Sale 957—Thursday and Friday, June 5-6, 2008

THE ISLANDER COLLECTION

The Rarest and Most Outstanding Stamps of South America

BRAZIL ~ BUENOS AIRES ~ CHILE ~ COLOMBIA ~ PERU

Live auction to be held at Siegel Auction Galleries,
60 East 56th Street (Park/Madison), 4th Floor, New York City

Lots are sold subject to a 15% buyer’s premium and any applicable sales tax (or customs duty for non-U.S. buyers)

Brazil

Thursday, June 5, 2008, at 1:30 p.m.
Lots 1-42

Pre-Sale Viewing—Monday-Wednesday 10-4 and by appointment

Robert A. Siegel
AUCTION GALLERIES, INC.

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Phone (212) 753-6421 • Fax (212) 753-6429 • E-mail: stamps@siegelauctions.com

Catalogues, internet bidding, resources, archives and the Siegel Encyclopedia at siegelauctions.com
Information for Bidders

Bidding
The following means are available for placing bids:

1) Attending the Live Auction in Person: All bidders must register for a paddle, and new bidders must provide references at least three business days in advance of the sale.

2) Live Internet Bidding: Instructions for participating as a Live Internet Bidder are provided on the page opposite.

3) Phone Bidding: Bidders can be connected to the sale by phone and bid through a member of staff. Requests for phone bidding are subject to approval (please contact our office at least 24 hours before the sale). A signed Bid Form is required.

4) Absentee Bids. All bids received in advance of the sale, either by mail, fax, phone, e-mail or internet, are Absentee Bids, which instruct the auctioneer to bid up to a specific amount on one or more lots in the sale. Absentee Bids sent by phone, fax or e-mail should arrive at least one hour prior to the start of the sale session. Bids entered through Live Internet Bidding will be visible to the auctioneer during the sale. Written bids should be entered legibly on the Bid Form in the sale catalogue. E-mail and internet bids should be carefully typed and double-checked. All new bidders must provide references. We recommend calling or e-mailing to confirm that Absentee Bids sent by mail, fax or e-mail have been received and entered.

Pre-Sale Viewing
Subject to availability, certain lots (except group lots) can be sent to known clients for examination. Requests must be made no later than 7 days prior to the sale. Lots must be returned on the day received. Postage/insurance costs will be invoiced.

In addition to regular viewing, clients may view lots by appointment. Our staff will be pleased to answer questions or provide additional information about lots.

Expert Certification
Individual items offered without a current certificate (PF dated within the past five years of sale; PSE dated January 2004 or later) may be purchased subject to independent certification of genuineness and our description. Please refer to the Conditions of Sale and Grading Terms for policies governing certification.

Shipping and Delivery
Procedures and charges for shipping lots are printed on the back of the Bid Form. Bidders are responsible for all prescribed shipping charges and any applicable sales tax or customs duties.

Price Realized
Prices realized are sent with each invoice. Bidders with e-mail will receive a Bid Results report after the sale. Session results are posted immediately to siegelauctions.com
Bidding from your computer lets you be part of the live auction from anywhere in the world!

There’s no substitute for following the auction in real time. Live Internet Bidding lets you bid and buy as though you were right there in the saleroom.

And it’s easy. Just start by following the simple steps to become a registered Live Internet Bidder. Once you’ve been approved for bidding, you can listen to the auction and place bids with the click of a mouse.

This step-by-step guide will instruct you how to register, set your browser and use the bidding interface.

1 Registering with Stamp Auction Network and Siegel Auction Galleries

Live Internet Bidding is managed by Stamp Auction Network (SAN). To bid, you must be registered and approved by both SAN and Siegel. To decide what you need to do, choose the description below that best fits you.

I’ve already registered with SAN and have been approved by Siegel for internet bidding. You’re ready for Step 2.

I’ve never registered with SAN, but I’m a Siegel client. Go to stampauctionnetwork.com/siegel and click on “Register” at the top. Check the box for Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries (under “R”) and submit the form, indicating you are a Siegel client. Once registered at SAN, you’re ready for Step 2.

I’ve never registered with SAN, and this is the first time I’ve bid with Siegel. Go to stampauctionnetwork.com/siegel and click on “Register” at the top. Check the box for Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries (under “R”) and submit the form with your trade references (please, no family members or credit card companies as references). Once registered at SAN and approved by Siegel for bidding, you’re ready for Step 2.

I’ve bid through SAN before, but this is the first time I’ve bid in a Siegel sale. Then you just need to be approved by Siegel. Go to stampauctionnetwork.com/siegel and click on “Update Registration” at the top. Your SAN account information will be sent to us for approval (you might be asked for other trade references). Once approved by Siegel for bidding, you can move to Step 2.

2 Using your browser for Live Internet Bidding and understanding the way it works.

Live Internet Bidding works by providing an audio feed of the auction (for anyone using Internet Explorer) and by allowing registered bidders to observe and place bids. The bidding interface shows a photo and description of the lot, the current bid (and your bidding status), and options for placing competitive bids. To join the auction, go to stampauctionnetwork.com/siegel. You can also log on at siegelauctions.com.

The visual interface will work with any browser on both PC and Mac operating systems. However, the audio feed only works with Internet Explorer on a PC with ActiveX software installed. If ActiveX is not on your computer, you will have the option to install it.

Before bidding by internet for the first time, we recommend finding a sale in progress and listening to the public broadcast or logging in as a registered bidder. This will help you develop a feel for the sale tempo and bidding interface.

“System down” or “lost connection” events do occasionally happen. If you have any problems with Live Internet Bidding, please call 212-753-6421 for immediate assistance.

3 Using Live Internet Bidding to bid, track results and communicate with the auctioneer.

When you’re logged on as a Live Internet Bidder, the screen will display buttons with bid increments. After you click on a bid amount, the auctioneer is immediately notified of your bid. Retracting a bid is usually not acceptable, so please bid carefully.

If you bid, then decide to stop, please use the “Pass” button, which appears once you’ve started bidding. This tells the auctioneer not to wait for another bid from you.

You can send messages to the auctioneer (for example, a request for extension). You can also track prior realizations from the bidding screen.
The property described in this catalogue will be offered at public auction by Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc. (“Galleries”) on behalf of various consignors and itself or affiliated companies. By bidding on any lot, whether directly or by or through an agent, in person, or by telephone, facsimile or any other means, the bidder acknowledges and agrees to all of the following Conditions of Sale.

1. The highest bidder acknowledged by the auctioneer shall be the buyer. The term “final bid” means the last bid acknowledged by the auctioneer, which is normally the highest bid offered. The purchase price payable by the buyer will be the sum of the final bid and a commission of 15% of the final bid (“buyer’s premium”), together with any sales tax, use tax or customs duties due on the sale.

2. The auctioneer has the right to reject any bid, to advance the bidding at his discretion and, in the event of a dispute between bidders, to determine the successful bidder, to continue the bidding or to reoffer and resell the lot in dispute. The Galleries’ record of the final sale shall be conclusive.

3. All bids are per numbered lot in the catalogue unless otherwise announced by the auctioneer at the time of sale. The right is reserved to group two or more lots, to withdraw any lot or lots from the sale, or to act on behalf of the seller. The Galleries will execute bidding instructions on behalf of clients, but will not be responsible for the failure to execute such bids or for any errors in the execution of such bids.

4. Lots with numbers followed by the symbol ° are offered subject to a confidential minimum bid (“reserve”), below which the lot will not be sold. The absence of the symbol ° means that the lot is offered without a reserve. If there is no reserve, the auctioneer has sole discretion to establish a minimum opening bid and may refuse an offer of less than half of the published estimate. Any lot that does not reach its reserve or opening bid requested by the auctioneer will be announced as “passed” and excluded from the prices realized lists after the sale. The Galleries may have a direct or indirect ownership interest in any or all lots in the sale resulting from an advance of monies or goods-in-trade or a guarantee of minimum net proceeds made by the Galleries to the seller.

5. Subject to the exclusions listed in 5(A), the Galleries will accept the return of lots which have been misidentified or which have obvious faults that were present when the lot was in the Galleries’ custody, but not so noted in the lot description. All disputed lots must be received by the Galleries intact with the original packing material within 5 days of delivery to the buyer but no later than 30 days from the sale date. (5A) EXCLUSIONS: The following lots may not be returned for any reason: lots containing 10 or more items; lots from buyers who registered for the pre-sale exhibition or received lots by postal viewing, thereby having had the opportunity to inspect them before the sale; any lot described with “faults,” “defects” or a specific fault may not be returned because of any secondary fault. Photographed lots may not be returned because of centering, margins, short/nibbed perforations or other factors shown in the illustrations. Lots may not be returned for any of the following reasons: the color of the item does not match the color reproduction in the sale catalogue or website listing; the description contains inaccurate information about the quantity known or reported; or a certification service grades a stamp lower than the grade stated in the description.

6. Successful bidders, unless they have established credit with the Galleries prior to the sale, must make payment in full before the lots will be delivered. Buyers not known to the Galleries must make payment in full within 3 days from the date of sale. The Galleries reserves the right to demand a cash deposit from anyone prior to bidder registration and/or to demand payment at the time the lot is knocked down to the highest bidder, for any reason whatsoever. In the event that any buyer refuses or fails to make payment in cash for any lot at the time it is knocked down to him, the auctioneer reserves the right to reoffer the lot immediately for sale to the highest bidder. Credit cards are not accepted as payment.

7. If the purchase price has not been paid within the time limit specified above, nor lots taken up within 7 days from the date of sale, the lots will be resold by whatever means deemed appropriate by the Galleries, and any loss incurred from resale will be charged to the defaulting buyer. Any account more than 30 days in arrears will be subject to a late payment charge of 1½% per month as long as the account remains in arrears. Any expenses incurred in securing payment from delinquent accounts will be charged to the delinquent buyer. A fee of $250.00 per check will be charged for each check returned for insufficient funds.

8. All lots are sold as genuine. Any lot accompanied by a certificate issued by The Philatelic Foundation within 5 years of the sale date by or Professional Stamp Experts since January 2004 is sold “as is” and in accordance with the description on the certificate. Such lots may not be returned for any reason, including but not limited to a contrary certificate of opinion. Buyers who wish to obtain a certificate for any item that does not have a P.F. or P.S.E. certificate (dated as above) may do so, provided that the following conditions are met: (1) the purchase price must be paid in full, (2) the item must be submitted to an acceptable certifying committee with a properly executed application form within 21 days of the sale, (3) a copy of the application form must be given to the Galleries, (4) in the event that an adverse opinion is received, the Galleries retain the right to resubmit the item on the buyer’s behalf for reconsideration, without time limit or other restrictions, (5) unless written notification to the contrary is received, items submitted for certification will be considered cleared 90 days from the date of sale, and (6) in the event any item is determined to be “not as described”, the buyer will be refunded the purchase price and the certification fee up to $600.00 unless otherwise agreed.

9. Until paid for in full, all lots remain the property of the Galleries on behalf of the seller.

10. Agents executing bids on behalf of clients will be held responsible for all purchases made on behalf of clients unless otherwise arranged prior to the sale.

11. The buyer assumes all risk for delivery of purchased lots and agrees to pay for prescribed shipping costs. Buyers outside the U.S. are responsible for all customs duties.

12. The bidder consents that any action or proceeding against it may be commenced and maintained in any court within the State of New York or in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, that the courts of the State of New York and United States District Court for the Southern District of New York shall have jurisdiction with respect to the subject matter hereof and the person of the bidder. The bidder agrees not to assert any defense to any action or proceeding initiated by Galleries based upon improper venue or inconvenient forum. The bidder agrees that any action brought by the bidder shall be commenced and maintained only in a Federal Court in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York or the State Court in the county in which Galleries has its principal place of business in New York. These Terms and Conditions shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the substantive laws of the State of New York.

SCOTT R. TREPEL, Principal Auctioneer
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Telephone (212) 377-0111

Revised 1/2008 15%
Grades, Abbreviations and Values Used in Descriptions

Grades and Centering

Our descriptions contain detailed information and observations about each item’s condition. We have also assigned grades to stamps and covers, which reflect our subjective assessment. For stamps, the margin width, centering and gum are described and graded according to generally-accepted standards (an approximate correlation to numeric grades is provided at right). Although we believe our grades are accurate, they are not always exactly aligned with third-party grading terms or standards for all issues. A lot may not be returned because a certification service grades a stamp lower than the grade stated in the description. Information from the P.S.E. Stamp Market Quarterly and P.S.E. Population Report™ is the most current available, but lots may not be returned due to errors or changes in statistics or data.

Extremely Fine Gem (90-100): The term “Gem” describes condition that is the finest possible for the issue. This term is equivalent to “Superb” used by grading services.

Extremely Fine (80-90): Exceptionally large/wide margins or near perfect centering.

Very Fine (70-85): Normal-size margins for the issue well-centered with the design a bit closer to one side. “Very Fine and choice” applies to stamps that have desirable traits such as rich color, sharp impression, freshness or clarity of cancel.

Fine (60-70): Smaller than usual margins or noticeably off center. Pre-1890 issues may have the design touched in places.

Very Good (below 60): Attractive appearance, but margins or perforations cut into the design.

Guide to Gum Condition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gum Categories:</th>
<th>MINT N.H.</th>
<th>ORIGINAL GUM (O.G.)</th>
<th>NO GUM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mint</td>
<td>! !</td>
<td>!</td>
<td>!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never Hinged</td>
<td>Free from any disturbance</td>
<td>Lightly Hinged</td>
<td>Faint impression of a removed hinge over a small area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hinge Mark or Remnant</td>
<td>Prominent hinged spot with part or all of the hinge remaining</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Part o.g.</td>
<td>Approximately half or more of the gum intact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Small part o.g.</td>
<td>Approximately less than half of the gum intact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No gum</td>
<td>Only if issued with gum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Catalogue Symbol: ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ (★)

PRE-1890 ISSUES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scott Value for “O.G.”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Never Hinged” Values for Nos. 219-771</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“No Gum” Values thru No. 218</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1890-1935 ISSUES

Disturbed Original Gum: Gum showing noticeable effects of humidity, climate or hinging over more than half of the gum. The significance of gum disturbance in valuing a stamp in any of the Original Gum categories depends on the degree of disturbance, the rarity and normal gum condition of the issue and other variables affecting quality. For example, stamps issued in tropical climates are expected to have some gum disturbance due to humidity, and such condition is not considered a negative factor in pricing.

1935 TO DATE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scott Value for “Unused”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“No Gum” Values thru No. 218</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Covers

Minor nicks, short edge tears, flap tears and slight reduction at one side are normal conditions for 19th century envelopes. Folded letters should be expected to have at least one file fold. Light cleaning of covers and small mends along the edges are accepted forms of conservation. Unusual covers may have a common stamp with a slight crease or tiny tear. These flaws exist in virtually all 19th century covers and are not always described. They are not grounds for return.

Catalogue Values and Estimates

Unless otherwise noted, the currently available Scott Catalogue values are quoted in dollars with a decimal point. Other catalogues are often used for foreign countries or specialized areas and are referred to by their common name: Stanley Gibbons (SG), Michel, Zumstein, Facit, etc. Estimates are indicated with an “E.” and reflect our conservative valuation in dollars. Reserves will never exceed the low end of the estimate range; they will sometimes exceed Scott Catalogue value for stamps in Extremely Fine condition.

Because of certain pricing inconsistencies in the Scott Catalogue—for example, blocks that have no gum, the absence of premiums for Mint N.H. items, etc.—we cannot guarantee the accuracy of values quoted for multiples, specialized items and collection lots. We generally try to be conservative, but buyers may not return a lot because of a discrepancy in catalogue value due to Scott pricing inconsistencies.

Symbols and Abbreviations (see chart above for gum symbols)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Block</th>
<th>E Essay</th>
<th>pmk. Postmark</th>
<th>No. Scott Catalogue Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cover</td>
<td>P Proof</td>
<td>cds Circular Datestamp</td>
<td>hs Handstamp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FC</td>
<td>TC Trial Color Proof</td>
<td>var. Variety</td>
<td>ms. Manuscript</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Revised 1/2008
Brazil

Brazil holds the distinction of being the second country to issue stamps for nationwide use after Great Britain. Although the 1842 City Despatch Post stamps issued in New York City and the 1843 Zurich Cantonal stamps preceded Brazil’s 1843 Bull’s Eye issue, those stamps were never distributed through national post offices for general use. Therefore, Brazil holds a valid claim of being the first country in the Americas and the second country in the world to issue stamps for use by all of its citizens.

From the philatelist’s perspective, Brazil offers a relatively large quantity of material, including single stamps, multiples and covers. In this respect, Brazil differs from its neighboring countries. There are today two major collections of Bull’s Eye issues competing in international exhibitions, a circumstance which would be quite impossible in many other areas of South American philately.

The highlight of the Islander collection is, of course, the famous “Pack Strip,” which is described in detail in this sale catalogue (pages 13-19). This remarkable item is ranked among the Top Ten items in worldwide philately, and within Brazil it is number one among the three most important items. The three most valuable Aristocrats of Brazil are the Pack Strip, the Complete Bull’s Eye Set Cover, and the complete sheet of sixty of the 60-reis Bull’s Eye from the large plate.

In October 2007 the Geneva-based auction firm of David Feldman S.A. sold the Complete Set cover, the highlight of the Meyer collection, for the record price of €824,000 (US $1,162,000). The 60-reis sheet is now a significant cornerstone of Luis Alemany’s Grand Prix exhibit collection. And, of course, the Pack Strip will be offered on June 5 as the highlight of the Islander collection.

It is a peculiar circumstance that no collector at any time in history has owned more than one of these three top items of Brazil. However, the sale of the Complete Set cover and offering of the Pack Strip make that an achievable goal.

The Complete Set cover, bearing all three values of the Bull’s Eye issue, sold by David Feldman S.A. in October 2007 for €824,000 (US $1,162,000)

Photo courtesy of David Feldman
1° 1843, 60r Deep Black, Early Impression (2). 1st Composite Plate, State A, Position 1, the first stamp in the 60r pane cancelled by full clear strike of “Correio Geral da Corte 1/8/1843” first day of issue datestamp, large margins including outer frameline at top, few tiny toned spots, negligible corner crease at bottom left

EXTREMELY FINE. ONE OF APPROXIMATELY A HALF-DOZEN KNOWN BRAZIL BULL’S EYE STAMPS WITH THE FIRST DAY OF ISSUE DATESAMP. IN THE ABSENCE OF A FIRST DAY COVER, THIS STAMP REPRESENTS THE ONLY MEANS TO DISPLAY THE FIRST DAY OF ISSUE OF THE FIRST STAMPS ISSUED FOR NATIONAL USE IN THE AMERICAS.

The August 1, 1843, issue date has been well-established since 1948, when Hugo Fraccaroli published his article, “Date of Issue of First Brazilian Stamps” in the London Philatelist (March 1948). .................................................. E. 7,500-10,000
BRAZIL

2° (*) 1843, 30r, 60r, 90r Bull's Eyes (1-3). Unused (no gum), full to large margins, 30r and 90c thin spots, 60r slightly toned, otherwise a Very Fine complete set of Brazil 1843 Bull's Eyes, Meyer €11,500 ........... E. 1,000-1,500

3° (*) 1843, 60r, 90c Bull's Eyes (2, 3). Two of each, all unused (no gum), each value represented by Early and Intermediate Impressions, ample to large margins, both 90r stamps have slight bend or crease, otherwise Very Fine-Extremely Fine, Meyer €12,200 ........... E. 1,500-2,000

4° 1843, 30r, 60r, 90r Bull's Eyes (1-5). Study collection of 17 used singles, variety of plates and states, includes seven 30r (all but one with outer framelines), six 60r (one corner position with outer framelines), four 90r, a few better cancels incl. one 60r and one 90r with "S.MATHEUZ" straightline and a 90r with "Correio Geral da Corte 2/8" datestamp on second day of use, minor faults, all of exhibition quality and Very Fine-Extremely Fine appearance, a scarce group with Scott Retail value of $10,000.00 without premium for cancels, Meyer €11,950 ........... (Photo Ex) E. 2,000-3,000
30-REIS

5° ★ 1843, 30r Deep Black, Early Impression (1). 1st Composite Plate, State A, Position 6, huge margins with top right corner sheet margins showing outer framelines. **original gum**, detailed impression with every line of lathework showing clearly, bright fresh paper
EXTREMELY FINE GEM. CERTAINLY ONE OF THE FINEST ORIGINAL-GUM EXAMPLES OF THE BRAZIL 30-REIS BULL’S EYE AND ESPECIALLY DESIRABLE FROM THIS EARLY STATE OF THE FIRST COMPOSITE PLATE...
Ex Kuyas. Meyer €5,400............ E. 1,500-2,000

6° ★ 1843, 30r Deep Black, Early Impression (1). Original gum, h.r., large even margins, beautiful sharp impression on fresh paper, light horizontal bend
EXTREMELY FINE. A MAGNIFICENT ORIGINAL-GUM EXAMPLE OF THE 1843 30-REIS BULL’S EYE.
Ex Dale-Lichtenstein and Lima. Meyer €5,400 ............
................................................................. E. 1,000-1,500

7° ★ 1843, 30r Deep Black, Early Impression (1). Original gum, paper h.r., full to large margins, gorgeous deep shade and early impression, crisp and fresh paper
EXTREMELY FINE. A LOVELY ORIGINAL-GUM EXAMPLE OF THE BRAZIL 30-REIS BULL’S EYE FROM AN EARLY IMPRESSION.
Ex Newbury. Meyer €5,400 ......... E. 1,000-1,500

8°(★) 1843, 30r Deep Black, Early Impression (1). Unused (no gum), large margins, intense shade and exceptionally sharp impression. Extremely Fine, ex Newbury, signed A. Diena, Meyer €5,400 ............
................................................................. E. 500-750
9° (*)  **1843, 30r Black, Late Impression (1).** Vertical pair, unused (no gum), large margins to just touched at left, small fault at lower left.

FINE APPEARANCE AND EXCEEDINGLY RARE. THE 30-REIS VALUE IS FAR RARER IN UNUSED MULTIPLES THAN ITS 60 AND 90-REIS BULL'S EYE COUNTERPARTS.

Illustrated as Positions 10/16 in Napier’s “Suggested 3rd Plate Top Pane” (plate 9). Meyer €12,000............

..................................................... E. 4,000-5,000

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10°  **1843, 30r Black, Intermediate Impression (1).**

2nd Composite Plate, State D, Positions 7/13, vertical pair with huge margins showing outer framelines at left and bottom and **interpanneau dividing line at bottom**, tied by two strikes of “Correio Geral da Corte 22/11/1843” circular datestamp on piece, light bend in bottom stamp, small corner crease in bottom margin.

EXTREMELY FINE APPEARANCE. A RARE EXAMPLE OF THE 30-REIS **SEMI-XIPHAPOGOS**, WHICH SHOWS THE INTERPANNEAU DIVIDING LINE AT BOTTOM.

Bull’s Eye stamps from the composite plates that show the diving line between panes are called **Semi-Xiphopagus**. Such stamps are especially desirable because they can be immediately recognized as examples from the composite plates without the need for plating (the two known Xiphopagus multiples are, of course, the se-tenant pair and strip of three). The 60r **Semi-Xiphopagus** stamps come from the top or bottom of the middle pane (twelve positions). The 30r and 90r are rarer, because they can only come from one row (30r bottom, 90r top, six stamps positions each). As a measure of rarity, the Meyer collection sold through Feldman in October 2007, which was said to contain a “record holding” of **Semi-Xiphopagus** stamps, had just one single 30r unused and a 30r pair with a trace of the interpanneau line.

Ex Santos. Signed A. Diena. Meyer €6,500.....

..................................................... E. 1,500-2,000
11°  1843, 30r Black, Late Impression (1). Horizontal pair, large margins, lightly struck “Correio Geral da Corte 7/2/1845” circular datestamp, faint wrinkles show only when drying, still Very Fine, ex Lima, Meyer €1,900 ..........  E. 750-1,000

12°  1843, 30r Black, Intermediate Impression (1). 1st Composite Plate, State D, Positions 5-6, horizontal pair, huge margins all around with complete outer lines at top and right, small double-circle datestamp, small thins and faint ink spots, Extremely Fine appearance, ex Lima, Meyer €1,900....  E. 500-750

13°  1843, 30r Black, Intermediate Impression (1). Large Plate, State B, Positions 17-18, horizontal pair with ample to large margins and outer frameline at right, lightly struck “Correio Geral da Corte 21/2/1845” circular datestamp, vertical crease between stamps, otherwise Fine-Very Fine, ex Lima, Meyer €1,900 ....  E. 400-500

14°  1843, 30r Black, Intermediate Impression (1). Horizontal pair, ample to large margins, “Correio Geral da Corte 13/6/1844” circular datestamp, vertical crease between stamps and thinned at right, otherwise Fine-Very Fine, Meyer €1,900......................  E. 400-500
15° **1843, 30r, 60r Bull’s Eyes (1, 2).** Vertical pair of 30r, Positions 37/43, Large Plate, State B, ample to large margins, used with 60r, large margins, tied by three strikes of faint purplish brown “MARIANNA” straightline town handstamp on piece of brown cover, minor toning on piece only, stamps are Very Fine, scarce combination, ex Santos, Meyer €1,900 for 30r pair ................... E. 750-1,000

16° **1843, 30r Black, Intermediate Impression (1).** Large Plate, State B, Positions 15-16/21-22, block of four on very thick yellowish paper, two clear strikes of “Correio Geral da Corte 17/2/1845” circular datestamp, ample to large margins, minor faults and light staining

A RARE BLOCK OF THE 30-REIS BULL’S EYE FROM THE LARGE PLATE.

Meyer €10,500 ................................................................................ E. 4,000-5,000
The “Pack Strip”
History of The “Pack Strip”

The 30r and 60r se-tenant strip of three presented here is known to all of philately as the “Pack Strip,” in deference to one of its earliest owners, Charles Lathrop Pack. The Pack Strip is also known to specialists in Latin American stamps as the “Xiphopagus Triplet” (xiphopagus is a medical term for symmetrical conjoined twins).

Since its discovery in 1897, the Pack Strip has withstood the test of time, and today it is still ranked as one of the world’s Top Ten most desirable philatelic rarities. It has been featured in award-winning collector exhibits and in the Aristocrats of Philately displays at major international philatelic events. The strip was one of the most highly-valued rarities in the 1954 Life magazine feature spread, “The World’s Rarest Stamps.”

It seems appropriate, on this rare occasion when the Pack Strip will be offered to the philatelic market, to examine the Pack Strip’s significance and to trace the path of ownership from its discovery in 1897 up to the present time. To appreciate the importance of the Pack Strip, one should start with a basic understanding of Brazil’s 1843 Bull’s Eye issue and the printing methods used to create the stamps.

PRODUCTION OF THE BULL’S EYE ISSUE

The first stamps of Brazil were authorized by government decree on November 29, 1842, under the reign of Emperor Dom Pedro II, who was then just a teenager. Postage rates were established for land and sea routes: 60 reis for a letter carried by land weighing up to 4 oitavas (an old measure of weight, roughly equal to one half-ounce), and double the land rate for mail carried by ship. The land rate increased at 30-reis increments for each additional 2 oitavas (quarter-ounce), and the sea rate increased at 60-reis increments. Reduced rates for Court of Law mail and printed matter were also authorized.

Therefore, the three stamp denominations required by the 1842 postal reform were 30, 60 and 90 reis. Government officials ordered production of the stamp plates on February 23, 1843, and, just two months later, on April 29, the first plate was finished and presented along with proof impressions to the President of the Treasury by the Comptroller of the Mint.

The remarkable Bull’s Eye stamps, named for their large oval shape, were designed without the country’s name or a portrait of the Monarch. The Comptroller, in a letter to the President of the Treasury, expressed his rationale for deciding against imitating Great Britain’s use of a royal portrait. He claimed that it was disrespectful to place the Monarch’s portrait on “things, which by their character, invariably become waste,” and he expressed concern that forgery would be easier with stamps bearing a well-known portrait. In place of a portrait, each of the Bull’s Eye stamps presents a large numeral surrounded by spiraling lathework, an anti-counterfeiting measure patented by Perkins, Bacon & Company of England. The engraving was executed in Brazil by the Mint on a machine seized by Brazilian Customs in 1841; however, for many years the designs incorporating the Perkins method had fooled philatelists into thinking the issue had been printed in England.

The stamps’ issue date was officially declared to be August 1, 1843, and surviving off-cover stamps with postmarks of that date are evidence that they were released on time. The only stamps issued earlier by a nation’s post office for use throughout the country were Great Britain’s May 1840 Penny Black and Two-Pence Blue. The 1842 United States City Despatch Post stamps and the 1843 Swiss Cantonal stamps pre-date Brazil’s first issue, but those stamps were neither distributed nor used throughout the entire country, as were Brazil’s.
THE BULL’S EYE PLATES

The nameless and faceless Bull's Eye stamps immediately gained popularity with nineteenth-century philatelists. Some clues about the unusual configuration of the Bull's Eye plates were provided by multiples that reached collectors. The Xiphopagus Pair was first reported in October 1890, when it was owned by Isidro Moscoso of Bahia, and the first report of the Pack Strip (Xiphopagus Triplet) followed in October 1897, while it was in the possession of a collector in Rio de Janeiro named Carl Johan Lindgren. These se-tenant multiples proved that at least one of the Bull's Eye plates comprised more than one denomination. However, an accurate understanding of the number and composition of Bull's Eye plates was not achieved until the 1920's, when Lieutenant-Colonel G. S. F. Napier published his exhaustive study of the Bull's Eyes (The Stamps of the First Issue of Brazil). The Napier plate reconstructions were subsequently shown to contain errors, but they still stand as the basis for continuing studies.

Napier demonstrated that the Bull's Eye stamps were printed from several plates in a variety of configurations and states, as follows:

1st Composite Plate (30/60/90r); 54 subjects arranged in three panes of 18 (6 x 3); top pane 30r, middle pane 60r and bottom pane 90r; each pane surrounded by one continuous outer frameline; the panes separated by a horizontal gutter and interpanneau dividing line; four different states (A, B, C, D), distinguished from each other by retouching and recutting.

2nd Composite Plate (30/60/90r); as above, also in four states (A, B, C, D).

30r Large Plate; 60 subjects arranged in one pane (6 x 10); the pane surrounded by one continuous outer frameline; two different states (A, B), distinguished from each other by retouching.

60r 1st Large Plate; 60 subjects arranged in one pane (6 x 10); the pane surrounded by one continuous outer frameline; two different states (A, B), distinguished from each other by retouching.

60r 2nd Large Plate; 60 subjects arranged in one pane (6 x 10); the pane surrounded by one continuous outer frameline; two different states (A, B), distinguished from each other by retouching.

30r Small Plate; 54 subjects arranged in three panes of 18 (6 x 3); each pane surrounded by one continuous outer frameline; the panes separated by a horizontal gutter; this configuration is confirmed by a rejoined block of four 30r with horizontal gutter.

Digital reconstruction of the 2nd composite plate, which produced the Pack Strip. The plate of 54 subjects comprised separate panes of the 30r, 60r and 90r denominations.
SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PACK STRIP

In the context of the Bull’s Eye stamps’ issue and production, it is obvious why the Pack Strip rose to such prominence in the field of philatelic artifacts. It represents what is arguably the earliest postage stamp issue in the world after Great Britain’s Penny Black and Two-Pence Blue. It combines two different denominations in one multiple from one sheet (this unusual se-tenant plate format would be used in the United States two years later, when the St. Louis and Providence postmasters printed their provisional stamps). Finally, because the sheets were usually divided into panes for sale at Brazil’s post offices, se-tenant multiples are exceedingly rare. In fact, only the Pack Strip and the Xiphopagus Pair have survived, and the strip is distinguished by its larger size and far superior condition (as reported, the pair has been “restored” at the upper right).

The ownership history of the Pack Strip was meticulously compiled in an article by Paulo Comelli, a well-respected authority on the stamps and postal history of South America (“The History of the Xiphopagus Triplet (The Pack Strip)”, London Philatelist, November 2002, 111:331-337). The summary that follows is based on Mr. Comelli’s article.

October 1897—Reported for the first time in the Jornal Filatelico (“An Unknown Error from Brazil”” by Thadeu Rangel Pestana). Described as the property of Carl Johan Lindgren (1846-1916), “a Brazilian of Swedish origin, who lived in Bahia but now is living in Rio de Janeiro.”

July-September 1900—The Philatelistas Paulistanos magazine reported “Mr. Felizardo Teixeira de Figueiredo told us he accomplished the sale of an interesting and rare triplet of stamps of 1843. There are two 30rs and one 60rs, printed together on the same sheet and cancelled by the post office. Such a beautiful rarity was sold at the price of 2,000,000 reis.” According to Mr. Comelli, this amount was equivalent to US $300 at the then-current exchange rate, and the buyer was José de Mesquita Martins (1874-1916), the son of the Baron of Itacurussa.

circa 1906-1907—According to Mr. Comelli, the facts indicate that José de Mesquita Martins donated his valuable stamp collection to the friars of Castelo, who in turn sold it for a fraction of its true value. The likely buyer was Theo Lemaire, a prominent French dealer who exhibited the triplet in Paris, France, in 1907 and again at the Buenos Aires Stamp Exhibition held in 1911.

1916—Theo Lemaire sold the triplet to Charles Lathrop Pack, with whom it remained for 28 years. During Pack’s ownership, it was widely exhibited and became famous as the “Pack Strip.”

December 1944—After Pack’s death, his stamp collection was dispersed in a series of auctions held by Harmer, Rooke & Co. On December 8, 1944, the Pack Strip was sold as lot 824 for $6,250 to the New York stamp dealer, Y. Souren.

May 1954—Life magazine presented “The World’s Rarest Stamps” (cover story) and featured the Pack Strip with a value of $15,000.

March 1955—A news article reported the sale of the Pack Strip for $15,000 by Robert Lyman, a New York dealer. Mr. Lyman later confirmed that he bought the Pack Strip from Souren and sold it to Manolo Galvez, a dealer in Madrid, Spain, who in turn sold it to an Italian collector named Contini.

circa 1956-1958—The Pack Strip was sold to Dr. J. A. Almeida Dias. It was exhibited as part of the Dias collection of Brazil at Sicilia 1959, Barcelona 1960 and London 1960.

March 1963—The Dias collection was offered at auction by Harmer, Rooke & Co., and the Pack Strip was knocked down for £8,250 to William Lea.

February 1969—Stanley Gibbons included the Pack Strip in one of the sales of the Lars Amundsen collection, but it was probably never owned by Amundsen. Robert Lyman bought the strip for £8,700 and sold it to Dr. Norman S. Hubbard.

May 1986—The Pack Strip was sold for $250,000 plus 10% premium in the Siegel sale of the “Gordon N. John” collection of Brazil. The buyer was an agent for Angelo Lima, whose exhibit of “Brazil Empire 1843-1866” won the International Grand Prix at Philexfrance 1989 and the Grand Prix d’Honneur at Philanippon 1991.

November 1993—The Lima collection was dispersed through private transactions and at an auction held by David Feldman S.A. in Geneva, Switzerland. The Pack Strip was knocked down for 1,000,000 Swiss francs. It was subsequently acquired by Islander.


THE WORLD’S TOP TEN PHILATELIC RARITIES

The Pack Strip has always been described as one of the Top Ten philatelic rarities. In an effort to substantiate this claim, we assembled a list of the ten from a survey of various exhibitions and sources. The choices are based on the significance of the stamps, with preference given to major countries’ classics. A country may only be represented once. Large multiples of relatively common stamps and postal history rarities, although of great importance to specialists, have not been considered in this selection.

On the following page, the Top Ten items are listed alphabetically. The last public auction realization or private sale, if known, is reported. Most of this information has been quoted from Encyclopedia of Rare and Famous Stamps, by L. N. Williams (published by David Feldman S.A. and used with permission) and the Bolaffi International catalogue. Auction prices include the buyer’s premium if applicable to the sale.
THE WORLD'S TOP TEN PHILATELIC RARITIES

**Brazil, Pack Strip**  
David Feldman, Angelo Lima collection, 11/4/1993, CHF 1,150,000 (US $766,670)

**Brazil, 6kr Error of Color (on cover)**  
Heinrich Kohler, John R. Boker Jr. collection, 3/16/1985, DM 2,645,000 (US $1,768,130)  
*Photo courtesy of David Feldman*

**British Guiana, One-Cent Magenta**  
Siegel Auction Galleries, Rarities of the World sale, 4/5/1980, US $935,000

**Hawaii, 2c and 5c Missionary Cover**  
Siegel Auction Galleries, Honolulu Advertiser collection, 11/7/1995, US $2,090,000

**Romania, 27pa Tête-Bêche pair**  
Unique, ex Ferrary, Hind, last seen in the King Carol collection on exhibition in London 1950

**Spain, 2r Blue Error in Pair with 6r**  
Last sold publicly in 1935, believed to be in the possession of the Galvez family  
*Photo courtesy of David Feldman*

**Sweden, “Treskilling Yellow” Color Error**  
David Feldman, 11/8/1996, CHF 2,875,000 (US $2,300,000)  
*Photo courtesy of David Feldman*

**France, 1fr Vermilion Tête-Bêche**  
Spink, “Lafayette” sale, 11/17/2003 €924,000 (US $1,104,000)  
*Photo courtesy of David Feldman*

**Mauritius, 1p & 2p “Post Office” Cover**  
David Feldman, “Mauritius” sale, 11/3/1993, CHF 6,123,750 (US $5,000,000)  
*Photo courtesy of David Feldman*

**United States, Alexandria “Blue Boy” Provisional (on cover)**  
David Feldman, private sale, 5/8/1981, US $1,000,000  
*Photo courtesy of David Feldman*
THE “PACK STRIP”

1843, 30r/30r/60r Black, Se-Tenant Strip of Three (1d), 2nd Composite Plate, State D, 30r Positions 11/17, 60c Position 5, vertical strip of three from the 30r and 60r panes, the Xiphopagus Triplet with interpanneau dividing line between 30r and 60r values, full to large margins, cancelled by two strikes of “Correio Geral da Corte” circular datestamp (1844 yeardate is readable), top stamp has tiny thin, very slight wrinkles or creases
THE CELEBRATED AND UNIQUE “PACK STRIP”—ALSO KNOWN AS THE XIPHOPAGUS TRIPLET—WIDELY ESTEEMED AS ONE OF THE TOP TEN PHILATELIC RARITIES IN THE WORLD.

Ex Lindgren, Martins, Lemaire, Pack, Souron, Contini, Dias and Lima. Exhibited in Interphil 1976 and Anphilex 1996 Aristocrats of Philately displays. Illustrated in Life magazine’s “World’s Rarest Stamps” feature story and color spread (July 1954) and in Encyclopedia of Rare and Famous Stamps, L. N. Williams................ E. 1,000,000-1,500,000
BRAZIL

18
18°

1843, 30r Black, Late Impression (3). Large Plate, State A. Positions 23-24/29-30/35-36, block of six, large to huge margins including sheet margin and outer frameline at right, tied by one of four strikes of "Correio Geral da Corte 1/4/1845" circular datestamp on folded cover to Rio Pardo, the block is affixed over the backflap and has been carefully opened so as to preserve the block in perfect condition.

EXTREMELY FINE. THIS IS THE ONLY BLOCK OF ANY BULL’S EYE ISSUE KNOWN ON COVER. THIS SPECTACULAR ITEM, DISCOVERED ONLY IN THE PAST 30 YEARS, IS REGARDED AS ONE OF THE TOP FIVE PHILATELIC ITEMS OF BRAZIL AND ONE OF THE WORLD’S GREATEST CLASSIC IMPERFORATE COVERS.

This extraordinary cover was discovered sometime in the 1970’s and sold to Reinaldo Bruno Pracchia, who featured it in his award-winning exhibit, which garnered the Grand Prix d’Honneur at London 1980. It was acquired by Angelo Lima and again became one of the cornerstones of his Grand Prix exhibit (International Grand Prix at Philexfrance 1989 and Grand Prix d’Honneur at Philanippon 1991). Islander acquired the cover at the November 1993 sale of the Lima collection, held by David Feldman S.A..........................

........................................................................................................... E. 150,000-200,000
19° ★ 1843, 60r Black, Early Impression (2). Original gum, h.r., full even margins, deep shade and sharp impression with lathework lines showing clearly, Very Fine and choice original-gum example of the 60r Bull’s Eye, Meyer €1,500 ........................................ E. 400-500

20° ★ 1843, 60r Black, Intermediate Impression (2). Unused (no gum), large margins all around, strong relief impression on back, fresh and Extremely Fine, a superb unused example, Meyer €1,500 ......................................................... E. 300-400

21° ★ 1843, 60r Black, Intermediate Impression (2). 1st Composite Plate, State C, Positions 15-16, horizontal pair, unused (no gum), ample to large margins showing outer frameline at bottom, small repair in top margin, slight crease at right, Very Fine appearance, a scarce multiple from the 1st Composite Plate, illustrated in Napier book (plate 18), ex Lima, Meyer €3,000 .............................................. E. 500-750
1843, 60r Black, Intermediate Impression (2). Block of four, original gum, lower left stamp matches Napier 1st Large Plate, State B, Position 57, but others in block do not correspond to Napier’s plating. Large margins, sharp impression with lines of lathework nearly complete, natural gum wrinkle.

Extremely fine. An exceedingly rare block of the 60-reis with original gum. Almost all bull’s eye multiples are without gum. A superb multiple for the connoisseur.

Ex Lima. Meyer €11,000 (without premium for original gum) .......... E. 10,000-15,000
23°(★)Ε 1843, 60r Black, Early Impression (2). 1st Composite Plate, State B, Positions 1-2/7-8, block of four, unused (no gum), huge margins all around showing complete outer frame-lines at top and left, faint vertical crease in right pair and horizontal crease in bottom pair. EXTREMELY FINE APPEARANCE. A RARE UNUSED MULTIPLE OF THE 60-REIS FROM THE 1ST COMPOSITE PLATE.
Ex Burrus. Meyer €11,000 ................................................................. E. 3,000-4,000
24°(★) BRAZIL 1843, 60r Black, Intermediate Impression (2). 1st Large Plate, State B, Positions 44-46/50-52, Position 50 major re-entry in numerals, block of six, unused (no gum), large margins all around, sharp impression showing nearly all lines of lathework, bright fresh paper, negligible pinhole in lower left stamp (Position 50)

EXTREMELY FINE. A MAGNIFICENT UNUSED BLOCK OF THE BRAZIL 60-REIS BULL’S EYE. ALTHOUGH LARGER BLOCKS AND A COMPLETE SHEET OF 60 EXIST, THIS SUPERB BLOCK OF SIX IS CERTAINLY ONE OF THE MOST OUTSTANDING IN TERMS OF QUALITY. A WONDERFUL EXHIBITION ITEM.

Ex Kuyas and Lima. Meyer €14,000 for an unused block of four and pair

................................................................. E. 10,000-15,000
25°(●)1843, 60r Black, Intermediate Impression (2). 1st Large Plate, State B, Positions 47-48/53-54/59-60, block of six, unused (no gum), large margins all around including outer frameline at bottom, sharp impression showing nearly all lines of lathework, bright fresh paper, expertly repaired worm hole in lower left stamp and small sealed tear at upper right.

EXEMPLARY FINE APPEARANCE. A SPECTACULAR UNUSED BLOCK OF THE BRAZIL 60-REIS BULL’S EYE.

Ex de Souza. Meyer €14,000 for an unused block of four and pair ....... E. 5,000-7,500
26° (★) 1843, 60r Black, Intermediate Impression (2). 1st Large Plate, State B, Positions 41-42/47-48/53-54, block of six, unused (no gum), large margins all around, horizontal crease in top pair, scuffs in Positions 42 and 48 do not impinge on oval design

AN IMPRESSIVE UNUSED BLOCK OF THE BRAZIL 60-REIS BULL’S EYE.

Meyer €14,000 for an unused block of four and pair.......................... E. 5,000-7,500
1843, 60r Black, Intermediate Impression (2). 1st Large Plate, State B, Positions 4-5/10-11, block of four, huge margins including sheet margin and full outer frameline at top, cancelled by framed “CIDADE DE NICTHEROY” handstamp, minute toned spot

EXTREMELY FINE. A MAGNIFICENT USED SHEET-MARGIN BLOCK OF THE 60-REIS BULL’S EYE WITH THE SCARCE “CIDADE DE NICTHEROY” CANCELLATION. ALTHOUGH LARGER BLOCKS EXIST, FEW CAN COMPARE TO THE QUALITY OF THIS BLOCK OF FOUR.

Signed A. Diena. Meyer €7,700 .................................................................  E. 5,000-7,500
28°

1843, 60r Black, Intermediate Impression (2). 1st Composite Plate, State B, Positions 3-5/9-11/15-17, block of nine (the left half of the pane), huge margins including outer framelines at top and bottom and interpanneau dividing line below two righthand stamps at bottom, cancelled by framed "CIDADE DE NICTHEROY" handstamp, pressed creases, some other faults and small repairs

AN IMPORTANT BULL’S EYE MULTIPLE CONTAINING TWO SEMI-XIPHOPAGUS EXAMPLES OF THE 60-REIS FROM THE COMPOSITE PLATE.

Bull’s Eye stamps from the composite plates that show the diving line between panes are called Semi-Xiphopagus. Such stamps are especially desirable because they can be immediately recognized as examples from the composite plates without the need for platting (the two known Xiphopagus multiples are, of course, the se-tenant pair and strip of three). The 60r Semi-Xiphopagus stamps come from the top or bottom of the middle pane (twelve positions). As a measure of this block’s rarity, the Meyer collection sold through Feldman in October 2007, which was said to contain a “record holding” of Semi-Xiphopagus stamps, had three small multiples and five singles of the 60r Semi-Xiphopagus.

Ex de Souza and Lima. Meyer prices a used block of four at €7,700 and a single used 60r Semi-Xiphopagus at €3,500 .............................. E. 2,000-3,000
29° 1843, 60r Deep Black, Early Impression (2). Large margins, intense jet-black shade and proof-like impression with every delicate line of the lathework present, tied by clear strike of scarce “S. JOAO DEL REI” straightline town handstamp on greenish folded letter datelined Feb. 9, 1844, to Rio de Janeiro, file fold clear of stamp

EXTRAORDINARY FINE. A MAGNIFICENT EXAMPLE OF THE 60-REIS BULL’S EYE TIED BY A STRAIGHTLINE TOWN MARKING ON THE ADDRESS SIDE OF THE COVER.

The Bull’s Eye stamps were often affixed to the backs of covers. Examples tied on the face of the cover are much more desirable and scarce. ......................... E. 4,000-5,000

30° 1843, 60r Black, Intermediate Impression (2). Horizontal pair, large margins with outer frameline at left, cancelled by scarce brownish “GRAMPARA” framed handstamp with manuscript “15 de Debr. 1843” date on the pair (as usual for this town), not tied but evidently used on folded cover to Maranhao, endorsed “p. Pernambucana”, docketed with same Dec. 15, 1844 origin date (effectively tying the pair and cover together), file folds clear of stamps, repaired at top right, otherwise Fine, scarce use of the 60r Bull’s Eye on a ship letter from Grampara ........................................................... E. 2,000-3,000
31 "se  1843, 60r Deep Black, Early Impression (2). Two horizontal pairs affixed in slightly overlapping positions and aligned as a strip, **uncancelled** on back flap of greenish folded letter to Santos (Sao Paulo), endorsed “p. Paranapitanga”

**VERY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE BULL’S EYE FRANKING FOR 240-REIS SHIP POSTAGE.**

The postage on letters travelling by ship was rated at 120-reis up to one-half ounce plus an additional 60-reis for each quarter-ounce increment. This letter must have weighed between ¾ and 1 ounce. Although contrary to regulations, stamps on ship letters are sometimes found uncancelled. ........................................................... E. 4,000-5,000
32° (w) 1843, 90r Black, Intermediate Impression (3). Complete unused pane of 18, 1st Composite Plate, State A, sharp impression (early Intermediate), large margins all around with full outer framelines, faint ms. "206" in bottom margin, tears in corners and other interior faults have been expertly improved.

VERY FINE APPEARANCE. THIS INTACT PANE OF EIGHTEEN IS THE LARGEST UNUSED MULTIPLE OF THE 90-REIS BULL’S EYE ISSUE. NO OTHER UNUSED 90-REIS PANE IS RECORDED. ONE OF THE GREAT RARITIES OF BRAZIL AND OF WORLDWIDE CLASSIC PHILATELY.

The largest recorded unused blocks of the three Bull’s Eye values are as follows: 30r, three blocks of four (one heavily creased and rebacked), none larger; 60r, a complete sheet of 60 from the Large Plate, followed by a block of 20 (Large Plate) and smaller blocks from the Composite Plates (there is no known complete unused pane of 18 of the 60r from the Composite Plate); and 90r, the unused pane of 18 offered here, followed by a block of 12 (these are the only recorded unused blocks of the 90r).

Photos of this pane in its original condition may be found in American Philatelic Society’s 1943 Centenary Handbook (page 45) and the 1966 Harmer, Rooke & Co. catalogue of the de Souza collection (lot 591). They show the tears in the corners and interior scrapes, which have been sealed and touched up in places to great effect, but there are no paper additions.

Ex Dr. Hermes (according to A.P.S. 1943 Centenary Handbook, page 45), Mario de Souza (a key element of his Efimayo 1960 Grand Prix award-winning exhibit) and Angelo Lima (a key element of his exhibit, which won the International Grand Prix at Philexfrance 1989 and Grand Prix d’Honneur at Philanippon 1991). The pane was acquired by Islander in a private transaction when the Lima collection was dispersed through David Feldman S.A. in November 1993.

No catalogue can possibly measure the value of this unique item, but for the record the Meyer Brazilian Empire Stamp Catalogue prices an unused 90r block of four at €46,000 and an unused pair at €9,800, for a total of €167,400. ......................... E. 100,000-150,000
33° (*) 1843, 90r Black, Late Impression (3). 1st Composite Plate, State A, Position 5, unused (no gum), huge margins with outer frameline at top, shows considerable wear in lathework at right, Extremely Fine, outstanding unused condition, Meyer €4,600 .......................... E. 750-1,000

34° (*) 1843, 90c Black, Intermediate Impression (3). 2nd Composite Plate, State D, Positions 3-4, horizontal pair with large margins and outer frameline at top, unused (no gum), small thin in right stamp, Extremely Fine appearance, a rare unused multiple, illustrated in Napier book (plate 39), Meyer €9,800 ........................................................... E. 1,000-1,500

35° (*) 1843, 90r Black, Late Impression (3). 1st Composite Plate, State C, Position 1, huge margins showing outer framelines and interpanneau dividing line at top, small double-circle town datestamp, faint diagonal crease (invisible except in fluid)

EXTREMELY FINE APPEARANCE. A RARE AND DESIRABLE EXAMPLE OF THE 90-REIS SEMI-XIPHOPAGUS.

Bull’s Eye stamps from the composite plates that show the dividing line between panes are called Semi-Xiphopagus. Such stamps are especially desirable because they can be immediately recognized as examples from the composite plates without the need for plating (the two known Xiphopagus multiples are, of course, the se-tenant pair and strip of three). The 60r Semi-Xiphopagus stamps come from the top or bottom of the middle pane (twelve positions). The 30r and 90r are rarer, because they can only come from one row (30r bottom, 90r top, six stamps positions each).

As a measure of rarity, the Meyer collection sold through Feldman in October 2007, which was said to contain a “record holding” of Semi-Xiphopagus stamps, had just one used single of the 90r.

Meyer €4,000 .......................... E. 1,000-1,500
36° 1843, 60r, 90c Bull’s Eyes, Intermediate Impressions (2, 3). Each stamp from a composite plate with interpanneau dividing line and outer frameline from adjoining pane in margin, 60r has huge margins showing dividing line and outer frameline of 90r pane at bottom, 90r from Position 1 at top left corner of pane with huge margins showing dividing line and outer frameline of 60r pane at top, each cancelled by “Correio Geral da Corte” datestamp, 60r Extremely Fine, 90r torn in half and repaired

THESE ARE EXTREMELY RARE EXAMPLES OF THE 60-REIS AND 90-REIS SEMI-XIPHOPAGUS STAMPS WITH PARTS OF THE ADJOINING PANES IN ADDITION TO THE DIVIDING LINES. THIS IS THE CLOSEST PHILATELISTS CAN COME TO A 60R/90R SE-TENANT MULTIPLE, OF WHICH NO EXAMPLE IS KNOWN.

Meyer €7,500 for ordinary Semi-Xiphapagus stamps.............................................. E. 5,000-7,500

37° 1843, 90r Black, Late Impression (3). Horizontal pair, full to large margins, cancelled by “Correio Geral da Corte” circular datestamp, Very Fine, ex Lima, Meyer €4,200 ..............

.......................................................... E. 750-1,000

38° 1843, 90r Black, Late Impression (3). Horizontal pair, full margins, bold “Correio Geral da Corte 13/10/1844” circular datestamp, thin and small faults, Very Fine appearance, Meyer €4,200 .......................................................... E. 500-750
1843, 90r Black, Late Impression (3). 2nd Composite Plate, State C, Positions 2-3/8-9/14-15, block of six with huge margins all around including bottom sheet margin and *inter-panneau dividing line at top*, multiple strikes of “Correio Geral da Corte 27/10/1844” circular datestamp, minor wrinkles and a few small thin spots. EXTREMELY FINE APPEARANCE. AN EXTREMELY RARE 90-Reis BULL’S EYE USED MULTIPLE CONTAINING TWO SEMI-XIPHOPAGUS STAMPS AT TOP.

Bull’s Eye stamps from the composite plates that show the diving line between panes are called *Semi-Xiphopagus*. Such stamps are especially desirable because they can be immediately recognized as examples from the composite plates without the need for plating (the two known Xiphopagus multiples are, of course, the se-tenant pair and strip of three). The 60r *Semi-Xiphopagus* stamps come from the top or bottom of the middle pane (twelve positions). The 30r and 90r are rarer, because they can only come from one row (30r bottom, 90r top, six stamps positions each). As a measure of rarity, the Meyer collection sold through Feldman in October 2007, which was said to contain a “record holding” of *Semi-Xiphopagus* stamps, had just one single 90r.

Ex Pack and Lima (as part of a reconstructed block of twelve). Meyer €22,000 as a used block of four and two *Semi-Xiphopagus* singles. .............................................. E. 7,500-10,000
1843, 90r Deep Black, Intermediate Impression (3). 2nd Composite Plate, Stated C, Positions 4-6/10-12, block of six from the upper right corner of the pane, mostly large margins including outer framelines at top and right, just barely into upper left stamp’s frameline, multiple strikes of scarce framed “CIDADE DE NICTHEROY” handstamp, lovely deep shade and sharp impression (very early Intermediate), bottom right stamp has minute pinhole which is probably a natural paper flaw

VERY FINE. A BEAUTIFUL USED BLOCK OF THE 90-REIS BULL’S EYE IN A STRIKING DEEP SHADE.

Meyer €18,200 as a used block of four and pair .............................................  E. 7,500-10,000
1843, 90r Black, Late Impression (3). 2nd Composite Plate, State C, Positions 9-12/15-18. block of eight from the bottom right corner of the pane with huge margins including sheet margins and outer framelines at lower right, four strikes of “Correio Geral da Corte 27/10/1844” circular datestamp, part of manuscript in sheet margin, some wrinkles and slight internal creasing pressed out, a few soiled spots visible after light cleaning.

VERY FINE. AN OUTSTANDING LARGE USED BLOCK OF THE 90-REIS BULL’S EYE ISSUE. USED MULTIPLES ARE RARELY FOUND IN THIS CHOICE CONDITION. 

Although a number of used blocks of the 90r Bull’s Eye have survived, including a cancelled pane of 18, the condition of the large multiples is frequently unsatisfactory. This block, with only minor flaws, is certainly one of the most desirable in terms of quality.

Ex Lima. Meyer €28,000 as two used blocks of four ......................... E. 15,000-20,000
42° 1843, 90r Black, Late Impression (3). Horizontal pair, full to large margins, well-tied by two bold strikes of “Correio de Alcantra” dateless circle in brown ink on greenish folded cover, reinforced along vertical file fold (clear of stamps), minor edge wear, the pair has been lifted and hinged in place, a few tiny imperfections only visible on back of pair

VERY FINE. AN EXTREMELY RARE USE OF THE 90-REIS BULL’S EYE TO PAY THE 180-REIS SHIP RATE FROM MARANHAO PROVINCE. ONE OF TWO REPORTED BULL’S EYE COVERS WITH THE ALCANTARA DATESTAMP.

Ex Koester and Lima ................................................................. E. 10,000-15,000

END OF THE ISLANDER COLLECTION OF BRAZIL.