

Linn's Stamp News

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WORLD'S LARGEST WEEKLY STAMP NEWS AND MARKETPLACE

VOL. 71 ISSUE 3610

Sweden to begin year with stamps showing tigers, works of art and Valentine hearts

Sweden will feature tigers, modern art and love on its first stamps for 1998. These three issues are scheduled to be released Jan. 15.

A set of stamps featuring tigers that grew up on Swedish nature filmmaker Jan Lindblad's farm continues Sweden Post's stamp series of endangered species.

Lindblad, who lived from 1932-87, was the last of the great Swedish explorers. He traveled around the world in the 1970s with his camera.

With his personal narrative and characteristic voice, he took viewers to the rain forests of Trinidad and the jungles of Guyana. He always came back to the theme that human beings must take responsibility for our planet and save the wild while we can.

While Lindblad and his companion Pia Thom were filming in India in the late 1970s, they met Pathe Singh Ratore, who wanted to introduce fresh breeding material for his zoo by purchasing a tigress from Europe to let loose in the park.

That is how the adventure started. Lindblad and Thom became surrogate parents for two

cubs. The cubs arrived in Sweden in the summer warmth, which soon turned into icy cold. The tigers handled the winter well and loved to play in the Swedish snow.

The plan was for the tigers to go to India as grown-up tigresses to introduce new blood in an inbred group. However, new regulations meant that they had to remain in Sweden and live their lives in one of the country's best zoo parks, the Boras Zoo.

Lindblad died in 1987 while in the middle of a

project about leopards and other animals of Sri Lanka.

He is pictured on one of the two stamps featuring his tigers. The other design depicts the two tigers on a rock.

Olof Baldursdottir's designs for the stamps are based on photographs taken by Lindblad and Thom.

Czeslaw Slania engraved the designs. Sweden Post Stamps printed them by a combination of two-color intaglio and four-color offset in coils.

Both stamps are nondenominated. In place of a value, they bear the inscription "Foren-

ingsbrev." The stamps are intended to pay domestic postage for societies.

A booklet with three stamps marks the inauguration of the new Modern Museum in Stockholm.

Two of the designs reproduce famous works from the museum collections: *Swampskulptur* (Fungus Sculpture) by Yves Klein from 1959 and *Monogram* by Robert Rauschenberg. This latter sculpture, also from the late 1950s, features a goat.

The third stamp shows *Skeppsholmen*, a painting commissioned from Swedish artist Goran Gidestam for the stamp.

These stamps are nondenominated. The inscription "Brev" indicates that they are for Swedish domestic letters.

Slania engraved these stamps, and Sweden Post Stamps produced them by a combination of two-color intaglio and four-color offset.

The Modern Museum will throw open the doors of its new premises on the island of Skeppsholmen in Stockholm Feb. 14.

For the first time, a substantial part of its outstanding permanent collection of international and Swedish modern and contemporary art, film, video and photography will be on view in impressive pyramids of Rafael Moneo's top-lit galleries.

Moneo, a prize-winning Spanish architect, already has a number of other museums to his credit. In the new Modern Museum, his master work to date, he combines the best of the classical Mediterranean and northern traditions.

In this wonderful venue on the beautiful island of Skeppsholmen in central Stockholm, the Modern Museum can now show the best of modern and contemporary art to growing



Swedish stamps to be issued Jan. 15 feature tigers that were raised by nature filmmaker Jan Lindblad on his Swedish farm.

numbers of Swedish and foreign visitors.

Some of the best-known works are *Fruit Bowl* (1908) by George Braque, *The William Tell Mystery* (1933) by Salvador Dali, *Apollo* (1953) by Henri Matisse, and *Marilyn Monroe in Black and White* (1962) by Andy Warhol.

(Please turn to page 20)

Year of the Tiger tribute from five IGPC nations

Inter-Governmental Philatelic Corp. (IGPC) of New York is orchestrating a multinational tribute to the upcoming Year of the Tiger, which will begin Jan. 28, 1998.

At present, technical details for the Lunar Year of the Tiger are available for five post offices: Dominica, The Gambia, Guyana, St. Vincent-

Grenadines and Togo.

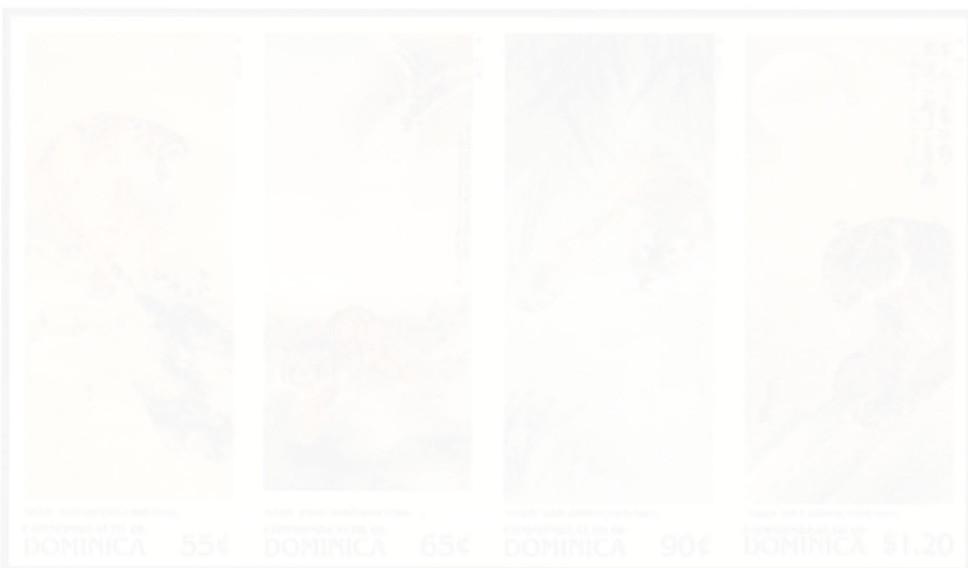
IGPC reports that other postal administrations that it represents also will be taking part in the tribute.

The Year of the Tiger stamps from the five aforementioned nations were designed by the Chinese-American stamp artist Yuan Lee and printed by The

House of Questa in London.

The stamps are scheduled for release in early January.

The postal authorities of the commonwealth of Dominica, a former British colony situated in the Windward chain of the Eastern Caribbean, will release five stamps reproducing paintings of tigers. (Please turn to page 20)



Dominica will commemorate the Year of the Tiger on these four se-tenant (side-by-side) stamps reproducing tiger paintings by the Ling-Nan school of painters. The stamps shown here are from the proof stage. The issued stamp will have perforations. They also will be surrounded by a large border area with inscriptions in English and Chinese.

Stamp store is source of rare \$5 Hamilton cover

By Rob Haeseler

A stamp store in Fort Worth, Texas, is the source of a handful of rare, commercially used \$5 Alexander Hamilton covers from the Liberty series of 1954-1973, *Linn's* has learned.

A page 1 story in the issue of Dec. 22 told how collectors of Liberty series postal history had looked in vain for years for \$5 covers.

The story evolved from a discovery last April by Roland Austin of Stillwater, Okla., who heads a Liberty study group.

Austin reported his find in the December *Bureau Specialist*, journal of the Bureau Issues Association.

It is a legal-sized registered envelope bearing a \$5 Hamilton and two \$1 Patrick Henry stamps mailed from an accounting firm in Houston to the Fort Worth National Bank

in Fort Worth, Texas, Nov. 19, 1963.

While students of the Liberty series have long suspected that such covers exist, Austin was the first to show documentary proof.

The \$5 stamp, which is identified as Scott 1053, is usually found only on registered mailing tags used by banks.

Just after Austin finished writing his article for the *Specialist*, a second cover surfaced in Maryland.

Mailed Oct. 18, 1966, it is a solo registered use on a courtesy return envelope of

the Wildey Savings Bank in Boston, Mass.

Both covers were reported in *Linn's* issue of Dec. 22, 1997, copies of which began to arrive in the San Francisco Bay Area on Tuesday, Dec. 16.

Reader Daniel Pagter of Albany, Calif., saw the \$5 Hamilton story and immediately phoned *Linn's* to report that he, too, has a commercial use on cover.

Addressed to the Fort Worth National Bank, it is an oversized registered envelope capable of carrying docu-

(Please turn to page 9)

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PRINTED with soy ink on recycled paper MAILED: Dec. 26
PAID CIRCULATION: 63,582 TOTAL DISTRIBUTION: 64,783
POSTMASTER: Address changes to Box 29, Sidney, Ohio 45365

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POSTAL NEWS
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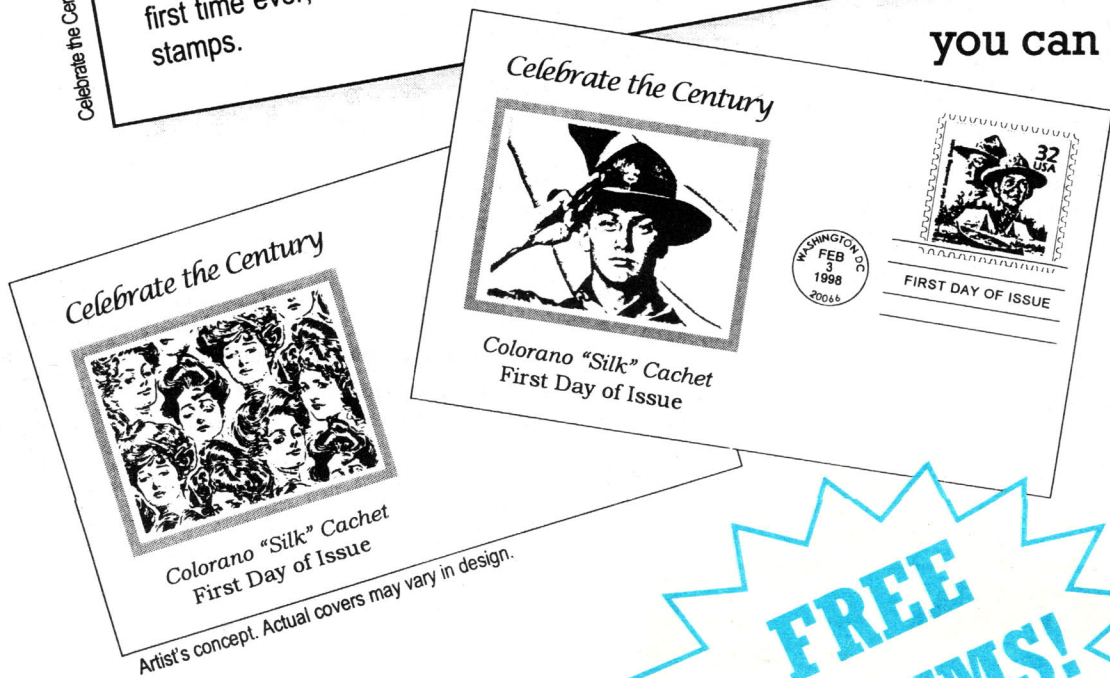
POSTAL SERVICE ANNOUNCES MILLENNIUM CELEBRATION

All Americans Invited to Put Their Stamp on History

WASHINGTON DC — The U.S. Postal Service today unveiled plans for Celebrate the Century™, a new stamp program that is expected to be a premiere millennium observance. Celebrate the Century™ is scheduled to begin in February 1998 and will continue through the year 2000. U.S. postage stamps will depict the most memorable events, people, places, and trends of the 20th century. And for the first time ever, the public will be invited to vote for subjects that will be featured on stamps.

Celebrate the Century and CTC are trademarks of the US Postal Service

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