Posta Stamps

Faroe Islands No. **55**

August 2023



Posta
FAROE ISLANDS

First Faroese NFT stamps

Faroese stamp No. 1000

Mörck's stamp No. 1000

Posta Faroe Islands is Writing History:
Faroese NFT stamps

The Faroe Islands have issued postage stamps for almost half a century. We now enter the digital stamp scene, as Posta Faroe Islands issues NFT stamps as the first Nordic Postal Service.

These new crypto stamps – also known as NFT stamps (Non-Fungible Tokens) – are issued under the name Stamps of Maybe. Therefore, unlike other conventional Faroese stamps, they do not have FO numbers but their own NFT numbers.

The NFT stamps are quite distinct from regular stamps - but they can still be used for franking. Each stamp has a digital twin on the Internet. How this twin will look depends both on external circumstances and yourself, the owner of a crypto stamp.

The digital stamp is linked to *Veðurstova Føroya* (The Faroese Weather Station). This means that the weather in the Faroe Islands influences how the twin will look at the time of its activation. Each NFT stamp has a QR code to be used when the digital twin is activated. The activation time is entirely up to you - you can activate immediately or wait until the perfect moment arrives. It is, therefore, a kind of digital time capsule.

Multi-artist Heiðrik á Heygum has been given the task of designing the first issue of the Stamps of Maybe. The motif of the four seasons is appropriate for this occasion.

The four seasons

In this series, Heiðrik á Heygum gives us his unique view of the four seasons in the Faroe Islands. He does so with four beautiful picture collages or bouquets, as we can also call them, representing the year's seasons. Each bouquet contains flowers, various other plants, birds, and animals. The Faroese have always been very attached to nature and nature's resources, as evidenced in these pictures.

Spring

Unsurprisingly, Heiðrik has chosen the lamb, the oystercatcher and the marsh marigold for the spring bouquet. Nothing is more reminiscent of spring than the familiar sound of the oystercatcher and the little lambs playing in the infield. Nature wakes up, the grass grows, and flowers, animals and people delight in the long-awaited victory of light over darkness. Both the infields as well as the outfields abound with life. The marigold, the national flower of the Faroe Islands, begins to bloom and spreads its yellow colour across small streams and other moist areas. If you go for a walk on a beautiful spring day, you will hear the birds singing happily, celebrating this wonderful time of year.

Summer

In summer, grass and plants are in full bloom, and the Faroe Islands are never as green and flourishing as in summer. Red clover, dandelions and other flowers adorn our summer bouquet, along with two of the Faroe Islands' most famous birds, the puffin and the gannet. You can also see the tail fin of a pilot whale protruding from the bouquet. At this time of year, the Faroe Islands show their most beautiful side

— days with a calm breeze, brilliant sunshine, and the sea shining like a mirror.

An old Faroese song has this refrain, "It is so beautiful, so beautiful to live in the Faroe Islands", and we can only salute the poet, Friðrik Petersen, for this excellent and totally correct observation. It is beautiful to live in the Faroe Islands.

Autumn

The grass is fading in the field, and the migratory birds have moved south to spend the winter in warmer climes. Now the time has come to harvest potatoes and other crops. This is also the season when the sheep are herded down from the mountains to their final destination in the abattoir. The autumn bouquet also contains the ram and the fulmar, along with mushrooms and faded leaves. The days are getting shorter and the evenings longer. But autumn is also an exciting time. Schools and other activities are starting again, and many young people will be travelling abroad to study. We sincerely hope most of them, like the migratory birds, will return home after concluding their studies.

Winter

It is no secret that the Faroese winter can be harsh and windy. Low-pressure areas gather over the islands, affecting the weather. Thunderstorms and hurricanes may not be commonplace, but they are not entirely rare. Seeing the northern lights dancing over the mountain tops on a beautiful, clear, snow-white winter evening is a unique experience. These two natural phenomena, snow and northern lights, adorn the winter bouquet along with the hare and the goose. Geese have been kept on the Faroe Islands since the settlement period, and the Faroese goose is believed to be a direct descendant of the geese brought by the Vikings. The hare, however, is a recent arrival in the Faroe Islands. The first hares were brought to the Faroe Islands in 1855, from Kragerø in Norway. The hunting season for hares is from November 2nd to December 31st.

Thus the cycle of the year continues. The seasons change, and each season has its distinctive charm. Nature wakes up, blooms, fades and goes to sleep – and wakes up again, repeating the endless cycle.

Order at www.Stampsofmaybe.fo

Maud C. á Geilini



The four seasons / Artist: Heiðrik á Heygum

Posta celebrates

Stamp No. 1000



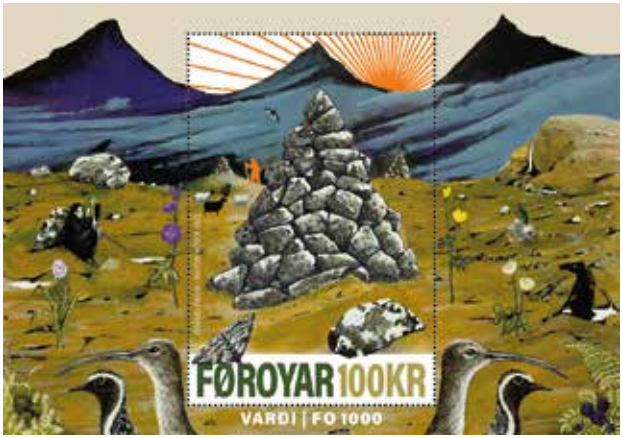
The postage stamp is the mirror of a nation. It is a small glimpse into the soul of the country, its appearance, history, flora, fauna, life and manners.

On 10 August 2023, Posta Faroe Islands issues stamp No. 1000 at the Great American Stamp Show (GASS) 2023 in Cleveland, Ohio, USA. This is truly a cause for celebration.

The renowned Faroese artist Edward Fuglø designed and illustrated the beautiful miniature sheet with a cairn motif in its center. Edward Fuglø has designed many Faroese stamps over the years, and he became our first choice for designing our stamp No. 1000.

The mini sheet depicts a cairn in the outback on a summer evening. A summer atmosphere surrounds the cairn with seasonal plants, birds and animal life. Supernatural beings, fairies and water kelpies are also part of the picture.

As mentioned below, a cairn can have different symbolic meanings – it can serve both as a signpost and a fixed point.



Stamp No. 1000: The Cairn
Artist: Edward Fuglø
Engraving: Martin Mörck

Stamp No. 1000 can be seen as a memento of Posta's numerous printings since 1975 when the first Faroese stamps were issued.

The stamp is a small culture bearer that reaches far beyond national frontiers, right into the remotest corners of the globe. On a small piece of paper, just a few centimetres across, it is possible to tell the history of many and sundry, and this has always been the aim with Faroese postage stamps.

The renowned Norwegian-Swedish artist and engraver Martin Mörck engraved the cairn and butterfly motifs which are printed in a combination of intaglio and offset.

The Cairn

The cairn is a cone-shaped landmark or sun marker, made up of a mound of rough stones piled up by human hands. Since ancient times, cairns have been found all over the Nordic region as signposts and landmarks. The town name *Varde* in Denmark is indeed derived from this landmark.

In the Faroe Islands, cairns are always connected to the old village paths. It is "*gonguvarðar*", cairns serving as guideposts. Some cairns also mark the world corners of a settlement, such as *Vesturvarði* (West Cairn), *Norðurvarði* (North Cairn) and *Suðurvarði* (South Cairn) or cairns scoring the position of the sun. They are found in place names such as *Middagavarði* (Midday Cairn) or *Nónvarði* (nón = 3 p.m.). Cairns, in their monumental form, thus serve both as signposts and fixed points. *Kongavarðarnir* (King's Cairns), which today refer to the neighbourhood building *Undir Kongavarða* close to Tórshavn, were built in 1907, on the occasion of King Frederik the 8th's visit to the Faroe Islands.

From ancient times, the Faroe Islands have been a rural community where the settlement itself is surrounded by the infield (Faroese: *bøur*). Outside the settlement, separated by stone fences, lies the outfield (Faroese: *hagi*). Ordinarily, people stayed within the fence between the outfield and the infield. If you went outside, you had some particular purpose in mind. It was frowned upon, and even forbidden, for unauthorized persons to enter the outfield. However, shepherds and bird catchers were allowed to make their way to the mountains to catch birds. Exceptions were also made for people bringing peat from the peat stores in the outback, and in the summer, and, of course, for milkmaids who went out to milk the free-ranging cows. They did not want the sheep to be disturbed. If you went into outfield without a purpose, you might be suspected of being a sheep thief. If a sheep thief was caught, the punishment was severe. Meeting them could be dangerous, and lonely hikers walking their legal paths would avoid that.

The cairns marked the legal paths from one settlement to the other. On these paths one could feel reasonably safe from sheep thieves and supernatural beings. Hog errands could lead to you meeting the hidden people, e.g., the

nymph sitting outside her mound spinning and wishing for a man to approach. If a man joined her, he was offered a drink of nectar, a magical potion. If he forgot to blow off the foam, she attacked him. The water kelpie, a supernatural creature, lived in lakes and larger streams. The kelpie could transform into a cute dog or a beautiful horse, trying to lure children and adults to its lake. If they touched it, the kelpie caught them by its tail and dragged them into the lake's depths.

The outfield was thus a dangerous area, where you preferably only went in daylight, but something might prevent your departure, and then leave too late. Everything became more sinister in the dusk and the darkness, and supernatural forces approached the wayfarer. The light of the moon could also show eerie formations in the landscape. Even in daylight, one was not out of danger. The fog could become so dense that you couldn't even see your hands, so the only trail available was the old, well-trodden path. There are stories of milkmaids who lost their way in the fog and strayed right into the abyss. It could even get worse in the cold and snow of winter, and then the best advice was to stick to the cairn you had reached without sitting down to rest. There are stories of men who kept awake by dismantling and rebuilding a cairn. They did this even several times to stay awake and keep warm. If they sat down, they fell into a deadly sleep.

Thus, the cairns showed the right way and became invaluable guides for people in the dangerous outback days of old. It was not until modern times, with a different perception of nature and wanting to experience nature, that people created problems for themselves when walking in the countryside.

The cairn has gained importance as a monumental symbol in Faroese history, but also as a fixed point in people's lives and as a symbol of prominent people. The first Faroese literary society, which since 1921 has published the literary magazine *Varðin* (The Cairn), implying a variety of meanings. It is also no coincidence that one of the largest business and shipping companies in the Faroe Islands, established in the settlement of Gøta in 1985, took the time-honoured and symbolic name, *Varðin*.

Jóan Pauli Joensen, Dr. Phil. in Ethnology



Cairn with a view to Koltur island
Photo: iStock

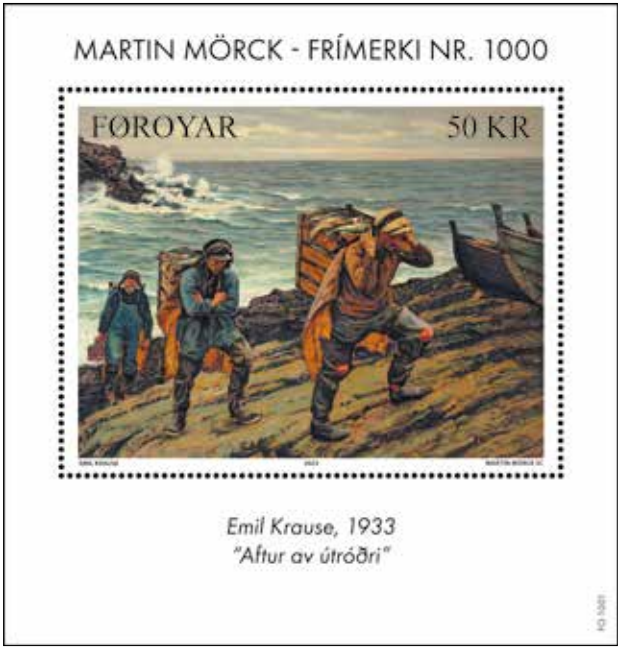
Mörck reaches a historic milestone

Stamp No. 1000



Martin Mörck, the most productive living stamp designer and engraver in the world today, will celebrate the issuance of his 1,000th stamp commission on August 11th in Cleveland, Ohio, USA. This stamp will be issued by Posta Faroe Islands.

As of that date, Mörck's 1,000 different designs and/or engravings will have appeared on 1,152 stamps issued by 28 postal administrations around the world. 48 of these Mörck productions will have been issued by the Faroe Islands: forty of them as ordinary stamps while eight of them as franking labels (vending machine stamps).



Martin Mörck's stamp No. 1000: Returning from fishing
Painting: Emil Krause
Engraving: Martin Mörck

Speaking of the total stamp count, I would like to highlight one important difference in terms of how Posta and Mörck count their stamps. Posta does not include the franking labels in their total stamp count while Mörck does. Posta classifies franking labels in a separate category from ordinary stamps although both of them are used for the purpose of postage. Mörck as an artist includes every piece of paper used for postage, bearing his artwork, in the total count of his stamps.

As a passionate collector of Mörck's works, I always had a keen interest in playing a role in conceptualization and development of his 1,000th stamp. Knowing Martin's genuine love for the Faroe Islands (see my Posta Stamps No. 51 article) and my own adoration of the Faroes, it has all along been my dream to have the Mörck Stamp No. 1000 to be issued by the Faroe Islands.

In July 2021, I made my initial concept proposal for Mörck's 1,000th stamp to Svanbjørg Manai who was the Head of Posta Stamps at the time. My proposal was well-received. We had intermittent discussions on this topic along the way, but did not finalize it as a project until February 2022 when I met Svanbjorg, Ingun Olsen, the new Head of Posta Stamps, and Martin at the London 2022 International Stamp Exhibition. After our detailed discussions in London, we agreed that the stamp motif should be related to the sea, as Martin is a seafaring person, reflect the cultural identity of the Faroe Islands, and include the Faroese landscape. Our preference was using a Faroese painting if we could find one that matches the agreed criteria. Besides having an interest in this special milestone issue, it was also my aspiration for some time that Mörck's 1,000th stamp should be the largest ever-known hand-engraved stamp. So, I expressed this desire of mine during our discussions. In the end, we agreed on this goal as well.



Mörck hand engraving his 1,000th stamp on a steel plate
Photo: Armağan Özdinç

For the next step, Svanbjørg started searching through the Faroese artwork collections and identified a few paintings, but we could not decide on any of them. One day, Svanbjørg told me that she came across one painting that she liked very much when visiting Edward Fuglø, a well-known Faroese artist. It was the 1933 Emil Krause painting titled "*Returning from fishing*" hanging on the dining room wall of Edward's house. The motif of the painting was matching our initial agreed criteria. Afterwards, we shared the image of this painting with Martin who also liked it and decided to engrave it for his 1,000th stamp.

Once the motif was chosen, I started working on the layout design of Mörck stamp No. 1,000 and its minisheet together with Durita Jacobsen from Posta. Until this day, the largest ever known hand-engraved stamp belongs to Czesław Słania, the legendary Polish engraver. That one is Słania's 1,000th stamp issued by Post Sweden in 2000. For this stamp, he engraved a fragment of a Baroque style ceiling fresco from the royal summer residence at *Drottningholm Palace* near Stockholm. The dimensions of that stamp motif inside the perforated area is 75 x 55 mm. It was our goal to set a new record and thus defined the engraved area size of the Mörck stamp No. 1,000 as 82 x 62 mm.

In August 2022, I visited Fuglø at his house in Klaksvík and saw the original Krause painting to be engraved by Martin with my own eyes. It was totally a different experience for me seeing the actual painting. My initial reaction was "Wow"! It is a beautiful oil canvas painting sized 128 x 98 cm. The painting depicts three tired Faroese fishermen, returning from fishing, carrying their catch in a wooden crate on their back on the rugged shores of Viðareiði while enjoying smoking a pipe. The actual location of the painting motif can be found on the right side of Rt. 70 near Viðareiði boat ramp after exiting the Viðareiði Tunnel driving into the town. Edward told me that he acquired this painting because his grandfather was a fisherman from Viðareiði. He sees his grandfather whenever he looks at this painting.

Danish painter Emil A. Krause (1871-1945) visited the Faroe Islands twice in the early twentieth century. During his visits, he did a number of paintings depicting the Faroese life and

landscape. He was extremely good at characterizing people, and the environment they lived in, in his beautiful paintings that became important to our understanding of the Faroese society in those years.

Besides engraving the stamp, Martin also designed and illustrated the cachet and cancellation of the FDC. The cachet depicts a profile of Mörck while engraving his 1,000th stamp. The location of the first day cancellation will be Klaksvík where the original painting is located.

This August, history will be written at the Great American Stamp Show (GASS) in Cleveland on multiple fronts. Mörck will be the second stamp artist ever reaching the 1,000th milestone after Słania. At the same time, Mörck will be the engraver who engraved the largest ever known stamp while Posta Faroe Islands will be the postal administration issuing the largest ever known hand-engraved stamp. Let's not miss witnessing history. See you all in Cleveland!

Armaĝan Özdinç



Mörck rendering a large size pen-and-ink illustration of the Krause painting in an engraved style to be used for image transferring to a steel plate.
Photo: Armaĝan Özdinç

Joint issue with Greenland

Huginn Mission



In 2023, ESA astronaut Andreas Mogensen will go on his new mission to the International Space Station, ISS.

The mission has been named Huginn, named after one of Odin's ravens, and in connection with the mission, Posta Faroe Islands and Tusass Greenland are publishing a joint publication in cooperation with ESA - European Space Agency.

Andreas will go on his first long-term mission to the International Space Station in late summer 2023, where he will spend half a year on board. Here he will carry out a large collection of scientific experiments, including 10 experiments from Denmark, ranging from virtual reality and sleep to climate science.

When Posta was contacted by the University of Århus in Denmark, we were not asked to illustrate the exact purpose of the mission. Instead, we were asked if we could deliver an illustration of ravens, and Huginn in particular. We offered to make a stamp, based on the mission's title - Odin's mythical raven Huginn - and how it works as a symbol of science - the gathering of scientific information.

Huginn

Huginn and Munin Fly every day
Over the grounds of the Earth. I fear that Huginn
Might not return
But am yet more worried about Munin.

This is how Odin refers to his two ravens in the Old Norse Edda-lay "Grimnirsmál." In Norse mythology, Odin is the main deity, the god of the sky, wisdom, and the art of poetry – ruler of the divine sphere, which includes the world of the gods, Asgard, as well as Midgard, the world of men.

Chaos vs. Cosmos

Old Norse mythology describes a constant alternation between Chaos and Cosmos. Cosmos, the organized world, where gods and men rule and live, stands in contrast to Chaos, the unorganized world, which actually consists of the same components, just in chaotic disarray - and where "giants" and other creatures of chaos have free rein. Chaos is represented by the borderlands "Udgard", whose inhabitants are most often anthropomorphic descriptions of the untameable forces of nature (the wild sea, wind, fire, volcanoes, etc.) as well as the things that lie beyond the control and knowledge of gods and humans.

Odin – the science

Huginn – the scientific exploration
Odin is the wisest of all gods. He constantly keeps informed about the state of the universe - and searches and explores the unknown. In his continuous quest of knowledge, he uses, among other things, his two ravens, Huginn and Munin. "Huginn" means "thought/the one who thinks" - the ability to think and observe - while "Munin" means "memory/the one who remembers" - the ability to remember and experience. (Here I must add that "hugur", in Faroese and Icelandic, still means thought/thinking. We even have a term: "hugflog" – the flight of thought, about thinking/imagining).

Every day Huginn and Munin fly over the lands and grounds of the Earth - and when they return home to Odin in the evening, they sit at his throne and tell what they have seen, heard and experienced. Based on the ravens' information, Odin draws his conclusions and increases his knowledge of the Nordic universe and its state.

The name "Huginn" for a scientific space expedition is particularly well chosen. In that context, you can see



The Milky Way rising below our planet. Photographed from the International Space Station (ISS).
Photo: ESA

Odin as a symbol for science itself - and Huginn as an asset for increased knowledge. The expedition collects scientific results, which are passed on to science, which processes them based on existing knowledge and experience.

The astronaut is Odin's raven – and Odin himself, his employer, the science.

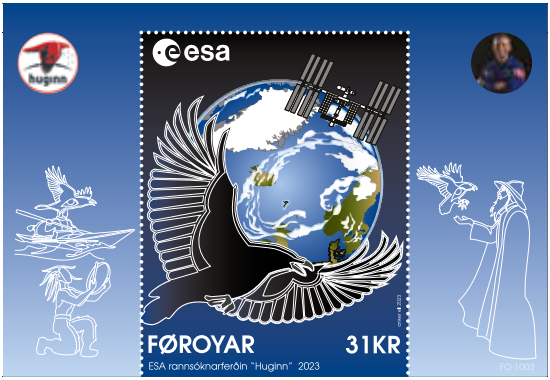
The Shaman – the Angakok

Greenland is a physical part of the Nordic countries. Culturally and linguistically, however, the Greenlanders do not belong to the Norse sphere, but rather to the Inuit cultural circle, which includes Greenland, Canada, Alaska and, in part, Arctic Russia. It therefore goes without saying that the Norse Huginn is not found in Greenlandic culture.

There is however a rather special common feature, shared by the Inuit culture and the old Norse culture - shamanism. When Odin sends Huginn and Munin out into the different worlds of the Norse universe, he appears as the shaman, who, via his animistic helper spirits, obtains information about the state of things. In the Inuit cultures, the angakok, the shaman, also uses his helper spirits to retrieve information about the big world outside the settlement.

At the beginning of the last century, the Danish ethnologist and linguist, William Thalbitzer, wrote down a traditional poem in Eastern Greenland, which describes a kind of ritual conversation between the angakok Akvkos and his helper spirit Qaartuluk, "the raven." In the poem, Qaartuluk has exactly the same function as Huginn, it flies out into the chaotic universe and refers what it sees and experiences to the angakok, at home in the settlement.

The line drawing on the left side of the stamp sheet, depicts the scene where the Greenlandic angakok communicates with the raven spirit Qaartukuk - while the illustration on the right side of the sheet depicts Odin in the process of receiving Huginn, at home in Asgård. Notice that both ravens have an ornamental eye on their body, which symbolizes that they are the "eye of the shaman" - and not ordinary ravens.

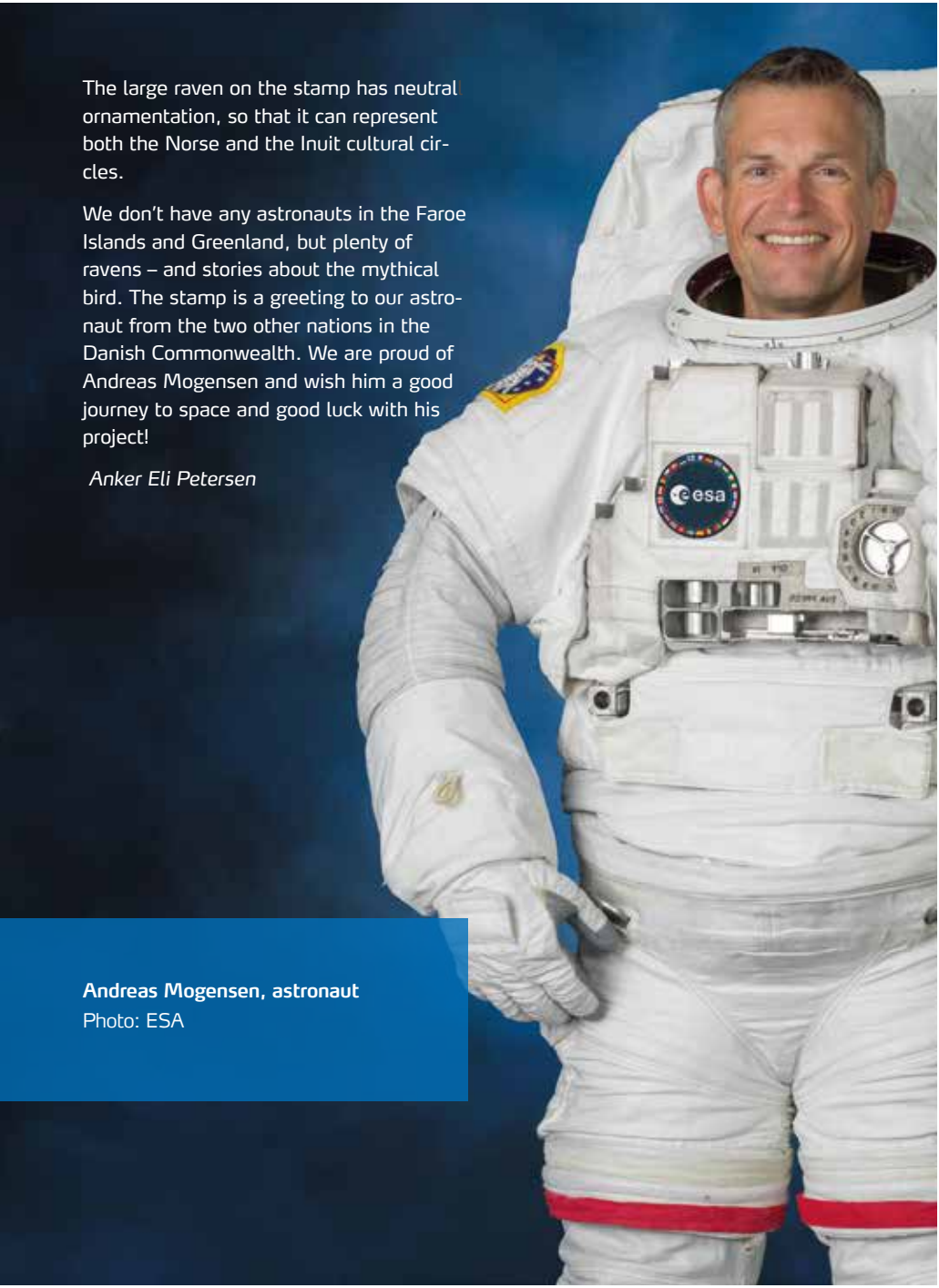


Huginn Mission minisheet
Artist: Anker Eli Petersen

The large raven on the stamp has neutral ornamentation, so that it can represent both the Norse and the Inuit cultural circles.

We don't have any astronauts in the Faroe Islands and Greenland, but plenty of ravens – and stories about the mythical bird. The stamp is a greeting to our astronaut from the two other nations in the Danish Commonwealth. We are proud of Andreas Mogensen and wish him a good journey to space and good luck with his project!

Anker Eli Petersen



Andreas Mogensen, astronaut
Photo: ESA

Sound Art Live Theatre

SALT



Suðuroy is the southernmost island in the Faroe Islands which is unique both culturally and geologically. The inhabitants have their own dialect, and a special sense of humour, and their island fascinates people with its beauty.

Suðuroy also has a cultural centre that differs from other cultural centres. This is the old Salt Silo, which has been converted into a music, theatre and culture establishment called *SALT*, which today stands for *Sound Art Live Theatre*. The Silo was originally built in 1937-38 and has now been reconstructed into a modern cultural building, creating the framework for a rich and dynamic cultural life in Suðuroy. Although it is a modern building with modern facilities and cutting-edge sustainable heating and cooling systems that are 100% green, 75% of the old building still stands.

This building stands out from other buildings in the Faroese landscape. Unfortunately, we do not know the name of the original architect. Still, we know that he was a Frenchman and that the French company *Compagnie Commerciale des Sels Marins* commissioned the premises. The company still exists and was responsible for most of the salt production in Europe when the Salt Silo was built.



SALT

Photos: Fotostudio

The stamps in the sheet depict respectively the beautiful structure under the ceiling and the spiral staircase and the beautiful building. The building's logo is featured on the shield – The Fiddler from the literary works of William Heinesen.



Since the reconstruction of the cultural centre SALT started, we have tried to find out more about the French architect who designed the building, but unfortunately, without success. Perhaps some alert stamp collector can conjecture the architect's identity, at least the one who came up with the idea of this structure which is unique and inspiring structure inside and out. The interior is awe-inspiring with its original, light and elegant steel and concrete arches that leave their distinctive mark on the building and tell an extraordinary story connecting past and present.

This large industrial building was built in the Faroe Islands in the 1930s because the Faroese fishing fleet grew so much during this period that the increased demand for salt required a more extensive and modern salt depot. The French planned to build more salt silos in the North Atlantic, e.g., Iceland and Norway but abandoned these plans due to the Second World War. That is why the salt silo at *Drelnes* in Suðuroy is today the only one of its kind and the purest example. However, other silos still resemble this one, e.g., in Italy, Liverpool and Casablanca. We have also understood that there are plans to renovate some of those buildings into cultural centers or for similar purposes. If there are any stamp collectors who know more about this, we would very much like to hear from them.

When the work to renovate the Salt Silo began, it was more of a ruin than anything else. But the ruins were beautiful, even poetic so to speak, which told a tale of a structure built by living hands. Today the Salt Silo is a living building with many and diverse cultural activities. One of the major challenges of the renovation was the acoustics and the need to create a good sound reproduction in a large facility where sound panels and parabolas had to work together. With good acoustic advice from Denmark, Japan and France, it has been possible to create a concert venue with a high acoustic level. This is an advantage, not only for concerts, but also in everyday life, where good acoustics should create intimacy and a calm, friendly atmosphere when people talk together.

SALT is proud to invite all guests, both foreigners and Faroese, to Suðuroy to experience a very special island and a special building that has contributed so much to the island's cultural life. One of the best examples of this is the *Suðuroy Theatre Company*, which has found its scenic setting in SALT. *Suðuroy Theatre Company was* founded in SALT and has, in a few years, become one of the most active theatre groups in the Faroe Islands. Seeing how pioneers can create opportunities when appropriate cultural settings are created is beautiful and inspiring.

Finally, we must mention that the architects behind the renovation of the building were Albert Isfeldt, an architect from Tórshavn, and C.F. Møller Architects from Aarhus, Denmark.

Ólavur Rasmussen

PostEurop 30th Anniversary

White-Water Lily





White-Water Lily
Artist: Astrid Andreasen

This year, 2023, marks the 30th anniversary of PostEurop, a successful platform for collaboration among Postal Operators in Europe. On this occasion the postage stamp, depicting the beautiful water lily, features PostEurop's 30th anniversary logo.

White-Water Lily (*Nymphaea alba*)

The inspiration for the plant's Greek name *nymphaia* and Latin name (*nymphaea*) stems from the nymphs in Greek and Latin mythology.

The white-water lily grows in our neighbouring countries, i.e., Norway, Sweden and England. It also grows in most European countries, in North Africa and the Middle East.

Palli Clementsen grew up in Sandur on the island of Sandoy. He moved to Norway as a young man, according to his niece Anni Sólsker. He brought the white-water lily with him when he came back to the Faroe Islands for a holiday in 1976, and planted it in a lake called *Nykutjørn*, which belongs to a private property on Sandoy.

This stunningly beautiful flower only grows in *Nykutjørn* in the Faroes. The flower itself can reach up to 20 cm in diameter, and the heart-shaped leaves up to 30 cm in diameter. Both the flower and the leaves float on top of the water. A man residing in Sandoy said that when children played at *Nykutjørn*, they were told never to touch the white-water lily.

If we think about the metaphorical meaning of the name *Nymphaia*, we visualize a divine being of nature in the form a young maiden who lives in lakes or other natural places. This image may have been in Palli's mind when he planted the flower in Nykutjørn, because it fits perfectly with the name of the plant - everything came together in a higher unity. Perhaps Palli was also thinking about nature's equilibrium, when he put this divine natural being into the lake of the water-kelpie with its dubious reputation.

Sandur is rumoured to have both the ogre Gorus and the old crone Givrun, both facing west. Sandur also has the water-kelpie living in Nykutjørn, which faces northwest.

The water-kelpie is known in folklore and legends in most of Scandinavia, the legends being quite similar. Most often the kelpie is said to have inverted hooves, rising halfway out of the water close to the shore.

"The water-kelpie lives in lakes, mostly down at the bottom, from where he often goes ashore. Meeting him may be quite dangerous. Sometimes he looks like a pretty little horse, which seems so friendly and tame that people are tempted to approach the adorable creature and pet it on the top of its head, but if they touch its tail, they get stuck, not able to come loose and the creature drags them down to the bottom of the lake.

Sometimes the water-kelpie meets people in the form of a handsome young man who lures the girls to the lake, promising them fancy things and lots of fun if they only will follow him. However, if they start to get suspicious of this good-looking and generous young man to whom they have almost surrendered, they can call out his proper name: "Nykur" – which is the Faroese word for the water-kelpie. He then immediately loses his power, is forced to release them and go down alone into the depths of the lake.

It is said that the kelpie can change himself into any other four-legged animal, but he is unable to recreate the sharp tip of a twisted ram's horn. In other cases when he has not changed form, he looks just like a horse, making it possible for ordinary humans to gain power over him by scratching a cross on his back. Then they can make him haul large stones bound to his tail down from the mountains in order to build fences or houses, which can still be seen in the village of Húsavík on Sandoy and in the village of Eiði on the island of Eysturoy. These large stones can still be found there and testify to his strength. At Takmýrum on Sandoy there is a large stone which they wanted the kelpie to haul all the way to Húsavík but the horsetail broke and the stone is still there with a part of the kelpie's tail stuck to the stone and still visible".

V.U. Hammershaimb: "Faeroese Anthology I", 1891. Source: Snar. With thanks to: Anni Sólsker, Hanna and Julianna Joensen.

Marita Gulklett



White-Water Lily in Nykutjørn
Photo: Marita Gulklett

Sheltered Workshops and Activity Centres

Angels







Angels
Photos: Fotostudio
Angels, production: Virkni

Activity offers, meant for people between 18 and 67 years of age, can be organized as sheltered workshops and activity centres. These are creative social pedagogical activities offered to people with physical or mental disabilities or with extensive social problems.

The first sheltered workshop was founded in 1973 in Tórshavn. The Social Services are currently sponsoring five sheltered workshops and activity centres around the Faroe Islands. Around 190 people with special needs enjoy their daily routine in these sheltered workshops and centres.

These centres are intended for people who need support and help in their everyday life. Emphasis is placed on strengthening and developing communication skills and our protégés' physiques and faculties. The work is organized in a way that offers opportunities to develop their personality, their social and physical skills.

Everyone wants to make a difference in their daily activities. It is, therefore, of great importance that people with physical or mental disabilities have a job to go to. Making objects that others enjoy makes this even more essential.

Christmas sales

Activities in the sheltered activity centres and workshops differ from place to place. Still, something they all have in common is the annual Christmas sales, where workshops around the country can sell many different items that citizens have been making throughout the year. The Christmas sales are organized differently, but they have been held in each workshop's premises for the past several years.

In addition to the importance of the sales for the operation, Christmas sales also are of great importance for those who have their daily routine in the activity centres and workshops. They have various tasks to perform and participate as best

they can in the sales themselves, where they experience people – both known and unknown – coming by and buying the objects they have produced, thus supporting the work and helping to increase their self-respect and self-confidence.

The Christmas sales are also an opportunity to invite the public and focus on our work within the specialist area of the Social Services. Here we can show how our protégés create objects and which pedagogical working methods we are using. At the Christmas sales, all of us who work in the workshop on a daily basis will be able to display and talk about our work. We see many customers return yearly, but new customers are also added. Visitors are often amazed to see how much our fellow citizens can do and the value of all the handmade items that they produced here.

Angels

In addition to making elves and various other items suitable for Christmas, angels have always been an essential part of Christmas sales. The angels notify us that Christmas is approaching; we slow down and start getting ready for Christmas.

The angels are all handmade and unique. We aim for the process of producing the objects to be creative, and to evolve and contribute to the development of competence and inventive abilities. There is a lot of work behind each angel. No single citizen creates the whole angel himself or herself, but everyone does their part. One makes the body, another the wings, a third the halo, etc. In this way, the angel shows how people with different characteristics can work and progress together. No one is able to do everything. Everyone can do something - and together we can do a lot.

Súsanna Clementsen, Verkhúsið Virkni



They make angels of yarn
Photo: Fotostudio

23 October 2023

Year collections

The yearbook and year pack will be shipped together with the last stamp issue of the year - on 23th October.

Yearbook 2023

The Yearbook is our most exclusive product. Together with the stamps and mini-sheets it recounts the fascinating stories behind every stamp issue in text and images.

The high quality hardcover book is filled with beautiful imagery, fascinating stories, and placeholders throughout the pages for mounting and preserving the stamps. The articles are in Danish, English and German.

As in previous years, a black print is inserted in the yearbook, which you receive free of charge. The black print is of the mini-sheet, which was published in connection with Faroese stamp no. 1000 being issued.

The value of the black print is 150.00 DKK.

The yearbook additionally features a unique NFT stamp chosen at random.

Year pack 2023

Would you like to receive all of this year's stamps at once - easily and conveniently? Then the year pack is a good alternative - it is a superb way of collecting all the stamps of the year.

The year pack contains all the stamps and mini-sheets of the year and is sold at face value.

Christmas seals 2023

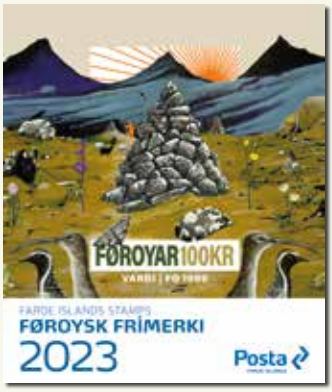
Unfortunately, the design for this year's Christmas seals was not finalized when the magazine was sent to the printing press. We apologize for the inconvenience.

The profit from the Christmas Seals sale goes to the Faroese Christmas Seals Fund, which aims to provide support for various initiatives for children and young people in the Faroe Islands.

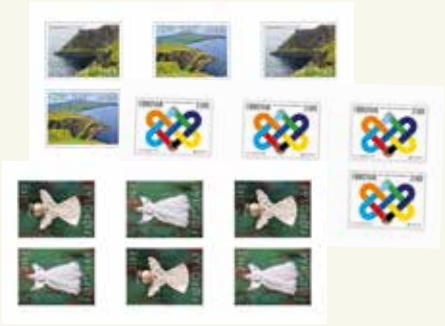
Each sheet contains 15 Christmas stamps, and the price is 30 DKK.



Yearbook 2023
+ 1 NFT stamp
+ 1 free blackprint
Price: 695,- DKK



Year pack 2023
Price: 657,- DKK



Booklet folder 2023

The folder contains the three self-adhesive stamp booklets of the year.

The motifs are Skálhøvdi, Europa 2023 and angels.

Price: 498,- DKK



FDC folder 2023

The folder contains all the FDC's with series of stamps and mini-sheets issued this year - a total of 13 FDCs.

Price: 722,- DKK

NEW STAMP ISSUES 23 OCTOBER 2023







	SALT	White-Water Lily	Angels
New issue:			
Issue date:	23.10.2023	23.10.2023	23.10.2023
Value:	21,00 and 61,00 DKK	21,00 DKK	21,00 and 31,00 DKK
Number:	FO 1004-1005	FO 1006	FO 1007-1008
Size, stamp:	40,0 x 30,0 mm	40 x 30 mm	30 x 40 mm
Size, mini-sheet:	90,0 x 50,0 mm		
Photos / artist:	Fotostudio	Astrid Andreasen	Fotostudio
Printing method:	Offset	Offset	Offset
Printer:	Bpost, Belgium	Bpost, Belgium	Bpost, Belgium
Postal use:	Inland letter and large letter, 0-250 g	Inland letter, 0-100 g.	Inland letter and letter abroad, 0-100 g.
Other products:			Selfadhesive booklet with 6 stamps 2 postcards

The stamps are only proofs and not necessarily the final version







	Year Pack 2023	Yearbook 2023	Christmas Seals 2023
New issue:			
Issue date:	23.10.2023	23.10.2023	23.10.2023
Value:	657.00 DKK	695,00 DKK	30,00 DKK
Number:	FO 992-1008	FO 992-1008	
Size:	235 x 202 mm	240 x 220 mm	30 x 35 mm / 165 x 130 mm
Printer:	Trykteam, Denmark		
		Incl. free blackprint. Incl. 1 crypto stamp	Offset

NB! New products will be available in our webshop one week before the issue date

Layout: Posta Stamps
Cover: Cairn, Nes
Photo: Posta Stamps/DJ
Printer: Føroyaprent
ISSN 1603-0036

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New Folders

Stamp No. 1000
Minisheet, black print and FDC.
Price: 370 DKK

Martin Mörck No. 1000
Minisheet and black print.
Price: 225 DKK

Huginn Mission
Joint folder. Faroese minisheet and Greenlandic minisheet.
Price: 120 DKK



Vote for Stamp of the Year online

This time, the voting for the most beautiful Stamp of the Year is exclusively online. Vote at en.stamps.fo or send an email to stamps@posta.fo.
Here you see a selection of the 2023 stamps - see all the stamp issues on our website.



FO 994 FO 995 FO 1006



FO 993 FO 996 FO 997 FO 998

Posta Stamps will be attending the following exhibitions:
Internationale Briefmarken-Börse
26-28 October, Ulm, Germany

Frimærke, Brev & Postkort messe 2023
11-12 November, Copenhagen, Denmark

Posta
FAROE ISLANDS

Order form – Posta Stamps no. 55

No.	Item		Price DKK	Price Euro	Qt.	Total
Issue 23.06.2023 – The four seasons - NFT stamps						
NFT230623	NFT stamps - set w/4	*	400,00	56,00		
NFT000001	NFT stamps - Spring Air	*	100,00	14,00		
NFT000002	NFT stamps - Summer Fire	*	100,00	14,00		
NFT000003	NFT stamps - Autumn Earth	*	100,00	14,00		
NFT000004	NFT stamps - Winter Water	*	100,00	14,00		
Issue 10.08.2023 – Stamp no. 1000: Cairn - FO 1000 (minisheet with 1 stamp)						
PPS010823	Stamp no. 1000, minisheet mint	*	100,00	14,00		
FFT010823	Stamp no. 1000, minisheet fdc.	⊙	100,00	14,00		
DDT010823	Stamp no. 1000, minisheet rdc.	⊙	100,00	14,00		
FFU010823	FDC w/minisheet	⊙	105,00	1470		
WBPFO1000	Stamp no. 1000, black print	⊙	150,00	21,00		
WFRIM1000	Folder w/minisheet, black print + fdc	⊙	370,00	51,80		
Issue 11.08.2023 – Martin Mörck no. 1000 – FO 1001 (minisheet with 1 stamp)						
PPS020823	Mörck no. 1000, minisheet mint.	*	50,00	7,00		
FFT020823	Mörck no. 1000, minisheet fdc..	⊙	50,00	7,00		
DDT020823	Mörck no. 1000, minisheet rdc.	⊙	50,00	7,00		
FFU020823	FDC w/minisheet	⊙	55,00	7,70		
WMORC1000	Folder w/minisheet and black print	*	225,00	31,50		
Issue 11.08.2023 – Huginn Mission - FO 1003 (minisheet with 1 stamp) - *Joint issue Greenland*						
PPS030823	Huginn, minisheet mint	*	31,00	4,35		
FFT030823	Huginn, minisheet fdc.	⊙	31,00	4,35		
DDT030823	Huginn, minisheet rdc.	⊙	31,00	4,35		
FFU030823	FDC w/minisheet	⊙	36,00	5,00		
WHUGINN23	Huginn Folder: FO + GL	*	120,00	16,80		
Issue 23.10.2023 – SALT - FO 1004-1005 (minisheet with 2 stamps)						
PPS001023	SALT, minisheet mint	*	82,00	11,50		
FFT001023	SALT, minisheet fdc.	⊙	82,00	11,50		
DDT001023	SALT, minisheet rdc.	⊙	82,00	11,50		
FFU001023	FDC w/minisheet	⊙	87,00	12,20		
Issue 23.10.2023 – White-water Lily - FO 1006 (1 stamp)						
PPA001006	White-water Lily, set mint	*	21,00	2,95		
FFG001006	White-water Lily, set fdc.	⊙	21,00	2,95		

* = mint, ⊙= cancelled

Complete and send or order on en.stamps.fo

No.	Item		Price DKK	Price Euro	Qt.	Total
Issue 23.10.2023 – White-water Lily - FO 1006 (1 stamp) - *continued*						
DDG001006	White-water Lily, set rdc.	⊙	21,00	2,95		
FFK001006	FDC w/set	⊙	26,00	3,65		
FFM001006	Set of FDCs w/blocks of four	⊙	89,00	12,50		
PPB001006	Set of top plate bloks of 4, mint	*	84,00	11,75		
PPC001006	Set of bottom plate bloks of 4, mint	*	84,00	11,75		
PPD001006	White-water Lily, sheet 21KR (20)	*	420,00	58,80		
Issue 23.10.2023 – Angels - FO 1007-1008 (2 stamps + booklet with 6 stamps)						
PPA001023	Angels, set mint	*	52,00	7,30		
FFG001023	Angels, set fdc.	⊙	52,00	7,30		
DDG001023	Angels, set rdc.	⊙	52,00	7,30		
PPN001023	Stamp booklet, mint	*	156,00	21,85		
FFO001023	Stamp booklet, fdc.	⊙	156,00	21,85		
DDO001023	Stamp booklet, rdc.	⊙	156,00	21,85		
PPJ001023	Postcards (2)	*	14,00	1,95		
FFJ001023	Maximum cards (2)	⊙	66,00	9,25		
FFK001023	FDC w/set	⊙	57,00	8,00		
FFL001023	FDC w/single stamps	⊙	59,00	8,25		
FFM001023	Set of FDCs w/blocks of four	⊙	215,00	30,10		
FFP001023	FDC with booklet	⊙	161,00	22,55		
PPB001023	Set of top plate bloks of 4, mint	*	208,00	29,15		
PPC001023	Set of bottom plate bloks of 4, mint	*	208,00	29,15		
PPD001007	Angels, sheet 21KR (20)	*	420,00	58,80		
PPD001008	Angels, sheet 31KR (20)	*	620,00	86,80		
Issue 23.10.2023 – Christmas products						
WPPE02023	Yearbook 2023	*	695,00	97,30		
PPY002023	Year pack 2023	*	657,00	92,00		
PPX002023	Christmas seals 2023	*	30,00	4,20		
WJOJ02023	Christmas cards 2023 w/envelopes 3	*	30,00	4,20		
Miscellaneous						
WSEP02023	Sepac folder	*	125,00	17,50		
WFDM02023	FDC folder 2023	⊙	722,00	101,00		
WHEM02023	Booklet folder 2023	*	498,00	69,70		
LUS002023	Album pages 2023	*	130,00	18,20		

Please complete the coupon on the reverse page ›

No.	Item		Price DKK	Price Euro	Qt.	Total
Miscellaneous - *continued*						
JOS002023	Christmas seals page 2023		30,00	4,20		
WGASS2023	Exhibition cancel, GASS 2023		33,00	4,60		
	Handling fee:		**30,00**	**4,20**	**1**	**30,00**
				Total price:		

Handling of card information

We are no longer allowed to store payment card details. Although you are always welcome to phone us at +298 346200 and inform us your payment card details and we will make an attempt at debiting the card from here.

New handling fees

The following handling fees are valid from 1st February 2023:

Subscription deliveries: 25,00 DKK.
Special order delivery: 30,00 DKK.

Please remember to state your account number whenever you remit funds to Posta Stamps.

Payment sent by giro or bank transfer.

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IBAN: FO15 9870 0004 2712 12
Swift-Bic: SUSPFOTI

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9541 625-9847,
IBAN: DK02 3000 0006 2598 47 **SWIFT-BIC:** DABADKKK

Paris, France 243 69 U 020
IBAN:
FR23 2004 1000 0100 2436 9U02 025
Swift-Bic: PSSTFRPPPAR

The order will be dispatched once we have registered your payment on our account.

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☐ Yes please. I would like to sign up for the Posta email newsletter.

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