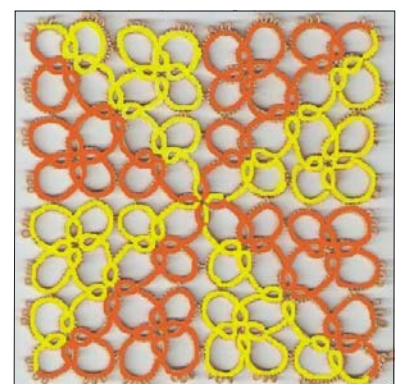


**The Second International Minisymposium on Magic Squares,
Prime Numbers and Postage Stamps, and on some related topics (M2-G80),
in celebration of Emeritus Professor George P. H. Styan's 80th birthday¹**



¹Organized by S. Ejaz Ahmed, Ka Lok Chu, Abbas Khalili & Simo Puntanen (assisted by Alexander Hamilton, Joshua Hum & Varuzhan Ohanyan) and to be held in the Multimedia Centre Room 3F.38 (third floor) at Dawson College, 3040 rue Sherbrooke ouest, Westmount (Montréal), Québec, Canada (9-10 September 2017). Many thanks to Dawson College for allowing us to use the Multimedia Centre room 3F.38. This file edited by Ka Lok Chu, Simo Puntanen & George P. H. Styan (September 7, 2017).

**The Second International Minisymposium on Magic Squares,
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FINAL-FINAL PROGRAM: revised & edited on September 7, 2017

Friday 8 September 2017

19h00–22h00: PRE-MINISYMPOSIUM DINNER & GET-TOGETHER:

Miso Restaurant & Sushi Bar, 4000 rue Ste-Catherine ouest (corner Atwater)

Saturday 9 September 2017

08h00–08h45: PRE-MINISYMPOSIUM COFFEE & GET-TOGETHER:

Caféto (Alexis Nihon Street Level near IGA), Métro Atwater, and then
proceed (15-minute walk) to the Dawson College Multimedia Centre room 3F.38,
access via the 2E entrance near security.

09h00–09h15: Opening remarks: **S. Ejaz Ahmed & Abbas Khalili**

09h15–10h15: Travels with George: **Simo Puntanen**

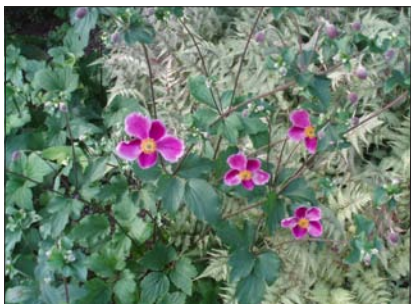
10h15–11h00: COFFEE BREAK

11h00–11h30: An illustrated philatelic introduction to cider, beer and the heptagonal
significant number 403: **Richard Lee Childs II, Ka Lok Chu & George P. H. Styan***

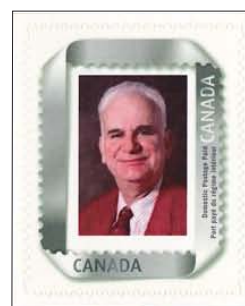
11h30–12h00: An illustrated philatelic introduction to Diophantus, pinwheels and magic
tattings: **Linda Rose Childs, Ka Lok Chu, Simo Puntanen & George P. H. Styan***

12h00–14h00: LUNCH: Alexis Nihon Food Court (Mezzanine Level).

14h00–20h00: EXCURSION & DINNER: Museum of Fine Arts (1380 rue Sherbrooke ouest)
or Montréal Botanical Garden (Métro Green Line: exit at Pie IX, see also our page 4).



The Second International Minisymposium on Magic Squares, Prime Numbers and Postage Stamps in celebration of Emeritus Professor George P. H. Styan's 80th birthday¹



G80 = Sunday 10 September 2017

09h45–10h00: Happy Birthday chorus from **Júlia Volaufová & Lynn Roy LaMotte**

10h00–10h30: An illustrated philatelic introduction to Marie-Sophie Germain (1776–1831) and her prime numbers and magic squares, and with some comments on palindromic Boeing airliners: **George P. H. Styan* & Ka Lok Chu**

10h30–11h00: An illustrated philatelic introduction to the French revolution: **Michèle Cartier**

11h00–11h30: COFFEE BREAK

11h30–12h00: A critique of statistical graphics in postage stamps: **Naomi B. Robbins**

12h00: Poisson, polynomials, philately: a theory of non-statistical linkages²: **Douglas P. Wiens**

12h30–14h30: LUNCH: Alexis Nihon Food Court (Mezzanine Level)

14h30–15h00: Invited talk (title TBA): **Gail S. K. Wolkowicz**

15h00–15h30: Invited talk (title TBA): **Henry Wolkowicz**

15h30–16h00: COFFEE BREAK

16h00–16h30: An illustrated philatelic introduction to Peg Solitaire and Diamond Game Chinese checkers: **Ka Lok Chu* & George P. H. Styan***

17h30–21h00: DRINKS & PEKING DUCK DINNER:

L'Orchidée de Chine, 2017 rue Peel (corner de Maisonneuve).

¹To be held in the Dawson College Multimedia Centre room 3F38, access via the 2E entrance near security. Many thanks to Francisco Carvalho for arranging for the personalized stamp from Portugal IWMS-2008 and to Ka Lok Chu for arranging for the personalized stamp from Canada IWMS-2012.

²We shall investigate three conjectures of interest: (1) The 'small world' hypothesis; (2) We all owe everything to Siméon Poisson; (3) There are some elements of mathematical trivia unknown even to GPHS.

Montréal Botanical Garden (Métro Green Line: exit at Pie IX).

Gardens of Light Café: 16h00–20h30; Botanical Garden Restaurant: 11h00–20h00.

Gardens of Light

This year Gardens of Light includes a new lighted path through the Botanical Garden's three cultural gardens, each looking at nature from a different perspective.



Chinese Garden

The Chinese dragon is a beneficial yet dangerous creature living in the heart of the oceans and clouds. The dragon, symbolizing China, will be the star of the 25th edition of the lantern festival in the Chinese Garden. It will be accompanied by its nine offspring, protecting the newly restored pavilions. And around them will be flying red-crowned cranes, symbolizing the longevity of the friendship between Montréal and Shanghai.

Japanese Garden

The Japanese pay close attention to the cycle of the seasons and take the time to admire the subtle or spectacular changes that occur in nature. This fall, discover the Japanese Garden in the evening, when the soft lighting reveals the plants' colours and textures and emphasizes the elegance of the pavilions and the harmony of the site. Stroll through a series of scenes in this peaceful garden, as fall steals in.

First Nations Garden

The First Nations Garden is joining the Gardens of Light event this year by illuminating the Sacred Tree, a giant poplar, with different colours representing the Circle of Life, a symbol of the journey through the seasons and nature's constant changes. A soundtrack will evoke the beating heart of Mother Earth and will be accompanied by a projection of a fire, a symbol of communication between earthly and celestial forces. They come together in the tree, through its branches and roots.

