

THE 1910 CENTENARY ISSUE OF COLOMBIA

SYNOPSIS

As mentioned in the first page, this exhibit in eight frames tells the philatelic story of the first bicolor, engraved, commemorative issue of Colombia, printed by the American Bank Note Company.

I have been a collector for over 40 years of Colombian stamps, initially airmail stamps with emphasis on Scadta, with two different exhibits that won Large Gold FIP medals and grands in US stamp shows.

In 2008 after putting together all the available material of this issue, I decided to start a new exhibit in five frames due to the scarcity of the material.

Years later Murphy's law became part of my exhibit: three great collections, including Goggel's were auctioned in Europe, and I had the chance to acquire several great pieces. Most of them had been out of the market for several years if not decades and to get them was a once in a lifetime opportunity. So, in order to show them, I had to redo the exhibit.

I totally remounted the exhibiting the double-page format that helped me show more pieces, large blocks and big size covers and go to eight frames.

I then showed it in different APS shows and received gold & large gold medals but noticed that I could not get further that that so finally I decided to put it in the freeze.

After several years of looking and waiting for new material to improve the exhibit, in August of 2022, I had the chance to acquire important pieces that have not been in the market previously: 1. The hand painted essays proposed by Perkins, Bacon & Co. (showed in pages 3 and 4); 2. The bromide proofs of the half cent, 20 cents, 10 pesos and 5 centavos Acknowledgment of Receipt values and, 3. the Index proof copies of the 5 centavos Acknowledgment of Receipt and Registration values.

The rarity of the material can be seen through the exhibit: picture essay, die proofs in different stages of the printing process, color trials, proof blocks and specimens, plus largest recorded multiples and uses of stamps including the high values. Please note that no covers are known with the 10 pesos value.

The XX century second key error of Colombian Philately, the inverted center of the half centavo value, is represented with the only block of four recorded and the two used stamps known. Less than 40 stamps are recorded to survive from the one sheet of 100 printed.

The exhibitor had the chance to acquire the definitive numbered archives Proof – References stamps of all values, which are Unique and are shown here for the first time.

The exhibit is divided in seven chapters as described in the plan. The first frames have the stamps of low values (1/2 centavos to 20 centavos), the next frames have the higher values (1 peso to 10 pesos) and the last frames show the acknowledgment of receipt and registration services.

For the final page and closing of the story I use the two commemorative postcards authorized by the government that show the National Anthem and the patriotic symbols (Flag and Coat of Arms).

This exhibit is now the most comprehensive study of this 1910 Centenary Issue and includes important stamps (essays and proofs). Largest multiples, errors, varieties and covers of the period.