

HUNGARIAN ROCK CLASSICS VI: 50 YEARS OF EAST



Magyar Posta is continuing its series on Hungarian rock classics by presenting the band EAST, which is celebrating the 50th anniversary of its foundation in 2025. Forty thousand copies of the black-numbered perforated souvenir sheets and 4,000 copies of the red-numbered imperforated souvenir sheets designed by the Munkácsy Mihály Prize winning graphic artist and Artist of Merit József Szurcsik were produced by ANY Security Printing Company. The new issue goes on sale at Filaposta, philately specialist services, certain post offices and www.posta.hu from 21 October 2025.

The roots of EAST go back to the band Angyalok in Szeged, where Péter Móczán and István Király played in the early 1970s. The band rose to prominence at national festivals, and János Varga joining the line-up gave the band additional strength. EAST was formed in 1975, and their first concert was in Szeged, achieving great success. Originally, Béla Szakcsi Lakatos was the keyboard player, then Ferenc Császár took over as a permanent member in 1977. In 1979, they released their first single, "A valóság hangjai" (Sounds of Reality), and in 1980 the singer Miklós Zareczky and Géza Pálvolgyi keyboardist joined the formation, which launched the band's second era. Their first album, "Játékok" came out in 1981, followed by the English version, "Blue Paradise". In the 1980s they also performed in Japan, the Netherlands and West Berlin as well as on Warsaw TV. Their major albums were "Hűség" (Faith, 1982), "Rések a falon" (Cracks in the Wall, 1983), "Az áldozat" (Victim, 1984), and "1986" (1986). During the period when singer Tamás Takáts was part of the band, they had two successful albums in Hungary, "A szerelem sivataga" (The Desert of Love, 1988) and "Radio Babel" (1994), and abroad "Taking the Wheel" (Switzerland, 1992). Their best-known song is "East '56" (1989). They released their albums abroad in the 1990s and gave their last major concert in 1994. In the period 2012-2017, they reunited: they released "Csepel felett az ég" (The Sky over Csepel, a 1981 concert recording, 2012), and performed a concert with the Hungarian Radio Symphony Orchestra at the Palace of Arts, Budapest (2014, MTVA recording). They gave one or two large concerts a year until 2017. Source: eastzenekar.hu

The souvenir sheet and the related publications were created by graphic artist József Szurcsik, who also designed many of the band's album covers. On the special souvenir sheet, the designer fuses human motifs with elements of the environment in a unique way. The special first day cover (FDC) features an abstract artwork by the graphic artist, and a human face complementing the inscriptions appears in the postmark.

Order code:

2025240030011 (souvenir sheet)
2025240060012 (FDC)
2025241030013 (imperforated
souvenir sheet)

Issued on:

21 October 2025

Face value: HUF 1,610

(On the date of issue, this pays the postage of an international priority letter up to 50 g subject to customs duty, or a priority postcard or picture postcard sent outside Europe.)

Printing technique: offset**Number of copies:**

40,000 perforated souvenir sheets (with black numbering) and 4,000 imperforated souvenir sheets (with red numbering)

Perforated size of stamp:

circular, 37 mm diameter

External imperforated size of the souvenir sheet: 76 x 50 mm

Paper type: White, wood-free, surface-treated, gummed stamp paper with optical whitener

Printed by ANY Biztonsági Nyomda Nyrt. (souvenir sheet), Pátria Zrt. (FDC)

Designed by József Szurcsik