

# *Special Vintage Ornaments— Just in Time!*



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December 20th, 2021

**By now any serious Christmas enthusiast** has been enjoying their tree for weeks. I usually spend a little time every evening just enjoying the tree, with no distractions. Sometimes I lie on the floor underneath it and look up into it. A whole different perspective.

Despite the lateness of the season, there's still time to pick up some last minute ornament treasures. We've been fortunate to acquire a number of "diorama" ornaments, including some unusually large ones. These ornaments were designed with one concave side, meant to display a figure or scene. They were made in Czechoslovakia, Italy, Japan, Germany, and Austria. The big ones from Germany are very hard to find. Some of them have an unusual apparatus for hanging. I won't bother describing it, you can see them in our stores. The smaller ones are from Japan. I come across new designs all the time, so there's much to look forward to in the coming years.



**Diorama**



**Large Diorama**

Another group of ornaments that we are featuring today is those with faces. This could be a Santa, snowman, clown or other type of person, or an animal such as a dog, cat, bear, or owl. Seems like there are unlimited creatures, designs and colors. These ornaments are referred to as “figurals.” All in this group were made in Europe.



**Santa Claus**



**Clowns, Snowmen and more**



## Animal Faces

We've also been lucky to find some two-part ornaments. The ones we have right now are two separate ornaments, meant to be displayed linked together. You might call them hot air balloons. They do resemble those big balloons, but there is no basket underneath. Instead we see a bell or a ball. These beauties move slightly when there is air movement, so that adds some interest to the tree. These aren't easy to find, and those in our current collection have good strong colors.

Many collectors have smaller trees around the house, in addition to their main tree. It's the same at my house. This year we put up a four foot tall twig tree and instead of decorating it with standard ornaments we decided on using miniature ornaments. Those that are less than an inch and a half across, more or less. I don't like to be too precise about restrictions. I want to feel free to add whatever ornaments I like—I refuse to be bullied by my own rules. The tiny

ornaments might go unappreciated on the main tree, so I thought this might be a good way to display them, and I'm liking it. Turns out I had more miniature ornaments than I thought. The tree is a hit! With that in mind, at Milaeger's we've collected a number of miniature ornaments that might suit your needs. Most of the ones we've secured are of European origin, but there are some American too. Many styles to choose from, a few are featured in the photo.



**Two-part**



**Miniature**

For this last blog, I've decided to do the "show and tell" thing again. This is where I show you an ornament or two from my personal ornament collection that relates to the subjects in this week's blog. I've hesitated to do this because I don't want to show something that's not for sale. But enough of you have responded to me that you enjoy seeing them, so I thought I'd do it again. I hope you enjoy them as much as I do. Have a Merry Christmas everyone!

**Kevin's Show and Tell**  
*(not for sale)*



**two-part**



**minis**



**dioramas**

Please email me ([kevin@milaegers.com](mailto:kevin@milaegers.com)) with your questions and comments!