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Female Plasterer, porcelain statuette, unmarked but likely by Sysert' Ceramic Goods Factory, circa 1960s.

6 3/8" x 2 ½ x 1 ½" (16.6 x 4 x 5.3cm). Attractive brunette is recognizable immediately as a plasterer by the specialist trowel she is holding. Somewhat unusually, an artist added her shirt (and the straps of her overalls) by using an airbrush - a technique that we've not seen used by many Soviet porcelain artists. Excellent condition.

Another figurine of a female plasterer that is somewhat better known was designed by the sculptors V. Bogatyryov and G. Stolbova in the early 60s /see Nasonova & Nasonov, "Soviet Porcelain [Volume 1] ", p. 55, fig. 71/. This piece appears to be very similar in style and was probably created by the same sculptors.

The construction worker series was reflective of the Khrushchev era with its supposed emphasis on improving the quality of life of the Soviet people through massive civilian construction projects. The ugly, poor quality apartment buildings which mushroomed in those years are still derisively referred to as Krushchyoby or Khrushchev's Slums!

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