



**Emilio Sala's sculpture,  
*Battle of Lioness and Eagle***



**Ukraine: Scott 958a (2014) and 2021**

## **Emilio Sala, Italy & Ukraine by GREG BALAGIAN**

Born in Milan, Italy, sculptor, Emilio Sala (1864-1920), spent most of his life in Kiev, Ukraine. One of his beautiful sculptures depicts a fierce battle between a female lion and an eagle titled, *Battle of Lioness and Eagle*.

In the sculpture, the relentless lioness is about to perform the kill-bite on the eagle whose remaining wing is raised perpendicular to its body. It is located in front of the House of Chimeras in Kiev named for its architectural style.

Sala created numerous architectural decorations and taught sculpture. 🐾



## Francesco Rastrelli, Italy & Russia by GREG BALAGIAN

Russia's fifth stamp featuring the Samson and lion statue was issued on September 15, 2021 to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the Treaty of Nystad, the last peace treaty of the Great Northern War of 1700–1721 between Russia and Sweden.

Titled *Samson Rending Open the Jaws of the Lion*, the statue is part of the fountain commissioned by Peter the Great in the 18th century.

Francesco Bartolomeo Rastrelli originally cast the statue in lead in 1735. It was recast in bronze by Mikhail Kozlovsky in 1801. Following damage during World War II, sculptors Vasily Simonov and N.V. Mikhailov recreated the fountain based on archival data from Kozlovsky.

The famous fountain is depicted on stamps and other philatelic materials by at least ten other countries. I have compiled a checklist. If anyone is interested, please contact me, [gregbalagian@gmail.com](mailto:gregbalagian@gmail.com) 🐾



Samson & the Lion statue, Russia (2021)