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## YELLOW ROSE OF TEXAS

Location: Exploring the World Gallery

### You're Invited to a Summer Wedding

June is just beginning and many Tucsonans are preparing to escape the summer heat. What are your plans; a trip to a cooler climate, or are you staying close to home this summer keeping cool by visiting air conditioned museums? If you happen to stop by The Mini-Time Machine Museum you might just find yourself enjoying a June tradition- a summer wedding. In Brooke Tucker's mansion, *Yellow Rose of Texas*, a wedding ceremony and reception are just about to take place. This piece was originally commissioned by a Texas oil baroness. She commissioned Brooke Tucker to create the *Yellow Rose of Texas* with the wedding day theme for her daughter.

Though Brooke Tucker created numerous room boxes during her 30 year career, *Yellow Rose of Texas* is the only dollhouse she ever built. Brooke refers to her miniatures as 3D paintings. Like an Impressionist painter, Brooke says she designs her miniatures so they "capture a moment in time--a prettier, more gracious time, a world into which viewers might escape into their own reveries." Brooke grew up in Hollywood (she is the daughter of actor Forrest Tucker) where escaping reality through images is a bread and butter business. The theatrical design of this and her other pieces was no doubt influenced by her childhood playing in the back lots of Hollywood studios and a brief career on stage and television.



In *Yellow Rose of Texas* Brooke has set the stage for a grand day. Of course when you live in Texas a yellow rose is the color and flower of choice for your wedding. Garlands and bouquets of yellow roses with golden ribbons dress up nearly every room of this three story mansion. Out on the veranda you will find a symbol of lasting love, two peach-faced lovebirds perched together. What a wedding it will be!

In the dining room hors d'oeuvres including salmon, stuffed mushrooms, gourmet cheese and olives, are set out in the banquet table. The centerpiece of this display is the five tiered cake adorned with delicate yellow roses- scrumptious. Soon the newlyweds and guests will float through the garden doors talking and laughing as they celebrate the big day.



We are the lucky ones because we get to peer behind the scenes into the bedroom of the young bride-to-be and feel her excitement. The dressing table in the back of the room is filled with beauty supplies: a tiny tube of lipstick, bottles of perfume, nail polish, a hairbrush and comb, even stockings draped over her seat. You can just imagine a beautiful young lady powdering her face and smiling in the mirror. There it is, hanging on the door of the armoire - a pleated silk chiffon gown sparkling with beads and lace! How lovely the bride will be when she walks down the garden aisle later today.

On the opposite side of the second floor landing the father of the bride has his waistcoat and tie laid out on the bed in anticipation of the big ceremony. You can spy a top hat in the hatbox on the right side of the room and mom's heels and stole in a box on the left. These items certainly conjure up "more gracious times". Out on the landing between the two bedrooms is a table overflowing with gifts. You can imagine the contents;

fine china, silver candlesticks, the finest linens along with pots and pans all wrapped in golden yellow and lavender awaiting the busy days and celebrations this couple will share in their future.



Your imagination is probably just taking flight picturing the wedding ceremony, reception, dinner, dance and present opening. Let your mind play as you explore the rest of the rooms of the *Yellow Rose of Texas*. Then imagine slipping into the car and driving off on your honeymoon. The Mini-Time Machine Museum has just the room to keep the story going, Brooke Tucker's European Honeymoon. Enjoy!

In addition to *Yellow Rose of Texas* The Mini-Time Machine collection includes four Brooke Tucker room boxes. Elements of design to look for in Brooke Tucker's miniatures:

- unifying color scheme
- a repeated motif such as a flower pattern
- mirrored walls that create the illusion of larger space
- multi-leveled floors
- flower boxes