## **Small Categories Series**

## Swans

Now, here, is an *elegant* category!...Swans!...Recognized world over for their grace and stately carriage. Did you know that all swans in England, by law, are the personal property of the Queen? 'Tis so! (probably to protect the swans). In any event, when we see a swan, we associate it with *good* things, as opposed to, say, a mole! ( $\&^{0}$ : \*#\$@% critters! Even my cats can't keep up with them, and they turn my lawns into Swiss cheese!)

Thus, a collection of Swans would certainly be an understandable choice as a collecting category. I *did* know a couple of collectors who collected Birds, but I don't recall coming across anyone who specifically requested Swans. Which means...we just might be on ground-breaking territory here!

So, where can we find swans? Restaurant covers are going to be the largest and most obvious source. Again, putting a swan on the cover design of a restaurant trades on those positive associations we have with swans. What does a swan on a Hotel or Motel cover impart?...Tranquility, quiet, , nature at its best...exactly what we're looking for in a place where we're going to spend the night.

As with any graphics-specific topic, the pictured swans, themselves, can be vague or detailed, cartoonish or life-like, big or small. Most collector, I would assume, would ideally prefer the large, detailed, life-like renditions, but any and all qualify for your Swans collection. If you're lucky, you might even run across some nice Fancies in this category—say, an embossed swan, or a Foilite Swan...Hmmmm...Raised-Ink might especially attractive.

