

# MOM'S JOY ROOM

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

## CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY & VALUATION

*Museum-Quality Antique Poured Wax Doll — Attributed to the Finest English Maker*

### SERAPHINE

### PIEROTTI

*London, England — Est. 1770s — By Appointment to the British Royal Family*



#### MARKET VALUE

**\$1,800–3,000**

*Realistic quick-sale price, private/specialist market*

#### ESTIMATED WORTH

**\$3,200–4,500**

*Ceiling value, specialist auction (Theriault's/Bonhams)*



*"Seraphine" — 19th Century Pierotti Poured Wax Doll  
21" — Shoulder Head — Circa 1870  
Rooted Blonde Hair — Blue Glass Eyes  
Original Cloth Body — Wax Lower Limbs  
Original Jacket, Dress & Undergarments  
Acquired from England — Shipped from UK to USA*

"Seraphine" — 19th Century 21" Pierotti  
Poured Wax Shoulder-Head Doll — circa  
1870

*Poured Wax Shoulder Head & Lower Limbs —  
Original Hand-Sewn Cloth Body  
Rooted Blonde Hair — Blue Glass Sleep Eyes —  
Original Jacket, Dress & Undergarments*

#### HISTORY

The **Pierotti family** stands as the most storied name in the history of poured wax doll making. Domenico Pierotti, an Italian-born craftsman, established his London workshop in the late 18th century, and the family's artistry continued unbroken through four generations until 1935 — well over a century of doll making at the highest level, longer than almost any other doll-making dynasty in history. The Pierottis were not merely doll makers; they were **artists of the first order**, producing portrait dolls of extraordinary realism whose lifelike complexions, delicately rooted hair, and finely modeled features were unmatched by any competitor of their day, English or Continental. Their

## ◆ ROYAL PEDIGREE ◆

*The Pierotti family supplied  
poured wax dolls to  
Queen Victoria's Royal Household  
beginning in 1849.  
Their dolls are held in the  
Victoria & Albert Museum, London.*

clientele included members of the British aristocracy, and beginning in 1849 they supplied poured wax dolls to the household of Queen Victoria herself — creating a beloved series of Royal Baby dolls in the likenesses of the Queen's own children, several of which survive in royal and museum collections today. Examples of Pierotti's work are preserved in the **Victoria & Albert Museum in London**, cementing their place as the definitive name in Victorian wax doll artistry.

Named "Seraphine" for her serene, angelic expression, this magnificent 21-inch shoulder-head doll, dated to circa 1870, embodies everything that made Pierotti the undisputed pinnacle of the craft: a poured wax shoulder head of luminous translucency achieved through repeated dipping in tinted beeswax, individually rooted blonde hair inserted strand by strand into the warm wax scalp (rather than a wig, as competitors typically used), and expressive blue glass sleep eyes set with remarkable depth. Her original hand-sewn cloth body and poured wax lower limbs remain entirely intact, and her original jacket, layered dress, and undergarments survive — a testament to the extraordinary care with which she has been preserved and passed down across more than 150 years. Seraphine was acquired directly from England and shipped to the United States, keeping her firmly within the country and tradition of her original manufacture.

◆ *A comparable 21" Pierotti poured wax doll, circa 1870, with original costume sold at Theriault's Auction House for \$2,800. A 26" Pierotti Royal Baby series doll realized \$2,500 at the same house. Pierotti dolls regularly appear at Bonhams, Christie's, and major specialist doll auctions worldwide.* ◆

## NOTABLE INFORMATION

- ◆ Name: "Seraphine" · Maker: Attributed to Pierotti — London, England — circa 1870
- ◆ Type: Poured wax shoulder head — finest Victorian English construction
- ◆ Size: 21 inches tall
- ◆ Head: Poured wax shoulder head — luminous translucent complexion
- ◆ Hair: Individually rooted blonde hair — inserted strand by strand into wax scalp
- ◆ Eyes: Blue glass sleep eyes — open and close

- ◆ Body: Original hand-sewn cloth body — attached to wax shoulder plate
- ◆ Limbs: Poured wax lower arms and legs — original and intact
- ◆ Clothing: Original jacket, layered dress and undergarments present
- ◆ Royal connection: Pierotti supplied dolls to Queen Victoria's household from 1849
- ◆ Museum holdings: Pierotti dolls held in the Victoria & Albert Museum, London
- ◆ Auction comparables: 21" Pierotti sold \$2,800 at Theriault's specialist auction
- ◆ Provenance: Acquired from England (UK) — original country of maker — shipped to USA

**Collector's Advisory:** Pierotti poured wax dolls of this size and period are among the most desirable Victorian dolls on the international market. Seraphine is strongly recommended for evaluation by a **certified doll appraiser** or submission to a specialist auction house such as **Theriault's** (theriaults.com) or **Bonhams** prior to sale, as her realized price could significantly exceed even the Estimated Worth shown here. The Victoria & Albert Museum's doll department may also be of interest for formal attribution.

**Attribution note:** Pierotti dolls of this era were rarely signed or stamped, so attribution rests on construction style, wax quality, and rooted-hair technique consistent with documented Pierotti workshop output — not a maker's mark. Market Value reflects realistic private-sale/specialist pricing; Estimated Worth reflects the ceiling a top-tier auction house (Theriault's, Bonhams) might realize given her royal-pedigree maker and fully original condition.

*"Seraphine — a Victorian lady in miniature,  
carried across an ocean, her serene wax face  
untouched by 150 years of time."*

Mom's Joy Room | Morgantown, WV  
Certificate Issued: July 2026 | Values based on Theriault's, Bonhams, Ruby Lane &  
specialist collector market data 2024–2025

Sandy Wade,  
Proprietor  
Sandy Wade, Proprietor (304) 282-3671