



Singapore

PRESS RELEASE

Philatelic

Ref: SPM/PP&E/17.3/04

Museum

23-B

17 March 2003

For Immediate Release

Coleman Street

'SINGAPORE SKYLINE' EXHIBITION

Singapore 179807

24 MARCH 2004 TO 27 JUNE 2004

Tel: 6337 3888

SINGAPORE PHILATELIC MUSEUM

Fax: 6337 8958

Singapore Philatelic Museum presents 'Singapore Skyline', an exhibition of stamps, rare picture postcards and visuals depicting Singapore's changing skyline.

Singapore, 17 March 2004 - In conjunction with the launch of the 'Singapore Skyline' stamp issue on 24 March 2004, Singapore Philatelic Museum is organising a thematic stamp exhibition on 'Singapore's Skyline', from Wednesday 24 March 2004 to Sunday 27 June 2004.

This exhibition consists of stamps and miniature sheets, rare picture postcards and visuals that depict Singapore's changing skyline from British colonial days till today. It will be a visual treat for the young and old. Images of the Singapore Waterfront, Raffles Place, The Esplanade, Shophouses and High-rise buildings are on display, some of which have never been seen before by the public. In addition, local artist Ong Kim Seng's watercolour painting of the Singapore Skyline in 1999 will be exhibited.

The skyline of Singapore reflects the unique accomplishments of the nation. Only under two centuries ago, the predominant buildings were wooden houses with attap roofs built around swamplands. Today, the country is transformed into an urban centre of modernism with towering skyscrapers defining the skyline.

Singapore's skyline can be traced from Raffles Town Plan regulations that demarcated areas of land use, and the success of entrepot trade that provided capital for the establishment of commercial buildings along the Singapore Waterfront and Commercial Square (Raffles Place). From the 1970s, buildings started to grow taller and high-rises have not looked back since. Massive housing projects like in Queenstown and Toa Payoh were undertaken to deal with congested and unhygienic conditions in shophouses. For the future, living in the heart of the city in Downtown @ Marina Bay and 48-storey Duxton Plain public housing projects will add another dimension to the central business district.

Beyond the facade of these buildings, an interesting facet is created by the striking contrasts of the old and new, of low-rises and skyscrapers. While Singapore's skyline may go unnoticed as a 'natural' phenomenon when the nation progresses, it is a reminder of our built heritage. With changing tastes, needs, better technology and economic expansion, Singapore's buildings will constantly change, this will ensure that our skyline will never remain static.

Exciting self-directed activities have been organised to engage visitors at the exhibition. These include an interpretative corner that invites visitors to express their ideas on Singapore's skyline, using craft, drawings or photographs; an interactive quiz-box where visitors respond to questions based on the exhibition; and a floor-size jigsaw puzzle of a Singapore Skyline miniature sheet.

The exhibition is open to the public. The usual admission charges apply.

About Singapore Philatelic Museum

Singapore Philatelic Museum (SPM) is a fully-owned subsidiary of National Heritage Board. SPM showcases Singapore's philatelic heritage and postal artefacts since the Straits Settlements era, as well as rare collections from private collectors. The Museum also hosts a range of educational activities including guided tours, heritage trails, camps, talks and workshops. The mission of SPM is to stimulate interest in philately. Through philately, the Museum strives to promote the educational use of philatelic materials to learn about the world, and national history and heritage.

Admission:

Singapore Philatelic Museum is open on Monday (1.00pm to 7.00pm), Tuesday to Sunday (9.00am to 7.00pm). Admission fees are S\$3.00 for adults and S\$2.00 for children (3-12 years old). Located at 23-B Coleman Street, the Museum is a 10-min walk from City Hall MRT Station or a 15-minute walk from Clarke Quay Station (North-East Line). Alternatively, it is a 5-minute walk from the bus-stop at MITA Building Hill Street. For more information, please visit us at www.spm.org.sg or call us at 6337 3888.

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Issued by Singapore Philatelic Museum

For more information, please contact:

Jocelyn Lee (Ms)
Education & Public Communication Officer
Singapore Philatelic Museum
Tel : 64337 332
E-mail : Jocelyn_Lee@nhb.gov.sg
