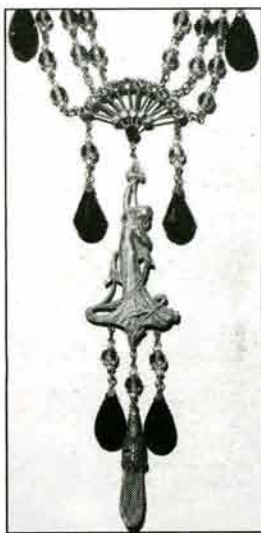


Something SPECIAL Coming to the Great Antique Shows in Northern Wisconsin presented by C & J Promotions, being held in Minocqua (July 2,3,4) and in Boulder Junction, (July 9, 10)



Purple and Black Art Nouveau Lady Necklace, \$495.

There have been stories floating around about amazing discoveries of stashed antiques. Some are true, and some are not. The commonly circulated internet story of the building containing antique cars that has jaws flapping at nearly every antique show across the country, is an urban legend. Check with Snopes.com. The photo that is sent around with the story is actually one man's vintage car collection, dusty though it may be, but was not the 'chance discovery' of the new owner of a forgotten property. That story's details vary as to location, from somewhere in the U.S. to a remote country village in Italy, but however presented, is not true.

However, this story is true. Jo Addie, antique dealer and proprietor of Somewhere in Time, of La Grange Park, IL has discovered a treasure trove of amazing Art Deco Czech Jewelry, which has been in a padlocked warehouse in Czechoslovakia for over 80 years. Ms. Addie is buying the jewelry from the Czech woman who bought that building. The stunning glass and brass necklaces and earrings were made in the mid 1920s, and most noteworthy of all -- everything in the warehouse turned out to be one-of-a-kind. The building belonged to the company that originally made these amazing pieces. The jewelry collection represents all the popular motifs of the mid 1920s, such as Egyptian Revival (after King Tut's tomb was discovered, in 1922) and Art Nouveau Revival (1924).

"There are unique colors and textures of glass in this collection I have never seen," says Addie. She has been a collector of Czech jewelry for over 30 years, and has lectured on the subject; it is her passion, and one of her specialties in her antique business over the last 24 years. Most of her costume jewelry is of Czech origin, 1930s and earlier.

"The Czechs were glass makers, and the entire Gablonz region became world famous for its manufacture of glass, including stones, buttons and finished jewelry, perfume bottles and art glass, until Hitler shut it down overnight with an edict declaring it to be a 'frivolous trinket industry,'" said Addie. The Gablonz region, dotted with family-owned companies in small villages, employed all the areas' workers--artisans all-including chemists, glassmakers, stone cutters, designers, metal workers, assemblers, etc. This region developed a notable symbiotic industry which was competitive in a way that drove the quality up--instead of down. These Czech artisans, almost all of whose names have been lost to history because they did not sign their work with their own signatures, supplied the worlds' stones, buttons and jewelry for 150 years. If marked, the pieces bear only "Czecho," or "Czechoslovakia."

Addie continues, "In one sad day in 1938, everyone in the area was unemployed, by Hitler's order. All the Jews were given 24-hour notice to vacate, told to leave their valuables behind with the keys to their homes. Then shortly thereafter, my lady friend there said it got even worse. The Communists came in and took everything

away from everyone and padlocked the buildings, which is how they have remained since. Now that it is Czech Republic, the government is encouraging people who are family to come forward and make claim to the properties. But if no one comes forward, the buildings go up for sale, and that is what happened in this case. She bought this building and found the jewelry stashed in boxes inside...and an amazing store of hand-painted glass buttons in the clay cellar of the building."



Art Deco Dragonfly in red & clear glass, \$450.

Addie says there is no way of knowing exactly why this collection never made it out of the building in the mid 1920s when it was created. "I believe, but we'll never know for sure, that some customer commissioned this particular jewelry collection to be made, and then must have backed out of the deal. It could have been a department store or special boutique-style shop in Germany perhaps, because this region did a lot of business with Germany. And Germany fell into a deep depression in the mid 20's, so these facts could explain it." Addie continued, "I buy jewelry and buttons from her every two months or so. Everywhere I take it, it gets press and generates a lot of excitement. No one has ever seen anything like it."

Daniel Swarovski, internationally known maker of "Austrian" crystal, is an alumnus of this Gablonz region. He was one of those who fled and later opened up his business in Austria. A chemist, he is credited with finding the solution to a prickly problem for Gablonz glassmakers. At the time, from a single batch of glass, the larger the stone that was cut from a batch was darker in color than smaller stones of the same batch. He discovered the answer of how to make glass that was consistent in color regardless of how it was cut.

"A lot of the formulas for colored glass were lost in that upheaval, and sudden end to that longtime industry. This jewelry collection represents the pinnacle of Czech glassmaking heritage, and the creative metal work to highlight the glass art," she said. "I have never seen anything like it, and I love to show it and wear it. Most of the women I sell it to, are wearing the necklaces with t-shirt and jeans--just a simple top and bottom and the necklace makes your outfit. It IS your outfit," Addie said with enthusiasm. "Right now, 'statement necklaces' are the fashion rage in all the magazines and runways," she said. "I don't much concern myself with what the magazines say, though. I just feel like a queen when wearing these necklaces. They are very artsy. In fact, some of my customers tell me they're hanging their necklace on the wall as art when they're not wearing them." Prices start at \$295 for the one-of-a-kind necklaces, and \$85 for the earrings.

Jo and Jim Addie travel cross-country to do antique shows, though they live in the Chicago suburb of La Grange Park. They have a summer home in the Minocqua area and do the C & J Promotions antique show series in Minocqua, Boulder Junction, and Manitowish Waters during the summer. "I love doing the shows up north because the clientele is sophisticated, the merchandise truly old and of excellent quality, and the hours allow us to be on our lake cruising with a cocktail in hand by 5 pm! That's a real difference from hotel rooms in strange towns!"

More info: www.somewhereintime.tv/jewelry/index.html



Jo Addie's display of necklaces.