



RØNNAUG PETERSSSEN
The Artist and her Dolls

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NEW BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT

September 2014, 2014

**THE LIFE AND WORK OF INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED
NORWEGIAN DOLL ARTIST RØNNAUG PETERSSSEN (1901 - 1979)**

This comprehensive book includes photographs of dolls never before seen

Green Kids Press announces the release of Bodil P Meleney's debut book **RØNNAUG PETERSSSEN – THE ARTIST AND HER DOLLS** in July 2014, available through Amazon.com and CreateSpace.com. The book tells the compelling story of the internationally celebrated doll artist Rønnaug Petterssen about whom little has been written. Written in three sections, the book starts with a short biography of her growing up in a small fishing community in the Vesterålen islands, above the Arctic Circle, then goes on to chronicle her young adult life, the marriage to Hans Kunze, a German painter and photographer whom she met in Spain in 1933; their move to Norway to establish Atelier Rønnaug Petterssen; the very difficult years during WWII in occupied Norway and continues on to describe her later life. The second section gives an account of the formation of the workshop and how it grew to gain early international acclaim, how it survived the war years and how Petterssen re-established her workshop in 1946 to make it flourish again and go on to gain even greater international recognition. The third section describes in detail how the dolls were made from beginning in 1934 to the time the workshop closed in 1975.

The book includes more than 300 photographs, many taken by her husband during the early years and not seen till now, as well as photographs taken by the author, lent by the Norwegian Folk Museum in addition to photographs from collectors in Norway and the US. This detailed description has been designed to tell the fascinating story about this artist and also aid collectors and others in identifying dolls they own or may wish to collect.

“An informative and beautifully photographed book about the much loved dolls created between 1934 and 1975. Over 350 photographs from the author’s own collection along with dolls from private collections, notes on the rarest dolls, caring for them and much more add to this comprehensive look at this talented and immensely versatile artist.” *Antique Doll Collector Magazine, September 2014*

“(This) is a beautifully written and illustrated book. Meleney’s text is clear and engaging, providing readers with a fascinating biography and, with the many wonderful photographs, an excellent resource for deepening our understanding of and appreciation for Petterssen’s artistry and for identifying her dolls by age, type and outfit.”
Sandy Smith, doll collector

“An outstanding overview of this important artist. The detailed photographs of the dolls she made are especially outstanding; they give credence to her excellent craft skills. Her work is treasured and collected worldwide.”
Margaret Paris, Photo Media Artist



Bodil Petterssen Meleney, born in Oslo, Norway in 1941, the daughter of this celebrated doll artist, is herself an artist, writer and Professional Herbalist. She received her art education at the Art Institute in Chicago and at The Corcoran College of Art in Washington DC. Bodil has authored several articles about health and wellness and also about her mother and the dolls. Her articles have appeared in the *Antique Doll Collector Magazine* (2011) and *Sortland’s Historic Society’s yearbook* (2011-13). She has also lectured about her mother at the Eidsfjord Herring Festival, Norway in 2011 where her mother was born and for the Shaker Doll Club, Albany, NY in 2010 when they visited Washington, DC. She lives and works in Takoma Park, MD.