

Design: Réhane Favereau

Born in 1956 in Geneva, Réhane Favereau née Dufour, was not destined to work as an artist to start off but to teach in a Genevese primary school. Nevertheless, she always nurtured an artistic flair through the different activities she pursued, whether these were manual skills as in various activities using textiles, or plastic arts as in painting or modelling, or music as in singing in a choir. In 1997 she started paper cutting and taught herself. Very quickly she became fascinated by this craft and found her niche. Not only does she do numerous pictures inspired by Swiss tradition (ascending to the Alpine pastures and descending from the Alpine pastures or «Poyas») as well as other pictures that relate scenes from rural life through the seasons, but also very different subjects (as in the discovery of reading through tales, or trees), or pictures which tell the life story of her clients or a completely different topic to special order. Her pictures are alive and in general tell a story. Subtlety and movement characterise her pictures which are done exclusively in black and white. Finally, she has taken part in numerous regional, national and international exhibitions (Japan in 2011 and 2014, Paraguay in 2014). To find out more, you can go to her blog: www.rehanefavereau.blogspot.com



Characteristics

Effigy

Descent from the Alpine pastures

Artist

Réhane Favereau, Chambésy

Technical data

Alloy: outer ring in aluminium-bronze, core made of copper-nickel

Weight: 15 g

Diameter: 33 mm

Legal face value

10 Swiss francs

Date of issue

22 January 2015

Mintage

Uncirculated coin:

40,000 pieces

Proof coin in presentation case:

7,000 pieces



Coined and issued by

Federal Mint Swissmint

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Official commemorative coin 2015

Descent from the Alpine pastures Swiss customs



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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Swiss Confederation

Swissmint

Official commemorative coins

Each year, the Federal Mint Swissmint issues a small number of commemorative coins featuring carefully selected subjects. The coins in bimetal, silver and gold bear an official nominal value and are available in various minting qualities – as collectors' pieces in their own right or as an exquisite gift.

The descent from the Alpine pastures

One of Switzerland's most widespread customs is the descent of cattle from Alpine pastures at summer's end. On this special day, the animals are washed and groomed and in many places

are adorned with flowers, young fir trees, ribbons or flags and huge cow bells. Even the Alpine farming families and the herds-men spruce themselves up. The floral decorations are particularly decorative in Gruyère. In other regions, by contrast, only the cows which have the best milk yield get the chance to be decorated. In Appenzell, apart from bells on the leading cow, the animals are not adorned with any decorations. On the other hand, the herdsmen and the farming families wear the traditional colourful costumes. In certain regions of the Bernese Oberland, the traditional «Chästeilet» takes place before the descent from the Alpine pastures. Here the farmers receive their share of the cheese in line

with the milk yield from the cows which they sent up to the Alpine pastures.

The descent from the Alpine pastures is often also an occasion for a fair featuring folk music, Alpine horn-blowing, the ringing of cow bells, whip-cracking displays, flag-swinging and much more. Food and drink is available in a marquee and local products such as Alpine cheese, butter, sausages and handcrafts can be bought from stands.

With the «Descent from the Alpine pastures» commemorative coin, the Federal Mint Swissmint is concluding the «Swiss customs» series.

