

MARIA SIBYLLA MERIAN & DAUGHTERS WOMEN OF ART AND SCIENCE

DATE: April 14, 2008
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GETTY MUSEUM EXHIBITION OF THE WORK OF MARIA SIBYLLA MERIAN INSPIRES UNIQUE GIFT ITEMS

**Silk scarves, neckties, porcelain mugs, fine dinnerware,
and two Getty publications are among the offerings
inspired by**

***Maria Sibylla Merian & Daughters:
Women of Art and Science***

**At the J. Paul Getty Museum, the Getty Center,
June 10 –August 31, 2008**

LOS ANGELES—A wide range of unique gifts, inspired by the art of Maria Sibylla Merian (1647–1717)—the focus of a major exhibition at the Getty Center opening June 10, 2008—will be available in the Museum Store beginning this spring. These beautiful and functional items include an 11" x 60" silk scarf with a motif of blue morpho butterflies and ripe red berries floating on a softly striped ground of sage green; whimsical silk neckties in nasturtium yellow or dusky pale blue featuring a parading ant pattern; and a set of porcelain mugs and dessert plates illustrated with large and luscious Merian insect and botanical pairings. Also among the highlights are Mottahedeh fine dinnerware, T-shirts, and magnet sets—all inspired by the botanical illustrations of Merian and her two daughters. A variety of fun and educational toys and games for children—which illustrate and explain the life-cycle of bugs and plants—will also be available in the Museum Store. These are being offered to accompany the first major exhibition of Merian's work in North America, ***Maria Sibylla Merian & Daughters: Women of Art and Science***, organized by the J. Paul Getty Museum and the Museum Het Rembrandthuis.

All items are available at the Museum Store at the Getty Center in Los Angeles and by phone at 800-223-3431. Books can also be ordered online at www.getty.edu/bookstore.

GETTY PUBLICATIONS

The Getty has a longstanding reputation for publishing high quality art books for scholars, general readers, and museum visitors and it continues that tradition with two special publications to accompany the exhibition of Merian's works. The first is the full-

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color companion book
*Maria Sibylla Merian and
Daughters: Women of Art
and Science* (\$65,
hardcover; \$45,
paperback) written by Ella

Reitsma and co-published by the Rembrandthuis, Waanders Publishers, and the Getty. Reitsma is the first author to attempt to separate Merian's work from that of her two daughters, who collaborated extensively with their mother. This beautifully illustrated book includes newly discovered drawings and biographical details.

In addition, the Getty has published a delightful gift book entitled *Insects and Flowers: The Art of Maria Sibylla Merian* (\$9.95) by David Brafman and Stephanie Schrader. The 52-page book reproduces details of 16 plates from a second edition copy of the *Metamorphosis of the Insects of Suriname*, held in the special collections of the Research Library of the Getty Research Institute. It is a vibrant encapsulation of Merian's imagery and includes an afterword on Merian's life and work, as well as an insect and plant identification guide.

MERIAN-INSPIRED DINNERWARE

Merian's lavish illustrations of flora and fauna inspired the center motif on an original (circa 1725) Chinese export plate in Mildred Mottahedeh's personal collection. The Merian Service is based on these floral motifs. Raised enamels in 23 rich colors accented in gold filigree replicate the hand-painted texture of the original 18th-century porcelain. The Getty Museum store will be offering an assortment of products from the Merian Service, including the Dessert Plate (\$100), the Bread and Butter Plate (\$75), the Tea Cup and Saucer (\$80), the Demitasse Cup and Saucer (\$60), the Small Platter (\$140), the Lobed Tray (\$25) and the Low Square Bowl (\$325). Additional products from the Merian line are also available via special order.



ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

On view at the J. Paul Getty Museum, the Getty Center, June 10 – August 31, 2008, ***Maria Sibylla Merian & Daughters: Women of Art and Science*** is the first major exhibition of Merian's work in America and will explore various aspects of her career, including her hand-colored publications on flowers and insects, her successful business venture in Amsterdam as a specimen-supplier for the collectors and naturalists, and her extraordinary journey to Suriname and the scientific discoveries that resulted. ***Maria Sibylla Merian & Daughters: Women of Art and Science*** has been organized by the J. Paul Getty Museum and the Museum Het Rembrandthuis, and is supported by the Netherlands Culture Fund of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science. The exhibition is curated by Dutch art historian Ella Reitsma. The Getty's presentation is curated by Stephanie Schrader, assistant curator of drawings.

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The J. Paul Getty Trust is an international cultural and philanthropic institution devoted to the visual arts that features the J. Paul Getty Museum, the Getty Research Institute, the Getty Conservation Institute, and the Getty Foundation. The J. Paul Getty Trust and Getty programs serve a varied audience from two locations: the Getty Center in Los Angeles and the Getty Villa in Malibu.

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