

Vera Trinder Ltd – review courtesy of David Rennie

MICHEL OSTEUROPA 2011/12 ISBN 978-3-87858-187-1 £56

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These two catalogues arrived together, being volume numbers 6 (1100+pp) and 7 (1300+pp) and completing the European series. Western Europe contains the Benelux countries, Great Britain and Ireland. Eastern Europe contains stamps of Carpathian Ruthenia, Republic of Moldova, Poland, Russia, Soviet Union, Ukraine, Belarus, and Western Ukraine.

There are some significant editorial revisions including the long running Belgian “Birds” definitives, 150 new perforation varieties in the Soviet Union, and extensive revision and extension of Poland and Belarus, the latter now including information on Reprints.

There are numerous price rises including recent Great Britain from 1995 and especially the self-adhesives, used Poland, the Soviet Union issues up to about 1960, as well as more recent se-tenant sheetlets and other items. Ukrainian definitive sub-types are now priced.

Many more colour illustrations have replaced earlier ones and old black and white images, and it is worth noting that all face different designs are illustrated, making these ideal volumes for the thematic collector. In all there are about 28,000 illustrations, and about 136,000 price quotations.