

It's a Small, Small World: Dollhouses and Miniatures

November 2012 through February 2013

Held over by popular demand, our precious holiday exhibition enthralled visitors with a fantasy world of miniature houses, furnishings, toys, and dolls. Under the guidance of artistic director Chris Zaima, designer Sandy Booth and John Pitts, the former scenic artist at The Metropolitan Opera in New York City, this whimsical exhibit captured the holiday spirit for children of all ages and broke all attendance records at the museum.

The enchanting display featured over fifty unique handcrafted dollhouses and room boxes, spanning three centuries, from the Gunn Museum, Washington residents and private collectors across the Northeast. A number of dollhouse treasures, discovered in local attics, basements and barns, saw the light of day for the first time in decades in this exhibit. The oldest item on display was a very rare George II English Baby House built in 1747. Some other notable artifacts in the exhibit were 1890s Moritz Gottschalk dollhouses, elaborate 19th century German "room boxes", a 1920s Tynietoy dollhouse with original Tynietoy furnishings, an early 20th century British Tri-ang dollhouse, a Mt. Vernon dollhouse built in 1932 for the bicentennial of George Washington's birth, Louis Marx tin houses, among many others. Also included in this exhibit was the work of local dollhouse craftsmen and miniature artisans Rick Maccione of [Dollhouse Mansions](#), Susan Anthony Klein and Teresa Layman of [Teresa Layman Designs](#).



1747 George II Baby House
from the collection of Allerton Cushman III