

# FINE ARTS ON MALTA STAMPS

## PART I

by LOIS L. CORBIN

This is the first instalment of an index to the "Fine Arts on Malta Stamps" which originally appeared under the general heading "MASTERWORK", an integral part of the "FAP JOURNAL", published by the Fine Arts Philatelists (see also "Stamping Around"), and edited by our member Mrs. Lois L. Corbin.

The index is being published in our magazine with two aims in mind: (1) to enable our members to appreciate the fine arts that have appeared on Malta stamps; and (2) to offer the possibility to update and amend as appropriate the information.

For this reason members are earnestly urged to read carefully the data given for each subject and make notes and comments, as well as corrections, which have been specifically requested by the author. Members are kindly requested to forward their comments and criticism direct to Mrs. Lois L. Corbin, 201 East Seminole, Apartment 7, Lake Wales, Florida 33853, U.S.A., who will acknow-

ledge all letters.

**About the Author:** Mrs. Lois L. Corbin was born in 1925 in Belleville, New Jersey, and started collecting stamps when she was 9 years old. After graduation from Skidmore University, New York, she taught speech and drama for three years, following which she spent several years working for two Indian Affairs establishments.

Mrs. Corbin became a librarian (she is an avid reader) and satisfied her dream. In 1970, she re-organized her collection on a thematic basis which now includes fine arts (of course), women on stamps, books, libraries and librarians on stamps, and religion.

In 1977 she took over as editor the "Masterwork" of the "FAP JOURNAL", not an easy task since it involves (in her own words) "four hours of filing and indexing to every hour written", but for a librarian this is a delightful work.

THE EDITOR

### SCOTT

18, 65, *Shipwreck of St. Paul* — adapted from illustration  
73, 85, by PAUL GUSTAVE DORE (1823-1882) for a bible.  
93 10/- Definitive issues of 1899-1922, and 1922 ovpts.  
to commemorate Self-Government. Source: 1.  
142, 161, *St. Publius* — I AD, governor of Malta when St.  
178, 201, Paul shipwrecked in 68 AD and believed to be  
218 first Christian bishop of Malta, showing wooden

### SAID

20, 65,  
73, 89,  
90  
141, 172,  
155, 195,  
218

	statue by VINCENZO DIMECH (1766-c. 1830) located at Parish Church of Floriana. Def. issues of 1926-38, plus ovpts. 1928, 1930 and 1948. Source: 520.	
141, 164, 181, 203, 220	<i>Neptune</i> — a bronze statue in the courtyard of the Governor's Palace, Valetta, by GIANBOLOGNA (Giovanni da Bologna, c. 1524-1608), cast expressly for Malta. 2/6 Def. issues of 1926-38 plus ovpts. 1928, 1930 and 1948. Sources: 326, 502, 520. (Hoffman).	139, 158, 176, 197, 220
146, 165, 182, 198, 215, 240	<i>Trilithon</i> — Inner Sanctuary of the Northern Temple, Mnaidra, a massive Megalithic sandstone structure of the prehistoric period, c. 1700 BC in cyclopean style. 5/- Def. issues of 1926, 1928, and 1930; 4½d Def. issues of 1938, 1948 and 1953. Sources: 167, 326, 523. (Ramsey).	140, 159, 176, 197, 215, 240
146, 166, 183, 205, 222, 261	<i>St. Paul</i> — I AD, Apostle to the Gentiles, showing wood statue carved by MELCHIORE GAFA' (1635-1676) in the Parish Church of St. Paul Shipwreck, Valletta. 10/- Defs. issues of 1926, 1956 and ovpts. of 1928, 1930, 1948. Sources: 502, 520, 524.	141, 160, 177, 199, 222, 261
184 - 187	<i>Windsor Castle</i> — near London. Issued 6 May 1935, all vals. for Silver Jubilee of George V, Des. by H. Fleury.	178 - 181
194 - 194A 211, 236	<i>Hypogeum of Hal Saflieni</i> — at Casal Paola near Floriana, showing a circular interior room cut from living rock by prehistoric Neolithic men, c. 1500 B.C. Room called the "Holy of Holies". 1½d Def. issues of 1938-43, plus ovpts 1948 and 1953. Sources: 167, 623, 502, 523. (Hoffman, Ramsey).	188, 202, 211, 236
196 - 196A 213, 238	<i>De L'Isle Adam entering Medina</i> — detail from a painting by Chevalier ANTOINE DE FAVRAY (c. 1706-1791 in Palace, Valletta. 2½d Def. issues of 1938-43, plus ovpts. 1948, and 1953. (Durand).	130, 204, 213, 236
197 - 197A 214, 239	<i>Cathedral of San Giovanni</i> — (St. John's Co-Cathedral), erected 1573-77 by GIROLAMO CASSAR, Valletta, which serves as the hall of fame of the Order of Knights of Malta. 3d Def. issues of 1938-43, 1948, 1953 and ovpts. Source: 502 (Hoffman).	191, 205, 214, 239,
198, 216	<i>Antonio Manoel de Vilhena</i> — Grand Master of the Order of the Knights of Malta (1722-36), bronze statue erected in 1726 and now located at entrance	193, 216

- to Maglis Gardens at Floriana. 6d Def. issues of 15 Feb. 1938 and 25 Nov. 1948 for Self-Government. Source: 1,502.
- 202, 219 *St. Paul's Cathedral, Mdina* (Notabile) — constructed in 1693-1700 on site of former cathedral destroyed in earthquake, by Maltese architect LORENZO GAFA'. 2/- Def. issue of 1938, plus ovpt. of 1948 for Self-Government. Source: 502. 196, 219
- 232 - 234 *Our Lady of Mount Carmel* — painting attributed to Florentine artist FILIPPO DI BENEDETTO PALLADINO (1544-1614) in the Sanctuary of the Carmelite Basilica, Valletta. All values 1d, 3d & 1/- issued 12 July 1951 to mark the 700th anniversary of the Scapular and the Carmelite Order. Sources: 2, 7, 11. 232 - 234
- 243 - 245 *Immaculate Conception* — central panel of the Altarpiece painted 1828 by NICOLA (or ? P.P.) CARUANA, in the Collegiate and Parish Church of the Immaculate Conception, Cospicua. All vals. (1½d, 3d and 1/-) issued 8 Sep. 1954 for Centenary of the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception. Sources: 7, 11. 243 - 245
- 246 *Monument of the Great Siege 1565* — bronze by ANTONIO SCIORTINO, location not confirmed. ¼d Def. issue of 23 Jan. 1956. Sources: 2, 500. 246
- 247 *Horse Trough of the Wignacourt Aqueduct* — principal outlet of the 9-mile aqueduct erected Roman style stone arches. Engineered by Grand Master Alof de Wignacourt, the fountain lies in the square of St. George facing the Palace, Valletta. ½d Def. issued 23 Jan. 1956. Sources: 2,500. 247
- 250 *Church of the Blessed Virgin, Mosta* — erected 1853-64 by architect and engineer GEORGE GROGNET DE VASSE, has dome said to be third largest in the world after St. Peter's (Rome) and Hagia Sophia (Istanbul). Constructed by yellow Maltese stone in neo-classic style, it measures 200' high x 200' diameter, and was built by voluntary labour. 1d Def. issued 9 Feb. 1956. Sources: 2,500, 524. 250
- 254 *Interior of Middle Temple, Hal Tarxien* — showing circular fireplace in foreground and altar decorated with scroll designs dating to Late Stone Age, built 254

- c. 1500 B.C. 6d Def. issue of 9 Feb. 1956. Sources:  
2, 370, 323.
- 257 *Les Garroches* (The Three Urchins) — statue by ANTONIO SCIORTINO, location not confirmed. 257  
1/6 Def. issue of 23 Jan. 1956. Source: 2.
- 258 *Monument of Christ the King* — by sculptor ANTONIO SCIORTINO, erected 1928 to honour the 258  
1913 International Eucharistic Congress, location unconfirmed. 2/- Def. issue of 23 Jan. 1956. Sources:  
2, 524.
- 259 *Nicolas Cotoner* — c. 1610-80, Grand Master of the Order of the Knights of Malta (1663-80), showing 259  
crypt decoration by MELCHIORE GAFA' (1635-67) in Co-Cathedral of St. John, Valletta. 2/6 Def. issue of 22 March 1956. Sources: 1, 2 (Hoffman). See Malta and Gozo, 124.