

Volume 2 Issue 1

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THE INTERNATIONAL MOLDOVAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

IMPS Newsletter

Moldova is World-Class in Thailand

At the "THAILAND 2018" World Stamp Exhibition, held between Nov 28 and Dec 3, 2018 in Bangkok, IMPS founding member, Gheorghe Plugaru, won a Large Silver for his exhibition of Moldovan maximum cards "MOLDOVA - MY HOMELAND".

This is quite momentous

news since a Large Silver medal at "World" stamp exhibition level is, to the best of our knowledge, the highest award ever



given to a philatelist, in the history of Moldovan Philately.

IMPS gives kudos to Gheorghe,

who brings great honour to the Republic of Moldova and to her philately, in his efforts to promote and propagate Maximaphily at the highest level, plus exhibiting and Moldovan stamp collecting in general, all over the world.



Moldova Triumphs in EUROPA Competition

The 2018 EUROPA stamps of Moldova have won the "Best Europa Stamps Collector's Choice" competition.

The competition was organized by well-known EUROPA enthusiasts, Jürgen Haepers and Eric Contesse, and was operated from the Europa-Stamps blog site.

The competition was by public vote, and in four rounds. Moldova won the first round and thus qualified for the final.

Moldova's win in the final was announced on December 31.

This competition was a response to the organizer's concerns regarding the official contest operated by PostEurop, where there was strong evidence of voting along national lines, resulting in wins for Turkey and Hungary,

nearly every year.

Additionally, the organizers wanted to give voters the opportunity to select the stamps issues from multiple countries and not only one, as was the case in the PostEurop competition.

BEST EUROPA STAMPS COLLECTOR'S CHOICE 2018



Inside this month's issue...

New Stamp Issues in January...



Treasures of Moldovan Philately: Part VII



News from Postcrossing



Treasures of Moldovan Philately: Part VII

The seventh part of a series of articles about the rare and valuable stamps of Moldova

This month we look at the many fascinating varieties that exist for the 1993 issue "Butterflies & Moths".

This series of stamps was originally issued on December 22, 1993. According to the official philatelic catalogue, they were printed in Spain by "Graficas Jorcar" in Barcelona. However, this is possibly incorrect since the earlier stamps issue, "Endangered Snake Species - World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)", issued in July, was actually printed in Spain by "Servicios Graficos Jamsa SA" in Barcelona. It is unlikely that two different printing houses, both in the same city, were used.



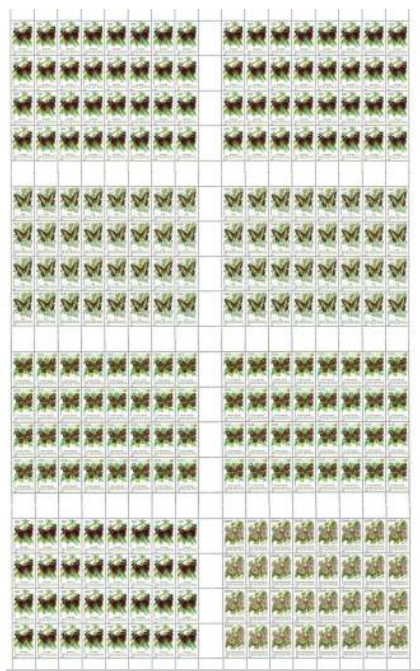
**№ 77 (6.00). № 78 (10.00). № 79 (50.00).
№ 80 (250.00)**

6.00 (x32)	Gutter	6.00 (x32)
Gutter	Gutter	Gutter
10.00 (x32)	Gutter	10.00 (x32)
Gutter	Gutter	Gutter
50.00 (x32)	Gutter	50.00 (x32)
Gutter	Gutter	Gutter
6.00 (x32)	Gutter	250.00 (x32)

The stamps were printed on a single, large sheet, then cut up into smaller sheets of 32 (8x4).

The four stamps were issued in sheets of 32 values (8x4). However, they were all originally printed on a single, very large sheet, separated by gutters and then, cut into six separate sheets of 32 values.

But, some of the large print sheets escaped the cutting process and, in some cases, they escaped the perforating process too. We have not observed any examples of complete examples of such sheets and it seems that none survived. The image displayed below is a mock-up (accurate). Sheets that escaped the cutting/perforating process were cut up into fragments, to produce every possible combination of gutter pair. All stamps in the series are known to exist imperforate and as proofs.



The material illustrated in this article almost certainly originates from the personal collection of Michael Mittelstrass, the official philatelic agent/broker for the Moldovan postal authorities, at that time, and whose name has been mentioned in previous articles.

Se-tenant Combinations:

When you examine the large print sheet, it is possible to see the following se-tenant combinations:

- Gutter Pairs-Horizontal: 3
- Mixed Gutter Pairs-Horizontal: 1
- Mixed Gutter Pairs-Vertical: 4
- Mixed Gutter Blocks: 3

Since no examples of the possible Mixed Gutter Blocks have been physically observed, these are not included in the study. All stamps and gutter varieties are known to exist in both perforate and imperforate forms. Imperforate examples are printed on the same paper and with gum. Imperforate examples of gutter pairs and mixed gutter pairs represent extreme rarities.

Gutter Pairs (Horizontal):



№ 77GP and № 77BGP. Horizontal gutter pairs.



№ 78GP and № 78BGP. Horizontal gutter pairs.



Continued...

Treasures of Moldovan Philately: Part VII

Continued...

Gutter Pairs (Horizontal - continued):



№ 79GP and № 79BGP. Horizontal gutter pairs.

Mixed Gutter Pairs (Horizontal):



№ 77-80 MGP and № 77B-80B MGP. Horizontal mixed gutter pairs.

Mixed Gutter Pairs (Vertical):



№ 77-78 MGP and № 77B-78B MGP. Vertical mixed gutter pairs.



№ 77-79 MGP and № 77B-79B MGP. Vertical mixed gutter pairs.



№ 79-80 MGP and № 79B-80B MGP. Vertical mixed gutter pairs.



№ 78-79 MGP and № 78B-79B MGP. Vertical mixed gutter pairs.

Proofs:

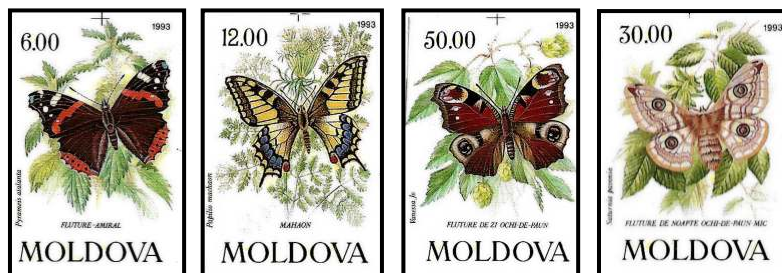
Proof material was only recently discovered, being offered for sale on the website of a large German auction house.

In typical fashion, the proof material is all printed on thick (card) paper, without perforation or gum.

There are colour changes and in two of the cases, there are face value changes. This is an interesting reflection of the serious inflation suffered by the fledgling Moldovan economy during this period.

The original design for № 80 showed a face value of 30.00 (0.30 Lei), but it was finally issued with a face value of 250.00 (2.50 Lei).

During this period, there was a currency change from Rubles to Lei at a conversion rate of 100. This explains the strange use of numerals on the stamps. 6.00 = 0.06 Lei. 10.00 = 0.10 etc..



№ 77P-80P show colour changes and in the case of № 78P & № 80P, changed face values.

First Stamp Issue of 2019: “Emergency Service 112”

January 3 2019:

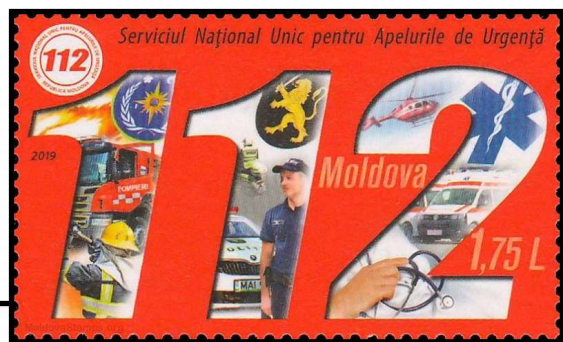
http://www.moldovastamps.org/catalogue_stamps_issue.asp?issueID=4000

On January 3, 2019, the Post of Moldova put into circulation its first stamp of the year, commemorating the establishment in Moldova of the Unique National Emergency Calling Service. This service, in common with many European Union countries, gives the public access to all emergency services, via a single telephone number, 112.

№ 1077 (1.75L) features a stylized “112” with a background of fire, police and ambulance services.



The stamp, FDC and cancellation was designed by Vitaliu Pogolșa. The stamp was issued in a quantity of 100,000 and the FDC was printed in a very low quantity of only 200 pieces.



Envelope Issue: European Court of Human Rights - 60th Anniversary

January 21 2019:

http://www.moldovastamps.org/catalogue_envelopes_issue.asp?issueID=4019

On January 21, 2019, the Posta Moldovei put into circulation a prepaid envelope to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the founding of the European Court of Human Rights.

The Court is one of the finest institutions in Europe. Located at the Palace of Human Rights in Strasbourg, the Court was established on 21 January 1959 on the basis of Article 19 of

the European Convention on Human Rights when its first members were elected by the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe.

The cachet for № U408 (1.75L) features a view of the Palace of Human Rights in Strasbourg and the fixed stamp shows an allegory of human rights.

IMPS has a special interest in this issue, since it was one of the items we submitted to the Philatelic Council of Moldova for consideration in their plan of issues for 2019.

We are very pleased, not only with the design of the envelope and the fixed stamp, but especially

with the special first day cancellation.

The artist was Vitaliu Pogolșa. The envelope has a face value of 1.75L, the standard national letter rate, and was available from the Post Office for 3.00L.

The envelope dimensions are 162mm X 114mm and was printed in 10,000 copies. Local philatelists also realized a limited number of private FDCs.



Recent Issue: "Eminent Personalities - Anniversaries & Commemorations"

January 15 2019:

http://www.moldovastamps.org/catalogue_stamps_issue.asp?issueID=4001

On January 15, the Post of Moldova put into circulation a series of six postage stamps to commemorate the anniversaries of various personalities, eminent in the fields music, the Arts and literature.

The issue was designed by well-known Moldovan artist, Elena Karacănțeva. The stamps were each issued in a quantity of 50,000 pieces.



№ 1078 (1.20L) features Alexei Stârcea (1919-1974) who was a composer, singer (baritone) and teacher.

Between the years 1958 to 1962, he was the Executive Secretary of the Union of Composers of Moldova. After 1960, he taught singing at the Chisinau Institute of Arts, in 1971, becoming its associate professor.



№ 1079 (1.20L) features Domnica Darienco (1919-2010) who was a theater and film actress. She studied theatre at the Odessa School of Theatre between 1933 and 1937. From 1944, she was employed as an actress at Na-

tional Theatre in Chisinau where she had performed more than 100 roles. Her most famous film role was as "D o m i n i c a" in the film "Armageddon" (1962). In 1989, she retired at the age of 70. She was a recipient of the Order of the Republic.



№ 1080 (1.75L) features Gheorghe Asachi (1788-1869) who was a Moldavian/Romanian writer, poet, painter, historian, dramatist and translator. He was a respected journalist and political figure, as well as being active in technical fields such as civil engineering and pedagogy. He was charged with overseeing all Moldavian schools.



№ 1081 (2.00L) features Constantin Stamati (1786-1869) who was a Romanian/Moldovan writer and translator. who settled in Chisinau after the 1812 partition of Moldavia and became a civil servant and official translator under the first Russian administration of the region. He was a acquaintance of the Russian poet Alexander Pushkin at the time of latter's exile to Chișinău in 1820-1823. In 1866, he became one of the founding members of the Romanian Academy.



№ 1082 (5.75L) features Alecu Russo (1819-1859) who was a Moldavia/Romanian writer, literary critic and publicist.

Russo is credited with having discovered one of the most elaborate forms of the Romanian national folk ballad Miorița. One of his best-known works was "Moldovan Studies", in 1851-1852.



№ 1083 (5.75L) features Glebus Sainciuc (1919-2012) who was a Moldovan plastic artist and portraitist. He was responsible for many paintings and graphics, highly acclaimed by critics, and had a remarkable personality through his civic attitude, artist Glebus Sainciuc distinguished himself by the originality of the style, indisputable talent and subtle humour.



News from Postcrossing Republica Moldova

As part of the continuing partnership between IMPS and Postcrossing Republica Moldova, we have developed a new design theme for the New Year.

Since the main activity of Postcrossing is the international exchange picture postcards, also referred to as “view cards”, we developed the concept “A View of Moldova”.

We designed this graphic, as a photo montage, both for use by Postcrossing as a signature postcard and as a Facebook identity.

It was our intention that the beauty of the girl's eye would reflect the beauty of the Moldovan country.

At the end of December last year, Posta Moldovei give all Moldovan Postcrossers a lovely and a total surprise New Year gift, by announcing the issue of a special Postcrossing postmark, valid for the entire year (January 2 until December 31, 2019).



The postmark was designed by no less an artist than Vitaliu Pogolșa and is available for use by anyone visiting the mail Post Office, Number 12 in Chisinau.

IMPS was inspired by this simple act of kindness and the beautiful simplicity of the postmark design.

10 Years Ago...

January 20, 2009 saw the release of the controversial issue “650 Years Since the Foundation of the State of Moldavia”.



Full technical details at
http://www.moldovastamps.org/catalogue_stamps_issue.asp?issueID=213



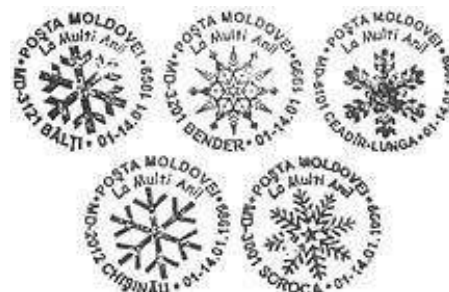
So we took the opportunity to develop a new logo for Postcrossing in Moldova. In cooperation with leaders, Olga Kroitoru and Minhea Raducu, IMPS developed a modified version of the postmark, adding the national colours and other flourishes. Incidentally, a remarkably difficult exercise.

Naturally, we could not execute such a design without the permission of Posta Moldovei and we were delighted, having submitted the request, to have received their blessings. Many thanks to the philatelic bureau of Posta Moldovei, “Timbrofil”, (Victoria Tanase and Ala Nicoreanu), and to Vitaliu Pogolșa for their wonderful support.



20 Years Ago...

1999 got off to a very slow start for the philatelic department of Posta Moldovei. The first stamp issue was not until April 9. In January 1999, we had only the set of cancellations “Happy New Year”, released on January 1 in five town in Moldova.



Full technical details at
http://www.moldovastamps.org/catalogue_cancellations_issue.asp?issueID=722



**THE INTERNATIONAL MOLDOVAN
PHILATELIC SOCIETY**

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Equality and Passion.***

Do You Want to Write an Article?

All readers are invited to submit articles for publication in this Newsletter!

Please save the Editor's sore fingers from all this typing! All readers of the IMPS Newsletter are invited to submit articles for publication.

Do you have any interesting news, stories, experiences or anecdotes about Moldova or her philately? If so, please feel free to share them with us. You don't need to have a PhD in journalism

(the Editor certainly does not!), so don't be afraid. And don't worry about language either. We are experienced with most European languages.

Send your articles, text, photos... whatever, to use by email to info@moldovastamps.org.



Grigore Vieru - Into Eternity!

January 18 was is the 10th anniversary of the death of the beloved Moldovan poet and writer, Grigore Vieru.



Posta Moldovei put into circulation a special commemorative cancellation and an envelope, in memory of occasion.

Vieru is mostly known for his poems and books for children. His poetry

is characterized by vivid natural scenery and patriotism.



Next Month...

New Stamp Issue:

Ethnicities of Moldova (III): Ukrainians

New Stamp Issue:

Vintage Radio Apparatus

Special Article:

Remarkable Original Artwork from 1993

Special Article:

Using IMPS Stamp Album Pages

And lots more...

Newsletters Archive...



The archive of previous IMPS newsletters is now on the site.

www.moldovastamps.org/info-newsletters.asp