

MERCATO

~Italian Antiques & Artifacts~

Merging the Beauty and Artisan Quality of the Past With the Function and Convenience of the Present

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE — CONTACT: REBECCA SCHULER, 913.980.7602, REBECCA@PR-INCORPORATED.COM

MERCATO TABLE began from Mercato Italian Antiques & Artifacts founder Mary Lies' love of Italy and her desire to literally bring Italy home to the States. With a motto of, "We go to Italy. We find great things. We bring them home," Mercato began as the premier importer of Italian antiques to the U.S., and now, Mary continues to make Italy more accessible than ever with the launch of the Mercato Table Collection.

Past meets present as centuries-old antique patterns are deconstructed and reinterpreted for today in 100% food safe and dishwasher safe pieces that offer the beauty and elegance of Italian design with the practicality and convenience that modern life demands.

HANDMADE

- All pieces in the **Mercato Table Collection** are completely handmade by skilled Italian artisans with a focus on detail and craftsmanship.
- Each tableware piece is hand sculpted with Italian clay from Montelupo, while the Olivewood Collection is composed of olivewood sustainably harvested in Calabria and Tuscany.



"I love the diverse designs that are found in antique Italian ceramics. I continually thought about how these patterns could be recreated, enjoyed, and passed on from generation to generation.

So, I set out to find the most skilled artisans in all of Italy to recreate and re-imagine what everyday Italians might have used for daily meals centuries ago and reinterpret those designs for today.

My journey led me to the creation of Mercato Table. From the weight of a piece in your hands to the luster of the glaze at your fingertips, each eye-catching design is a sensory experience that can be mixed and matched to create a one-of-a-kind look.

Mercato's philosophy is to create environments that connect the past with the present, bring a touch of Italy to your table, and connect you with your family and friends through a shared meal. After all, it is connection that makes life more enjoyable."

—Mary Lies, MERCATO owner and founder



ANTIQUE PATTERNS REINTERPRETED



"I find it exciting that these less often seen antique designs still look great today in both traditional and modern homes."

—Mary Lies, MERCATO owner and founder

- With the collections of GRAFFITA, TAGLIATO, and TRE FIORI, each piece is adorned with hand painted details evocative of the centuries-enduring antique pattern from which the collection was inspired.
- Put the individual pieces together within a place setting, and suddenly, those individual elements join to re-create the original artwork that inspired the collection.

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~MERCATO TABLE: THE COLLECTIONS~



FRESCO COLLECTION
The Fresco Collection combines beauty with simplicity. The colors can be mixed and matched with other colors of the Fresco Collection or coordinated with the Historical Collection for a beautiful and unique table.

FRESCO COLLECTION



In ten colors reminiscent of the frescos seen throughout Italy: **Moss, Verde, Sage, Gesso, Lapis, Slate, Ochre, Cotto Rosso, Arancia, & Terra**

PIECES: 11.5" Dinner Plate, 9" Salad Plate, 9" Soup Bowl, Mug, 17.5" Oval Platter, 11.75" Small Serving Bowl, and 15.75" Large Serving Bowl

PRICE RANGES: \$XX - \$XXX



OLIVEWOOD COLLECTION

Beautifully made and generously sized **olivewood** sustainably harvested from Calabria and Tuscany, Italy

PIECES: Large Bowl (17.5" diameter, 6" tall); Small Bowl (13.25" diameter, 6" tall)

PRICE RANGES: \$XX - \$XXX



HISTORICAL COLLECTION

Eight patterns inspired by classic antique Italian ceramic designs, reinterpreted for today: **Graffita, Tagliato, Tre Fiori, Pavone, Quadrefoglio, Stella, Ramo d'Olive, and Arcaica.**

PIECES AVAILABLE AS PER PATTERNS BELOW:

11.5" Dinner Plate, 9" Salad Plate, 9" Soup Bowl, Mug, 17.5" Oval Platter, 11.75" Small Serving Bowl, and 15.75" Large Serving Bowl

PRICE RANGES: \$XX - \$XXX



GRAFFITA | Based on a 16th century process where a pattern was scratched into a thin layer of colored glaze, revealing the design in the red terracotta clay. This collection's hand-painted cream glaze base and a beautiful earthy brown glaze represent the original scratched method.

PIECES: Size info to come • **PRICE RANGES:** \$



TAGLIATO | Reminiscent of the late 15th century, the Tagliato Collection showcases a stylized flower surrounded by short hatches, or slices, which create a bold and compelling design in varying shades of blue and ivory.

PIECES: Size info to come
PRICE RANGES: \$



TRE FIORI | Three flowers surrounded by elegant yet relaxed detailing painted on a simple white background convey a botanical feel while shades of blue, aquamarine, and ivory infuse the collection.

PIECES: Size info to come
PRICE RANGES: \$



PAVONE | The feather of the pavone, or peacock, was a fundamental element of 15th century décor because of its noble bearing. Shades of ochre, verde, and lapis enable these pieces to stand out on their own, while offering flexibility for pairing with other pieces.

PIECES: Size info to come
PRICE RANGES: \$



QUADRIFOGLIO | Recognizable from Gothic architecture, the Quadrifoglio, or four-petal flower, is graphic and impactful. This piece effortlessly translates to today's style with its relaxed, unpretentious feel and shades of aquamarine, rose, and ivory.

PIECES: Size info to come
PRICE RANGES: \$



STELLA | The Stella bowl is inspired by a Middle East design over a thousand years old, but Its star pattern still looks fresh and timely today. Designs of this sort were used to decorate churches and homes of the wealthy with shades of aquamarine, rose, and ivory.

PIECES: Size info to come
PRICE RANGES: \$



RAMO D'OLIVO | The Ramo d'Olive collection uses an Italian motif universally known as the symbol of peace—the olive branch, as leaves of blue meander around the rim of an ivory-colored plate with ochre tinted olives sprouting in-between.

PIECES: Size info to come
PRICE RANGES: \$



ARCAICA | Based on a 15th century design, four aquamarine leaves are spaced equally around the bowl with a more complex leaf design in-between. The simple and fresh nature of this design looks at home in both modern and traditional settings.

PIECES: Size info to come
PRICE RANGES: \$

HOLD FOR STORE PHOTO TO COME

MERCATO (mer-kah'-toh); is the premier U.S. importer of antiques, artifacts, and one-of-a-kind items from Italy. Founded in 2003 by Mary Lies, MERCATO captures the feeling and spirit of Italy with each item hand selected by Mary during buying trips to Italy.

MERCATO Table is an exclusive line of hand-made tableware inspired by the beauty of the

past, but with the functionality that modern life demands. Every piece is made with care by Italian artisans preserving generations of tradition.

Access Italy without a passport through Mercato. Located in the Kansas City metro area, Mercato ships nationally. www.mercatoantiques.com

M We go to Italy. We find great things. We bring them home.

About Us

MERCATO ANTIQUES
(webpage no longer live)

Benvenuto a Mercato!

At Mercato, we celebrate the Italian way of life. It's a culture that excels at creating beautiful ceramics and furniture, but more than that, it's the soul of the place that matters to us—the connection to friends, the value of craftsmanship, the idea of sitting down to a great meal at a farmhouse table that's been in the family for generations. Ever since my first trip to Florence, I've longed to bring Italy home to the States.

I realized my dream in 2003, when I opened Mercato Italian Antiques & Artifacts. On frequent trips to Italy with my family, I seek out those particular items that speak to me of the Italian lifestyle—maybe a chandelier that once hung in the nave of an ancient chapel or a 200-year-old sideboard that sat in a warm Tuscan kitchen. Our eclectic collection embodies a common ethic of attention to detail, a love of community, and often, the sharing of delicious food.

In 2011, I decided to create our own line of tableware to honor Italian design and craft. Mercato Table is an exclusive collection handmade by Italian artisans who have recreated eight antique patterns in full sets of brand-new ceramics. Each hand-painted piece is made in Italy and imported to our shop, where modern families can enjoy a connection to Italy's past.

My greatest joy is helping others incorporate the Italian style into their own lives through the beautiful items we find and create. I hope you enjoy them as much as I do.

Mary Lies