

Love Me Tender

"The Only One for Me Is You and You for Me"



Left: The precious sisterly bond shines forth in Gabriele Mueller's **Kim** (approximately 10 inches) and **Eva-Marie** (approximately 11 inches). The porcelain duo is part of a three-piece limited edition priced at \$1,100 each. Their dresses are made of fine cotton. (E-mail: gaby.puppen@arcor.de)

Anna Hardman's new *Twilight*-inspired piece captures main characters **Edward** and **Bella** in an intimate moment. Finished in one-twelfth scale and made of polymer clay, the dolls feature handmade eyes. "They were very much in love with each other though two of them could never be close because of Edward's constant thirst and nonhuman physical strength. He would often kiss her on the neck. I decided to catch this moment from the beloved book," says Hardman. (Web site: www.annahardmandolls.com)



Above: Lorella Falconi's adorable duo, 17-inch **Sonnet** (standing) and 16-inch **Lyric** cuddle in a loving embrace. Both dolls don lavender beaded frocks, pantalets and wings, which can be positioned upward or downward. They have porcelain heads, shoulder plates and limbs. Their soft bodies have armature and are poseable. (Web site: www.lorellafalconi.com)
Below: The love parents feel for their newborns is unparalleled, and **Love at First Sight** captures the unsoiled innocence that ignites such love in parents' hearts. The 18-inch doll designed by Sheila Michael is priced at \$139.99. From the So Truly Real line, she features closing eyes specially calibrated to shut slowly and naturally. (Web site: www.collectibletoday.com)



Above: Although many people come in and out of our lives, Vikki Ebbeling's **Love Times Two** sisters, "Akira" (left) and "Ella," will have each other forever. Akira is 22 inches and priced at \$1,750, and Ella is 27 inches and priced at \$1,995. Made of silicone and jointed suede bodies, each girl is part of a 30-piece limited edition. "No detail has been overlooked in the creation of these two little girls!" says Ebbeling. (E-mail: heavenslight4u@aol.com)



Right: **Miamora**, by Shannon Nicholas, sleeps upon a crystal heart-shaped box ... fittingly so, as her name translates to "love in a heart-shaped box." The sweet 3-inch piece is made of ProSculpt. (Web site: www.sleepytimenursery.com)
Below left: Older siblings always feel so "grown up" when they get to hold their new baby sister or brother. Here, Julie Fischer's **Sister's Love** captures that classic moment. The 15-inch OoAK piece, made of Cernit, is priced at \$1,750. The girls wear vintage dresses and are seated in a vintage wicker chair. (E-mail: dollsbyjulie@yahoo.com)



Right: Elizabeth Dye's **Love**, a mother-with-child fairy, beautifully personifies the ultimate kind of love. The OoAK 18-inch polymer clay sculpture features a hand-beaded silk dress and hand-beaded head-dress with real garnet and pearl accents. Her necklace and earrings are real pearls with Austrian crystal jewels, and her hands form a heart shape over her stomach. (Web site: www.destinysgarden.com)



There's nothing quite like new love to help forget the past. Jennifer Canton's **Jumpin' the Broom!** celebrate their entrance into a new life and the creation of a new family by symbolically "sweeping away" their former lives, problems and concerns. They jump over the broom, an African tradition not associated with slavery, to enter upon a new venture as husband and wife. The 12-inch piece is made of ProSculpt and priced at \$1,695. (E-mail: canton@ntelos.net)



Left: Although *You Have to Kiss a lot of Frogs* has just made one more failed attempt, she has faith that one day she will find her prince. The Audrey Swarz polymer clay OOA K is 30 inches tall and priced at \$5,200. She features green glass eyes and a blond angora mohair wig. Her silk dress is embellished with imported beaded lace, and her artist-made crown was created entirely from Swarovski crystals. (Web site: www.audreyswarz.com) **Above:** *Hide and Seek (Young Courtship)* traverse the uncertain but thrilling territory of young love. "Flora Faerie" is 6½ inches and "Tobias Faerie" is 5½ inches. The OOA K Leslie Bailey piece is priced at \$695 and is made from ProSculpt. Both dolls are removable from their wooden base. (Web site: www.creativeconceptsbyleslie.com) **Below:** Collector's will fall in love with West Coast Kids *Sierra* (left) and *Summer*—both 18-inch, all-vinyl dolls—their delightful Valentine's Day dresses! Designed by Kathryn Pardee, the sewing patterns for the frocks are available on West Coast Kids' Web site. (Web site: www.westcoastkids.us)



Above: *Romance*, designed by artist Karen Scott for the Marie Osmond Doll Collection, captures hearts in a sheer, embroidered organza dress and long, dark, curly hair. The 17-inch doll is part of an edition of 1,200 and is priced at \$129.95. She is made of porcelain and has a cloth body. (Web site: www.charismabrand.com/Marie_Osmond.aspx) **Right:** Kathi Kuti's piece, *The Dance*, epitomizes a tender moment between a couple. The OOA K 5½-inch duo, priced at \$700, was created from porcelain and Super Sculpey, with a covered-wire armature body. His jacket is tapestry-like and hers is taffeta. (Web site: www.kathikuti.com)



Above: Denise Bledsoe's adorable duo's eyes lock in a telling, smitten gaze. Six-inch *Pixie Love* is made of ProSculpt, is priced at \$350 and features handmade eyes. (E-mail: bledsoedolls@aol.com)



Above: *Joy Riders* may "drum to a different beat" than most, but that doesn't make their love any less real! The 10-inch cloth-and-leather piece is priced at \$595. (Web site: www.joycepatterson.com)



Right: Twenty-two inch *Billy* and 18-inch *Julie Belle* bond over a time-treasured game. Created by Judy D. Porter, the ProSculpt dolls are priced at \$250 each. *Charlie Horse*, also made from ProSculpt, is priced at \$300. (Web site: www.sandboxtoonies.com)



While making herself beautiful to meet her sweetheart, *Lisette* is disappointed to discover her new blue shoes are too small! Rotraut Schrott's 32-inch OOA K beauty is made of a Cernit-Modelen mix. (E-mail: rotraut.schrott@t-online.de)