

THE MARIANNE DE DULAC SERIES
"SOME EXAMPLES OF POSTAL USAGE"

(1945 to 1957)

The liberation of France approaching, General De Gaulle's French Committee of National Liberation (FCNL) ordered stamps from the British government. Edmond Dulac, the artist of French origin, chosen to design the stamp was asked by De Gaulle to incorporate the Marianne figure and the Cross of Lorraine. In August 1944, Thomas de La Rue's company started printing the series with denominations that met the 1942 Inland and Foreign Tariffs, still in effect at that time.

Due to some difficulties (essays refused and shortage of paper), the 20 stamps of the series were issued as follow :

1944-09-16	1f.50
1945-03-17	40c 50c 60c 80c 1f. 1f.20 2f. 2f.40 3f. 4f.
1945-04-7	30c 70c 4f.50 5f. 10f. 15f.
1945-07-9	10c 20f.
1945-11-15	50f.

The number of stamps issued for each value of the series varied from 5.2million (20f.) to 250 million (1f.50)

With the increase of the new Inland Tariff (March 1, 1945) most values, yet to be printed, became unsuitable for their intended purpose. However, for political and economical reasons the series was continued making its postal usage challenging since only a few values found alternative postal usages.

The further increases of 1946 compounded the problem and lead to the decision to withdraw, **on Aug. 17, 1946**, all the values but the 50 f. The later was withdrawn on November 1947.

This exhibit presents some examples of postal usage (on post cards, invoices, printed matter and letters) of the different values of the Marianne de Dulac series throughout the following tariff changes of:

- I. MARCH 1, 1945
- II. JANUARY 1, 1946
- III. JANUARY 1, 1947
- IV. JANUARY 6, 1949
- V. DECEMBER 8, 1951

For each rate example I did try to show, as much as possible, the postage reached:

- 1) with a **single stamp (S)**
- 2) with **two or more of the same stamp (M)**
- 3) **combined with stamps of other series** such as "Arc de triomphe", Ceres, Mercury, Iris and Marianne de Gandon **(C)**