

1866



1879

## The Italian postal rates in Venetia.

### JURY INFORMATION SHEET

**CARRA LORENZO Italy**

**Class 3D**

**Frames 8 Sheets 128**

This exhibit won the 1998 Italic Grand Prix, the Belgica 2001, the Amphilex 2002 and the Brno 2005 Gold Medal.

The exhibit considers only the Italian postage stamps used with the Austrian cancellations. This combination was possible from 1866, after the Italian third War of Independence, only in Venetia, in Friuli and, partly, in the province of Mantua.

As the different territories were liberated, the Italian postage stamps were immediately used, but the different Post Offices continued to use the old Austrian postal markings.

Whilst the replacement of these postal markings in the chief towns was quite swift, and the Austrian cancellations were still being used for a few months, in the small villages the introduction of new Italian postmarks was slow and, in some cases, it occurred only after 13 years, i.e., in 1879.

The 128 pages of **Washington 2006** include three big chapters:

- **the 1866 postal rates**
- **the domestic postal rates**
- **the foreign postal rates.**

**In 1866** it is very particular **the use of Austrian postage stamps** to obtain the Italian postal rates (Rovigo, Pieve di Soligo, Cittadella).

**The first dates of rates with Italian postage stamps** (Rovigo, Padova, Udine...) are very fine. Fantastic items are the cases of Ostiglia and Cividale, that I named **“Di qua dal Po”** and **“Oltre Torre”**.

Typical and rare of period are the rates for **“Via Swiss route”** with the only known registered letter (Vicenza).

I show also **the Italian rates before and after the Temporary Postal Agreement** with Austria of 20 September 1866.

**The domestic postal rates** are shown for the different postal articles.

**The letters** begin with the earliest date known in Italy of the new light blue 20 cent. postage stamp, that was issued on purpose for the basic rate and go on showing the different postage rates.

Then there are **the registered letters** where the indication of the weight is obligatory and it is possible to establish two distinct period of rate: before and after 1 January 1874.

The sequence includes various important items, particularly rare and with importantes rates like the

registered letters from Borgoforte, Vicenza, Adria, Perarolo, ...

Then, **two of three insured letters known** with the Austrian postmark are shown (Verona and Gemona).

**The acknowledgements of receipt** are shown with the various forms, very rare in the printed forms of the past Austrian administration (Cologna, Massa).

The rates of **newspapers and supplement** (only one known).

The **printed matters** include also the heaviest postage known (28 postage from Feltre) and the registered printed letter from Mantua with rate of 32 cent. (unique).

**The manuscripts** in the different rates (both registered) and **the samples** (exceptional the rate of 60 cent. from Venetia).

Interesting are **the local letters**, especially the multi postage if registered. Unique is the particular case of Cologna (tax warning for outside district with rate for local district).

Very rare, with the Austrian handstamps, **the special rate of correspondence to Soldiers.**

Also **the postcards** in different forms are shown. Really particular are those from St. Donà and Valdagno: it is the only case where it is possible to find the Austrian handstamp with postal items of Umberto I.

For the first time, are shown and explained **the different rates of "Official stamps"** that were issued on 1 January 1875 to help provide a record of the mail sent by various government offices. Very rare the official papers with the rate of 1,00 and 2,00 and the official postcards.

### **The foreign postal rates of Venetia.**

Due to the close geographic position and the old bonds the Postal relationships of Venetia were mainly addressed **to Austria and the territories of Austrian Empire.**

I show the letters of different postages, **to the three Sections** provided for the Austrian Post Offices.

**From 1 October 1867** the letters, both registered, **with the new unified rates** (also with the reduced rate of 15 cent. established for the letters to the Post Offices near the Austrian border).

Then **the standard U.P.U. rates**, the rates for printed matter, for the acknowledgements of receipt, for the postcards. Particularly interesting is the postcard from Conegliano where the 5 cent. postage stamp affixed at first, was removed because with the 10 cent. reduced U.P.U. rate was not required.

Then the letters **to Bavaria, German States and Hungary** with very interesting and rare items (acknowledgements of receipt from Padua, postcards, registered letter from Venetia to Hungary).

**To the Papal State**, foreign Country up to 1870, **France, Switzerland, Great Britain** (one of the two known letters) **and to Malta** (the only known item).

And the **to the United States of America**, one letter with the rate provided for the correspondence carried by the mediation of French Post and a registered letter by the mediation of English Post to Los Angeles, the farthest known destination of a letter from Venetia featuring Italian postage stamps and Austrian postal markings.

**Recently i have add other new domestic and foreign postal rates** such as the registered triple-rate local letter from Pordenone, the registered double-rate letter to France and the only known letter with the U.P.U. reduced rate from 1 April 1879.