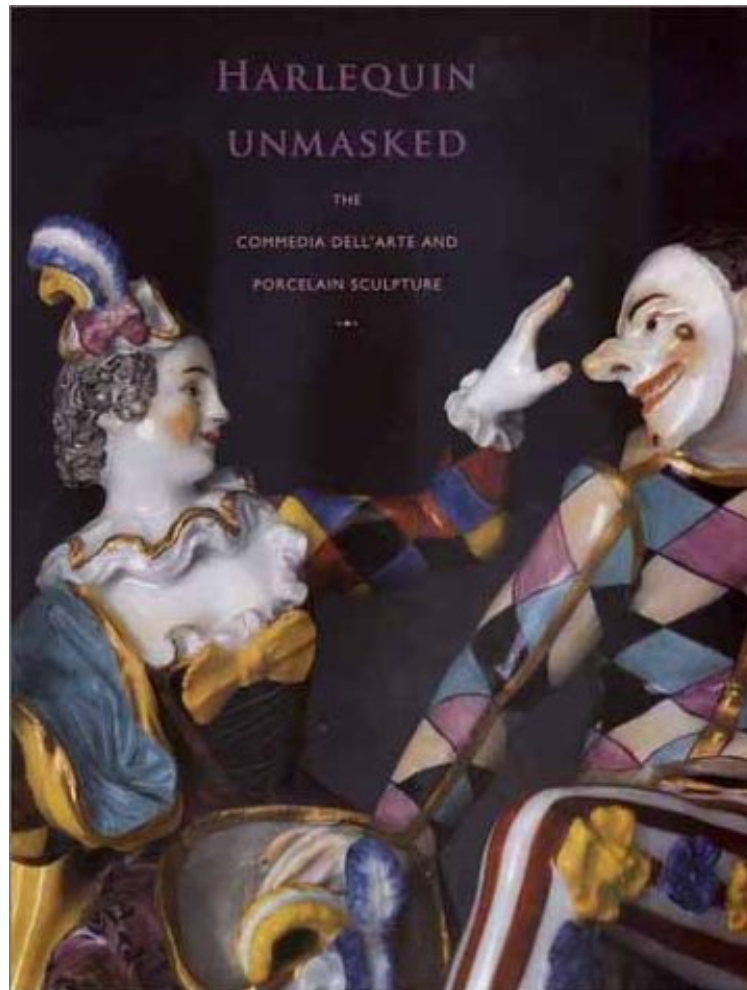


Harlequin Unmasked: The Commedia Dell'Arte and Porcelain Sculpture

Curator Meredith Chilton, Meredith Chilton
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Curator Meredith Chilton, Meredith Chilton : Harlequin Unmasked: The Commedia Dell'Arte and Porcelain Sculpture before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Harlequin Unmasked: The Commedia Dell'Arte and Porcelain Sculpture:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. This is a beautiful book full of wonderful things!By Native TexanThis is a beautiful book with photos of costumes and props from 17th and 18th century commedia del arte productions that I have never seen before. It's printed on heavy paper, really well made, and whoever found the photos of items from all over the world - like an entire Pantalone costume - should be congratulated. The photos of the ceramic figures are wonderful, sure, but it also contains a great amount of other material I've never seen anywhere else. If you like theatre history or if you study commedia del arte please get this book. It's amazing!0 of 0 people found

the following review helpful. Great book!By Michael G.This book is extremely informative on harlequins in the 18th century and the beginnings of western made porcelain, preticularly meissen. Great information, down to explanations of every hand positioning1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy DonaldBeautifully illustrated in color and covering just the information I was looking for.

The commedia dell'arte began in Italy as irreverent, improvised street theatre and is best known for its exuberant characters, specifically Harlequin, Pantalone, Pulcinella, Scaramouche, and Colombine, among others. Since the sixteenth century, these personalities have inspired paintings, engravings, and porcelain sculptures. Encompassing theatre, court culture, masquerades, and the decorative arts, this splendidly illustrated and engaging book offers original perspectives on porcelain commedia figures while also making an important contribution to the study of the commedia dell'arte. The volume focuses on nearly 150 porcelain sculptures as it tells the story of the commedia dell'arte's transformation into sculpture. Why were the figures made? Why do they appear as they do? What inspired their gestures and costumes? How did street-theatre themes become integrated into court life and entertainment? Examining these delightful porcelain figures in greater breadth and detail than ever before, this book is essential for those interested in theatre, painting, costume, and the decorative arts. This catalogue accompanies an exhibition at the Gardiner Museum of Ceramic Art, Toronto, from 21st September 2001 to 20th January 2002.

[An] awesome tome. . . The lucid text is complemented by a large group of stunning color and black-and-white illustrations. -- ChoiceFrom the PublisherThis catalogue accompanies an exhibition at the Gardiner Museum of Ceramic Art, Toronto, from 21 September 2001 to 20 January 2002. Published in association with the George R. Gardiner Museum of Ceramic Art, TorontoAbout the AuthorMeredith Chilton is curator, the Gardiner Museum of Ceramic Art, Toronto. Domenico Pietropaolo is director, Graduate Centre for the Study of Drama, University of Toronto.