

MOAI SIGHTINGS



A *MOAI* JACK-O-LANTERN was sitting on a porch in Northfield, Vermont (!) on Halloween night; the image is a nice rendition of *moai* Hinariru! Thanks to Larry Needle for this unusual and transitory *moai* sighting.

DAVE AND GAIL ROSE SPOTTED A *MOAI* in front of an art sculpture store in Paris, France, across from the Pompidou Center. It is about 1 meter (3 feet) high and made of aluminum. The shop owner said it came from Thailand.



THIS TWO-PIECE COOK ISLANDS' \$10 non-circulating coin is comprised of a 38.6mm silver coin with a gold-plated *moai* insert that can be stood upright, like the hundreds of colossal stone statues on Easter Island. The standing Stone Giants coin was issued by authority of the government of the Cook Islands in 2007.

The coin falls into what is known as "non-circulating legal tender." Small countries issue legal coins to sell to collectors and while they have a legal value in the country, it is a fraction of what the coins sell for and they do not actually circulate as money. Some collectors like them because of the designs, but most lose their value rapidly (except for the residual value of the silver and gold that they contain).

Our thanks to William D. Hyder for sending the coin item to us!