

40th anniversary

UNFORGETTABLE FIGURES

Well, here we are: 40 years of making figures and still standing. Certainly, a lapse of time long enough to reflect...

Both formal and intimate accounts of the company were duly consigned in respective books published in 2006 and 2013 (Thanks and 30 Years of Making Figures). Albeit no publications or any special media has been yet considered for this 40th anniversary covering the last 10 years, let it suffice to say by now that the development and implementation of 3D technology in the noble art of miniature figures would be the most significant Andrea's feature of all during this turbulent last decade. It has been troubled waters for most of the people and perhaps especially for a figure market progressively shrinking as confronted with the digital revolution and the mass society.

But presently, and despite any difficulties or uncertainties, I must confess that I deeply rejoice the occasion, looking back to 1983 at the time of starting up the company and even farther in the past, in the early seventies, when my brother and I were already fascinated -and engrossed- by the little figures. We were then absolutely committed and determined to never give up and build a feasible living Just making figures, as far as possible from the madding crowd.

Now I am conscious of how lucky we were all along the long way to this 40th anniversary just because, even if times are changing, we are not. Because we were gifted with the love for our work which we still share and enjoy, just like we did, not forty but almost sixty years ago. I think that is precisely this love what permeates every time somebody all around the world unboxes an Andrea figure and the ultimate secret to keep the dream alive. Enjoy.

Carlos Andrea



MILESTONES ALONG THE WAY

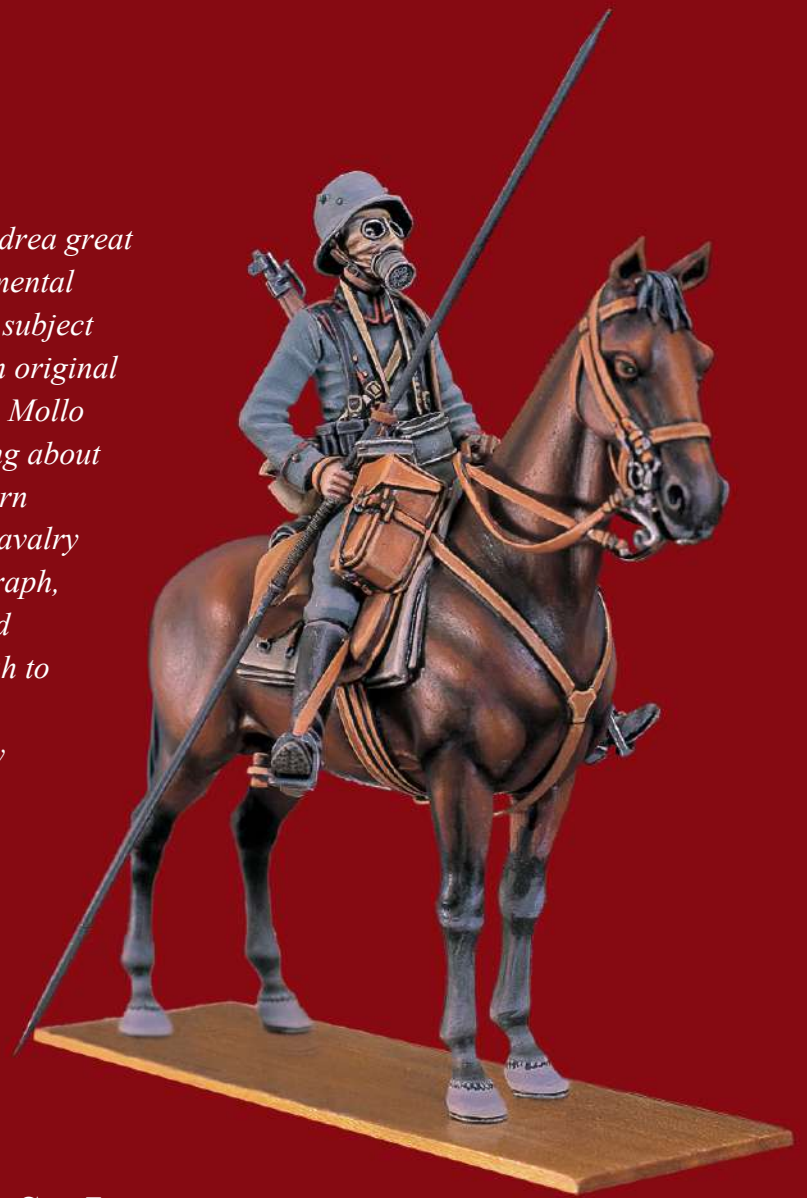
S3-F09 Chevauxleger (Bavaria)

Release year: 1987

Size: 1:30 scale 54mm

“The 'Chevauxleger' figure may be the first 'Andrea great kit,' because of its sculptural firmness, its documental research, and clean and elegant execution. The subject trapped us from the beginning. It is based on an original colored photo that we saw in a book by Andrew Mollo from Blandford publishing. The fascinating thing about this figure is that it combines ancient and modern history; we see on it the last skirmishes of the cavalry lance. The horse, though inspired in the photograph, presents a more monumental look, with the head being particularly reminiscent in form and finish to classical Greek sculpture. All the details are carefully executed - the delicate work with putty pieces on top of metal structures to vulcanize the parts directly (by applying heat and high pressure to them), and the work needed to create the final pieces with a clean cast. All the accessories are obsessively finished, paying strict attention to historical documentation.”

Fernando Andrea.



S5-S01 German Infantry Walking Set I

Release year: 1988

Size: 1:32 scale 54mm



“It was the best kit ever released in that theme and corner stone for future developments for the history of figures. It was carefully planned and made of 12 parts each one completely interchangeable making possible literally thousands of combinations. Everyone one of its tiny pieces is a true masterpiece by itself. I will never forget my first impression when I saw the finished miniatures, sensibly painted with oils: it was breathtaking...”

Carlos Andrea.

S8-F14 German Gothic Knight

Release Year: 1994

Size: 1:18 scale 90mm

“Although I’ve always been a die-hard advocate of dynamic figures, I thought that a static pose was more appropriate to represent a knight in full armor. A mounted knight in full gothic armor is probably one of the biggest challenges in figure making, but in 1994 we felt that it was time to display the artistic and crafting potential of the company, which had accumulated during many years of hardship and painstaking work. The piece was designed closely following two surviving period sets of armor and I was totally committed to rendering a masterpiece.”

Fernando Andrea.



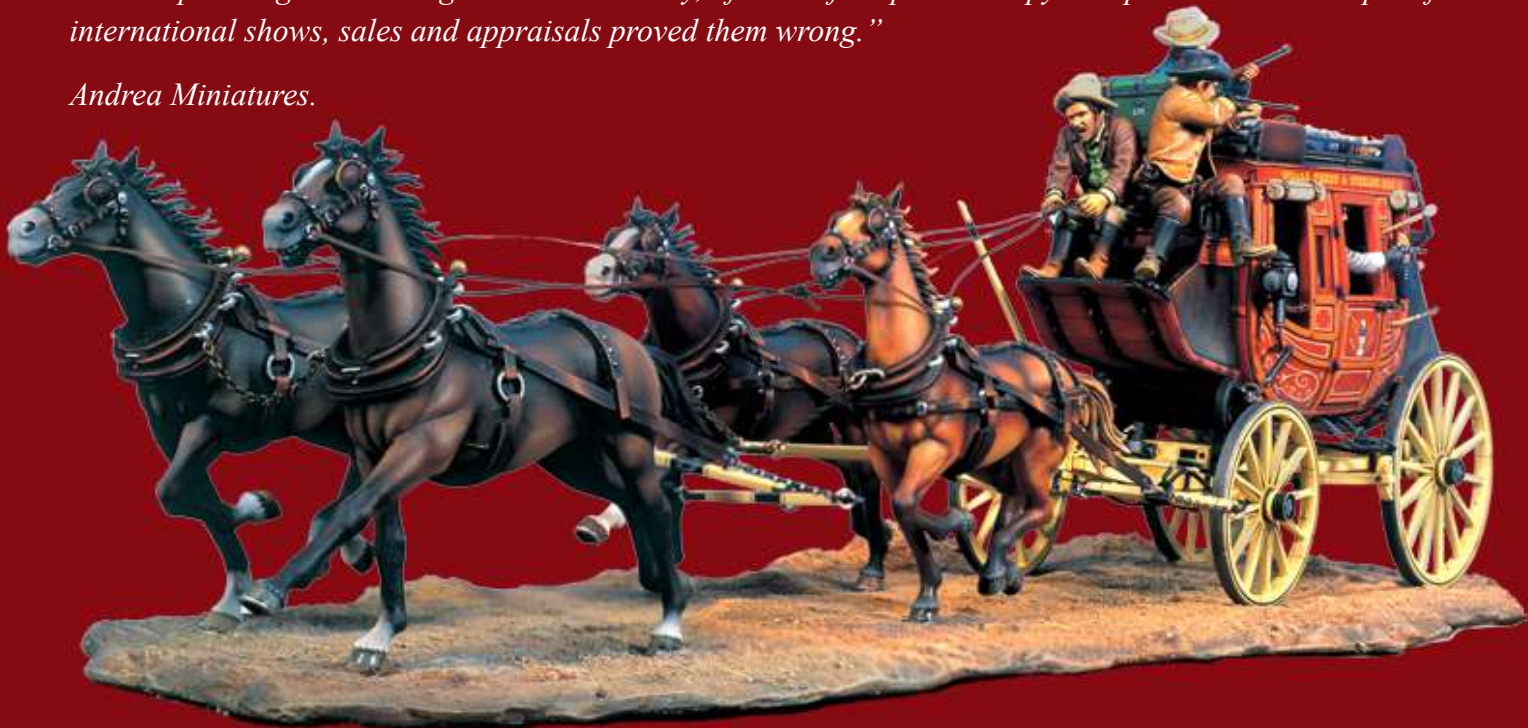
S4-S06 Stagecoach (1880)

Release year: 1995

Size: 1:32 scale 54mm

“This stagecoach was the first in a series of pieces featuring models and figures comprising hundreds of parts that eventually would become a sort of Andrea trademark. A lot of work and resources were invested in this striking miniature that took many months for completion. Projects like that are the result of teamwork and a demand for very good timing and organization. At the time this miniature was released, some distributors and retailers were reluctant to take a product like that, in the belief it was too expensive and complex to get rewarding sales. Fortunately, after the first painted copy was presented in a couple of international shows, sales and appraisals proved them wrong.”

Andrea Miniatures.

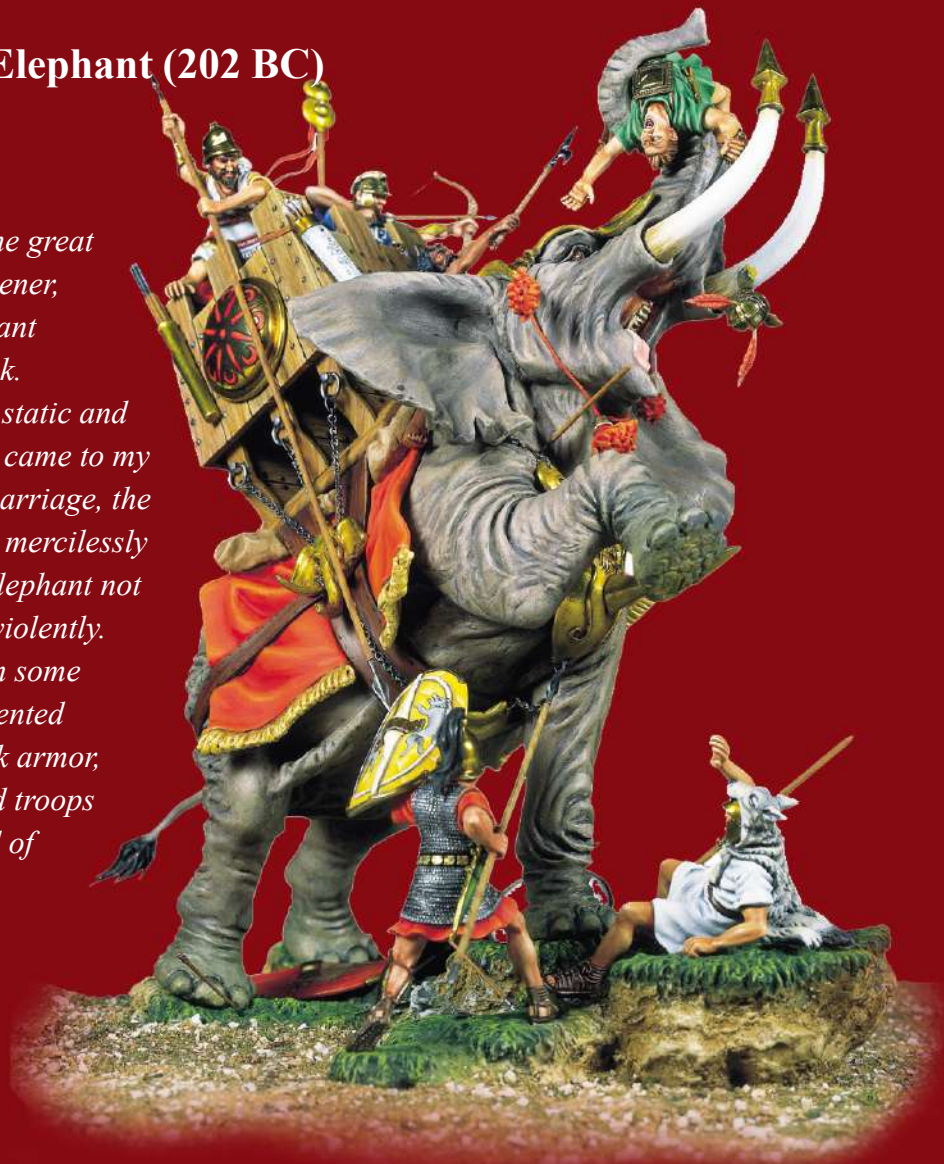


SG-S04 Carthaginian War Elephant (202 BC)

Release year: 1996
Size: 1:32 Scale 54mm

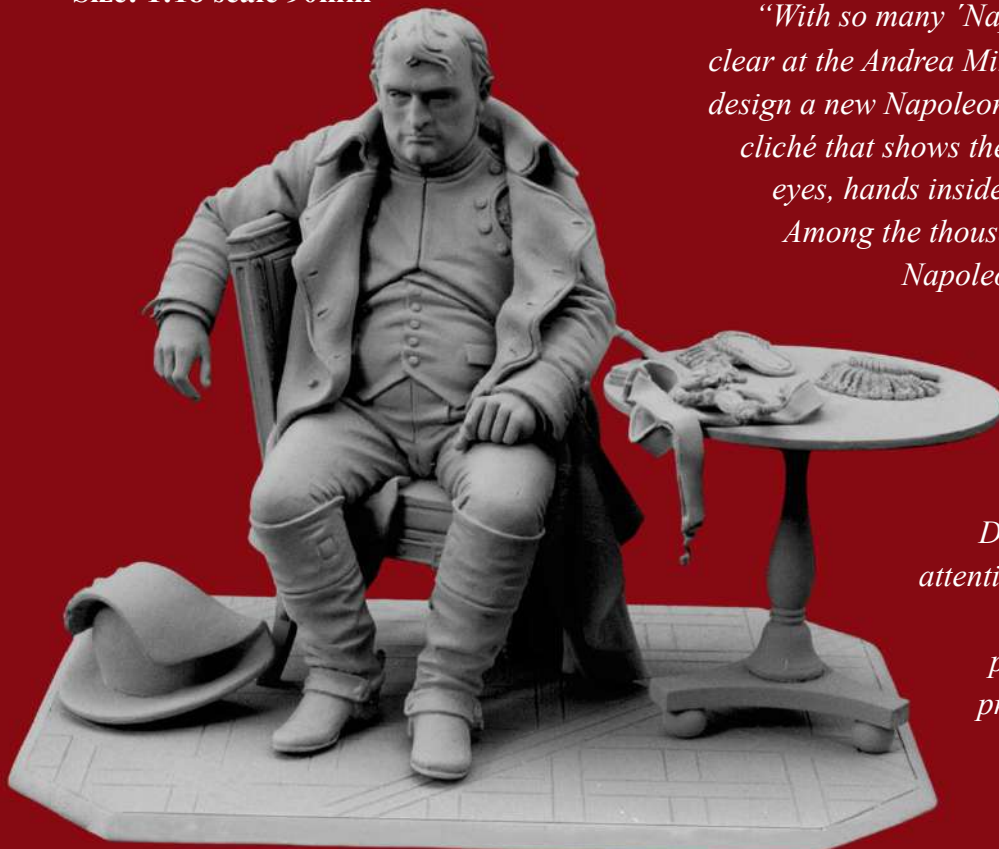
“The original idea is based on one of the great designs for flat figures by Ludwig Madlener, which shows a Carthaginian war elephant capturing a Roman soldier with its trunk. However, the elephant appeared rather static and the Tarzan drawings by Burne Hogarth came to my mind. In other designs by the Funken marriage, the elephant appeared trampling a warrior mercilessly and I wanted to incorporate that. The elephant not only caught a soldier, but it shook him violently. The animal also fought, as I had read in some historical accounts of the time. I represented armored troops wearing classical Greek armor, even though the Carthaginian army had troops of all kinds and the uniformity was kind of irregular. The documentation for the project is based primarily on picture books from the English historian Peter Connolly.”

Fernando Andrea.



S8-F18 Napoléon à Fontainebleau

Release year: 1996
Size: 1:18 scale 90mm



“With so many ‘Napoleons’ around, the challenge was clear at the Andrea Miniatures studio when we decided to design a new Napoleon portrait, far different from the old cliché that shows the great man with his hat sunk to his eyes, hands inside the waistcoat, resting on his belly. Among the thousands of pictorial representations of Napoleon, one of our favorites was that by Delaroche showing him in 1814 in the time of the first abdication. Here the Emperor appears in an unusual pose, deeply concerned about what is happening. As in all Delaroche’s work, the extraordinary attention to detail seems to clamor for an attempt in miniature. Delaroche’s painting was studied very closely to produce a three-dimensional version of the famous image.”

Andrea Miniatures.

S9-B06 Roman Centurion

Release year: 1998

Size: 1:10 scale

“Andrea Miniatures' 1 :8 scale bust represents a centurion of the first half of the 1st century AD wearing a helmet of the so-called 'Imperial Gallic' style that had evolved from those of Celtic origin. Its steel construction was an important improvement as earlier models had been made of bronze, although both types were common in the Roman army at this time. The helmet is decorated with motifs specific to its owner's unit topped with a transverse crest fitted with a horsehair or feather plume. The extraordinary realism of the face – based on the portrait of a known re-enactor and the intricate details were captured to perfection.”

Andrea Miniatures.



S8-F43 Officier de Chasseurs de la Garde Impériale, 1812

Release year: 2006

Size: 1:18 scale 90mm



“Théodore Géricault (1791-1824) presented his famous 'Officier de Chasseurs à Cheval de la Garde Impériale, chargeant' in the Salon de Paris of 1812. Since then, the painting has become an indispensable piece in the Napoleonic iconography. Rider and mount are depicted here in a most improbable pose mainly obeying to aesthetic purposes and expressively painted in luxuriant, expressive colours. The art of miniature figure has not been strange to this magnificent painting. Much on the contrary new pieces keep appearing every so often, mainly in smaller sizes that minimize the technical problems involved to keep standing on its base a horse that is only slightly leaning on two hooves edges. This version has been masterfully engineered to assure that the horse will not bend or fall, while following the original pose.”

Andrea Miniatures.

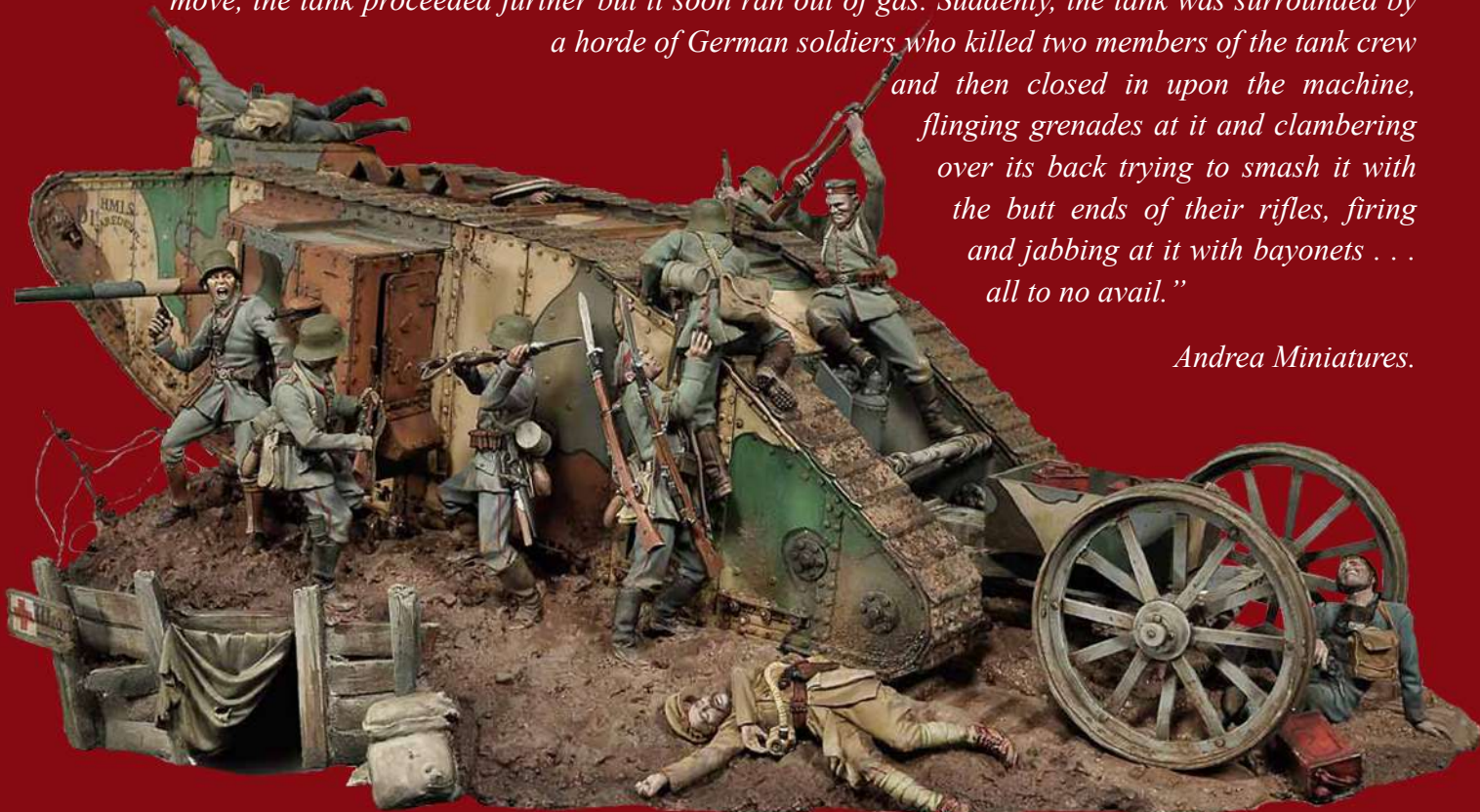
S3-S04 Tank Fight on the Western Front, 1916

Release year: 2013

Size: 1:32 scale 54mm

“This model is inspired by an F. Matanias drawing depicting an incident that happened on the Western Front in 1916, when a British Mark I (world’s first combat tank) rolled over a German trench. This action sent it into the German infantry which was holding nearly 400 prisoners. Encouraged by this successful move, the tank proceeded further but it soon ran out of gas. Suddenly, the tank was surrounded by a horde of German soldiers who killed two members of the tank crew and then closed in upon the machine, flinging grenades at it and clambering over its back trying to smash it with the butt ends of their rifles, firing and jabbing at it with bayonets . . . all to no avail.”

Andrea Miniatures.



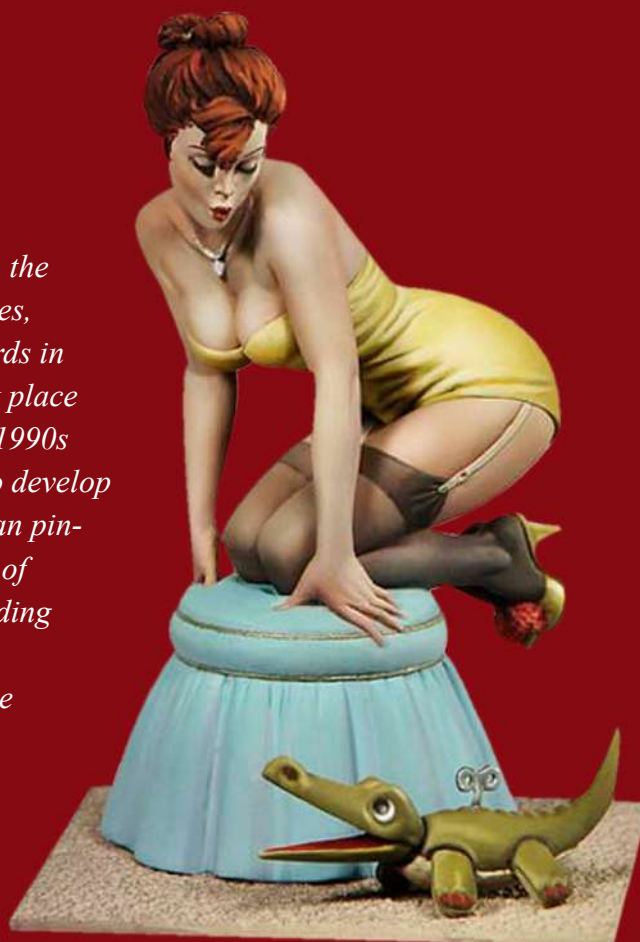
PIN UP-30 Mind the Crocodile!

Release year: 2014

Size: 1:22 scale 80mm

“ 'Girlie' or 'Glamour' figures have been a constant in the figure world since the introduction of the Phoenix series, based on the subject designed by the gifted Tim Richards in the late 1970s. Andrea’s first foray into this genre took place with the 3D Girls series, which appeared in the early 1990s. This Pin-Up series started in 2007 and the idea was to develop an aesthetic collection of figures based on the American pin-ups from the 1940s and ‘50s. A problem with this type of figure is finding the right sexual intensity, never exceeding the limits of good taste. The soft eroticism and vintage flavor of this series was considered by Andrea to be the best possible solution to this problem. The collection has been structured as a deck of 52 cards.”

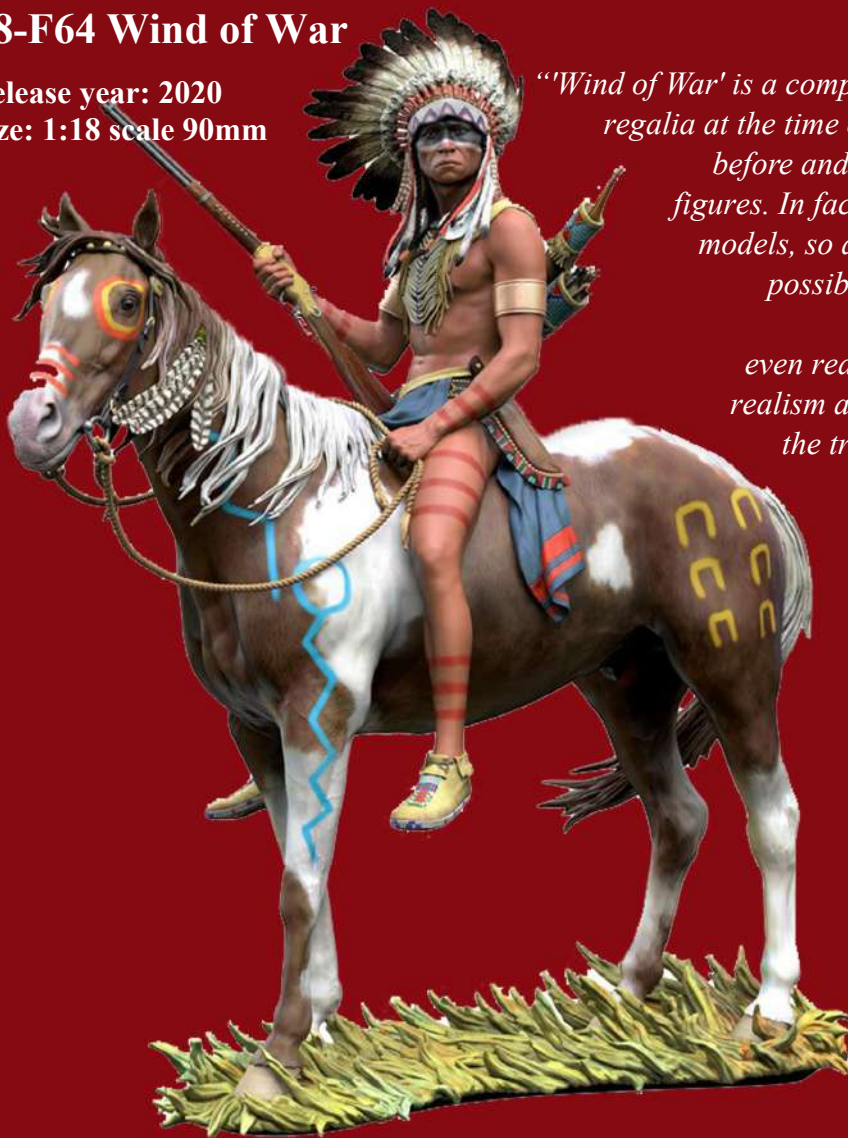
Andrea Miniatures.



S8-F64 Wind of War

Release year: 2020

Size: 1:18 scale 90mm



"'Wind of War' is a composition depicting a Crow warrior in full regalia at the time of the battle of the Little Big Horn and a before and after in the entire category of miniature figures. In fact, the use of high tech scanning of living models, so as sophisticated computer design, makes possible the materialization of the sculpture in virtually any scale; even real-size... On the other hand, the amazing realism and detail produce a 'collateral effect' on the traditional painting technique demanding -up to now- great attention to detail and dexterity. Because of the extraordinary quality of this new generation of figures exemplified by this 'Wind of War', painting process is simplified as the figure itself delivers clear and precise lights and shadows, so substantially reducing the often painstaking treatment of lightening and shadowing necessary to bring many older figures out to life, this is what we call 'Natural Painting'."

Andrea Miniatures.

PH16-F002 & PH35-F002 "Born to Kill"

Release year:2021

Size: Available in both 1:16 and 1:35 scale.

"'Born to Kill' is a breathtaking rendition of another US marine fiercely shooting his M 60 machine gun at the time during the battle of Hue in 1968. The figure is not based on a real historic character but closely following a fictional one from the Kubrick's master work 'Full Metal Jacket'. I think the 'making of' behind this figure is worth telling as it was a long process till full completion of the piece. The first notion we have of producing this figure was about a year ago or so, when somebody in the course of a meeting to decide about upcoming releases pointed out the fact that the 'Purple Heart' series had been frozen despite the fact that everybody in the staff considered the first (Kizirian) figure as a true turning point in the art of making miniature figures. The idea of producing another hyperrealist figure in full action was certainly an enticing challenge, very difficult to resist to guys that have been making outstanding figures since 1983."

Andrea Miniatures.

