Britain's Marvelous Machins Varieties of the Denominated Printings 1967-2016

Introduction & Treatment

In 1967, the Machin definitive stamp series was introduced as the successor to the Queen Elizabeth II Wilding stamps and continues in print today. The Machin series is named for the artist, Arnold Machin, RA, OBE, who produced the bas-reliefs used as the basis for the stamp's image artwork. The series has become iconic not only for its long-running nature but also for its 7,000+ cataloged varieties. These varieties and their origins are the subject of this exhibit with treatment being only stamps predominately at source-level formats.

Objective for Exhibit

From the earlier Wilding printings, the Machin series advanced the concept of 'stamp-as-interactive-device' in support of mail processing automation. As such, it is a multilayer, complex technical artifact that not only indicates value but enables automated facing, sorting and service class equipment to function properly. The Explaining the Machin's complex nature, resulting from production process advances & limitations, advancing technology and environmental concerns is the objective of this exhibit.



Security Features & Ink

Exhibit Chapter & Section Plan

- Ch. 1 Artwork: 1-Queen's Head Image; 2-Fonts; 3-Value Tablets; 4-Regional Emblems
- Ch. 2 Paper & Gum: 1-Brightness; 2-Large Formats, 3-Paper Thickness, Repair, Errors; 4-Adhesives & Under/Overprints
- Ch. 3 Color: 1-Basic Range; 2-ATN Cylinder & Iriodin[®] Ink Effects; 3-Color Errors
- Ch. 4 Phosphor-Fluor: 1-Stamp Identity; 2-Band Techniques; 3-Band Errors; 4-Other Varieties; 5-Phosphor Coated Paper [PCP] 6-Phosphor/Fluor
- Ch. 5 Process: 1-Basic Print Processes Used; 2-Process Errors
- Ch. 6 Perforation, Die Cuts & Security: 1-Basic Formats; 2-Errors; 3-Security; Conclusion

