

**BEST MAXIMUM CARD WORLD COMPETITION  
FOR THE YEAR 2015**

**CONCOURS MONDIAL DE LA MEILLEURE  
CARTE MAXIMUM 2015**

**1.- ALAND**



**TITLE: PEACH-LEAVED BELLFLOWER**  
*(Campanula persicifolia)*

CREATOR: Posten Aland

STAMP: Issue: Apr. 10, 2015. For: Flora of Aland

CARD: Posten Aland stationary, nr. 92/2015 (Photo by: *Andy Horner*)

CANCEL: First Day, Mariehamn, special mention: "*stor blaklocka*"  
*(Campanula persicifolia)*, concordand illustration (triple).

# BEST MC WORLD COMPETITION FOR THE YEAR 2015

## CONCOURS MONDIAL DE LA MEILLEURE CM 2015

### 2.- ANDORRA (French Adm.)



TITLE: **MOUNTAIN APOLLO** (*Parnasius apollo*')

It occurs in mountainous areas on steep, sunny slopes with sparse vegetation. The butterflies are fond of visiting thistles and other flowering plants. The Apollo has one generation a year. CREATOR: Jean-Claude ROCHE  
STAMP: Issue: Oct. 2, 2015. For: Fauna and Flora of Andorra  
CARD: Commercial Edition. CANCEL: FD, Principat d' Andorra, special mention: 'PITAVOLA – *Parnasius apollo*', concordant illustration (triple)



# BEST MAXIMUM CARD WORLD COMPETITION FOR THE YEAR 2015

## CONCOURS MONDIAL DE LA MEILLEURE CARTE MAXIMUM 2015

### 3.- ARMENIA



#### TITLE: **FORGET-ME-NOT FLOWER**

It is a chosen symbol of commemoration of the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide. The five petals of the flower symbolize five parts of the world where Armenians were scattered after the Genocide and created the Armenian Diaspora. The flower has four colors – black in the center, symbolizing the Armenian past, then it is surrounded by yellow which pictures the light and the eternity in the form of 12 pillars standing in a circle symbolizing the memorial of Tsitsernakaberd (on stamp). Light purple is the present and the prevailing purple – the future (on stamp).

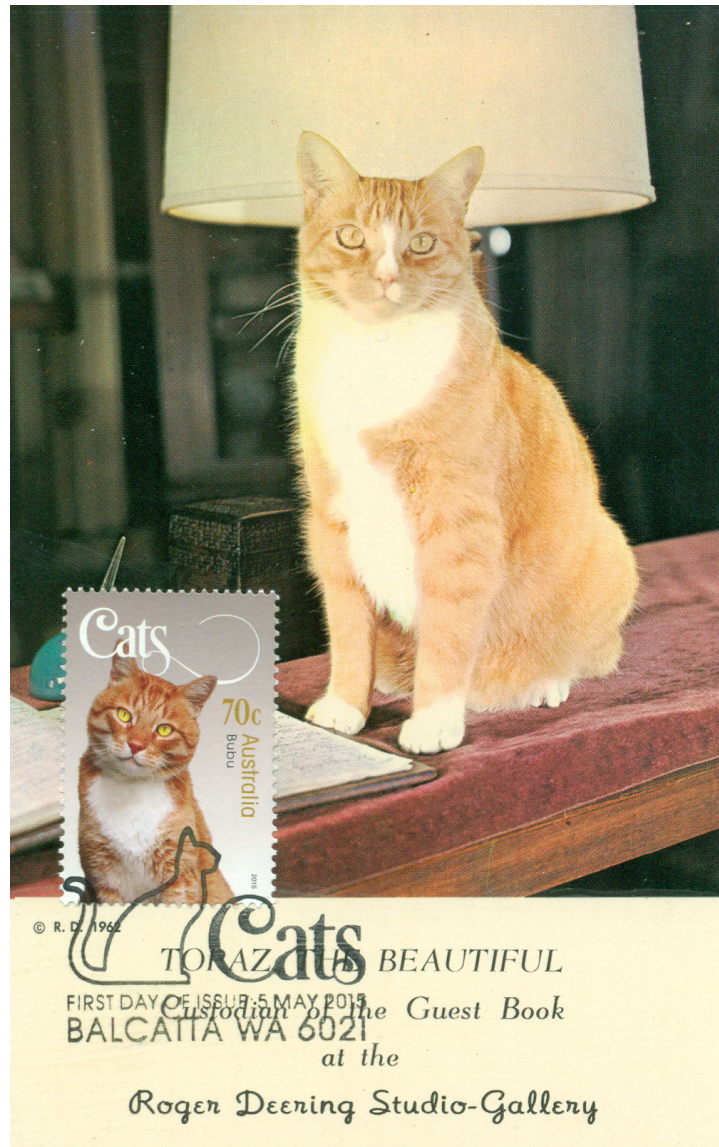
CREATOR: Sedrak Nersesyan

STAMP: Issue: Jan. 29, 2015. For: Centennial of the Armenian Genocide

CARD: Armenian Comm. Edition, 2013

CANCEL: First Day, Yerevan, special mention and illustration

**BEST MC WORLD COMPETITION FOR THE YEAR 2015  
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4.- AUSTRALIA**



**TITLE: PET CAT 'BUBU'**

*Bubu* is handsome, loyal and caring. He is a domestic shorthair, which is by far the most common type of pet cat in Australia, also known as a *moggie*.

(On Card it's referred to as *Topaz*). CREATOR: Daryl Kibble

STAMP: Issue: May 5, 2015. For: Pet Cats in Australia (five domestic base-rate stamps). CARD: Roger Deering Art Gallery, Kennebunkport ME, USA  
CANCEL: First Day, Balcatta WA, special mention, concordant illustr(triple)



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**5.- AUSTRIA**



**TITLE: WOMAN WITH A DARK HAT**, 1917  
Oil painting by *Anton Faistauer*, Leopold Museum, Vienna  
**CREATOR:** Peter Riedl

**STAMP:**Issue: Aug. 28, 2015. For: Modern Art in Austria

**CARD:** Comercial Edition. **CANCEL:** First Day, Gmunden, special  
mention: 'MODERNE KUNST-ANTON FAISTAUER', concordant illustr. (triple)

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**6.- BRAZIL**



**TITLE: THE OCTAVIO FRIAS OLIVEIRA BRIDGE**

This a cable-stayed bridge in São Paulo, over the *Pinheiros* River is an architectural landmark. The bridge is 138m tall, connecting the south area of the city. The bridge deck is unusual due to its form, which is similar to an "X", crossing at the tower. The "X" is 76m wide at its base and 35.4m wide at the top. The Bridge is unique in the form that it is the only bridge in the world that has two curved tracks supported by a single concrete mast. One at an elevation of 12m and the other at 24m and have lengths of 900m each. In December lights are put up on the cables and illuminated to create color effects like those on a Christmas tree. The bridge is also lit up on other special occasions during the year.

**CREATOR:** Agnaldo de Sousa Gabriel

**STAMP:** Issue: Feb. 3, 2015. For: World Professional Education Competition

**CARD:** Studio Stajano, Sao Paulo, nr. 44 (Photo *Roberto Caldeyro Stajano*)

**CANCEL:** First Day, Sao Paulo, special illustration and mention:

*'WORLD SKILLS - SAO PAULO 2015'*.



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**7.- BULGARIA**



**TITLE: WINEMAKING IN BULGARIA**

**CREATOR: Sergei Magdichev**

**STAMP: Issue: July 15, 2015. For: Regions of Bulgaria – Eastern region**

**CARD: Steven's Ltd, Bulgarian Edition**

**CANCEL: First Day, Burgas, special mention: *REGIONS-EASTERN REGION***

# BEST MAXIMUM CARD WORLD COMPETITION FOR THE YEAR 2015

## CONCOURS MONDIAL DE LA MEILLEURE CARTE MAXIMUM 2015

### 8.- CANADA



TITLE: **DALL SHEEP (RAM & EWE) – YEAR OF THE RAM**

In Canada, Dall sheep inhabit the subarctic mountains of *Yukon Territory*, the *Mackenzie Mountains* in *Northwest Territories* and central and northern *British Columbia*. They are found in a special combination of open alpine ridges, meadows, and steep slopes with extremely rugged ground in the immediate vicinity, to allow escape from predators that cannot travel quickly through such terrain. Male Dall sheep have thick curling horns.

CREATOR: Geo Constantourakis/ Francois Brisse

STAMP: Issue: Jan. 8, 2015. For: 2015 Chinese Lunar Year of the Ram

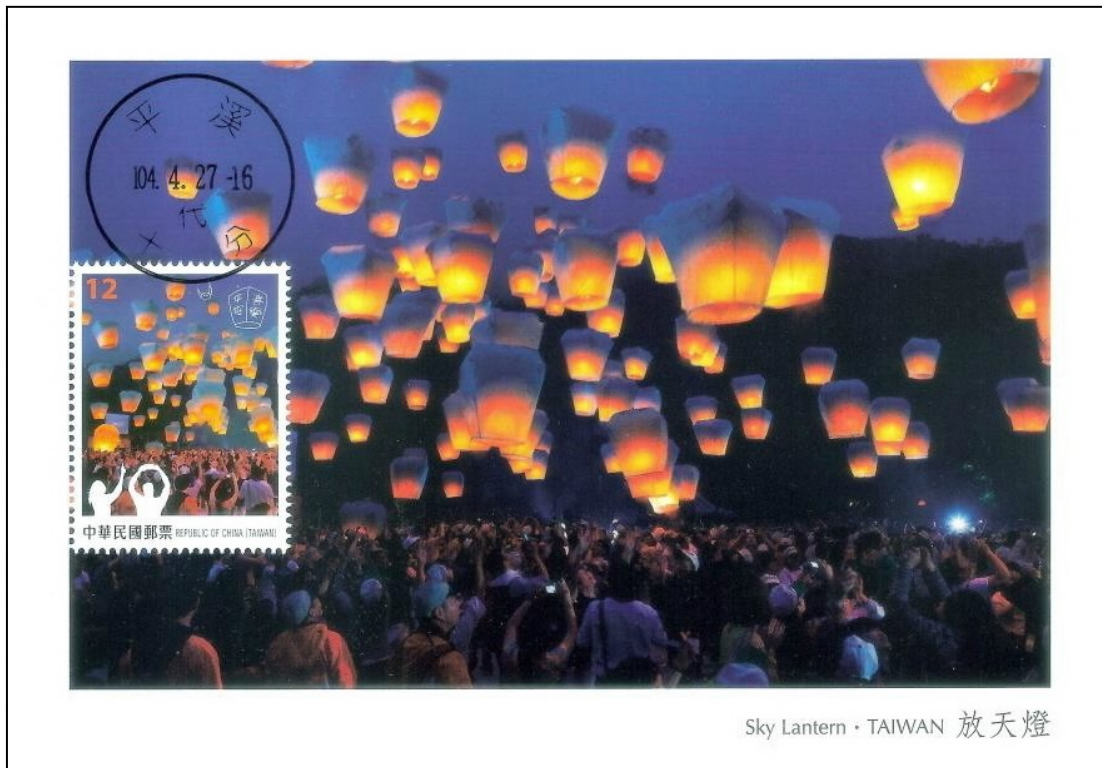
CARD: Photo Decor Ltd, Gananoque ON (Photo by: *Halle Flygare*)

CANCEL: Apr.10, Dorval, Temp. Event Cancel, concordant illustr.(triple)



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**9.- CHINESE TAIPEI (*Taiwan*)**



**TITLE: THE SKY LANTERN FESTIVAL  
PINGXI, NEW TAIPEI CITY**

This is the most famous Lantern Festival celebration in Northern Taiwan. As thousands upon thousands of lanterns ascend into the night sky, the points of light are a wonder to behold. The lanterns are invested with prayers and hopes by those who launch them, and images of them in the night sky serve well to promote Taiwan. This event was voted in a Discovery Channel poll as the world's second grandest nighttime celebration.

**CREATOR: Holin Chen**

**STAMP: Issue: Apr. 27, 2015 (104.4.27).**

**For: 30th Asian International Stamp Exhibition - Tourism**

**CARD: Nisan Internat. Co. Ltd, Taiwan. CANCEL: First Day, Pingxi, regular**

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**10.- CROATIA**



**TITLE: NATIVITY SCENE – CHRISTMAS 2015**

Stained Glass Window detail - Sanctuary of Zagreb Cathedral 1843-45

CREATORS: MC *Petar Strmecki* - SPECIAL CANCEL: *Ivan Libric*

STAMP: Issue: Nov. 25, 2015. For: Christmas 2015

CARD: Editor FK ZAGREB, nr. MK1/2015

CANCEL: Dec. 24, 2014, Zagreb, special mention: 'MERRY CHRISTMAS - ADVENT IN ZAGREB', concordant illustration (triple)



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**11.- CZECH Rep.**



TITLE: **‘VECERNICEK’ "LITTLE EVENINGER"**

A television program for children, running for over 40 years. Aired at 18:45 every day, when children are expected to go to sleep. The show lasts for 7 minutes. Every tale takes about 5 minutes. The program's opening and final themes feature a little boy called *Večerníček* as he drives a car, which turns into a wooden horse, and then finally into a bike. At the beginning of the program, the boy says "Good Evening" (*Dobry večer* in Czech) to the children watching; at the end, he says "Good Night" (*Dobrou noc*).

CREATOR: Tomas Dolezal. STAMP: Issue: Feb. 2, 2015. For: Children TV.

CARD: ARIA, Prague, nr. P-279 (Graphics by *Radek Pilar*)

CANCEL: First Day, Prague, special mention, concordant illustr. (triple).

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**12.- DENMARK**



**TITLE: DANISH-SWEDISH WATCHDOG**

(On Stamp & detail on Card).

CREATOR: Galerie ATM - Ateeme

STAMP: Issue: June 13, 2015(Set of three). For: Danish Dog Breeds

CARD: Editions ATEEME, 2015

CANCEL:First Day, Kopenhagen, special illust. mention: 'POSTAL MUSEUM'



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**13.- ESTONIA**



TITLE: **HONEY BUZZARD** (*Buteo buteo*)

CREATOR: Eesti Post

STAMP:Issue: May 21, 2015 (Designer: *Vladimir Taiger*).

For: Estonian Fauna - Bird of the Year

CARD: Eesti Post, nr. 105/2015

CANCEL: First Day, Tallinn, special mention, concordant illustr. (triple)

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**14.- FINLAND**



**TITLE: SUMMER WATERSIDE CYCLING**

Part of *Summer feeling* S/S of five (5) funny and whimsical stamp designs of different sizes depicting traditional Finnish summer highlights, such as rowing, swimming in a lake, **bike trips**, ice cream and strawberries.

CREATOR: Finnish Post

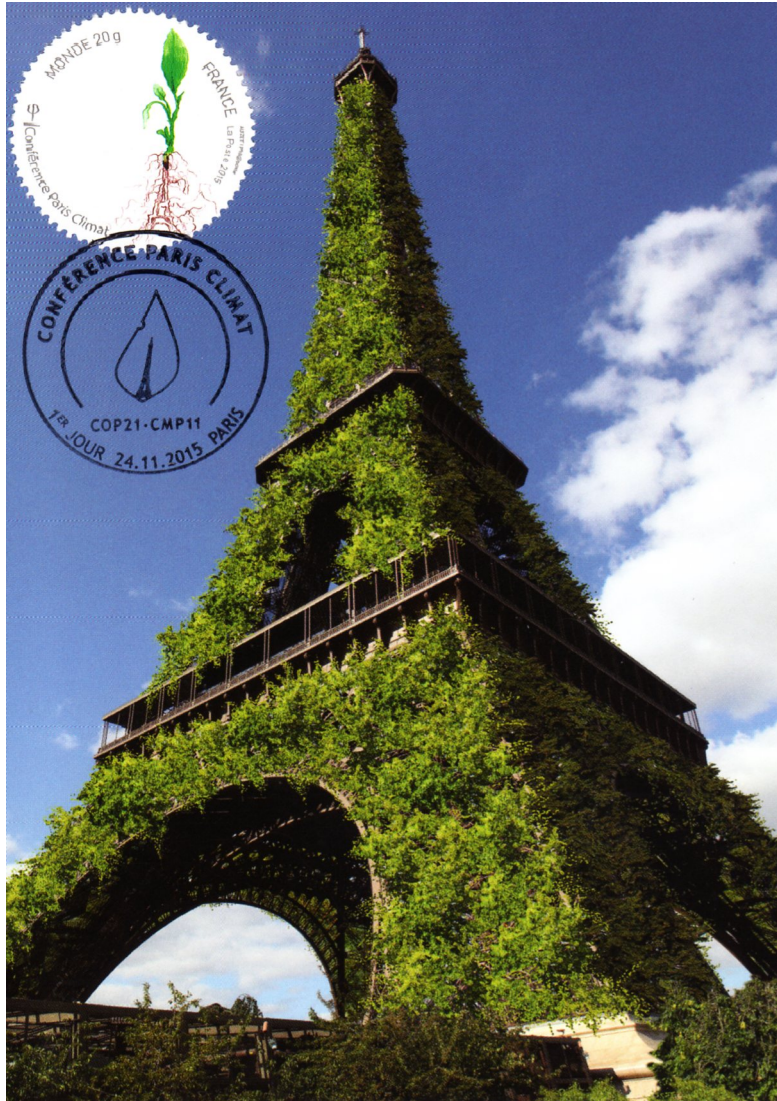
STAMP: Issue: May 8, 2015. For: Traditional Finnish summer highlights

CARD: Finnish Post, nr. 106/2015 (Photo by: *Ari Karvinen*)

CANCEL: First Day, Tampere, special illustration (sun-outline & sea waves)



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**15.- FRANCE**

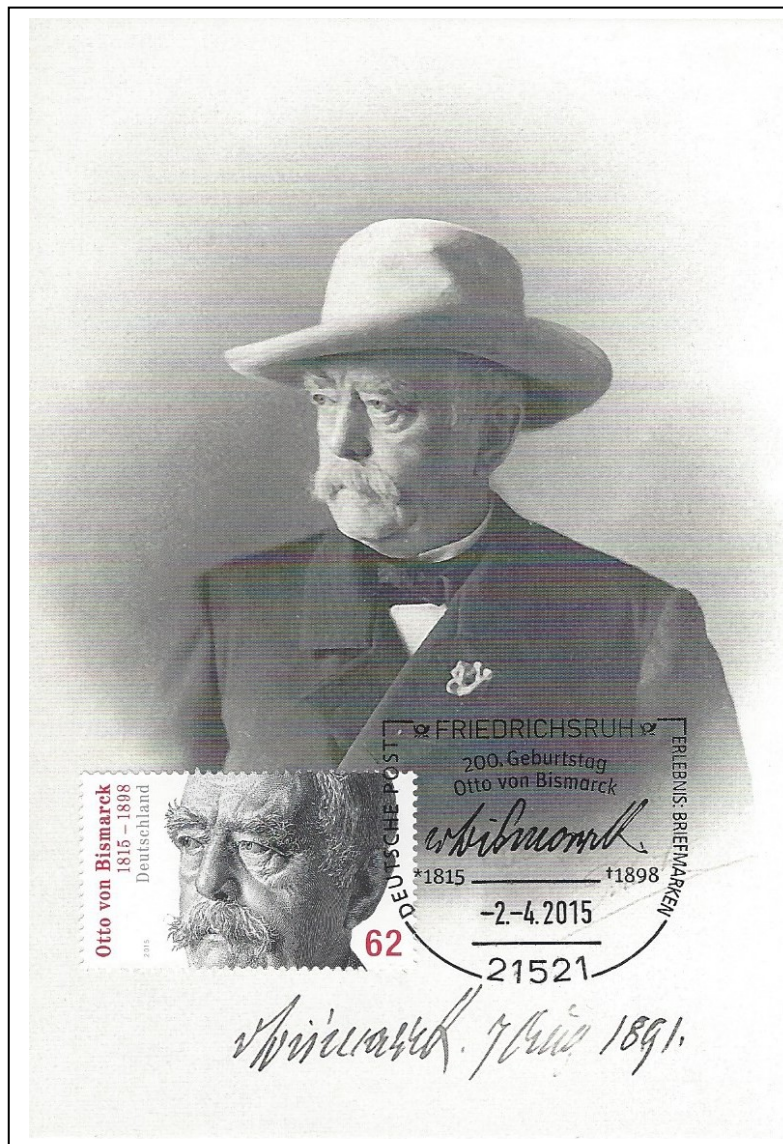


**TITLE: CLIMBING PLANTS COVERING EIFFEL TOWER**  
**U.N. CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE, COP 21, Paris**

The 21st annual UN Conference on Climate Change took place in Paris between Nov.30 - Dec. 11, 2015, (11th session since the 1997 Kyoto Protocol). The conference negotiated the **Paris Agreement** on the reduction of climate change. This is a global agreement of 196 countries . **CREATOR:** Les Maximaphiles Francais  
**STAMP:**Issue:Nov. 24, 2015. For: COP 21, UN Climate Change Conference  
**CARD:** Les Petits Suisses, nr.16A-1. **CANCEL:**First Day, Paris, special mention: '*CONFERENCE PARIS CLIMAT*', concordant illustration (of a tiny Eiffel Tower, carved on a Leaf that the warmth of the Sun begins to burn).

# BEST MC WORLD COMPETITION FOR THE YEAR 2015

## 16.- GERMANY



TITLE: **OTTO VON BISMARCK (1815-1898)**

Germany became a modern, unified nation under the leadership of the “Iron Chancellor” Otto von Bismarck, prime minister of Prussia (1862–73, 1873–90) and first chancellor (1871–90) of the German Empire. A master strategist, he initiated decisive wars against Denmark, Austria and France to unite 39 independent German states under Prussian leadership. Once the empire established, he skillfully used balance of power diplomacy to preserve German hegemony in a Europe, which remained at peace.

CREATOR: Juergen Noll. STAMP: Issue: Apr. 4, 2015. For: 200th Birthday Anniversary. CARD: Bismarck Museum, Bad Kissingen, 2001, (Photo by J. Pilartz, court photographer). CANCEL: First Day, Friedrichsruh (place of death), special mention: ‘200 Geburtstag – Otto von Bismarck 1815 +1898’:



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**17.- GIBRALTAR**



**TITLE: FLAG OF GIBRALTAR**

CREATOR: Galerie ATM - Ateeme

STAMP: Issue: May 20, 2015 (ATM Machine Stamp). For: Post and Go

CARD: Editions ATEEME, 2015

CANCEL: First Day, Gibraltar kiosk at Europhilex 2015, London, special mention, concordant illustration (triple).

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**18.- GREAT BRITAIN**



**TITLE: HONG KONG SKYLINE,  
VICTORIA HARBOUR,**  
(Stamp: View from a Cruise Ship window)  
**CREATOR: Pamela Kam Tuen Pang**

**STAMP:** Issue: Nov. 20, 2015. This stamp was produced by Royal Mail specifically for the 31st International Asian Stamp Exhibition in Hong Kong, using a special digital printing technology rather than gravure and was only available at the Exhibition, and only in a range of pre-set nonmonetary 'services' of which this is one, "World Wide up to 20g" (having a cost of £1.33 at this time), instead of the usual variable value machine-vended stamps and to that effect it has an additional caption 'Hong Kong November 2015'.

For: Sea Travel - Post and Go Stamps (set of five stamps).

**CARD:** Discover the World with M/V Marco Polo, ORIENT LINES, UK

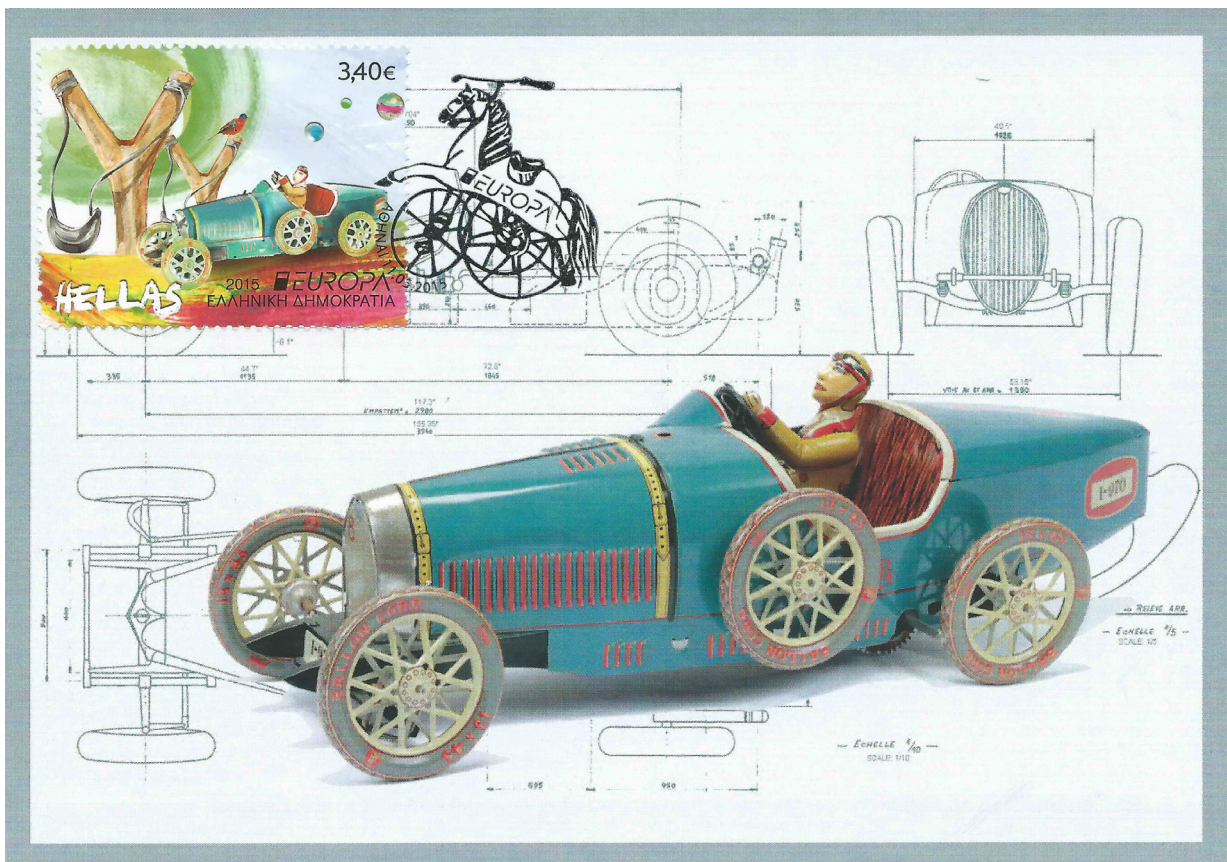
**CANCEL:** First Day, Hong Kong, special mention: '31st INTERNATIONAL ASIAN STAMP EXHIBITION, HONG KONG- SEAVIEW', concordant illustr.(triple)



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**19.- GREECE**



**TITLE: BUGATTI RACE CAR – A CHILDREN’S TOY**

**CREATOR: Union Collectionneurs Grecs des CM**

**STAMP: Issue: May 11, 2015. For: Europa 2015 – Children’s Toys.**

**CARD: Greek edition, Bugatti, nr. 2015/5-2**

**CANCEL: First Day, Athens, special mention and illustration.**

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**20.- ISRAEL**



**TITLE: CHESS**

The Stamp design reflects the connection between Chess and Judaism and Israel, as well as Chess' status as Israel's national sport. Four of the 16 World Champions were Jewish and 3 others were half-Jewish. In addition, Israeli Chess Masters have achieved more than sportsmen in any other field: our national team is among the top-ranked in the world, its highest achievements being 2nd place at the Chess Olympiad in Dresden in 2008 and 3rd place at the Khanty-Mansiysk Games in Russia in 2010. The national team won 2nd place at the European Championships in 2003 and 2005.

**CREATOR: Mayer Gozes**

**STAMP:**Issue: Feb. 10, 2015. **For:** 2015 European Chess Championship in Israel. **CARD:** Bulgarian Commercial edition for Chess Olympiad, Varna. **CANCEL:**FD,Tel Aviv, special mention: 'CHESS', concordant illust.(triple)



# BEST MAXIMUM CARD WORLD COMPETITION FOR THE YEAR 2015

## CONCOURS MONDIAL DE LA MEILLEURE CARTE MAXIMUM 2015

### 21.- ITALY



**TITLE CASCATA DELLE MARMORE (MARMORE'S FALLS)**

Man-made waterfall created by the ancient Romans. Its total height is 165 m, making it one of the tallest in Italy and the tallest man-made waterfall in Europe. Of its 3 sections, the top is the tallest, at 83 m. It is located 7.7 km from *Terni*, in the region of *Umbria*. Its source is the river *Velino*, after flowing through *Piediluco* lake near the community of *Marmore*. It pours into the valley below formed by the river *Nera*. Its flow is turned on and off, to satisfy the needs of the power company and the tourists alike. Tourists try to be there the moment the gates are opened to see the powerful rush of water.

CREATOR: G. Poggi & C. Rialdi for the A.I.M.

STAMP: Issue: Apr. 10, 2015. For: Tourist Regions

CARD: Universal Postcards, Italy CANCEL: First Day, Terni, special mention '*LOCALITA TURISTICA-VALNERINA*', concordant illustr. (triple).

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**22.- KOREA Rep. (South)**



**TITLE: A DROP OF WATER**

**7th World Water Forum - “Water for our Future”**

The focus was on various global challenges concerning water and measures to address them under the theme “*Water for Our Future.*” There was discussion on possible solutions for water issues. Its objective was to offer substantive assistance to countries suffering water shortages, specifically by sharing scientific and technological know-how.

**CREATOR:** Cheon Ho LEE, President of KMC

**STAMP:** Issue: Mar. 12, 2015 (water-drop shaped self-adhesive stamp).

**For:** 7<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum. **CARD:** Stamp Mania Club, 2015, S. Korea

**CANCEL:** First Day, North Daegu (place where the Forum was held), concordant illustration (triple).



**BEST MAXIMUM CARD WORLD COMPETITION  
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CARTE MAXIMUM 2015  
23.- LIECHTENSTEIN**



**TITLE: ALPINE MOUNTAINS & MEADOWS –  
MALBUNTAL - VIEW FROM AUGSTENBERG 2'365 m**  
In Malbuntal the alpine meadows and mountain pastures are also still used for agriculture. But the Alps have long since been discovered by holiday makers even here. Nature lovers, hikers and winter sports enthusiasts enjoy spending their free time in the picturesque mountain area of Liechtenstein . **CREATOR:** Liechtenstein Post  
**STAMP:**Issue: Sept. 7, 2015 (designer Marco Nescher). For: The Alps as a habitat - Joint issue Liechtenstein/Slovenia. **CARD:** Liechtenstein Post  
**CANCEL:**First Day, Vaduz, special mention : '*LEBENSTRAUM ALPEN*'.

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24.- LUXEMBOURG**



**TITLE: UPPER SURE LAKE REGION AT DUSK  
NATURE PARK UPPER SURE (OEWERSAUER)**

The aim of this Park has been to combine work and recreation in an ecologically useful way. Situated in the NW ancient hilly uplands of the Ardennes, the park is marked by deep valleys, wet meadows, steep forested slopes and a high farmland plateau. At its center is a reservoir that supplies around 70 % of Luxembourg's drinking water.

**CREATOR:** Commission de Maximophilie FSPL

**STAMP:** Issue: Sept. 22, 2015 (Photo by *Raymond Clement*). For: Creation of *Muellerthal* Park and extension of *Our* and *Upper Sûre* Nature Park .

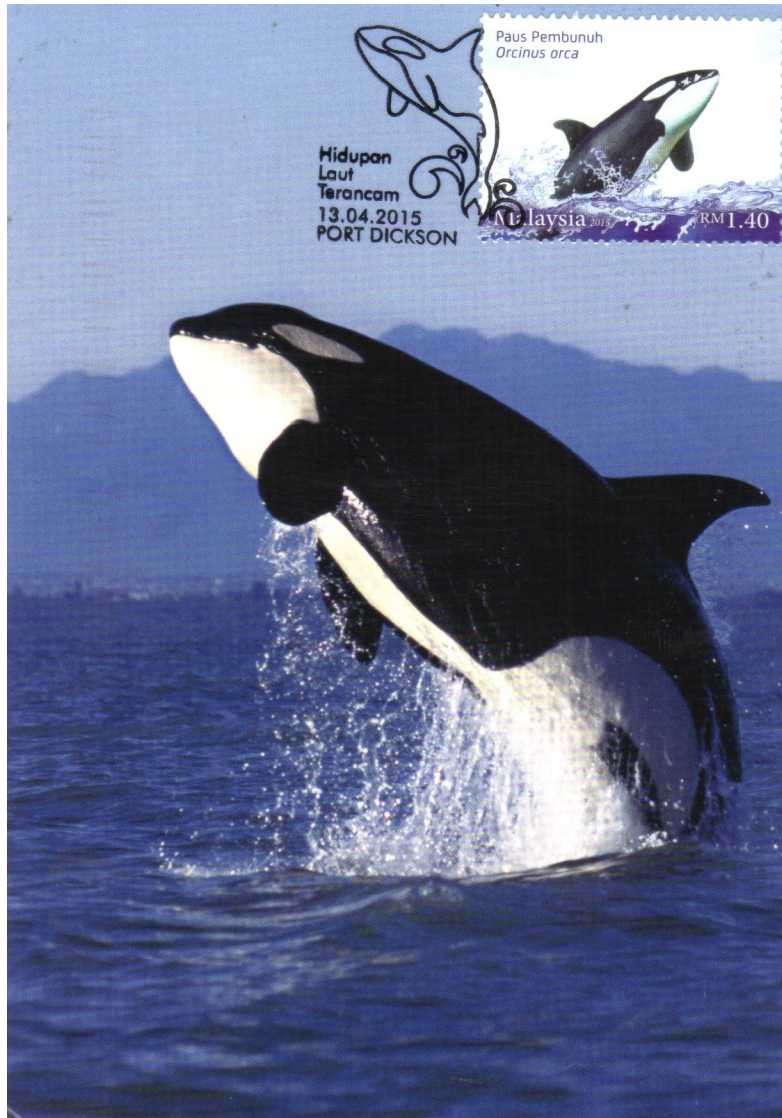
**CARD:** Imprimerie Linden, Luxembourg (Photo by *Raymond Clement*).

**CANCEL:** First Day, d'Esch-sur-Sûre,(Post of this Lake Region), regular.



**BEST MC WORLD COMPETITION FOR THE YEAR 2015  
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**25.- MALAYSIA**



**TITLE: KILLER WHALE (ORCA)**

**CREATOR: Ye Choh San**

**STAMP: Issue: Apr. 13, 2015. For: Endangere Sea Species**

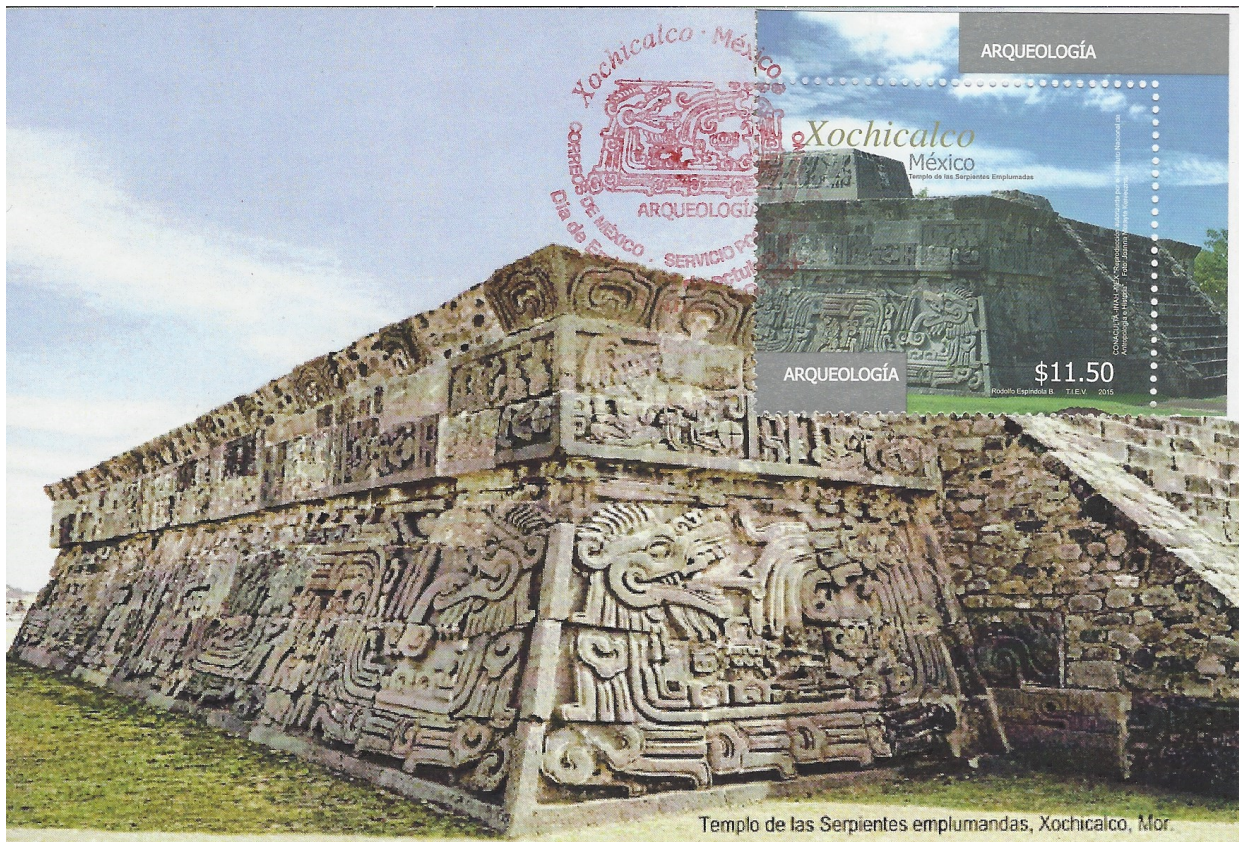
**CARD: GEO, bk edition im Vertrieb von modern times, Germany (Photo by Brandon Cole/Wildlife). CANCEL: First Day, Port Dickson, special mention, concordant illustration (triple).**



# BEST MC WORLD COMPETITION FOR THE YEAR 2015

## CONCOURS MONDIAL DE LA MEILLEURE CM 2015

### 26.- MEXICO



TITLE: **XOCHICALCO**

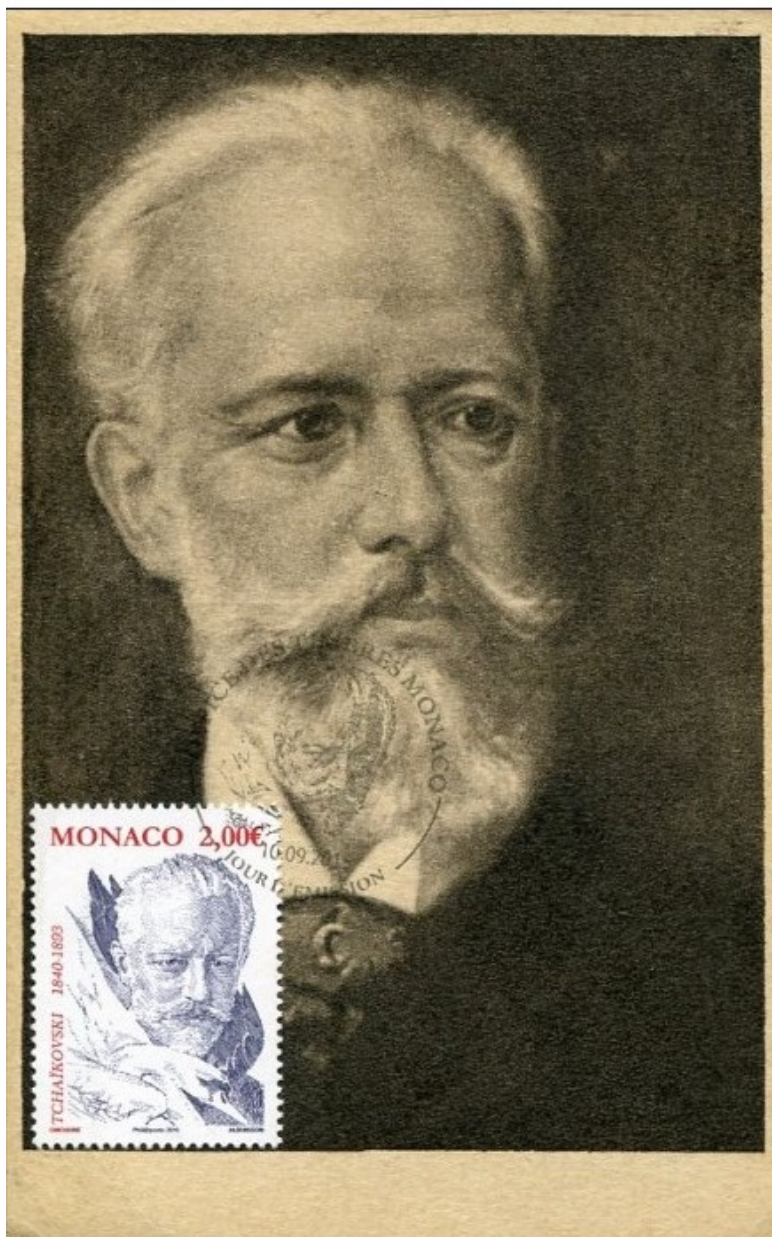
### **PYRAMID OF THE FEATHERED SERPENTS**

Xochicalco, ( located 76 km southwest from Mexico City) an ancient, fortified hilltop city believed to have been inhabited from 650 to 900 and then suddenly abandoned. In the language of the Nahuatl people, also known as Aztecs, Xochicalco means “the place of flowers.” It was inscribed on UNESCO’s World Heritage list in 1999. The Pyramid of the Feathered Serpents, has deeply cut raised relief on all four sides of the building with no less than eight Feathered Serpents wriggling around Maya-style seated figures, who may have represented rulers or priests . CREATOR: Guadalupe Morales Grifaldo  
STAMP: Issue: Oct. 1, 2015 (Set of 5 Stamps). For: Archeology Xochicalco.  
CARD: Commercial Mexican Edition. CANCEL: First Day, Tlalnepantla, special mention: ‘Arqueologia -Xochicalco-Mexico’ concordant illustration (Featherd Serpent as in front of Pyramid) (triple).



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CONCOURS MONDIAL DE LA MEILLEURE CM 2015**

**27.- MONACO**



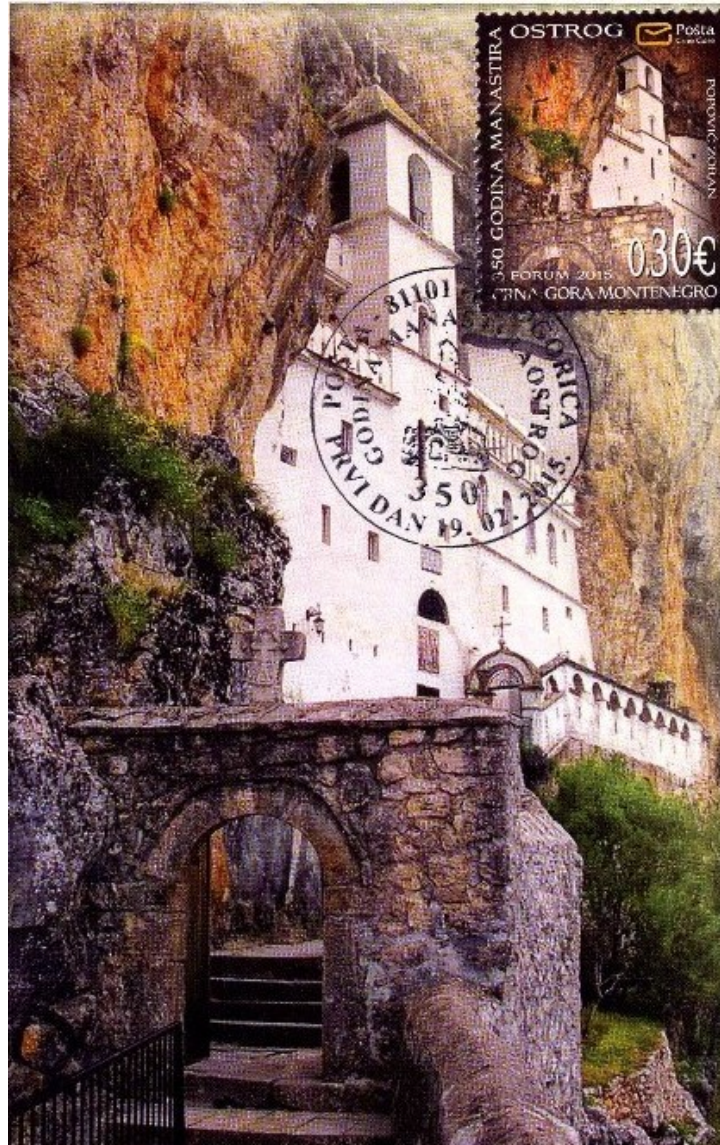
**TITLE: PYOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY,  
COMPOSER 1840-1893. CREATOR: Sergio Berti**

**STAMP: Issue: Sept. 10, 2015. For: 175<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Tchaikovsky**

**CARD: Vintage Commercial Edition**

**CANCEL: First Day, Monaco, concordant illustration (triple)**

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28.- MONTENEGRO**



**TITLE: OSTROG MONASTERY**

*Ostrog Monastery is situated against an almost vertical background, high up in the large rock of *Ostroška Greda*. From the monastery, a superb view of the *Bjelopavlići* plain can be seen. It is located 25 miles NW of *Podgorica*. It is dedicated to *Saint Basil of Ostrog*, who was buried here. This is the most important pilgrimage place in Montenegro.*

**CREATOR: Montenegro Post**

**STAMP: Issue: Feb. 19, 2015. For: 350th Anniversary of Ostrog Monastery**  
**CARD: Montenegro Post. CANCEL: First Day, Podgorica, special mention: '350 GODINA MANASTIRA', concordant illustration (triple).**



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**29.- NETHERLANDS**



**TITLE: VINCENT VAN GOGH**

**SELF-PORTRAIT WITH A STRAW HAT**

Oil painting, Paris: Summer, 1887, Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam

CREATOR: Ronald van der Leeden-Dutch Maximum Card Ass.

STAMP:Issue: Jan. 5, 2015. For: Van Gogh Paintings. CARD: Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam. CANCEL:First Day, Amsterdam, special mention: '*Vincent van Gogh 1851-1890*', concordant illustration (triple).

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**30.- NEW CALEDONIA**



**TITLE: PHARE AMEDEE LIGHTHOUSE**

In 1861, due to the many shipwrecks of boats entering the lagoon, Paris ordered a lighthouse to be built for Noumea. Rigolet, an engineer from the Eiffel Tower workshops, started work in 1862 in Paris. In 1864 it was completed at 56 m . high. Then it was dismantled and divided into 1,265 pieces and transported to New Caledonia

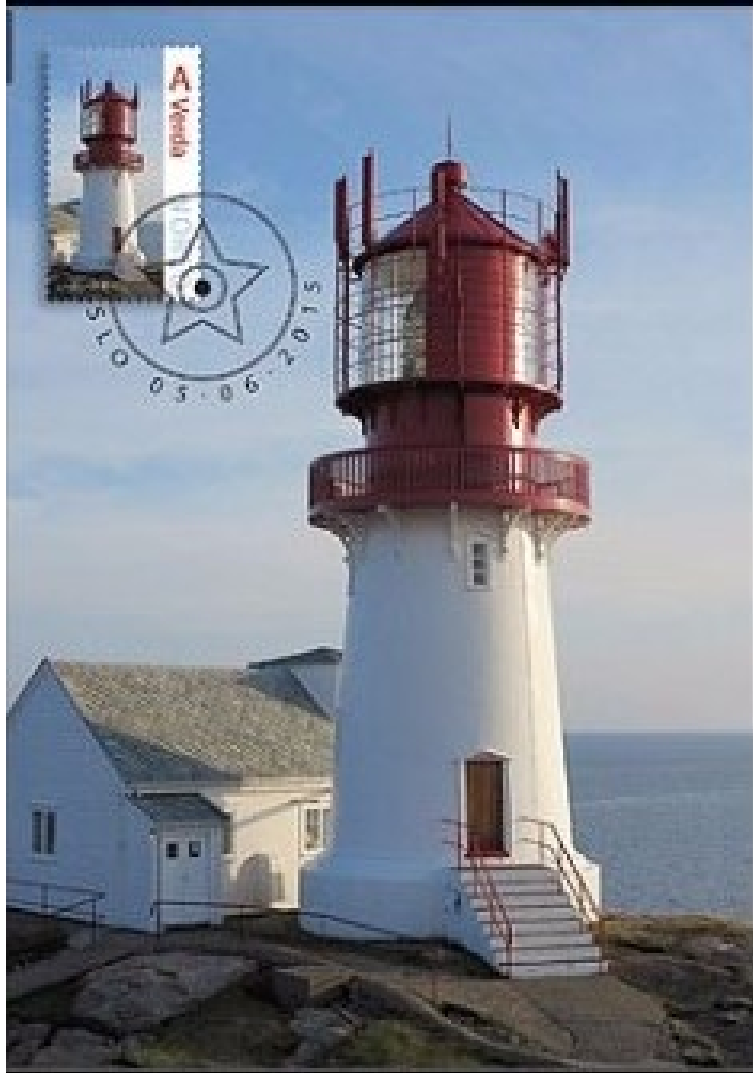
**CREATOR: Jean-Claude ROCHE**

**STAMP: Issue:** Nov. 6, 2015. **For:** 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of lighting.

**CARD:** Commercial Edition. **CANCEL:** First Day, Nouméa, special mention: '1865-2015, 150 anniversaire de l' allumage du phare Amédée', concordant illustration (triple).



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**CONCOURS MONDIAL DE LA MEILLEURE CM 2015**  
**31.- NORWAY**



**TITLE: LINDESNES LIGHTHOUSE**

This is cast iron tower at 16 m high, is Norway's oldest Lighthouse, dating back to 1656. It occupies the southernmost tip of the Norwegian mainland, in the Neset peninsula. At Neset, the powerful currents, often coupled with stormy weather, caused many dramatic shipwrecks. This is part of the story told at Lindesnes lighthouse museum.

CREATOR: Norway Post

STAMP: Issue: June 5, 2015. For: 2014 Norwegian Lighthouses

CARD: Posten Norge AS 2015 (Photo by *Helge Sunde*)

CANCEL: First Day, Oslo, special illustration Star with a dot in the middle is the symbol for a Lighthouse in a nautical chart)

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**32.- POLAND**



TITLE: **EAGLE OWL** (Bubo bubo)

CREATOR: Marian Rawinski

STAMP: Issue: Oct. 23, 2015. For: Polish Birds

CARD: Maximaphily Polish Philatelists Union, Tarnów, 2015

CANCEL: First Day, Warsaw, special mention '*POLSKIE PTAKI*', concordant illustration (triple).



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## CONCOURS MONDIAL DE LA MEILLEURE CARTE MAXIMUM 2015 33.- PORTUGAL



TITLE: **IBERIAN LYNX**, (*Lynx pardinus*)

An endangered species of felid living mainly in the Iberian Peninsula, categorized as endangered by many institutions, including the International Union for the Conservation of Nature. The Iberian lynx is a rabbit specialist with a low ability to adapt its diet. A sharp drop in the population of its main food source, contributed to the feline's decline. The lynx was also affected by the loss of scrubland, its main habitat, to human development.

CREATOR: CNM cnmaximafilia

STAMP: Issue: Sept. 9, 2015. For: Re-introduction of Iberian Lynx in Portugal

CARD: ADP-Mertola Patrimony Defence Association

CANCEL: First Day, Mertola, special mention: '6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Clube Nacional de Maximafilia', concordant illustration (triple)



**BEST MC WORLD COMPETITION FOR THE YEAR 2015  
CONCOURS MONDIAL DE LA MEILLEURE CM 2015**

**34.- ROMANIA**



**TITLE: DALMATIAN PELICAN (*Pelecanus crispus*)**

The *Dalmatian Pelican* is the largest of the pelican species and one of the largest birds. The average length is 170–190cm, with a wingspan just over 3m and the average weight is 11–15kg. It differs from the White Pelican in that it has curly nape feathers, grey legs and greyish-white plumage. Of the eight Pelican species known, two the *Dalmatian Pelican* and the *Great White Pelican* live in Europe. In Romania they come as migratory birds and nest in the summer in the Danube Delta, in large colonies. Since 1951, both species have been declared as Endangered Species. Since 1991, UNESCO has declared the Danube Delta as a World Heritage **Biosphere Reserve**. The *Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve* is a natural treasure, worth being visited and admired.

CREATOR: Nicolae ISTRATE

STAMP: Issue: Apr. 10, 2015 For: Protected Wildlife in Romanian Reserves

CARD: Asociatia Filatelistilor "TOMIS", Constanta, 2015.

CANCEL: June 6, 2015 Sinoie (in the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve),  
special mention: 'ENVIRONMENT WORLD DAY - ZIUA MONDIALA A MEDIULUI',  
concordant illustration (triple)



**BEST MC WORLD COMPETITION FOR THE YEAR 2015  
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**35.- RUSSIA**



**TITLE: COLUMNS OF ANCIENT BASILICA  
(6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> cent.), CHERSONESOS, CRIMEA**

*Chersonesos* was founded by Greek colonists in SW Crimea in 421-422 BC. In Greek the word means "peninsula." It was located on a small peninsula by the Black Sea at the outskirts of Sevastopol in Crimea. "*Tauric*" *Chersonesos* further denotes the location of the colony, that is, "in the lands of the *Taurians*". A warring tribe inhabiting the neighboring mountains. The city existed for 2000 years, and its history is intertwined with that of ancient Greece, Rome, and Byzantium. Life for the *Chersonesites* depended entirely on the agricultural territory, or *chora* adjacent to the city. Its ruins are a Unesco World Heritage Site. This is also where Prince *Vladimir*, leader of *Kievan Russ*, is believed to have been baptised in 988 and introduced Christianity to what is now Russia and Ukraine. CREATOR: Valery Petrov (one example only)

STAMP: Issue: Oct. 23, 2015. For: World Cultural Heritage

CARD: *Mistetstvo* Ukrainian publishing house, 1998 (Photo by *T.Shablovsky*)

CANCEL: First Day, Sevastopol, special mention: '*ANCIENT CITY OF TAURIC CHERSONESE AND ITS CHORA*', concordant illustration (triple)



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CARTE MAXIMUM 2015  
36.- SAN MARINO**



**TITLE: JUVENTUS EMBLEM**

**JUVENTUS ITALIAN SOCCER CHAMPION 2014 - 2015**

This stamp depicts the emblem of JUVENTUS (with a detail of the team's shirt in the background and the Italian shield). Issued to celebrate the winner team of the Italian Soccer Championship 2014-2015.

**CREATOR:** Cesare Rialdi for the A.I.M.

**STAMP:Issue:** June 23, 2015. **For:** Juventus Italian Champion 2014-15

**CARD:** Universal Postcards, Italy

**CANCEL:** First Day, San Marino, special mention '*JUVENTUS CAMPIONE D'ITALIA 2014-2015*', concordant illustration (triple).



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CARTE MAXIMUM 2015**

**37.- SERBIA**



**TITLE: EUROPEAN CRAB APPLE (*Malus sylvestris*)**

**CREATOR: Serbian Posts**

**STAMP: Issue: May 27, 2015 (Designed by *M. Nikolic*). For: Flora of Serbia**

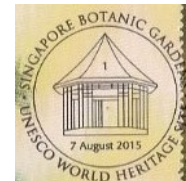
**CARD: Serbian Comm. Edition, 3PM**

**CANCEL: First Day, Belgrade, concordant illustration (triple)**

**BEST MAXIMUM CARD WORLD COMPETITION  
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**38.- SINGAPORE**



**TITLE: BOTANICAL GARDENS – GAZEBO**  
**SINGAPORE’S 1<sup>st</sup> UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE**

**CREATOR: Ye Choh San**

**STAMP: Issue:** Aug. 7, 2015. **For:** UNESCO World Heritage Site

**CARD:** McCraze WHS Series 2015 (Photo by *Angelo Juan Remos*)

**CANCEL:** First Day, Singapore, special mention: ‘*SINGAPORE BOTANICAL GARDENS-UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE*’, concordant illustration (triple)



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CARTE MAXIMUM 2015  
39.- SLOVAKIA**



www.delcampe.net

seven07

**TITLE: ALBATROS 498.104 STEAM LOCOMOTIVE**

The Albatros locomotives, or “Type 1” locomotives, are one of the heaviest, biggest and fastest steam locomotives manufactured for the Czechoslovak State Railways. They surpassed all expectations in the operation. They were able to drag trains weighing up to 1,000 tons at almost 100 kph. The Albatros locomotives had to yield to the rail electrification of the 1960s. All 15 Albatros engines were thus concentrated in Bratislava in 1960. In 1985, it became a part of a museum collection in Bratislava.

CREATOR: Slovakian Post/Submitted by *Julius Molnar*

STAMP: Issue: Apr. 4, 2015. For: Slovakian Steam Locomotives

CARD: Slovakian Post.

CANCEL: First Day, Bratislava, concordant illustration (triple)

# BEST MC WORLD COMPETITION FOR THE YEAR 2015 CONCOURS MONDIAL DE LA MEILLEURE CM 2015

## 40.- SLOVENIA



Veko51

www.delcampe.net

### TITLE: **VELIKA PLANINA - ALPINE REGION**

**Velika Planina** plateau in **Slovenia** with its well-preserved herders' dwellings is located an hour's drive northwards from the Slovenian capital of Ljubljana is a popular tourist attraction. Ever since prehistoric times, the plateau has been used by shepherders over the summer months. The typical huts depicted on the stamp are spread over the mountain pasture in the form of dispersed settlements. The oldest among them have an oval layout. The kitchen, where cheese is made now as before, is always situated in the middle.

CREATOR: Vekoslav Krahulec.

STAMP: Issue: Sept. 25, 2015 For: The Alps as a habitat - Joint issue Slovenia/Liechtenstein. CARD: Slovenian edition by Artisk, Dobova.

CANCEL: Oct. 1, 2015 Stahovica (nearest post office, which opened on Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015), concordant illustration (*Herders' Hut*) (triple)



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**41.- SPAIN**



**TITLE: 'MARTORELL' STEAM LOCOMOTIVE 120-2112**

**CREATOR: ASEMA (Spanish Maximaphily Ass.)**

**STAMP:** Issue: Oct. 9, 2015. For: 150<sup>th</sup> Anniv. Tarragona Martorell Railway  
**CARD:** Spanish Comm. Edition (Stamp was based on this exact Card Image)  
**CANCEL:** First Day, Sant Sadurni d'Anoia (local of one of 11 train stops),  
special mention '150 ANNIVERSARIO FERROCARRIL TARRAGONA-MARTORELL',  
exact concordant illustration (triple).

**BEST MAXIMUM CARD WORLD COMPETITION  
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CONCOURS MONDIAL DE LA MEILLEURE  
CARTE MAXIMUM 2015  
42.- ST. PIERRE & MIQUELON**



**TITLE: PHARE DE LA POINTE AUX CANONS  
LIGHTHOUSE**

The point is named for the cannons of the nearby historic fort. The lighthouse was the front light of a range from 1887 to the 1960s. It is an octagonal stone tower with gallery, painted white with a horizontal red band. Active; focal plane 10 m; red light, 3s on, 1s off. 11 m. Located at the end of a stone pier in the harbor at Saint-Pierre. Accessible by walking the pier.

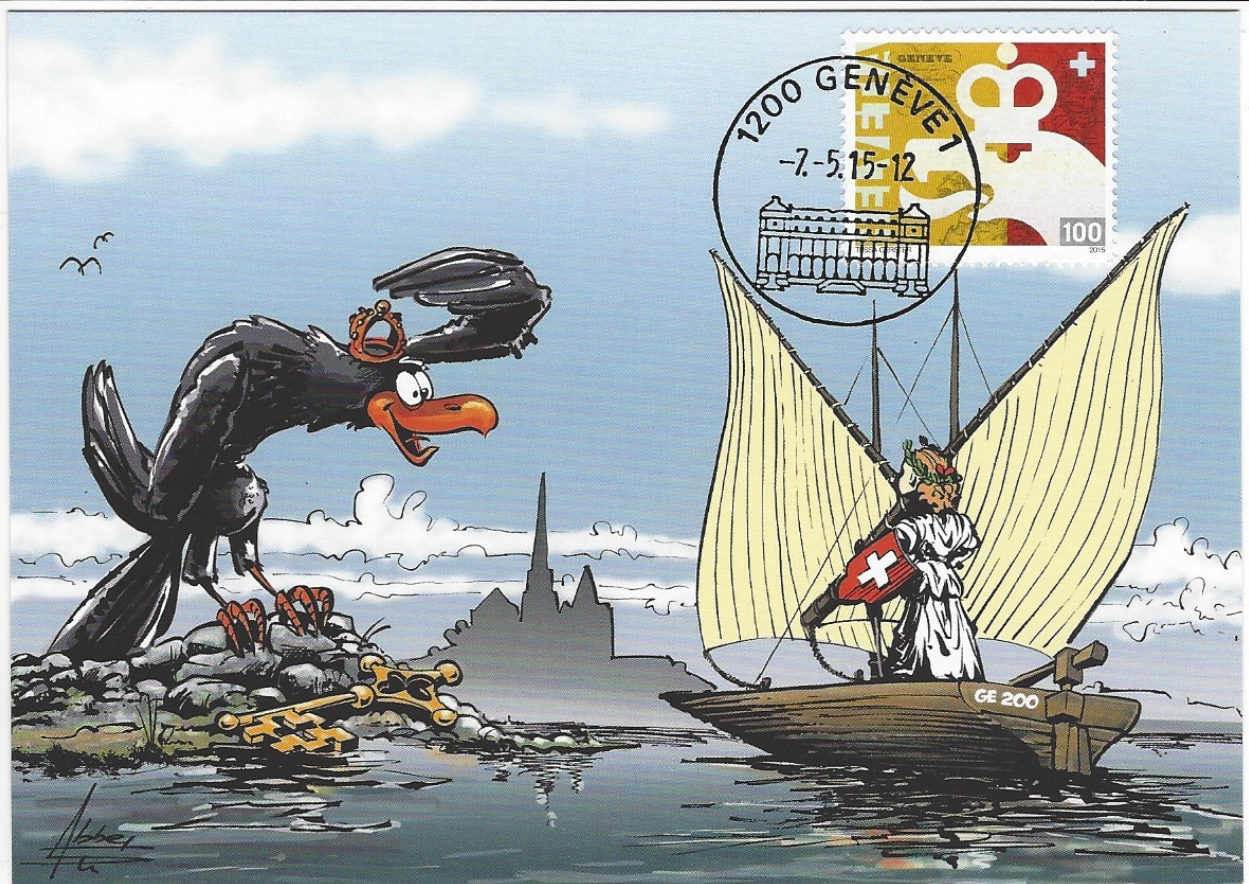
CREATOR: Jean-Claude ROCHE

STAMP: Issue: Sept. 23, 2015. For: Sites of St. Pierre & Miquelon

CARD: Commercial Edition. CANCEL: First Day, Saint-Pierre, special mention: '*Le phare de la pointe aux canons*', concordant illustration (triple).



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CONCOURS MONDIAL DE LA MEILLEURE  
CARTE MAXIMUM 2015  
43.- SWITZERLAND (SUISSE)**



**TITLE: GENEVA CANTON**

**BICENTANARY IN THE SWISS CONFEDERATION**

Geneva is evoked by the head of the Crowned Eagle on yellow and red background of the local arms. The postcard depicts the Crowned Eagle perched on the Niton rocks of Geneva (origin of elevation measuring in Switzerland) joyfully welcoming the arrival by a sailing boat of *Helvetia*, the allegorical figure of the Swiss Confederation.

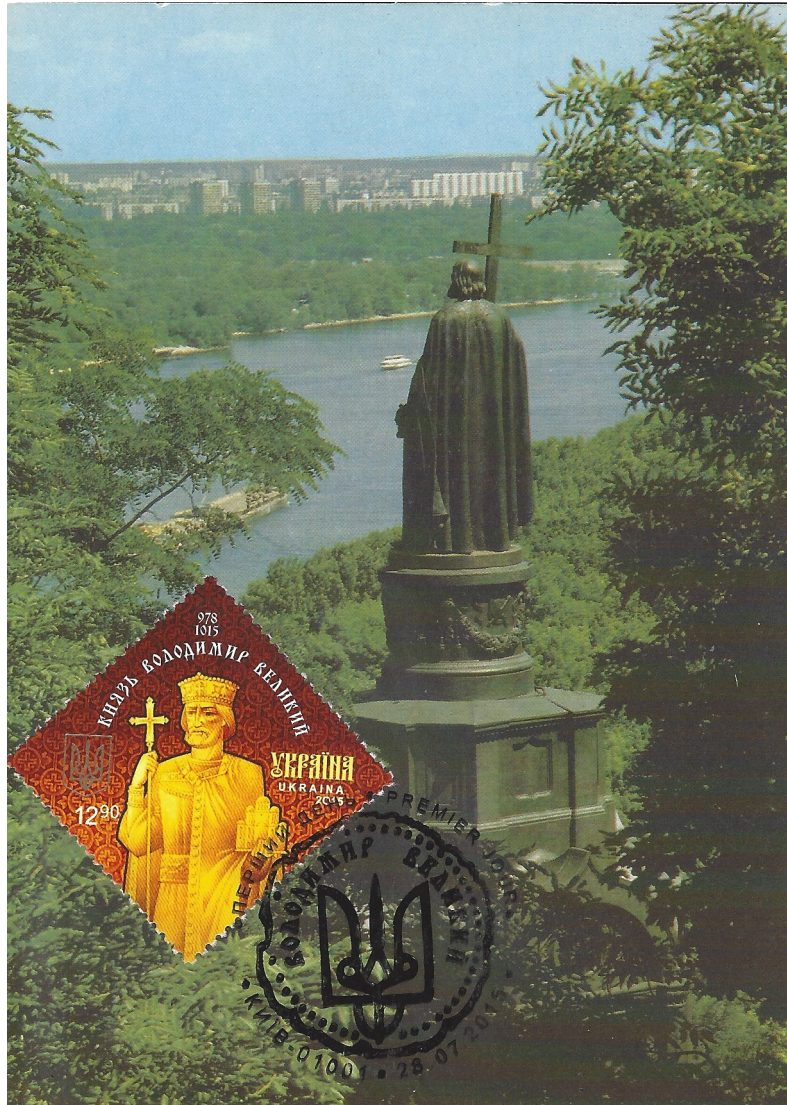
**CREATOR: Ass. Maximaphile Suisse**

**STAMP: Issue: May 7, 2015. For: 200 years in the Swiss confederation**

**CARD: Club Philatelique de Meyren & Union Philatelique de Geneve (designer *Philippe Abbet*). CANCEL: First Day, Geneve, special illustration**



**BEST MC WORLD COMPETITION FOR THE YEAR 2015**  
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**44.- UKRAINE**



**TITLE: VLADIMIR THE GREAT (978-1015)**

**CREATOR: Veslav SAVIN**

Vladimir the Great, Prince of Novgorod, Grand Prince of Kiev and ruler of Kievan Rus' from 980 to 1015. Vladimir converted to Christianity in 988 and Christianized the Kievan Rus'. On Card: This is a dominating Monument dedicated to Vladimir the Great, built in 1853, in Kiev on the slopes of Dnieper river. The bronze statue depicts him in a coat with a big cross in his right hand and a hat in his left, stands 4.4m tall, on a 16m tall pedestal.

STAMP: Issue: July 28, 2015. For: 1000 Death Anniversary.

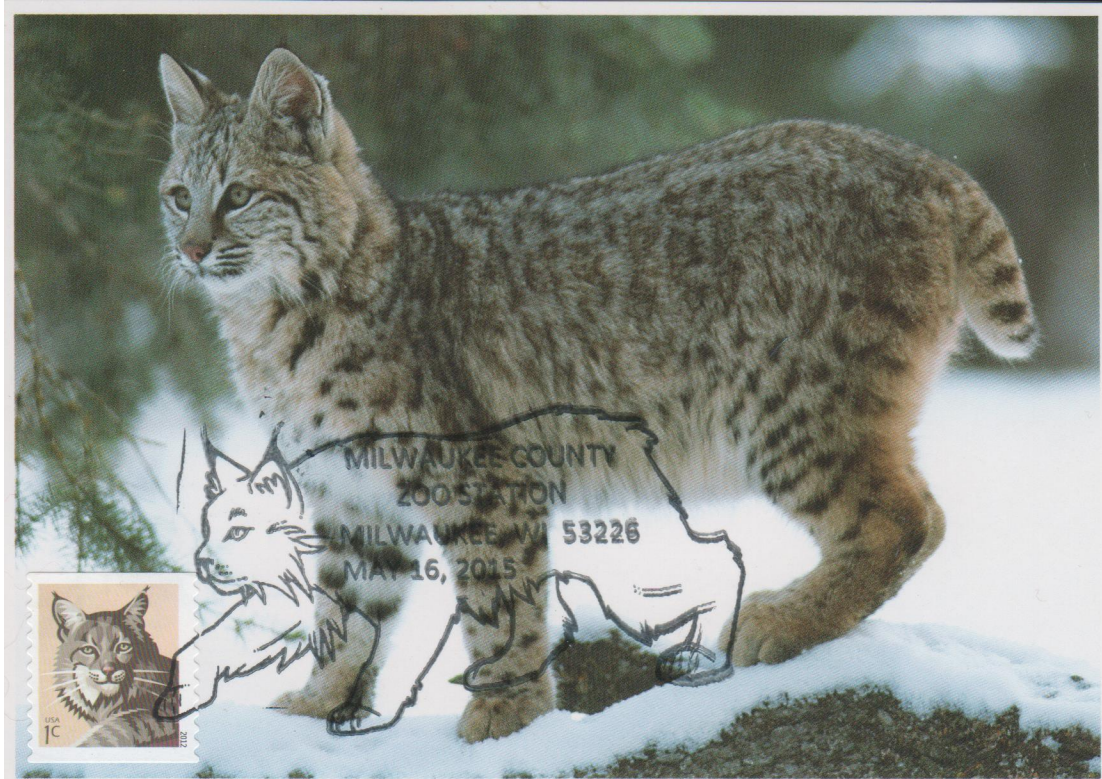
CARD: Soviet Stationary, 1991. CANCEL: First Day, Kiev, special illustration and mention: 'PRINCE VOLODYMYR'.



# BEST MC WORLD COMPETITION FOR THE YEAR 2015

## CONCOURS MONDIAL DE LA MEILLEURE CM 2015

### 45.- U.S.A.



#### TITLE: **BOBCAT** (*Felis rufus*)

The Bobcat is a medium-size cat, and a proficient hunter, stalking its prey with patience and stealth. Much of its diet consists of rabbits and rodents, but it is not particular when it comes to choosing its next meal. They are found in a wide range of habitats, including mountains, forests, and deserts. The color of their coats can range from beige to brown, with dark spots and stripes. Tufts of fur on the tips of their ears, and short bobbed tails, distinguish them from other felines. Bobcats are mostly nocturnal and live in solitude, finding dens in caves or rocks. In the wild, bobcats can live more than 12 years.

CREATOR: Dorin Cojocariu

STAMP: Issue: June 1, 2012 (1cent, with additional 34c stamps on the back to cover the Domestic Rate). For: State University Bobcats Mascot, San Marcos, TX. CARD: Impact, Eldorado Hills, CA, 'North American Wild Life', nr. 8454 (Photo by *Allan & Sandy Carey*).

CANCEL: May 16, 2015, Milwaukee WI, special mention, concordant illustration (Large drawing of a Bobcat) (triple).

**BEST MC WORLD COMPETITION FOR THE YEAR 2015  
CONCOURS MONDIAL DE LA MEILLEURE CM 2015**

**46.- VATICAN**



**TITLE: CREATION OF THE SUN, MOON, AND PLANTS**

**SISTINE CHAPEL CEILING, VATICAN, Fresco by Michelangelo 1511**  
Scene detail of the *Creation of the Sun, Moon, and Plants*, depicted in the large field of the vault of the 8th bay. In this scene detail, the figure of the Lord appears, as he is about to give shape, with his outstretched arms, to the incandescent disk of the sun and the cold one of the moon. The whole scene is divided unequally: the great disk of the sun is to the left and the whole of the right is dominated by the figure of the Creator who surrounded by four children. On the left, further back from the picture plane, the Creator is depicted once again (not shown here) as he heads toward the earth, going away from foreground.

**CREATOR: Vatican Post**

**STAMP: Issue: Feb. 19, 2015. For: UN's International Year of Light**

**CARD: Series Vaticano-Papa Francesco, nr. 5/2015**

**CANCEL: First Day, Vatican, special illustration and mention 'ANNO INTERNAZIONALE DELLE LUCE'.**



# BEST MAXIMUM CARD WORLD COMPETITION FOR THE YEAR 2015

## CONCOURS MONDIAL DE LA MEILLEURE CARTE MAXIMUM 2015

### 47.- VENEZUELA



#### TITLE: **VENEZUELAN COCOA**

This as a strategic symbol of our country, originating from the first farmings of South America, where natives of the *Alto Orinoco* offered us this wonderful fruit loaded with an explosion of extraordinary tastes, distinguishing itself as the best “Cocoa of pure Aroma” of the world *Theobroma* (“food of the gods”) Cocoa. It originated from the Amazon up to Maracaibo Lake; and it extended itself up to the South of Mexico.

CREATOR: Jose Luis Garcia (member of ASOFILCA)

STAMP: Issue: Oct. 1, 2015. For: Promoting Venezuelan Cocoa

CARD: Ipostel, Venezuelan Posts, Fundacion Nuestra Tierra

CANCEL: First Day, Caracas, special mention: ‘*Cacao Venezolano 100% Fino da Aroma*’, concordant illustration (triple).

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CONCOURS MONDIAL DE LA MEILLEURE CM 2015**

**48.- CHINA**



**TITLE: FATHER'S DAY**

**FATHER CARRYING SON ON SHOULDERS**

**CREATOR: KE Wenda**

**.STAMP: Issue: June 13, 2015. For: Father's Day – Gratitude to Father**

**CARD: Commercial Chinese edition. CANCEL: First Day, Beijing, special illustration (Child's hand in Father's palm).**