

# A MOST SPECTACULAR REUNION

Fakes, Forgeries & Experts Journal, the magazine for advanced philately, reveals a fantastic story in issue, # 14.

The story of this fabulous philatelic puzzle game begins in March 2000, when a previously unknown pair of Denmark's most popular stamp ever, the 2 Rigsbank skilling, was offered at auction by Postiljonen in Malmö. For decades, the pair had been a part of well known French collector Maurice Burrus' fantastic collection of World rarities.



The "Burrus pair" sold at Postiljonen in year 2000 for € 90.000.

Usually a jigsaw puzzle starts with a corner piece and that is also the case in this story about the great jigsaw puzzle of philately, consisting of only three pieces. The "corner piece" (the stamp with the full corner sheet margin) has been known since 1923, when the world's hitherto largest collection of All World rarities was sold at a number of auctions in Paris and Zürich. The collection belonged to another Frenchman, Duke Philipp la Renotière von Ferrary (1850-1917).



The "neighbouring piece" of the corner stamp, position 92 in the sheet (the stamp with the bottom sheet margin) is, like the pair mentioned above, relatively unknown in philately. It turned up in 1986 when a famous British collector of Danish descent, F.T.K. Carøe, sold his collection at a British/Swiss auction in Zürich. Carøe was the first to realize that two of the pieces matched.



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|---|---|--|-------------|
| 31  | ★ | — [91] Type 9 THE PHENOMENAL MINT EXAMPLE WITH FULL SHEET MARGINS, for the sake of accuracy it is mentioned that there is some marginal creasing (heavy in places) which barely detracts from the beauty and importance of this philatelic crown jewel. Photo in colour on page 41 | S.F. 20,000 |
| <i>Note: the above is illustrated on page 131 of the Handbook by Christensen.</i> |   |  |             |
| 32  | ★ | — [92] Type 10 THE COMPANION TO THE PREVIOUS LOT AND CUT FROM THE SAME SHEET, WITH FULL SHEET MARGIN, QUITE EXCEPTIONAL. Photo in colour on page 41  | S.F. 6000   |

When the "Burrus pair" surfaced again at an auction in New York, the owner of the two Carøe pieces realized that a grand reunion was possible. Carl-Aage Møller accomplished this in cooperation with Postiljonen and in 2008 a certificate was issued, confirming the original connection between the pieces. Since then, the reunion has been a well kept secret until it was announced at the FFE press conference in February 2011.



This reunion of three items, each a crown jewel of Danish philately, has now succeeded in creating one of the greatest attractions in the history of Danish philately.