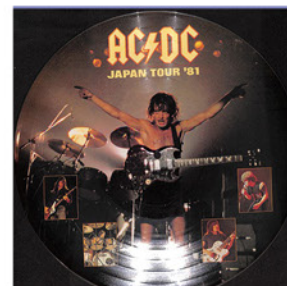




delcampe

The Collectors' Free Magazine Special Edition No. 2, December 2020 MAGAZINE



Stamps

The philatelist's letter to Santa Claus

Postcards

The Louvre

Coins

Start in numismatics

Vinyl

The wonderful story of vinyl

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The collectors' marketplace

www.delcampe.net



editorial

A second Delcampe magazine special issue is a wonderful thing! After receiving your many messages of thanks and encouragement after our first magazine came out, we had just one thought: to do it again! Well, now it's done!

The world of collecting has many resources available, as you will see in this magazine. We cover an extremely wide range of topics which includes the history of Camembert, invoices, maps, announcements and more...The purpose is to ensure that everyone can find at least one topic of interest to them.

I've been lucky to work with many collectors over the past years. I'm a collector too and what strikes me is that, regardless of the collection, people with a passion always understand each other. They don't always use the same vocabulary and aren't necessarily interested in the same things, but their interest in research, the joy of finding what they were looking for and the stars in their eyes when

they talk about their subject never change. Collectors like to discover and help others discover, which is why I'm so happy to share this magazine with you.

The www.delcampe.net website celebrated its 20th birthday alongside collectors on the first of October. Twenty years during which tens of millions of collection items have changed hands thanks to the website. The following article will remind you of the highlights of the company founded by Sébastien Delcampe which has, little by little become the leading collectors' website in the world!

Before exploring the traditional and whimsical collections we will introduce you to, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you Happy Holidays and all the best for 2021, which certainly will be better than 2020!

Happy reading!

Héloïse Dautricourt

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The philatelist's letter to Santa Claus

16



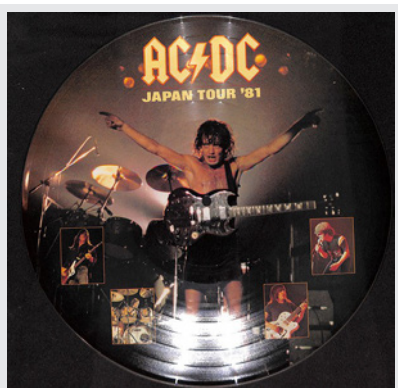
Collecting Camembert labels

28



The Louvre yesterday and today

24



The wonderful story of vinyl

30



Collecting old maps

34

Table of contents

Delcampe

- 3 Editorial
- 6 Delcampe is 20 years old!
- 8 Some memories

Stamps

- 16 The philatelist's letter to Santa Claus
- 18 Stamp collecting clubs
- 21 Varieties of contemporary stamps

Coins

- 10 A few tips to get off to a good start in numismatics
- 14 What if your €2 coin was worth €1.500?

Postcards

- 24 The Louvre yesterday and today
- 38 Royal postcards

Bar & food

- 28 Collecting Camembert labels

Vinyl

- 30 The wonderful story of vinyl

Old paper

- 34 Collecting old maps
- 44 Collecting announcements
- 46 Invoices can be worth a lot of money

Photography

- 36 Photography, the best witness to the fashion of yesteryear



Delcampe is 20 years old!

It's been a long time since young Sébastien Delcampe, just 20 years old, programmed a website for his collector friends in his kitchen! Over the years, the Delcampe website has grown into the largest marketplace for collectors. This deserved a special issue to thank all of our collectors. The magazine, translated into six languages so that every one of our communities can enjoy it, is now before your eyes!

We've come a long way in 20 years! We started with a single category and have 28 today! We're proud to serve collectors every day. Delcampe welcomes over 150,000 new collection items daily.

However, Delcampe is also a team of 30 people on two floors:

The technicians and product development team are on the lower floor. They ensure that the Delcampe website is always available and that you get the benefit of new functionality.

The Administration, Customer Service and Sales and Marketing teams are on the upper floor. These teams are in direct contact with members and work to make Delcampe easier to use. They are with you to make the website appealing and friendly.

2020-2021 is a very special time for us. We recently launched our not-for-profit. This initiative is very important to us. It will enable us to strengthen our activities in four areas: the well-being of children, the well-being of elderly people, the



environment and the promotion of collections.

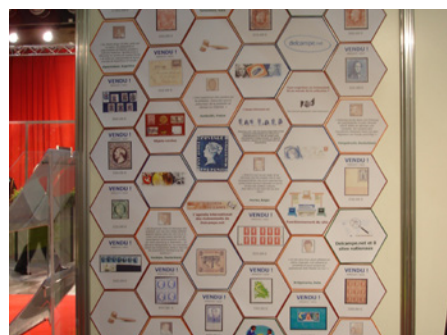
Other actions for our members are planned throughout the year. This magazine is one of them. A collector stamp, a serigraph, and a collection postcard were created and given recently. We will also be events partners and our 20 bottles of champagne contest got under way in early December.

Many technical improvement projects are in progress. We're getting ready to launch our automated shipping management system which will enable you to immediately see your fees on the item page. But this is just the beginning!

We would like to take the opportunity of this article to thank all of those who have joined us since the year 2000. More of you bring the Delcampe website to life every day and we're very grateful to you! We could never have celebrated this birthday without your support throughout these years. We hope to celebrate many more with our collectors!



20 happy years by your side some memories!







A few tips to get off to a good start in numismatics

I asked Bruno Visentini to help me talk to you about numismatics. Bruno is the president of the *Fédération Française des Associations Numismatiques (French Federation of Numismatics Clubs)*. In this capacity, he agreed to answer my questions to help explore this wonderful passion.



What is the best way to choose a numismatic collecting theme?

The decision comes naturally. In the beginning, you often take everything and, over time, some numismatic themes become more interesting than others. It could be history, Napoleon or the royals, but it's often related to the region you come from. Many people collect coins minted in cities like Toulouse, Lyon, Bordeaux, etc. because the cities all had mints. Some inherit their

father's collection and carry on.

What do you collect?

I started collecting Russian coins, from the first "Tmutarakhan" struck in 980, to the coins before Peter I. That allowed me to learn Russian history. After that, I collected French fractional coins (10 cents, 20 cents, 25 cents, ¼ franc, 50 cents, ½ franc), in exceptional condition (FDC – MS 65 to MS 70). The small units are difficult to find in FDCs because

the relief is very fine. That choice taught me to appreciate the quality of the coins. My approach is that I would prefer to have 30 quality coins in my collection than 500 of average quality. Since I became a professional, I don't collect anymore because I always ask myself the same question when I come across an exceptional coin: should I let a customer enjoy it or should I keep it? I'm preparing a themed collection for my daughter (horses) from antiquity to our days.

What are the must-have tools to get started?

The most important thing when you start is to know what you want to collect. The most important tool is patience, but you also have to have many books on the topic. With digital, it's easy to get started. However, I prefer to read specialist books. When I started collecting Russian coins, I bought quite a few books on Russian history from the 18th and 19th centuries because they really described the history of the country at that time. As a result, you can have a beautiful library and coin collection. For the numismatics books, I tried to find the ones our predecessors had in their childhood, because, even though there are many errors and omissions, they contain far more detail than nowadays.

What are the most important aspects of a coin? What do you have to look out for?

A coin tells a story. I mean coins before the euro. Look: the frank with a horse. It's the first French frank. This coin was issued in 1360 to pay the ransom of John II the Good (1350-1364) when he was a prisoner of the English.

On the obverse side is John II the Good on his horse with the following inscriptions: IOHANNES DEI GRATIA • FRANCORV REX, which means: John, By the Grace of God, King of the Franks.

The reverse side has a fluted cross with leaves emerging from it, and a four-lobed leaf at the heart, in an angled quatrefoil decorated with palmettes and bordered by four trefoils with the following inscription: XPC VINCIT • XPC REGNAT • XPC IMPERAT which means: Christ conquers, Christ rules, Christ commands.

On the obverse is the symbol of the authority which struck the coin (portrait or monuments for commemorative coins).

On the reverse side is the main motif with the face value.

Tail = reverse/Head = obverse

How do you find new pieces for your collection?

Most of the time by attending collector and numismatic exchanges and trade shows. Networking also brings quite a few opportunities. I'm cautious about the Internet because all coins are strikingly similar. In this case, the description and the photos are very important to ensure the quality of the coin and to only buy what you really want. If you buy on the Internet,

A few Delcampe figures

Over 660,000 coins available for sale.

Over 417,000 banknotes for sale.

Over 1,800,000 items sold in these categories.



On the left page

France 1853, gold one-centime Napoleon III coin.

On this page

Roman antiquity between 80 and 50 BCE, denarius with sword.



you should go to collector sites like Delcampe and professional sellers to avoid any bad surprises. I personally like to have the coin in my hand to know if I'm going to enjoy it or not. I have often had a superb coin in my hand and not felt anything. So, I didn't buy it and I waited to find another one.

Is it easier to collect banknotes or coins? Why?

They are two different kinds of collections. A banknote is more fragile because a fold or the counting marks puts down the price, so you have to be very careful.

It's easy to collect, because you can find anything you want. If you collect French banknotes, you can find all of them. Of course, you'll have to pay the price for rare banknotes, but generally speaking, you can find them.

In June 2018, I had the good fortune to buy a binder of French banknotes. There were very few banknotes and they were of very average quality, but there was also an 1848 black type, hand signed 100-franc banknote. The banknote wasn't pretty, because it was missing a piece. It had been scotch-taped, but it was only the fourth one known in France.

What does a numismatic club provide its members?

A numismatic club is there to answer your questions and your expectations. You can discuss your favourite topics at monthly meetings. A numismatics club provides the opportunity to

update your collection after exchanges with other members.

In my opinion, in order for a club to function properly, it has to provide solutions and help to its members, regardless of their age. Every new member must have a sponsor in the club so that they can exchange their ideas and their points of view about numismatics. Every member must share their knowledge.

As a result of the inventory of French numismatic clubs I'm doing now, many of the club presidents have asked me how to attract young men and women to numismatics clubs. I initiated a discussion on several social networks for 48 hours. The results were quite interesting. We're finalising the analysis.

Is it easy to complete a collection?

That's quite a question!!!

Everything depends on whether you stay focused or not. Let me explain: If you want to collect French coins from the Fifth Republic, with a coin of each type, it's no problem, you'll be successful. On the other hand, your goal should be to improve the quality of your collection. In that case, you'll continue to look for Fifth Republic coins you already have, but of better quality.

On the other hand, I have a friend who only collects "1-centime Napoleon III hatless" coins. He's looking for every year and every workshop, all of superb quality. If that was all, it wouldn't be a pro-

blem, but he's also looking for all of the trials and proofs of the coin. As a result, he'll never be able to get everything because some coins are only known to be available in one or two examples. I'm very proud of myself for having convinced him to buy the gold 1-centime Napoleon III hatless coin of which there are only three known examples. He obviously doesn't have many coins in his collection, but it's an exceptional one.

What advice would you give someone who wants to get started in numismatics?

First, be patient and enjoy your purchases!!!
 You have to take the time to put a nice collection together.
 Don't hesitate to buy books about your collection theme. The more

books you have about your topic, the better you'll know it and the more unassailable you'll be.
 Try to decide on a collection topic to avoid buying just anything.
 Choose quality over quantity. Better to purchase one €50 coin a month than 50 €1 coins. You'll be happy you did later.
 Ask professionals for their opinion.
 Become a member of a numismatics club to share your passion. The most important thing in coin collecting is taking good care of the coins.
 Never clean your coins. A shiny coin isn't worth more!!!
 Try to ensure that the quality of your collection is consistent.
 Don't jump at so-called good deals. Don't be afraid to ask other collectors questions!



On the left page
 France 1850, 20-centime piece.
 France 1832, 1/4 frank from Toulouse with the effigy of Louis-Philippe.

On this page
 France 2007, commemorative silver €1.5 for the summer games.
 France 1846, extremely rare 100-frank banknote.



What if your €2 coin was worth €1,500 ?

You probably don't know it, but it's likely that you have coins on you right now that are worth more than their face value. €2 coins in particular. In addition to the "official" country coin, there are also many limited-edition coins. Those are the ones we'll take a look at here.



When I say limited-edition coins, I mean coins that were struck for a local event or an anniversary. There are no specific requirements for the coins. They can bear the effigy of a personality, a logo or a monument. Here's a little tip: check the tails side of the coin. If isn't the usual one, put it aside.

What makes a coin valuable?

As you might suspect, everything rare is more expensive. So, the shorter the run, the greater the value of the coin. The condition of the coin is also important. The newer it looks, the better its condition and the greater the value!

The Holy Grail

The likelihood that you have one in your pocket is very small, but if you do find this Grace Kelly, be aware that some have sold for over €1,500 on Delcampe!!! Some much more common examples illustrate this article.

Good luck with your wallet!

See thousands of €2 coins on Delcampe.

[CLICK HERE.](#)



A few Delcampe figures

60,000 coins are on sale in the euro category

A €2 Grace Kelly from 2007 recently sold for €2,400

90,000 items have already been sold in this category

On the left page

2005 San Marino €2 coin sold on Delcampe for €70

2007 Monaco €2 commemorative Grace Kelly coin sold on Delcampe for €1,700

On this page

2012 Vatican €2 International Day of Families coin sold on Delcampe for €30

2018 Spain €2 Santiago de Compostela coin sold on Delcampe for €10

2004 Finland €2 coin sold on Delcampe for €30

2014 Malta €2 Malta independence coin sold on Delcampe for €30

2017 France €2 Pierre de Coubertin coin sold on Delcampe for €70



Dear Santa Claus, I want to be a good stamp collector. Please bring me...

What do you need to get started in stamp collecting? That's the question we asked twenty experienced stamp collectors. Here are their answers... A great list for Christmas!



No. 1: The right paper documentation

Stamp catalogues, a full library... according to many stamp collectors, they're essential! And it's true. How can you analyse a stamp or a letter without the right documentation? A critical mind and reliable documentation are the basis of all research.

No. 2: Stamp tongs

Stamp tongs are an indispensable tool for stamp collectors because they are required for handling stamps without damaging them. There are several different types. You have to find the right one for you. Shorter, longer, round tip, pointy tip... opinions differ. The most important thing is to

find the one that meets your needs. You'll master it very quickly!

No. 3: A magnifying glass

To see details, varieties, read things written very small on a stamp, postal marks, the contents of a letter, etc. you have to have a good magnifying glass. They are available at every price level depending on how good the tool is and if you want one with built-in light, which appears to be very helpful.

No. 4: A good binder and the right album

The materials required to store your collection are also a must. The binder is a requirement because it's the intermediate step between bowl and album. You can put your stamps in it after sorting them and before putting them in an album.

There are several formats of binders and albums with 8, 16, 32 or 64 pages, with white or black pages and a transparent sheet between each page to protect the stamps. They have their place in the library and must be stored upright.

Collectors can put their stamps in their binder as they please. The black or white cardboard pages have 5, 10 or 12 transparent rhodoid strips to hold the stamps.

The binder can also be used to store duplicates by grouping them by country, type, etc. Each stamp should have a little label with its number, value and the price you want to sell it for...on Delcampe, of course!

No. 5: A computer, an Internet connection and Delcampe!

Half of the stamp collectors I spoke with gave this same answer. Nowadays, research and the Internet go hand in hand. Stamp collectors understand the possibilities provided by the Internet in terms of documentation (while maintaining a critical approach) and for purchasing collection items. In this respect, Delcampe is their main ally for rare finds.

Those were the five top answers. But they aren't the only ones: a perforation gauge (to count perforations), UV light, scanner, exhibition sheets, bowls. The equipment used by stamp collectors can be extremely useful. And all of the equipment is available at a good price on Delcampe!

Explore this category on Delcampe.

[CLICK HERE](#)

A few Delcampe figures

There are 100,000 books and other stamp collecting items for sale on Delcampe.

Over 68,000 items have been sold.





Stamp collecting clubs, excellent partners for your passion!

When you start a collection, you often need good advice and knowledge. There isn't a better way to get them than from actual people rather than through books. That's the reason why we encourage our members to join one or more clubs that provide these benefits and enable them to make new collector friends.



Which club is best?

It's an interesting question because there are many options available. The most obvious answer is a club near you. It's more practical and will make regular meeting attendance easier.

If you've opted for a specific theme, it may be very valuable to join a club focused on the theme because you'll meet other people

who are passionate about the same subject. You'll get regular news about new items being sold or exchanged. It's a good idea to have meetings with people who are passionate, even though this may be more restrictive than going to all meetings. Fortunately, the Internet is a good ally that can keep you up to date even when you can't always attend. The Delcampe Magazine is

a partner of many themed clubs in France. Here are a few examples:

- La Croix-Rouge (CTCR)
- La Philatélie Polaire (UFPP/SATA and CEPP)
- La Philatélie d'Andorre (Philandorre)
- L'Aérophilatélie (CAF)
- La Philatélie d'Algérie (Philea et Maghrebophila)
- La Philatélie du Congo (Congo-lâtres)
- La philatélie de Nouvelle-Calédonie (le Cagou)
- La philatélie de la Libération (ACTL)
- Les Carnets et timbres publicitaires (ACCP)
- L'Erinnophilie (Arc en Ciel)
- ...

What does a club provide its members?

We've spoken about conviviality and knowledge, which are obviously the most important benefits of a club. But there are many others:

- Many clubs have a new items department which enables members to buy stamps directly.
- A number of clubs organise sales by selected theme, or so that members can pass on their duplicates, making other collectors happy.
- Some also have a little magazine which enables knowledge sharing between members and discovery of new collection themes. There are often conferences, meetings, group travel to events, etc.

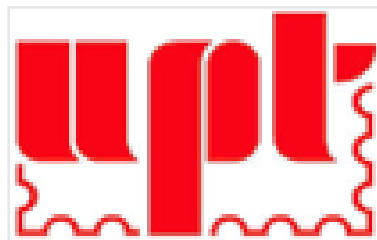
In addition, if you want to exhibit your collection, clubs can provide all kinds of good advice and opportunities.

Not every club provides all of these



Rhône Philatélie

N° 166 DÉCEMBRE 2019



opportunities. However, explore a little and you'll be surprised to find out what can be done with a small budget and good will! Fees are usually minimal in most clubs. The goal is to ensure the club's survival and share your passion!

What about young people?

We shouldn't fool ourselves: the average stamp collector is well over thirty. But this doesn't mean that there aren't any more young stamp collectors or that they won't be welcome. On the contrary, young stamp collectors are awaited impatiently and they are very welcome. Some clubs organise events in schools and initiate stamp collecting vocations. The passion will win out, regardless of age! Each generation can learn something from the previous one and from the next one!

How can you find the right club for you?

See the club directory on Delcampe. You'll find many stamp collecting clubs which, we hope, will be at your side to make your collection grow.



Varieties of contemporary stamps

Although for some collectors only classic collections will do, contemporary collections can also be interesting. Theme collectors love them, but other collectors can also find them interesting for other reasons. One option, which is particularly popular, is collecting varieties. There are several types of varieties, which we will explain here.

Different perforations

Stamps are virtually never straight-edged, i.e. the sheet wasn't perforated or was incorrectly perforated, either too high or too far to one side compared to others. These stamp variations are very rare because each sheet of stamps is checked before it leaves the print shop. However, it sometimes happens that a stamp or sheet of stamps is missed. These stamps are often sought after by collectors and sell for a good price.

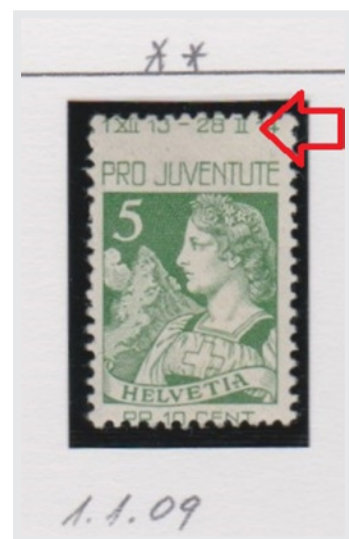
Switzerland 1913, Helvetia Pro Juventute stamp - perforation variation.

White spots

This refers to the printing spots resulting from impurities in the printing press. There are several kinds, which are more or less visible. While these printing defects are more common than other ones, the stamps are nevertheless appreciated even though they may be a little less sought after than others!

Inverted centres

This printing error is very, very rare. In this case, the direction of the centre





of the stamp is inverted compared to its frame. This is the case of some very famous stamps like the inverted Dendermonde, the rarest Belgian stamp and the Inverted Jenny, a Holy Grail of American stamps. There are generally very few examples of these stamps, which means that, by definition, they are very rare.

Colours

Some stamps are missing a colour. For example, the colour grey is missing from this

Marianne de Decaris, which means that her face has no shadows. Caution is required with these stamps, however, because forgers sometimes dip stamps in chemical solutions to remove a given colour. If you have any doubts, be sure to show your stamps to an expert who will be able to tell you if they are authentic or not.



Phosphor bands

Since the 1950s, French stamps have harboured a secret few people know about: all, or nearly all of them have one or two phosphorescent bands which are nearly invisible to the naked eye (but perfectly visible under ultraviolet light). From a technical standpoint, the bands have a very specific function: they facilitate automated mail processing. They are also of interest for another reason from a philatelic standpoint: they have resulted in many varieties (blemishes; missing bands; overlapping and incomplete bands, etc.) which can increase the



France 1923, variety of a Pasteur stamp.

Belgium 1920, stamp with the Dendermonde city hall inverted in the centre.

France 1965, variation of Marianne de Decaris missing the colour grey.

Belgium 2012, a Belgium land of the comic strip sheet without perforations.

value of the stamp by 100 or 1,000 times. Some examples of the variations collected include: Stamps without phosphor which, as their name indicates, do not have a band.

Overlapping phosphor bands which occur due to a vertical or horizontal offset of the print cylinder.

Breaks, which are the result of print cylinder deterioration.

Phosphorescent blemishes, which can cover all or part of a stamp.

They are often caused by excess ink dripping on the paper. Band errors (one band instead of two, a linked band on the left instead of two band, etc.) due to the improper positioning of the print cylinder or the use of a cylinder intended for another stamp.

In the end, it all comes down to close observation and knowledge of the subject matter. Looking for variations also, and especially, means engaging in a treasure hunt to find unique stamps...Good hunting to everyone!

Discover the world of stamps on Delcampe.

[CLICK HERE](#)



France 2018, variation in the perforations of the sheet issued for the 2018 Ryder Cup.



The Louvre yesterday and today



The Louvre is an internationally-known tourist attraction and the most-visited museum in the world! It's worth spending a bit of time on its history!

The origins of the Louvre

The Louvre's name comes from the Latin *Lupara*, which means "wolf's den". In the past, the site on which the museum is built housed crews that hunted wolves.

The construction of a fortress to protect the city of Paris began at the end of the 12th century during the reign of Philippe Auguste. The

castle was obviously very different from the building we know today. The kings of France and their architects of the 16th and 17th centuries completely modified and expanded the mediaeval fortress.

While the castle was originally intended to protect Paris, it became the royal residence starting in the second half of the 14th century,

CPA based on an engraving, the Louvre under Charles V.

CPA Paris, the Louvre, pavillon Sully.



A few Delcampe figures

Over 8,100 Louvre postcards have been sold on Delcampe!

The most expensive card sold is a Postcard of the Victory of Samothrace.

Over 40,000 postcards on this theme are available for sale.

under Charles V. This king was also the first one to make the Louvre a centre for French culture by moving 900 manuscripts to its library. However, at the time, the Louvre was especially known as the seat of the king's authority: many fiefs depended on the "Louvre's big tower".

The Louvre retained its status as a royal residence until the French Revolution. From Francis I until Louis XIV, the kings of France and their architects worked to expand and renovate the Louvre, making it into one of the symbols of the French Renaissance. Construction continued on the Louvre until 1779, sometimes interrupted for a few years by wars.

Versailles became the royal residence during the reign of Louis XIV. The

Postcard - general view of the Louvre gardens.

Postcard - the new Louvre, the pavillon de Marsan and the Museum of Decorative Arts.

Postcard - Louvre Museum, representation of a painting by Hippolyte Bellanger, Une Revue sous l'Empire





Louvre entered into another phase of its cultural life. Starting in 1672, several academies and artists took up residence: the French Academy, the painting, sculpture and architecture academies... This new cultural identity ensured that the Louvre was spared during the French Revolution.



The Count of Angiviller initiated the museum plan in 1789. After the revolution, the Estates-General continued the project and added collections confiscated from the clergy. Napoleon I moved to the Tuileries Palace and continued to finance the Louvre project. This period, in particular, improved the interior of the Louvre.

The Louvre Palace that we know today (with the exception of the Pyramid, of course) was finished on time for the 1855 universal exhibition. However, its wasn't officially inaugurated until two years later on 14 August 1857 with Napoleon III



CPA le Louvre, Psyche and Venus room.
 CPA Louvre Museum
 CPA the Louvre Colonnade

in attendance.

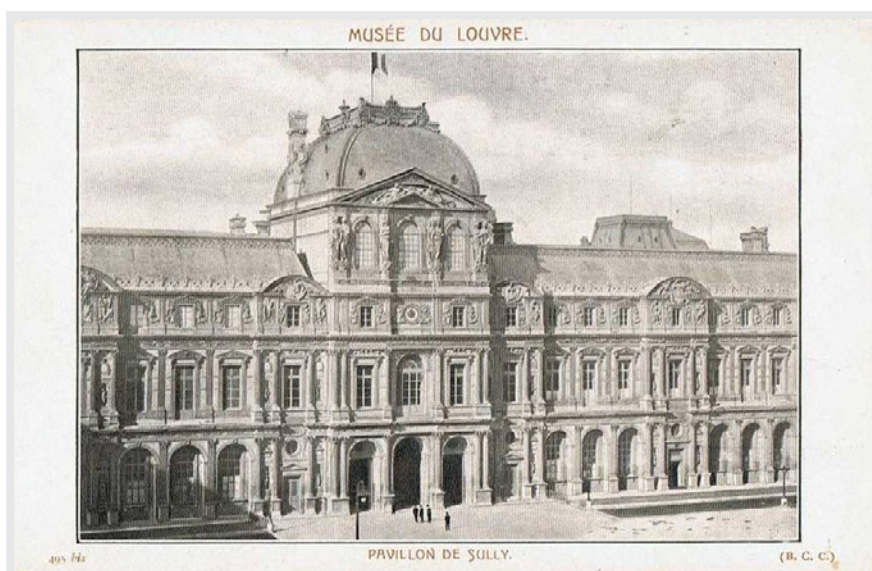
The new Louvre, envisioned as a Mecca of the Intellect by Victor Hugo, became a listed building in 1889. In addition to its function as a museum, the Louvre was also home to government offices for many years, notably the ministry of finance, until 1989.

The most recent major work on the Louvre museum was done during François Mitterrand's presidency. It was during this period that the Louvre added the glass pyramid at the centre of the Cour Napoleon.

The Louvre now welcomes over 10 million visitors a year, of which a quarter are French. It is overflowing with cultural treasures: the Mona Lisa, the Victory of Samothrace, the Raft of the

Medusa...The world's greatest painters and sculptors are all present in this museum, which is worth a visit in itself.

CPA three views of the Louvre from the end of the 19th century until today.





Collect Camembert labels



Collectors of cheese labels are called «tyrosemiophiles Camembert» is the star of cheese label collections. It's probably because of the round wood box which is particularly well-suited to collecting. And because it can have pretty illustrations and provide historical insight.

The most famous Camembert is from Normandy.

Camembert from Normandy is unpasteurised cow's milk cheese produced and processed in the region. It was granted «Appellation d'Origine Contrôlée certification» for its unique taste in 1982.

According to legend, it was invented by a farmer called Marie Harel (maiden name Fontaine) from the village of Camembert at the end of the 18th century. Mrs Harel's heirs continued

to expand the farm and their cheese became one of the stars of the Normandy region.

The cheese was originally packaged on a bed of straw, but this wasn't very practical for long journeys. At the end of the 19th century Camembert producers adopted the round poplar wood box we know today. The first cheese labels also came about around this time.

The Camembert business quickly took over the region. In order to protect the cheese

which made it famous, 53 cheesemakers created the «Syndicat des Fabricants du Véritable Camembert de Normandie»!

1001 Camembert label designs

From pretty farmers to Norman cows to monks, windmills and other designs, artisans outdid each other to create the beautiful labels that make today's collectors so happy! Prices on Delcampe range from a few cents to several hundred euros depending on how rare the label is and on its condition.

Camembert, a patriotic cheese

Many Camembert cheese labels are related to the First World War. There's a good reason for this: The Great War had a major impact on the Camembert's name recognition.

The First World War brought Camembert to people throughout France. This was due to the mobilisation of Norman cheese producers. In 1917, according to the book «Le Camembert, mythe franais» by Pierre Boisard, the producer Louis Serrey suggested to the other members of the Syndicat des fabricants du «Véritable Camembert de Normandie» that they provide the French army with a day's production for free. The suggestion was agreed to. Camembert producers introduced their cheese to the army's central supply depots and it quickly became part of the

poilu's (French soldier) rations. They ate delicious Norman Camembert in the trenches.

Several Camembert producers also decorated their cheese boxes with patriotic illustrations. *Portraits of poilus*, the French flag...they gave everything a try to demonstrate their pride in their nation. During the war, the front received preferential treatment for supplies over non-combatants.

Their patriotism became extremely profitable. First, consumers had a very good impression of them and, Camembert became a sort of equivalent of Proust's madeleine for old soldiers. The expected and comforting snack appeared in homes and never left again.

Thousands of cheese labels are available on Delcampe.

[CLICK HERE](#)

On the left page

L'Aurore Camembert label from Lisieux in Calvados.

The Automobile Camembert label which promotes its Norman origin.

Véritable Camembert-Alcide Fromage label from Saint-Michel de Livet in Calvados.

On this page

Conard Chat Noir Camembert label from Rethel in the Ardennes.

Poilu-Domaine Camembert label from Mesnil de Lieury in Calvados.

Le Camembert des Alliés Mauxion Wallemacq label.

A few Delcampe figures

Over 75,000 items are available for sale in this category.

The most expensive label sold for €315.50.





The wonderful story of vinyl

The vinyl record, or LP, had its glory days from the 1950s to the 1980s. It was replaced by the Compact Disc (CD) in 1982, but has enjoyed renewed popularity since the 2000s. It has become even more popular over the years thanks to a vintage trend which is encouraging music-lovers to rediscover the medium.



CPA Felix Mendelssohn

Back in time

The LP took over from 78 rpm records, improving sound thanks to a decrease in surface noise. Another advantage was playing time. The 33 rpm record increased listening time by five times over the 78 rpm. In addition, the LP was much stronger than its predecessor.

The arrival of the vinyl record coincided with the Second World War. The chemical industry did a great deal of work with plastics in the early 1940s. The 78 rpm record was made

of gum lac (also called shellac). Because of the war, the United States had to significantly decrease its imports of gum lac. As a result, a new medium had to be found to produce recordings. Records began to be made using polyvinyl chloride.

The patent for the vinyl disc process was filed by Columbia in the United States in 1946. In addition to the benefits above, the vinyl record was also less expensive to produce. On the other hand, it required a diffe-

rent type of device to play, which is why consumer take-up was not a quick as hoped for. The first vinyl records played at 33 1/3 rotations per minute, which is why they were called 33 rpm records or LPs, for "long play". Each side of the record could hold up to 23 minutes of music. The first record was a classical music recording of Mendelssohn. It was sold in 1948.

The following year, the RCA label made the first single, a 17.5 cm record that played at 45 rpm.

From the 1940s to the golden age of vinyl

Vinyl records weren't immediately successful. The record player required to listen to vinyl records was different from the ones used to play 78 rpm records and many people weren't willing to spend the money immediately after the war. However, after about ten years, many people were tempted and the modern record player became increasingly common in households. It was at that time that vinyl records began to sell in large quantities. There were endless numbers of singles and albums produced until the early 1980s. The rock-and-roll and disco eras were a heyday for the record's warm sound.

Vintage has brought vinyl records back to the forefront

Vinyl records were replaced by CDs in the 1980s. Mass production of vinyl records ended in 1991 for LPs and in 1993 for singles. However, DJs continued to make vinyl records for

remixes.

In fact, the sound of vinyl records is unmatched. Disk jockeys knew this and continued to use the medium, notably for "scratching", which was very popular at the time. Vinyl became popular again in the early 2000s. It gained ground on CDs for jazz and electro recordings...and it is still on a roll.

A few of the most interesting vinyl formats

While we all know the traditional 30 cm format for 33 rpm records and the 17.5 cm format for 45 rpm records, there are actually some other, surprising, ones.

The maxi single, for example. They are 30 cm in size (like LPs) but play at 45 rpm. They are often used for remixes of hit songs which require longer recording times. The best examples include a photo on their entire surface making

A few Delcampe figures

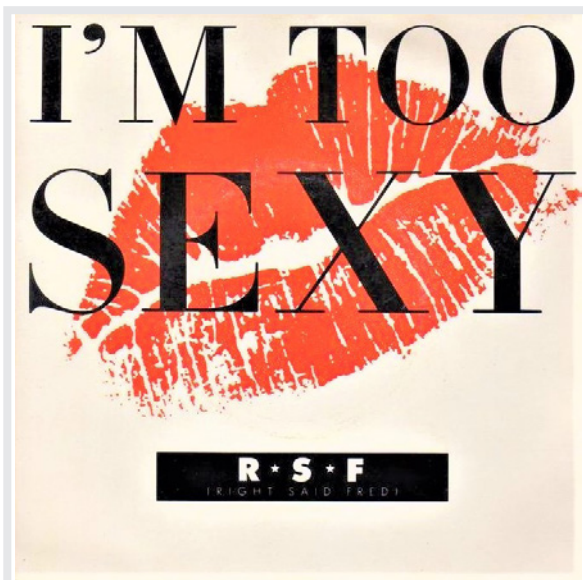
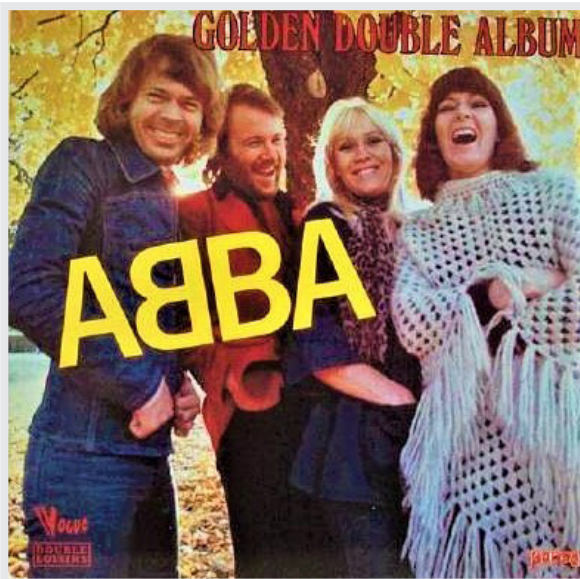
Over 145,000 vinyl records are available for sale on Delcampe:

47,000 LPs

95,000 singles



Advertising for a 78 rpm phonograph - Beatles "Sgt. Pepper's" coloured LP



them even more attractive.

If you've ever wondered why the hole in the single is different from the LP, it's because the format was chosen for use in jukeboxes. The traditional single has two songs. The potential hit is on the A-side and the "bonus" track on the B-side. It sometimes has two potential hits.

On the other hand, there are also 17.5 cm LPs, used for many children's records.

And there is a third record format: 25 cm. This is the preferred format for 16 rpm vinyl records. This format was not very successful. It's used primarily for spoken recordings and dance music. Its musical quality and recording time are drawbacks.

Even rarer are the "Timicrons". These are 33 rpm recordings designed to provide longer playing time on each side. The idea seemed excellent, but the records couldn't be played on a standard record player, which turned off potential buyers. The format was quickly abandoned.

Have you ever heard about these vinyl records?

The flexi disc: this format appeared in 1962. The flexi disc is made out of plastic and weighs

ABBA vinyl Golden Double Album

Donna Summer vinyl "Love To Love You Baby".

RSF vinyl "I'm too sexy"

about 5 g. It's primarily used for advertising. Many were given out with magazines or as promotional gifts. However, not all flexi discs were made by unknown artists. On the contrary. Bands like the Beatles used the medium for the enjoyment of their fan club members and some small independent labels also used them. Collectors love them nowadays.

The promotional disc, or promo disc: this vinyl disc was intended for the print media and DJs to promote songs. They are recognizable by the phrases For Promotional Use Only or Not For Resale which appear either as a sticker or printed on the album cover.

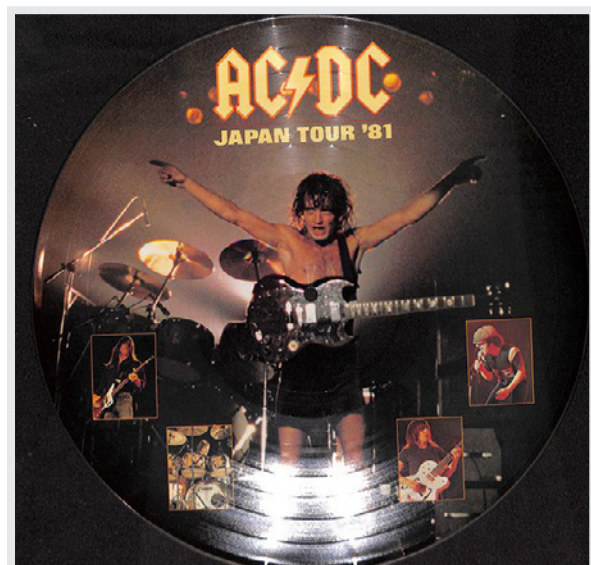
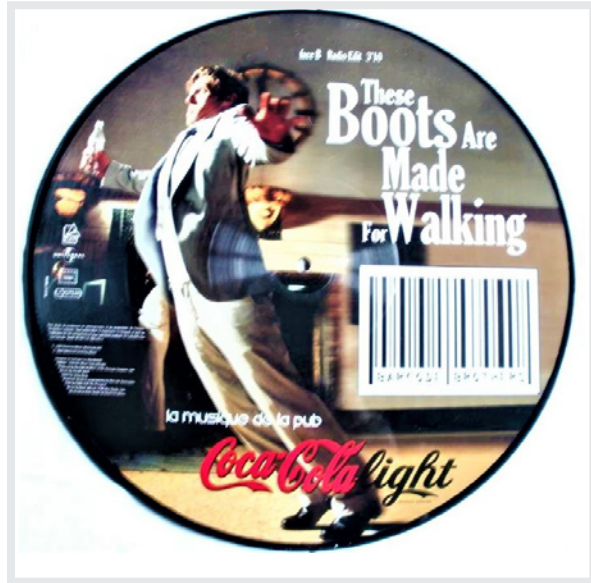
Colour LPs: these are collector items made in limited quantities. Colour vinyl records were clearly made for collectors. Note that their sound quality sometimes reflects this. A few famous bands like Queen and Pink Floyd, among others, have used this type of record, which are among the rare items now sought after by collectors.

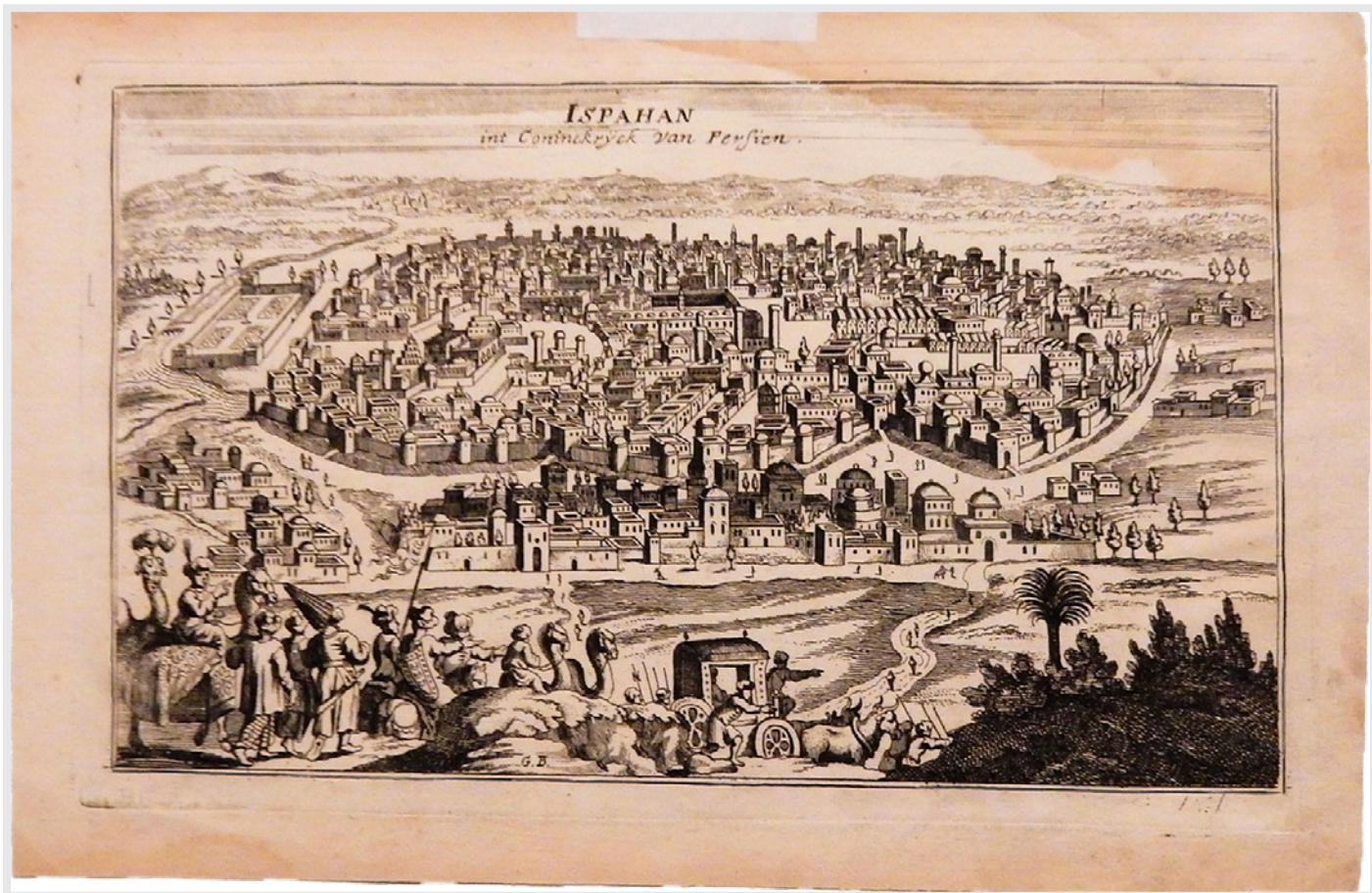
Vinyl records are still loved today by DJs and music lovers because of their unique sound. And they still have a great future ahead of them!

Coca-Cola vinyl advertising record.

Highlander vinyl record.

ACDC vinyl "Japan Tour 81" collector's album





Collecting old maps



Explorers have always travelled the world hoping to find an undiscovered corner. For centuries, cartographers have tried to show the expanses of the world in drawings, carefully representing the work of explorers and political changes. The old maps are highly valued today, because they are often beautiful decorative items. However, they are especially sought after by collectors who patiently look for these scraps of history which brought us to the world we know today.

The oldest known map is from 2600 BCE in Mesopotamia. However, that discovery is virtually unique. It would take until the 15th century and, especially, the following centuries for maps to become common.

Maps became relatively common starting in the 18th century. They showed countries, cities and regions. There are different types of maps which reflect the things map readers are looking for (relief, buildings, borders, demographics, etc.).

There were some important cartographers in the past. The first that comes to mind is Mercator who made maps in the 16th century. There was also de Ferraris in Belgium and Cassini in France. Four generations of Cassinis drew the first French topographical map.

You can acquire beautiful period maps of countries and regions on Delcampe. The older the map and the better its condition, the greater its value. We have illustrated this article with maps sold on Delcampe.

To see the old maps for sale on Delcampe.

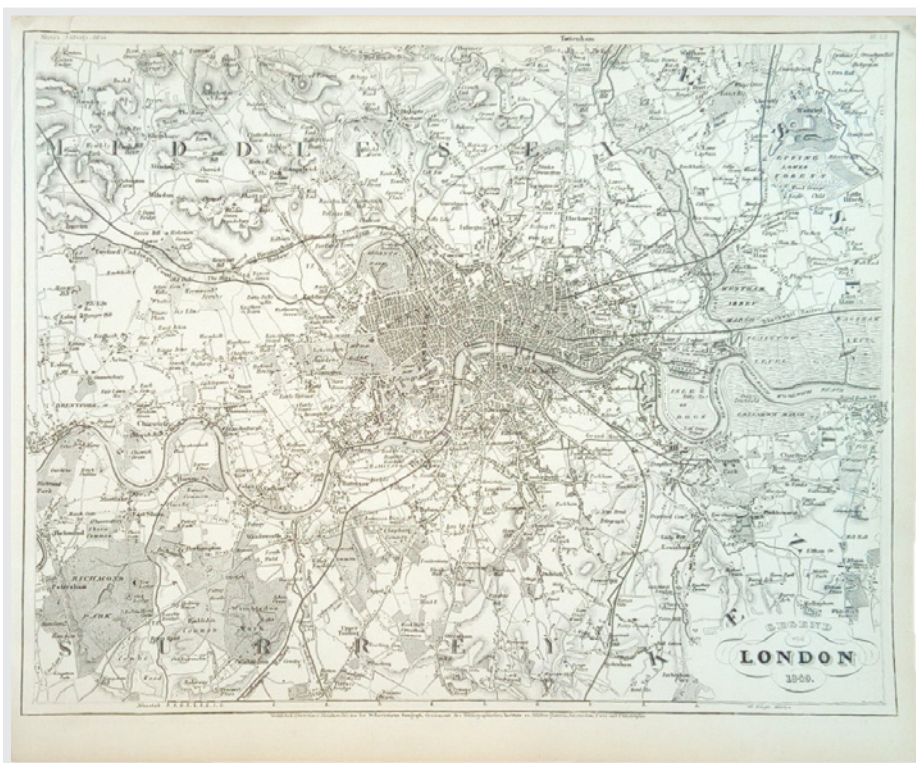
[CLICK HERE](#)

On the left page

An old map of Isfahan (Iran).
17th century map of Madagascar.

On this page

17th century map of America.
1849 map of London.



A few Delcampe figures

Over 13,800 maps are available for sale in this category.

8,000 maps have already been sold on Delcampe.

The most expensive map sold is an old map of Poland.



Photography, the best witness to the fashion of yesteryear

Postcard photography teaches us great deal about the way in which the generations that came before us lived. Here is a good example of the changes that have taken place in women's fashion over a century.



Women's emancipation in Europe has clearly been one of the significant factors in these changes. Women needed more practical clothing for a more active lifestyle, especially in the upper social strata in which women were able to gain access to better education and more active careers over the years. In France, for example, secondary education only became accessible to women in the 1880s and it wasn't until 1907 that they could spend their salary as they

deemed fit.

As for fashion, as you can see, it was still very much based on crinoline in the 19th century. Charles-Frederick Worth is credited with changing the shape of crinoline, making movement easier. The Franco-British couturier founded the first haute couture house in Paris and organised the first fashion show.

World War I had a clear impact on women's fashion. The intent was to provide women with more practical clothing as they

Old photo from 1850. - Old photo from 1870. - Old photo from 1900. - Old photo from 1910.



A few Delcampe figures

Over 20,000 fashion photos are for sale on Delcampe.

Some rare pictures sell for up to €300.

became more modern and active.

The end of the war was like a breath of fresh breeze for fashion and women began to wear shorter, lower-cut dresses. This was the roaring twenties, when the Charleston was all the rage.

It's amusing to see how styles changed completely in just a generation. Photography is a fun and educational collection theme. Fashion is just one subject among many others that show the extent to which photography lets us discover yesterday's daily life!

See thousands of old photos on Delcampe.

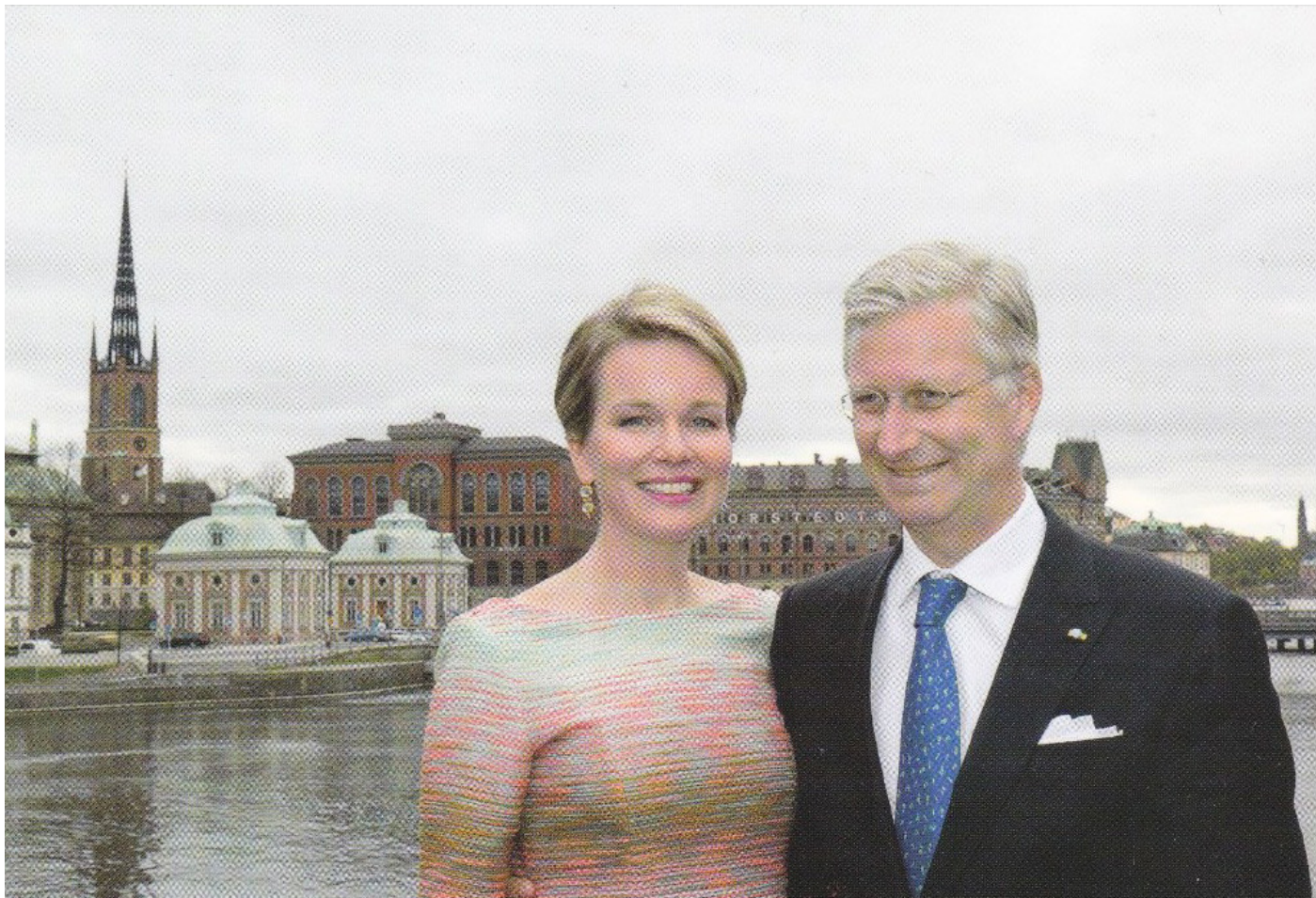
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Old photo from 1920.

Old photo from 1930.

Old photo from 1935.





Royal postcards

Soon after the postcard was invented, the medium enabled people to discover cities and villages and, of course, many different personalities, including royal families.



Royal families have always stoked people's curiosity and they certainly did at a time (end of the 19th century) when the media had not yet become what they are today. In fact, many people didn't know what sovereigns looked like. Thanks to photography, then postcards, these personalities came into their homes. Delcampe carries many postcards of kings and queens of Europe as well as of Asia and Africa.

The Belgium example

As time went by, royal postcards became increasingly diverse. The first caricature postcards appeared in the early 20th century. They included Leopold II who was criticised for his fickleness, among other things.

His successor, Albert I, nicknamed the Knight King in Belgium because he personally took part in World War I, is often shown in uniform. As his wife worked alongside soldiers, she is also glorified on postcards.

Later, the postcard increasingly humanised the members of the royal family. There are endless postcards of the princes and royal events, like the marriage of King Leopold III and Queen Astrid.

However, Belgium isn't an isolated case. Many royal families have been immortalised in postcards. The tradition is still with us today, providing many opportunities for the collectors of royal postcards.

Discover thousands of royal postcards on Delcampe.

[CLICK HERE](#)

On the left page

Modern postcard - Philippe and Mathilde of Belgium.

Semi-modern postcard - King Leopold III of Belgium and his son, the future King Baudouin.

On this page

Postcard - 1900, Alfonso XIII, King of Spain.

Postcard - the King of Siam greeting a crowd.

Semi-modern postcard - Queen Elisabeth of Belgium in her nurse's uniform during World War I.

Semi-modern postcard - the marriage of Leopold III and Astrid of Belgium.

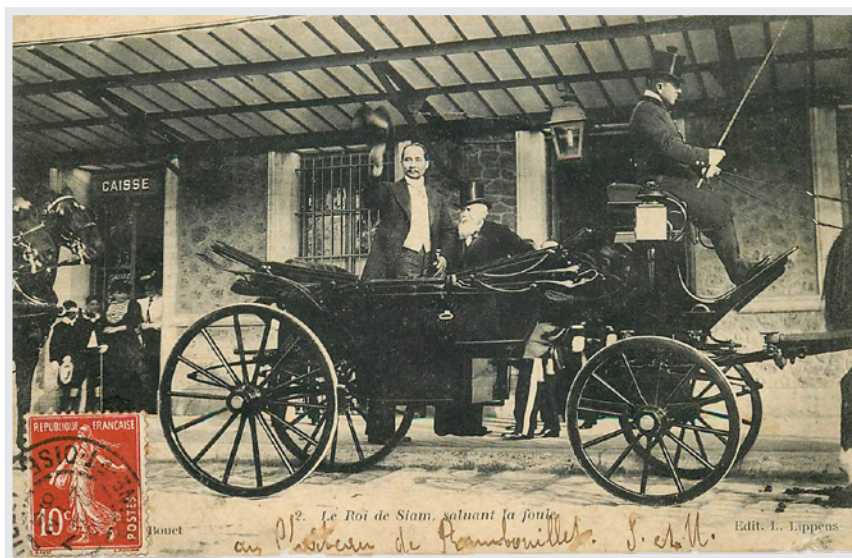


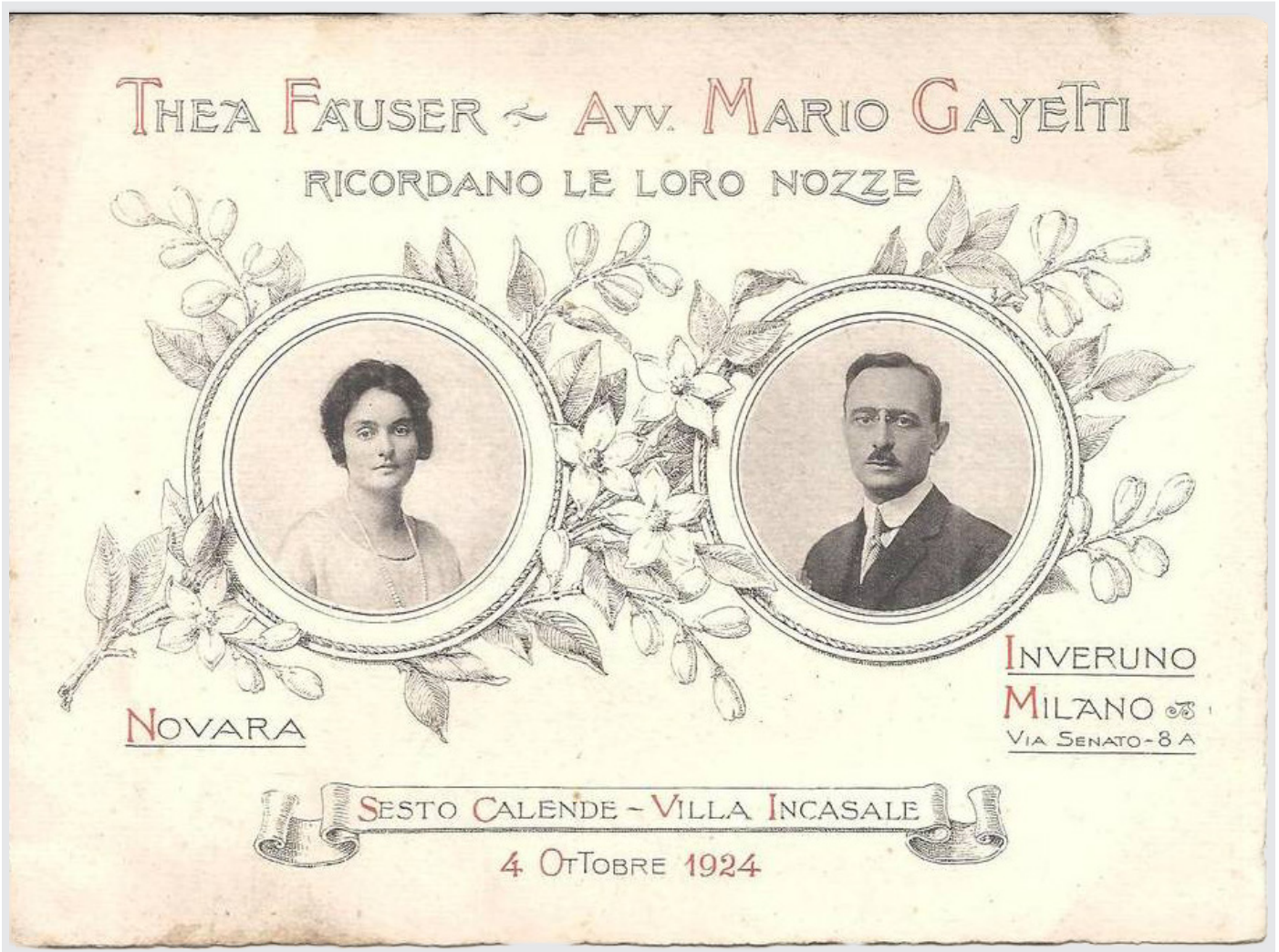
A few Delcampe figures

The most successful postcard ever in this category is the King of Siam.

Over 18,000 postcards of historically important people are available on Delcampe.

The most successful king among royal Belgian postcards is King Leopold II.





Collecting announcements

The French word for announcement means “that which comes back to someone from something that is of interest to them”. It’s a letter (which currently tends to be virtual) in which people announce an event. An announcement can be for a death, a wedding, an engagement, a birth...

The tradition is an old one. It appears to have started with death announcements, which were already common in the 17th century. The announcement was sometimes written on the back of a holy picture to inform people about the funeral.

Later, the tradition increased the number of announcements sent by adding happier events like weddings, births, baptisms, engagements, etc. to perso-

A few Delcampe figures

90,000 announcements for sale

44,000 announcements sold

You can look for announcements by type of event.

nally inform the people they were addressed to.

At first, the tradition was reserved for a very wealthy elite. It became more popular at the end of the 19th century, enabling everyone to send announcements. Announcements from today and yesterday run the gamut from the very traditional to the very original. Nowadays, they are collected and you may be surprised to find old announcements from members of your own family on Delcampe!

Curious? Find your family's announcements on Delcampe!

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On the left page

Italian wedding announcement from 1924.

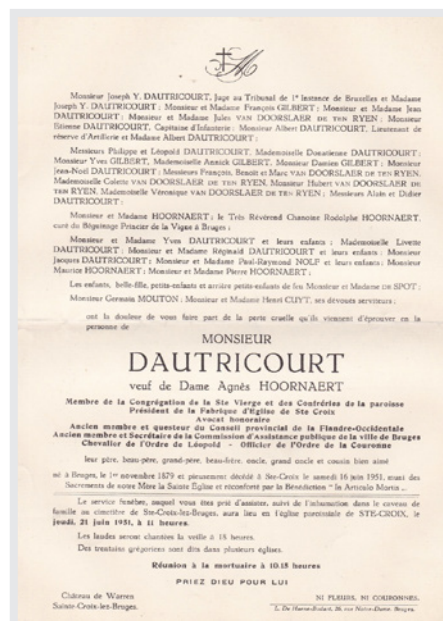
On this page

Birth announcement from 1908.

An old wedding announcement.

Joseph Dautricourt's death announcement

Princess Clémentine d'Orléans' death announcement.





Invoices can be worth a lot of money

When people talk about invoices, the first thing that comes to mind, of course, is payment. And, in fact, the invoice is defined as a document which attests to the purchase or sale of goods or services. Yet, an invoice can also sometimes be a valued collection item...

Invoices from yesterday and today

The history of the invoice goes back to Antiquity. It is thought to have its origins in 350 BCE in Mesopotamia under the reign of Hammurabi! While invoices were rarely used until the Middle Ages, they became increasingly popular and have become daily items nowadays

(we could do without them sometimes!).

Our invoices began to take on their current appearance at the end of the 18th century. Tables, on the other hand, are from the end of the 19th century.

To be deemed an invoice, the document must bear certain specific words. The main one being the word "invoice".

Old Diligences du Rhône invoice from 1754

In addition, the names and addresses of the two parties, the date of the sale or provision of services, the price and the taxes must appear on the invoice.

While European accounting in general requires that invoices be kept for ten years at least, after that time, most companies destroy the documents that burden their shelves. The current trend consists in making digital copies of the invoices, which take up a lot of room, are not very environmentally friendly and are costly in terms of paper and mailing costs. The reasons are practical, but obviously don't take collectors into account!

Collection invoice

I'm going to shatter your dreams right away by telling you that it's highly unlikely that you'll make a fortune off of your invoices. However, if you can find ones that belonged to your great-great-grandparents, there could be some of interest.

The illustrations used for this article are all of invoices sold on Delcampe. They're relatively old and you'll notice that many are brewery invoices. A trick by a collector of beer-related items? Maybe...

be aware that invoices are of particular interest for their headers and are often found in multi-theme collections. In this case, collectors who are interested in villages, militaria, or food immediately come to mind.

The invoices people look for are, obviously, not from yesterday. Most of them are from the 18th or 19th century. Up to you to complete your theme and bring another dimension to your collection with invoices, which often have very pretty headers.

Find them on Delcampe!

[CLICK HERE](#)

Old Auguste Bayenet, Brewer at Aubange-Arthus invoice from 1887

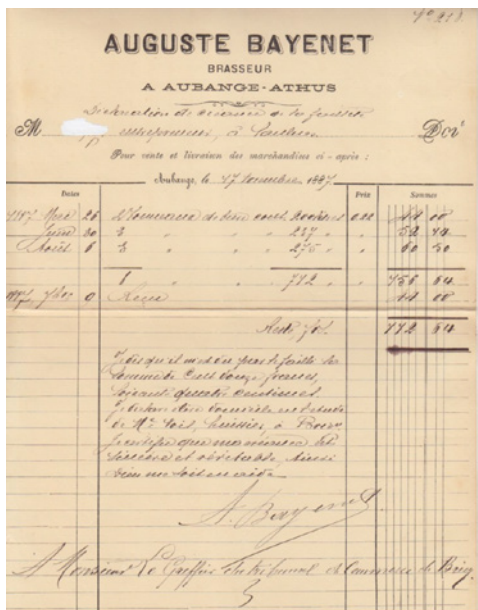


A few Delcampe figures

Over 555,000 invoices for sale

Over 160,000 invoices already sold

The most expensive invoice sold for €375. It's an invoice from an arms factory in Paris



Find the rare gem among more than **80 million collectibles!**



With more than **1 million active users per month**, Delcampe has been the collectors' favourite partner for **20 years**.

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The collectors' marketplace

www.delcampe.net