

# LUXEMBOURG'S DYNASTY IN OUR CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS





In honour of the wedding between HRH Prince Guillaume, Hereditary Grand Duke, with the Countess Stéphanie de Lannoy on October 19th and 20th 2012, museums and cultural institutions of Luxembourg have produced this special publication featuring objects from their collections providing you with an historical insight into the Grand Ducal Court.

#### **Impressum**

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## The Grand Ducal Silver room

Masterpieces in silver and gold tell the story of Luxembourg's dynasty

Silver rooms have always preserved masterpieces of silver and goldsmithery, precious silver plate as well as magnificent pieces made of precious metal. They provide the festive settings for weddings, coronations, state visits and signings of treaties, a role the silver room of Luxembourg's dynasty fulfils until today. After having been on display at the Deutsches Historisches Museum in Berlin in the context of Luxembourg's state visit in Germany, it will be shown at the Musée national d'Histoire et d'Art (MNHA) in Luxembourg as of the 5th October.

More than 500 objects, among which there are numerous personal items, illustrate the most important styles of European arts and crafts from the Renaissance up to today and allow the visitor to get an understanding of the development of courtly fashion and culture.

Exceptional exhibits such as the centrepiece showing Saint George slaying the Dragon or the Golden Rose, given by Pope Pius XII to Grand Duchess Charlotte in 1956, bring to mind, together with busts and portraits of distinguished family members, the eventful history of the dynasty. They provide an unexpected insight into a major European collection.

The fact that the Grand Ducal silver room still fulfils its representative purpose could not be demonstrated more aptly than with the wedding of Guillaume, Hereditary Grand Duke of Luxembourg and Countess Stéphanie de Lannoy on the 20th October 2012. Some of the pieces needed for the occasion will be removed from the exhibition between the 17th and the 23rd October and will subsequently be on display again in their full splendour.



**Musée national d'Histoire et d'Art**  
 Marché-aux-Poissons  
 L-2345 Luxembourg  
[www.mnha.lu](http://www.mnha.lu)



## The Grand Ducal Throne

This regal seat was used in the Chamber of Deputies for the swearing in of Grand Duke Adolph in 1890 and of Grand Duchess Marie-Adélaïde in 1912. It was also used for the accession to the throne by the current Grand Duke Henri in 2000.

Situated right in the heart of the old part of the city, the museum displays permanent collections as well as temporary exhibitions that innovatively illustrate the history of the capital of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, spanning more than a thousand years. A panoramic lift passes through the entire height of the museum, showing the urban stratification of the city.

*Polychrome wood and velvet, later restorations,  
1890, loan Grand Ducal Court, Luxembourg*

© MHVL, photo: C. Weber

**Musée d'Histoire  
la Ville de Luxembourg**  
14, rue du Saint-Esprit  
L-1728 Luxembourg  
[www.mhvl.lu](http://www.mhvl.lu)



Stephan Balkenhol: *Portraits de LL.AA.RR. Le Grand-Duc Jean et La Grande-Duchesse Joséphine-Charlotte*, 2006/2010, Commission and Collection Mudam Luxembourg

© Photo: Mudam Luxembourg

## “Portraits de LL.AA.RR. Le Grand-Duc Jean et La Grande- Duchesse Joséphine-Charlotte”

Breaking with a certain modern abstract sculpture tradition, Stephan Balkenhol (1957) has returned to figuration and the creative process that favours craftsmanship. Going against the stream of an ultra-rapid society, he has rediscovered a taste for slow elaboration where the physical relationship to the material (roughly cut raw wood) triumphs. His work is a concentration of sensuality, vivacity and monumentality, always counterbalanced by a dash of humour. The portraits of The Grand Duke Jean and Grand Duchess Joséphine-Charlotte (*LL.AA.RR. Le Grand-Duc Jean et La Grande-Duchesse Joséphine-Charlotte*) are a museum commission offering homage to its royal homonym.

Mudam Luxembourg is the foremost museum dedicated to contemporary art in Luxembourg and strives to be attentive to every discipline. Its collection and programme reflect current artistic trends and supports emerging artistic practices on a national and international scale.

**Mudam Luxembourg**  
**Musée d'Art Moderne Grand-Duc Jean**  
 3, Park Dräi Eechelen  
 L-1499 Luxembourg-Kirchberg  
[www.mudam.lu](http://www.mudam.lu)



*Deer group. Donation of Grand Duke Jean.*

© MnhnL

## Natural history

With the aim of contributing to the advancement and dissemination of science, the Scientific Society was founded 1850 under the patronage of Prince Henry of the Netherlands. The cabinet of the Society, predecessor of today's National Museum of Natural History, opened its doors to the public in 1854 at the Athenaeum, the present building of the National Library. The Grand Ducal Family have contributed valuable objects to the collections that not only enrich the natural history of Luxembourg but science in general.



*The herbarium, made by botanist Jean-Pierre Koltz for William III. in 1884. As an important collection piece of Leiden University, the herbarium was given back to Luxembourg during a state visit to the Netherlands by Grand Duke Jean.*

© MnhnL



*The museum has as permanent loan of Grand Duke Jean's lunar rock samples from the Apollo XI and XVII moon missions. The samples given over to Grand Duke Jean in 1973 by the Apollo XVII crew on behalf of the U.S. President Richard Nixon.*

© MnhnL

**Musée national  
d'Histoire Naturelle**  
25, rue Münster  
L-2160 Luxembourg  
[www.mnhn.lu](http://www.mnhn.lu)



## Landmark n°68

This landmark n°68 between Belgium and Luxembourg dates from 1843. It was initially located on the road between Grass and Kleinbettingen. Offered to the Grand Duke Jean, it has been integrated into the National Museum collections. Manufactured by Cockerill Company of Seraing, it measures 258.5 cm by 38.2 cm.

The borderline between the Kingdom of Belgium and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg was fixed in 1843 by the "Convention des limites". 507 landmarks, 287 of which were made of cast-iron, were placed along the border. This exceptional object has now found its place in the collections of the *Musée Dräi Eechelen - forteresse, histoire, identités*.



© Andrés Lejona, 2012

## Order of the Golden Lion

The Order of the Golden Lion of the House of Nassau is particularly rare and is amongst one of the most prestigious decorations. It is the only complete set of insignia from 1882 to 1892 in existence. The order included five classes, civilian and military, ranging from the Grand Cross to the Knight fifth class. The most important order of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the former Duchy of Nassau was established in 1858, as common order for the two branches of the House of Nassau, under William III and Adolphe. In 1892, it became a single rank order. This is the highest Grand Ducal honour and Luxembourg's highest decoration.

**Musée Dräi Eechelen**  
5, Park Dräi Eechelen  
L-1499 Luxembourg  
[www.m3e.lu](http://www.m3e.lu)

## The House of Luxembourg over the decades depicted on Luxembourg stamps

Since 1891 Luxembourg stamps show portraits of sovereigns of the Nassau-Weilburg Dynasty. Stamps illustrated with portraits of members of the Grand Ducal Family are among the most popular and are certainly the most sought after by collectors.

All of these stamps, issued at the beginning of each sovereign's reign, are shown in the large philatelic collection of the PostMusée.

One day the future Grand Duke Guillaume V, will be added to this long list of portraits.



1891: Grand-Duc Adolphe



1906: Grand-Duc Guillaume IV



1914: Grande-Duchesse Marie-Adélaïde



1921: Grande-Duchesse Charlotte



1965: Grand-Duc Jean



2001: Grand-Duc Henri



2012: Fiançailles du Grand-Duc héritier avec la Comtesse Stéphanie de Lannoy

**PostMusée**

38, Place de la Gare  
L-1616 Luxembourg  
[www.postmusee.lu](http://www.postmusee.lu)

Nous Henri

Grand-Duc de Luxembourg  
Duc de Nassau

*Considérant les Statuts de Notre Maison,*

*Avons décidé et décidons:*

*A partir de ce jour Son Altesse Royale le Prince Guillaume,  
Notre fils bien-aimé, portera, en Sa qualité d'héritier présomptif de  
la Couronne du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg et du Fidéicomis  
grand-ducal, les titres de Grand-Duc Héritier de Luxembourg, Prince  
Héritier de Nassau, Prince de Bourbon de Parme.*

*Palais de Luxembourg, le 18 décembre 2000.*

Palais de Luxembourg, le 18 DEC. 2000



*Le Premier Ministre,  
Ministre d'Etat*



## Documents on the Luxembourgish monarchy in the national archives

The National Archives of Luxembourg have preserved a multitude of documents, photos, postcards and newspaper articles relating to the Grand Ducal Family, dating back to the 18th Century. In this context, it is important to highlight the iconographic collections as well as the archives concerning the records of the State Ministry and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The documents mentioned above, give an insight into the sovereigns' political, social and economical activities. They also include data relating to their administrative, international and constitutional activities. The collections show just how closely the Grand Ducal Family is connected to Luxembourg's history, identity and heritage. Further information on these documents is available via the National Archives' search engine.

**Archives nationales  
de Luxembourg**

Plateau du Saint-Esprit  
L-2010 Luxembourg  
[www.anlux.lu](http://www.anlux.lu)

ANLux, Lois et arrêtés, 18.12.2000.

## Original works and Rare Books in the BnL

As the main guardian of the printed national heritage, the National Library of Luxembourg (BnL) holds multiple documents on the Luxembourgian dynasty: books, reference books, music scores in honour of HRH the Grand Duke, articles or press clippings. Most of these documents can be booked via the online catalog [bibnet.lu](http://bibnet.lu).

The Department of Rare Books maintains a large collection of post-cards and original portraits of the Grand Ducal Family. (Digitised copies available on [www.eluxemburgensia.lu](http://www.eluxemburgensia.lu) - heading "Postcard Collection").

The BnL is actually exhibiting a selection of these documents.



*Carte postale du mariage de LL.AA.RR. la Grande-Duchesse Charlotte et du Prince Félix de Bourbon-Parme, 011703*

*Photographie de LL.AA.RR. le Grand-Duc Jean et la Grande-Duchesse Joséphine Charlotte de Luxembourg, B-193*

**Bibliothèque nationale  
de Luxembourg**

37, Boulevard F.D. Roosevelt  
L-2450 Luxembourg  
[www.bnl.lu](http://www.bnl.lu)



## Grand Duchess Charlotte's official car

This "Buick" car is on display at the National Museum for Historical Vehicles in Diekirch. This vintage vehicle belongs to the "Limited Edition" collection, with its distinctive long chassis, it can transport as many as seven people on board, including the driver. The car was purchased in 1938 and served the Grand Ducal Family as a getaway car, when German troops occupied the country in 1940. It was brought to the United States of America via Portugal.



### Technical Information:

*Brand: Buick, Model: 90 LIMO 38, built in 1938,  
number of cylinders: 8 in series, displacement: 5148 cm<sup>3</sup>,  
power: 141 hp, top speed: 160 km/h*

© CNVH

**Conservatoire national  
de Véhicules Historiques**

20-22 rue de Stavelot  
L-9280 Diekirch  
[www.cnvh.lu](http://www.cnvh.lu)

© Dan Pereira



Since 2010, the National Museum of Military History has displayed the uniforms of His Royal Highness. From the left to the right:

- British battle dress uniform as first lieutenant of the Irish Guards worn throughout WWII and during the liberation of Luxembourg.
- Summer dress uniform as General, Commander of the Luxembourg Armed Forces.
- Ceremonial uniform jacket of the Irish Guards that HRH used to wear during the annual "Trooping the Colour" parade on the occasion of HM Queen Elisabeth II's birthday
- Ceremonial dress uniform as General, Commander of the Luxembourg Armed Forces.
- Battle dress uniform as a Colonel of the Luxembourg Army as Crown Prince in 1963.

© MNHM

## The uniforms of His Royal Highness Grand Duke Jean

On June 11, 1944, HRH Crown Prince Jean – the future Grand Duke of Luxembourg lands on the beaches of Normandy at Arromanches and participates with the "Irish Guards" in the Battle of Normandy. His unit was engaged in fierce fighting to liquidate the "Falaise pocket".

On September 10, 1944, HRH Prince Jean entered Luxembourg City together with the liberating American forces of the 5th US Armoured Division.

Since his accession to the throne on November 7, 1964 until his abdication on October 7, 2000, Grand Duke Jean has been the Commander of the Luxembourg Armed Forces by Constitution. On August 21, 1984, HM Queen Elisabeth II nominated him Honorary Colonel of the Regiment of the Irish Guards. On March 17, 1995, Grand Duke Jean was also nominated Honorary General of the British Army.

**Musée national d'Histoire Militaire**

10, rue Bamertal  
L-9209 Diekirch  
[www.mnhm.lu](http://www.mnhm.lu)



*Funeral of HRH Grand Duchess Joséphine-Charlotte*

© Yvon Lambert / CDEAAW000013T01 (collection du CNA)

## Audiovisual collection

In its audiovisual archive, the CNA is conserving film, photography and sound documents, among them public and private testimonies from and about the Royal Family. These documents reach as far back as 1906 and range up until the present day. They illustrate the economical, political and cultural life in Luxembourg through its sovereigns. The archive corresponds to official events, speeches and documentary photographs. Permission is mandatory prior to the release of any of the documents.



*Inauguration of the Grand Duchess Charlotte monument  
(Place Clairefontaine)*

© Yvon Lambert / CDEAAJ000002T01 (collection du CNA)

**Centre national de l'Audiovisuel**

1b rue du Centenaire  
L-3475 Dudelage  
[www.cna.lu](http://www.cna.lu)

## “Spéngelskrich”, war of the pins

Under Nazi occupation the Grand Duchess Charlotte, exiled in London, symbolized hope for the Luxembourgish people. It was at great risk, as all national symbols were prohibited, that numerous citizens carried pictures or cut out coins of Luxembourgish money representing their sovereign. This passive resistance started in August 1940, when the people demonstrated their opposition by wearing patriotic emblems, reaching its peak at the end of 1940 with the “Spéngelskrich”, the “war of the pins”.

The Musée national de la Résistance in Esch-sur-Alzette retraces the history of our country from 1940 to 1945, documenting the Nazi oppression and the reactions of the population.



**Musée national de la Résistance**

Place de la Résistance  
L-4041 Esch-sur-Alzette  
[www.musee-resistance.lu](http://www.musee-resistance.lu)

## A slate sundial given as a present to the Grand Duchess

In 1939, the Grand Duchy celebrated the centenary of its independence. During the year the Grand Duchess Charlotte visited the cantons of Luxembourg. For the festivities in the canton of Redange, the slate industry of Haut-Martelange created a huge slate sundial especially for the occasion (1,80m x 1,10m). Slate quarrymen offered it to the Grand Duchess reciting a poem written by Batty Weber about the gift and slate quarrying. A copy was kept at Haut-Martelange and is now exhibited at the Slate Museum.

With more than 22 buildings featured on an area, which spans 8 hectares, the slate museum in Haut-Martelange shows all different aspects of the slate industry and is not limited to showcasing the production of roofing material.



**Musée des Ardoisières  
de Haut-Martelange**

Maison 3  
L-8823 Haut-Martelange  
[www.ardoise.lu](http://www.ardoise.lu)

## Wilhelmus

Nik Welter wrote these lyrics in Luxembourgish to the well-known Dutch folk melody "Wilhelmus" and offered them as a wedding present to Grand Duchess Charlotte. At a time when the threatened national sovereignty had ultimately been saved from the political hazards of World War I, the minister-poet expressed with great fervor the joy, congratulations and best wishes of an entire nation to their monarch, even more so as he has been personally involved in the positive outcome of the crisis.

# De Wilhelmus

E neit Lidd op eng al Weis  
zur Eriinneronk

an

den 6. November 1919

an

den 5. Januar 1921.

Wier Kinnickskanner, di' hei sich li'f.  
He' men ausmauer wat an de f;  
Wier Kinnickskanner, di' hei sich li'f.  
He' gebängt, ob et Glück nach blec ge'f.  
Haut weisen si der ganzer Welt  
An engem Feld  
d' Goldlitz mat dem re'de Kie'melen;  
Haut stit em si velt Fried Hand an Hand  
I' Vellek am dem Lëtzebuerger Land.

## Grand Ducal carriages

Among the vehicles on display are seven carriages which belonged to the Grand Duke's Court. A complete wheel- and cartwright's workshop and various accessories are exhibited as well.



### Coupé

This city coupé was used by the Grand Ducal Family for trips to the theatre or to the city. The *monocoque* body is made entirely of wood. On the lanterns and on the doors are crowns, a sign of the noble owner.

*Manufacturer: J.W. Voltz*  
*Place of manufacture: Frankfurt/Main (D)*  
*Dating: +/- 1890*



### Coupé Dorsay

The coupé has no self-supporting body, but a bar that runs underneath it. This bar is connected to the suspension with leather straps. This design already existed 100 years earlier. Only four coaches by this company still exist worldwide. The coat of arms, as well as several gold crowns can be found at various locations on the carriage.

The vehicle was used to transport Grand Duchess Charlotte on the 6th November 1919 when she married Prince Felix of Bourbon-Parma. The closed carriage was taken, because it was raining that day.

*Manufacturer: Jean-Baptiste Thomas*  
*Place of manufacture: Paris (F)*  
*Dating: +/- 1860*



### Landau

This vehicle belonged to the Grand Ducal Court and was used for ceremonial purposes, for example to pick up guests at the station. The soft top can be opened.

*Manufacturer: J.M. Mayer*  
*Place of manufacture: Munich (D)*  
*Dating: 1909*



### Sleigh

This transport sleigh with a blue plush interior was the preferred vehicle of Grand Duke Adolph. Built around 1890, the vehicle was used in 1939 for the last time.

*Manufacturer: unknown*  
*Place of manufacture: unknown*  
*Dating: +/- 1890*



### Duc

The "Duc" was used by the late Grand Duchess Marie-Adélaïde. As she drove the coach at the young age of just 12 years, a rear seat for a groom was fixed. The groom could step in to take over the reins, if required.

*Manufacturer: Mühlbacher*  
*Place of manufacture: Paris (F)*  
*Dating: +/- 1905*



### Mylord

This carriage was called "mahogany car", although cherry wood was used for the construction. The car was primarily driven by the Grand Duke Adolph.

*Manufacturer: Widerkehr*  
*Place of manufacture: Colmar (F)*  
*Dating: 1902*



### Park Phaeton

This sophisticated car was used by the princesses of the Court. Access was difficult for the elderly, as the rear structure of the car is quite high.

*Manufacturer: Snutsel & Fils*  
*Place of manufacture: Brussels (B)*  
*Dating: 1907*

**Musée Rural, de Calèches  
 et de la Métallurgie ancienne**

38, rue de Crauthem  
 L-3390 Peppange  
[www.musee-rural.lu](http://www.musee-rural.lu)



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