

For Immediate Release

**Eclectic and Colourful Peranakan Culture Decorates New Stamp Issue
- And Featuring the World's First Beaded Stamp**

Date of Issue: 8 April 2008



Complete set of stamps



Collector's Sheet with beading on stamp

Singapore, 7 April 2008 – SingPost's latest stamp issue is a visual feast of Peranakan decorative art from the collection of the soon-to-be opened Peranakan Museum. It also features the world's first beaded stamp, bringing to life the exquisite colours and textures of the traditional Peranakan beadwork.

On this set of stamps, one can get a glimpse of some of the finest examples of Peranakan embroidery, beadwork and porcelain from the museum. It shows the bright and variegated colours, rich textures, elaborate designs and refined workmanship drawn from the traditions of both China and Southeast Asia, which the Peranakans are renowned for.

The stamps come in four denominations – 1st Local (26¢), 2nd Local (32¢), 65¢ and \$1.10 – with two designs each. Pictured on these stamps are decorative objects associated with celebrations and special occasions of the Peranakan community, such as the phoenix, crane and peony.

This stamp issue also features the world's first beaded stamp, which is a unique pouch-shaped Collector's Sheet intricately pasted by hand with 'caviar beads'. It is inspired by the exquisite beadwork which is a distinctive aspect of the Peranakan culture. Reputed for their creativity, the Peranakans used brilliantly-coloured miniscule glass beads to create intricate designs on anything from slippers to tobacco pouches.

SingPost's Executive Vice President (Mail) Mr Woo Keng Leong said: "We are very proud to launch this stamp issue which embodies the richness of the Peranakan culture. Along its special beaded Collector's Sheet, it will make a treasured collectible for all fans of the Peranakan culture as well as stamp enthusiasts. We thank the Peranakan Museum for its assistance in the research of this stamp issue."

Dr. Kenson Kwok, Director, Asian Civilisations Museum commented, "The Peranakan culture is unique to Singapore and the surrounding region. This stamp issue is a great way of capturing the culture's charm and richness. We would like to thank SingPost for undertaking this project to commemorate the opening of the new Peranakan Museum."

The complete set of stamps, pre-cancelled first day cover, presentation pack and collector's sheet will go on sale from 8 Apr 08 at all post offices as well as the Singapore Philatelic Museum. All the stamp products of this issue can also be ordered at SingPost's online shopping portal *vPOST*, <http://shop.vpost.com.sg>.

Information and enquiries

For more information on this new stamp issue, please call the Singapore Philatelic Bureau at telephone numbers 1800 741 4111 (toll-free within Singapore) or 6845 6756 during office hours or visit <http://www.singpost.com> or email us at sinstamp@singpost.com

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About Singapore Post Limited

SingPost, the designated Public Postal Licensee for Singapore, provides efficient and high quality domestic and international postal services. One of the most efficient postal operators in the world, SingPost received global recognition in the World Mail Awards for the Quality category in 2007. SingPost is also the leading logistics provider in the domestic market, with global service offerings to more than 220 territories/countries. It has won the EMS Cooperative Certification Gold Level Award by the Universal Postal Union (UPU) for its Speedpost Worldwide courier service and is the only postal administration in the world to win this for six consecutive years since 2001. SingPost also owns one of the largest retail distribution networks through its tri-channel platform of post offices, Self-service Automated Machines (SAMs) and vPOST, its internet portal. With its extensive network, SingPost provides a one-stop convenience to its customers for a wide range of products and services, including agency, postal and financial services.

About the Peranakan Museum

The Peranakan Museum is the first to explore Peranakan cultures in the Straits Settlements of Singapore, Malacca and Penang and their links with other communities in Southeast Asia. It is a boutique museum with the finest and most comprehensive Peranakan artefacts in the world. Three floors of permanent galleries illustrate important rituals, practices and material culture of the Peranakans, as well as how this living culture is continually developing.

The Peranakan Museum provides an enjoyable and educational experience for all, from rich displays with innovative interactives to merchandising. Two temporary exhibition galleries will present a programme of special exhibitions throughout the year. The Peranakan Museum will officially open to the public on 26 April 2008.

The Peranakan Museum is a National Heritage Board Museum under Asian Civilisations Museum. For more information, please visit <http://www.peranakanmuseum.sg>.

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**ANNEX**

**FACT SHEET**

**Items on Sale**

| <u>Items</u>                                                        | <u>Price</u> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Complete set of stamp                                               | S\$4.66      |
| Pre-cancelled First-Day Cover (affixed with complete set of stamps) | S\$5.60      |
| Presentation Pack                                                   | S\$6.60      |
| Beaded Collector's Sheet                                            | S\$8.00      |

**Technical Details**

|                        |   |                                                                                                             |
|------------------------|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Date of Issue          | : | 8 April 2008                                                                                                |
| Denominations          | : | 1 <sup>st</sup> Local, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Local, 65¢ and \$1.10 (2 designs for each value)                     |
| Stamp Size             | : | 40mm x 31.5mm                                                                                               |
| Collector's Sheet Size | : | 99.7mm x 107.8mm (in the shape of a pouch)                                                                  |
| Perforation            | : | 13 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>                                                                              |
| Paper                  | : | Unwatermarked                                                                                               |
| Printing Process:      | : | Offset Lithography (stamps)<br>Offset Lithography with an application of "caviar beads" (Collectors' Sheet) |
| Printer                | : | Cartor Security Printing                                                                                    |
| Sheet Content          | : | 10 stamps per sheet                                                                                         |
| Graphic Designer       | : | Nicodemus Loh                                                                                               |