



COUTURE EDITION – SCARAMUZ

Design: 1759/60

Decor: Naoki Takizawa, 2008

height 20 cm · product no. 18.958



PORZELLAN MANUFAKTUR NYMPHENBURG

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“I selected Scaramuz because he is in a humorous posture. Regarding this design I was inspired by the street fashion in Tokyo.”

– Naoki Takizawa

Scaramuz (Scaramouche) is probably the most down-to-earth figure in the *Commedia dell'Arte* – Couture Edition. Naoki Takizawa's design was inspired by Tokyo street fashions – he was until 2006 creative director of avant-garde fashion label Issey Miyake. One of Takizawa's trademarks in his Miyake days was the use of denim, even in combination with fine leather, as in some of his designs for the farewell Miyake collection. The colours and designs he chose for the Scaramuz figure thus come across as a tribute. It says in large letters on the red cloak “stretch denim,” and on the fringe “new material” – Miyake's trademark. Scaramuz's lower legs are encased in brown gaiters made of fine, calf-hugging leather.

With his *Commedia dell'Arte* figures, Bustelli succeeded in creating a unique impression of fabric in the hardened material of porcelain by means of soft shapes and precise fold. Takizawa makes the extraordinary subtlety of this the core of his design, emphasising quite explicitly the materiality of the garments wrought in porcelain. The annotations “i am soft” and “more soft” could relate equally to the “stretch denim” or the soft contours of the dancing Scaramuz figure. The bright red of the cloak (in Japan generally associated with females) endows Scaramuz with rather effeminate attributes. And whether intended or not, the cape could also allude to the Wittelsbach dynasty of Bavarian rulers, which was closely connected with the manufactory. Red is after all also the colour of (royal) power. The platinum-coated, glossily polished face becomes a mirror of the outer world in a figurative sense, too. In other words a wide range of associations are echoed in the design.

Individual figures are only available with Limit No. 16 – 25. It is not possible to order specific numbers. The figures will be supplied with a certificate in a gift box specially designed for the collection.

