

Great Old World

I've talked before about the fairly recent phenomenon within the hobby having to do with collector interest in 'peripheral' items—match crates, match company stock certificates, match tax stamps, match grips, match holders, etc. At least, I perceive that interest to be recent since I find basically no reference to this material (no ads for, no articles about) in early bulletins. I can well imagine that earlier collectors latched onto such material when they came across it, more as curiosities, but now it's an organized and enthusiastic search. Currently, there's even a match safe club.

This attention to peripherals is certainly understandable. If you're interested in matchcovers, it follows that other items related to matchcovers might interest you as well. And, they're interesting, and often times the history behind such objects is even more fascinating. In any event, I thought readers might be interested in seeing some rather extraordinary examples of such that I ran across last year.

Porcelain



1805/1810 - bronze

Bronze?



For the more risque!

In our last issue, I mentioned German collector Wolf Rudiger Reinhardt. Wolf also collects, trades, and sells match holders, and he has quite a fascinating collection.

Wall-mounted



Match Holders!

Match holders, as you could gather from the name, were household/office containers designed to...hold wooden box matches!...in a convenient...and *attractive* way. And it's the latter function that has led to both the profusion of such and the resulting interest of the collectible-minded.

In just the small selection pictured here, one can easily get a feel for the variety that such match holders offer: different mediums—porcelain or metal; different art perceptions—traditional art or modernistic; different subjects—people, animals, etc; different styles—desk/table stands or wall-mounted; and different sizes—small to large, horizontal to vertical.

Hmmmm...I can feel the ol' collecting fever beginning to rise! They're certainly interesting...and history?—150 years old, 200 years old. Fascinating!

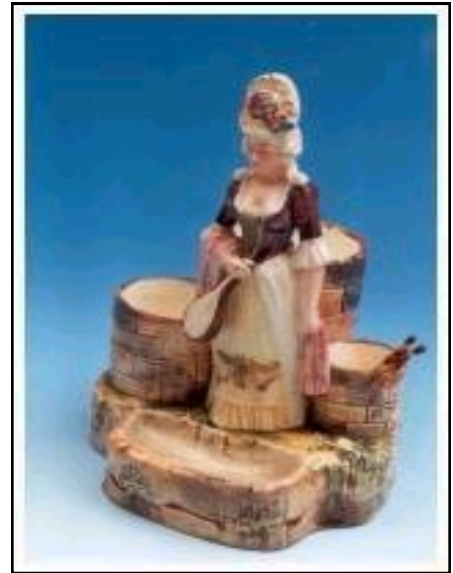
If you'd like to learn more about such match holders, you can contact Wolf through his web site:
h t t p : / /

Gießerei Zimmermann, 1859, Hanau



More modern (!)

Porcelain



A more standard holder

Tunkfeuerzeug, 1830, Seebaß

