Pierre-Joseph Redouté (1759-1840), one of the greatest botanists and botanical illustrators of all time, received his basic art training in his native Belgium before moving to France where he rose to prominence. Because of his botanical knowledge, artistic talent, influential patronage, and political connections, he was able to work successfully through the French Revolution and the political regimes which followed. In the course of his career, he contributed to nearly 50 publications and left a body of work that numbered over 2,100 plates depicting over 1,800 botanical species. Known especially for his accurately detailed illustrations done in watercolors which conveyed the vitality of flowers, and especially for his paintings of roses and lilies, Redouté still is considered to be preeminent in his field more than two centuries after his career began.

On 2 June 1990, Belgium issued a souvenir sheet depicting Redouté and reproducing six of his watercolor illustrations of roses for the BELGICA’90 International Philatelic Exhibition and to mark the centenary of the Royal Federation of Belgian Philatelic Circles. The sheet was sold for a premium of 220 francs.
On 25 April 1988, Belgium issued the first of three sets of stamps in parallel format, each set containing two single stamps and a souvenir sheet featuring watercolor illustrations of roses by Redouté as part of a promotion of stamp collecting. In addition to a rose, each souvenir sheet has a dedication to Louise-Marie (Louise of Orléans, 1812-1850), the wife of Leopold I and the first queen of Belgium following its independence from the Netherlands and an image of her with a crown and her royal initials. The stamps and the souvenir sheet are semi-postal.
Promotion of Philately: Roses of Pierre-Joseph Redouté
Issued 15 April 1989

On 15 April 1989, Belgium issued the second of three sets of stamps in parallel format, each set containing two single stamps and a souvenir sheet featuring watercolor illustrations of roses by Redouté as part of a promotion of stamp collecting. In addition to a rose, each souvenir sheet has a dedication to Louise-Marie (Louise of Orléans, 1812-1850), the wife of Leopold I and the first queen of Belgium following its independence from the Netherlands and an image of her with a crown and her royal initials. The stamps and the souvenir sheet are semi-postal.
On 5 February 1990, Belgium issued the third of three sets of stamps in parallel format, each set containing two single stamps and a souvenir sheet featuring watercolor illustrations of roses by Redouté as part of a promotion of stamp collecting. In addition to a rose, each souvenir sheet has a dedication to Louise-Marie (Louise of Orléans, 1812-1850), the wife of Leopold I and the first queen of Belgium following its independence from the Netherlands and an image of her with a crown and her royal initials. The stamps and the souvenir sheet are semi-postal.