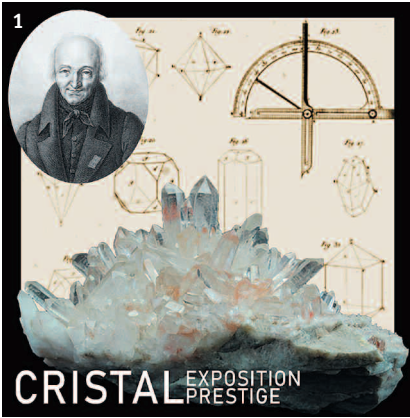


ST. MARIE AUX MINES 2022
“SPECIAL EXHIBITION” REPORT

Dr. Joerg Liebe
joergliebe@hotmail.com



1. Poster of the “Crystal” prestige exposition on the “Mineral & Gem” Show in Sainte-Marie-aux-Mines, France, June, 2022.

Photos: Joerg Liebe.

Fortunately, after two years of “Corona Break,” the St. Marie aux Mines mineral show took place again. The show and its exhibitions were so much missed by many people from the earth science community, by the dealers and by the collectors. And everybody was happy, that the show was as large as in the previous years with the same number of exhibitors (around 1.000), that the set up was as in the past, and that the welcome by the people of St. Marie aux Mines was as nice as always. 32.700 visitors were counted. And also the special exhibition was very informative and well worth seeing, as in the years before.

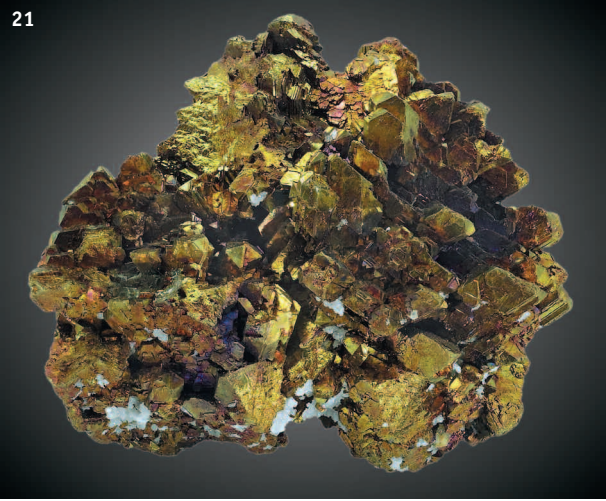
This year’s special exhibition occupied 27 display cases, well illuminated, and well filled with hundreds of excellent specimen. It was again perfectly commissioned and arranged by Alain Martaud and his team, in cooperation with the Galerie de Mineralogie of the Muséum National d’Histoire Naturelle, Paris (MNHM) and the Musée de minéralogie de l’université de Strasbourg, and several private collectors, who supported with loans.

The exhibition celebrated the international year of crystallography (which took place already in 2014) and commemorated the 200th anniversary of the death of one of the most famous mineralogists, Abbe René Just Haüy, on June 3rd, 1822.

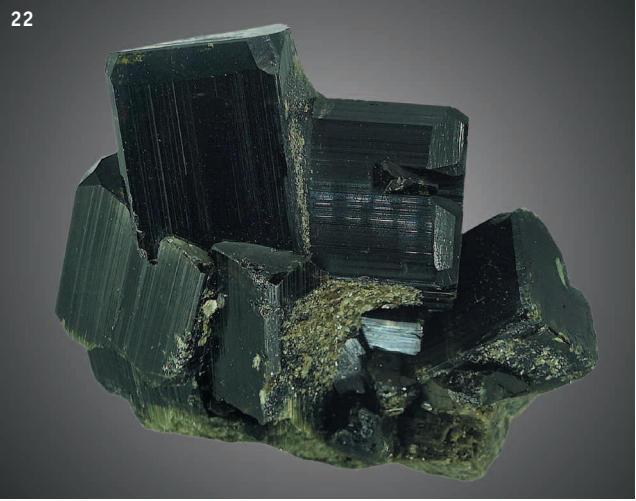
“Why these minerals have such shape” was the title of the first showcase, representing many different shapes of mineral specimen (Fig. 2). May it be chalcedony in an amethyst druse from Uruguay (Fig. 3), a large group of calcite crystals from the



2. Display 1: “Why these minerals have such shape” - the many different shapes of minerals.



21. **Chalcopyrite**. 13 x 10 cm.
Engelsbourg, Sainte Marie aux Mines, France.
Specimen: Mineralogical Museum of the University Strasbourg.



22. **Vesuvianite**. 7 x 5 cm. Banchettes, Aosta Valley, Italy. Specimen: Denis Boël.

23. **Rutile** (original Haüy specimen). 4 x 3 cm. Spain (?). Specimen: Natural History Museum, Paris.

24. **Kunzite**. 24 x 15 cm. Pala, San Diego County, California, USA. Specimen: Natural History Museum, Paris.

25. **Stibnite**. 17 x 7 cm. Wuning, Jiangxi, Qingjiang, China. Specimen: Denis Boël.

Tetragonal minerals are for example chalcopyrite, here a nice specimen from Engelsbourg, St. Marie aux Mines, France (Fig. 21), a rutile, acc. to Haüy’s original label from Spain (Fig. 23) and vesuvianite, Banchettes, Aosta Valley, Italy (Fig. 22)

Minerals crystallising in the monoclinic system are common ones like gypsum, muscovite, and adularia, and rarer ones like stibnite, crocoite and kunzite. A 20 cm large kunzite crystal from Pala, St. Diego County, California, USA, is shown as an example (Fig. 24), and a bended stibnite, from Wuning, Jiangxi, Qingjiang, China (Fig. 25).

Triclinic minerals are rhodonite, here nice crystals from the famous “UV capital of the World,” Franklin, New Jersey, USA (Fig. 26) and axinite with an example from the Pic Vallatscha, Grisons, Switzerland (Fig. 27) were on exhibition.

