

RUTH VAN RUYCKEVELT 1931 - 1988



Ruth Levett was born of mixed French and Polish parentage at Raynes Park, London in 1931. At the age of 14, she became the youngest ever accepted student at Wimbledon School of Art, where she specialised in costume and spent many hours studying in the Victoria and Albert Museum.

She qualified as a designer and illustrator in 1952 and following her marriage to Ronald van Ruyckevelt, started freelance work for Royal Worcester Porcelain in 1955. Together they worked on the wonderful series of Limited Edition Victorian and Edwardian ladies, Ruth's expertise and knowledge of period costumes being particularly appropriate. They also produced a set of four Nursing Sister's, in later years never agreeing who designed

which figure! Much confusion has arisen over the work of this talented couple and the Royal Worcester Company eventually put the name 'R.van Ruyckevelt' on the figures so as not to offend either modeller.

The couple ran their own studios in Malvern during the 1970's, producing a number of china models of flowers on marble bases, which were sold through Royal Worcester showrooms. Ruth also worked for Dent's Gloves as head designer, designed gloves for Christian Dior of Paris and was on the staff of Malvern Girls College and Malvern College of Art.

During the late 1970's, following her divorce, she designed a number of Edwardian and Art Nouveau figures for Albany Fine China of Lowesmoor, Worcester. She also modelled a small number of portrait studies, including Earl Mountbatten and Queen Elizabeth II, which were produced in bronze.

Ruth died in Birmingham in February 1988. She had two children, Paul and Julia.



ROYAL WORCESTER FIGURE MODELS by Ruth & Ronald van Ruyckevelt

1958	3642	Lisette	Victorian Ladies	Limited Edition 500
	3643	Penelope	Victorian Ladies	Limited Edition 500
	3662	London Hospital	Nursing Sisters	Limited Edition 500
	3663	St.Thomas's Hospital	Nursing Sisters	Limited Edition 500
1959	3681	Beatrice	Victorian Ladies	Limited Edition 500
	3682	Caroline	Victorian Ladies	Limited Edition 500
	3687	Rebecca	Victorian Ladies	Limited Edition 500

	3688	Louisa	Victorian Ladies	Limited Edition 500
1960	3700	The Tea Party	Victorian Ladies	Limited Edition 250
1962	3749	Melanie	Victorian Ladies	Limited Edition 500
	3750	Rosalind	Victorian Ladies	Limited Edition 500
1964	3771	University College	Nursing Sisters	Limited Edition 500
	3774	Elizabeth	Victorian Ladies	Limited Edition 500
	3775	Madeleine	Victorian Ladies	Limited Edition 500
1965	3803	Marion	Victorian Ladies	Limited Edition 500
	3804	Charlotte and Jane	Victorian Ladies	Limited Edition 500
1967	3841	Emily	Victorian Ladies	Limited Edition 500
	3842	Bridget	Victorian Ladies	Limited Edition 500
1968	3861	British Red Cross	Nursing Sisters	Limited Edition 750
1969	3877	Elaine	Victorian Ladies	Limited Edition 500
	3878	Felicity	Victorian Ladies	Limited Edition 750
	3881	The Picnic	Victorian Ladies	Limited Edition 250
	3887	Alice	Victorian Ladies	Limited Edition 750
	3892	Cecilia	Victorian Ladies	Limited Edition 750

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