



Secretariat

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INFORMATION CIRCULAR No. 15

Subject: First Day of Issue – 4 March 2004

Indigenous Art

1. On 4 March 2004, the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) will continue its stamp series on the theme "Indigenous Art". This year the stamp designs highlight various art from Europe. Eighteen commemorative stamps in a mini-sheet format will be issued on this theme.
2. The full sheet of six different stamps will be considered as a single unit and is the only selling unit for this issue.

3. S.Fr. mini-sheet

Decoration for cows when leaving or returning from mountain pasture season in the Alps. Valais, Switzerland. Copyright: Ethnographic Museum, Geneva.



Sitting Woman. Terracotta from Cirna Woda, Romania. Neolithic. Polished Stone Age, end 4th mill. BCE. Located in National historical Museum, Bucharest. Copyright: Erich Lessing/Art Resource, NY.

Plaques used to churn butter and then used as a stamp to identify blocks with the sign of the owner. Rhodanien Alps, France.



Copyright: Ethnographic Museum, Geneva.



Detail of a herald's tabard. 1707-1714. Made of silk, metallic thread, beads. England. Copyright: Philadelphia Museum of Art/Corbis.

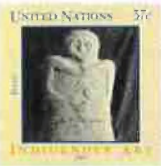
Woodcut print of medieval town of Cologne from *Liber Chronicarum* compiled by Hartmann Schedel. Created by Michael Wohlgemuth, 1493. Copyright: Historical Picture Archive/Corbis.



Mother and child. Terracotta from Drenovac, Vinca culture, Late Mesolithic, Serbia. Neolithic 6500-3000 B.C.E.

4. US\$ mini-sheet

Saga of Sigurd Favnesebane: After forging of the sword Gram it is tested and breaks. Viking wood carving from a stave church. Norway, 12th century. Copyright: Werner Forman/Art Resource, NY.



Ancient sculptured stele. This masculine stele is from the Italian region of Lunigiana and is found in the Museum of Pontremoli, Italy. Copyright: Massimo Listri/Corbis.

Detail of a matador suit. Material: silk, cotton, silver and gold thread. Spain. Copyright: Ethnographic Museum, Geneva.



Ancient Greek black-figure amphora with fighting figures. Greece. Copyright: Araldo de Luca/Corbis.

Bronze figurine of a bull with iron inlays from the cave at Byci Skala, Czech Republic. Hallstatt culture, 7th-6th century B.C.E. Copyright: Erich Lessing/Art Resource, NY.



Detail of a lacquer box with illustration of Alexander Pushkin's tale "On the Seashore", painted by D. Butorin, 1956. Russian Folk art. Located in State Museum, Palech. Copyright: Art Resource.

5. Euro Mini-Sheet



Decorative text to St. Matthew, Chap 1. v. 18: Christi Autem from the book of Kells. C. 700 CE. Copyright: British Library, London. Photo credit: Art Resource.

Ukrainian-style decorated eggs. Copyright: Craig Aurness/Corbis.



Statue—"Venus of Willendorf". Made of oolitic limestone. Austria, Palaeolithic age, c. 24,000-22,000 B.C.E. Location and Copyright : Naturhistorisches Museum, Vienna.

Icelandic Flatatunga panel. Copyright: Werner Forman/Corbis.



The "God with the Sickle". A sitting male idol with a triangular mask over the upturned face. Szegvar-Tuzcoves, Hungary. Tisza culture, Neolithic, 6500-3000 B.C.E. Copyright: Erich Lessing/Art Resource, NY.

Medical treatise: ornate initial with peasant carrying leeks. Portugal, 1356. Copyright: Archivo Iconografico, S.A./Corbis.

6. Staff members and mission personnel wishing to procure these stamps and first day covers can obtain them from 9 to 12 a.m. and from 1 to 5 p.m. on 4 March 2004 at the UNPA sales counter at door 6 of the Palais des Nations.

7. Staff members are encouraged to use United Nations stamps on their personal mail. By doing so, these miniature messengers of peace can educate unseen thousands of people to the activities and goals of the United Nations.

(Signed) Bertrand Juppín de Fondaumièr
Director, Division of Administration