Design: Jenny Leibundgut

Jenny Leibundgut was born in Gümligen in 1959. At the start of her occupational training, she took the preliminary course at the Bern School of Design and then completed a diploma with a four-year apprenticeship under the well-known Swiss graphic artist Kurt Wirth in Bern. She won her spurs initially at Gottschalk+Ash in Zurich and later with Stuart Ash in Toronto, Canada. After two years working successfully with the internationally renowned design agency Landor Associates in San Francisco, she returned to Switzerland. Here as a lecturer, she taught specialisation in graphic art for nine years at the Bern School of Design. She has been running her own graphic art workshop in Bern since 1990. Her main fields of work include corporate design, typography, photography, illustration, posters and book and brochure design. Further information is available at www.leibundgutdesign.ch.







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.

Gentian

Gentian is a plant species from the gentian family (gentianaceae). The 300 to 400 plant species which are found almost all over the world are predominantly indigenous to the temperate climate zones of the northern hemisphere also in the Andes.

Gentian is commonly understood to mean the "stemless gentian", of which there are several subspecies. The most well known are the frequently occurring species Clusius' gentian (gentiana clusii or limestone gentian) and Koch's gentian (gentiana acaulis or silicaceous gentian). Somewhat less well known is the gentiana alpina occurring more rarely and mainly in Valais and in southern Switzerland. In con-

trast to the Clusius' gentian which grows in limestone-rich soil, the Koch's gentian and the gentiana alpina need soil with silicate. The two most widespread short-stemmed bell-shaped gentians, Clusius' gentian and Koch's gentian, are very similar and because of this get muddled up with each other by mountain hikers. However, there is a striking distinctive feature. On the corolla of the Koch's gentian, there are five regularly spaced green stripes which are absent in the Clusius' gentian. The blue in the latter is thereby much more vivid.