

# Not Your Grandfather's Stamp Collection "Bond King" Bill Gross set to sell over \$15 Million in stamps this June.

To earn a nickname like the "Bond King", you need to be pretty good at investing. And if there's one thing that Bill Gross, co-founder of PIMCO, is good at, it's investing. At his peak, he managed over \$290 billion in assets. He even wrote a book called "Everything You Know About Investing Is Wrong."

So, what was he thinking when he started to put together a stamp collection?



William "Bill" H. Gross Photo Credit: Mary Hurlbut

Well for starters, Bill Gross's collection isn't your grandfather's stamp collection. Over the past two decades he has sold over \$50 million worth of postage stamps. But he still has one collection remaining—the one that he is most proud of, and the one from which he potentially stands to profit most handsomely. He didn't want to let this one go for a reason, but the time has finally come.

The Bill Gross Collection of United States Stamps is complete—which sounds nice, but to an outsider probably raises more questions than answers. Complete according to who? And how impressive is such a feat?

Collectors for a century and a half have used the Scott Catalogue as their Bible. This reference work categorizes every postage stamp ever produced by the United States government. Having one of each stamp has been the goal of millions of collectors throughout the decades.

There's only one problem. A couple of the stamps are unique. They're one of a kind. And their rarity ensures that only one person has a shot at completeness at any given time. For almost 20 years, Bill Gross has been that person.

The Gross collection has all of the obstacles to completeness, and then some. He owns the 1868 One-cent "Z" Grill, America's most valuable postage stamp. He owns the only known 1873 24-cent "Continental." He also has the rare printing errors, including the famous 24-cent Inverted Jenny. You may not know what any of those are, but trust us, they're a big deal. The One-cent "Z" Grill alone is estimated to sell for \$4m to \$5m.



The One-Cent "Z" Grill Photo Credit: Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries

Every important rarity of American stamp collecting is owned by Bill Gross. Until June 14, that is. That's the date when 100 of the most iconic, valuable, and important stamps from the Bill Gross collection will hit the auction block (the remaining stamps from the collection will be sold the next day). The total sale will realize well into the eight figures.

This isn't just a story about stamp collecting. This is a story about one man's quest to achieve a goal that is out of reach for almost all collectors—a childhood dream made possible through masterful knowledge of the bond market and tens of millions of dollars. Stamps represent centuries of American history. Bill Gross diligently collected these tiny pieces of paper, placed them into a stamp album, and finished the job.



### The Sale

On June 14 and 15, 2024, Siegel Auction Galleries of New York City will offer the William H. Gross Collection of United States Stamps, the last in a series of auctions of what many consider to be the most complete and significant collection of American postage stamps ever assembled.

The top 100 stamps from the collection will be auctioned at the Lotte New York Palace Hotel in Manhattan on Friday, June 14. This array of the rarest and most valuable stamps in the Gross collection is a veritable Hall of Fame of American stamp collecting. The star of the Friday night sale will be the famous 1868 Onecent "Z" Grill, which returns to the auction block for the first time in 26 years. The remaining stamps will be sold the next day at the premises of the Collectors Club of New York.

## **Press Event**

On May 30, Siegel Auction Galleries will be holding a press junket at the Collectors Club of New York.

#### **Press Event Details:**

Date: Thursday, May 30. Interviews can be scheduled from 12pm-4pm. Hors d'oeuvres, wine, and champagne will be served from 12pm-2pm.

Location: The Collectors Club, 58 W 40th St, Mezzanine, New York, NY 10018

Why you should attend:

- Schedule interviews with Scott Trepel, president of Siegel Auctions, and Charles Shreve, Mr. Gross's collecting advisor for over 30 years—both are well-established leaders in the auction business with nearly 100 years of experience between them
- · View and photograph America's most valuable postage stamp, the One-Cent "Z" Grill
- View and photograph other stamp rarities including the famous Inverted Jenny
- Pick up exclusive media packets and request material suited for your special needs
- Reserve your space at the auction on June 14

Please RSVP to <u>abaumgardner@siegelauctions.com</u> to set up an interview on this day.

## **Siegel Auctions**

Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries was founded in 1930 in Kansas City, Missouri and moved to New York City in 1934. Over the firm's 93 years of business, Siegel has distinguished itself as the leading philatelic auction house in the United States. Siegel has broken multiple auction records with sales including the Inverted Jenny plate block at \$2.97 million, the Hawaiian 2c Missionary cover at \$2.090 million, and the Inverted Jenny single at \$2.006 million. Siegel Auction Galleries is committed to ensuring the future of stamp collecting by providing free educational resources, developing innovative technology, and sharing the stories of collections with the public.

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