

ORBIT

Astro Space Stamp Society



The First all Female
Spacewalk



Halley's Comet
Catalogue



SpaceX Falcon-9 Rideshare
SmallSat Missions





Editorial

Greetings and welcome to your May issue of Orbit.

Member Edmund Poscher from Austria has put together a catalogue on Halley's Comet. We would like to thank Edmund for making this catalogue available to our members. You will find the link to the rest of our catalogues on the right. I am sure you will find this catalogue a great help in collecting your Halley's Comet stamps.

The Halley's Comet Catalogue is in German, but we hope to have an English version of the Halley's Comet Catalogue ready for you for the July issue of Orbit.

In this issue Don Hillger and Garry Toth take a look at SpaceX Falcon 9 Rideshare SmallSat Missions and Nik Steggall takes a look at the female astronaut space walkers.

Umberto Cavallaro looks at the space art of Paul Calle and the Calle family, while Chris Calle tells us about the Italian astronauts on the C76 - "First Man on the Moon postage stamp".

We also have stories about Wally Funk, the Blue Ghost on the Moon, Athena descends on the Moon, the Lunar Trailblazer to search for water on the Moon and not forgetting Peter Hoffman's new issue guide and Johnathan McDowell updates us with his space report.

Cheers
Derek

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For the Catalogues of
Astronomy and Space
Stamps - Female
Astronauts - Star Trek and
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Coming Soon

Halley's Comet

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Paul Calle Space Art

By Umberto
Cavallaro

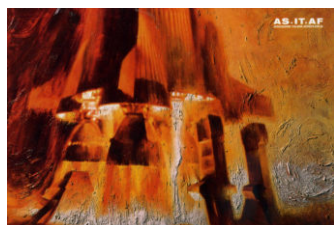
On 30 December 2010, the sad news spread around the world: Paul Calle had died that morning aged 82.



AS.IT.AF. 2009 card signed by Paul Calle.

After giving my deepest sympathy to his son Chris and family, I immediately broadcast that news to AS.IT.AF. members among whom (in Italy and in half a dozen of Nations) he was very popular. In fact, he not only was one of the most highly regarded space artists who, in a career that spanned more than 40 years, covered Gemini, Apollo and space shuttle missions. He also had joined AS.IT.AF., as Honorary Member, since its beginning, together with his son Chris, and had designed the “AS.IT.AF. card 2009” and “AS.IT.AF. card 2010”. And that year every AS.IT.AF. member had also received as a gift a vintage C76 FDC cover, personally signed by him. Many had also purchased his signed book “Celebrating Apollo 11. The artwork of Paul Calle”.

A few months before, in June 2010 in fact, I had been contacted by Chris who was running, with his wife Jackie, an American Cancer Society Relay for Life® to raise funds in support of cancer research. So I learned that Paul Calle had first been diagnosed with stage 4 melanoma over five years before but, at that time, his treatment seemed to be very successful. So news of his death came to me unexpectedly.



AS.IT.AF. 2010 card.

Selected in 1962 as one of the original eight artists in the NASA Arts Program established to record



Paul Calle designed more than 40 United States stamps.

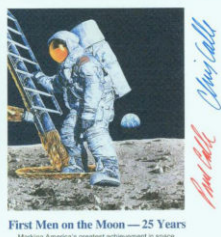
American space exploration, he had been creating space art for 50 years.

Despite his drawings, sketches and paintings of the space programme – often very large – being on exhibit in the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum and the National Gallery, perhaps his most famous work is no bigger than a postage stamp.

Paul is in fact the internationally renowned stamp designer of more than 40 United States stamps, as well as - together with Chris - stamps for the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, Sweden and the United Nations. His stamps include those honouring Helen Keller, Clara Maass, Robert Frost, Douglas MacArthur, Pearl Buck and Frederic Remington. In addition to these, he had designed stamps depicting the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the International Year of the Child in 1979 and promoting



This cover with the beautiful engraved cachet was created by Paul Calle and is in the Chris Calle's Collection. Only four such covers exist: one was addressed by Paul Calle to his wife and the other three to his three sons.



On the left ArtCraft FDC with the stamps designed by Paul and Chris for the 25th anniversary of the First Moon Landing; On the right "combi" cover with the four Apollo stamps designed by Paul and Chris Calle.

causes such as Volunteerism and encouraging early cancer detection.

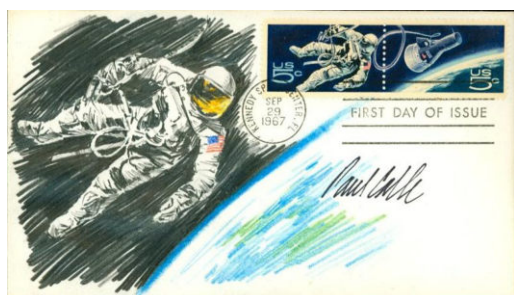
It's not unusual for many millions of a postage stamp to be printed; therefore a stamp is the most reproduced artist's artwork of any kind in the world.

Paul Calle was very proud of his stamp design activity. "Designing stamps is truly a unique experience! - he annotates in his book - *The subject matter is chosen for its national significance, usually of historic importance and the conception of the design must be thought of in terms of art in miniature form. Rather than 'think big' the designer must think small!*" (see note 1)

Paul Calle had the privilege of designing the universally known US stamp of the "First Man on the Moon", the **Apollo** stamp which was the largest postage stamp ever issued by the United States, 50 percent larger than conventional U.S. commemorative stamps. Carried out in secrecy, the US Post Office wanted a "truly spectacular commemorative issue - as Paul Calle recalls in his book - *and spectacular it became with distribution and sales of over 152,264,000 stamps!*" (see note 2). And it became one of the most popular and recognisable postage stamps ever issued.

Twenty years later the Postal Service asked Paul's son, artist Chris Calle to design the \$2.40 Priority Mail stamp (selected to represent the USA in the 2012 International Gallery Exhibit), and in 1994 Paul along with his son Chris designed the two stamps celebrating the 25th Anniversary of Apollo 11. The latter stamps had also the privilege of flying on STS-68.

Paul had also been in charge, in 1967, of designing the first "Twin Space Stamp". "The design of this stamp presented me with a challenge unique in postal stamp design at that time. The assignment was to design a commemorative issue that would symbolise the successful conclusion of the NASA Project **Gemini** program of space exploration. The unique aspects of the



Paul Calle's cover for the TWIN Space Stamp.

challenge was to conceive a design that graphically would be pleasing when used as a double stamp, and, when one twin was

separated from the other; the design of the single stamp had to be a complete composition on its own" (see note 3).

"In 1962 - Chris Calle tells us - my father was to be asked to design the **Mercury** stamp but he was out of the country: he was on assignment in Bermuda, I believe on an Air Force Art Program assignment, and he was unable to

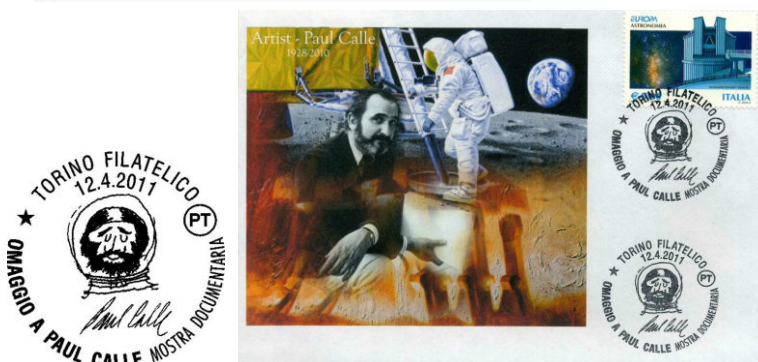
begin design concepts. That is what I remember... just one of many things I wish I could still ask my Dad. Can you imagine if he designed the Mercury, Gemini twin AND the 1969 First man on the moon stamp" (see note 4).

The space stamps epics of the Calle family continues with the many nice stamps designed for several foreign stamp Authorities including Sweden and Micronesia. Paul Calle also designed and prepared dozens of first day cover cachets for the enjoyment of collectors. Many of them are collected in Chris Calle's website www.callespaceart.com.



Cover and stamp by Paul and Chris Calle for Sweden.

Cover and stamp by Paul and Chris Calle for Micronesia.



Paul Calle has been commemorated during the great Astrophilately Exhibition of Turin (April 2011), with a special postmark, designed by his son artist Chris Calle, based on a self-portrait by his father. Chris also designed for this event a cover cachet in which the picture of Paul Calle appears from a background where two very impressive and successful Paul's masterpieces are merged: the image of the "First Man on the Moon" stamp and the "Power to Go" wall painting he did in 1969 for the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama, as part of the NASA Fine Art Program: both subjects were reproduced in the AS.IT.AF cards in 2009 and 2010 respectively.

(note 1) Paul Calle *The Pencil*, Fletcher Art Services, Westport 1974, p.121.

(note 2) *ibid.*

(note 3) *The Pencil*, p.122.

(note 4) Private communication from Chris Calle.