

Mineral Shows of 2018:
Munich (Germany), October

MUNICH 2018: EXPOSITIONS AND NOVELTIES

The 55th Munich Mineral Show “*Mineralientage*” was held this year, as usual, in late October. We spent there four days representing our magazine at the booth and also tried to conduct brief raids to view at least part of the giant and extremely diverse show. It should be mentioned that its participants and dealers are mostly the same, and have long come to this show yearly. Nevertheless, each of them does his or her best to bring and exhibit something new. The most mobile part of the show is undoubtedly its dedicated exhibitions, which are devoted to different subject each year. This year it was “Elements.”

“Elements” Exposition

The main exhibition of the Munich Show took place in the central parts of two halls and was arranged and organized as an illustrative educational system purported to illustrate relations between minerals and chemical elements. The list of elements selected to do this was relatively short: some two dozens, with each of the elements represented by all of its major minerals, most specimens being top-quality. Native metals were represented by beautiful specimens of gold, platinum, silver, copper, iron, sulfur, and carbon from many countries round the world. For instance, carbon was represented by splendid diamonds from Australia, South Africa, and Russia.

True masterpieces of the world of minerals represented beryllium. The showcases displayed, for example, the famous aquamarine cross, which has already been exhibited at many mineral shows and whose photos were published dozens of times. Other beryllium minerals were priceless specimens of emerald from Columbia, heliodor from Volhynia, Ukraine, and unique morganite from Brazil.

Elegant bright fluorite crystals, a mineral loved so much by mineral collectors, represented the element fluorine, which has been until recently widely utilized in refrigerating units. Finally, silicon, the second most abundant chemical element of the Earth's crust, was represented by beautiful clusters of rock crystals and smoky quartz on matrix from Switzerland.

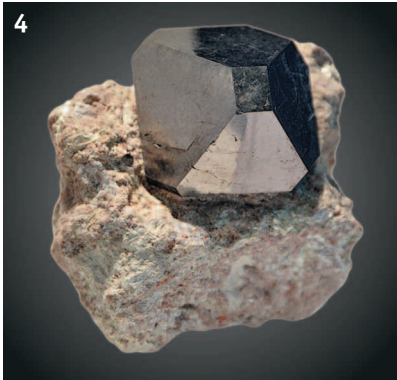
All specimens for the exhibition were provided by individual collectors and seven European museums. The organizers made sure that all of the owners and authors of the specimens were specified in the labels to the specimens and additionally listed on a stand. The idea of the exhibit seems to be very productive, its educational mission is ob-



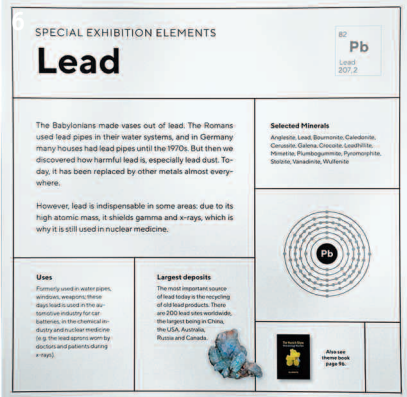
1. October 26, 9.00 am.
The Munich Show is officially opened!

Photo 1–15: Michael B. Leybov

2. **Proustite.**
Niederschlema, Sachsen, Germany.
Specimen: *Spann Minerals Holdings* (USA).
3. **Diamond.**
Udachnaya Vostochnaya pipe, Sakha (Yakutia) Republic, Eastern-Siberian Region, Russia.
Specimen: *Fine Minerals International* (USA)
4. **Carrollite.**
South Kamoya mine, DR Kongo.
Specimen: Paul Stahl.

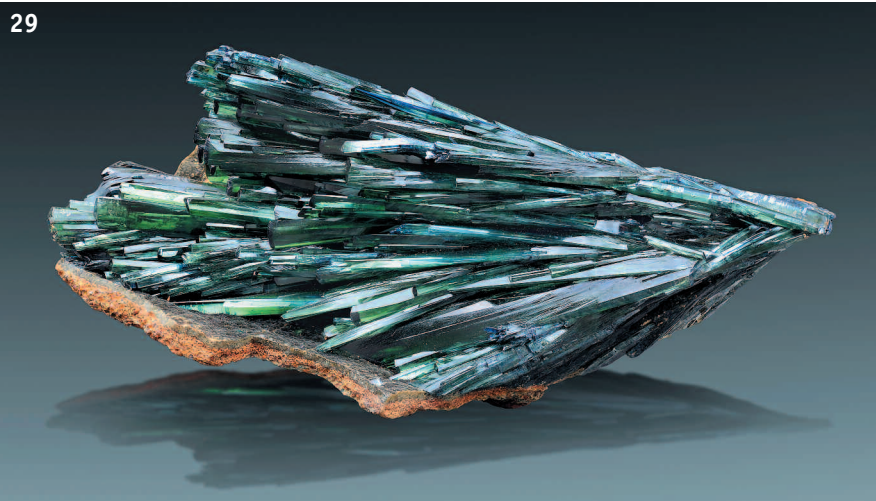


5. List of thanks to lenders of the “Elements” exposition.
6. One of the poster describing main properties of each element on the “Elements” exposition.
7. **Hematite.**
Beckermert (Winscales) mine, Egremont, Cumbria, UK.
Specimen: Natural History Museum, London (UK).
8. **Siderite** “box”. Virtuous Lady mine, Tavistock, Devon, United Kingdom.
Specimen: Natural History Museum, London (UK).
9. **Aquamarine** “the cross”. Shigar, Gilgit, Pakistan.
Specimen: Robert Lavinsky, *Arkenstone* (USA).
10. **Lead.** Langban, Filipstad, Warmiand, Sweden. Specimen: *Kristalle* (USA).



11. **Sulphur** crystal. Sicilia, Italy.
Specimen: Prato Riccardo (Italy).
12. **Mimetite.** Elura mine, Cobar, New South Wales, Austalia. Specimen: Natural History Museum, Vienna (Austria).
13. **Chrysocolla** stalactite. mine de l'Etoile, Lubumbashi, Katanga, DR Kongo. Specimen: Paul Stahl.
14. **Rhodochrosite.** N'Chwaning, Kalahari, South Africa. Specimen: Paul Stahl.
15. **Manganotantalite.** Laghman, Afghanistan. Specimen: Paul Stahl.





31. **Fluorite**. 14 cm high. Göschenen valley, Uri, Switzerland. Specimen: Anton Watzl (Austria).

32. **Silver**. 9 cm. Kongsberg, Norway. Specimen: Dan Weinrich (USA).

33. **Gold**. 12 cm high. California Quartz mine, California, USA. Specimen: Kristalle (USA).

Photo 24–33: Albert Russ

On page 68:
24. Smoky **quartz** with **spessartine**. 8 cm high. Tongbei district, Fujian province, China. Private collection.

25. **Beryl** (heliodor). Volodarsk-Volynskii, Ukraine, the best crystal found in pegmatite 364 in 2007. Specimen: *Crystal Classics* (UK)

26. **Beryl** (heliodor). 9 cm high. Volodarsk-Volynskii, Ukraine. Specimen: *Kvarts Samotsvety* (Ukraine).

27. **Calcite**. 12 cm across. Irai, Brazil. Specimen: Oliver Konczer (Austria).

28. **Gypsum**. 20 cm across. Cavnic, Romania. Specimen: Oliver Konczer (Austria).

29. **Vivianite**. 17 cm. Brazil. Private collection.

30. **Ilmenite** crystals on the matrix. Vishnevye Gory, South Urals, Russia. Private collection.

vious, and I'd be pleased to see something like this in the future. The Periodic Table of elements includes so many elements not represented at this show!

Michael B. Leybov
Mineralogical Almanac, Moscow, Russia, m_leybov@mail.ru

Notes on Novelties from Mineral Photographer

As far as the new finds were concerned, there was not much new to be found. Very interesting were the new fluorites recently found in Fianarantsoa Province, Madagascar. The crystals in clusters (some of which were rather large plates) were pretty bulky cubes, many exceeding 5 cm on edge. The crystals were transparent and of darker mint green color.

Crystal Classics due to cooperation with “*Kvarts Samotsvety*” in Volodarsk-Volynskii, Ukraine, had a few heliodor crystals from relatively recent finds. The best heliodor exhibited resembled a pig from one angle and thus its nickname. This particular crystal was found in pegmatite 364 in 2007 (Fig. 25). *Kvarts Samotsvety* from Ukraine is relatively new to the international mineral market and the Munich show. It has been exhibiting for the first time in 2017. The company has mining operation in Volodarsk-Volynskii, Ukraine and sells both specimens and gems from the source. Perhaps the most impressive of gems were the bi-color topaz gems changing gradually from amber to blue from one end to the other. Also on display was a very interesting bi-color heliodor with two distinctly different shades of yellow (Fig. 26). It was mined, possibly in 2017.

KARP had a very large and impressive selection of amethysts from Namibia. The large array of specimens included giant purple grape crystals, complex skeletal and scepter crystals as well as a few very interesting delicate simple small scepters on matrix where the scepter head was not much wider than the leg. This type of scepters seems relatively uncommon from Namibia. The specimens were all from Goboboseb but there were a few amethyst specimens also from Brandberg.

Jurgen Margraf also had a selection of fine Namibian amethysts. One particular complex skeletal scepter on matrix stood out and was one of the most impressive specimens regardless of species at the show. Jurgen Margraf also had a very fine classical Veracruz amethyst plate with typical isolated dark purple crystals on small drusy quartz, peppered with epidote. This specimen is from an older collection and represents an all well known phenomena — many of the classical localities are being depleted and the new finds are becoming more rare. But we always hope to see more novelties!

Albert Russ
amethyst collector and photographer, Bratislava, Slovakia, albertruss@yahoo.com