



N O T I O N S

Miniatures are so compelling, be they tiny booties for a baby, pieces of 1:12 scale furniture, or a delicate lace-knitted tablecloth for a dollhouse. All of these and more are included in this issue's look at miniatures.

Two of our sister publications offer their own take on the subject: "Microcosms in Fiber and Glass," in the September/October issue of *Fiberarts*, describes Vanessa Yanow's use of vintage fabrics and flame-worked glass to craft her miniature fiber art, while "A Menagerie at Your Fingertips" in the Spring issue of *Interweave Crochet* showcases Mariella Vitale's tiny crocheted creations, some less than ½ inch (1.3 cm) tall.

Here are just a few of the host of organizations, magazines, books, websites, and blogs dedicated to miniatures:

- The National Association of Miniature Enthusiasts, a nonprofit educational organization for miniature collectors and builders; PO Box 69, Carmel, IN 46082-0069; (317) 571-8094; www.miniatures.org
- In her article on Eloise Kruger's collection of miniatures (page 16), Suzanne Smith Arney mentions "cabinet houses"; Petronella Oortman's outstanding example, created between 1686 and 1690, may be seen online at www.rijksmuseum.nl/aria/aria_encyclopedia/00050219?lang=en
- *Miniature Collector*, a monthly magazine devoted to furniture, accessories, and dollhouses, from Scott Publications, 30595 Eight Mile, Livonia, MI 48152; (800) 458-8237; <http://scottpublications.com/mcmag>
- A miniature portrait of King Charles I of England (1600–1649) worked in silk and metal threads circa 1650–1670, along with a fascinating article about the piece, online at www.bgc.bard.edu/object_month/020209/oom_020209_column.shtml
- Books include *Beginner's Guide to Miniature Embroidery* by Elizabeth R. Anderson (Kent, England: Search Press, 2006); *Dollhouse and Miniature Dolls 1840–1990* by Marci and Bob Tubbs (Atglen Pennsylvania: Schiffer, 2009); and *New Ideas for Miniature Bobbin Lace* by Roz Snowden (East Sussex, England: Guild of Master Craftsman, 2001).

Countless people throughout the world have collected and created miniatures; many do so today as well. I hope you enjoy our glimpse into this tiny world!

On another note, September 26 is *Smithsonian* magazine's Fifth Annual Museum Day. In addition to the Smithsonian Institution's Washington, D.C., facilities, hundreds of museums and historical societies in the United States and Puerto Rico will participate in Museum Day. Among them are many familiar to *PieceWork* readers, including the Lacis Museum of Lace and Textiles (Berkeley, California), Denver Museum of Miniatures, Dolls and Toys, Maryland Historical Society (Baltimore), New England Quilt Museum (Lowell, Massachusetts), Rosalie Whyel Museum of Doll Art (Bellevue, Washington), Museum of International Folk Art (Santa Fe), Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and Nordic Heritage Museum (Seattle). Visit www.smithsonian.com/museumday for the complete list of participating locations and for more information on each.

We have begun preparing for our 2010 Excellence in Needle Arts Awards: heart-shaped ornaments for any occasion. Complete details will be available in the November/December issue. In the meantime, we are delighted to present on page 44 complete instructions for re-creating the needlepointed brooch that was the grand-prize winner in our Brooch 2009 contest. It's a miniature marvel itself!



You'll find numerous free projects and articles, our index, available back issues, and much more on our website, pieceworkmagazine.com. The icon shown at left is to help you locate information about what is on the website. The project outlined below and other information in this issue marked by the icon will be available as of August 14.

A Treasure Pouch in Simple Looping

Follow these step-by-step instructions to create your own treasure pouch in a technique that has been practiced in virtually all cultures and times. Visit pieceworkmagazine.com.