

1997



A 5S50 portrait stamp was issued on January 17, 1997 for the birth centenary of the poet Theodor Kramer (1897-1958) who was born in Niederhollerbrunn and who died in Vienna. The stamp was designed by Mag. Michael Fuchs, engraved by Prof. Werner Pfeiler, recess printed (cobalt blue) and printed in an impression of 2.7 million; comb perforated 13¼:14.

Also on January 17, 1997 a 7S stamp was issued depicting "Burgenland Epiphany Carol Singers" as part of the continuing series National Customs and Folklore Treasures. The stamp was designed by Maria Schulz, engraved by Wolfgang Seidel and printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (grey-black, Turkish blue, straw-yellow, carmine-lilac and beige) in an impression of 2.7 million; comb perf 13¼.



A 10S stamp was issued on February 21, 1997 to commemorate the 150th anniversary



of the Austrian Academy of Science. This stamp shows a line drawing of the building, illuminated by a spot lamp. To the left of the building is an inset portrait of the chief architect, Jean Nicolas Jadot. The Academy was founded on the May 14, 1847 by a patent of Ferdinand I working under the influence of Metternich. This stamp was designed by Mag. Radostina Bahnmüller and printed in photogravure (cobalt-ultramarine, beige, yellow, ultramarine, black and silver). Impression 1.9M; comb perf 14:13¼.

A 6S stamp was issued on February 21, 1997 in the series "Natural Beauties of Austria" and depicts Nussberg-Leopoldsberg near Vienna. The stamp depicts the vineyards of the Nussberg with Leopoldsberg in the background. The hill is 423 metres high and located in the 19th district of Vienna, known as Kahlenberg. The stamp was designed by Adolf Tuma, engraved by Gerhart Schmirl and printed in both recess (dark violet-brown) and photogravure (Turkish-blue, yellow, purple-lilac and brown-red) in an impression of 4 million; comb perforated 13¼.



A 6S value was issued on March 21, 1997 to mark the 50th anniversary of the Austrian Electricity Board.

The design incorporates wave forms intended to symbolise the nature of electricity itself. The stamp was designed by John Mark and printed in photogravure (light cobalt-blue, brown-crimson, ultramarine and black) in an impression of 2.9 million; comb perforated 13¾.

Also on March 21 a 20S stamp with a vertical design was issued to commemorate the centenary of the birth of the Hollywood composer Erich Wolfgang Korngold (b. 29.5.1897 in Brünn; d. 29.11.1957 in Hollywood). When he was 11, his ballet *Der Schneemann* (The Snowman), became a sensation in Vienna. His Second Piano Sonata, which he wrote at age 13, was played throughout Europe by Artur Schnabel. His one-act operas *Violanta* and *Der Ring des Polykrates* were premiered in Munich in 1916, conducted by Bruno Walter. At 23, his opera *Die tote Stadt* (The Dead City) premiered in Hamburg and Cologne. In 1921 he conducted the Hamburg Opera. During the 1920s he re-orchestrated, re-arranged and nearly re-composed several forgotten operettas by Johann Strauss II. By 1931 he was a professor of music at the Vienna State Academy. At the request of motion picture director Max Reinhardt, and due to the rise of the Nazi regime, Korngold moved to Hollywood in 1934 to write music scores for films. The stamp design features a scene from his opera, "The Dead City" with a stave of the music; it was designed and engraved by Prof. Werner Pfeiler. It was printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (blue and gold) in an impression of 1.9 million; comb perforated 13¼:14. An extensive and interesting biography is at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Erich_Wolfgang_Korngold





On April 25, a portrait stamp appeared to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the death of St. Peter Canisius (1521-1597) who was born in Nijmegen and died in Freiburg. He was the first Jesuit of Central Europe and founded the Jesuit Colleges in both Vienna, Innsbruck and Hall in Tirol. The stamp depicts the Saint seated with his pupils gathered round him.

A 7S stamp was issued on April 25, 1997 in the series Hunting and the Environment (Jagd und Umwelt) showing "Wild Red Deer feeding in the winter time" - a herd of deer being provided with food by the hunters. The stamp was designed by Mag. Valentin Wurnitsch and printed in photogravure (ultramarine, yellow, lilac-purple red and black), impression 2.6 million; comb perforated 14.



Also on April 25, 1997 another 7S value was issued in a new series Austrian Soccer Champions to commemorate "Sports Club Rapid of Vienna". The design incorporates an action shot with three players and football; in the top left corner is a sketch of their ground and in the lower left corner their badge. It was designed by Prof. Hannes Margreiter and printed in photogravure (dark-grey, straw-yellow, turquoise-blue, ultramarine, green, scarlet, brown-red and black) in an impression of 3.5 million; comb perforated 13³/₄.

A stamp of May 9, 1997 marked the centenary of the death of Johannes Brahms (1833-1897). This is the first time that Brahms has been portrayed on an Austrian stamp; one was forecast for 1967 but didn't happen.

The second stamp of May 9, 1997 commemorated the bicentenary of the birth of Franz Schubert (1797-1828). Franz Schubert has appeared on Austrian stamps on three previous occasions; in 1922 (a 10 kreuzer portrait stamp as part of the Musicians' Fund series), in 1947 (12 groschen portrait stamp - Famous Austrians), and in 1978 (a 6S from a painting by Josef Kriehuber on the 150th anniversary of his death).



On May 9, 1997 the seventh stamp design in Professor Otto Stefferl's series for 'The Day of the Stamp' which started in 1991. Here the 7S value incorporates "A" and "E". There was no surcharge this year, probably because of the Visit-WIPA stamp! Printed in both recess (violet-black) and photogravure (lilac-pink, yellow, grey, crimson and gold) in an impression of 4 million; comb perforated 13¹/₂.



On May 23, 1997 a 7S stamp was issued as a contribution to the 'EUROPA' stamp series. The design portrays the four animals of Bremen, from the well-known Grimm's fairy tale, with two children looking up with a bemused look. The stamp was designed by Bettina Stocker and printed in photogravure (grey-black, cream-ochre, yellow-orange, sienna, crimson-pink, dark violet-blue, scarlet and black) in an impression of 2.7 million; comb perforated 13³/₄.





On May 23, 1997 a 27S+13S stamp was issued in a new series inviting philatelists to visit Vienna for WIPA 2000. This stamp reproduces the 9 Kreuzer value of 1850 and depicts a postman of the period on a tricycle delivering the post. Designed by Adolf Tuma and engraved by Wolfgang Seidel. The stamp was printed in recess (violet-black) & photogravure (grey-black, brown-ochre, pink-crimson and yellow) and letterpress (light cobalt-blue) in an impression of 1.5 million; 14:13¾.

The 125th anniversary of the Technical Surveyance Association (TÜV - Austria) was commemorated by issuing a 7S multicoloured stamp on June 13, 1997. Three inter-meshed gears are shown to represent the technical nature of this association which surveys Quality Assured Performance for Austrian industry. The stamp was designed by Maj. Valentin Wurnitsch and printed in photogravure (Grey-violet, ultra-marine, scarlet, dark violet-blue, olive-yellow) at the State Printing Works Vienna in an impression of 2.7 million; comb perforated 13¾. The artist hasn't perhaps realised that if the three gears all mesh together, then none can turn round!



This stamp is to commemorate the centenary of the Hochschneeberg Cog railway; it was issued on June 13...

as was this, to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Wiener Neustadt to Ödenburg [Sopron] railway.



A 7S stamp on July 11th marked the centenary of the birth of Karl Heinrich Waggerl, the Austrian folk writer of Salzburg province, who was born on December 10, 1897 in Bad Gastein. His works were written in the dialect of that area. It depicts a self portrait of himself seated on a bench in a pensive mood. The stamp was designed by Peter Sinawehl, designed by Wolfgang Seidel and printed in both recess (russian green) and photogravure (brown-ochre and light greenish-blue) in an impression of 2.7 million; comb perforated 14.

On July 11, another stamp was issued in the series, "National Customs and Folklore Treasures" showing a Brass Band from Kössen in the Tirol

An orthopaedic congress was held in Vienna in September 1997. An 8S commemorative stamp emerged on September 19, 1997 in its honour. The word comes from the Greek and relates to curing deformities arising from disease or injury of bones. Adolf Lorenz was a famous orthopaedic surgeon.



The stamp was designed by Marianne Siegl and printed in photogravure (yellow-ochre, dark brown-crimson, pink-lilac, scarlet, dark violet-blue, yellow-green, black and gold) in an impression of 4 million; comb perforated 13¾.





Agriculture has always been a very important industry in Austria and this stamp depicts the initials BOKU (Bodenkultur) within a symbolic design of flowering plants. This university (College for Agricultural Sciences) was founded in Vienna in 1872. This 9S stamp was issued on September 19, 1997; it was designed by Peter Sinawebl and printed in photogravure (blue-green, yellow-green, green-emerald, cornflower blue, brown-ochre, lilac-red, brown-black and black) in an impression of 4 million; comb perforated 13¾.

The 100th anniversary of the foundation of the Association to help the blind in Austria was commemorated by issuing a 7S multicoloured stamp on October 17, 1997. The design depicts a blind man standing on the edge of a pavement, at a pedestrian crossing, holding onto the harness of his guide-dog. The man is listening to audible signals from the crossing mechanism which indicate that it is safe to cross the road. He is wearing dark glasses and a special armband to show the public that he is blind. The stamp was designed by Mag. Valentin Wurnitsch and printed in photogravure (grey-black, yellow, crimson-red, turquoise-blue, violet-ultramarine and black) in an impression of 2.9 million; comb perforated 13¾:14. In addition the stamp has the value printed in Braille, the first time that Braille has been printed on an Austrian stamp.



The second stamp is a 6S50 multicoloured stamp issued on October 17, 1997. This is the 9th stamp in the Austrian World of Work series. On this stamp a nurse is shown raising the head of a bed-ridden patient in order to enable the patient to drink. In the background a doctor is standing checking the patient's records. Designed by Prof. Otto Stefferl, engraved by Kurt Leitgeb and printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (gold, light grey, scarlet and turquoise-blue) in an impression of 3 million; comb perforated 14:13¾.

Also issued on October 17, 1997 is another in the series on Modern Art. It is by Helmut Schickhofer, who named it "House in the wind". Perf 13¼.



This 7S value with a portrait of Dr Thomas Klestil, the seventh President of the Second Austrian Republic, was issued on October 31, 1997 to commemorate his 65th birthday (he was born on November 4, 1932). A career diplomat who had been the ambassador to the United States of America and then the permanent representative to the United Nations Organisation, in 1992 he was nomination of "Österreichische Volkspartei" for the Presidency. He was elected to the presidency on July 8, 1992 succeeding Dr. Kurt Waldheim. The stamp was designed by Mag. Helga Herger, engraved by Wolfgang Seidel and printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (violet-ultramarine, greenish-yellow, purple red-lilac, red and gold) in an impression of 2.9 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½.

Also issued on October 31 is a portrait stamp for the 75th anniversary of the birth of Oskar Werner the actor, who was born in Vienna on November 13, 1922. He played mainly at the Vienna Burgtheater and at the theater in der Josefstadt. He also played in several films.





On November 21 a third stamp was added to the "National Customs and Folklore Treasures" series; it shows a Brass Band playing from the balcony of a tower somewhere in Upper Austria. Perf 13¾.

"Licht ins Dunkel" 1997 is the 25th anniversary of the charity 'Licht ins Dunkel' (Light in the darkness). This is the largest and most popular charity in Austria. It started on Christmas Eve 1972 with a programme on 'Radio Lower Austria' and from 1978 it has been featured on television 'working for a good cause'. It has developed into a massive support aid for all families with disabled children, families with children in need and unforeseen emergencies. A 7S stamp with a symbolic logo and a jubilee slogan "Ist da jemand?" was issued on November 28 1997. The full quotation from which the slogan is taken is, "Ja, da ist jemand, der in Not ist, und ja, da ist jemand, der helfen will". Yes, there is someone, who is in need, and, Yes, there is someone who will help. The stamp was designed by Hannes Margreiter and printed in photogravure (dark blue); comb 14:13¾ Issue 3M



The final stamp for 1997 is a 7S value, the 23rd in the series of annual Christmas stamps issued on November 28, 1997. It depicts a medieval "Madonna and Child" statue with the Latin inscription "Magna Mater Austriae" (Great Mother of Austria) - the dedication used at Mariazell. The stamp was designed by Prof. Sepp Buchner, engraved by Wolfgang Seidel and printed in both recess (dark crimson-brown) and photogravure (brown ochre, lilac-purple red, yellow, blue and gold) in an impression of 11 million; comb perforated 13¾.