EVENTS • HISTORY • CULTURE • ART • COLLECTIONS

omfilat

edited by Romfilatelia S.A.



Astrophilately • Exhibitions • Interviews • Science • Romfilatelia around the World • Philatelic Events



Chairman, FIP Section for Astrophilately José Manuel GRANDELA DURAN

Astrophilately, whither?

Mister Jose Manuel
GRANDELA DURAN you
are the President of the
Astrophilatelic Commission of
FIP since 2000 - team leader
at FIP level. Within the
Astrophilatelic Commission of
FIP, which are the main objective
/ actions which the Commission
proposed for the following year?

Taking into consideration the indubitable relevance of the

historical events recorded on the astrophilatelic collections, it's my intention:

- To continue promoting exhibitions of national and international level where Astrophilately could transmit to the general public its relevance in the wide spectrum of philately.
- ❖ To persist in the divulgation of the meaning and importance of Astrophilately, through the international mass-media, as the members of this Bureau have been doing along the last decades on newspapers, magazines, encyclopaedias, radio and TV, and with special intensity during the last seven years.
- ❖ To program lectures and seminars to be given by the most experienced collectors and investigators in the wide spectrum of the Astrophilately world.
- To engage National Delegates of Astrophilately more closely in obtaining the necessary statistical information on active societies and individual collectors devoted to or related with Astrophilately, in their respective countries.
- ❖ To stimulate the National Delegates of Astrophilately to develop an uprising plan to promote Astrophilately, offering the partial results on every scheduled meeting. In this aspect, the Bureau members have already offered their help and support, as well as some philatelic material to attend the official request of some Delegates for their collectors.
- ❖ To promote the qualification of new Jurors specialized in Astrophilately, mainly among those recognized in Aerophilately, who usually evaluate our exhibits. In such way the collections participating in exhibitions with FIP Patronage, will be scored more adequately under specific Jurors with acknowledge in Astrophilately as all the other competition classes already have in their own speciality. In this aspect, I have been successfully cross accredited in Aerophilately, and promoted to Team Leader in Astrophilately during the World FIP Exhibition WASHINGTON 2006, and acted accordingly in ESPAÑA 2006.
- * To persuade the Organizing Committees of international exhibitions to embrace always the Astrophilately class whenever the Aerophilately is present, and/or to accept a higher number of astrophilatelic exhibits.
- ❖ In the same line, we have started to work already on the World Stamp Exhibition ESPAÑA 2008 in Zaragoza, under FIP Patronage, where astrophilatelic collections will be especially welcomed as they were in the previous World Stamp Exhibitions ESPAÑA 2000 (Madrid), ESPAÑA 2004 (Valencia), and ESPAÑA 2006 (Málaga). In all of them all the astrophilatelic inscriptions were accepted. Unfortunately, this fact is completely unusual in any other World or Continental exhibition. We sincerely hope the same attitude

from the Organizing Committee of the World Philatelic Exhibition EFIRO 2008.

- The Class One Frame was promoted by FIP and it enriched the number of exhibitors at the worldwide exhibitions under the patronage of FIP. What does the Astrophilatelic Commission of FIP proposes to guide these exhibitors?
- We have already heartened new and senior collectors to use this new and great opportunity offered by FIP to mount their small collections or those with reduced philatelic items available. There exist many chapters in the history of rocketry and space research with a reduced philatelic presence that now can be properly developed and displayed in One Frame exhibit.

I have seen in the last World FIP exhibitions several One Frame exhibits of Astrophilately with a very good quality. I have myself prepared an One Frame exhibit with a subject on rockets experiences that would have never got the chance to fill the minimum five frames requested by the FIP Regulations, and I am proud to say that it has been awarded already with a Large Vermeil level.

- What actions does the Astrophilatelic Commission of FIP intend to promote among youngsters?
- We have been working very closely with the Commission for Youth Philately in our own Countries and with the FIP Commission. We plan to continue helping and cooperating by all means to bring young collectors to Astrophilately with brochures, seminars, lectures, and any other printed material

The success obtained in the World Youth Stamp Exhibition ESPAÑA 2002, held in Salamanca (Spain), move us to continue paying a special attention to our young collectors, which are the future of philately.

In our lectures and speeches in the philatelic exhibitions and even in the schools we teach children and young people how to start mounting their collections as a way to show everybody their items and the personal plan designed by themselves.

- Finally, Mister President, please address some words to the Romanian astrophilatelic adepts who will be ready to meet at the Worldwide Philatelic Exhibition EFIRO 2008.
- Just to bring to their minds that collecting Astrophilately is not only a hobby, a cultural hobby, but also an exciting way of keeping a record of all the steps achieved by men who look to and travel into space. We are lucky to be witness of the most exciting era of mankind, the Space Era, and to be able to prove it in the years to come with our astrophilatelic collections where stamps, cancellations, marks and letters will embrace the evidence of such thrilling conquests beyond our home planet Earth.
- We thank you for your kindness and we wait to see you at the World Philatelic Exhibition EFIRO 2008 to see the high level reached by the Romanian astrophilatelic colections.



The postage stamp and its future

was asked frequently, if, starting from the diminution of the postage stamps request, wasn't foreseen, in the forthcoming future the disappearance product, became since old times a valuable collection object.

The given answers, reflected each time my conviction that I have tried, namely that this miniatural art object will not disappear but will also revive in new and original ways of creation and presentation. If it will not happen like this, I should accept the absurd of another situation: the closing of world art museums, as a result of the fact that their exhibits could be seen on internet.

I return to the Scot Rowland Hill and its invention from 1840, the first postage stamp in the world - and I'm surprized to observe that from thousands of inventions of the humanity, only that belonging to Mr. Hill enjoyed of the greatest attention, without interruption, creating around a new world of artists, pressmen, crtitics, collectors, historians and - why not, famous forgers. About of this invention were written and are written thousands of articles, were created hundreds of magazines and books titles, sprang up a new domain: the stamps historiography.

The amazing world of the postage stamps, a world where the message is transmitted and received without understanding obstacles created by the spoken languages diversity, was extended and will extend, within intelligent and distinguished collections that will be desired to be bought and admired.

The stamps designers, artists with a great analisys, interpretation and synthesis power of the realities experienced, fond of their work and skill, will continue to work for the interest of philately lovers and for the creation of a new preference, able to assure the preserving value of the postage stamp, at the same time with permanent growing value for the collection pieces.

The automate franking, the e-post, any others modern means which tend to replace the postage stamps, will never arouse nor the emotions or feelings induced by the universe of thousands of artistic miniatures, protected within the album files which keep in a good and thought order, the planet, cosmos and humanity history.

The simple words of an inter - war song "you attached to my soul / like the stamp to the letter" will remind us continously the fact that the postage stamp remains a real and material presence in our life and of the generations who will grow up under the merciless impact of the modern technologies which tend to dissolve the traditions.

PHILATELIC EVENTS





Date of issue: 03.01.2007 Number of values: 1 Number of labels: 1 Face value: RON 2.20

Page composition: sheet of 24 stamps + 24 labels and minisheet of 8 stamps + 8 labels

Stamps size: 48 x 33 mm Minisheet size: 154 x 152 mm

Printing system: offset, in 4 colours, on chromo paper - UK origin.

ROMANIA IN THE EUROPEAN UNION



Run printing: 584,080 stamps: 520,080 stamps in sheets of 24 pcs. + 24 labels and 8,000 minisheets of 8 pcs. + 8 labels, meaning 64,000 stamps.

1 FDC: 550 pcs., equipped with the postage stamp set, numbered and cancelled with "the first day" post mark of the issue.

Designer: Mihai VĂMĂȘESCU Listing set: 1752 Listing minisheet: 1752 a



Romania in the European Union

n the occasion of Romania's entering the great European family, **Romfilatelia**, the specialized company in editing and trading Romanian postage stamps, introduces into circulation the postage stamps issue **Romania in the European Union**.

Romania was the first country in the Central and Eastern Europe to establish official relationships with the European Community. In 1967, negotiations were started for the signing of a series of technical-sectorial agreements and, later, in 1974, a bilateral treaty was signed, followed by an agreement regarding industrial products, signed in 1980. In 1990, diplomatic relationships with the European Union were established by signing a Trade and Cooperation Agreement and, in 1993, Romania's EU Association Agreement was signed.

In 1995, Romania lodged the accession request to the Union, followed by the decision of the European Council of Helsinki, in 1999, for the opening of negotiations for Romania's accession and for the official launching, in February 2000, of the negotiation process.

After going through numerous stages of the accession process, in December 2003, the European Council of Brussels established Romania's accession calendar as follows: completion of the negotiations in 2004 and signing, in 2005, of the Accession Treaty, and the actual accession on the 1st of January 2007.

On the 25th of April 2005, in Luxembourg, Romania's Accession Treaty to the European Union was signed, followed by the ratifications of the Treaty by the parliaments of the 25 member states of the European Union, by the end of November 2006.

Marking, for the posterity, Romania's affinity for the ideals of the modern and democratic Europe, in 2006, on the 9th of May, on the Europe's Day, on the Roses Island in the Herastrau Park of Bucharest, the inauguration of the monument dedicated to the Founding Parents of the European Union took place, a unique monument in Europe.

These are: Jean Monnet, a French diplomat and businessman, Robert Schuman, a former French prime-minister, Altiero Spinelli, an Italian politician, Alcide de Gasperi, an Italian politician, Konrad Adenauer, former Chancellor of the Federal Germany, Walter Hallstein, a German politician, Paul Henri Spaak, a Belgian politician, Jean Rey, a former Belgian minister, Johann Willem Beyen, a former Dutch minister of foreign affairs, Sicco Mansholt, a Dutch politician, Joseph Bech and Pierre Werner, former prime-ministers from Luxembourg.

Romania's entering the European Union, on the 1st of January 2007, represents and shall represent a decisive moment for the social, economic and political progress of a people who has persisted in the European Carpatho-Danubiano-Pontic space for over two thousand years.

Doru POPESCU

UNICEF — 60 years



Mr. Pierre Poupard representative of UNICEF in Romania and the new UNICEF Ambassador, Ms. Andreea Marin Banica

n December 11th, 2006, UNICEF celebrated 60 years of world presence. The United Nations Organisation founded UNICEF (United Nations' Children's Fund) in 1946 to come to the support of children affected by the World War II in Europe and China. In 1965, UNICEF was awarded the Nobel Price for Peace, and in 1989 the UN General Assembly adopted the Covention on Children's Rights, the Human rights' treaty accepted by most countries. Currently, this body is present in 156 countries and territories, where health and children's protection programs against violence, abuse and HIV infection are implemented.

UNICEF is present in Romania since 1991, giving assistance to Romanian authorities and the civil society in order to create a favorable background for disadvantaged children, by developing complex programs of health, nutrition, education and protection.

On occasion of the 60-year anniversary of UNICEF foundation and 15 years from the opening of the agency in Bucharest, on the premises of the Romanian agency the philatelic issue UNICEF 60 years was launched, made by Romfilatelia, company which was named by Mr. Pierre Poupard, UNICEF representative in Romania, a traditional partner of UNICEF.

The graphic composition of the stamp incorporates in a unitary manner the organization's logo and an image that captures a group of children in an optimistic stance, symbol of UNICEF mission - namely ensuring the welfare of all children of the world.

Also, within the event, Mr Pierre Poupard, UNICEF representative in Romania announced the appointment of Ms. Andreea Marin Banica as first UNICEF Ambassador of Goodwill at national level.

The event was attended by the UNICEF partners, media representatives and other guests. ■



UNICEF — 60 YEARS

Date of issue: 11.12.2006 Number of values: 1 Face value: RON 3.10

Page composition: sheet of 32 pcs.

Stamps size: 48 x 33 mm

Printing system: offset, in 4 colours, on chromo paper - UK origin

Run printing: 141,600 stamps

1 FDC: 350 pcs., equipped with the postage stamp set, numbered and cancelled with "the first day" post mark of the issue.

Designer: Mihai VĂMĂȘESCU Listing set: 1751



The "Elie Wiesel" National Institute for the Study of Holocaust in Romania

stablished following the reccomendations of the International Committee for the Study of Holocaust in Romania - as formulated in the Final Report issued in 2005 - The "Elie Wiesel" National Institute for the Study of Holocaust in Romania was inaugurated on October 10th 2005, on the occasion of the first Holocaust Day Commemoration in our country.

As per Government's Decision no. 902/08.08.2005, its main objectives are the identification, the gathering, the recording, the research and the publishing of the documents concerning the Holocaust, as well as the elaboration and the implementation of educational program concerning the Holocaust, anti-semitism, racism and xenophobia.

To this aim, the National Institute for the Study of Holocaust in Romania aims to carry out studies and researches, inland and abroad, to organise scientific events concerning this historical

phenomena and to represent the national research in the field at international scientific meetings, to issue memoirs, books, researches, newspaper columns in the field, to organise exhibitions and other informative activities.

Furthermore, special attention is granted to setting out and developing

cooperation relations with similar institutes and organisations abroad, to carrying out common research projects, to maintain the links with Holocaust survivors and to preserve the spiritual patrimony of the jewish community in Romania.

During last year, the Institute organised a series of actions aimed at promoting the democratic values, as well as tollerance and inter-ethnic dialogue, down-sizing anti-semitic manifestations and other forms of discriminations, acknowledging Romania's recent past, especially by the younger generation.

Amongst these there are international conferences, trainigs, round tables: *Terror and violence in the recent history of Romania. 65 years since the Bucharest pogrom,* conference organised on January 23rd 2006, with the attendance of representatives of accredited diplomatic missions in Romania;

The lasi pogrom, 28-30 June 1941, conference that took place in lasi, during 28-29 june 2006, having as guests the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the USA Ambassador, the Israel Ambassador, alongside personalities of the scientific and cultural life from Romania and abroad, as well as survivors of the pogrom in lasi;

The fate of the Romanian Jews in France during the World War II, conference held by Serge Klarsfeld (Fondation de la Shoah, Paris) in Bucharest, on the Day of Holocaust Commemoration in Romania, October 9th, 2006; Holocaust - History and Education in Today's Europe, workshop organised on the 9th of November 2006, in cooperation with the Swedish Institute in Stockholm and the Swedish Embassy in Romania; Teaching the Holocaust issue in Romania, training organised during 10-12 May 2006, together with the "Goldstein Goren" Center, Bucharest University, attended by approximately 60 history professors in Bucharest and throughout the country; Rebutment of anti-semitism

and recall of Holocaust, panel discussion organised on 23rd of May 2006. attended by the USA Ambassador in Bucharest, H.E. Nicholas Taubman and the deputy director of the Office for Jewish Issues, the US State Department, H.E. Elizabeth Nakian.

Under the patronage of the



National Institute for the Study of Holocaust

Publishing House, Iasi, 2006.

in Romania a series of publications were issued, such as:

- Violence and terror in the recent history of Romania, . University Publishing House, Bucharest, 2006;
- Radu Ioanid, Holocaust in Romania, Hasefer Publishing House, Bucharest, 2006;
- The pogrom in lasi, 28-30 June 1941 prologue of Holocaust in Romania, Polirom Publishing House, lasi, 2006;
 Radu Ioanid, The Antonescu lot in the SMERS enquiry Moscow, 1944-1946. Archive documents FSB, Polirom

Furthermore, the Institute has carried out an intense research activity, drafting studies in the filed, such as: "The pogrom in Bucharest. People and places", "Holocaust in Romania reflected by text-books (1946-1989)" (Alexandru Florian), "The

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tragedy of Jews in lasi during June 28-30, 1941 in the press of those times: a media paraphrase to the official version", "Turning any opponent into a Jew in Romanian political culture" (George Voicu), "Memory and trauma: The pogrom in lasi in the memories of survivors" (Stefan Ionescu), Monitoring report of denial and anti-semitic manifestations throughout Romania, 2005/2006 (Alexandru Florian, Cosmina Gusu).

In cooperation with institutions abroad, the National Institute for the Study of Holocaust in Romania is involved in achieving the following projects: piling up a document archive of the Institute and issue the volume Holocaust in Romania, intended for young people (pupils, students), financed in cooperation with Conference On Jewish Material Claims Against Germany; conducting a poll regarding Antonescu, Holocaust, anti-semitism, discrimination, inter-ethnic relations, etc., by hiring a Romanian institute of public opinion survey with the support of International Task Force.

Besides the scientific activities, the National Institute for the Study of Holocaust in Romania intended to make known to the public the Holocaust phenomenon. Thus, on the occasion of International Holocaust Remembrance Day in Romania, October 9th, the exhibition named "Killed for being born Jews" was inaugurated, displaying photographs of the Holocaust victims in Romania.

Given the particular educational value of the philatelic activity, the Institute has issued with the support of Romfilatelia an envelope and a special philatelic issue, dedicated to the International Holocaust Remembrance Day in Romania, October 9th and, to the International Holocaust Day, January 27th, respectively.

On the other hand, the concerns regarding the establishment of a documentary archive, which should allow the accomplishment of the scientific projects initiated, materialised in the collection, until now, of over one million documents (dating from 1938-1945) regarding the tragic events that marked Europe more than half a century ago.

General Director Dr. **Mihail E. IONESCU**



Date of issue: 27.01.2007 Number of values: 1 Face value: RON 3.30

Page composition: sheet of 32 pcs. + 4 TABS and minisheet of 8 stamps with margin

Stamps size: 48 x 33 mm Minisheet size: 155 x 155 mm



We thank to the National Institute for the Study of Holocaust in Romania "Elie Wiesel", to the American Jews Committee, to the editor of Belzec Memorial Museum Album (for the support awarded in the achievement of this philatelic issue).

of the issue.



Emil Racovita, Founder of biospelaeology

To know or not to know
That is the question!

n a day of 15th of November 1868, the old capital city of Moldova, the "sweet" town of lasi, recorded in its registers the name of a new born. The new comer's name in the

capital guardian of culture and science was Emil Racovita. After less than two decades, the capital of France received in the lines of lead intellectuals this Romanian who would undoubtedly become renowned as one of the big scientists of Europe and the world.

With a bachelor degree in law and natural sciences at Sorbonne. Emil Racovita presents his PhD treatise in nature sciences in 1896, with the title La lobe céphalique et l'encéphale des anélides polychétes. After becoming a specialist in comparative zoology in the labs of Sorbonne, and in the resorts of marine biology in Rocoff and Banyuls-sur-Mer, important guest of the great explorer Roald Amundsen, Racovita boards the ship Belgica for his first scientific expedition for the study of Antarctica. During this expedition (1897-1899), the Romanian scientist gathered a rich study material: 1,200 zoological type specimens, 400 botanical ones, 200 photographs (an impressive number for the year 1899). At the beginning of the 20th century, Racovita gives Belgium the greatest part of his collection, which also represents the richest gathering of Antarctic flora, fauna and photographs in the world. Made up of 60 volumes, the collection was given for study to the great scientists in the field of that time.

In order to reveal the recognition that Emil Racovita enjoyed, I find it useful to remember the titles that were granted to him: titular member of the Romanian Academy (1920) and its chairman (1926-1929), honorary citizen of the town Banyulssur-Mer, Doctor Honoris Causa of the University in Lyon, honorary chairman of the Zoologic Organisation in France, membership of the Medicine Academy in Paris, correspondent member of the Royal Academy in Belgium. In addition to these, there is the merit of having founded the first Institute of Spelaeology in the world (Cluj, April 26th, 1920), where he brought as collaborators renowned specialists such as the French René Jeannel, the Swiss Pierre Alfred Chappuis, the zoologist H. Breuil (France), the entomologist A.Winkles (Austria), the spelaeologist R. Leruth (Belgium).

In the encyclopedias of the world, Emil Racovita is presented as the founder of a new branch of science, biospelaeology (the study of cave creatures). Its founding paper is Essai sur le problèmes biospéologique (1907), signed in association with René Jeannel. The paper gathers the conclusions of three years of study, subsequent to 1904, when professor Odon de Buen had invited the scientist to explore the cave Cueva del Drach (Devil's Cave) in the Island of Majorca — Balearic Islands and where he discovered in the fresh water lake in that cave the blind cetacean, Typhlocirolana moraguesi. In association with René Jeannel, he subsequently explored over 1,000 caves in Europe and North Africa, described in his work Enumération des grottes visitées.

Besides founding biospelaeology, Racovita remains a great researcher in the behavioural study of whales, polar birds, seals, walruses and other animals, with a great contribution in coriology (the study of the factors that determine the geographic distribution of living creatures).

As an appreciation reward of his professor, geologist and paleontologist, Gr. Cobălcescu, Racovita dubbed an island in Antarctica with his name.

In the speech on the occasion of his election as chairman of the Romanian Academy (1926), emphasising the role of science in social transformations, Emil Racovita ended with a paraphrase on the Hamlet verse: to know or not to know, that is the question.

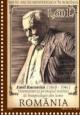
To know means for a human being to live the time of "being" content and to wait with serenity for the moment when "to be" is no longer true.

Portrayed as a free thinker, open to novelty, science founder, Racovita added these qualities to his valuable status of Romanian scientist of high international repute.

"Not to know" signifies superstition, blind selfishness, wild competition, misconception, enmity, war, starvation, havoc. "To know" means for a human being to live the time of "being" content and to wait with serenity for the moment when "to be" is no longer true.

S. PELTEACU









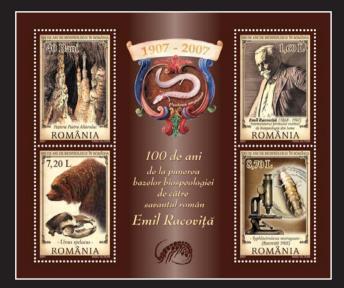
Page composition: sheet of 32 pcs. and miniature sheet with 4 stamps. and

thematic illustration Stamps size: 33 x 48 mm

Miniature sheet size: 130 x 110 mm

Printing system: offset, in 5 colours, on chromo paper - UK origin

Run printing: 1,647,872 stamps: 1,599,872 stamps in sheets of 32 pcs. and 12,000 blocks of 4 stamps, meaning 48,000 stamps



100 YEARS SINCE THE FOUNDATION OF BIOSPELEOLOGY BY THE ROMANIAN SCIENTIST EMIL RACOVITA

2 FDC's: 400 sets (2 FDC's)

- 1 FDC equipped with the postage stamps with the face value of RON 0.40 and RON 8.70
- 1 FDC equipped with the postage stamps with the face value of RON 1.60 and RON 7.20, numbered and cancelled with "the first day" post mark of the issue.







Interview with Iolanda Balas-Söter

In December 2004, Romfilatelia released, as a "philatelic" distinction, the postage stamps issue "Golden" Sportsmen of Romania, where you find yourself alongside living legends of the Romanian sporting activity:

Elisabeta Lipa and Ivan Patzaichin. At that time, this issue represented a philatelic première, namely the stamps had round perforations framed by a square. Almost two years distance, you received "The Golden Necklace" from the Romanian Olympic and Sporting Committee. What do these two accolades mean to you: the "philatelic" and the olympic one?

- After the launch of the philatelic issue "Golden Sportsmen of Romania", which brought me many satisfactions, I can say that myself, personally, and the Romanian Athletic Federation, received congratulations from the International Association of Athletic Federations (IAAF) as well as from sports fans. This sports issue reached the 213 member states of IAAF.
- I remember a comment of the famous Cristian Topescu about you and the way you were respected on the athletic fields of the world. Were these the very words: "Silence please! Iolanda Balas is jumping"?
- I remember with pleasure that on the occasion of the great athletic competitions many of which took place on the Republic Stadium (former ANEF) on the occasion of the International Athletism Championships of Romania or on the great sports arenas of the world, this announcement was heard indeed. And you should know that, most times, indeed the sports ground went quiet.
- You held the world record for 25 years for the high jump: between 1956 and 1971. For this performance you are mentioned in the Guiness Book. At that time were you the first Romanian athlete to figure in the Guiness Book of Records?
- Besides the 14 world records, I am also mentioned in the Book of Records for the 142 international wins (with no interruption) during 1957-1971.
- Today, the Romanian athletism is not as highly placed as it once was. In your opinion, what is the cause of that? The lack of training establishments or the fact that there aren't many investments in athletism, as in football, for instance?

- The main cause for which the Romanian athletism is in decrease is due, mainly, to the closing of many school and university sports clubs, of the political and leading bodies lack of interest regarding the sports activity in general but also as regards the health of all Romanian youth. The material basis is fairly good, but due to the modernization of the 14 sports grounds in the territory, financed mainly by the Romanian Athletism Foundation.
- Are you upset of the closing of "Lia Manoliu" Stadium and of the fact that the future arena won't have an athletic track? How is the situation with the training fields in the country?
- It is a good thing that a new and more modern stadium will be built on the site of the old Lia Manoliu Complex, but it is sad that the plan of this construction athletism is not included.

And Nicolae Ceausescu demolished the Republic Stadium (former ANEF), without building another instead!

- What do you think are the chances for success of Romanian athletism at next year's Olympics in China?
- I am optimistic and I have the hope that even in next year's Olimpics in Beijing, Romanian athletism will come home with at least two medals.
- Do you consider that the promotion Romfilatelia makes through philatelic issues to the image of the great national athletes is necessary and sufficient?
- In a time when on all news channels and in most sports pages in newspapers there's mostly talk about football, other sports being marginalized, I am glad that Romfilatelia is doing the "writing" in its own way through the philatelic issue dedicated to Romanian legendary athletes a "golden page" for Romanian sport in general.
- With thanks for granting us this interview, Great Lady of Romanian Athletics, we hope that your example of modesty and fair play which you make proof of in sports, and also in every day's life, to be taken as a necessary model for all sports people and not only.

Doru POPESCU



Romfilatelia at Belgica 2006 16-20 November 2006, Brussels

Belgica 2006 - 5 days dedicated to the philately and to young philatelists, one of the most important philatelic events, for which the organizers have prepared for 3 years.

Countries from all over the globe were present at Belgica 2006, an exhibition meant to create a "bridge" between Belgian philatelists and collectors from all countries, irrespective of race, religion and beliefs.

The participants at the fair had the opportunity to detain a travel permit for the entire world - the philatelic passport to which the most ambitious and passionate stamp collectors added the stamp of each country, a piece of history, art or culture of every state.

The exhibition center has received daily visits from groups of children who fondly discovered this wonderful hobby - philately, others more in tune with the field and some who were very clear aware of what they are collecting and what to look for in the stamp albums of the participating countries.

The same children attended the competitions held by the Belgian Post, received awards and began to discover an interesting world. A special product dedicated to children was the book "Stampilou" - stamps for children, a product intended to teach children the first steps of stamp collection, each stamp having its own story.

Romfilatelia's stand was visited equally by children and collectors, the most appreciated stamps being those with themes Europa, locomotives, sport, flora, fauna.

For Belgica 2006 the organisers and the little pieces of paper managed what they have intended: to give children and people young at heart 5 unforgettable days.

Alina DUMITRACHE

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL ROMANIAN POSTAGE STAMPS OF 2006

ROMFILATELIA AROUND THE WORLD

"CENTENARY OF TRAIAN VUIA'S FLIGHT"

- designer: Mihai VĂMĂSESCU





"ROMANIAN
POSTAGE STAMP
DAY
Decebal (106-2006)"
- designer:
Octavian PENDA





"BATS"

- designer: Radu OLTEAN

P. R. of China - Romania Bilateral Exhibition 2006 December 3rd, 2006

■ To promote the cooperation and friendship relations in the field of philately between the People's Republic of China and Romania, China Post and Romfilatelia have organised during 3 - 5 December 2006, the China - Romania Bilateral Philatelic Exhibition.

The event organized in the city of Shenyang, Lioaning Province (N-E of China), inside the Liaoning Province Museum benefited from the support of Liaoning Province postal officials and representatives.

At the exhibition,
Romfilatelia participated
with 52 stamps frames,
"first day" covers and
illustrated postal cards,
the philatelic exhibits
reflecting aspects of
Romanian culture,
history and economy.

A special place in the exhibition was the frame dedicated to Efiro 2008 World Philatelic Exhibition (being the first frame displayed) and the frame dedicated to joint issue Romania - China and bilateral exhibitions.

On the 3rd of December, the day when the exhibition was inaugurated, the Chinese postage stamps issue entitled "The divine horses picture" was also launched. The concept of this issue was based on the famous painting with the same title to be found in the regional museum's patrimony.

It is generally considered that the painting "The divine horses picture" had been made by a painter - post - Tang epigone from the era called "The 5 dynasties" (907 - 960 A.D.). Considering the material used, the color palette and the peculiarity of the brush, the 122 cm length, it can be deemed as an exceptional Chinese painting.



Alongside the officials present at this event, there were numerous stamp collectors, media representatives, a large number of people, both the Romanian and the Chinese stamps exposed enjoying the appreciation of the audience.

The launch of this exhibition came as a natural follow-up of the traditional cultural exchanges between the two countries at a short

time after the similar exhibition in Bucharest held in August 2006, event due to the fact that Romfilatelia officially became at that date the agent of Chinese Post in Romania for the sale of Chinese stamps.

The enthusiasm with which the bilateral exhibition was received by the visitors coming from other parts of China, not only from Shenyang, made us believe that organizing such events is beneficial to the development of friendship and cultural relations between the two countries, reconfirming the idea that the stamp is a true ambassador of a country.

Luminita MINCU

Address:

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