tree decorations? Shiny ornaments? Candles, lights or streamers? Or are you a stickler for older traditions like straw stars? Have you ever considered a Wendt & Kühn-themed Christmas tree? We

have countless Christmas ornaments within our collection ready to turn any Christmas tree into a special Yuletide jewel – for instance the Grünhainichen Angels® we produce as ornaments. Because our green-winged angels with their eleven white dots not only enjoy gathering together atop Angel Mountains to make music, but also on fir tree branches. Hitching a ride on any number of heavenly bodies, they certainly cut a beautiful figure amid the lofty heights: They swing from crescent moons, perch within stars and balance atop comet trails. Our 8 cm

(3 inch) tall Christmas Tree Angels were first designed back in 1926 by Grete Wendt and are now exquisitely supplemented by our somewhat

enly Wendt & Kühn

A Wendt & Kühn-themed Christmas tree – a divinely-inspired Yuletide attraction!

Christmas tree in all its beauty in

smaller 4.5 cm (1.5 inch) Angel Musicians in their crescent moons. Our Suspended Angels dangle from the branches by a golden thread as another eye-catching decoration like our Clip Angels, which simply clip onto a branch. Have you now started to visualize a heav-

your mind's eye? How our Grünhainichen Angels® can create a truly magical Christmas spirit? This is also an excellent idea for collectors,

letting them showcase their flock of angels in a whole new light – after all, there's always room for another Grünhainichen Angel® on a Christmas tree!







We've added two new e-cards to our website for you to send with a personalized greeting.

ELEVEN DOT E-CARDS

irthdays, anniversaries, Christmas or simply spontaneously: Everyone enjoys getting a personal greeting! Especially when the greeting comes in such a gorgeous package as our exquisite e-cards. Have you already discovered these electronic postcards on our website? We've now added two new scenes to the many other magical ones you can send to friends and family. We even have a selection

of animated e-cards. Sending one couldn't be any easier: Go to www.wendt-kuehn.com and then click on "E-Cards" in the upper navigation bar to bring up a dazzling array of scenes, sorted by occasion. Enter your personalized greeting and the email address of your recipient when prompted and then send your delightful greeting to your recipient's Inbox at the click of a button. A very charming way to spread good tidings!

GRÜNHAINICHEN LEXICON

B FOR BRUSH

hether rounded and tapered or long and thin, brushes are among the most important tools in our production repertoire. Because not until our wooden figures are meticulously and attentively painted do they become tiny beings with heart and soul, able to spread pleasure and happiness far and wide. That's why each of our painters has their own treasured collection of brushes: "There's a big difference between round brushes and rigger brushes," explains Kerstin Lorenz, master painter. "Round brushes come tapered or straight. The long, densely packed natural-hair bristles allow these brushes to hold a lot of paint and then dispense it again in just the right measure. That's why we prefer them for the larger surface areas. The straight ones are great when we have to paint edges like on the bass drums or military drums. We need the long, thin rigger brushes to paint the more delicate details and precise features

such as the light-blue lines at the ends of the sleeves and at the neckline of our angels' frocks. These long-haired precision tools are also indispensable when painting checkered patterns." And of course each painter has a multitude of brushes in a mind-boggling variety of sizes – from the smallest imaginable for doll arms no bigger than a grain of rice to specialized wide-coverage painting tools for the bodies of our music boxes.

Each painter has her own brushes which she guards like gold. Because one can't simply take a brush out of its package and start painting – it first needs to be "broken in" before it will perfectly mold to a painter's hand and carry out her vision. Just one reason why all the brushes used at Wendt & Kühn are highly valued and extremely well cared for, ensuring they'll be adding all our special final touches for as long as possible.



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2011 COLLECTION ADDITIONS | Part 1

Of Dazzling Highlights and Yuletide Ambassadors

Each year, a handful of figures are selected from the Grand Sample Cabinet at our Grünhainichen headquarters to be reintroduced into our collection. Faithfully reproduced according to the historic designs of Grete and Olly Wendt, their nostalgic charm and unmistakable appeal still captivate today. We hope you enjoy this overview of our 2011 returnees.







650/140/2011 ANGEL SPECTATORS

TWO ANGEL SPECTATORS ON BENCH, WITH BOOK 650/140/2z

ANGEL SPECTATOR LARGE, ON BENCH 650/140/3

ANGEL SPECTATOR, SMALL, ON BENCH 650/140/4

The talented angels of the Grünhainichen Orchestra are having more fun than ever with their music this year because they now have an attentive audience gathered around them on little light blue benches. Open to creative group arrangements in front of an Angel Mountain, these rapt listeners lend a completely new dimension to the large orchestra. These blond and brunette angels come in two different sizes and are a magical

way to expand an angel orchestra with de-

lightful new collectibles.

Rapt spectators





GOLD-PLATED CANDELABRA 650/117

Limited Gold Edition Nº 4

CANDLE BEARER, ANGEL WITH GOLD-PLATED CANDELABRA AND GOLD-PLATED METAL BASE IN A SPLINTER BOX

We have also created a limited edition run of 22,222 of these figures in which not only the candelabra but also the base is finished in 24-carat gold. Each of the 22,222 angels of the Limited Gold Edition comes packaged in an attractive splinter box as a valuable one-ofa-kind. Each angel's individual serial number is imprinted on the underside of the figure's base, in its gorgeous accompanying leaflet and on the bottom of the high-quality wooden box. An elegant composition handcrafted with fine German workmanship sure to delight collectors and fans the world over with its great love for detail and dazzling highlights.



ANGEL WITH GONG 650/71



ANGEL WITH TROM BONE, SITTING 650/29a



ANGEL WITH BAS SOON, IN A STAR 650/70/43



ANGEL WITH CLARINET, ON CLIP 650/90/41



ANGEL WITH CONCERTINA. SUSPENDED 650/130/8

Tip: To ensure the valuable gold elements retain their luster for years to come, please heed the special care instructions provided

Celestial musicians This year, as every year, there's some exciting happenings with our world-famous Grünhainichen Angels® with the eleven white dots on their little green wings. As in each season past, 2011 also saw five new Angel Musicians welcomed back into the collection: the first three being a sitting angel with a trombone, an angel with a gong and a clip angel with a

clarinet. Meanwhile, descending from above to add new sounds to the heavenly orchestra is this year's suspended angel. There's an interesting story behind this figure's intricate concertina: What makes this piece, produced by means of time-honored square-edging, so special is revealed in our workshop report starting on page 16. Lastly, we welcome another beautiful Christmas Tree Angel this year - perched in a six-pointed star playing seasonal melodies on the bassoon. Together with our other musician ornaments, this new angel makes for an exquisitely trimmed Christmas tree. See for yourself in our decorating tips on page 4!



ANGEL WITH GINGER BREAD AND BIRD 650/150

Sweet treats

Doesn't the delectable gingerbread heart held by this adorable Grünhainichen Angel® look good enough to nibble? That's no doubt what the little bird is thinking, although what would then happen to the tiny letter of greetings it grips in its beak? By joining the Grünhainichen Angel® series, the charming "Angel with Gingerbread and Bird" composition now expands one of Wendt & Kühn's most popular assortment of collectibles.



Golden highlights

Gold Edition Nº 4.

Gold Edition Nº 4 CANDLE BEARER, ANGEL WITH

the cream of the crop from our Grünhainichen workshops, are designed for enthusiasts who value the exclusive and treasure the unique. As our special highlight for 2011, the Grünhainichen workshops of Wendt & Kühn present the Candle Bearer Angel holding an elegant 24-carat gold-plated candelabra as our

Wendt & Kühn's Gold Editions, held to be





634/70/2011 MARGUERITE ANGELS, SITTING

MARGUERITE ANGEL, SITTING, WITH JUMPING

634/70/19

MARGUERITE ANGEL, SITTING, WITH SANTA'S BOOT 634/70/20

MARGUERITE ANGEL SITTING, WITH LITTLE RIDER 634/70/21

CHRISTMAS TREE ANGEL IN A RING, WITH FLUTE 6308/18

2011 COLLECTION ADDITIONS | Part 2

Of Marguerite Angels and Carefree Globetrotters

Tiny Christmas Ambassadors

In addition to the Grünhainichen Angels®, which are celebrated the world over as a heavenly orchestra, the Wendt & Kühn workshops also create Marguerite Angels, much smaller but just as beloved. Devoted collectors delight in their great variety - yearround. But it's in the Christmas season when their multifaceted talents as Santa's little helpers shine the brightest. This season, the Marguerite Angels welcome new friends with jumping jacks, Santa's boots and tiny rocking horses into their adorable miniature series.

The Marguerite Angels are also sure to be the focus of attention on a festively decorated Christmas tree. This year the endearing flock

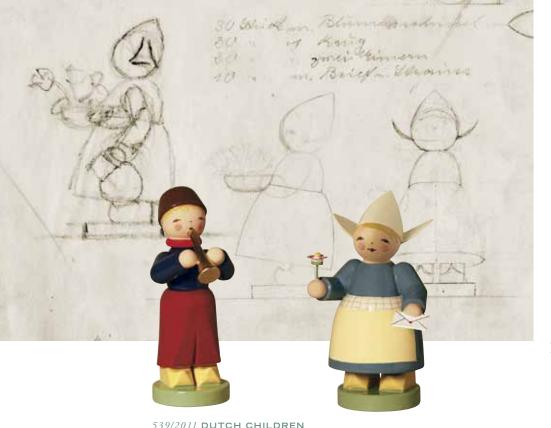
cheerily welcomes the suspended angel with the little tree and the Christmas tree angel in a delicate ring playing the flute. You can read much more about the long history of these tiny Christmas ambassadors on pages 12 to 15.

Decorated Christmas tree

This 7.5 cm (3 inch) tall Christmas tree trimmed with tiny wooden candles and crowned with a gold-colored star easily inspires numerous decorating ideas - for example as a beautiful seasonal backdrop to a festive arrangement of industrious Marguerite Angels.



CHRISTMAS TREE WITH STAR, SMALL 5302/0



539/2011 DUTCH CHILDREN

DUTCH BOY 539/31

DUTCH GIRL WITH

Carefree Dutch

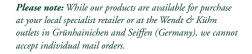
Holland – the land of tulips and windmills has always held a special appeal for visitors. Including Grete Wendt who traveled a number of times to this special country in the heart of Europe during the 1920s. She then immortalized the vivid impressions that stayed with her in a number of lifelike figure groups, several of which we have been re-issuing since 2009. This year, the Dutch girl with letter and the Dutch boy with flute join the series. The clattering clogs they both wear and the white bonnet atop the young girl's blonde hair leave no doubt that these two little Dutch children are a true credit to their homeland.

Year-round companion

Lovingly arranged Wendt & Kühn figures share stories from the world of angels and Blossom Kinder: Of bright and cheerful summer days, touching dispatches from the heart and melodic evening serenades. The Wendt & Kühn calendar sets such moods the entire year long. Simply slide the calendar pages into the forest-green frame, which you can reuse year after year. Once you have the frame, you only need to purchase the individual month designs as loose sheets. A lovely added plus is our exclusive calendar figure which is included in the full set of frame and calendar pages or also available individually. In 2012, an adorable Grünhainichen Angel® with two bright yellow stars will guard over your daily well-being all the way from January to December.



CALENDAR 2012



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2011 COLLECTION ADDITIONS | Part 3

Of Vivacious Singers and Music-Making Bunnies



5231/10-11 SINGING CHILDREN

SINGING CHILD, LARGE 5231/10 SINGING CHILD, SMALL 5231/11

Enthusiastic chorus

With their cute little upturned button noses, these two young girls designed by Olly Wendt impishly gaze toward the heavens. In the many years since these maidens first saw the light of day, they have certainly been through quite a lot – including the valuable original models being engulfed in the December 1954 fire that devastated part of our workshops in Grünhainichen. Yet these figures miraculously emerged from the flames – somewhat singed but with their full beauty intact. Allowing us, almost 60 years later, to reintroduce them into the Wendt & Kühn collection.

Delightful tablemates

The cheerful little tots on Wendt & Kühn's new placecard holders spread childlike charm up and down any table. Which little figure would you most like to have welcome you to your seat - the little girl with the sunflower, the girl dressed in her finest with the daisy or the sweet young man with the carnation? Together with the other figures in this series introduced last year, there are now a total of six placecard holders ready to lend a stylish and individual note to your festive table. And incidentally, the small slot on top of the green flower hill is not only designed for placecards - it's also a wonderful way to extend a personal greeting, hold a business card or even surprise a guest with an envelope containing a special monetary gift.



5214/2011 PLACECARD HOLDERS

PLACECARD HOLDER, GIRL WITH DAISY 5214/10 PLACECARD HOLDER, GIRL WITH SUNFLOWER 5214/7 PLACECARD HOLDER, BOY WITH CARNATION 5214/17



5350/2011 BUNNY MUSICIANS

BUNNY MUSICIAN WITH MANDOLIN 5350/4 BUNNY MUSICIAN WITH SHEET OF MUSIC 5350/12 BUNNY MUSICIAN WITH PAN FLUTE 5350/27

Musical bunnies

Ever since the spring of 2011, bunnies have once again taken command of the Wendt & Kühn workshops. These attentive long-eared creatures had to wait nearly five decades before they were reintroduced into our collection – so you can only imagine how excited they are now to finally be able to dress up living rooms around the world for Easter. Grete Wendt started designing a large variety of bunnies in the mid-1920's. Typical of these early figures are the slatted arms and legs on the turned bodies which give her designs such a nostalgic charm. Now to our modernday delight, not only can we once again enjoy this musical trio with mandolin, pan flute and sheet of music, but collectors and all others should also keep a keen eye out for more musicians coming soon to the Wendt & Kühn Easter Bunny series!

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Garlands crowning sun-kissed hair

COVER STORY

THE MARGUERITE ANGELS



CHRISTMAS TREE ANGEL IN A RING, WITH TWO CANDLES 6308/20 A summer day in the Baltic region. Nordic blue dominates a cloudless sky and brilliant white daisies flutter between knee-high blades of grass in a gentle breeze ... Perhaps just such a serene memory was the inspiration for the Marguerite Angels created by Olly Wendt, née Sommer, originally from Riga (now in Latvia). It was no secret that Marguerite daisies were her favorite flower – and her Marguerite Angels have certainly proved a lasting testament to them.



MARGUERITE ANGEL, SITTING, WITH SAUCEPAN 634/70/17



MARGUERITE ANGEL, SITTING, WITH LAMB 634/70/5



MARGUERITE ANGEL, SITTING, WITH TOY BOX 634/70/6

SITTING MARGUERITE ANGELS were first designed by Olly Wendt in 1935. Her first sketches of the sitting series included the angel with the little lamb and the angel with the toy box. The bounty of figures has since grown to 21.







MARGUERITE ANGEL WITH BASKET 634/30/5



GOODWILL ANGEL WITH BOUQUET AND LETTER 634/60/3

n their youthful carefreeness, these tiny figures exude an irresistible charm. So very delicate, even almost fragile, their arms just a few millimeters long, their faces painted with strokes no wider than a hair. They owe their name to the crown of marguerites resting atop their sun-kissed hair. It doesn't take much imagination to visualize them skipping gaily through a flowering summer meadow picking the blossoms for their marguerite chain tiara.

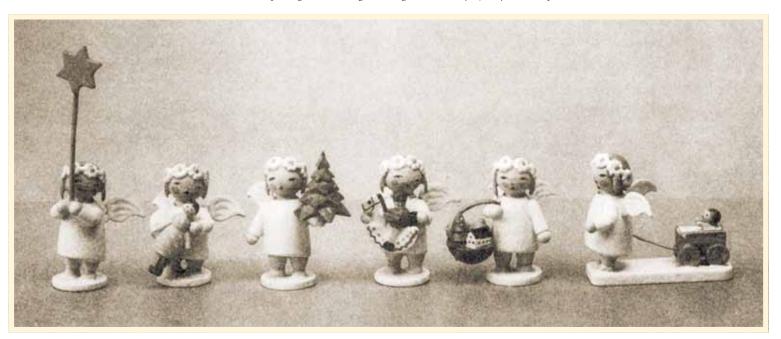
In their starched white frocks, the Marguerite Angels seem like playful innocents. Because their gently curving wings bring to mind little feathers and serve to make them unmistakable, they have also been affectionately called "feather-winged fliers". Their delicate white wings are graced by a thin accent of light blue.

FAVORITE COLOR BLUE

Blue was Olly Wendt's favorite color. For her, it symbolized the lightheartedness and carefreeness of her Baltic youth as she would recount in writings on her childhood memories: "Our dacha was nestled in the forest among other little wooden houses. The landlord had painted ours light gray. Only the sun cast blue shadows on it. Blue was also the color of our roof with its chimney puffing out blue-white wisps of smoke into the heavens ..."

The Marguerite Angels are exactly four centimeters (1.5 inch) tall and the items in their little hands incredulously minute: rolling pins and saucepans, jumping jacks and little horsemen, teddy bears and toy trains. A steady hand, a good eye and supreme manual dexterity are needed to produce these miniature figures. Miniscule parts are assembled into delicate components to breathe life into these industrious angels. Because it's precisely

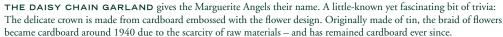
THIS SIX-PIECE FIGURE GROUP was designed by Olly Wendt in 1929. Marguerite Angels have been continuously offered in the Wendt & Kühn collection ever since. This photograph was taken from an old 1937 company catalogue, proving how the Marguerite Angels were already a jaunty little troupe even back then.











their many diverse activities that make them

so endearing and such popular collectibles: They bake and knit, tinker and glue, ham-

mer and pound, paint and play. They've also

since become indispensable in their role as

Santa's tireless helpers – and every year more

join in this joyful task. The daisy garlands

are incidentally also created and embossed in

Saxony – on almost museum-age machines

Olly Wendt designed her first Marguerite

Angel in a standing pose in 1929, as still

featured in our collection today. The sit-

ting group of figures was first conceived in

1935. At that time, sitting angels were only

produced in very limited numbers, which is

why they don't appear in any of our com-

pany catalogues. Luckily, the originals from

the 1930s had been given a honored place

in our Grand Sample Cabinet in Grün-

hainichen so that we could re-issue the first

in the workshop of Otto Mäckel.

three sitting angels again in 2005. And because collectors were so enthusiastic about these tiny cherubs, we've added three new sitting Marguerite Angels every year since. Closely modeled on their historical roots, the delightful depth of variety to these figures has proven their staying power whether as Santa's helpers or nimble-fingered toymakers. The Christmas Tree Angel in the gold ring cuts a particularly lovely figure - as these delicate white creations really come into their own against the dark green of tree branches, they are especially exquisite when hung on a Christmas tree illuminated by candlelight.

DELIGHTING ALL GENERATIONS

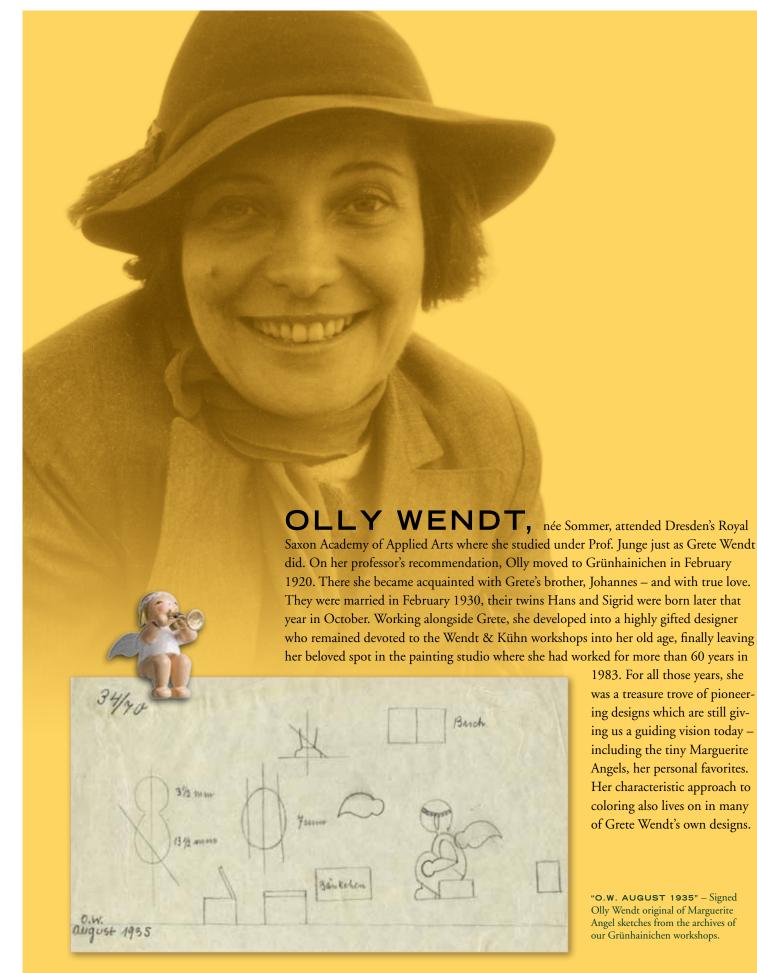
Whatever form the Marguerite Angels take, their childlike charm has been enchanting collectors and fans around the world



tiny angels. Their yellow blossom dots are dabbed on with the tip of a gossamer-thin brush held in a steady

for more than 80 years - and by no means only adults. "We also have many fans who are just children or teenagers," notes Birgit Franz from the Wendt & Kühn sales gallery in Seiffen. "A lot of times we have children who put these angels on their wish list. They're also very popular as gifts - for the birth of a grandchild, a birthday present or even a small reward when a child brings home a great report card." And why such fascination? "People really like that our Marguerite Angels are always creating something new with their tiny hands. It kindles their imagination – they can actively envision how jumping jacks are made, cookies baked or scarves knitted. This also makes them perfect as evocative decorations that people can continually re-arrange so that their angels are always telling new stories."

Wonderful! We'll let them tell their own



O.W. AUGUST 1935" - Signed Olly Wendt original of Marguerite Angel sketches from the archives of



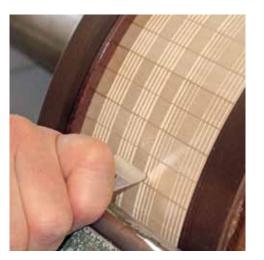


SQUARE-EDGED TURNING -CONTRADICTION IN TERMS?

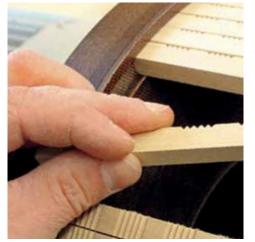
One of our Grünhainichen woodturners gives an impressive demonstration of how the tiny concertina for our new suspended angel gets its corners and edges: with the historic technique of square-edged turning. urning and lathing – these techniques essentially boil down to a routine. In the end, that which is turned eventually becomes rounded. Period. But this general premise has a few sharp edges – in the truest sense of the word. Gazing over the shoulder of master latheman Roland Stanzel and turner Tino Epphardt as they create the concertina for our new suspended angel reveals an unusual and today largely forgotten turning technique: square-edged turning.

Even if the concept as such makes sense, how exactly does it work? How can one turn edges? Roland smiles and steps up to the lathe

where turner Tino is already engrossed in his work. And what a concentrated picture it is: 86 rectangular wooden blocks clamped into a rotating drum waiting for skilled hands grasping specialized chisels to turn them into a specific form. Before our eyes, the folds of the bellows are notched into the concertinas as Tino positions his chisel, the drum begins to turn and, with a decisive focus, he cuts furrow after furrow across the face of the block. Earlier he traced out the exact location for each notch with a caliper. He guides his tool into each furrow a total of three times: He first slits down the middle and then chisels in from the two sides to bevel his cut. How deep he needs to cut into the notch is wholly a matter of experience and keen judgement.



UNIFORM NOTCHING Technical skill and a practiced eye when turning produce the flawlessly clean edging pattern.



LATERAL FLIP Because wedge-shaped recesses are notched on three of their sides, the wooden blocks need to be rotated twice in the drum.



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PRECISE CUTS Once given their characteristic notches, the wooden strips are cut into four equal-sized instrument blanks.

"It's just something you can sense after a while," he confirms, cleanly positioning his chisel into the next furrow.

While it's true that notches can also be milled, and milling is the technique of choice for numerous applications today, turning produces cuts going across the grain of the wood. Even today's most advanced milling techniques don't come close to the clean and even surface cuts that turning can produce. So Wendt & Kühn turners use the time-honored but virtually forgotten technique of square-edged turning to create our concertinas. Long ago, many objects were produced this way – table and chair legs, columns, stair-

case handrails. All those angular objects to be embellished with notches and grooves. Many decades ago, Albert Wendt (Grete's father) was the first to suggest also using square-edged turning for parts of Wendt & Kühn figures. And despite all of today's modern advancements, this technique not only remains the cleanest, but also the most efficient way to produce our concertinas. The efficiency comes from being able to work on 86 pieces of wood all at the same time, each of them yielding four concertinas. That means 344 instruments per work cycle!

Once Tino has finished the edges on one side, he removes the wooden blocks from the

drum and rotates them 90 degrees. And then starts all over again: slitting a furrow down the middle and then slightly beveling in from the left and the right. He will eventually work on three sides – no notches are made on the fourth side of the bellows, as this is the side that will nestle up against the angel's frock as well as serve as the bonding surface during assembly. Once this little divine messenger finally holds the finished instrument firmly in both hands, after gluing and painting, the resemblance of this square-edged turned piece of wood to a real concertina is astonishing – as if one could actually hear its celestial strains. With nary an edge or corner.



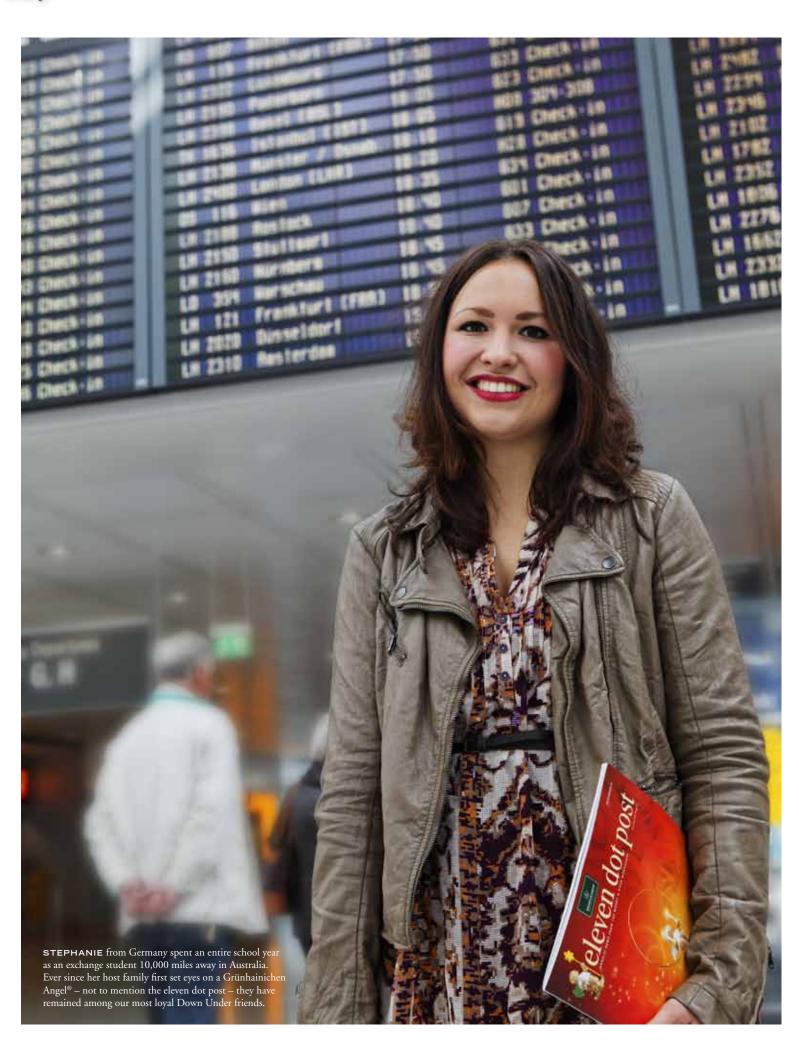






BOY WITH CONCERTINA 5230/4

eleven dot post



CONTINUING TRADITION | Part 1

AN ANGEL DOWN UNDER

STEPHANIE KREIS (24) OF GERMANY WAS A HIGH SCHOOL EXCHANGE STUDENT IN AUSTRALIA WHEN SHE WAS JUST 15 YEARS OLD. SHE NOW HAS QUITE SOME STORIES ABOUT A SWELTERING CHRISTMAS, EXCHANGING GIFTS AT SUNRISE AND A TINY GUARDIAN ANGEL.

he greatest adventure of my life began in July 2003 as I boarded a plane to fly more than 10,000 miles to far-off Australia to live for an entire year. I attended the local high school and lived in Canberra with a big host family including four little boys ranging in age from two to eight years. Christmas was definitely a unique experience. Instead of a wintry German Christmas with sparkling snow and sledding, I had to prepare for 40°C (104°F) in the shade, as Christmas comes at the height of their summer down there and my host family was spending the holiday at Sydney's famous Bondi Beach. The boys all went to bed early on Christmas Eve in eager anticipation of Christmas morning the next day. And it really happened: Santa Claus came down the chimney sometime during the night! The next morning - "Christmas Day" - there were piles and piles of colorful presents heaped under the plastic Christmas tree. Including one from Germany. My parents wanted my host family and I to have a special treat on such a special day. We were as excited as the kids as we tore into the package together. Inside we found a home-made Stollen loaf - a delicious, traditional German Christmas pastry with raisins and lemon peels and a thick layer of icing - and there was also a small dark green box in the package. My host mother opened it carefully. 'I could already tell there was some-thing very special inside,' she told me later. 'And then I'm suddenly gazing into the two dark-brown eyes of a tiny little angel. I never saw anything so adorable in all my life! I really think it was love at first sight for me." There was also a collector's booklet in the package, showing many more of the delightful little angels. "That was the moment that sparked my collecting fever - I instantly wanted them all!" recalls Kelly, Stephanie's host mother. Stephanie was overjoyed that this thoughtful gift from her parents went over so well with her host parents: "My grandmother comes from Grünhainichen, the village of the angels in Germany's Erzgebirge region. I grew up with the angels from the

Grünhainichen workshops of Wendt & Kühn – I can't even imagine a Christmas without Wendt & Kühn angels! So I was that much more excited to actually have an angel with me for my first Christmas in Australia." For Stephanie, the little Wendt & Kühn angel brought a little piece of home into that house on the other side of the world in the Australian capital. "A messenger from home, a little guardian angel to remind me of my family, and which still stands in my Australian host family's display cabinet to this very day, now reminding them of me," she adds with a smile, thinking back on her wonderful Christmas that year.

But the story doesn't end there: Four years later, in the summer of 2007, Wendt & Kühn published the first English edition of the eleven dot post. Naturally Stephanie sent a copy hot off the press to her former host mother in Australia. Who was thrilled to receive it. "We enjoy reading the magazine as it whets our appetite to add to our collection of unique little angels," reports Kelly. And thanks to her subscription, she has never missed a single issue of the English version eleven dot post ever since.

We're collecting collectors!

Do you have an interesting story to tell about our figures? Do you know a passionate collector or loyal enthusiast of our figures who would like to be featured in the eleven dot post? Send us your story – we may very well publish it in an upcoming issue!



IT WAS THE JOURNEY of a lifetime as one little angel set out from Grünhainichen for Australia. Sent as a Christmas gift eight years ago, today our little angel still reminds Kelly of Stephanie, her 2003 exchange student from Germany.







BRILLIANT TIP

CANDLE BEARER, ANGEL WITH GOLD-PLATED CANDELABRA AND GOLD-PLATED METAL BASE IN A SPLINTER BOX

Elegant and endearing: Wendt & Kühn's Gold Editions. Finished in 24-carat gold, they are held to be the ultimate achievement of our Grünhainichen workshops. So that their precious radiance will shine for as long as possible, we'd like to give you a few tips to take to heart.

erstin Franke carefully pulls on her white gloves before starting her day's work. A member of our final assembly team, today she is tasked with the responsibility of placing the gold-plated candelabra in the hand of our limited Gold Edition № 4 angel. "As a precious metal, gold is particularly delicate. It definitely reacts to its environment," explains this accomplished final assembler. "That's why contact with the skin should be avoided wherever possible. And why we all wear gloves when assembling these angels." As unusual as it may sound, this is also great advice for handling your own Wendt & Kühn Gold Edition angels. When you avoid directly touching the figure's gold accents while unpacking, setting up or putting away your angel, you avoid unattractive discoloration of its gold-plated elements. Try not to hold your angel by its gold-plated pieces but by its body. If your Gold Edition came with a gray base, try to limit your contact to the base.

However, should you notice slightly darker discoloration on the gold-plated elements at some point in the future, the best

SOFT LINT-FREE GLOVES are always donned when we work on our Gold Edition angels. These angels will also appreciate such cautious and careful handling in your own home as you protect the sparkle and sheen of these tiny masterpieces for many years to come.

way to remove them is with a soft, dry cloth. Gently cradle your angel in your hand and very carefully buff the gold until its original luster returns. That will usually do the trick. You don't need to buy any special gold cleaning cloths and, because of their corrosive nature, cleaning pastes and soaps should be avoided at all costs. Plus the moisture they contain will also damage the wood of your figure. When polishing your figure, take care not to hold it too tightly or put too much pressure on it – after all, our angels are known the world over as exceptionally delicate little cherubs.

By taking these tips to heart, you can look forward to many years of pleasure from your own personal Gold Edition angel – exactly what you deserve as a proud owner of such an exclusive creation from our Grünhainichen workshops.







OPEN HOUSE DAYS BY THE NUMBERS

pen House Days at Wendt & Kühn are always a special treat for fans and collectors of our unique figures. Employees at both our Grünhainichen workshops as well as our Wendt & Kühn World of Figures in Seiffen give visitors an unforgettable glimpse behind the scenes. And there's always a number of surprises awaiting you. We look forward to your visit!

Open House Days at the Wendt & Kühn Grünhainichen workshops, Germany

All dates: 10am to 5pm: 26 Nov – 27 Nov 2011 17 May – 19 May 2012 01 Dec – 02 Dec 2012

Open House Days at the Wendt & Kühn World of Figures, Seiffen, Germany

All dates: 10am to 5pm: 07 Apr – 08 Apr 2012 20 Oct – 21 Oct 2012

Wendt & Kühn "Christmas Procession" music box. We obviously already knew there were a few dozen, but exactly this many surprised even us. Master gluer Monika Bönisch recently counted each and every one for you - and she should know, all the many tiny pieces that are joined together to create this music box are kept inside countless crates stacked onto long shelves right next to her work area in our gluing department. Her final tally: "3 trees, 1 Santa Claus, 5 angels following on his heels, each carrying a full load of items. Just in the basket of one angel alone there are three apples, a sapling and even a tiny house. Then there's all those pieces of a finished music box that no one ever even sees because they're hidden inside." All the individual pieces of this spectacular music box, based on a sketch from 1932, are still manually produced with a painstaking eye for detail. Once each of the 137 pieces is in its exact place, the Christmas carols

"O du fröhliche" or "Silent Night" will ring

out from deep within the music box's heart.

individual pieces go into the

FROM OUR READERS



Por as long as I can remember, your "Globe" music box has been in my mother's "cristalera" (a mirrored glass cabinet) where she keeps her favorite things so she can see them every day. She only takes it out at Christmas. Today, as the proud owner of one of your music boxes myself, I am so delighted I simply can't take my eyes off of it!

U. SPILLER | Punta del Este, Uruguay

My parents have been collecting angels of Wendt & Kühn for 50 years. I started my own collection about ten years ago. I'm now living in the USA and find my little angels to be a lovely reminder of home. I give myself five new figures a year (or let others do the honor). Thank you for all the pleasure you have given me!

A. OFFHAUSEN CORWIN \mid Seattle, WA, USA

A few days ago, I received my very first copy of your eleven dot post. Thank you so much. You have no idea how thrilled I was to see all my little cherubic friends and to learn so many intricacies of their creative and artistic production. For me, collecting your little Angel Musicians and Christmas tree ornaments, these wee angels bring to mind memories of dear people within my family and circle of friends.

S. MEYER | Doddington, Great Britain

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eleven dot post













5230/1-6 LITTLE MUSICIANS

BOY WITH VIOLIN 5230/1

GIRL WITH 5230/2

BOY WITH GUITAR 5230/3

BOY WITH CONCERTINA 5230/4

BOY WITH SMALL TRUMPET 5230/5

GIRL WITH CYMBALS 5230/6

LEAVING THE COLLECTION AT YEAR'S END |2011|

Farewell

The figures shown on this page are about to take their leave for some time to come. The last ones we are producing can only be purchased until the end of 2011. They will thereafter be welcomed back into our historic Grand Sample Cabinet for at least five years.



MARGUERITE ANGEL, LARGE, WITH LAMB AND FLOWER 634/3N



MARGUERITE ANGEL, LARGE, WITH BOOK 634/21



MUSIC BOX ANGEL MUSICIANS 5336/42A













634/40 CHRISTMAS ANGELS

WITH STAR 634/40/1

CHRISTMAS ANGEL CHRISTMAS ANGEL WITH SLEDGE 634/40/2

WITH ADVENT WREATH 634/40/3

CHRISTMAS ANGEL

CHRISTMAS ANGEL WITH LIGHT ARC 634/40/4

WITH BASKET 634/40/5

CHRISTMAS ANGEL BELL 634/40/6

CHRISTMAS ANGEL WITH LANTERN AND



