

MOM'S JOY ROOM

2964 Fairmont Road, Morgantown, WV 26501 | (304) 282-3671

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY



Wax/composition character portrait couple, approx. 15" each, seated in miniature wooden chairs

CURRENT MARKET VALUE

\$150 – \$350

*For the pair, including miniature chairs;
based on comparable sales of artist-made
character portrait doll couples*

Elderly Couple Character Portrait Dolls

*Artist-made wax/composition character dolls — maker
unmarked*

HISTORY

This charming pair depicts an elderly gentleman and lady, each rendered with the hyper-realistic character portraiture style favored by 20th-century folk-art and doll-artist traditions — the same genre of work popularized by artists like Lewis Sorensen, whose wax character dolls are also part of this collection. Seated in their own miniature wooden chairs, the pair captures an intimate, homespun vignette: the gentleman dressed in a vest, dress shirt, tie, and trousers with wire-rimmed spectacles, and the lady in a long Victorian-style floral print dress with a high collar and her hair swept back. The exaggerated, expressive facial modeling — wrinkles, sunken cheeks, and characterful expressions — is the hallmark of hand-sculpted portrait dolls made to evoke a specific personality or "story" rather than a generic doll face.

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- ♦ Type: character portrait doll pair (wax or wax-over-composition head construction)
- ♦ Size: approximately 15" each
- ♦ Presentation: each doll seated in its own miniature wooden chair
- ♦ Costuming: gentleman in vest, shirt, tie, trousers, and spectacles; lady in Victorian-style floral print dress
- ♦ Craftsmanship: hand-sculpted, expressive character faces typical of artist-made folk portrait dolls
- ♦ Maker: unmarked — no maker's mark currently confirmed

COLLECTOR NOTES

Artist-made character portrait dolls of this kind — especially paired sets

depicting an elderly couple, complete with their own miniature furniture — are a distinctive niche within folk-art doll collecting. Because they are almost always one-of-a-kind or small-batch studio pieces rather than factory production dolls, valuation depends heavily on the individual artist's reputation and the quality of the sculpting and costuming. As no maker's mark has been confirmed on this pair, this certificate is issued as an unattributed artist character doll set; the estimate reflects comparable sales of similar quality portrait doll pairs. Should Sandy locate a label, signature, or maker's mark on the dolls or chairs, this valuation should be revisited, as named-artist pieces (in the tradition of makers like Lewis Sorensen) can bring considerably more.

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Certificate Issued: July 2026

Sandy Wade, Proprietor

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