

# Beguiling Orbs of Beauty

## The History of the Female Breast in the Western World

### Synopsis of the Exhibit

*This synopsis and the accompanying plan were accurate as of October 2012. For Ropex 2013, what you read here may not be exactly what you see in exhibit.*

This is a study of women's breasts through the perspective of Western culture. The exhibit attempts to cover all major aspects of this subject.: their biology, their place in history, in culture, politics, and in the fine arts. The treatment is done in thematic fashion, and while some of the points of the story are made in a humorous manner, this is a serious thematic effort.

A surprising number of good philatelic items are worked into the exposition of this exhibit. Some of these include classic Cape of Good Hope, US nineteenth century die proofs, Germany printed-to-private-order stationery, Canadian provincial revenues, and many, many more.

The items shown encompass a wide variety of philatelic elements including archival material (artists' drawings, various kinds of proofs, color trials), issued stamps, stationery, errors, freaks, meters, and cancellations.

This exhibit originated several years ago when a friend said thematic exhibits were 1) getting stuffy and 2) too many judges were evaluating the exhibits strictly on appropriateness of the theme rather than the rules of thematic exhibiting. So she challenged me make a thematic exhibit with an incredibly outrageous theme that followed all the rules of thematic exhibiting. It was to meant to tweak the some stodgy judges in the local area and hopefully entertain the viewing public. So, in some ways, this exhibit started as a joke, but now, many years later, it is a far more serious effort. More serious than I ever anticipated when this idea was born.

### Plan of the Exhibit

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