



Lambda Philatelic Journal

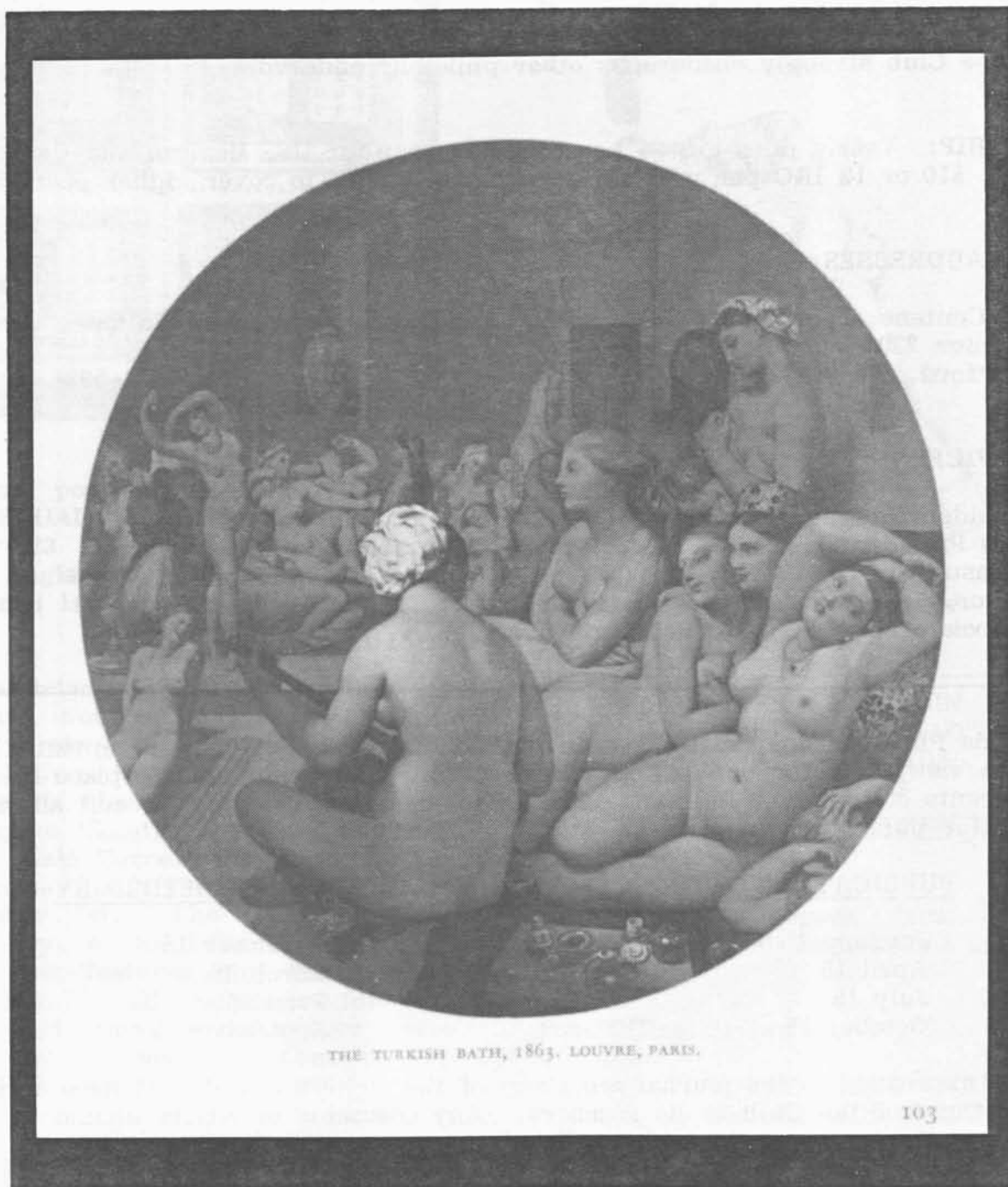
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LESBIANS ON STAMPS



THE TURKISH BATH, 1863, LOUVRE, PARIS.

The **Lambda Philatelic Journal** is published quarterly by the Gay and Lesbian History on Stamps Club (GLHSC). GLHSC is a study unit of the American Topical Association, Number 458, and an affiliate of the American Philatelic Society, Number 205. GLHSC is also a member of the American First Day Cover Society, Number 72.

The objectives of the club are:

To promote and foster an interest in the collection, study and dissemination of knowledge of worldwide philatelic material that depicts:

- notable men and women and their contributions to society for whom historical evidence exists of homosexual or bisexual orientation.
- mythology, historical events and ideas significant in the history of gay culture.
- flora and fauna scientifically proven having prominent homosexual behavior.
- even though emphasis is placed on this aspect of stamp collecting, the Club strongly encourages other philatelic endeavors.

MEMBERSHIP: Yearly dues are \$8 per calendar year for US, Mexican and Canadian residents; \$10 or 12 IRC per year for foreign residents (to cover higher postage cost).

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The Lambda Philatelic Journal thrives on philatelic articles (original or reprinted) and alternative viewpoints for publication. Members are also encouraged to place free advertisements of philatelic interest. The Editor reserves the right to edit all materials submitted for publication.

PUBLICATION DATE

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July 15
October 15

ARTICLES NEEDED BY

December 15
March 15
June 15
September 15

The views expressed in the journal are those of the writers and do not necessarily represent those of the Club or its members. Any comments or letters should be addressed to the Editor at the address listed.

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News From The Editor

1993 is upon us. This is our 11th year as a Club. Let's make 1993 the best year yet!

First of all, I'm sorry to say that dues for 1993 have increased to \$8 for US, Canada and Mexico. For all other countries, dues will be \$10 or 12 IRC's. This is the first time for an increase in several years, and will help to cover the costs for the expanded journal of late.

Secondly, I'd like to thank several members who have helped immensely with the journal. Their input is greatly appreciated: Judith Beckett, Jim Martin, Phil Stager and Angela Watson.

Finally, you'll notice some experimentation with the design and layout of the journal this year. The current format of 11" x 17", folded will continue. On page 10, you will find a new feature. I hope to have a short, one page bio on someone gay/lesbian/bisexual. It is planned to rotate between gay/lesbian with each issue. Send me your suggestions.

Angela Watson has presented a challenge to all members. Currently, the Club has about 185+ members. In order to increase membership, Angela would like to see each current member sign up one new member in 1993. Just think, GLHSC could double it's membership in one year!

And, to carry this in another direction, I would like to propose that each member write an article on his/her favorite gay/lesbian or other philatelic topic. There are many persons in the handbook who have not been "published" in the journal. Do you have a favorite country, animal, sport, "how to ...", etc. that you'd like to share with the Club? There are numerous topics out there. You may even find a friend with whom to trade or correspond!

The 1992 Journals have been entered in Canada's Second National Philatelic Literature competition. Keep an eye out in the philatelic press for the results. (Of course, I hope to let you know some good news in the next journal!)

News releases of GLHSC's tenth anniversary were sent to many newspapers and magazines, both philatelic and non-philatelic. To my knowledge, only the **Washington Blade**, **Christopher Street**, **In Touch** and **Stamp Collector** have published it. If you know of any others, please send me a copy. Also, you may want to write to **Linn's** and **The Advocate** to ask why they ignored us.

Our French member, Herve Marchand, submitted an article to the Paris gay magazine. It was a very brief description of the Club, along with addresses. It was published in a recent issue.

Would anyone be willing to write up an article on a gay/lesbian collection to submit to **Scott's Stamp Monthly**? For those of you unfamiliar with this magazine, it is topical oriented and includes monthly updates to the **Scott Catalogues**.

This is it for this issue. Thanks to all who have submitted articles and letters. I'd love to hear from more members with their opinions, suggestions and/or articles!



Lesbians In The Harem And The Bath

One of the stamps in a set issued by Paraguay is perhaps the only stamp in the world which depicts the physical expression of an act of Lesbian sex.

The set of stamps features the painting Le Bain Turc by the French orientalist artist, Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres. Ingres' painting is intended to depict a women's bath (haman) in Turkey (Fig. 1, on cover).

Examining the painting, I noticed that behind the large foreground figure on the right an older woman is fondling a younger woman's breast (fig. 2). I then discovered that the four Gs. Paraguayan stamp shows a detail of the painting which included the face of the older woman, her hand and the fondled breast (fig. 3).



TURKISH BATH (DETAIL), 1861. LOUVRE, PARIS.

In Robert Rosenblum's book, Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres, Ingres' painting is referred to as the "erotic daydream

of an elderly painter". Rosenblum then describes Ingres' bath scene as "a catalogue of sensual delights, in which to the accompaniment of mandolin and tambourine, hair is perfumed, incense is burned, sweets and coffee are consumed, flesh is caressed, and bodies are relaxed in pagan abandon."¹ (A bit of an erotic daydream itself.)

Ingres (1780-1867) was one of the 19th century European artists known as orientalists. Orientalist art represented a view of a culture that most of the artists had never seen. Yet as France's military and political interests grew in the Islamic world, they attempted to portray the area realistically for historians, geographers, novelists and romantic escapists like themselves.

Instead, they projected their own erotic and violent fantasies onto North Africa, Turkey, Greece, Persia, the Balkans and Northern India without differentiating one area from the other. The harem and the "odalisque" became symbols of eroticism and exotic splendor.

The word harem is derived from "haram", an Arabic word which means "taboo", "protected" or "forbidden". The sacred area around Mecca is "haram", closed to infidels. Haram also refers to the separate part of an Islamic household where women, children and servants are secluded. "Odalisque" comes from "oda" or room. It means "woman of the room" or a servant. In fact, the odalisque was a slave.

♀

¹ Robert Rosenblum, Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres (New York: Harry N. Abrams, Inc., 1990), p.126.

In her book, Harem: The World Behind the Veil, Alev Lytle Croutier writes of the young slaves: "The girls were all non-Moslems, uprooted at a tender age...from the Caucasus...Circassians, Georgians and Abkhasins were proud mountain girls, believed to be descendents of the Amazon women who had lived in Scythia near the Black Sea in ancient times and who swept down through Greece as far as Athens, waging...war."

She further explains: "'Circassians take their own children to the market as a way of providing for them handsomely...but the blacks and Abyssianians fight hard for their liberty...'" [Lucie Duff Gordon in her 1864 travel diary]²

Ingres was fascinated with the odalisque as a subject all his life. He painted La Grande Odalisque in 1814 and Odalisque and Slave in 1842. He signed and dated The Turkish Bath in 1862, but didn't complete it until 1863.

Prince Napoleon requested a version of Ingres' painting, but Princess Clotilde was so offended by its many nudes that Ingres had to take it back and resell it. At this time, he changed it to its present shape. The huge, circular oil on canvas (diameter 42 1/2") now hangs in the Louvre. (Fig. 4, Scott No. 2149)



♀ Figure 4

Actually, Ingres' scene was inspired by the letters of Lady Mary Wortley Montague. Her husband was nominated Ambassador to Turkey by the British government in April, 1716. She spent two years in the Near East and wrote many letters

home to friends in England. These were later published as the Turkish Embassy Letters.

In 1819 or thereabouts, Ingres copied one of Lady Mary's letters into his notebook. It was a letter which she had written to her



Figure 3

sister Lady Mar on April 18, 1717, describing a women's bath in Constantinople. She wrote:

"I went to the bagnio about ten o'clock. It was already full of women. It is built of stone in the shape of a dome with no windows but in the roof, which gives enough light. There were five of these. The [first] room is...paved with marble, and all around it raised two sofas of marble. There were four fountains of cold water, falling into...basins...then running on the floor in little channels...into the next room...hot with steams of sulpher...The other two domes were...hot baths, one of which had cocks of cold water."

"I believe in the whole there were two hundred women...The first sofas were covered with cushions and rich carpets, on which sat the ladies, and on the second their slaves behind them...all being in a state of nature, that is in plain English, stark naked...yet there was not the least wanton smile or immodest gesture amongst 'em..."

She then candidly admits "...the ladies with the finest skins and most delicate shapes had the greatest share of my admiration, though their faces were sometimes less beautiful than those of their companions...so many fine women naked in different postures...in conversation...working...drinking coffee or sherbet, and many negligently lying on their cushions while their slaves (...pretty girls of seventeen or eighteen) were ...braiding their hair in several pretty manners."

² Alev Lytle Croutier, Harem: The World Behind the Veil (New York: Abbeville Press, 1989), p.30.

"In short", she concludes, "'tis the women's coffee house, where... news of the town is told, scandal invented, etc. They...take this diversion once a week, and stay at least four or five hours."

She closes: "Adieu, madam. ...I have now entertained you with an account of such a sight as you never saw in your life and what no book of travels could inform you of. 'Tis no less than death for a man to be found in one of those places."³

Although herself an enthusiastic voyeur in the harem, Lady Montague denied such "immodest gestures" as painted by Ingres.

But of Lesbians in the harem, Croutier writes: "For women who were bred in the ways of pleasure...it is a chance to feast their eyes on beautiful bodies and satisfy each other. While washing and massaging one another...the women often became lovers as well as friends."

She continues: "Basdsano da Zara reflects: 'It is common knowledge that as a result of this familiarity in washing and massaging, women fell...in love...one often sees a woman in love with another...just like a man and a woman...I have known Greek and Turkish women, on seeing a lovely young girl, seek occasion to bathe with her just to see her naked and handle her.'"

And: "Edmundo de Amicis makes a similar observation: 'Women have the most ardent relationships with one another. They wear the same colors, same perfumes, put on patches of the same size and shape, and make enthusiastic demonstrations. One European woman traveller claims that all the vices of ancient Babylon exist among them.'"⁴

♀

♀

³ Christopher Pick, ed., Embassy to Constantinople: The Travels of Lady Mary Wortley Montague (New York: New Amsterdam Books, 1988) pp.95-98.

⁴ Croutier, p.91

Croutier is probably a reliable source. Her grandmother, mother and aunts lived in harems in Macedonia and Istanbul at the turn of the century. In fact, all three sources - the painting by Ingres, a letter from Lady Mary, and the stories told by the old women in Croutier's family - are part of the truth. Yet so distorted by fantasy and shrouded in secrecy is the image of the harem woman that this topic provides a real challenge for the researcher of our Lesbian past.

International Women's Year

by Angela Watson

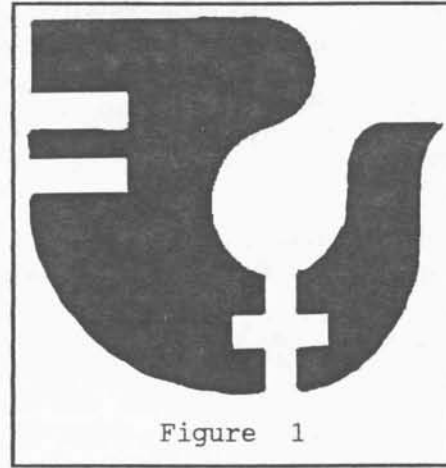


Figure 1

International Women's Year, 1975, was commemorated by stamp issues from very nearly every Universal Postal Union member country in the world in response to

the resolution from the United Nations General Assembly. This resolution proclaimed, in part, that the "...IWY was constructed to insure intensified action to promote equality between men and women, to insure the full integration of women in the total development effort, and to recognize the importance of women's increasing contribution to the development of friendly relations and cooperation among States and the the strengthening of peace."¹

Nearly all the issues share in common a graphic design featuring a women's

¹ Topical Times, Thomas S. Austin, September-October 1978, monthly publication of the American Topical Association, p.19.

symbol and an equal sign into the outline of a dove of peace (fig. 1). As we probably all recognize, regardless of this stamp issue, women are still undervalued (economically, politically and socially) in many nations, and in some countries, are still subject to various forms of



Figure 2

torture/mutilation (such as foot binding in China) and subject to prison or death in other Third World countries.

What actually started my collection of International Women's Year stamps was New Zealand's IWY issue (Scott No. 569, Fig. 2). It features multiple overlays of women's symbols in various skintone colors, thus creating the impression of more than one woman.

Since the generally recognized symbol of lesbians everywhere are two (or more) interlocking women's symbols, I was quite excited at my discovery!

I was so excited by this stamp (it being the first real recognizable instance of anything having to do with lesbians), that I wondered if there were others. As I began exploring the Scott catalog, I realized that many countries had issued stamps and souvenir sheets to commemorate IWY and even better, that they took on an incredible array of varieties, including famous lesbians. This was definitely the collection for me!

There are issues from at least 110 nations, some of which feature lesbians on them. Most notably, there is one series from the Seychelles that has Eleanor Roosevelt on it (Scott No. 338, fig. 3). As some of you may know, much of the correspondence between Eleanor and a newspaper writer named Lorena Hickok have been released within the last five or so years. Upon examination of these letters, it was discovered that these two women had exchanged sapphire rings(!), and had a number of "pet names" for

each other scattered throughout their 30 year correspondence.²

Also from Seychelles is another stamp in this series which has Florence Nightingale on it (Scott No. 335). She is quoted in a collection of her letters as saying, "I have lived and slept in the same bed with English countesses and Prussian



Figure 3

[nobility]...no one has excited passion among women more than I have."³ (Fig. 4)



Figure 4

In my collecting endeavors, I found it most galling that countries such as Iraq (Scott Nos. 736-8) and Iran (Scott No. 1851) would even think to issue such stamps honoring women, as women in those countries are still forced to wear clothing that covers every

part of their bodies except their eyes (Fig. 5). Mozambique even goes so far as to feature just such a woman on their stamp! One other interesting point: I have been unable to determine if Great Britain issued a stamp for this event, as it is not listed in Scott under the year 1975. Can anyone help me on this point?

♀

² Eleanor Roosevelt, Volume 1: 1884-1933, Blanche Wiesen Cook, Viking Press, New York, 1992.

³ A couple of GLHSC members have seen this quote in print, but the source only states, "letters." Does anyone out there know more about this? Please send info to Angela Watson, 4104 Alabama St., San Diego, CA 92104.



Figure 5

I must admit to a tie for my favorite stamp in this thematic collection: Australia issued a stamp (although not for IWY) in a lovely shade of lavender that shows two women, with their backs toward us and black and white interlocking women's symbols in between them (Scott No. 428). This stamp was actually released in commemoration of an Obstetrics and

Gynecology Convention being held in Sydney, but that color, the two women and the women's symbols, this certainly says "lesbian" to me! (Fig. 6)

My other favorite, from Norway, features a set of two of what appears to be hand-drawn bare-breasted Amazon-type women (Ah, so women really do have nipples: take notice USPS!



Figure 6

[Note: Scott No. C120 was issued to celebrate France's 200th Anniversary and shows women figures of Liberty, Fraternity and Equality. Ms. Fraternity originally had a nipple on her bare-breast, but it was removed by the USPS prior to printing - they probably were afraid of running afoul of some of Dan Quayle's "family values"!]), linked arm in arm with flowing hair, proudly marching across the stamp (Scott No. 649-50). This design is actually a copy of a set of wrought iron gates in Vigeland Park in Oslo, Norway. (Fig. 7)



Figure 7

Many of the stamps feature women of no particular renown participating in work that could be considered unconventional. In recognition of the IWY theme: "equality, development, and peace" the United Nations authorized the issuance of new stamps in denominations of 10 and 18 cents (Scott Nos. 258-9), F.s.o. 60 and 90 (Scott Nos. 48-9, Geneva)[The Vienna, Austria office hadn't yet been opened]. They were designed by Mr. A. Kalderon and Ms. E. Kurti (Israel). Interestingly enough, they were the first male/female team to design a stamp for the United Nations.4

However, it should be noted that 1975 was not the only year that the IWY emblem was used. The United Nations further declared that 1980 would begin the Decade for Women, and issued a set of stamps from all three offices: New York, USA; Geneva, Switzerland; and Vienna, Austria (Scott Nos. 318-9, 90-1, and 9-10, respectively). (Fig. 8) There are other issues in this same venue: France, PR China and Denmark.



Figure 8

Dominica also issued a set of 5 stamps for this event. Once again, Florence Nightingale and Eleanor Roosevelt are featured, as are Margaret Mead and two Dominican women of note. If there is anyone out there that can help with International Decade of the Woman Scott numbers, I would appreciate it very much.

One of the more interesting souvenir sheets that was issued for IWY comes from Guyana (Scott Nos. 218-21) that

4 Topical Times, *ibid.*

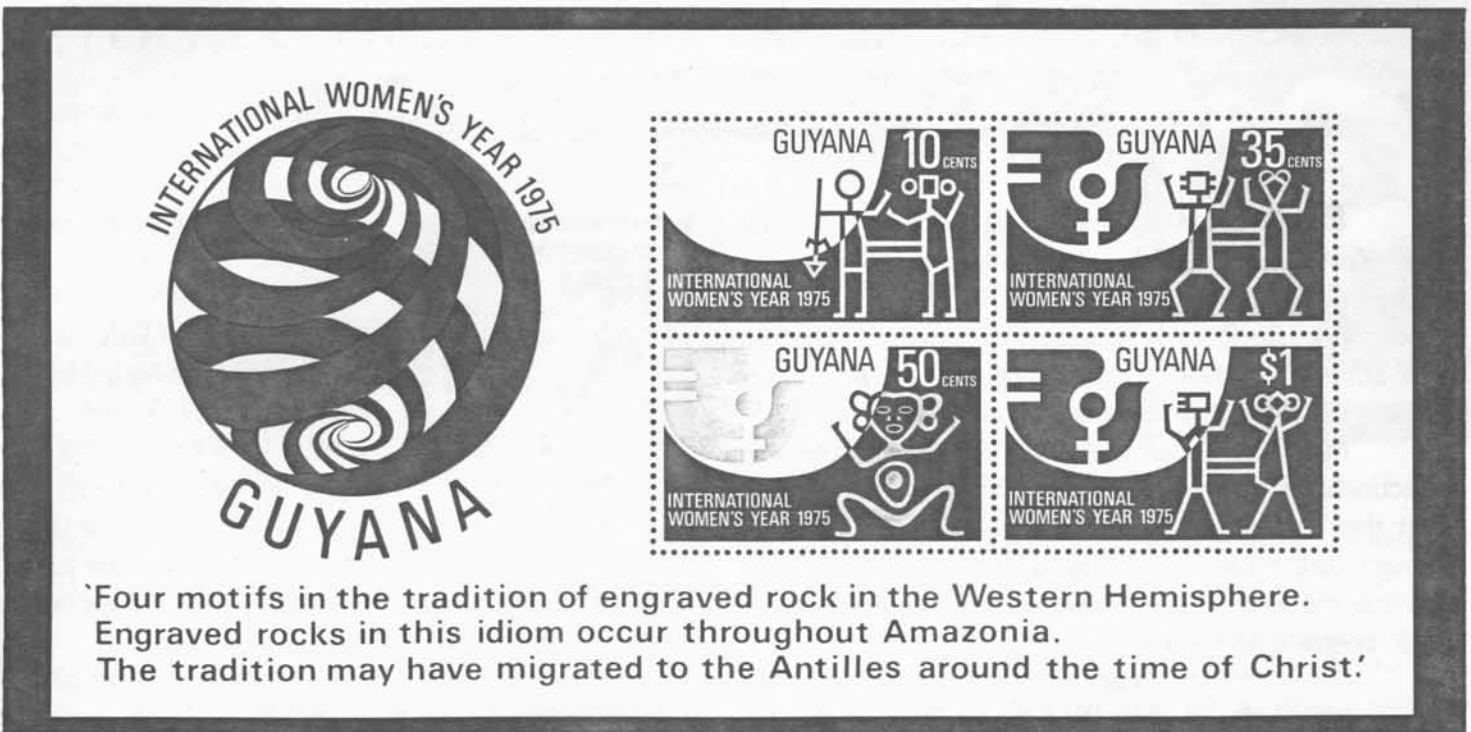


Figure 9

features four reproductions of cave-type drawings of men and women interacting in primitive ways. The caption below this reads: "Four motifs in the tradition of engraved rock in the Western Hemisphere. Engraved rocks in this idiom occur throughout Amazonia (emphasis mine). The tradition may have migrated to the Antilles around the time of Christ." (Fig. 9)



Figure 10

Iceland (Scott 486, Fig. 10) issued a stamp that shows an abstract work of art by a famous Icelandic artist, Nina Tryggvadottir. This is notable because of the family custom that Iceland employs: Male children take on the father's last name, and female children take on the mother's maiden name

and add "dottir (daughter)" to it, thus making it their own. If they marry, they then surrender this in favor of their new husband's name, but in turn their female children will carry forward the maternal name as their own.

My last comment on IWY will be reserved in scorn for the United States issue (Scott No. 1751, Fig. 11): by not using the chosen logo, and instead completely bastardizing it and turning it into something non-worthy of the formidable contribution women have made in this country, the USPS has once again shown an unrecognizing of the many capable women here in our own country that are worthy of being featured on this stamp! Perhaps eventually this country will have respect for women that they deserve. Until that time, we will just have to settle for collecting stamps from countries far away that do honor their contributions by their countrywomen.



Figure 11

**COLLECT STAMPS,
IT'S FUN!**

THE ONES YOU ALWAYS WONDERED ABOUT:

❖ ELEANOR ROOSEVELT ❖

Eleanor Roosevelt was born in 1884 to a New York family of wealth. People who met her say she was shy, lonely & awkward as a child. In 1902, she met her cousin Franklin Delano Roosevelt who was handsome and athletic. Although they were cousins, they began seeing one another and were married in 1905.

Many years into their marriage, ER (as she was affectionately called by all those who knew her) wrote that their marriage "seemed the thing to do," and although their relationship did not seem particularly passionate, the birth of their five children gave evidence to their on-going sexual relationship.



People's Republic of China
Scott No. 1435

From the honeymoon in 1905 until 1918, ER performed the duties as wife that society demanded of her. Then in 1918, with the culmination of the First World War, ER discovered letters to FDR that had been written by her secretary Lucy Mercer. The language in these letters left no doubt in ER's mind that the two were having an affair.

Although she was devastated by this information, and even left

FDR for about two weeks and went home to her mother, she returned a completely different Eleanor, one who was more in control of her own destiny and not unwilling to bargain with FDR. Part of that "New Deal" included the end of their sexual relationship and Mercer's dismissal.

From that time on, Eleanor ceased to partake of the traditional role of wife and mother. She became increasingly independent and aware of herself as an individual who neither needed or wanted a man to define her or meet her emotional needs.

In 1924, it is said that she met two women, Nancy Cook, and Marion Dickerman, two women who shared an apartment in Greenwich Village (*oh please!*). The three women spent much time together and in 1925 decided to make a home together at the Roosevelt family estate at Hyde Park, New York. The three women built a cottage and called it Val-Kill Cottage.

Eleanor spent as much time as her schedule as wife to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy and Governor of New York would permit. In 1932, ER met Lorena



United States
Scott No. 2105

Hickok, a reporter assigned to cover her for the Associated Press. Lorena was to become the great love of ER's life. When FDR won his bid for the presidency in 1932, ER was far from happy. She did not enjoy being in the spot - light and knew that the spot light would only grow larger.

ER accepted Lorena's offers of support and asked her to move into the White House.

Although there has been an enormous amount of debate concerning the exact nature of ER and Lorena's relationship, the letters that two wrote back and forth to each other left little room for debate about the fact that they both felt very passionately about each other. Additionally, they also exchanged sapphire rings and remained very close even after FDR's death in 1945.

ER remained in the public eye as an envoy of the United Nations, bringing a message of human rights and dignity wherever she toured. As the years passed, ER and Lorena remained friends but their relationship cooled somewhat. There were fewer visits by ER, although Lorena kept every letter written by ER, and made an agreement with the FDR Library to have them unsealed exactly 10 years after her death.

It is in these letters and documents that one can believe that ER was in fact a lesbian, and one that does our entire community proud: "Another person can only make you inferior if you let them," was a famous quote by ER, one that I'm sure she lived to the fullest during her lifetime.



Republic of Hungary
Scott No. 1596

The Belle of Amherst

by Kathy Hall

(Ed. note - This article is reprinted from Volume 1, Number 2 of LPJ. It was originally issued in the Fall of 1982.)

Lillian Faderman says her groundbreaking study of historic women's relationships, *Surpassing the Love of Men*, was inspired by poet Emily Dickinson.

In the introduction to her 1981 book, Dr. Faderman says, "This book began as a study of Emily Dickinson's love poems and letters to Sue Gilbert."

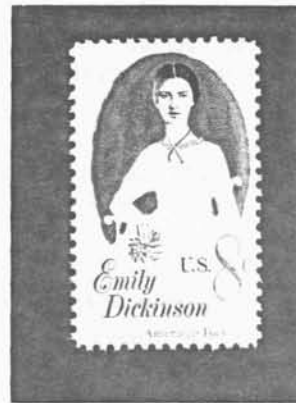
Those letters, to Faderman, provided "irrefutable evidence that the grand passion of her life was not one of the 10 or 12 men with whom she had been romantically linked by her 20th Century biographers, but another woman." Gilbert was married to Dickinson's brother, Austin.

One thing puzzled the California professor. These passionate letters showed no trace of the guilt and secrecy that would be expected in a love relationship between two women. This led Dr. Faderman to research other 19th Century relationships and discover that romantic friendships between women were prevalent and acceptable in the Western culture of that day.

She defines such relationships as lesbian in the sense that they were an all-consuming, emotional tie. Most were probably non-sexual, Faderman concludes, as were many passionate male-female relationships of that era.

Faderman says that romantic love and sexual impulse were often considered unrelated until the 20th Century. By the 1920's, when Dickinson's niece edited her aunt's letters, lesbianism bore a stigma. Faderman gives several examples of complete Dickinson letters to Gilbert and compares them with Martha Dickinson

Bianchi's edited versions (Bianchi was Gilbert's daughter).



Scott No. 1436

"Bianchi must have felt that if she did not censor the letters, her aunt's literary reputation could be at stake," Faderman said. "If Emily Dickinson were suspected of lesbianism, the university and the validity of her poetic sentiments might even be called into question, just as Amy Lowell's were in the 1920's."

Of course, Dickinson's references were so well obscured that 20th Century biographers have had scant evidence to link her romantically to Ben Newton, the Rev. Charles Wadsworth or other men.

The first biographer to suggest that a lesbian nature, according to Jonathan Katz' *Gay American History*, was Rebecca Patterson, author of the 1951 book, *The Riddle of Emily Dickinson*. Reviewers denied Patterson's allegation of lesbianism, Katz says, and the book's style made it difficult to document Patterson's sources.

Although Dickinson had some contact with her literary world, her fame was posthumous. She died in 1886, at the age of 55, but she didn't gain a reputation as a major poet until after 1914. By then, biographers had to do a lot of guess-work to piece together details of this very private woman's life.

The American Topical Association's one-paragraph biography (*Women on Stamps*, Vol. 2, ATA Handbook 93 by Betty Killingbeck) portrays Dickinson as reclusive:

Dickinson, Emily (1830-1886). American poetess. Born Amherst, MA, and led a normal life until she retired into seclusion at about age thirty. Frail, usually wore white, and guarded her poetry so that

only a few poems were published in her lifetime, and those anonymously. A small collection appeared in 1892. Complete volumes and letters not published until 1924.

Here is one of the poems that has puzzled Dickinson's biographers, who have tried to identify the two loves:

My life closed twice before its close
It remains to see
If Immortality unveil
A third event to me,

So huge, so hopeless to conceive,
As these that twice befell.
Parting is all we know of heaven,
And all we need of hell.

(Published 1896, Thomas Johnson catalog number J. 1732, date of composition unknown.)

Gay and Lesbian Update

Twice Blessed: On Being Lesbian or Gay and Jewish, edited by Christie Balka and Andy Rose (Boston: Beacon Press, 1989). The chapter "In Search of Role Models" by Jody Hirsh provides grounds for adding some people to a gay and lesbian collection. Included are the Biblical figures of Ruth and Joseph. Ruth is pictured on Israel Scott No. 886 (pages 84-85 of **Twice Blessed**). Symbols of the tribe of Joseph (pages 85-87 of **Twice Blessed**) are shown on Israel Scott Nos. 115 and 519.

Selma Lagerlof can be found on two more stamps, Soviet Union (Russia) Scott No. 2172 (Issued 1959) and Turkey Scott No. B64 (Issued 1935).

Ovid, Roman Poet, can be found on Romania Scott No. 1369.

Palau issued souvenir sheets (6 x 50c) of Greg Louganis and Carl Lewis, among others, for the Barcelona Olympics, on July 10, 1992. Both of these men have been rumored to be gay, especially Greg Louganis. Can anyone provide any reference materials on these two? (Ed. note: I believe that *The Advocate* mentioned Louganis recently.)

Paul Hennefeld's collection was chosen to be in the "Court of Honor" at the Postage Stamp Mega Event held at the Jacob Javits Convention Center in New York City on October 28 to November 1. This is his collection's first "Court of Honor" and the collection's 10th Gold Award (a Gold Award is automatic to "Court of Honor" collections). Congratulations to Paul.

Gay & Lesbian History on Stamps Handbook

A must for the serious collector of Gay and Lesbian issues!

Recently updated, hundreds of new entries. Cost is \$10 (includes postage to US addresses. Foreign orders please remit \$12.)

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PEOPLE
WITH
AIDS**

AIDS Update

New AIDS stamps from Terra Candella. They are in sheets of 25 with a different vignette on each stamp. Please send a small donation to the following address:

Harley - Terra Candella
 PO Box 170579
 San Francisco CA 94117-0579
 USA



Limoges Babylone, France used a cancellation in late 1991:

AIDES - LIMOUSIN
 ASSOCIATION DE LUTTE
 CONTRE LE SIDA
 55 06 18 19
 LIMOGES BABYLONE 30--11-91

The slogan postmark "NEVER NEGLECT YOUR SEXUAL HEALTH" was in use November 23 - December 5, 1992 at Watford, England. Two dies were used for combined 1st and 2nd class mail.

Special handstamp was in use for one day at Derngate, Northampton, England. The cacheted cover was produced by the Royal Mail in a limited edition of 1,000. The cachet is black on a buff envelope. The Derngate Theatre, Northampton held a Charity Gala Concert on November 30, 1992 to raise funds for World AIDS Day on December 1st. The handstamp was designed by a local artist, Stephen Barford, and features the World AIDS Day emblem. All materials for the production of this special cover were donated, and all proceeds went to two leading AIDS charities.

Recent AIDS slogans from Zimbabwe. Unfortunately, all impressions are of poor quality:

Post Office Slogan

Harare YOUTH THINK CAREFULLY
 BEFORE YOU BECOME
 SEXUALLY ACTIVE SO AS
 TO AVOID HIV / AIDS

Post Office Slogan

Gwery AIDS DO NOT
LISTEN TO RUMOURS
GET THE FACTS RIGHT

Harare PRESENTLY THERE
IS NO CURE FOR AIDS
PREVENTION IS
THE ONLY WEAPON

Bulawayo USING A CONDOM
CORRECTLY ENSURES
PROTECTION AGAINST
HIV AND OTHER STDs

A medical exhibit at GENOVA (Italian stamp show) had a Dutch AIDS meter and a Filipino AIDS meter. If anyone can help with obtaining examples of these meters, please contact the editor.

To the list of people with AIDS that can be illustrated philatelically, several figure skaters can be added. John Curry of Great Britain ('76 Olympic gold medal), whoever won the gold medal in the '72 Olympics and a well known Canadian skater. (Can anyone help with the names of the last two?)

Copies of the following meter impressions can be obtained from:

AIDS Coalition Pinellas
410-A North Fort Harrison
Clearwater FL 34615
USA

Please include a small donation, and a self addressed envelope if you do not want the postal service to cancel the meter impression.

SUPPORT

AIDS Coalition Pinellas
'a community commitment'



Last Lick Last Lick Last Lick

TOPEX '93 will be held June 25 - 27, 1993 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Anyone interested in attending may write to ATA for further information. Also, if enough members show an interest, a GLHSC meeting can be set. However, a room will need to be reserved, so a prompt response is needed. Please contact either the editor, Ed Centeno or Paul Henefeld. Thanks.

The 1993 APS STAmPSHOW will be held August 19-22 in Houston, Texas. Again, if any members are planning to attend, a meeting room can be reserved. Please contact one of the officers promptly.

Member Phil Stager's VD exhibit won the gold at FLOREX. It also won a vermeil at VAPEX. It has also been accepted at POLSKA '93 to be held in Poznan, Poland in mid-May '93. Congratulations Phil!

Just Fragments, a collection of 20 poems by member Mikell Goetsch. Copies can be obtained by sending \$5 to the author at:

Mikell Goetsch
1242 Palo Alto Street
Pittsburgh PA 15212
USA

Please state that you are a GLHSC member, as there is no postage charge for club members.

Last Minute Addition!

The address for the Freddie Mercury cover was received shortly after mailing the last journal. The cover costs 2 pounds and is available from:

Zamfir Constantin
Titulescu 92, Bloc 13
78161 Sector 1
Bucharest 2, Rumania