

My Heraldic Majolica Style Plate

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I enjoy painting ceramics and I wanted to create something that would be in keeping with my persona. I researched Medieval Majolica pottery and was able to find copious examples of my heraldic rabbit!

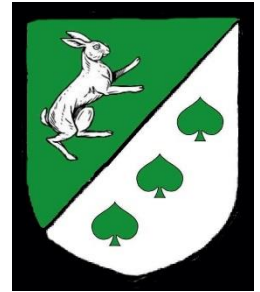
I found an article ⁽¹⁾ which states: *"From the 13th to the 14th century these products [black and green tin glazed pottery] were the main important vessels, until being substituted by blue decorations in the 15th century."*

The green and black on the white Majolica in that article fit my vision, so I knew it was what I needed to use it for my plate.

Further research cemented that decision as I found a couple of Majolica pieces that included rabbits ... it was perfect for me! (See last page for those pieces)

For my plate's design elements I used my rabbit and spades, as well as the following traditional Majolica elements:

- Sample MJ0196 in group B2
- Sample BCN123 in the ORLA5
- Sample MJ0196 and from group B1a



Green and Black Majolica Pieces with Rabbits

Rabbits and hares were widely used in Moorish pottery and are usually interpreted as good luck symbols.

Albarello with Two Rabbits

Spain, Paterna, 14th century

Tin-glazed earthenware (maiolica)

<https://www.clevelandart.org/art/1943.276>

DESCRIPTION: This albarello, a cylindrical jar used to store dry medicinal herbs, exemplifies the wares of Paterna, near Valencia. Its decoration is dominated by the crest of the Luna family, Lords of Paterna, under which two rabbits are shown nibbling on a grapevine. These vessels were commonly used in spice stores and hospital pharmacies.



Hare Vessel



Caliphal period (10th century), Islamic

Original title: Redoma de las liebres

Archeological and Ethnographic Museum of Granada, Andalusia

DESCRIPTION: This item is known as the "hare vessel", because of the four hare figures that dominate the composition. It has quite a flat globular body, without handles or appendages, at the top it keeps part of the narrow neck it used to have, which was presumably cylindrical and slender. The outside is decorated with horizontal and vertical strips, palmettes, plaits and small leaves, made of copper and manganese. The surface inside is protected by a green waterproof film.

http://www.spainisculture.com/en/obras_de_excelencia/museo_arqueologico_y_etnologico_de_granada/redoma_de_las_liebres.html

(1) *The case of black and green tin glazed pottery from Barcelona between 13th and 14th century: Analyzing its production and its decorations* By Judith Peix Visiedo, 2021, *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports*