

# Oddities and Novelties, weird and unusual stamps from around the World

From the collection of John Catiller

FLOCK STAMPS ON THE

# LUNAR NEW YEAR ANIMALS -

BR 065157

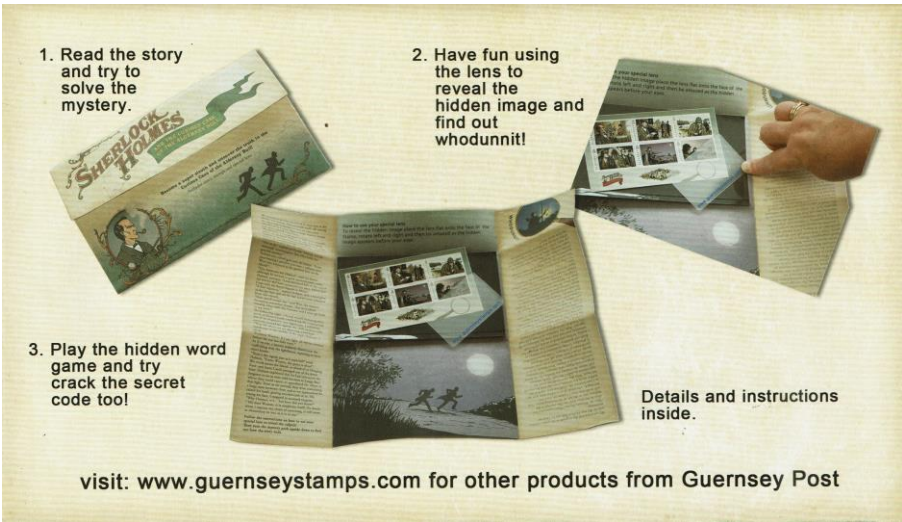
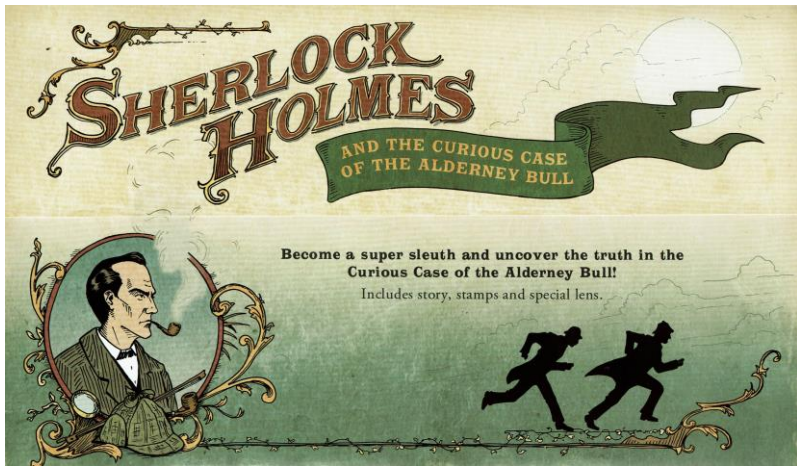
Dragon • Snake • Horse • Ram



## 2003 China Hong Kong Lunar New Year Souvenir Sheet

World's First stamps printed on flocked paper. This image looks fuzzy because the stamps are fuzzy.

Powdered cotton on gummed paper give the stamps a velvety feel.



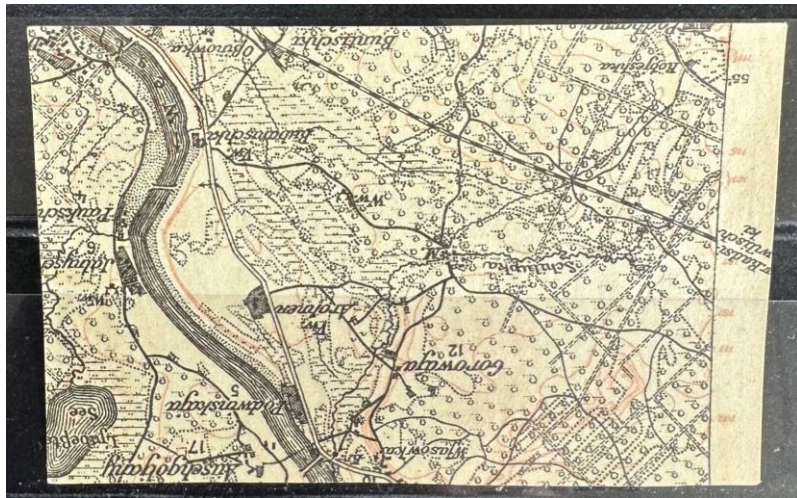
Issued 10-29-2009 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle  
Guernsey Channel Islands  
Designer Kieth Robinson  
Offset lithography on gummed paper  
Printed by Cartor Security Printers  
Read the story, find the hidden image on the stamp sheet, solve the secret code and reveal the answer to the mystery.



Latvia 1918 after a hard won fight for independence from Germany at the end of World War One Latvia was short on materials.

The printers did have on hand quality paper topographical maps ordered by the German Army but never collected.

The stamps were printed on the backs of these maps. There are several varieties including perforated, imperforated and minor color variations.





World's first Thai silk stamps. Issued August 4<sup>th</sup> 2010 for the 25<sup>th</sup> Asian Philatelic Exhibition. Limited edition of 20,000. Peacocks are hand woven Thai silk. The silk appliques were sent to France to mounted on gummed paper and overprinted with metal foil. Designer Mayuree Narknison of Thailand Post Limited.

Her Majesty Queen Sirikit established the royal peacock seals for Thai Silk.

Gold is the highest standard. The silk must be entirely from silkworms native to Thailand, hand spun and worked by traditional folk tools.



**Silver**  
 Silk from native or hybrid silkworms.  
 Must be handspun and woven on a wooden loom.



**Blue**  
 Primarily native silk.  
 May include silk from hybrid or foreign silkworms.



**Green**  
 Primarily native silk but may also include other fabrics.



Bayeux Tapestry Final Panel offset lithographic printing on cotton on gummed paper by Cartor Security Printing.  
Designer Bridget Yabsley Issued May 28<sup>th</sup> 2014.

The Bayeux tapestry is an artifact created in the 11<sup>th</sup> Century. It is a tapestry 70 meters long and 50 centimeters tall depicting the story of William, the Duke of Normandy and his conquest of England in 1066. The original tapestry has 58 scenes ending with the battle of Hastings. The tapestry stopped short of the coronation of William as King of England.

From February 2012 to 2013 the people of the Island of Alderney completed the final panel creating a 3 meter long depiction of the events leading up to and culminating the coronation of William. The tapestry included stitches added by then Prince Charles and his wife Camila.

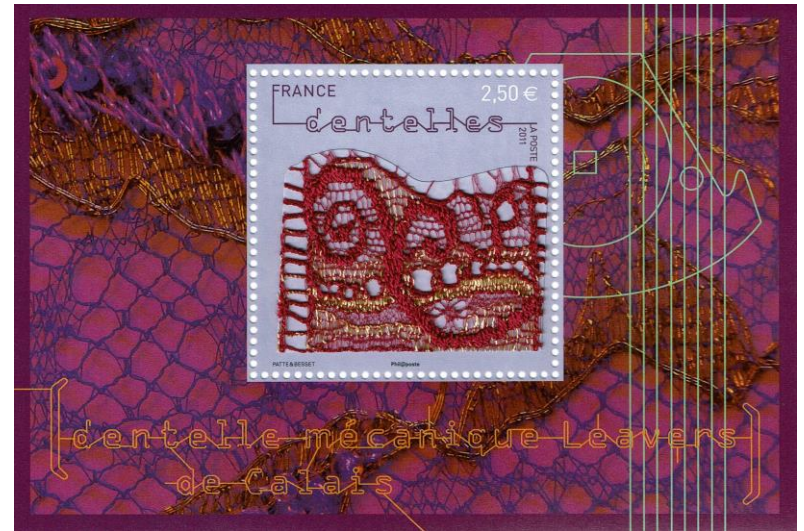


Natural silk backed with gummed paper.

Issued in 2014 for the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Federation des Societes Philateliques du Grande Duchy Luxembourg.

The stamps depict children enjoying the “giant” hobby of stamp collecting and a depiction of the Adolphe Bridge, the world’s largest stone arch bridge.





France October 10 2011 commemorating the art of machine made lace issued by Patle and Besset.

Each stamp includes a hand cut and hand applied sample of lace made on 100 year old Leavers machines.

The left stamp represents the lace patten from the region of Alecon.

The right is the region of Calais.



Left stamp pattern from the region of Puy-en-valey



Right stamp from the region of Chantilly

All samples of lace except for the Puy-en-Velay contain a Greek Sigma symbol hidden in the pattern.

Denomination 2.50 Euros



Switzerland 06-21-2000  
World's first Embroidered  
stamp issued for the first  
day of the International  
Stamp Exposition in St.  
Gallen.  
Designed by Peter  
Hostettler of Bischoff  
Textile AG in St. Gallen



Finland 06-11-2008 World's first transparent stamp  
printed on transparent plastic.

Frosty Night designed by Nina Rinate for Christmas  
2008.

Selected as Finland's most beautiful stamp of the  
year.

5 million produced. 1 Louaka Klass means 1 First  
Class postage.





Switzerland 04-27-2004 Lenticular Motion Stamps, self adhesive, issued for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Museum of Communication.

Designed by Muler Lutolf of Graphics AG Aarau

The persons in the stamps lean over to whisper in each other's ear passing on a message as in a game of telephone or Chinese whispers.



Finland Alpine sports  
lenticular motion stamps  
Issued 01-24-2008  
Designer Susanna Rumpu  
and Ari Lakaniemi

The names of the  
photographers and the  
athletes are included in the  
lower left corner of the  
sheet.

Upper left, skier drops from helicopter.  
Lower left snowboarder cuts into turn.  
Lower right skier jumps a small hill.  
Upper right snowboarder starts in corner, does a flip through  
the stamp and lands in the lower center of the sheet.

The stamps are self  
adhesive.



Faro Island territory of Denmark  
50,000 Danish Kroner

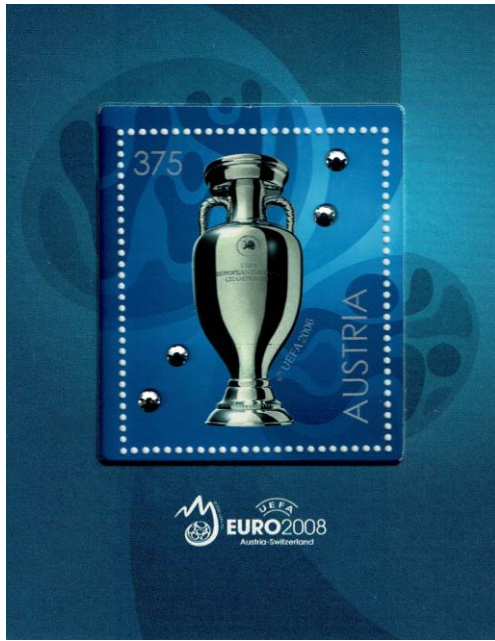
Attached to the gummed paper stamp is a sample of leather made from Atlantic Cod fish skin stronger than cowhide and tanned by Atlantic Leather in Iceland. Issued 09-26-2016 printed by Cartor Security Printers in France.



Austria issued 03-12-2008 for the Union of European Football Association championship games that ended that year in Vienna Austria.

The self adhesive stamp is printed on Polyurethane Leather, also called PU Leather or Pleather, the same synthetic leather used to make soccer balls.

Printed by Cartor Security Printing.



Issued by Austria in 2008 to commemorate the Austrian championship in the Union of European Football Associations games that ended in Vienna Austria.

The stamp depicts the Henri Delany cup, an 8 kilo sterling silver trophy.

The stamp has four Swaroski Crystals attached. The process to attatch the crystals took a week.

Swaroski crystals are synthetic crystals know worldwide produced in Austria.

400,000 were issued on gummed paper.

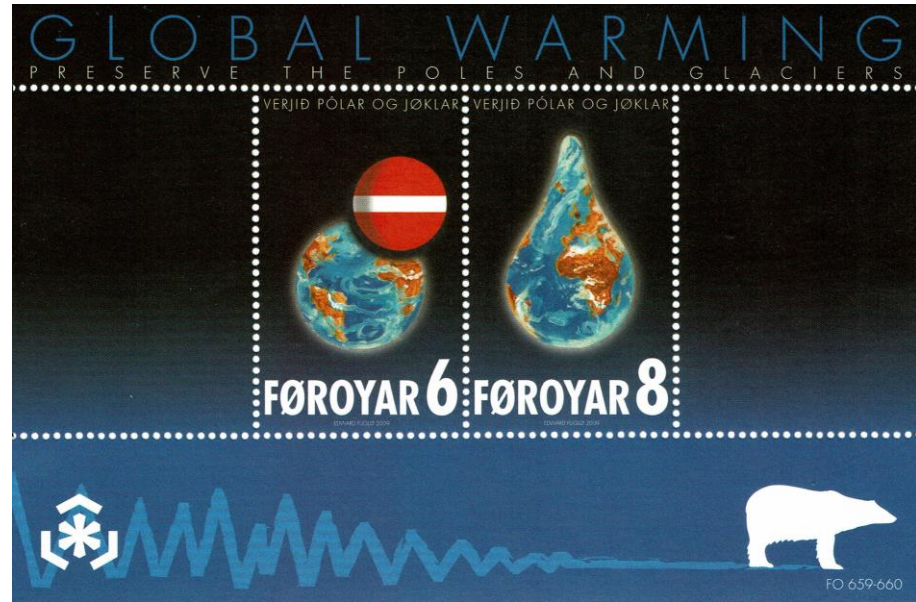


Finland 2009 Braille Stamp

The stamp shows the Pallas-Vuastntri National Park.

It has a polymer overlay with Braille down the center of the stamp.

1 Lk Klass is a first class



Faroe Island Territory of Denmark issued 02-23-2009 warning of global warming. Designed by Edward Fuglo.

The stamps have a textured polymer topographical overlay.

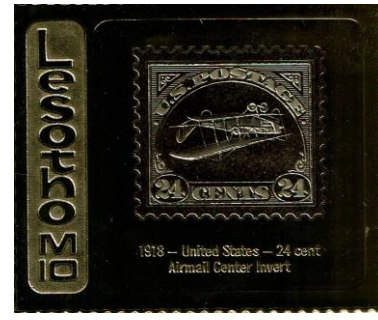




Japan 06-30-2009 in honor of international Polar Year  
To preserve polar Icecaps and Glaciers

Offset lithographic printing with hot stamped metallic  
holographic foil overlay

In the upper left corner is the ice Crystal in the World  
international emblem.



Begun in 1979 and completed in 1981 by royal order of King Moshoeshoell of Lesotho on the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Independence and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Sir Rowland Hill, the creator of the prepaid postage stamp a series of 40 stamp on stamp issues of the world's rarest and most significant stamps. The theme was chosen to represent Lesotho's place in the family of nations.

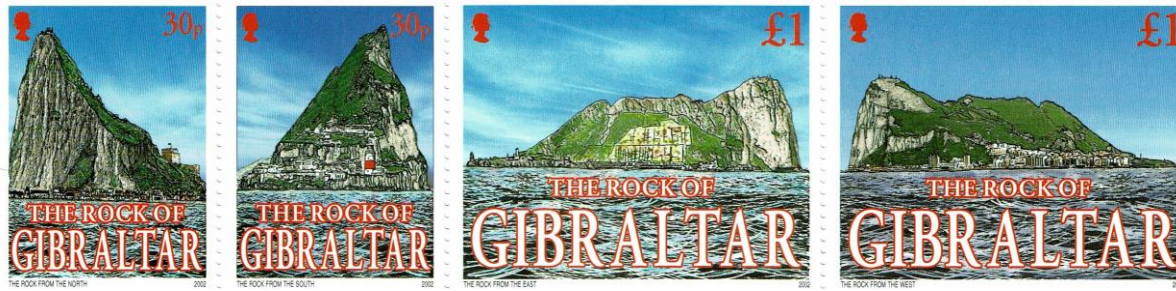
These stamps are 23 carat gold foil over laid with a 20 carat white gold image of the stamp on a gummed paper backing.

These three stamps depict the Penny Black, the 1856 British Guiana and the Inverted Jenny.

Denomination 10 Maloti (Plural of Loti). 35,000 sets issued. I have the complete set.



Switzerland issued for the Stamp Day 2015 with views of the city of Bulle. Note the perforations following the peaks of the mountains on the left stamp.



Issued by Gibraltar in 2002. The Rock of Gibraltar, also known as the Pillars of Hercules stands at the straight between the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean. This set of stamps includes limestone cut from the center of the rock from tunnels dug in World War II. The powdered limestone mixed with polymer was added to the still wet ink then baked to cure. The texture is like very fine sandpaper applied only to the images of the rock. These are the first of their kind.



Switzerland issued 09-07-2004  
Screen printed on 120 year old pine  
wood in honor of the timber industry.  
The stamp is self adhesive.

This stamp was the first European  
wooden stamp issued as regular  
postage.

The fine wood grain pattern is unique  
to each stamp.



Portugal 10-28-2007 Scotts # 2971

Self adhesive printed on Oak Cork to  
commemorate the cork industry of Portugal.

The natural cork pattern is unique to each  
stamp.

The Oak on the Hill design by Joao Mechado  
230,000 issued.



New Zealand 03-22-2016 Glow in the dark ink.

Self adhesive Offset Lithography by Southern Colour Print.

From the Luminosity series by photographer Joseph Micael

This photograph was taken in the Ruakuri glowworm cave.

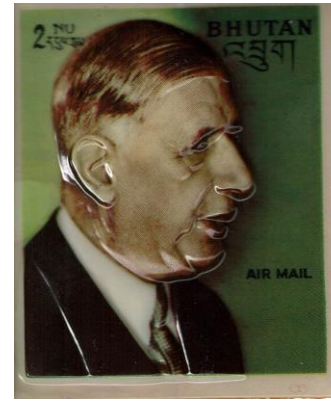
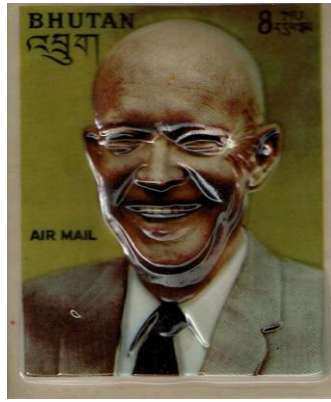
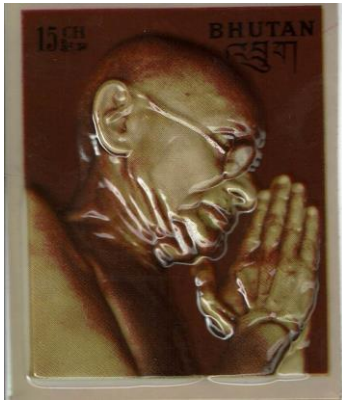


Switzerland 10-31-2007 World's first Internet connected stamp.

The self adhesive stamp includes a BEE TAGG, a forerunner of the QR Code developed by Yellowworld, a subsidiary of SwissPost.

The tag linked a phone with the proper reader installed to a Swiss tourism site.

The BEE TAGG is now obsolete, surpassed by the QR Code, and the link is no longer active.



Mahatma Gandhi

John F Kennedy

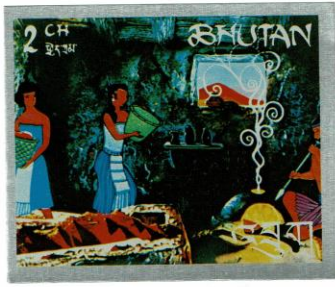
General Dwight D Eisenhower

Charles De Gaulle

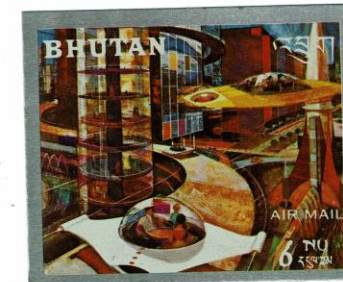
Winston Churchill

Bhutan 04-17-1972 World's first heat molded extruded plastic self adhesive stamps featuring world influencers. Missing from this set is Pope John XVIII

Bhutan is a kingdom in the Himalayan mountains between China and India. Bhutan was closed to the outside world until 1962 when it paved its first road into the country and issued its first postage stamps. American entrepreneur Burt Kerr Todd met Ashi Kesang Choden-Dorfito, the future Queen of Bhutan at Oxford University. After being turned down for an loan by the International Bank Todd worked with the royal family to embark on a program to create innovative postage stamps to raise money. The sale of unique and innovative stamps was a primary source of income for many years.



Bhutan 06-02-1962 World's first stamps printed on steel to commemorate the 5000 year history of creating and processing steel with a science fiction look into the future.



The stamps are self adhesive on 0.001 inch steel.





Bhutan 1966 in honor of King Jigme Wangchuck These were the first of Bhutan's innovative non-paper stamps. They are embossed on gold foil to emulate coins.

Bhutan's first issues of paper stamps failed to draw interest so Bhutan tried a limited run of these unique stamps. They were successful and Bhutan's history of creating unique and innovative stamps for collectors had begun.

Several more sets of gold foil stamps were issued to commemorate various events in the lives of the Royal Family.



A celebration of Belgium Chocolate issued by the Belgium Postal Service March 25<sup>th</sup> 2013.

The paper was imbued with the scent of cocoa. A varnish was added with more scent and to create the look of chocolate.

Finally chocolate was added to the gum so the stamps taste like chocolate when licked.

Then Belgium postal service had a team of experts from Belgium, Germany, The Netherlands and Switzerland to get the look, scent and taste right.

These are not the first scented stamps but they are the world's first flavored stamps.

500,000 printed



*Le Chocolat belge  
De Belgische Chocolade*





## Bhutan 01-30-1973 World's first scented stamps.

The Government of Bhutan presented another first in stamp production in 1973: an issue depicting a variety of roses, each with an authentic scent. The printing process took more than a year to develop and uses lasting ink which incorporates the actual aroma of roses. The world's first scented stamp issue consists of six denominations: four regular postage and two airmail. Famous roses were illustrated: the Iceberg, the Pink Parfait, the Rosyln, The Blue Moon, the Marchioness of Urguijo and the Wendy Cusson.



Switzerland 09-04-2014

Thin cardboard with vinyl record.

Center stamp punches out and is the only part gummed.

Record plays a brass band version of the Swiss National Anthem.

This was not a first. In 1972 Bhutan issued a set of seven "talking stamps" that today sell for about \$100 each.



## Bhutan 1972 World's first "talking" Stamps

Miniature self adhesive one sided vinyl records.

The set consisted of a yellow on red design containing a capsule history of Bhutan in Dzongkha, a gold on green with the national anthem, a silver on blue with the history of Bhutan narrated by Todd in English, a silver on purple featuring a folk song, a silver on black with second folk song, a red on white with a third, and a black on yellow containing the English-language history and two of the folk songs.

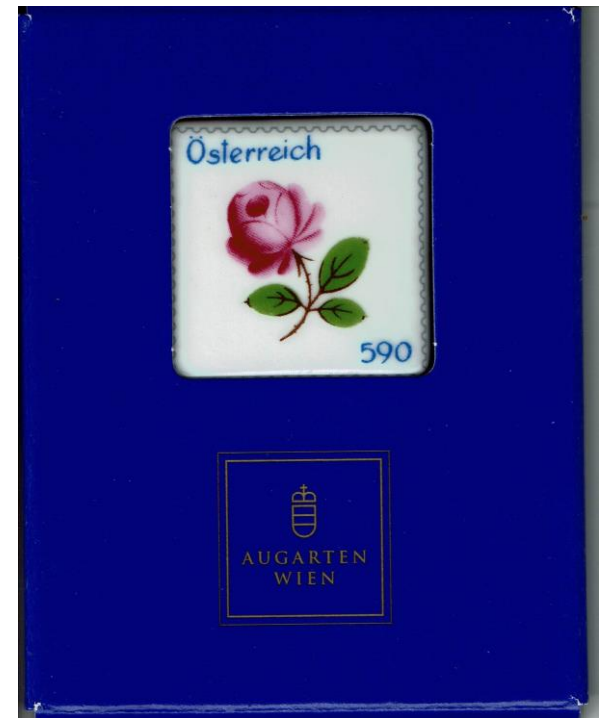


Bhutan 2008 Following in the footsteps of her father Frances Todd Stewart followed up with his last idea of producing a set of CD Stamps. The stamps were printed Toppan Forms security printers in Hong Kong. The CD's were replicated by Smartlink Group in Hong Kong. The left stamp is a multimedia presentation "In harmony With Nature" about Bhutan's relationship with its environment.

On the right is "100 Years of Monarchy" issued on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Monarchy of Bhutan including the coronation of the 5<sup>th</sup> King and the signing of the new Constitution making the Kingdom a Constitutional Monarchy with an elected Parliament.



Austria 06-10-2021 World's first stamp screen printed on the back of glass in honor of the traditional artwork of reverse glass painting in Sandl in upper Austria. The self adhesive stamp was issued for actual use as postage. Printed by Vienna Porcelain Manufactory in Augarten.



Austria 03-20-2014 World's first porcelain postage stamp. It features the Rose of Vienna. Made by Vienna Porcelain Manufactory in Augarten in service to the Republic of Austria for 300 years. Issued for use as actual postage.



Singapore 04-08-2008 World's first glass beaded stamp.

Issued to commemorate the opening of the Peranakan Museum of art. The Peranakan people are known for their intricate glass bead work. The pouch on this sheet is part of the collection.

The stamps are printed by Cartor Security Printing offset lithography.

Then the glass caviar beads were individually applied to the stamp by hand.

20,000 were issued.

Singapore 10-09-2021 Second glass beaded stamp issued as a Heritage Collection.

The stamp features another example of Peranakan bead work, a wedding table cover from 1920.

Graphic design by Ivory Seth

Offset lithography by Cartor Security printing.

The colored glass seed beads are individually applied by hand to the stamp.





From the sublime to the ridiculous....



Finland 03-08-2013 book of stamps.

The final results of a photo sponsored by the Ilta-Sanomat newspaper and the Itella Posti Oy (Finnish postal service) from June through August of 2012 of Finland's prettiest outhouses.



Finland is cold and indoor plumbing is not always reliable.

Offset lithography on self adhesive stamps.

500,000 issued.

YouTube link to Switzerland National Anthem played on stamp sheet

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VykJyuh4C7M>

YouTube link to Bhutan National Anthem played on “Talking Stamp”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dVVhzO2Rst8>

YouTube link to “Yellow Bhutan” Talking Stamp” with history in English, Folk Song and National Anthem

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4YcNWKsEI\\_M&t=6s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4YcNWKsEI_M&t=6s)

YouTube link to complete set of Bhutan “Talking Stamps”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H0DXyCiKbDI>

YouTube link to Bhutan CD stamps

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ir0WETuekYU>