

UNISSUED AND AMENDED STAMPS OF THE USSR.

BACKGROUND:

Postal officials of most countries openly admitted existence of rejected stamps but secretive Soviet regime did all it could to hide them. Unissued and recalled stamps were banned from Soviet philatelic publications and majority of Soviet stamp collectors did not know rejected stamps ever existed.

PURPOSE:

To present thorough study of unapproved and recalled Soviet stamps and reasons for their rejections, amendments and replacements.

SCOPE:

Printed but unissued or amended postal stamps of the USSR. Drawings and photo essays of designs not advancing to production of stamps are NOT included in the scope of this exhibit. Stamp proofs usually differ from issued stamps by color, denomination or size and are also excluded from the scope of this exhibit. It could not be transformed in its current scope into multiframe exhibit because overwhelming majority of relevant material is already included in the exhibit.

COMPREHENSIVENESS:

This exhibit is without a doubt the most complete display of unissued and amended stamps of the USSR ever assembled in private hands. It includes a large number of unique and uncatalogued items. All unique and rare stamps were expertized by V. Zagorsky, P. Buchsbayew, N. Mandrovsky, V. Liapine and A. Zverev.

IMPORTANCE:

Presented exhibit fills in a number of longstanding blank spots in some of the most mysterious and under-researched areas of Russian philately. Rejected stamps are uniquely important because they are among few surviving documents showing government decision making process in the Soviet period.

SUBJECT AND PHILATELIC RESEARCH:

Information about unissued and amended stamps of the USSR is limited and confusing. Exhibitor studied historical events surrounding recalls and rejections of each particular stamp issue, reviewed catalogs and publications and interviewed experts. Several discoveries were made of unissued stamps not previously recorded or known. As all catalogues provide incomplete listings of rejected stamps, exhibitor assembled master list of all unissued items from six different catalogues and added a number of items not listed in any catalogue. Several items catalogued as unissued stamps were reclassified as proofs or preliminary photo essay designs. Several catalogued unissued stamps that are still subject to doubts and disagreements as to their postal origin were excluded from the exhibit.

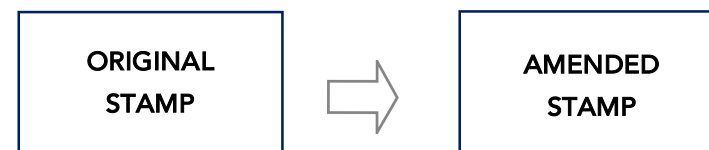
RARITY:

Soviet postal authorities usually ordered around 10 stamps affixed to project cards from GOZNAK factory for official review of each proposed issue. Only a fraction of original 10 rejected stamps of each issue survived. Presented exhibit cannot be replicated as it contains a number of unique examples of important unissued stamps.

EXHIBIT PLAN:

	Page
Title, Introduction and Plan.	1
1. Unissued Stamps.	
1.1 Rejected Before Production.	2-6
1.2 Recalled and Not Reissued.	7
2. Amended Stamps.	
2.1 Corrected Before Production.	8-10
2.2 Recalled and Reissued with Corrections.	11-12

AMENDED STAMPS FLOWCHARTS -



RED BORDER INDICATES UNIQUE OR VERY RARE ITEM.