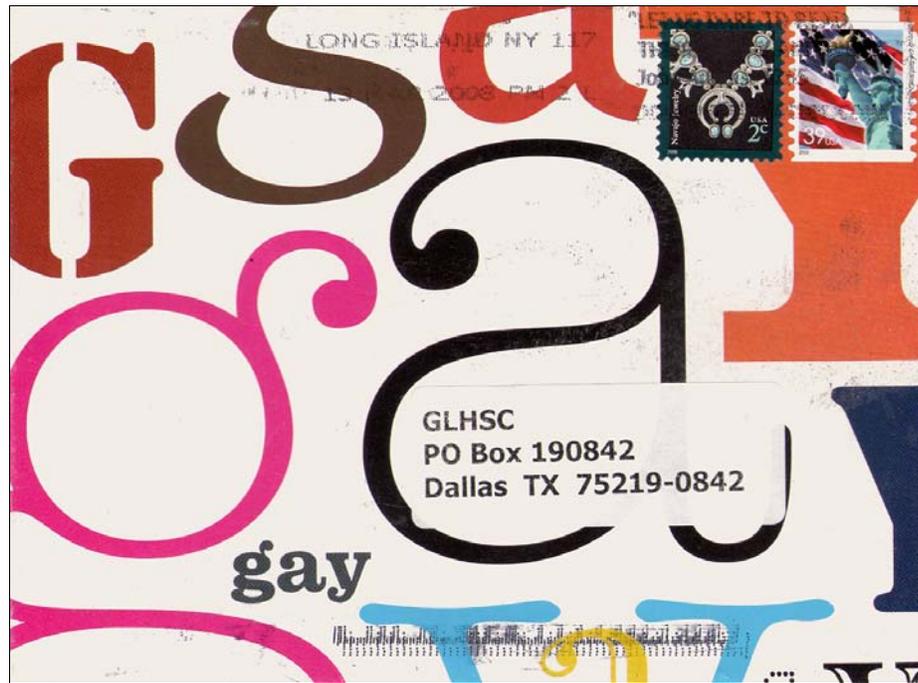




Lambda Philatelic Journal

PUBLICATION OF THE GAY AND LESBIAN HISTORY ON STAMPS CLUB * JUNE 2008, VOL. 27, NO. 2, WHOLE NO. 102

Gay Pride



Another handmade cover by GLHSC member in New York.

The *Lambda Philatelic Journal* (ISSN 1541-101X) is published quarterly by the Gay and Lesbian History on Stamps Club (GLHSC). GLHSC is a study unit of the American Topical Association (ATA), Number 458; an affiliate of the American Philatelic Society (APS), Number 205; and a member of the American First Day Cover Society (AFDCS), Number 72.

The objectives of GLHSC are to promote an interest in the collection, study and dissemination of knowledge of worldwide philatelic material that depicts:

- Notable men and women and their contributions to society for whom historical evidence exists of homosexual or bisexual orientation,
- Mythology, historical events and ideas significant in the history of gay culture,
- Flora and fauna scientifically proven to having prominent homosexual behavior, and
- Even though emphasis is placed on the above aspects of stamp collecting, GLHSC strongly encourages other philatelic endeavors.

GLHSC OFFICERS:

President.....Angela Watson
 Vice President Brian Lanter
 Secretary Vacant
 Treasurer Judith Beckett
 Editor.....Joe Petronie

Email: glhsc@aol.com

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MEMBERSHIP:

Yearly dues in the United States, Canada and Mexico are \$10.00. For all other countries, the dues are \$15.00. All checks should be made payable to GLHSC. \$1 add-on for late dues.

Single issues \$3.

There are two levels of membership:

- 1) Supportive, your name will not be released to APS, ATA or AFDCS, and
- 2) Active, your name will be released to APS, ATA and AFDCS (as required).

Dues include four issues of the *Lambda Philatelic Journal* and a copy of the membership directory. (Names will be withheld from the directory upon request.)

New memberships received from January through September will receive all back issues and directory for that calendar year. (Their dues will be considered paid through the end of the year they join.) Memberships received October through December will be considered paid through the following year and will not receive back issues, unless they are requested.

ADVERTISING RATES:

Members are entitled to free ads.
 Non-members can place ads for \$10 per issue.

Ads should be no larger than 1/4 page. Any ad submitted without artwork will be created by the editor and at the editor's discretion.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE:

<u>Publication Months</u>	<u>Articles Needed by</u>
March	February 15
June	May 15
September	August 15
December	November 15

The *Lambda Philatelic Journal* thrives on philatelic articles, original or reprinted, and alternative viewpoints for publication.

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Opinions expressed here are solely those of the authors, and do not necessarily represent those of the GLHSC, its' officers or members.

News From the Editor

A big thank you goes to the GLHSC members who sent in a donation with their dues:

- Ian Gibson-Smith - \$90
- Carol Costa - \$15
- Brian Lanter - \$15
- Jerry Merson - \$15
- Francis Ferguson - \$10
- Michael Sheehan - \$10
- Stephen Berg - \$5
- Joseph Gallagher - \$5

Thanks also to those who have sent in articles. I would love to hear from some “new” members on their collecting interests.

* * * * *

Look for articles on Raymond Burr, Crazy Horse, T. S. Eliot, King Ludwig, Micheal MacLiammoir, Edward McDowell and the return of the Florida Forty Stamper column in the next few issues.

* * * * *

Have safe, cool summer! Happy Gay Pride!

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From the President

Well, here it is, time for another column. I gave some thought to just repeating a column from a year ago, because I seem to write these things in a vacuum. That is, I write and never really hear back from anyone. I sit here sometimes and wonder if anyone even reads the newsletters. Well, that is my pondering.

I'm sure that you're like me: busy with work and family, and getting to your stamps sometimes seems like a luxury. But it is an important luxury in that it allows us a little "down time." Time just for us; I know this might sound selfish, but in fact, it is not. It is time well spent on re-charging our batteries. Find that thing that gives you a bit a pleasure and indulge, because you deserve it! It also allows your mind to rest a bit and come back stronger after your rest.

Once again, we need articles. I know this sounds like a broken record, but in a club with over 100 members the same six people simply can't continue to do all the work. Perhaps we should investigate the possibility of going to a newsletter every four months, instead of every three months. It would cut our expenses and preclude a hike in membership rates for a while. What do you think? Drop us an email at GLHSC@aol.com and vote: three issues a year or a price increase to \$12 per year.

Until next time, I'll be in my vacuum, waiting to hear from members,

Angela



Donation Response

Hi Joe...I previously emailed you saying the Gerber-Hart Library (gay/lesbian archives in Chicago) would benefit greatly from this donation (I'm a G-H volunteer)...

I would strongly argue against breaking up the collection, or selling it (auctioning duplicates is fine)...to me, it should remain together, representing one person's view of the world, so to speak, a lesbian view I assume -- it would then be up to a researcher to see the entire collection and then assess and interpret and use it to make some statement about her, and us...AND researchers would need to see the original materials (no one would write a scholarly article based only on viewing a DVD copy)...if sold, it would revert to the benefit of the few owners or owner and be lost to 'history'

GLHSC could certainly keep it, as long as it is made available to researchers (making it known that it exists, and making DVDs for other orgs) -- If donated (to G-H or ONE or whomever), I would strongly urge a written agreement that the collection, or its parts, NOT be sold at a future date (otherwise, GLHSC should just sell it and reap the \$) --

Thanks for listening,

Frank Serafino
Illinois

* * * * *

Hey Joe,

I received the March issue of LPJ a few days ago. Interesting to read about the donation of FDCs. Wow -- so now the club has some assets! :-). There may be more in the future from other sources, so I think we should think about finding a home for such collections. I am in favor of partnering with an existing institution -- a GLBT library or cultural institution would be ideal, preferably one in a large city (e.g., Chi-

cago, LA, NYC, San Francisco). I think we should make it worth their while: someone will need to sort through the material, pull out duplicates and items that really are outside LGBT themes. (These could be sold to members or consigned to an auction house.) If we were to find an interested institution, we would need to come to a clear agreement about ownership (would this be a gift or a loan?) and disposition should the institute fold or lose interest.

Just a few thoughts. As always, thanks for your tireless efforts!

Bob Dailey
Texas

* * * * *

Hey Joe!

Just joined GLHSC and I need your help. Is the logo available for sale?

Where can I locate one of your favorites, France postcard #2947, Oscar Wilde, as shown on page 10 of the directory (a must have!) and, of course, "Brokeback Mountain" and the Netherlands stamp?

I have written the Archives in California, but these particular ones are of interest - to be the first in my starting collection.

I lived in Dallas for many years and wish I were there to help you out with the FDC collection. My feelings on the donation - KEEP! It's a first, the beginning of GLHSC own archives. Create CDs & DVDs for everyone else. And sell them. If financially able, take out an ad in the APS magazine and get some income coming in to help build our archives.

So, anyway, thanks for your time and consideration in this matter!

See Yah!

Jim Law
New Mexico

René François Armand Sully-Prudhomme (1839-1907)

by Bobby Cloud

[See the related article, "Homosexuality, Aestheticism, and French Writers" in the March 2006 issues of *LPJ*.]

Parnassians were a group of 19th-century French poets, so called from their journal *The Parnasse Contemporain*; named after Mount Parnassus from Greek Mythology. Parnassus was home of the Muses. The journal was issued from 1866 to 1876; it included poems of Leconte de Lisle, Theodore de Banville (explored, like Baudelaire, Sapphic love and lesbianism), Sully-Prudhomme, Verlaine, Coppée, and J. M. de Heredia.



Scott no. B456

The Parnassians were influenced by Théophile Gautier and his doctrine of "art for art's sake". In reaction to the looser forms of romantic poetry, they strove for strict and immaculate workmanship; selecting exotic and classical subjects which they treated with rigidity of form and emotional detachment. Elements of this detachment were derived from the philosophical work of Arthur Schopenhauer (according to Schopenhauer, male homosexuality was provided by nature as a means of regulating the birth rate).

The leading member of this movement was Sully-Prudhomme, who was a French poet who

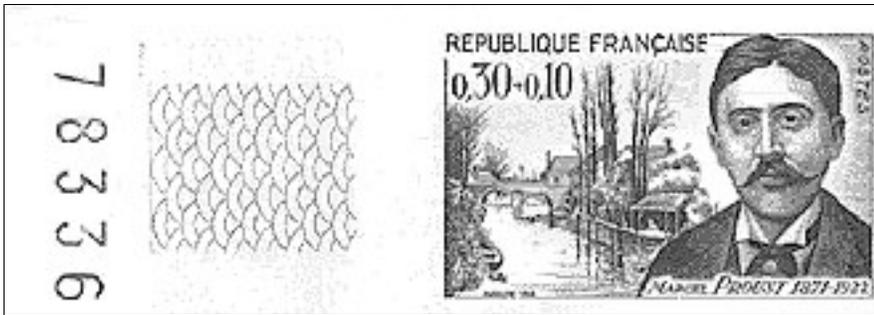


Scott no. 3351

sought to restore elegance, balance, and artistic standards to poetry in reaction to the excesses of Romanticism. In 1865 he began to publish fluent and melancholic verse inspired by "an unhappy love affair". *Stances et poemes* (Stanzas and Poems) (1865) contains his best known poem, *Le vase brisé* ("The Broken Vase"). *Les Épreuves* (1866; "Trials") and *Les Solitudes* (1869; "Solitude") are also written in this disturbing, melancholic style.

Prudhomme later renounced this personal lyricism for the more objective approach of the Parnassians, writing poems attempting to represent idealistic concepts in verse. Two of the best known works in this vein are *La Justice* (1878; "Justice") and *Le Bonheur* (1888; "Happiness"), the latter an examination of the Faustian search for love and knowledge. (A work of fiction, or a fictional character, may be cited as being "Faustian" if it involves a literal or proverbial "deal with the devil", such as that portrayed in the story of Faust by Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe. Faust, in the legend, traded his soul to the devil in exchange for knowledge. To "strike a Faustian bargain" is to be willing to sacrifice anything to satisfy a limitless desire for knowledge or power.)

Prudhomme's later work is sometimes vague and shows an undeveloped approach to the problem of expressing coherent themes in verse. Prudhomme tried to unify the aesthetic movement with some of his symbolist ideas, but it is not certain if he achieved his purpose.



Scott no. B398

his death (Scott # 3351); however, Prudhomme can also be found on stamps from Sweden (Scott 603-606 – honoring the 1901 Nobel recipients), as well as Uruguay (Scott C426d, issued 1976); Grenada, Scott 3207, issued 2001; and Guyana, Scott 3011c, issued 1995.

Bibliography:

Nobel Lectures, Literature 1901-1967, Editor Horst Frenz, Elsevier Publishing Company, Amsterdam, 1969.

Parnassians Personally Encountered, Saltus, Edgar E; AMS Press Inc, 1972.

Parisian Portraits by Grierson Francis; John Lane Press, London, 1914.

The Literary Movement in France During the Nineteenth Century By Georges Pellissier; Ayer Publishing, 1971.

From Gautier to Eliot, the Influence of France on English Literature, 1851-1939 by Enid Starkie; Hutchinson, 1960.

On a private level there is not much information concerning the poet's personal life, except that he was very melancholy after an "unhappy" love affair. The object of his affection is not named; we are led to believe it was a "dejected" affair with a woman. The end of this love affair left Prudhomme a melancholy, lifelong bachelor.

If Prudhomme was searching for a "faustian" way to find love this still gives no conclusive evidence that he was same-sex oriented. However, his literary associations and his personal associations should be considered homosocial. He associated with the literary contemporaries such as Marcel Proust (homosexual), Verlaine (bisexual), Rimbaud (homosexual), Gautier (title character in *Mademoiselle de Maupin* (1835) is explicitly bisexual, whether Gautier was or not is still debated).

Guilty by association? Perhaps, but no conclusive evidence links Prudhomme with any male or same-sex relationship, nor does it link him to any female or opposite sex relationships. Marcel Proust and Maurice Ravel admired the work of the Parnassians, as Proust states Prudhomme to be one of the writers of the century that he admired above all others (the list also includes Alfred de Musset (who is known for his affair with the cross-dressing, bisexual George Sand (Amantine-Aurore-Lucile Dupin), Paul Verlaine, Jules Michelet (closeted), Theodore de Banville (celebrated Sapphic love and bisexuality), and others of questionable sexuality).

For now, Sully-Prudhomme's sexuality will remain homosocial, chaste, and clouded in search of an essential fragment of literature for the development of a gay identity. France recently issued a new stamp honoring Prudhomme for the 100th anniversary of

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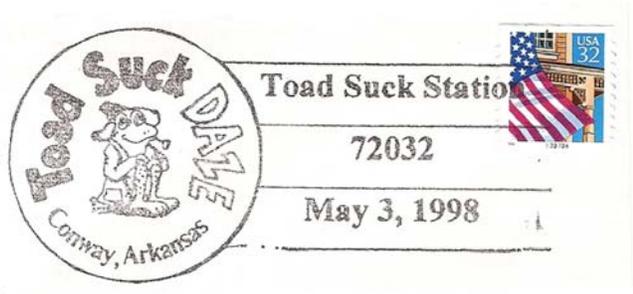
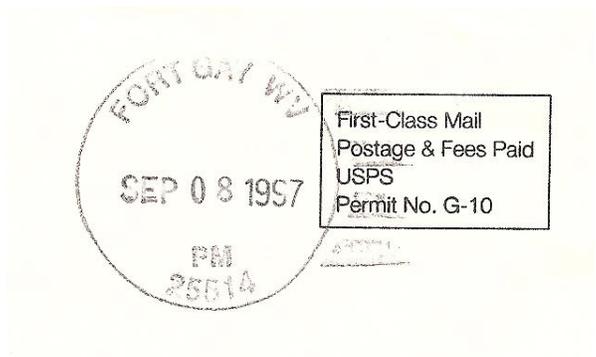
It's All in How You Look at It...I Suppose

by Richard Lee Peavler

Even before I came out in 1983 I knew that gay, lesbian bi-sexual and transgendered people have never been held in high esteem by most people. That is why I was surprised to find that the US National Zip Code Directory listed a number of towns and cities with "Gay", "Dick", "Queen", etc. in their names.

A very short note and an uncanceled envelope quickly got me a postmark of their name which grew into a small, but interesting collection of town names of double meaning, possibly not thought of or recognized when the towns were named.

You just have to look at it correctly: After all my own home, Kansas City, Missouri was originally named Possum Trot. Go figure!



Canadian Actor William Hutt Passes Away

by Rick Van Gordaer

Canadian Stamp News columnist Ian S. Robertson reports the passing of Canadian actor William Hutt in the July 24th issue of the philatelic newspaper. Mr. Hutt was diagnosed with leukemia, but the actor continued his performances in Shakespearean and other plays and films until May of this year [2007] and died on June 27th at the age of 87.

William Hutt was bisexual, which he realized during his adolescence, and this alienated him from his family. William first appeared in a Christmas pageant at the age of 4 and this began his interest in acting. At the age of 21, he enlisted in the Canadian army and served in the ambulance corps during World War II. He won the Military Medal for bravery while overseas.

In 1946 he enrolled in the Trinity College of the University of Toronto earning his high school equivalency degree (he was a dropout) and then going on to receive his degree in acting. He soon learned of a new Shakespearean theater group forming in Stratford, Canada and signed on as an apprentice. Thus began his illustrious career on the stage, both as actor and director. His focus was on Shakespeare, but also performing other stage roles as the Stratford Festival repertoire grew in scope and stature.

He had won many awards including the Tyrone Guthrie Award in 1954 and in 1992 the Governor General's Award for lifetime

achievement. Over the years he had performed not only in Canadian theatres, but also in London and on New York's Broadway.

William Hutt has appeared on a Canadian stamp, but not one issued to honor him. In 2000, Canada issued The Millennium Collection as a book of oversize souvenir sheets and as mini-sheets of 4 stamps each. The latter issue, Scott #1827d honors The Stratford Festival: Canada's Midsummer Night's Dream which depicts the stage of the theater overshadowed by the figure of William Hutt in his award winning role as Prospero from *The Tempest*.

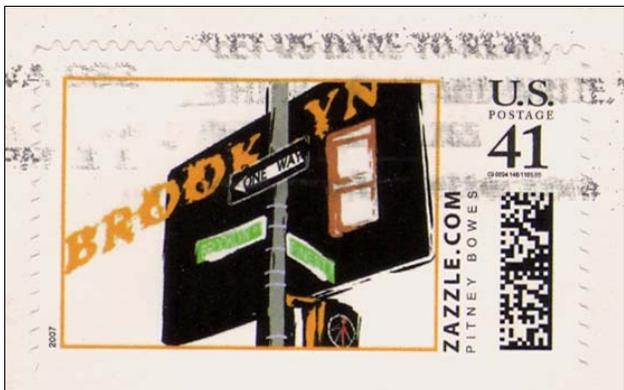
Ian Robertson suggests that *Canadian Stamp News* readers might now suggest to Canada Post that they re-issue #1827 with Mr. Hutt identified, as a memorial to this talented man.



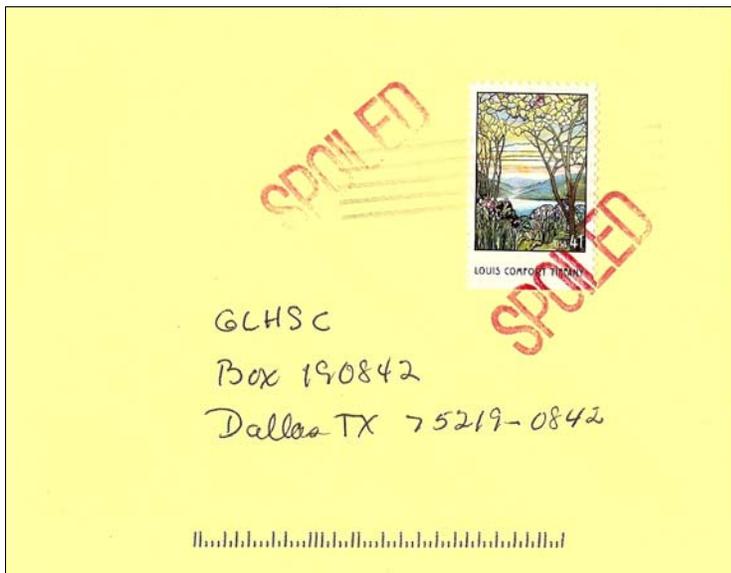
Interesting Covers



Interesting cover from our Italian member.



Personalized postage by Zazzle.com.



Interesting cancel. Does anyone have information on its use? Envelope carried dues from member in Massachusetts.



British postmark - Delivering Male Health.

Gay & Lesbian Update

Alice Ruth Moore Dunbar-Nelson (1875-1935)

Alice was married several times, most notably to the poet Paul Laurence Dunbar. All of her marriages were troublesome for one reason or another. Despite her personal problems, however, she managed to write and publish fiction and poetry. The lesbian relationships that checkered her life had a significant influence on her creativity. For example, Gloria T. Hull suggests that in the unpublished novel *This Lofty Oak*, Dunbar-Nelson chronicles the life of Edwina B. Kruse, one of her lovers. Dunbar-Nelson's literary reputation during the Harlem Renaissance is assessed largely on her achievement as a poet. She published "Violets in Crisis" in 1917, a work that exemplifies the polish and lucidity that typify her poetry, especially her sonnets.

Hull documents other lesbian affairs with Fay Jackson Robinson, a Los Angeles journalist, and Helene Ricks London, a Bermuda artist. Dunbar-Nelson wrote poetry for these women, most of which does not survive except in diary fragments. Dunbar-Nelson's diary reveals her prominent place in an active network of African-American lesbians. Alice Dunbar Nelson was an activist for African-Americans and women's rights. In 1915 she was field organizer for the woman's suffrage movement for the Middle Atlantic states.

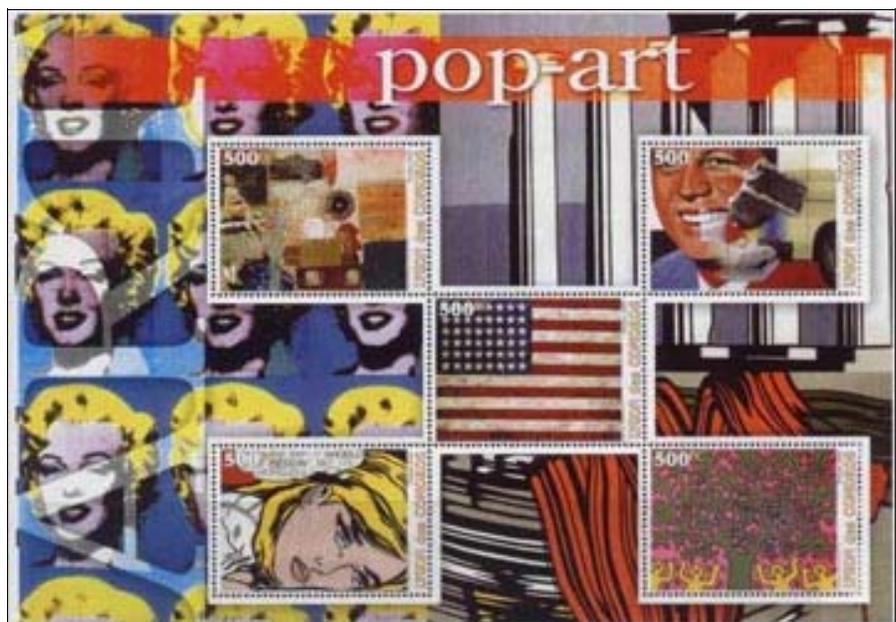
In 1918 she was field representative for the Woman's Committee of the Council of Defense. In 1924 she campaigned for the passage of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill. Alice Dunbar-Nelson has never been honored on a postage stamp, but her equally famous husband (from 1898-1902) Paul Laurence Dunbar was honored by the USPS with Scott 1554 in 1975 and will be again this year with his silent film, *The Sport of the Gods*.

From Bobby Cloud:

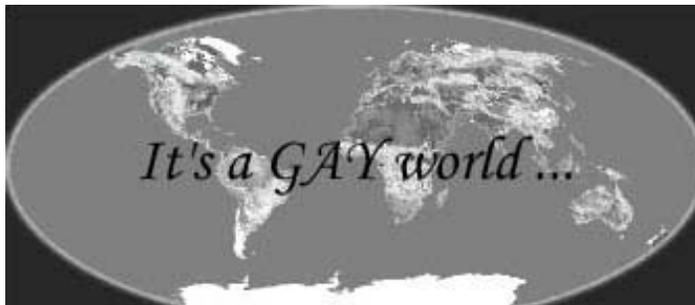
Not certain this is real postage, but for sale on eBay depicting paintings of pop art by Lichtenstein, Rauschenberg, Johns, Haring, and Rosengist issued in 2005 by Comoro Islands -- probably an illegal issue

Rauschenberg died Monday, May 12, 2008, of heart failure at 82, it was announced by Jennifer Joy, his representative at Pace Wildenstein gallery in New York. His use of odd and everyday articles earned him regard as a pioneer in pop art, first gaining fame in the 1950s. He met Jasper Johns in 1954. He and the younger artist, both destined to become world famous, became lovers and influenced each other's work. According to the book "Lives of the Great 20th Century Artists," Rauschenberg told biographer Calvin Tomkins that "Jasper and I literally traded ideas. He would say, 'I've got a terrific idea for you,' and then I'd have to find one for him."

Why do we care from a philatelic point of view? He sometimes used in his collages a combination of oil, printed paper collage, wood, fabric, postage stamps, feather and vinyl. And this press release from 1992 United Nations: "The United Nations issue also involves Robert Rauschenberg's painting "Tanya's Veil (Whale)," which juxtaposes images like pastel flowers and barbed wire. The work is being reproduced on special envelopes prepared for the cancel-



lations marking the first day of issue, Nov. 20, 1992." I have been unable to find the special envelope/cover by the United Nations honoring Rauschenberg.



Colombia issued a sheet of eight stamps on June 26, 2007 for the Scouting Centennial. Lord Robert Baden-Powell can be found on Scott nos. 1274a, c.

France issued a stamp on September 15, 2007 for the centennial of the death of Sully Prudhomme. Scott no. 3351.

Greece issued a souvenir sheet as a joint issue with Spain on September 13, 2007. The souvenir sheet features statues of Asclepius, Greek God of Medicine.

Greece Scott no. 2319 (a & b).
Spain Scott no. 3521 (a & b).

Greece issued a set of two stamps featuring busts of Goddesses on December 14, 2007. It was a joint issue with Armenia. The bust of Aphrodite is on Scott no. 2328.



Italy issued a stamp on October 12, 2007. Cupid and Psyche, a sculpture by Antonio Canova is featured. Scott no. 2839.

Sierra Leone issued a set of four stamps on November 28, 2007, for Christmas. Three paintings by Raphael are featured.

The Annunciation, Scott no. 2887.

The Adoration of the Magi, Scott no. 2888.

The Presentation of the Christ Child in the Temple, Scott no. 2889.

Switzerland, on September 6, 2007, issued a set of four stamps with Swiss settings in British literature. Lake Lemman from "The Prisoner of Chillon" by Lord Byron can be found on Scott no. 1284.

Uruguay issued, on August 9, 2007, a set of two stamps and a souvenir sheet of two for the scouting centennial. Lord Robert Baden-Powell is on Scott no. 2203a.

AIDS Update

A new website is on the Internet. Be sure to visit www.aidsonstamps.com. The site is the result of hard work of one of GLHSC's newest members.

* * * * *

Belgium issued a sheet of nine self-adhesive stamps in their "This is Belgium" series. Nine scientists are featured on the sheet released on October 15, 2007. Lise Thiry, Microbiologist and AIDS researcher, can be found on Scott no. 2259c.

Cambodia issued a set of three stamps for World AIDS Day on December 1, 2006. Scott nos. 2319 - 21.

Malagasy Republic issued a stamp in the campaign against AIDS on February 10, 2006. Scott no. 1609.

Helpful Addresses

American Philatelic Society (APS & APRL)
100 Match Factory Place
Bellefonte PA 16823
814-933-3803
www.stamps.org
www.stamplibrary.org



American Topical Association (ATA)
PO Box 57
Arlington TX 76004-0057
817-274-1181
www.americantopicalassn.org



American First Day Cover Society (AFDCS)
PO Box 16277
Tucson AZ 85732-6277
520-321-0880
www.afdcs.org



Wineburgh Philatelic Research Library
PO Box 830643
Richardson TX 75083-0643
www.utdallas.edu/library/uniquecoll/speccoll/wpri/wpri.htm

International Gay & Lesbian Archives
One Institute
909 West Adams Blvd.
West Hollywood CA 90007-2406
213-741-0094
www.oneinstitute.org



Homodok (Gay Archives)
Oosterdoksstraat 110
NL—1011 DK Amsterdam
The Netherlands
www.ihlia.nl



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Smithsonian Institution
Washington DC 20560-0001
www.postalmuseum.si.edu



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www.bl.uk/collections/philatelic

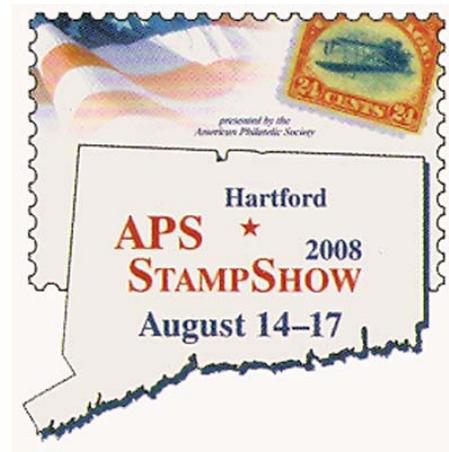


Affiliate News from the APS

Stamp collecting month special offer

In celebration of Stamp Collecting month, APS invites you to join in October for the remainder of 2008 and all of 2009 and receive \$16 off the membership fee OR, you can choose to receive a free book. The book, *Guide to Stamp Collecting* by Janet Klug, has a value of \$19.95. And, APS will send GLHSC \$5 for each member who joins the APS!

The APS will be sending invitations to those GLHSC members not currently APS members in late September.



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