

Volume 1 Issue 3

July 2018



THE INTERNATIONAL MOLDOVAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

IMPS Newsletter

POSTCROSSING Meeting Chisinau June 23



The Second International POSTCROSSING meeting between Moldova and Romania was held in Chisinau on June 23 and it was a great success.

The event, held at the main post office in Chisinau, we extremely well attended, with more than 60 visitors from Moldova, Romania, Belarus and even one visitor from the United Kingdom who had travelled specially.

Apart from the POSTCROSSING Ambassadors for Moldova and Romania, some of the top management of Posta Moldovei, were also in attendance.

Posta Moldovei had contributed, not only the use of their premises, but most importantly, the first POSTCROSSING postage stamp from Moldova, complete with FDC... as well as a series of spe-



IMPS made this special postcard for the POSTCROSSING event on June 23

cially-made postcards... plus a special commemorative postmark, dated June 23.

The event was very well covered by local media too. There were TV crews from three Moldovan channels and the meeting was featured prominently in the evening TV news.

IMPS was proud to support the POSTCROSSING event. Apart from our extensive promotional work, we produced a special postcard, which was very well received by the Postcrossers.

The Facebook Group, Postcrossing Republica Moldova currently has over 170 members from a variety of different countries.



Apart from the first POSTCROSSING stamp of Moldova, Posta Moldovei also make a series of postcards, specially for the event.

Inside this issue...

New Stamp Issues for June & July...



Treasures of Moldovan Philately: Part I



Postmarks January-July 2018...



Treasures of Moldovan Philately: Part I

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

Most collectors of Moldovan stamps would say that there are no really valuable or rare stamps from that country. In fact, there are many.

For many years, we have been aware of the existence of some error and imperforate varieties, in particular the 1993 issue “WWF Snakes”, Nos. 54I and 55I which are even listed in MICHEL. But the origins and background to this material was a total mystery.

Several years ago, I was sent a large series of extraordinary photos from a collector in Ukraine. Here was evidence of the existence of a huge number of varieties, for all issues between 1992 “Barcelona Olympics” to 1994 “Winter Olympics, Lillehammer”. However, the collector preferred to remain anonymous and would not give me any information regarding the origin of the material.

It was not until recently that we began to see some of this quite spectacular material appearing on the philatelic market, in the lists of two prestigious auction houses in Germany. We made some enquiries and did a little investigating.

The commonality between all the issues is that the agent (broker) between the various print houses and Posta Moldovei was the well-known German philatelist, Michael Mittelstrass.

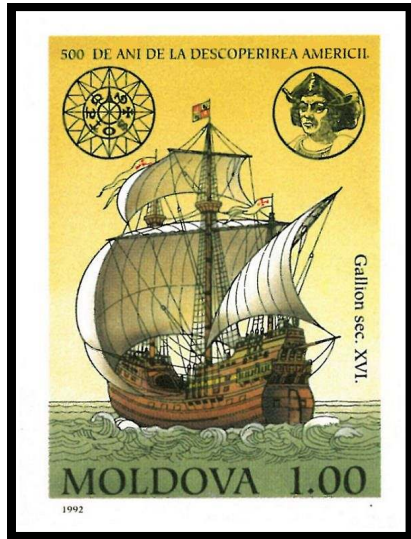
It seems that Mittelstrass amassed a remarkable collection of original artwork, essays, proofs, uncut sheets and imperforates, and that he finally released some or all of his collection onto the philatelic market, thus making the material the subject of philatelic study.

There is a great deal of material involved and we decided to write a series of articles, in the coming months, to highlight some of the most noteworthy examples. In this article, we will examine the 1992 issue “500th Anniversary of the Discovery of America” (Nos. 46-49). http://www.moldovastamps.org/catalogue_stamps_issue.asp?issueID=25

The material consists of stamp No. 46, se-tenant pair No. 47-48 Zd and souvenir sheet No. Block 3 (49), as imperforate proofs, printed on thick card paper, without gum. Each item was enclosed in a presentation folder with the logo of

“Pénzjegynyomda” - the Hungarian Banknote Printing Company, on the front cover.

It is interesting to note that the official philatelic catalogue of Posta Moldovei (2001 edition) states that this issue was printed in Sofia, Bulgaria. We are currently investigating whether in fact, the issue was printed in Hungary.



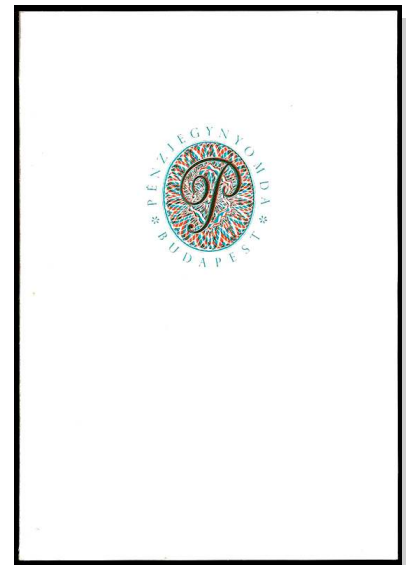
Stamp No. 46P Imperforate Proof



Se-tenant Pair No. 47P-48P ZdP
Imperforate Proof

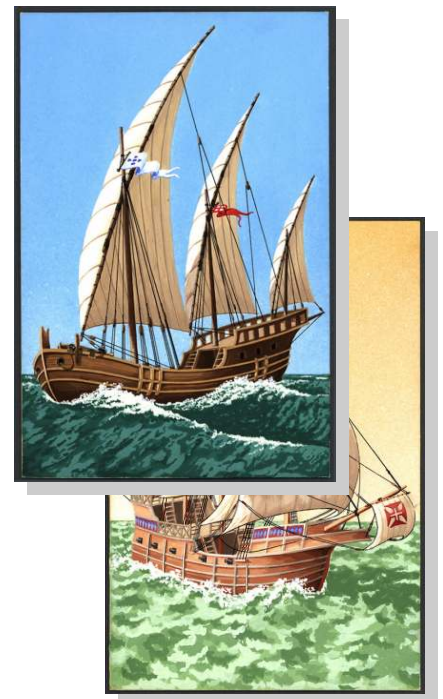


Souvenir Sheet No. Block 3P (49P)
Imperforate Proof



Presentation folder with the logo of
“Pénzjegynyomda”, the Hungarian Bank-
note Printing Company in Budapest.

Two other very interesting pieces have also entered the philatelic market, original artwork by Pal Varga, although this artwork was not used on the final stamps...



Rarity: At most, 5 copies exist but this example is unique in the philatelic market. Value: If you could find another example, don't expect any change from 750 euro.

Cancellations/Postmarks: Summary of Issues January/July 2018

An often neglected but fascinating area of philately is cancellations (or postmarks). Moldova issues a very wide variety of cancellations every year, covering an enormous range of topics. In fact, in 2017 alone, no fewer than 49 different commemorative cancellations were released. This month, we decided to present a summary of all the special commemorative cancellations, issued by Posta Moldovei to date, in 2018.



No. 2018/1: European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018



No. 2018/2: Chişinău and Iaşi - 10th Anniversary of Twinning



No. 2018/3: Winter Olympic Games, Pyeongchang 2018



No. 2018/4: Month of Forests



No. 2018/5: Alexei Mateevici 130th Birth Anniversary



No. 2018/6: World Water Day



No. 2018/7: Yuri Gagarin (1934-1968) - Commemoration - 50th Anniversary of His Death



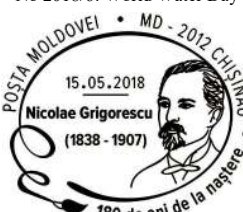
No. 2018/8: House Museum «Alexei Mateevici» in Zaim, Căuşeni - 30th Anniversary



No. 2018/9: Easter



No. 2018/10: International Day of Human Space Flight



No. 2018/11: Nicolae Grigorescu (1838-1907). 180th Birth Anniversary



No. 2018/12: International Museum Day



No. 2018/13: Postcrossing Moldova/Romania



No. 2018/14: Day of Commemoration of Stephen the Great



No. 2018/15: «Pădurea Domnească» (Princely Forest) Nature Reserve - 25th Anniversary

A complete catalogue of postmarks (cancellations), for all years, from 1991 to 2018, is available on the IMPS site at <http://www.moldovastamps.org/>

10 Years Ago...

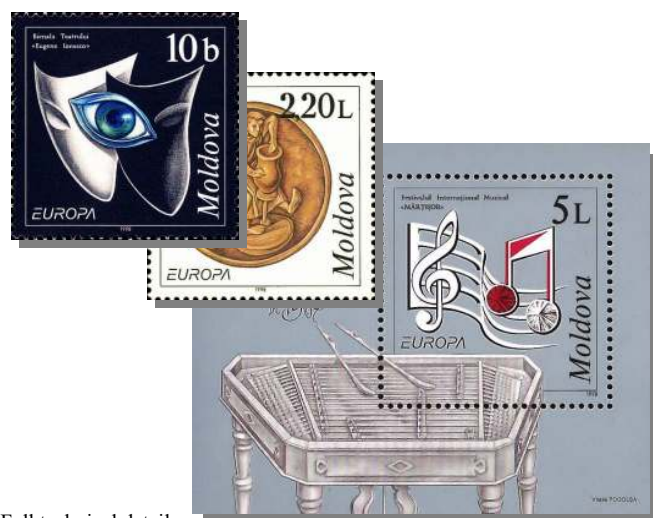
Appropriate to the current World Cup fever, June 28, 2008 saw the release of «UEFA European Soccer Championships «EURO 2008»» stamp...



Full technical details at http://www.moldovastamps.org/catalogue_stamps_issue.asp?issueID=202

20 Years Ago...

July 18, 1998 saw the release of the magnificent «EUROPA: Festivals and National Celebrations» series...



Full technical details at http://www.moldovastamps.org/catalogue_stamps_issue.asp?issueID=81

Recent Issues: “POSTCROSSING”

June 23 2018:

http://www.moldovastamps.org/catalogue_stamps_issue.asp?issueID=3040

On June 23, 2018, the Post of Moldova put into circulation a beautiful stamp devoted to the “POSTCROSSING” movement. POSTCROSSING is a global organization with the goal of allowing anyone to send and receive postcards from all over the world! Many countries have issued POSTCROSSING stamps and this is the very first one from Moldova.

The stamp features the beloved character “Guguță”, from the popular children’s stories by Moldovan writer, Spiridon Vangheli. Guguță is travelling the globe with his POSTCROSSING balloons and postcards.



The artist for the stamp and FDC was Lilian Iațco, from Posta Moldovei. The stamp was printed in 120,000 copies and has a face value of 11 Moldovan Lei, the tariff for sending postcards from Moldova to all international destinations.

Recent Issues: “Discover Moldova”

July 5 2018:

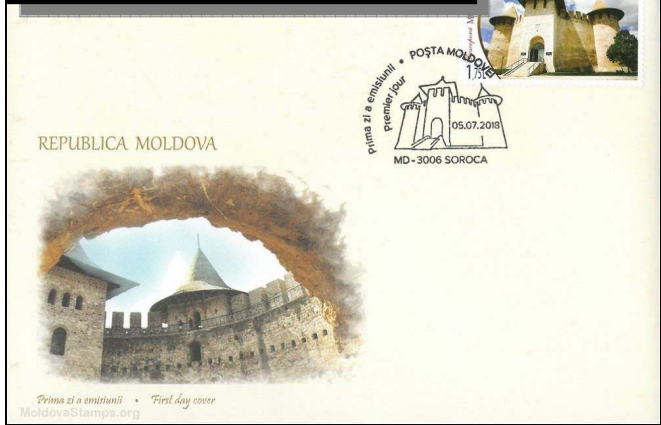
http://www.moldovastamps.org/catalogue_stamps_issue.asp?issueID=3010

On July 5, the Post of Moldova put into circulation two very nice stamps dedicated to the promotion of Moldova as a tourist destination. The artist was Corina Levco. Each stamp was printed in 200,000 copies. The FDCs were printed in only 300 copies (each).



No. 1054 (1.75L) and the FDC features Sorocea Fortress (1499).

No. 1055 (5.75L) and FDC features the cultural and natural reserve “Orheiul Vechi” (Old Orhei).





**THE INTERNATIONAL MOLDOVAN
PHILATELIC SOCIETY**

**CHIȘINĂU |
CHICAGO | LYON |
SÃO PAULO**

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Editor at the email address above.

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***IMPS is founded on Friendship,
Equality and Passion.***

Special notice to all philatelic web- masters and site owners...

“ITALIA 2018 Literature” Exhibition of Philatelic Literature - Verona, Italy, 23-25 November 2018 - Federation of Italian Philatelic Societies - Closing date for entries: September 10, 2018.



ITALIA 2018 is a very innovative exhibition. It is open to any work of philatelic literature... including **websites!** No special conditions and entries from all over the world are invited to participate! This is the only philatelic exhibition in 2018 that accepts websites. Don't miss this rare opportunity.

Full details at http://expo.fsfi.it/italia2018/en_index.php

Eric Contesse Blog Articles

Our esteemed colleague and a Founding Member of IMPS, Eric Contesse, has written more than 260 articles, in French and English, about Moldovan Philately, in his excellent blog site. The IMPS website has integrated a list of his latest articles at this address: <http://www.moldovastamps.org/info-blog.asp>. This is highly recommended reading for anyone interested in Moldovan culture and history.



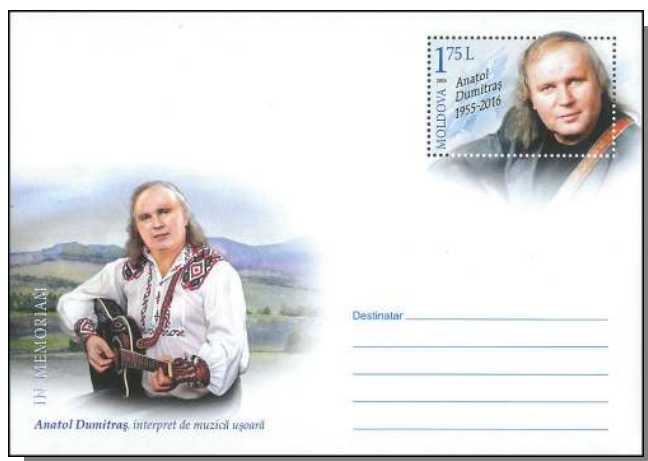
	"The Lărguța Treasure" stamp set on FDC from Moldova Mon, 25 Jun 2018 16:42:00 +0000	
	EUROPA 2012 ("Visit ...") stamp set on postcard from Moldova Sat, 23 Jun 2018 10:37:00 +0000	
	Tribute to singer Ana Barbu on new prepaid envelope from Moldova	

Blogger
Blog Articles by
Eric Contesse

Recent Issues: Postal Stationery

In Memoriam. Anatol Dumitraș (1955-2016). Musician

http://www.moldovastamps.org/catalogue_envelopes_issue.asp?issueID=3023



Public Park «Stefan cel Mare» - 200th Anniversary

http://www.moldovastamps.org/catalogue_postcards_issue.asp?issueID=3017

