

MOM'S JOY ROOM

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CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY



*Large black chalkware rearing horse with carved wood
Native American rider figure, 1930s*

CURRENT MARKET VALUE

\$75 – \$200

*17" x 15", approx. 8 lbs;
mixed-media carnival/fairground folk art*

"Spirit Rider" — Black Chalkware Horse & Carved Wood Rider

*Circa 1930s — American carnival/fairground folk art
tradition*

HISTORY

This dramatic sculpture pairs a large, solid black chalkware (molded plaster composition) rearing horse with a separately carved wooden figure of a Native American rider mounted atop it. Large figural chalkware horses were a hugely popular category of carnival and fairground "midway prize" art throughout the 1920s–1940s, most commonly cast and painted as a single all-plaster piece. A mixed-media example like this one — combining a chalkware horse body with a hand-carved wood rider figure — is a less common variant of the type, suggesting either an unusual factory/vendor combination or a later marriage of two period folk-art pieces into a single dramatic tableau. At approximately 17" x 15" and 8 lbs, it is a substantial, eye-catching example regardless of its exact origin.

NOTABLE INFORMATION

- ◆ Horse: solid black-painted chalkware (molded plaster composition), rearing pose
- ◆ Rider: separately carved wooden figure of a Native American rider
- ◆ Size: approximately 17" x 15", weighing about 8 lbs
- ◆ Era: circa 1930s, American carnival/fairground folk art tradition

COLLECTOR NOTES

Attribution note: the specific maker/vendor pairing of a black chalkware horse with a carved wood rider has not been definitively identified — this description is based on physical examination of the piece rather than a documented maker's mark, so attribution to a specific carnival prize manufacturer is stylistic rather than confirmed. Large-scale carnival chalkware in good condition is well-collected among

Americana and folk-art enthusiasts, and the mixed-media construction here (chalkware + carved wood) makes this a more unusual example than the typical single-material prize piece. Values vary considerably based on paint condition, absence of chips/repairs, and the rarity of the specific horse-and-rider combination.

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Sandy Wade, Proprietor

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