



EUROPEAN STAMP EXHIBITION

FINLANDIA 2017

TAMPERE 24.-28.5.

FINLANDIA 2017 newsletter #5 – February 2017

Welcome to the 5th FINLANDIA 2017 newsletter.

This newsletter includes updated information about the following topics:

1. The list of exhibits published
2. Major rarities among the Invited exhibits
3. The Royal Collection
4. Exhibition programme and seminars

Note that the internet pages are maintained also between the newsletters, so pay attention to updates found on www.finlandia2017.fi

1. Exhibit lists have been published

The Organizing Committee made a decision to disclose the information about the participating exhibits very early, three and half months prior to the Exhibition.

As earlier communicated, FINLANDIA 2017 proudly presents over 400 exhibits covering most of the FIP exhibition classes, Class for Picture Postcards, and Literature Class with over 60 exhibits.

In the new “FEPA Grand Prix Class” we will see seven world-class exhibits from seven different countries competing for the status of the best exhibit in the Show.

The complete lists of exhibits can be found on the FINLANDIA 2017 website, presented in three different formats:

1. Exhibits by Exhibition class
2. Exhibits by Country
3. Exhibits by exhibitor (alphabetically)

Additionally, a list of the Literature Class exhibits, with their detailed informations, is available on the website.

Please visit the website and start making your list of “must see” exhibits – there will be many of them.

2. Invited exhibits include major rarities of Finnish philately

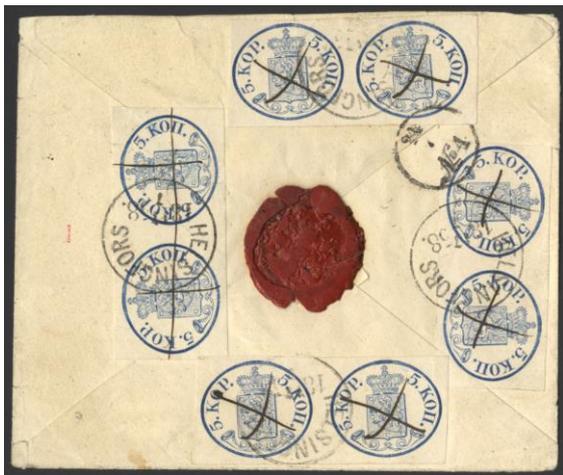
FINLANDIA 2017 presents two different categories of invited exhibits: “Special Invited Exhibits” and “Exhibits relating to the 1917 Independence of Finland”.

The Show starts with the special exhibit “The Stamped Paper Issues from 1865 and 1866”, presented by **Raimo Peltonen in memoriam**. Raimo Peltonen (1936-2012) was a devoted exhibitor trying to be present in all national and many international exhibitions. Without the substantial support from **Eeva and Raimo Peltonen Memorial Fund**, FINLANDIA 2017 could not have been realized.



Raimo Peltonen

Among the Special Invited exhibits we have an exceptional chance to admire some of the greatest gems of the Finnish Philately in **Gustav Douglas'** exhibit of the Oval Design. Not so many have been aware Classic Finland belonging to his collecting areas, too. Relating to Finland, he concentrates to his actual favorites: the Oval Design Issues - the first two postage stamps and early postal stationery of Finland. Now the great gems of Douglas' Exhibit "Classic Finland - the Oval Design" will be publicly seen for the first time, in the Invited Class of Tampere Hall.



The most important item of Finnish philately: 4 pairs of the 1856 5kopeck oval on a cover.

His exhibit includes a number of tête-bêche pairs and blocks of four, strips and very rare postal items. The exhibit culminates to the ultimate highlights of Finnish philately: the unique cover franked with four 5 kopeck Oval stamp pairs addressed to Lübeck (*picture above*) and the 20 kopeck Oval Design postal stationery. The former is considered no less than the most precious philatelic item of Finland, the latter one being unique in private hands, which makes this treasure the rarest Finnish postal stationery of world-class importance.

Another exceptional exhibit is the Exhibit of *Proofs and Specimens of the Finnish Banknotes* from the Bank of Finland Museum. Many of the rarities are now in public display for the first time.



The Bruun –proof for 100mk note.

The second half of FINLANDIA 2017 Invited exhibits presents five exhibits closely related to Finnish Independence in 1917. These exhibits provide quite a comprehensive overview of the postal and fiscal conditions and the Finnish society 100 years ago.

3. The Royal Collection in Finnish Postal Museum

FINLANDIA 2017 will be held in two Exhibition venues: The *Court of Honour* will be seen in the Finnish Postal Museum, while the rest of Exhibits are for show in Tampere Hall. The Finnish Postal Museum's part will be opened at the Museum Centre Vapriikki, Tampere, already on 28 April 2017. The *Court of Honour* presents the first stamps issued in the world, on loan from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's collection, together with philatelic treasures from the Postal Museum's own collections.

The exhibition will feature rare essays and proofs of the first stamps and postal stationery from 1839 to 1840. There will also be some 'superstars of philately' such as the blue unused Two Pence Post Office Mauritius stamp from 1847 and Bermuda Postmaster Provisionals from 1848 to 1854. The most notable among the later acquisitions is the Kirkcudbright Penny Black First Day cover. It bears ten Penny Blacks, the largest known group of Penny Blacks on a First Day cover.



Mauritius One Penny Post Office stamp on cover



The famous Kirkcudbright" -cover, with a Penny Black block of 10 used on the 1st day of issue.

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For more information about *the Court of Honour*, please visit the website of the Postal Museum:

<https://www.postimuseo.fi/en/exhibitions/treasures-from-queen-elizabeth-ii-s-stamp-collection>

4. Exhibition programme and seminars

FINLANDIA 2017 is not only about great philatelic exhibits. There will be a lot of additional program including both philatelic and non-philatelic content. The schedule of guided tours, trips, seminars, lectures etc. is now available on the website.

Most of the events are open for everyone. Some social events are for Exhibitors and other involved only, and they require advance registration through an electronic registration system. Since the seating capacity of some events is limited, we recommend early registration.

Also note that the Palmarés tickets are available at discounted price (80 €) up to March 15th. After that the price will be 100 €.

You can reserve and pay all your tickets, including Palmarés tickets, through the electronic system here:

www.tinyurl.com/finlandia2017

Please also note that Tampere will be quite busy during the time of the Exhibition. That is why booking hotel rooms well before the Show is strongly recommended.

In case of questions related to the program, contact Mirka Ylä-Mattila (see contact info below).

More Information

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