

La Newsletter #10

COMMISSION FOR MAXIMAPHILY COMMISSION DE MAXIMAPHILIE
January March **Janvier Mars 2026**



Publication Director
Directeur de la publication
Pascal BANDRY

Contributors **Contributeurs**
Gabriel AGNALDO DE SOUSA, Pascal
BANDRY, Horia BARBU, Lars BÖTTGER,
Juan Antonio CASAS PAJARES, Christos
GIKAS, Sergei MAGDICHEV, Pamela PANG,
Bostjan PETAUER, Nicolae SALADE, SUN-
YU NG

Model & Layout
Maquette et mise en page
David LOOTEN

Summary *Sommaire*

1 Welcome Word
Mot d'accueil

2 Who is Who ?
Qui est qui ?

7 News around the World
Nouvelles du monde

37 Best Maximum Card 2024
Meilleure carte-maximum 2024

Welcome Word

Mot d'accueil



Chairman of the FIP
Maximaphily Commission

Président de la Commission de
Maximaphilie de la FIP

At the beginning of 2026, I would like to extend to you, once again, my best wishes for a Happy New Year.

Thank you to David LOOTEN for producing the newsletter for the FIP Commission for maximaphily. The FIP Commission team is at your disposal to make our class an important part of our hobby and competition.

The regular presence of maximaphily at exhibitions, from local to international levels, is proof of this interest. Congratulations to all the exhibitors!

Development also involves communication, and this is the objective of the annual Best Maximum Card Competition and the Commission's Newsletter.

Thank you to all the participants in this competition!

Thank you to all the commission delegates around the world who actively develop the maximaphily class.

En ce début d'année 2026, je tiens à vous transmettre, à nouveau, tous mes voeux de belle et bonne année.

Un grand merci à David LOOTEN pour la réalisation de la newsletter de la commission internationale de maximaphilie.

L'équipe de la Commission FIP de maximaphilie est à votre écoute pour faire de notre classe, une classe importante de notre loisir et de la compétition.

La présence régulière dans les expos des maximaphiles, du niveau local à l'international, est la preuve de cet intérêt.

Félicitations à tous les exposants !

Le développement passe également par la communication et c'est l'objectif du Concours annuel de la Meilleure Carte-Maximum et de la Newsletter de la Commission.

Merci à tous les participants à ce concours !

Merci à tous les délégués de la commission à travers le monde qui développent activement la classe de maximaphilie.

Who is Who ?

Zui est qui ?

Chairman of the F.I.P. Commission



PASCAL BANDRY

Vice-president : Les Maximaphiles Français since 2008 and member since 1995.

President of the National Youth Council (F.F.A.P.) - French Federation of Philatelic Associations.

National-Judging : Youth and Maximaphily (F.F.A.P.)
Jury FIP Maximaphily

Secretary of the F.I.P. Commission



BOSTJAN PETAUER

Head of Slovenian Philatelic Expertising service, specialist in Chainbreakers.

Philatelic author : some 140 articles published in Slovenia, Great Britain and Austria plus one book (on Chainbreakers) since 2008.

National juror in Maximaphily.

Bureau Member of the F.I.P. Commission



AJAY MITTAL

Founder Chairman Maximaphily Society of India.
Vice-President, Philatelic Congress of India, The National Federation for Philately in India.
National Level Jury Member in India.

Bureau Member of the F.I.P. Commission



JUAN ANTONIO CASAS PAJARES

Chairman of the Commission Maximaphily of FESOFI (2003 to date).

Member of the Bureau FIP Maximaphily since 2013.

National Jury Maximaphily.

Jury F.I.P. Maximaphily.

Bureau Member of the F.I.P. Commission



AGNALDO DE SOUZA GABRIEL

Delegate for Brazil.

Philatelic author.

Webmaster of the F.I.P. Commission



DAVID LOOTEN

Webmaster of the F.I.P Commission.

Vice-president : Les Maximaphiles Français since 2024.

Who is Who ?

Zui est qui ?

The Delegates

Les délégués

ALBANIA : Muharem Gimjani - *emigimjani@yahoo.com*

ARGENTINA : Ana Maria Sanson - *amsanson@hotmail.com*

ARMENIA : Sedrak Nersessian - *s_nersesyan@mail.ru*

AUSTRALIA : Bernard Beston - *bernardbeston@gmail.com*

AUSTRIA : Peter Riedl - *peter41.riedl@aon.at*

BAHRAIN : *bh.ph.so@gmail.com*

BELGIUM : Philippe Ieko - *philippe.ieko@hotmail.com*

BRAZIL : Agnaldo De Sousa Gabriel -
agnaldo.de.souza.gabriel@gmail.com

BULGARIA : Sergei Magdichev - *smagdichev@yahoo.com*

CANADA : George Constantourakis - *geo.constant@sympatico.ca*

CHILE : Patricio Aguirre Warden - *admin@sociedadfilatelica.cl*

CHINA : Hong Li - *lihong315@foxmail.com*

CHINESE TAIPEI : Ho-Sen Chen - *holiocean@gmail.com*

COSTA RICA : Alfonso Molina Mainieri - *molinamainieri@gmail.com*

CROATIA : Ivan Libric - *ivicalibra@yahoo.com.hr*

CUBA : Raudel Busto - *raudelbg88@gmail.com*

CYPRUS :

CZECH REPUBLIC :

DENMARK : Søren Juhl Hansen - *dysse24@gmail.com*

FINLAND : Kalevi Ant Wuorinen - *ka-w@kolumbus.fi*

FRANCE : Pascal Bandry - *pascal.bandry@orange.fr*

GERMANY : Jean Louis Reuter - *jean-louis.reuter@education.lu*

GREECE : Christos Gikas - *xgikas@gmail.com*

HONG KONG : Pamela Pang - *pamelapang2010@gmail.com*

HUNGARY : Mark Hatvani - *m-hatvani@freemail.hu*

ICELAND : Gunnar Rafin Einarsson - *gunnar@greining.net*

INDIA : Rajesh Paharia - *shreetotal@gmail.com*

INDONESIA : Arry Dharma - *soeyono65@gmail.com*

IRAN : Massoud Farahbakhsh - *f_n_farahbakhsh@yahoo.com*

IRELAND : Brian Warren *brian.warren2@upcmail.ie*

ISRAEL : Nahum Shershevsky - *naxumm@gmail.com*

ITALY : Rosario D'Agata - *dagata.maximafilia@gmail.com*

JAPAN : Kazuyuki Inoue - *doctor@jipp.jp*

KOREA REP. : Chang Hwan Kim - *changhkim@yonsei.ac.kr*

KUWAIT : Ali Al Rais - *ali_alrais@yahoo.com*

LATVIA : Raimonds Jonitis - *raimonds.jonitis@gmail.com*

LIECHTENSTEIN : Peter Marxer - *peter.marxer@adsl.li*

LUXEMBOURG : Lars Böttger - *lars.boettger@bdph.de*

MACAU : Ion Kuong Wong - *macauselos54@yahoo.com*

MALAYSIA : Dr. Noorulainah Ruth
noorulainah.jalaludheen@gmail.com

MALTA : John Cardona - *johnacardona@gmail.com*

MEXICO : Angel Luis Gómez Martínez - *angeluix@gmail.com*

MONGOLIA : Shagdariin Chadraabal - *shchadraa@yahoo.com*

MONTENEGRO : Tomo Katuric - *tomokaturic@t-com.me*

NEPAL : Pradhan kedar-kedar1217@gmail.com
masspress.np@gmail.com

NETHERLANDS : Jan Vermeule - *info@knbf.nl*

NEW ZEALAND : Bob Gibson - *bob@gibsonz.com*

OMAN : Hatim Al Attar - *hatimomani@hotmail.com*

PERU : Marilu Cerpa Moral - *cerpamo@yahoo.es*

PHILPPINES : Eduardo Jacinto - *jacinto_ed@yahoo.com*

POLAND : Slawomir Bem - *sbem@konto.pl*

PORTUGAL : Bento Grossinho Dias - *bdias@cpiretail.pt*

QATAR : Ali Jassim Darwish - *aziz59_@hotmail.com*

ROMANIA : Nicolae Salade - *nicusalade@yahoo.com*

RUSSIA : Valery Petrov - *petrov_vm@list.ru*

SAUDI ARABIA : Saleh A Alsaja - *salehalsaja@hotmail.com*

SERBIA : Zeljko Popovic - *deni20@open.telekom.rs*

SINGAPORE : Richard Tan - *richard_tan@prestigelabel.com.sg*

SLOVAKIA :

SLOVENIA : Bostjan Petauer - *bostjan.petauer@siol.net*

SPAIN : Juan Antonio Casas Pajares - *jacasas45@hotmail.com*

SWITZERLAND : Willy Monnet - *w.monnet@bluewin.ch*

THAILAND : Phairot Jiraprasertkun - *jojin9696@gmail.com*

TURKEY : Muzaffer Arda - *muzafferarda@hotmail.com*

UKRAINE : Veslav Savin - *veslav.savin@gmail.com*

U.A.E. : Omar Mohamad Ahmad - *omar6246494@gmail.com*

UNITED KINGDOM : Ian Billings - *wild1952@gmail.com*

U.S.A. : Sun-Yu Ng, Ph.D. - *sng.macsu@gmail.com*

VENEZUELA : Ignacio Martinello - *glutwinde@hotmail.com*

VIETNAM : Vinh Nguyen Quang - *nqvinht@gmail.com*

News around the World

Nouvelles du monde



BRAZIL
BRÉSIL

Delegate *Délégué* :
Gabriel AGNALDO DE SOUSA

2025

New articles :

- 4 new articles published on Maximaphily magazines and Philatelic sites.

Expo :

- National Expo Brapex 2025, São Paulo/SP, December, 11-13.

After 4 years, I left the FEBRAF National Maximaphily Commission on July 25, 2025. The new commissioner is Mr. Gerson Francisco Quinhone.

News around the World

Nouvelles du monde



BULGARIA BULGARIE

Delegate Délégué :
Sergei MAGDICHEV



En 2025, les maximaphilistes bulgares ont fait ce qui suit :

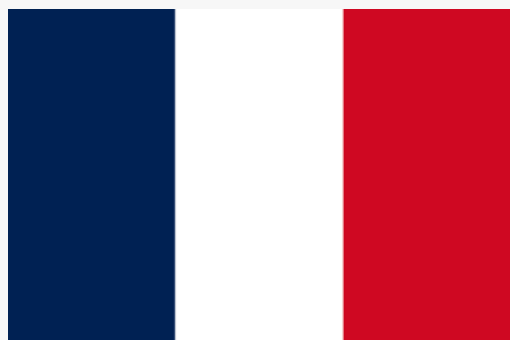
1. Plus de 20 nouvelles cartes maximum bulgares ont été émises avec des timbres-poste émis en 2025.
2. Nous avons participé aux expositions suivantes :
 - Exposition philatélique Européenne - Birmingham 2025 - participation en classe de Littérature avec le Catalogue de Cartes maximum bulgares. Le catalogue a reçu une grande médaille d'argent.
 - Dobrich Philex 2025L'exposition a eu un grand succès, elle n'était pas compétitive et y ont participé 14 des meilleures expositions maximaphiles bulgares.

Les cartes maximum bulgares sont utilisées autant que possible dans les expositions de la Classe Libre, qui a participé à l'exposition Dobrich Philex, 2025.

3. Nous avons participé au concours FIP pour la plus belle carte maximum pour 2024, en envoyant pour participation la carte maximum bulgare - Vautour percnoptère - Neophron.

News around the World

Nouvelles du monde



FRANCE
FRANCE

Delegate Délégué :
Pascal BANDRY



Rapport d'activité 2025 de la maximaphilie en France

Phila-France Colmar 2025

Le championnat de France 2025 de philatélie s'est déroulé les 6-9 juin 2025 à Colmar. Plusieurs collections maximaphiles y étaient représentées : Hubert ENGEL, *La Seconde Guerre mondiale* ; Philippe IEKO, *Racontez-moi l'impressionnisme* ; Serge COCHET, *Les couvre-chefs, coiffures et ornements de tête* ; Jean-Pierre LESPAYANDEL, *La Marine* ; Michel BAROT, *Pour prendre soin de votre santé* ; Jacqueline RICARDON, *Mon beau Paris* ; Dominique BIDAULT, *Flânons ensemble dans Paris à la découverte de ses merveilles* ; Louis ARAIGNON, *Toutes voiles dehors* ; Ignazio LAVAGNA, *Sous le signe d'Icare* ; et, en classe 1 cadre : Mathieu ROCHE, *Les abeilles*, Roselyne BRAUD-PIN, *Les oiseaux menacés en zones humides européennes* ; Pascal AUBRY, *De fil en aiguille*. Hubert ENGEL a reçu une médaille d'or, avec Prix spécial du jury, pour la grande qualité de sa collection.

Sibiumax 2025

Une grande exposition maximaphile s'est tenue à Sibiu en Roumanie du 12 au 14 septembre 2025, dix ans après une première exposition qui s'était tenue en 2015, avec les mêmes pays : Roumanie, Moldavie, Italie et France. La délégation française se composait de Bruno BOUVERET (juré) et son épouse Corine GUO et de Hubert ENGEL (commissaire et exposant), qui se sont rejoints à l'aéroport de Munich pour prendre un vol commun vers Sibiu, où ils ont été accueillis par Nicolae SALADE et quelques amis roumains.

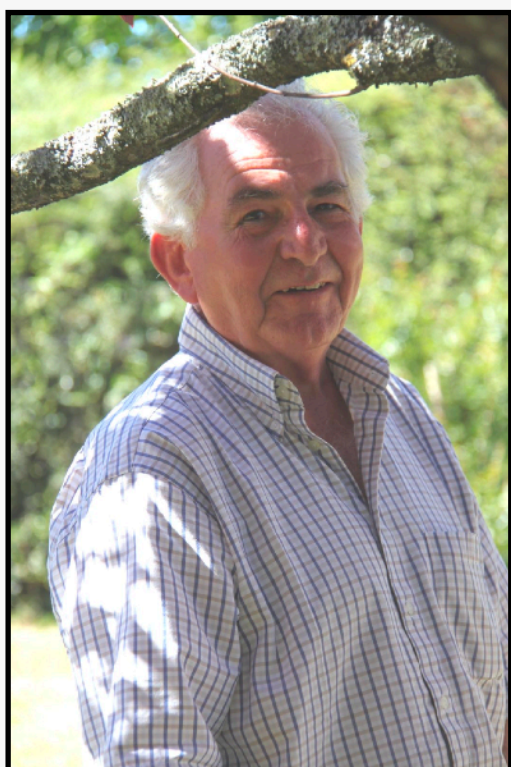


Après examen des collections exposées, le jury a décerné 10 diplômes équivalents à une médaille d'or, 6 grands vermeil, 8 vermeil, 4 grands argent, 3 argent et 1 bronze. Pour les collections de maximaphilie exposées, la Roumanie a obtenu trois médailles d'or (toutes attribuées à des collections venues de Bacău), tandis que la France et l'Italie en ont chacune remporté deux. La classe jeunesse était peu représentée. La collection de Pierre BARBE-ALMORI, L'épopée du 7e art, a été jugée comme la meilleure avec 84 points et une médaille GV.

Noël de la Maximaphilie



Les *Maximaphiles Français* ont célébré le Noël de la Maximaphilie le samedi 6 décembre 2025 à Vincennes. À cette occasion, Hubert ENGEL, médaillé d'Or au championnat de France de Philatélie 2025, a présenté sa collection sur la Seconde Guerre mondiale. David LOOTEN a mis en avant les apports de l'Intelligence artificielle dans l'analyse et la présentation des cartes-maximum, à partir de cartes chinoises issues de sa propre collection. Un quizz sur la maximaphilie, l'élection de la carte-maximum de France 2025 et une bourse philatélique ont clos cette riche journée.



Hommage à Jean-Pierre Lespayandel

C'est avec une grande tristesse que nous avons appris la disparition de notre doyen et ami Jean-Pierre LESPAYANDEL, décédé le 3 décembre dernier dans sa 86e année.

Discret, fidèle dans ses engagements, toujours disponible et d'humeur agréable, nous perdons un ami qui fut un des piliers des *Maximaphiles Français* au sein desquels il œuvra, entraînant son épouse à ses côtés. C'est un des plus anciens membres de notre association qui nous quitte puisqu'il en devint membre en 1960, puis à la retraite, il entra au Conseil d'administration sous la présidence d'Anny BOYARD, qu'il épaulera en tant que Vice-président jusqu'en 2019.

Titulaire de la Médaille de Vermeil des Maximaphiles Français en 2010, il en fut nommé Membre d'honneur en 2023 pour son implication importante dans l'association, en tant que responsable du Service des circulations et de la Commission catalogue, entre autres, au sein desquelles il œuvra avec rigueur et compétence jusqu'à ces derniers temps.

Maximaphile passionné, il participait aux expositions avec ses collections comme : la Marine, Paris et les châteaux de France avec de brillants palmarès...

Collectionneur éclectique de grande culture, hormis son engouement pour la Maximaphilie Jean-Pierre avait une autre passion philatélique " l'Astrophilatélie ". liée à sa carrière professionnelle où il côtoyait les fusées "Ariane". Membre de la 2AF (Association Astrophilatélique de France) au sein de laquelle il était également très impliqué comme Vice-président, s'attachant à développer cette classe de la philatélie liée à l'Espace et au Cosmos.

Adhérent du Club de Chasseneuil-sur-Bonnières proche de son domicile, vice-président depuis quelques années, il y participait également activement notamment en présentant des collections dans les expositions locales et régionales faisant connaître la maximaphilie dans sa région.

Un très grand merci pour son engagement à nos côtés, pour sa gentillesse et sa fidélité. Nous avons eu beaucoup de chance de le côtoyer, d'être ses amis car Jean-Pierre, apprécié de tous, aura marqué bien des domaines de son empreinte.

Nous renouvelons nos très sincères condoléances à son épouse, Jeannine, ses enfants et petits-enfants, toute sa famille et ses nombreux amis.

Réalisation de cartes-maximum

Le service des nouveautés de l'association *Les Maximaphiles Français* a réalisé 145 cartes-maximum différentes en 2024/2025.

Les échanges avec nos amis étrangers se poursuivent et permettent des échanges très fructueux au niveau international.

La France a participé à la *World Best Maximum Card Competition* et à la *FIP Commission for Maximaphily newsletter*.

Informations, renseignements et publications

Nous avons donné de nombreuses conférences, tant lors d'un congrès philatélique régional que dans plusieurs associations philatéliques locales.

Les membres de la Commission nationale de maximaphilie se réunissent une fois par an afin d'harmoniser le travail du jury conformément aux textes révisés de la FIP.

La commission du catalogue se réunit régulièrement pour enregistrer les nouvelles cartes maximum.

Le site internet www.maximaphilesfrancais.org est de plus en plus fréquenté (400 000 visiteurs). Il continue de développer des liens vers les différents sites dédiés à la maximaphilie et à la philatélie dans le monde, ainsi que vers les sites culturels nécessaires à la maximaphilie.

News around the World

Nouvelles du monde



GREECE
GRÈCE

Delegate *Délégué* :
Christos GIKAS



Greece Maximum Report 2025

Since the decision of the Hellenic Post to cease issuing Maximum Cards, the project has been undertaken by the Philatelic Society of Patras as well as by individual collectors.

During 2025, the Philatelic Society of Patras continued to issue Maximum Cards and produced and released six series of 2025 Greek stamps. The issue was edited by the president of the Philatelic Society of Patras, Elias Farmakis, with the support of Nikolaos MALLOUCHOS, former President of the Hellenic Philatelic Federation.

These are: "Iconic Greek Stamp Artists", "100 Years of Olympiacos", "Europa 2025 National Archaeological Discoveries", "100 Years since the Birth of Mikis Theodorakis", "Urban Architectural Routes", and "50 Years since the Foundation of the War Museum ».

Certain M.C issues were made by private collectors for almost every 2025 issue including the "Street Art" and the "Enotourism".

Greek Maxima exhibitors participated in several International philatelic exhibitions in 2025.

News around the World

Nouvelles du monde



HONG KONG
HONG KONG

Delegate Délégué :
Pamela PANG

2025 Hong Kong Maximaphily Activity Report

In 2025, Hongkong Post issued 13 sets (some may argue 14) of special stamps, including a set of definitive stamps themed "Hong Kong Landmarks". Several other sets featured natural scenery and landscapes, prompting philatelists to consider getting their cancellation at the relevant post offices on the first days of issue. As a result, maximaphilists are always "on the run" in 2025.

Hongkong Post released only two sets of official maximum cards: "Hong Kong Public Architecture II" and the "2025 Hong Kong Definitive Stamps". Several stamp issues were also accompanied by high-priced sets of prepaid picture postcards, which many collectors deemed too expensive. Additionally, a special set of picture postcards based on the "Intangible Cultural Heritage – Paper Crafting Technique" was available for bonus point redemption by account customers of the Advance Order Service, with picture postcards featuring the same design but omitting the denomination and words.

Maximaphilly Community

The "Hong Kong Maximaphilly" Facebook group, established in October 2011, has about 2,600 members, including individuals and philatelic organisations from Hong Kong, China, Taiwan, Macau, Southeast Asia, and overseas. This multilingual group serves as one of the major platforms for members to share experiences, display their collections, and exchange information (stamp issues, postcards, stamp exhibitions and competition etc), with close communication with Taiwanese enthusiasts facilitated through the LINE messaging app.

Promotion and Exhibition

Group administrators of the above Facebook group, Pamela PANG and Steven TK LEUNG, committee members of The Hong Kong Philatelic Society and the China Philatelic Association respectively, are also part of the Hongkong Post Philatelic Liaison Group, where stamp issues and arrangements for first days of issue are discussed. They promote Maximaphilly within their respective societies, with Miss Pang contributing articles in the monthly newsletters and annual journals, and Mr Leung giving presentations at meetings. Miss PANG is planning to improve her five-frame Hong Kong exhibit for upcoming international exhibitions.

Mei HAITAO's five-frame Maximaphilly exhibit in Chinese titled "The Evolution of Competition Events in the Olympic Games" won a Large Vermeil medal at the national-level FIP recognised philatelic exhibition "Hong Kong Stampex 2025", held in May 2025.

News around the World

Nouvelles du monde



LUXEMBOURG LUXEMBOURG

Delegate Délégué :
Lars BÖTTGER

2024: 33rd Specialised Exhibition for maximum card exhibits was held in Mamer (Grand Duchy of Luxembourg) with international participation (Belgium & France) with around seven competitive exhibits (national level).

2025: 34th Specialised Exhibition for maximum card exhibits was held in Ettelbruck (Grand Duchy of Luxembourg) with international participation (Belgium, Germany & France), together with a picture postcard exhibition with more than 30 competitive exhibits in both classes (national level).

In 2026 we will organize a national specialized competition for maximum cards in Mamer.

Per year, approximately 20 maximum cards are realised by the „Commisson maximaphiles“of the FSPL and sold to the interested collectors, mostly in associated clubs.

Private realizations by a couple of „hardcore “maximum card collectors are realized with the Luxembourg stamps – if the subject of the stamp, subject of the – preferable old – postcard and the cancellation show enough „concordance “.

In 2025, we had a jury seminar discussing – among other classes - the judging of maximum cards.

All in all, it becomes more and more difficult to a) find stamp clubs who will b) organize the „Journée maximaphile“and c) to find the exhibits for the competition. The FSPL and the organizer are reaching across the border to find the exhibitors.

Was kann schon schiefgehen!?!

Briefmarkensammler sind glückliche Menschen – sie haben ein Hobby, bei dem sie sich mit der Geschichte eines Landes oder einem Thema täglich auseinandersetzen. Die Sammler von Maximumkarten sind besonders glückliche Menschen. Ihr Hobby vereint das Maximum an Freude: Briefmarken, Ansichtskarten und Stempel. Im Gegensatz zu vielen anderen Spielarten der Philatelie sind die Einstiegspreise selten hoch. Mit ein paar Euro kommt man recht weit. „Teure“ Maximumkarten kosten niedrige zweistellige Summen. Ich habe für meine Sammlung bisher keine dreistelligen Beträge ausgegeben. Ja, es gibt Maximumkarten, die mit einem vierstelligen Betrag ausgerufen werden – das sind aber nicht sehr viele und ob sie gekauft werden – gute Frage. Nicht vor mir. Aber ich bin Schwabe und das bedeutet, dass ich knickerig bin und damit mit hoher Sicherheit nicht repräsentativ. Meine Vermutung ist, dass sich die Sammler von Maximumkarten auf einer „Insel der Seligen“ wähnen, da sie keine Fälschungen oder Manipulationen bei ihren Objekten der Begierde vermuten. Wer würde so etwas billiges wie Maximumkarten fälschen?

Doch fangen wir von vorne an. Briefmarkenfälscher haben vor 160 Jahren begonnen, Marken und Stempel zum Schaden von Sammlern zu fälschen. Gefälschte Ansichtskarten gibt es deutlich seltener und sie sind nicht das Problem bei Maximumkarten, ebenso wenig wie gefälschte Briefmarken. Falschstempel dagegen können problematisch werden. Sieht man sich die Preise für Maximumkarten an, dann stellt man fest, dass insbesondere die „klassischen Maximumkarten“ (Maximumkarten aus dem Zeitraum 1900 – 1940) noch vergleichsweise gute Preise bringen. Sammler aus Frankreich, Belgien oder Italien haben schon früh Maximumkarten produziert. Sammler aus dem deutschen Sprachraum waren dagegen deutlich zurückhaltender – das hat sich bis heute nicht geändert. „Gute“ (sprich alte) Maximumkarten aus dem Deutschen Reich oder der frühen Bundesrepublik gibt es, aber man muss sie einmal finden und dann bezahlen. Berlin oder die Deutsche Demokratische Republik sind als Gebiete für

Maximumkarten noch schwieriger.

Wie oben gesagt – der Preis für gute Karten erreicht nur selten 100 EUR. Aber der Bereich zwischen 20 und 100 EUR ist der Bereich, in dem Fälscher sehr gerne operieren. Weil der Betrag relativ niedrig ist, sieht der Sammler keine Notwendigkeit, seine Käufe in diesem Bereich einem Fachmann vorzulegen. Andererseits hat der Fälscher hier die Rahmenbedingungen, die eine Wirtschaftlichkeit der Fälschung möglich machen. Der Einstandspreis der ungebrauchten Marke + Kosten für eine passende Ansichtskarte liegt bei unter 5 EUR. Der Falschstempel kostet ihn ebenfalls nichts, wenn es ihm gelingt, ihn aufzudrucken. Bei „echten“ Falschstempeln können die Kosten höher liegen, aber da macht es die Masse an gefälschten Belegen, um die Wirtschaftlichkeit herzustellen. Eventuell hat er die Möglichkeit, seine Fälschungen bei einem Postler unterzubringen – der Postbeamte sieht erst einmal nur eine ungültige Marke, die er im wahrsten Sinne des Wortes mit seinem Stempel „entwertet“. Und der Philoutelist nimmt die gestempelten Karten mit, der Post entsteht also kein „Verlust“ durch eine illegale Verwendung.

Aber werfen wir einen ersten Blick auf eine Maximumkarte. Die Ansichtskarte zeigt das Industriegebiet der „Arcéries Réunis de Burbach-Eich-Dudelange“, besser bekannt unter dem Namen „ARBED“. Die Marke selbst zeigt eine Ansicht der Hüttenwerke in Esch-sur-Alzette im Stahlstich und war ab Oktober 1924 an den Postschalter. Die Briefmarke zu 2 Francs wurde als Ergänzungswert für schwere Briefe, Wertbriefe, Nachnahmesendungen oder ähnlichem verwendet. Die Gültigkeit der Marke endete am 30. September 1940. Im Prinzip reichlich Zeit, um damit eine Maximumkarte zu gestalten.



Abb. 1: Ansichtskarte mit der Ansicht der ARBED-Werke in Esch, Briefmarke 2 Francs mit der gleichen Ansicht und Stempel „ESCH-sur-ALZETTE“

Auf den ersten Blick eine wunderschöne Maximumkarte aus der „klassischen Zeit“. Die Einheit der Maximumkarte ist eingehalten, da Markenmotiv, Ansichtskartenmotiv

und Stempel zusammen passen. Eigentlich ein wunderschönes Stück, welches zum einen in eine Heimatsammlung Esch-sur-Alzette oder zum anderen in das Thema „Industrie“ passen würde. Aber es gibt ein gravierendes Problem. Der Stempeltyp wurde erst in der Nachkriegszeit in Luxemburg ab Ende 1946 eingeführt. Damit liegt er ausserhalb der Gültigkeit der Marken und das Stück würde bei einer Prüfung die Prüfsignatur „Stempel falsch“ erhalten.



Abb. 2: Detailbild des Stempels – Datum 11.8.38 – Einsatz des Stempeltyps ist beim Postamt in Esch erst ab dem 17. April 1947 registriert

In dem oben geschilderten Fall hat mit hoher Sicherheit ein Postbeamter eine wichtige Rolle gespielt. Nur er hatte Zugang zu dem Stempel, nur er konnte das Datum so einstellen, dass es einen Vorkriegstag zeigte. Mit anderen Worten, die Maximumkarte wurde manipuliert und ist damit keine Maximumkarte mehr.

Das nächste Beispiel kommt ohne Manipulation des Stempelgerätes aus. Der auf den Marken verwendete Stempel selbst wurde am Sammlerschalter der Post von Luxemburg-Stadt eingesetzt. Gemäss FSPL-Handbuch ist es ein Typ 33-Stempel, der derzeit vom 14. Januar 1910 bis zum 5. Oktober 1940 registriert ist. Die Abschläge selbst sind vom 12. Februar 1928. Hier taucht das erste Problem auf – die Caritas-Marken mit Prinzessin Marie-Adelaide wurden erst am 12. Dezember 1928 herausgegeben. Kam es hier zu einer Fehleinstellung des Stempels?



bb. 3: Ansichtskarte mit den Kindern von Grossherzogin Charlotte und Prinz Felix, vorderseitig ist der komplette Caritas-Satz von 1928 verklebt

Ausgehend von einer Stempelfehleinstellung des Datums wäre die Karte immer noch „gut“. Motiv, Marken und Stempel bilden eine Einheit. Luxemburg-Stadt passt gut zum Thema „grossherzogliche Familie“ als Hauptstadt des Landes und da die Grossherzogin bzw. der Grossherzog Staatsoberhaupt sind und könnte akzeptiert werden.

Der Stempel von Colmar-Berg wäre aber in diesem Fall besser, da das Schloss der grossherzoglichen Familie dort ist. Aber die Datumseinstellung des Stempels ist nicht das eigentliche bzw. grösste Problem.

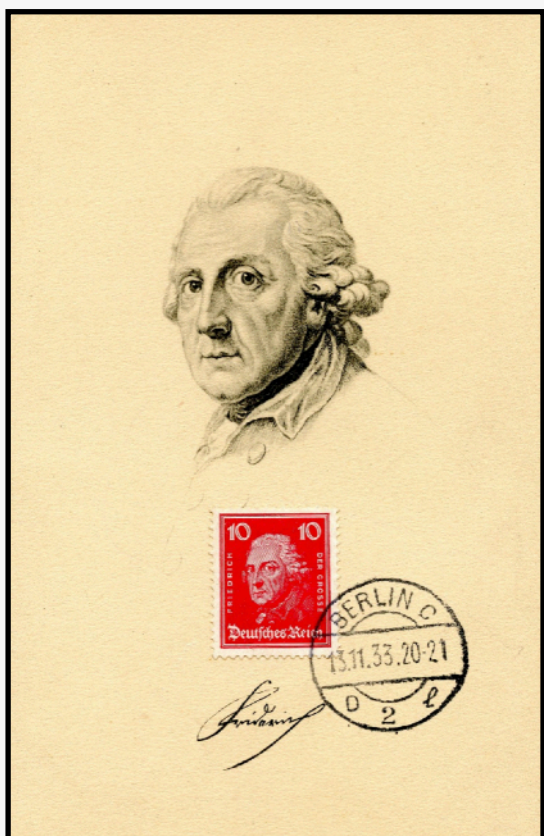
Abb. 4: Detailbild des mittleren Stempelabschlages – Übergänge passen nicht, unterer Stempelteil fehlt



Was ist hier geschehen? Wurde der untere Teil des Stempels nicht auf der Marke abgeschlagen? So etwas kann passieren, aber wo kommen die Linien links und rechts her? Das Rätsel hat eine einfache Lösung. Der gestempelte Satz mit den Caritas-Marken wurde im Nachhinein auf die Karte geklebt. Die fehlenden Stempelübergänge sind mit einem schwarzen Bleistift nachgezogen. Damit ist diese Karte ebenfalls keine Maximumkarte. Ein Prüfer lehnt die Prüfung der Karte ab, da im Prinzip sowohl Karte als auch die Marken als auch der Stempel zeitgerecht sein könnten.

Luxemburg hat eine lange Tradition bei der Herstellung von Maximumkarten, wahrscheinlich beeinflusst durch die Nähe zu Frankreich und Belgien. Wie sieht es aber im Deutschen Reich aus? Ich bin kein Prüfer für deutsche Stempel des Deutschen Reiches, aber mein Bauchgefühl sagt mir, dass hier etwas nicht stimmt.

Abb 5: Ansichtskarte mit Portrait von Friedrich dem Grossen, Briefmarke Deutsches Reich 10 Pfennig Friedrich der Grosse und Stempel von Berlin



Die Maximukarte könnte besser sein – Friedrich der Grosse hatte seine Residenz in Potsdam, aber Berlin war seit 1709 die offizielle Hauptstadt von Preussen. Auf den ersten Blick sieht die Karte gut aus. Aber betrachtet man den Stempel genauer, dann kommen einem Sammler erste und leider gut begründete Zweifel, wie wir gleich sehen werden.

Abb. 6: Detailbild des Stempels BERLIN D 2 l



Der Stempel sieht auf den ersten Blick gut aus. Aber es fehlen zum Beispiel die bei Metallstempeln üblichen Quetschränder.

Das Metall verdrängt beim Stempelvorgang die Stempelfarbe an die Aussenränder des Stempels. Das ergibt bei den Stempelabschlägen ein typisches Bild – die Stempellinien sehen innen heller und an den beiden Aussenseiten dunkler aus. Das lässt sich z.B. gut auf der Abbildung 2 an dem Aussenkreis erkennen. Die Buchstaben und Zahlen sind zum Teil unterschiedlich gross – auch das ist kein Merkmal eines echten Stempels. Die Stempelnormen der Deutschen Reichspost waren sehr strikt. Noch habe ich die Karte keinem Prüfer vorgelegt, aber ich werde das in den nächsten Monaten nachholen – ich erwarte kein positives Prüfergebnis.

Bei Maximumkarten rechnen wir Sammler mit keinen Fälschungen oder Manipulationen. Aber es gibt sie – leider. Unser erster Reflex sollte eine kritische Betrachtung der Karten sein. Passt das Stempeldatum zur Ausgabe der Marken? Welche Stempeltypen wurden zu der Zeit eingesetzt? Zeigt der Stempel die Echtheitsmerkmale? Gerade bei seltenen und alten Karten finde ich immer wieder verdächtige Stempel in Exponaten bei Wettbewerbsausstellungen. Für Fälscher sind Maximumkarten ein gefundenes Fressen: Billig herzustellen, gut zu verkaufen, während die meisten Käufer nur überprüfen, ob die Einheit zwischen Ansichtskarte, Marke und Stempel gegeben ist.

Soll ich jetzt aufhören, Maximumkarten zu sammeln? Von meiner Seite hört Ihr ein klares „Nein“! Aber seht Euch gerade ältere Maximumkarten mit einem kritischen Auge an und fragt einen Experten, wenn ihr auch nur den geringsten Verdacht habt.

News around the World

Nouvelles du monde



ROMANIA ROUMANIE

Delegate Délégué :
Nicolae SALADE



International Maximaphily Exhibition "SIBIUMAX 2025"

Romania – France – Italy – Republic of Moldova

As in every year, we once again had the pleasure of meeting in Sibiu for a new exhibition organized by the Philatelists' Association of Sibiu County, in collaboration with the Sibiu City Hall, the ASTRA County Library, the Romanian Maximaphily Society Dr. Valeriu NEAGA, the Romanian Philatelic Federation, and the Sibiu County Postal Office.

The second edition of the international maximaphily exhibition "SIBIUMAX 2025" – Romania – France – Italy – Republic of Moldova – was held in the foyer of the ASTRA County Library on September 12–14, 2025.

At the opening ceremony, Mr. Nicolae SALADE, president of the Sibiu County Philatelists' Association, welcomed the attendees and noted that this year Sibiu had the honor of hosting this new exhibition, continuing a philatelic tradition that dates back to 1930. Unlike previous exhibitions in Sibiu, which included a smaller number of maximaphily exhibits, this edition was dedicated exclusively to maximum card collectors. He emphasized that maximaphily, though a newer branch compared to philately, is considered by enthusiasts to be more attractive and visually engaging. In a country with strong traditions in the field, like Romania, one could say that maximaphily is "right at home." He expressed his gratitude to colleagues from Romania and the participating countries.



Mr. Răzvan POP, director of the ASTRA County Library, expressed his delight in hosting this new edition of "SIBIUMAX 2025," an event that brings together Romania, France, Italy, and the Republic of Moldova in a celebration of friendship and a shared passion for beauty. He described the exhibition as not only a gathering of collections but also a cultural dialogue between nations – a bridge between past and present, tradition and innovation, and an invitation to discovery, dialogue, and the joy of sharing.



Mr. Mircea MURESAN conveyed greetings from the president of the Romanian Philatelic Federation, congratulating the organizers on the success of this landmark event for the field. He expressed confidence that the large number of high-quality exhibits and the strong presence of young visitors show a bright future for maximaphily, to the delight of collectors and the public alike.



Mr. Bogdan Florin NASTASE affirmed that Romanian Post continues to support philatelists and thanked the maximaphilists of Sibiu for the invitation and the opportunity to once again be part of the event.

The exhibition featured 140 display panels and included 35 exhibits, 5 of which were non-competitive ones, belonging to the jury members and their families.

The jury carefully evaluated the exhibits, awarding gold-level diplomas to the most outstanding entries. These went to: Vasile DOROS, Mihai CEUCA, Serge COCHET (France), Italo GREPPI (Italy), Hubert ENGEL (France), and Nicolae SALADE in the adult category, and Pierre BARBE-ALMORI (France) and Sara Maria MUNTEAN in the youth category. In the literature class, two gold-level diplomas were awarded (to the Sibiu County Philatelists' Association for "A Brief History of Sibiu Philately" and to Les Maximaphiles Français for "Secrets of the Collections – Maximaphily"), along with two large vermeil and five vermeil diplomas.

To mark the event, the organizers produced a range of materials (invitation and poster, envelope and special postmark, maximum card, badge, and exhibition medal), which were distributed free of charge to all exhibitors and contributors.



Additionally, Romanian Post issued three prepaid postcards for the event, which could be mailed directly from the postal counter set up at the exhibition.

Participants from Romania and the guest countries also visited the ASTRA County Library, the Brukenthal National Museum, Sibiu's historic center, and the ASTRA Museum of Traditional Folk Civilization, and took part in the philatelic fair.

The exhibition proved to be a fruitful meeting of maximaphilists from Romania and abroad, and we are confident that the connections formed will continue in the years to come.

Congratulations to the organizers and participants for a memorable edition in which maximaphily once again brought together hearts and friendships among collectors from Romania, France, Italy, and the Republic of Moldova!

Horia BARBU

News around the World

Nouvelles du monde



SLOVENIA
SLOVÉNIE

Delegate Délégué :
Bostjan PETAUER



Fifth Quadrennial Exhibition at Ravne na Koroškem (Slovenia)

The 5th Quadrennial inter-society philatelic exhibition of postcards, maximum cards and open philately with international participation, MAKSI RAVNE 2026, took place in Ravne na Koroškem, Slovenia.

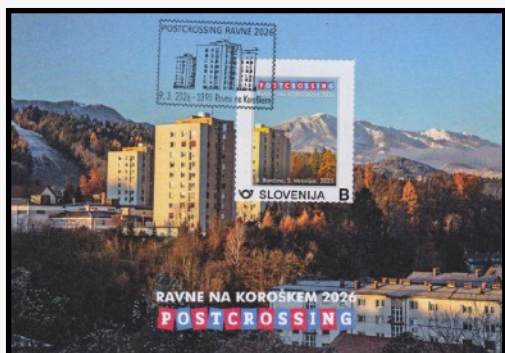
The exhibition of the promotional rank II. was attended by 36 exhibitors from Austria, Croatia, Italy, Hungary, Macedonia, Spain and Slovenia of which 31 were competitive exhibits, and five non-competitive ones.

The jury judged according to the FIP rules for PP, Maximum cards and Open Philately. The quality of the exhibits was high (6 G, 5 V, 8 S, 3 LB, 1 B and 8 diplomas). Izidor Jamnik, Commissioner general, successfully passed the exam to become a national judge for PP and Maximaphilly.

It is worth mentioning that the Philatelic Society at the Ravne na Koroškem is responsible for the youth philatelic circle in the Elementary School, attended by 15 boys and girls (not a coincidence that the general commissioner of the Exhibition is an ex-participant!). And, what is also pleasant and encouraging, the musical program at the opening of the exhibition was contributed by these young people.

In an educational presentation, an expert in PP class and printing techniques, Veni Ferant, who has won a gold medal at FIP level exhibition, presented how you can use postcards of the attractive Mt. Saint Michel to present research on publishers, printers, and printing techniques of the time!

One day was dedicated to the Postcrossing movement; this was the fifth meeting of postcrossers in Slovenia in the last three years. They issued a commemorative postcard and made a maximum card (based on the personal stamp).



In commemoration of Postcrossing meeting a maximum card was issued, displaying the city of Ravne na Koroškem. It should be noted that the organizing club is a leading MC producer in Slovenia. Their MC, issued two years ago was second in Best Maximum Card competition – the best result ever won by a Slovenian MC.

The next, the Sixth MAKSI RAVNE exhibition is planned to be held at the same venue in 2030.

The organiser received the FEPA Certificate of Appreciation in 2019.

Still going strong!

Boštjan Petauer



Jury team and apprentice juror during the exam. From left to right: Izidor Jamnik (apprentice), Lojze Tomc, Igor Pirc and Boštjan Petauer (jurors)

News around the World

Nouvelles du monde



SOUTH KOREA
CORÉE DU SUD

Philakorea 2025 - FIP Qualifying Seminar - Maximaphily

Kim Seong-Kwon and Bernard Jimenez

4 exhibitors (maximaphily class) from Belgium, Chinese Taipei, Slovenia and Spain :

BRACKE Koenraad (Belgium), *A Parliament of Owls* ;

HUANG Yuan (Chinese Tapei), *Architecture 101: Understanding Architectural Artistic Styles from Maximum Card* ;

PETAUER Bostjan (Slovenia), *From Postal Stationery to Early Picture Postcards* ;

POLO MONGIO Begona (Spain), *Romanesque Art*.

Congratulations to the exhibitors !

News around the World

Nouvelles du monde



SPAIN

ESPAGNE

Delegate Délégué :
Juan Antonio CASAS PAJARES



INFORME DE ACTIVIDADES DEL AÑO 2025

ACTIVITIES IN SPAIN 2025

The Spanish Association of Maximaphily (ASEMA) has published issues 69 and 70 of its magazine, *Apuntes de Maximofilia* (Notes on Maximaphily), this year. The magazine is printed in full color and boasts a very attractive presentation. It is also available in PDF format, which can be accessed through our Facebook page and the Fesofi website.

ASEMA has produced 46 maximum cards this year, bringing the total number produced to 1,451. We continue to reduce this number due to the high face values and designs of some stamps; many members have expressed their disagreement with the high face values. We are aware that other societies and individual members of ours produce maximum postcards featuring both stamps from the official Correos (Spanish Postal Service) program and personalized stamps issued by these societies and philatelists. We continue to encourage them to create their own maximum cards.

SEMINARS

Pedro PASTOR SAN MIGUEL gave the seminar "Collecting Maximum Cards" on March 19th at the headquarters of the Burgos Philatelic and Numismatic Circle. For over an hour, he reviewed different aspects of maximaphily. After defining the basic concepts and tracing the origins of this unique form of collecting, he showed some images of early maximum cards, which are extremely rare in Spain.

He paid close attention to the definition and the basic, complementary, and related elements that must comprise a maximum card: the stamp, the postcard, and the postmark. This was a topic unfamiliar to the attendees, which prompted several comments and questions at the end of the talk.

On Wednesday, May 14th, as part of the Philatelic Gatherings program coordinated by José Ossorio ZÁJARA, a member of the Ateneo de Cádiz and a board member of the Cádiz Philatelic Society, Juan Antonio CASAS PAJARES presented the seminar "Holy Week in Cádiz in Philately." During the seminar, he showcased the stamps, maximum cards, and prepaid cards he has collected related to Holy Week in Cádiz. Attendees showed interest in the topics presented and were pleasantly surprised by the number of maximum cards depicting various images of Holy Week in Cádiz. They also inquired about how to obtain some of the stamps, maximum cards, and prepaid cards presented. Since the announcement of this seminar, two Cádiz brotherhoods have contacted the Cádiz Philatelic Society to commission custom stamps for their brotherhoods. The seminar received coverage in the local press, in Diario de Cádiz, in the section "El Balcón".

On November 7, during the 63rd EXFILNA and 26th JUVENIA, held in Cadiz, Paco VELÁZQUEZ and Juan Antonio CASAS gave the seminars "It Had to Be a Woman" and "Let's Talk About Maximaphily".

The seminars were presented by the president of FESOFI, José Antonio ARRUEGO, who is also a member of ASEMA. Paco commented that since the beginning of time, women, like men, have contributed to its development, to its history. From different perspectives and with diverse tools, each one has contributed her magnificent grain of sand. Through the cards in the "IT HAD TO BE A WOMAN" collection, he intends to pay a small tribute to those women—mothers, daughters, and grandmothers—who, from anonymity, working in their homes or performing any other activity, remain in their place and make it possible for our society to continue on its course.



These women marked and continue to mark history. He discussed and presented images from the six chapters into which his collection is divided: 1. Pen and Paper (writers); 2. Behind the Scenes (actresses, singers, and dancers); 3. Nobility Obliges (queens and members of the nobility); 4. Ideas in action (fighters who pursued certain ideas); 5. Opening paths (precursors in all fields) and 6. Canvas, chisel and staff (painters, sculptors and musicians).



Juan Antonio discussed research in Maximaphily, which is based on understanding three key aspects: motif (image), place, and time. He emphasized that without mastering these basic aspects, the remaining rules are difficult to grasp. As is his custom, he presented several examples for discussion, aiming to collectively determine whether the presented piece was a proper Maxim card. There was a lively exchange of opinions, with some attendees disagreeing with his points. Juan Antonio stressed that his comments were based on the current Regulations and emphasized the need to consult those ratified by the FIP Congress in Jakarta on August 9, 2022. He noted that comments in previous versions of the Regulations, presented in earlier articles, are sometimes outdated.



ASEMA members have participated with their collections in the following exhibitions:

XXXIV EXPOFIL CARNAVAL 2025, dedicated to Adela del Moral, composer of music for the mixed choir, at the Main Post Office in Cádiz, from January 14 to March 19; III EXPOFIL Y DE COLECCIONISMO SEMANA SANTA, dedicated to the Virgin Mary Most Holy of Victory, of the Brotherhood of the Expiration, for the 85th anniversary of her Blessing, at the Main Post Office in Cádiz from March 20 to June 4; I EXPOFIL Y DE COLECCIONISMO MEDIOAMBIENTE, to the Kentish plover, a bird of the Cádiz coast, in danger of extinction, from June 5 to October 1, at the Main Post Office in Cádiz; EXPOFIL AND COLLECTING TOWARDS THE 149TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF MANUEL DE FALLA, dedicated to the musician from Cádiz, Manuel de Falla, from October 2nd to January 14th, 2026, at the Main Post Office of Cádiz; EUROPHILEX, in Birmingham; PHILAKOREA 2025, in Seoul; 63rd EXFILNA and 26th JUVENIA, in Cádiz.



The National Philatelic Exhibition EXFILNA 2025 was held in Cádiz from November 5th to 9th. On this occasion, I was appointed as a judge for maximaphily. Twelve collections participated. The Manuel Monterrey Trophy was awarded for the first time, and it went to the "Romanesque Art" collection by Begoña Polo Mongio. The Spanish Association of Maximaphily (ASEMA) Trophy was awarded to the "It Had to Be a Woman" collection by Francisco Velázquez Barroso.

Among all the exhibitions this year, I must highlight the VII EXPOMAX 40th Anniversary ASEMA, held from November 20th to 29th in Chiclana de la Frontera (Cádiz). ASEMA collaborated with the Chiclana Philatelic Association (ODA), presided over by Manuel Manzorro Navas, who is also ASEMA's secretary. The exhibition was held in the Casa de la Cultura's exhibition hall, which was provided by the Chiclana de la Frontera City Council.

The opening took place on November 20th at 6:00 PM. The event was presided over by First Deputy Mayor Ana María GONZÁLEZ BUENO, Culture Delegate Susana RIVAS CÓRDOBA, ASEMA President Juan Antonio CASAS PAJARES, and the President of the Chiclana Philatelic Association (ODA) Manuel MANZORRO NAVAS. The exhibition was competitive, and the collections were judged according to the current FIP and FESOFI regulations and evaluation tables for maximaphily. The jury consisted of Manuel MANZORRO (member), Paco VELÁZQUEZ (secretary), and Juan Antonio CASAS (president). Three youth collections, fifteen adult collections, and three guest collections (one for each jury member) participated. The exhibition was very well attended. ASEMA produced a maximum card of Queen Isabella II and requested a commemorative postmark from the Spanish postal service (Correos) for her 40th anniversary. On Saturday the 29th, the ASEMA Board of Directors meeting and subsequent Ordinary General Assembly were held at the House of Culture. Rafael Serrano Gandía, president of FEFIAN, was invited to both meetings. After the jury members discussed some aspects of the collectors' collections, the exhibition was closed. The closing ceremony was presided over by Susana Rivas Córdoba, Delegate of Culture for the Chiclana de la Frontera City Council;



Rafael Serrano, president of FEFIAN; Juan Antonio CASAS, president of the Spanish Association of Maximophily; Paco Velázquez, president of the Chiclana Philatelic Association; and the secretary of the jury and president of the Cádiz Philatelic Society. VELÁZQUEZ read the jury's report, which included the following scores and trophies: Junior Category: Rocío NAVARRO CABRERA, "Life and Nature," 75 points and FMS Trophy; Laura CAMPOS GÓMEZ, "Music Maestro," 80 points and Chiclana Philatelic Association Trophy. ODA; Mercedes ARJONA ZAPATA "The World of Insects" 80 pts. V. G. and FESOFI Trophy. In the adult category: Miguel GONZÁLEZ SAUCEDO "Maximum Cards of the Lighthouses of the Spanish Coast" 67 pts; Antonio AFÁN ARIAS "History of the Automotive Industry: The Automobile" 72 pts. P. G.; Américo REBELO "Sport Lisboa e Benfica Seen Through MAXIMAFILIA" 76 pts. V.; Manuel MEDINA ROMERO "Monumental Spain" 76 pts. V.; Faustino GARCÍA RODRÍGUEZ "Stonemasons and Architects of Cantabria" 78 pts. V.; Carmen GARCÍA ZARZA "Birds" 80 pts. V. G. and TODOLAMP Trophy; Pedro Pastor SAN MIGUEL "Historical, Artistic and Cultural Heritage of Castile and León" 80 pts. V.G.; Pedro PASTOR SAN MIGUEL "Immortal France: A Journey Through Its Monuments and Memories" 81 pp. V. G.- GADITANA Philanthropic Society Trophy; José SOLER RODRÍGUEZ "Heritage and Cultural Assets of Europe" 82 pp. V. G.; José SOLER RODRÍGUEZ "The Reconquest of the Iberian Peninsula" 83 pp. V. G. and ASEMA Trophy; Joan Miquel LLOMPART "Sporting Mosaic: Navigating the diverse landscape of sport" 83 pp. V. G. and FEFIAN Trophy; Pascal BANDRY "Andorre, le pays des Pyrénées" 84 pp. V. G. and FESOFI Trophy; José PALMA AZÚA "Architectural art in Europe seeks divinity" 91 pp. O. G. and Chiclana City Council Trophy.



The closing ceremony concluded with remarks from the presidents of ASEMA and FEFIAN, who expressed their gratitude for the work carried out by the Chiclana Philatelic Association, to the exhibitors for displaying their collections, and to the Chiclana City Council for the use of the exhibition hall at the House of Culture. They also congratulated ASEMA on its 40 years of promoting maximaphily.



The Delegate for Culture echoed these congratulations and expressed her gratitude for the exhibition, highlighting its popularity with visitors and inviting us to hold more exhibitions in her city.

The day ended with a fraternal meal at the Manguita restaurant, where emotional moments of brotherhood were experienced and toasts were made to these forty years, to those to come, to friendship and to maximaphily.

Juan Antonio CASAS PAJARES
Cádiz, December 31,2025



News around the World

Nouvelles du monde



UNITED STATES ÉTATS-UNIS

Delegate Délégué :
SUN-YU, Ph.D.

For 2025, Maximum Card Study Unit of North America (MACSU) members participated in various philatelic exhibitions and realized many maximum cards, including:

"Republic of Venice - Mail routes from/to the Levant and Europe - XV to XVIII Century" by George CONSTANTOURAKIS was awarded Large Gold at the Royale/Royal 2025 (Canada);

"Postal Stationery as Maximum Card Forerunners" by SUN-YU NG was awarded Gold in the Literature Class at the Great American Stamp Show 2025 (USA);

"Pursuing UOs in Northern New Jersey " by Lloyd A. DE VRIES was awarded Large Vermeil in the Literature Class at the Great American Stamp Show 2025 (USA);

"Hotel Stationery and Pre-Maximaphily Pioneers" by SUN-YU NG was awarded Large Silver in the Literature Class at BERNABA 2025 (Switzerland).

Across multiple YouTube channels, there are more than 200 videos about maximum cards already uploaded, including 49 new videos which were released in 2025, some of them are being listed below:

Cultural heritage sites & historical monuments of Africa, in the footsteps of Margarita Kotopoulis, at <https://youtu.be/UgBAax1dQMg> ;

Cultural heritage sites & historical monuments of Europe, in the footsteps of Margarita Kotopoulis, part 1 at https://youtu.be/_KB2WxvUeiA ;

US history on maximum cards include:

15th~17th Century America at <https://youtu.be/WwzNx2Lhdu0> ;

18th Century America at <https://youtu.be/YMcFpmsKGSs> ;

20th Century America at <https://youtu.be/xjRGzLwx8U8>.

Multilingual Musical Maximum Cards including:

L'amitié at https://youtu.be/ym4S_QfHTrw

La Vie en Rose at https://youtu.be/t-NAYWx_Vlg

Marianne at <https://youtu.be/W-Ce3eu4gOE>

Con Te Partiro (2nd edition) at <https://youtu.be/jRXxUP3k4fo>

The Quest (the impossible dream) at <https://youtu.be/QEaS3tmRCUM>

Moon River at <https://youtu.be/oJ96b3jQjK8>.

Religions related maximum cards are presented via:

O Haupt voll Blut und Wunden for Good Friday at <https://youtu.be/i8gvqgZ8OQ> ;

Ave verum corpus for Holy Saturday at https://youtu.be/kh_5yxm3x6A ;

Hallelujah for Easter Sunday at <https://youtu.be/oxLIFU7q6s0> ;

Le Mont Saint Michel at <https://youtu.be/wwoinuVhrSM> ;

Notre-Dame de Paris at <https://youtu.be/FZn7dXZrvPk> ;

Cathédrale Notre Dame de Reims at <https://youtu.be/yivm4kPBUgc> ;

Joan of Arc at <https://youtu.be/nVLCJwLpOCM> ;

Au fond du temple saint at https://youtu.be/JC90TRapk_s.

Visit France and Paris via maximum cards include:

Château de Chambord at https://youtu.be/dJy_UeJ6fuQ ;

Château de Chenonceau at <https://youtu.be/YkZtZapFAcs>

Château de Versailles at <https://youtu.be/jPzLe6TERFo> ;

Tour Eiffel at <https://youtu.be/Qnln1TGBOSO> ;

Pont Alexandre III at <https://youtu.be/LV-eWsznnns> ;

Normandy - Cradle of Impressionism at <https://youtu.be/pNvofipgS88> ;

On the banks of the Seine - the Impressionists' outdoor studios at <https://youtu.be/tQkFXMFH6I>.

Pre-Maximaphily Postal History videos include:

Pioneers of TVA third edition at <https://youtu.be/hj3nCoqwozY> ;

Pioneers of TCV second edition at <https://youtu.be/dlZJfXRoHvU> ;

Maximaphily Pioneers V at <https://youtu.be/fIMWxHxMbTQ> ;

On the Origins of Maximum card Precursor Families by Means of Concordance Selection part II second edition at <https://youtu.be/OO54N1z4f-o> ;

On the Origins of Maximum card Precursor Families by Means of Concordance Selection part IV 2025 edition at <https://youtu.be/jSTRxiSHAqU> ;

and almost 100 maximum cards from USA, France, Belgium, Austria, etc were realized.

2024

Best Maximum Card *Meilleure Carte-Maximum*

Dear delegate , dear friend,

Below are the results of the competition "BMC 2024"

Congratulations !

Firstly – to Germany, Spain and Israël / China with the top 3 cards,

Secondly – to everyone who entered – 20 entries

Thirdly – to all the Delegates who voted – 21 countries.

Kind regards,

Pascal BANDRY , Chairman FIP Maximaphily Commission

Bostjan PETAUER, Secretary FIP Maximaphily Commission

Cher délégué, cher ami,

Vous trouverez ci-dessous les résultats du concours « BMC 2024 ».

Félicitations !

Tout d'abord, bravo à l'Allemagne, à l'Espagne et à Israël/ Chine pour leurs trois premières cartes.

Ensuite, félicitations à tous les participants (20 participants).

Troisièmement, bravo à tous les délégués qui ont voté (21 pays représentés).

Salutations cordiales,

Pascal BANDRY, Président de la commission de Maximaphilie de la FIP

Bastian PETAUER, Secrétaire de la commission Maximaphilie de la FIP



1. Germany **Allemagne**
51 points

Title **Titre** :

Leuchtturm Alte Weser

Creator **Créateur** :

Hubert ENGEL

Postcard **Carte postale** :

René Menges

Cancellation **Oblitération** :

special illustrated - spéciale illustrée

- Bremen Haven - 04/07/2024



2. Spain **Espagne**
48 points

Title **Titre** :

**Statue of the Count Ansúrez
(Valladolid)**

Creator **Créateur** :

José Fernando del Pozo Gonzalez

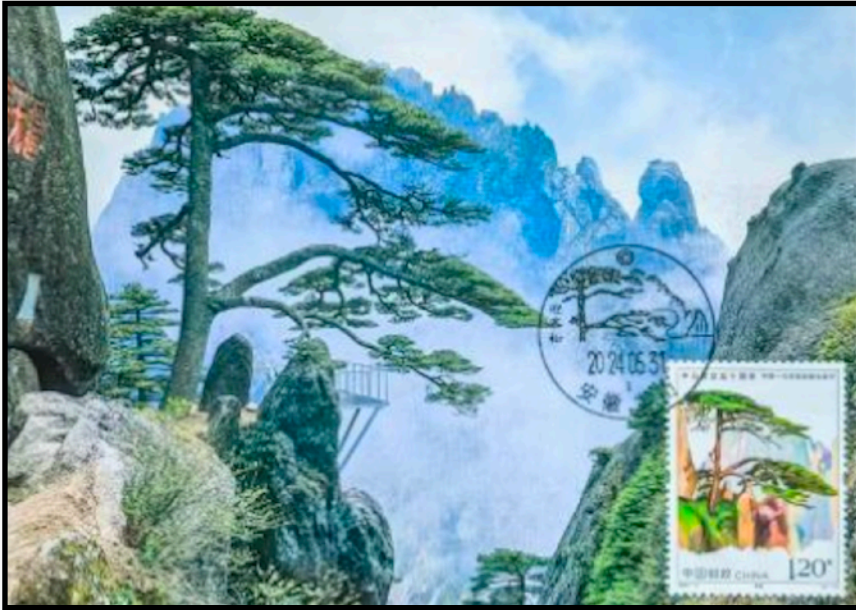
Postcard **Carte postale** :

Old commercial edition

Cancellation **Oblitération** :

First Day - Premier Jour - Valladolid -

31/10/2024



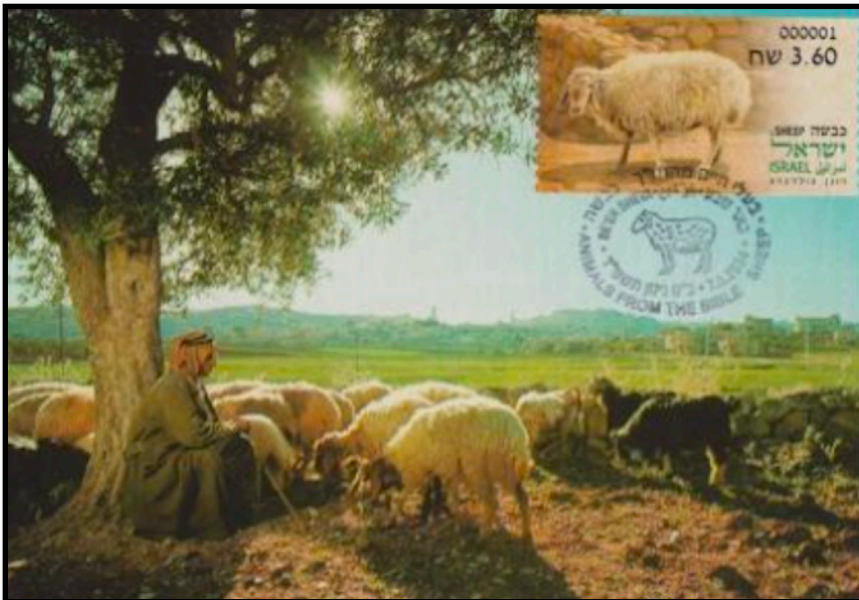
3. China **Chine** **45 points**

Title **Titre** :
Pine tree, join issued with Malaysia

Creator **Créateur** :
Cao FENGZENG

Postcard **Carte postale** :
Zhaohua Publishing House Edition

Cancellation **Oblitération** :
First Day - Premier Jour - Mountain
Huangshan - 31/05/2024



3. Israel **Israël** **45 points**

Title **Titre** :
Animal from the Bible-Sheep

Creator **Créateur** :
Nahum Shereshevsky

Postcard **Carte postale** :
Palphot 8758

Cancellation **Oblitération** :
First Day - Premier Jour - Be'er Sheva
- 07/03/2024



2024 BEST MAXIMUM CARD WORLD COMPETITION

CONCOURS MONDIAL 2024 DE LA MEILLEURE CARTE MAXIMUM



Title/titre:
Sergey Parayanov

Creator's name/création:
Sebrak Nersesyan

Postcard/carte-postale:
commercial

Cancellation/oblitération:
**Dedicated to 100
anniversary 20/06/2024**

1. Armenia - Arménie



Title/titre: **Gastronomy of the
state of Bahia**

Postcard/carte-postale : **Ed.
Museu da gastronomia**

Creator's name/création:
Aginaldo de Souza Gabriel

Cancellation/oblitération : **First
day-Premier jour-Salvador/
Bahia-25/11/2024**

2. Brazil - Brésil



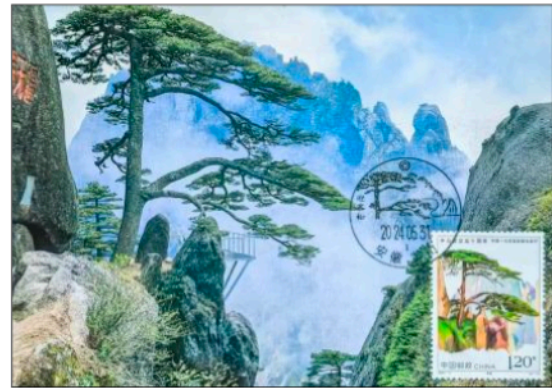
Title/titre: **Conservation de la
faune- Neophron percnopterus**

Postcard/carte-postale :
Stiven,s Ltd

Creator's name/création:
Sergei Magdichev

Cancellation/oblitération : **First
day-Premier jour- Dobrich-
11/10/2024**

3. Bulgaria - Bulgarie



Title/titre: **Pine tree, join issued
with Malaysia**

Postcard/carte-postale : **Zhaohua
publishing house edition**

Creator's name/création:
Cao Fengzeng

Cancellation/oblitération : **First
day-Premier jour- Mountain
Huangshan- 31/05/2024**

4. China - Chine



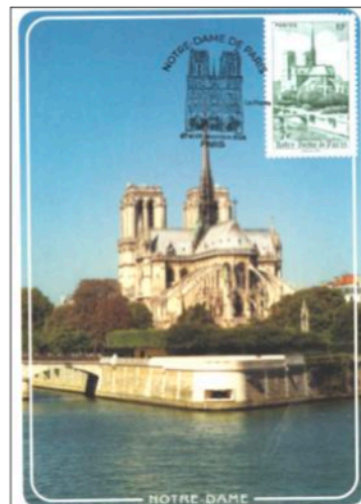
Title/titre:
Organ- Klementinum

Postcard/carte-postale :
Commercial

Creator's name/création:
Martin Hlavaty

Cancellation/oblitération :
**ordinary cancellation- Praha-
4/09/2024**

5. Czech Republic - République Tchèque



Title/titre:
Notre-Dame de Paris

Creator's name/création:
Maximaphiles Français

Postcard/carte-postale:
Ed. 4photos

Cancellation/oblitération:
**First day-Premier jour-
Paris- 7/12/2024**

6. France



2024 BEST MAXIMUM CARD WORLD COMPETITION

CONCOURS MONDIAL 2024 DE LA MEILLEURE CARTE MAXIMUM



Title/titre:
Leuchtturm Alte Weser

Creator's name/création:
Hubert Engel

Postcard/carte-postale :
Commercial

Cancellation/oblitération : **Special illustrated- Bremen Haven- 04/07/2024**

7. Germany - Allemagne



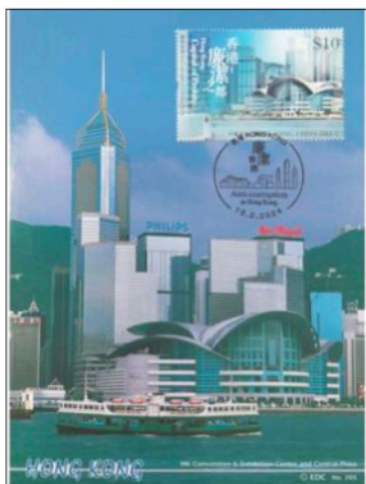
Title/titre: **Water Polo-Sports in the mediterranean**

Creator's name/création:
Philatelic Society of Patras

Postcard/carte-postale : **PSP**

Cancellation/oblitération :
First day-Athens- 08/07/2024

8. Greece - Grèce



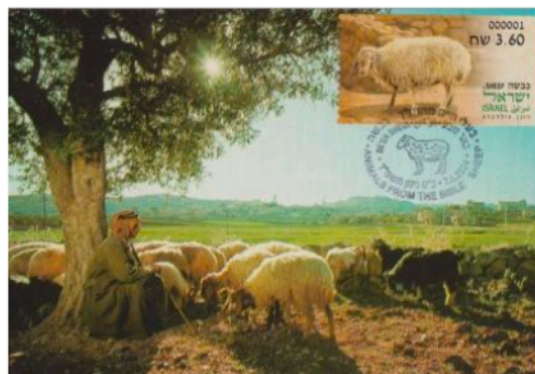
Title/titre:
Hong-Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre

Creator's name/création:
Pang Kam Tuen Pamela

Postcard/carte-postale :
EDC distribution Ltd

Cancellation/oblitération : **First day-er jour- Pictorial post-mark available for one day only-Hong-Kong- 15/02/2024**

9. Hong-Kong



Title/titre: **Animal from the bible-Sheep**

Creator's name/création:
Nahum Shereshevsky

Postcard/carte-postale :
Palphot 8758

Cancellation/oblitération :
First day-Premier jour- Be'er Sheva- 07/03/2024

10. Israël



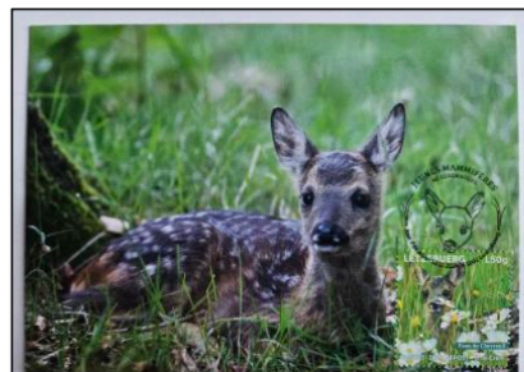
Title/titre: **Ancient italian rail-ways still active**

Creator's name/création:
Rosario D'Agata

Postcard/carte-postale :
AIM

Cancellation/oblitération :
First day-Premier jour- Catania- 02/08/2024

11. Italy - Italie



Title/titre:
Faon du chevreuil

Creator's name/création:
Commission maximaphilie de la FSPL

Postcard/carte-postale :
Jurgen Borris

Cancellation/oblitération :
First day-Premier jour- Luxem-bourg- 12/11/2024

12. Luxembourg



2024 BEST MAXIMUM CARD WORLD COMPETITION

CONCOURS MONDIAL 2024 DE LA MEILLEURE CARTE MAXIMUM



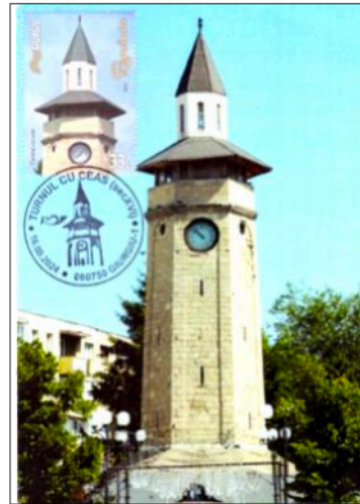
Title/titre:
Year of the dragon

Creator's name/création:
Nadzieje Sulima

Postcard/carte-postale :
Ed : commercial

Cancellation/oblitération :
**First day-Premier jour-
Poznan- 14/02/2024**

13. Poland - Pologne



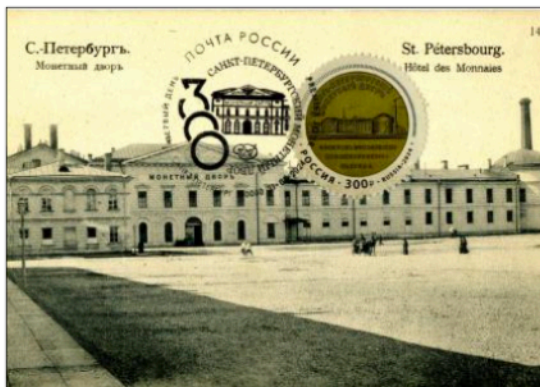
Title/titre:
The Giurgiu Clock tower

Creator's name/création:
Cristea Virgil

Postcard/carte-postale :
Ed : commercial

Cancellation/oblitération :
**Oblitération spéciale-
Special cancellation-
Giurgiu 1- 16/09/2024**

14. Roumania - Roumanie



Title/titre: **300 ème anniversaire
de l'hôtel des monnaies de St
Petersbourg**

Postcard/carte-postale :
Old postcard

Cancellation/oblitération
**First day-Premier jour- St
Petersbourg- 31/01/2024**

Creator's name/création: **Galina
Tchudesova**

15. Russia - Russie



Title/titre:
Fauna of Slovenia

Postcard/carte-postale :
commercial

Creator's name/création: **Veko-
slav Kzahulec**

Cancellation/oblitération
**First day-Premier jour-
Kranjska Gora- 27/09/2024**

16. Slovenia - Slovénie



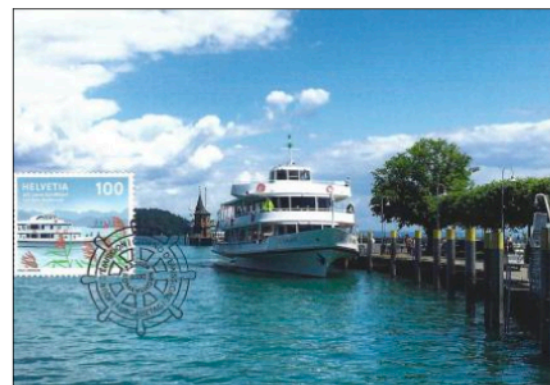
Title/titre:
**Statue of the Count Ansu-
rez- Valladolid**

Creator's name/création:
**José Fernando del Pozo
Gonzalez**

Postcard/carte-postale :
old commercial edition

Cancellation/oblitération :
**First day-Premier jour-
Valladolid- 3/10/2024**

17. Spain - Espagne



Title/titre: **200 ans de naviga-
tion sur le lac de Constance**

Postcard/carte-postale :
Andreas Wittwer

Cancellation/oblitération
**First day-Premier jour-
Romanshorn- 07/03/2024**

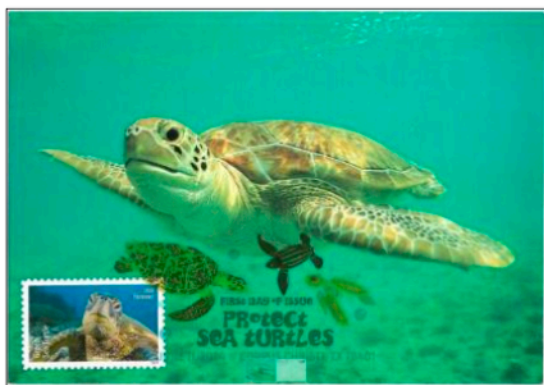
Creator's name/création:
Club philatélique de Meyrin

18. Switzerland - Suisse



2024 BEST MAXIMUM CARD WORLD COMPETITION

CONCOURS MONDIAL 2024 DE LA MEILLEURE CARTE MAXIMUM



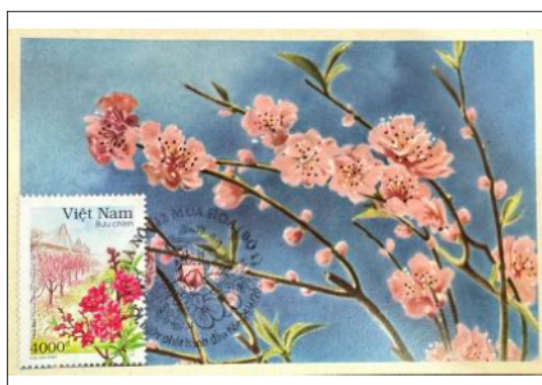
Title/titre:
Protect Green Sea Turtles

Postcard/carte-postale :
Graphics Ink Design Studio

Creator's name/création:
James Tang

Cancellation/oblitération : **First day-Premier jour- Corpus Christi-Texas-11/06/2024**

19. United States of America - USA



Title/titre: **Hanoi - The flowers of 4 seasons**

Postcard/carte-postale :
Art Publishing house

Creator's name/création:
Pham Ngoc Son

Cancellation/oblitération : **First day-Vietnam Post- 25/06/2024**

20. Vietnam