

Artists And Literary Heroes Turn Into Nutcrackers

(NAPSA)—What do Vincent Van Gogh, Scrooge and The Cowardly Lion have in common? Each has been portrayed as a whimsical handcrafted nutcracker, guaranteed to inspire instant love.



Nutcrackers are among the most enchanting of gifts and collectibles. Fortunately, gift giving knows no season and may include birthdays, Mother's and Father's Days, graduation—or just because it's Tuesday. Designed with warmth and humor, hand painted and superbly costumed, these endearing figures are always welcome.

Consider the great impressionist Van Gogh, as interpreted by the master Christian Ulbricht. With his straw hat, his red hair in abundance, the artist is accompanied by a reproduction of his famous painting, "Sunflowers," on its own easel (not shown). The combination makes a wonderful gift for anyone who appreciates fine craftsmanship.

This craft has been delighting the world for more than 300 years. In Saxony in eastern Germany, Holzkunst Christian Ulbricht creates nutcrackers based on German lore, contemporary life and beloved literature, including *Dickens' A Christmas Carol*, *The Wizard of Oz* and much more.

For retail store and other information, including all about the Christian Ulbricht Collectors' Club, call toll-free, 888-707-5591, e-mail nutcracker@ulbricht.com, or visit www.ulbricht.com.