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IN THIS ISSUE

Guatemala's New Issue: Beethoven's 250th.....1
Reitsema Retires as Editor of <i>El Quetzal</i>2
ISGC Benefit Auction.....2
Member News.....3
Montufar Perforation Varieties of 1946-7.....4
Unreported Ambulante Marking from 1941..6
President's Message.....7
Chavarry Stamp Designs Discovered..8
New Transatlantic Air Service Route Marking.....11
Waterlow Stamp Deliveries in the 1902-6 Period.....12
Unreported Cartero Markings.....16
<i>El Quetzal</i> 50 Years Ago.....19
The Bourse.....19
Officers and Directors.....20
ISGC Stamp Chats.....20

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GUATEMALA'S NEW BEETHOVEN STAMP ISSUE

Gabriel Ramírez Pérez ISGC 788

Guatemala released a new issue on April 29, 2021, honoring Ludwig van Beethoven. The total printing of the Q7.00 stamp was 25,000. It was printed by Taller Nacional de Grabados en Acero (T.N.G.A.), showing on the right side a detail of the composer's portrait with the manuscript of the *Missa Solemnis*, painted by Joseph Karl Stieler in 1820. On the left side is the signature Bthvn.



2021 Ludwig van Beethoven Issue

As has been announced in the international media, the Universal Postal Union (UPU) and the Deutsche Post requested in 2020 that most countries in the world issue postage stamps to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the birth (in 2020) of the famous classical composer Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827). To date, several countries have responded to the request including Guatemala.

First-day covers were sold as usual, and a special postmark was available to interested philatelists. The stamp was designed by Ziomara de León and the photograph was provided by the Beethoven-Haus in Bonn. Considering the small quantity issued and that Beethoven is a topical theme, it is likely that the stamps will soon be sold out.

This stamp issue is part of an on-going new issue program of the Guatemalan Postal system and exciting news for Guatemala collectors! 🐉