

## SILK PEARCE COMES UP HEADS WITH TUDOR COIN COVER

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Design consultancy Silk Pearce has created a special coin cover for The Royal Mint and Royal Mail showcasing two new £5 coins that celebrate the lives of Henry VIII and Elizabeth I, two of the best known monarchs from English history.

The commemorative coin cover – which goes on sale from today – is designed to appeal to anyone with even the slightest interest in history, as well as historians and collectors of all ages. The Henry VIII and Elizabeth I coin cover includes two stamps from a new set called The House of Tudor; a richly illustrated insert card with a wealth of information on the Tudor era; and two specially-struck uncirculated £5 coins. The Henry VIII crown celebrates the 500th anniversary of his accession to the throne in 1509 and the second coin, issued in 2008, marks the 450th anniversary of Elizabeth I's accession (1558).



Harvey Lyon and Sara Lewis from Silk Pearce get top marks for their “history homework”. They researched the Tudor era in great detail before coming up with a ‘beautifully-designed coin cover’ that goes on sale from Tuesday 21 April.





Silk Pearce's design for the envelope uses portraits and quotes from Henry and Elizabeth against a floral Tudor pattern. The insert card, which was also designed and written by the consultancy, features images of Hampton Court, oil paintings and coinage from the period and is packed with fascinating facts.

"Silk Pearce has carefully researched the Tudor era to come up with an informative, beautifully designed coin cover that will be treasured by anyone who buys or receives it. The insert card shows off both faces of the two £5 coins perfectly but also investigates the social and political context of the reigns of Henry and Elizabeth. The text talks about their early lives and charts some of their lesser-known but defining achievements as patrons of the arts," said Dean Price, design manager at Royal Mail.

Each cover is individually numbered as part of a limited edition of 20,000. The front face of the Henry VIII £5 crown has been designed by sculptor John Bergdahl and the one for Elizabeth I by silversmith Rod Kelly. The House of Tudor set of six stamps is being issued by Royal Mail on 21 April, with each stamp showing an individual portrait of one of the Tudor monarchs.

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