

# Doll Clothes of Yore

Original, Historical Designs for 18" Dolls

## Renaissance Period: Circa 1400-1500



### 'Beatrice d'Este' Dress

#### *History*

#### Who was Beatrice d'Este?

Beatrice d'Este was an Italian duchess and princess. She was the duchess of Bari and Milan in the 1490's. She was known to be a beautiful and accomplished woman and was also influential in the realm of fashion.

Beatrice married Duke Ludovico Sforza in 1491, and became a duchess. Her wedding was orchestrated by Leonardo da Vinci. Beatrice surrounded her court with influential and learned men, including her friend da Vinci.

Beatrice's bright and influential life was cut short at age 21, when she died of childbirth. Although her life was so short, she is remembered to be one of the great cultural influences in the Italian Renaissance.

#### *Fashion*

This dress and headdress is in the Italian style, and was fashionable about 1460. During the Renaissance, clothing fashions depended greatly on the country where a lady lived. Italian styles of the Renaissance included 'empire' waists, and long flowing gowns that were well fitted.