

For immediate release

MEDIA RELEASE

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PRECIOUS EGGS: OF ART, BEAUTY AND CULTURE

*Not-to-be-missed showcase of 148 unique artistic egg-inspired works
from the Liechtenstein National Museum, on show for the first time
outside of Europe*

COMPANY. REG. NO. 199502248C
a National Heritage Board Museum



The egg - a symbol of fertility, the promise of new life and good fortune

Singapore, 11 April 2017 – For the very first time outside of Europe, a collection of 148 one-of-a-kind eggs, specially selected from the vaults of the Liechtenstein National Museum, will be on show at the Singapore Philatelic Museum (SPM) from 12 April to 8 October 2017. The artistic creations tell interesting stories that reflect love, history, culture, art, faiths and traditions. Besides intricately decorated quail, chicken, duck, goose, swan and ostrich eggs, there are eggs crafted from precious and enamelled metals, glass, porcelain, wax, crystal, marble, stone, wood, reindeer horn, cardboard, and papier-mâché. Also on show is a series of

commissioned egg sculptures created by Liechtenstein's leading artists, including Dr George Malin, Arno Oehri and Sunhild Wollwage.

To enhance the museum experience for visitors, SPM has incorporated multimedia elements into the exhibition. A highlight is the direct and personalised interaction with some of the eggs. When a visitor taps onto the 'Precious Eggs' network via a QR code, they can have a 360 degree view of the egg on their mobile device.

Ms Tresnawati Prihadi, General Manager of SPM says, "We are delighted to partner the Liechtenstein National Museum to bring this precious collection of egg art pieces to Singapore. We hope this exhibition will challenge Singaporeans to rethink what makes art, and how ordinary, everyday items, such as the humble egg and stamps, can tell such beautiful stories of love, history and faiths, and serve as windows to cultures of the world."



The selection of unique artistic egg-inspired works on display at SPM are drawn from the renowned Adulf Peter Goop Collection belonging to the Liechtenstein National Museum. Born in Liechtenstein, Mr Adulf Peter Goop (1921-2011) started to collect Easter eggs in 1985. He was inspired by his experiences as a boy giving painted eggs on Easter morning to Russian soldiers seeking asylum at the end of World War II, who were touched by the gesture of friendship. Numbering about 4,000 eggs, his impressive collection hails from all over the world – some from the Russian Imperial Family. In 2010, Mr Goop donated his comprehensive art collection to the Principality of Liechtenstein.





Prof Dr Rainer Vollkommer, Director of the Liechtenstein National Museum says, "Eggs are a symbol of peace, love, friendship and fertility. We would like to share this with everybody with this exhibition."

From Singapore, 24K gold plated ostrich, emu, goose, chicken and quail eggs from RISIS are on display. SPM's collection of stamps and philatelic materials originating from Liechtenstein, and stamps that depict Easter eggs, are also showcased. The exhibition is timed to coincide with Easter,

the arrival of spring in the Northern Hemisphere, as well as the zodiac year of the rooster. Singaporeans will have the rare opportunity to view these precious art pieces, and take part in special programmes on Easter Sunday.

Highlights of the exhibition:

	<p><i>Princess Marie Easter Egg</i> Boiled Chicken egg Liechtenstein, 1981</p> <p>This brown egg, etched by Princess Marie of Liechtenstein, depicts a rabbit, rooster and a wreath of leaves. As it is a cooked egg, the yolk has since petrified within the shell.</p>
	<p><i>Porcelain Egg with Emperor Nicholas II Cipher (left)</i> Porcelain Russia, 1914 – 1917</p> <p>On the front of this white egg is the monogram of Emperor Nicholas II – the gilded cipher ‘NII’ in Cyrillic is embellished with leafy garlands beneath a Russian Imperial crown. A gilded ring frames the opening.</p> <p><i>Porcelain Egg with Empress Alexandra’s Cipher (right)</i> Porcelain Russia, 1914 – 1917</p> <p>The monogram of Emress Alexandra Federovna appears on the front of this white egg. The cipher ‘AF’ is painted in two-tone gold in Slavic interlace script and decorated with geometric ornament beneath a Russian Imperial crown. A gilded ring frames the opening.</p>

	<p>(From left) <i>Orange Enamel Pendant</i> Guiloché Enamel Russia, 1900</p> <p>Gold mounted vivid orange enamel egg over a hatched background.</p> <p><i>Leaf Trellis Pendant</i> Guiloché Enamel Russia, 1900</p> <p>Miniature egg pendant enameled in translucent white with blue stripes, interspersed with gold leaf sprigs.</p> <p><i>Red Cross Egg Pendant</i> Guiloché Enamel Russia, 1900</p> <p>The Red Cross egg is significant because of Empress Alexandra and her two daughters' (Olga and Tatiana) war effort as Red Cross Sisters of Mercy during World War 1.</p>
	<p><i>Volcano Egg</i> Glass USA, 1985</p> <p>This mouth-blown glass egg is embedded with volcano ashes from Mt St Helens' eruption in 1980.</p>
	<p><i>Swarovski Egg</i> Blown out chicken egg Liechtenstein, 1999</p> <p>This egg is painted in turquoise and decorated with coloured glass and pearls.</p>
	<p><i>Gold-Green Perforated Egg</i> Blown out chicken egg Switzerland, 1985</p> <p>The perforations on this egg were done with a small drilling machine.</p>



Madonna and Child in Lace

Goose egg
Switzerland, 1987

On one half of the egg is Madonna and Child under a canopy and surrounded by flowers. The other hinged half holds the inscription 'IHS' (the first three letters of Jesus in Greek alphabet), rimmed in gold fringe. The outside is covered in intricate lace.



Musical Egg

Goose egg
USA, 1988

This egg is decorated with gold metal ribbons, rhinestones and pearls. The lower half of the egg hides a music box that plays *Lara's Theme* from the movie *Dr Zhivago*. The top section and two small pockets are cut into the egg. They open to reveal satin-line drawers.

Details of Precious Eggs: Of Art, Beauty and Culture

Venue:	Singapore Philatelic Museum 23-B Coleman Street, Singapore 179807
Date:	12 April – 8 October 2017
Opening hours:	Monday – Sunday 10.00am – 7.00pm
Admission charges:	Free admission for Singaporeans and Permanent Residents Admission charges for foreigners: Adult \$8 Child (3 – 12 years) \$6
Tel:	63373888
Website:	www.spm.org.sg

Easter Sunday at Singapore Philatelic Museum, 16 April 2017

Members of the public are invited to the museum on Easter Sunday to participate in interesting family activities. These include unique 'pysanka', or traditional Ukrainian Easter egg, demonstration by ladies from the Ukrainian community living in Singapore, 'Green Eggs & Ham' participatory storytelling session, Easter craft, and fun quiz. Details for Public Programmes and School Programmes can be found in **Annex 1**.

Acknowledgements

Singapore Philatelic Museum would like to thank the following individuals and organisations for supporting the exhibition.

Partner

Liechtenstein National Museum

Sponsor

Singapore Post Limited

Special Thanks

Mrs Ingrid Schulz

RISIS Singapore

ABOUT SINGAPORE PHILATELIC MUSEUM

The Singapore Philatelic Museum officially opened on 19 August 1995, showcasing Singapore's rich philatelic heritage using postal artefacts dating from the 1830s to today. The museum's family-friendly galleries use stamps as windows to introduce Singapore's heritage and culture, as well as the world's. From telling Singapore's story to showcasing pop culture themes, the museum has brought to life many of these philatelic wonders to the public. Exhibitions on show feature a wide range of stamps from the rare collections of world-class philatelists to contemporary collections from around the world. To complement these exhibitions, the museum runs educational programmes, guided tours, school holiday workshops and public programmes. Visitors can go on a journey of discovery on how significant and important the little stamp is in today's world.

The mission of the Singapore Philatelic Museum is to stimulate an interest in philately. The museum is a fully-owned subsidiary of the National Heritage Board and an institution of Public Charter (IPC) Status. For more information, visit www.spm.org.sg.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL HERITAGE BOARD

The National Heritage Board (NHB) was formed on 1 August 1993. As the custodian of Singapore's heritage, NHB is responsible for telling the Singapore story, sharing the Singaporean experience and imparting our Singapore spirit. NHB's mission is to preserve and celebrate the shared heritage of our diverse communities, for the purpose of education, nation-building and cultural understanding. It manages the national museums and heritage institutions, and sets policies relating to heritage sites, monuments and the national collection. Through the national collection, NHB curates heritage programmes and presents exhibitions to connect the past, present and future generations of Singaporeans. NHB is a statutory board under the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth. Please visit www.nhb.gov.sg for more information.

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Easter Sunday at Singapore Philatelic Museum

Date: Sunday, 16 April 2017

Time: 10.00am – 7.00pm

Venue: Singapore Philatelic Museum, 23-B Coleman Street, Singapore 179807

Tel: 63373888

Website: www.spm.org.sg

Usual museum admission applies

Free admission for Singaporeans and Permanent Residents

Admission charges for foreigners: Adult \$8; Child (3 – 12 years) \$6

Precious Eggs: Of Art, Beauty and Culture Exhibition

10.00am – 7.00pm

The exhibition showcases a collection of 148 precious eggs from the Liechtenstein National Museum. The egg's unique form and life-giving symbol have inspired artists and craftsmen, resulting in historical pieces like the Russian Imperial porcelain eggs, Fabergé egg pendants and other works using materials ranging from crystal to horn.

Activities:

Easter Craft

10.00am – 5.00pm

Make your own fun pop-up chicky craft!

Donations apply.

Fun Quiz

10.00am – 5.00pm

Visit the museum galleries and take part in the fun quiz to win exciting prizes. Learn stories behind these beautiful stamps as you go on an adventure around the museum.

Pysanka Egg Demonstration

1.00pm – 4.00pm

Come see beautiful Ukrainian decorated eggs and get the opportunity to make your own! These traditional designs on eggs tell stories of culture, folktales and heritage of Ukraine.

Donations apply.

Green Eggs & Ham

2.30pm – 3.00pm

Join us as Centre Stage School of the Arts breathes new life into Dr Seuss's fabulous story 'Green Eggs & Ham'. Suitable for all ages.