

CARLTON WARE NEWSLETTER #60
from
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May 2013

Our last Newsletter came out in January, just after we arrived in Argentina for our winter vacation. We spent 4½ months in the Buenos Aires summer and fell in love with the city. There are many things to recommend this city for; unfortunately buying Carlton Ware is not one of them. There is plenty there, we can attest to that, but it is mostly priced way beyond the current market. There are some wonderful shops along Calle Defensa, the main antique shopping street in San Telmo, but the prices are totally unrealistic. But before we get to the shops, we want to tell you about an interesting antique market that we came across.



La Estacion del Anticuario, (The Station of Antiques), is a weekend antique market that sets up on one of the platforms on Barrancas Station. The station is located on the Tren de La Costa, (Coastal Train), railway line between Olivos, a suburb of Buenos Aires, and Tigre, in the River Plate delta area. It has up to 70 stalls that set up on Saturdays and Sundays, selling all the usual stuff you would expect to see at an outside antique market. It stretches along the length of one of the platforms and we even spotted a piece of Carlton Ware on one of the stalls:



The MAGPIE pattern was one that we saw frequently in Buenos Aires. This piece had a price sticker on the base of 2,400 pesos (\$480 or £320); consequently it

didn't catch our train today! It was fun walking around the stalls along the platform. The train service is about one train every half hour, which was long enough to view all the stalls and then catch the next train to continue our journey.



Back to the antique shops in Buenos Aires; as we previously mentioned, the main antique shopping area is Calle Defensa, in the San Telmo district. The shops are open every day, although it is a bit hit and miss with some of them. The really busy day along Defensa is Sunday, when the restaurants surrounding Plaza Dorego clear away their outside tables and the whole square is turned over to antique stall holders. But this is Argentina and Sunday, so nothing really gets going until 10 a.m. Even some of the stall holders don't turn up until opening time and some of the shops don't open until noon or 1 p.m. When they do open, they do not seem too eager to sell, as their prices are well out dated. In one shop, crammed from wall to wall and back to front with wonderful art deco furniture, glass and ceramics, (just one of several, similarly stocked shops), we wandered by cabinets containing pieces of Cubist Butterfly, Moonlight Cameo, and other patterns, finally arriving at the back of the shop where the owner was sitting. Beyond him was a really huge piece of Carlton Ware in the STORK & BAMBOO pattern. It was a lamp base in the form of a temple jar, shape 153; it must have been at least 24 inches high. It was outstanding and in an unusual matt terra cotta colourway. We asked the owner how much he wanted for his lamp and he pulled the number US\$2,800 out of the air. Argentine antique dealers always quote prices in US dollars; they are not interested in pesos! There was another piece of STORK & BAMBOO standing next to the lamp; a much smaller vase in the same colourway. He quoted \$800 for that. Just behind us was a cabinet with a pair of PARROTS ginger jars in a lovely pale blue. He quoted \$800 each for those! A quite outstanding cubist elephant from the Beswick factory was also \$800! By this time, we were making our way out of the shop. The owner followed us back up to the front of the store, telling us on the way that prices were negotiable. I told him that there was no point negotiating when the starting point was so far away from any acceptable ending point! We left, with him mumbling something about "don't cry for me Argentina"; whatever that had to do with it!

But, all in all, if you are planning a trip to Buenos Aires and will have time for some antique hunting, you certainly will have a fun time in the city. There is lots of stuff there, although it is hard finding it at realistic prices. However, by the end

of our almost five month stay, including a few days with our friend Pablo in Montevideo across the River Plate in Uruguay, we found a few things to bring home; unfortunately, not too much of it was Carlton Ware.



Left: MIKADO 9 inch slender ginger jar Pearl Lustre ground pattern 2350

Centre: One of our favourite finds – a Noritake part coffee set in the Indian Elephant pattern

Right: NEW CHINESE BIRD & CLOUD 11 inch vase matt blue ground pattern 3320, shape 441



Left: Image of Evita on the side of a building along Avenida 9 de Julio

Right: A lot of British influence is seen in Buenos Aires, such as queuing for buses



Left: There are some expert dog walkers in the city – this one was leading 14 + 2 free loaders!

Right: View from our apartment in Recoleta, Buenos Aires



Left: Eating out is excellent and affordable in BA – our favourite restaurant was El Burladero
Right: Some excellent art galleries in the city; the Museo de Arte Latinoamericano had a series of photographs by Marta Minujin and Andy Warhol titled “The Payment of the Argentinian External Debt with Corn” (1985)



The Coleccion de Arte Amalia Lacroze de Fortabat is housed in a gallery in Puerto Madero and has one of the few Turner's outside of the U.K. Here we have “Juliet and her Nurse” (1836).

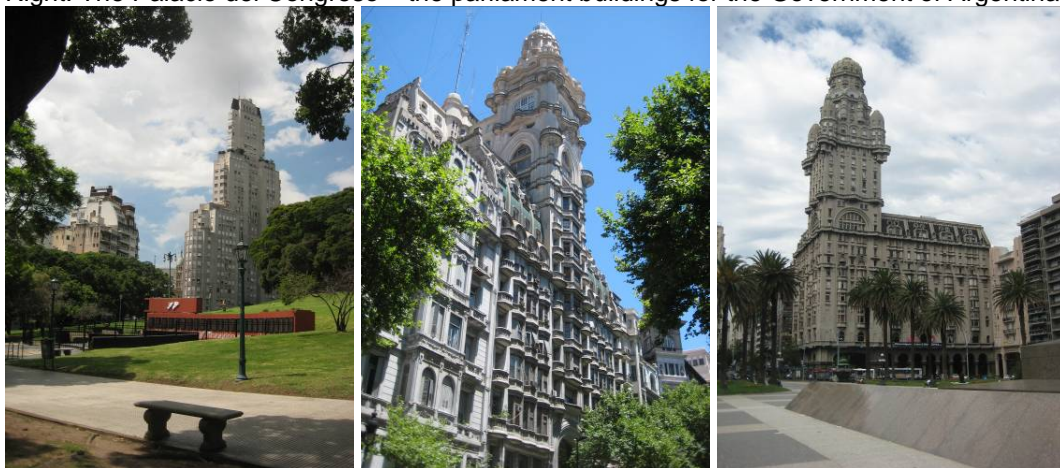
Amalia Lacroze de Fortabat was, at one time, the richest woman in Buenos Aires. Like her art collection, she was quite a colourful character herself in her lifetime!



Left: Eva Peron's family mausoleum at the Recoleta Cemetery – always has fresh flowers
 Right: The only Harrods outside the U.K. was on Calle Florida, Buenos Aires – it closed in 1998



There is some wonderful architecture in both Buenos Aires and Montevideo -
 Left: The Palacio de Aguas Corrientes – a grand Victorian edifice, built to house a water pumping station. The exterior terra cotta tiles came from the Doulton and Burmantofts factories.
 Right: The Palacio del Congreso – the parliament buildings for the Government of Argentina.



Left: The Kavanagh Building overlooking Plaza San Martin
 Centre: The Palacio Barolo on Avenida de Mayo, Buenos Aires, and
 Right: Its twin building, The Palacio Salvo on Avenida 18 de Julio, Montevideo



We returned home to Calgary at the end of April and soon got back to a normal routine which, of course, included the search for Carlton Ware!

In April, an interesting piece of Carlton Ware was sold on eBay. Incorrectly listed as the Kingfisher pattern instead of Hummingbird, it had the pattern number 3891. This

number actually belongs to the SKETCHING BIRD pattern in the same gloss cream colourway. When we looked further into this anomaly, we found that these two patterns actually shared the same pattern numbers on other colourways; they both use the pattern number 3952 for the Powder Blue colourway and 3889 for the Ruby Lustre colourway.



This really is quite a unique situation for Carlton Ware; we are not aware of this happening with any other pattern. Some large scale patterns, such as NEW MIKADO, use different elements of the pattern on different size pieces; however, there are no known instances of these two birds being used together on large pieces, so why are they sharing the same pattern numbers? The only thing these birds have in common is that they are both flying by the same tree. It is not the size of the bird that is the issue, as SKETCHING BIRD appears on the RITA shape demitasse, which is a very small surface. So what is the reason? Does anyone know of any other colourways, or even other patterns, that share this oddity?



In May, a Gondola Bowl was sold on eBay in the rarely seen Needlepoint pattern on the Ruby Lustre ground, pattern number 3816. Gondola Bowls are not everyone's favourite shape and some geometric patterns do not work well on its curved surface. This piece sold for £552 which we felt was low. But maybe it was because the art deco border



element of the pattern seemed a bit lost on the side of the bowl. The border is quite an intricate design and is one that is also used on the Rainbow Fan pattern, seen here on

the gloss mottled green colourway number 3700.



Some of you may have noticed that the Carlton Ware World web site is now operating on Facebook. We are not fans of Facebook so will not be participating in that forum, but we have been following what has been going on by viewing the Facebook panel on the CWW home page <http://carltonwareworld.com/default.htm>. In April, Bruce Nichol of the Nicholnack website in Australia, sent in a picture of a Floating Bowl asking if anyone could come up with a pattern name for this unnumbered piece. Harvey wrote back from Carlton Ware World with a very interesting answer: "No need to find a name for this one – it was called JAZZ STRIPE on the works. I would guess the stripe is on the outer face of the bowl. If the stripes are in green and mauve then the pattern number is likely to be 2653, though sometimes the stripes might not be used depending on the shape. The pattern was initially devised for the earliest lady powder bowls."



Coincidentally, another unnumbered bowl in the same pattern but a different colourway was auctioned in Cumberland in April and sold for £50. We wrote to the auctioneer asking if there was a pattern number on the base but got no reply.

However, after Harvey mentioned that the pattern was devised for the lady powder bowls, we looked at our picture files and found one using some of the elements in the pattern. This piece is pattern number 2654, right after the number Harvey quotes for JAZZ STRIPE.



Also in April, Fieldings Auctioneers of Stourbridge, <http://fieldingsauctioneers.co.uk/> had their Decades of Design sale that included quite a few lots of Carlton Ware. There was a good assortment of top quality Best Ware pieces; top billing going to an outstanding piece of Red Devil in the gloss Blue Green colourway, pattern 3765. This popular shaped biscuit barrel sold at a



hammer price of £3,000. Another top piece was in the rarely seen Awakening pattern; a nice 6 inch jug in the matt orange colourway, pattern number 3450. Some scratching but it still fetched a hammer price of £500.

Also being sold at Fieldings was a large collection of Preserves. This is a popular Carlton Ware shape to collect for a variety of reasons: they don't take up a lot of room; they come in a wide variety of patterns, both Best Ware and Handcraft; and they (mostly) are quite affordable. The Preserve on the right, TREE & HOUSE, pattern 3563, sold for £600 but quite a few sold for less than £50. Here is a picture gallery including some of those sold at Fieldings, some of which have already been re-sold on eBay. (Sale prices noted where known).



2364 MIKADO on gloss Powder Blue
 2727 NEW MIKADO on Ruby Lustre
 2728 NEW MIKADO on gloss Powder Blue



2881 MIKADO on matt black & terracotta
2884 PERSIAN on Lustre Blue
2885 ORCHARD on Lustre Blue



2911 MAGPIES on Lustre Orange
2929 TEMPLE on matt black & blue
2936 CHINESE TEA GARDEN on gloss Powder Blue



2946 Moonlight Cameo on Lustre Orange (May 2013 sold on eBay for £190)
3025 NEW FLIES on Lustre Blue (April 2013 sold at Fieldings Auctions for £140)
3027 NEW MIKADO on Lustre White



3037 PARROTS on Lustre Orange
3042 ORANGE EMBOSSED on Lustre Blue
3050 TURKISH on Lustre Blue



3199 CHINESE FIGURES on gloss Powder Blue
 3235 SHAMROCK (HANDCRAFT)
 3242 FLOWERING PAPHOS (HANDCRAFT) (April 2013 sold at Fieldings Auctions for £95)



3243 SWALLOW & CLOUD on mottled blue (April 2013 sold at Fieldings for £80)
 3255 ORCHID (HANDCRAFT) (April 2013 sold at Fieldings for £78)
 3273 DELPHINIUM (HANDCRAFT)



3278 HONESTY (HANDCRAFT)
 3322 NEW CHINESE BIRD & CLOUD on gloss Powder Blue
 3325 ORCHID (HANDCRAFT) (May 2013 sold on eBay for £108)



3326 Stellata (HANDCRAFT) (April 2013 sold at Fieldings Auctions for £150)
 3356 Zig Zag (HANDCRAFT)
 3358 Gentian (HANDCRAFT)



3413 GARDEN on matt blue
 3447 Explosion on matt grey (April 2013 sold at Fieldings Auctions for £520)
 3448 Peach Melba (HANDCRAFT)



3525 CLEMATIS (HANDCRAFT)
 3526 NEW DELPHINIUM (HANDCRAFT)
 3587 Medley on gloss ground



3593 Medley on gloss ground
 3655 JAZZ STITCH on gloss yellow & orange (April 2013 sold at Fieldings Auctions for £330)
 3693 DAISY on matt blue (April 2013 sold at Fieldings Auctions for £150)



3745 PRIMULA on matt mauve
 3787 Devils Copse on Powder Blue (April 2013 sold at Fieldings Auctions for £160)
 3790 GUM FLOWER on sponged yellow



3801 HERBACEOUS BORDER on gloss black & grey
 3802 AUTUMN DAISY on gloss orange
 3855 BELL on gloss turquoise (April 2013 sold at Fieldings Auctions for £125)



3874 HEDGEROW on matt grey (May 2013 sold on eBay for £206)
 3971 RIVER FISH on gloss grey (April 2013 sold at Fieldings Auctions for £240 – May 2013 sold on eBay for £310)
 3973 HOLLYHOCKS on Lustre Green



There are 46 Preserves pictured above, dating from the early 1920s to the late 1930s. A Preserve should come complete with a lid and tray but many have been broken or lost over the years. A missing lid will affect the value more than a missing tray; depending on the pattern, a missing tray does not make

too much difference in value. Check out the RIVER FISH set in the row above! This style of Preserve usually came with a pear finial; however, check out FLOWERING POPYRUS, pattern 3242 and PEACH MELBA, pattern 3448 above – they both have a bunch of fruit for a finial. Once you have collected enough of this shape, there are other Preserve shapes to search for, such as the popular MODERN shape (above) and the modernist shape (right). The Ruby Lustre Secretary Bird set, pattern 4018, sold for £310 at Fieldings.



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