The “F” Adventure
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“F” stands for “Fabergé. And this paper describes a real adventure. Away from home, in an unknown territory, where the ‘standard’ seemed to change on a daily basis, where almost nothing proved to be straight-forward, easily achievable or in line with common sense. But an adventure worth every minute and the output of which may eventually bring display holography back within the scope of the modern Museum. This paper describes the way to the creation of “The Fabergé Museum Collection of OptoClones®” from concept to its world première. A world’s first as a concerted multi-national cooperation, which would not have been possible to orchestrate and execute by the Hellenic Institute of Holography without the support and collaboration of ITMO University of St. Petersburg and the financial support of James Bowater. An achievement in itself not only on account of the scale of its logistics (more than 200 Denisyuk exposures in 25 seemingly endless days in studio darkness) but also because of the excellence that it required in all of its execution phases and all of its components. The output, five sets of a collection of 13 ultra-realistic glass plates under exclusive non-commercial license by Colour Holographic (UK), each as unique as the original Easter Eggs artifacts from the Fabergé Museum of St. Petersburg, demanded not only continuous technical improvisation and a pool of patience by A. Sarakinos (scientific director of HiH); but -equally- the public exhibition of the Collection necessitated the design, development and building in record time of the luxurious integrated HLFS Display Systems and of the new model (A2015) of the HoLoFoS™ illuminant. All in all, an adventure of pride for those associated with it and the best way to celebrate the memory of Y.N. Denisyuk at the location of his invention during the UNESCO Int’l Year of Light.