Design: Remo Mascherini

Remo Mascherini was born in Florence, Italy, in 1958 and grew up in Kehrsatz in the canton of Bern after his parents moved to Switzerland. After he finished school, he completed four years of vocational training in engraving under the renowned Bernese relief engraver Klaus Graber. He also attended the Bern School of Arts and Crafts (now called the School of Design), where he completed courses in engraving, drawing and three-dimensional design. Having spent many years working for companies in the packaging and graphic arts industry, he has a wealth of professional experience, particularly in his specialisation of relief and steel-plate engraving. Since 2009, he has been designing his engraving templates and reliefs on a computer using a CAD/CAM system. In 2013, Remo Mascherini took up the post of engraver at 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.

NRLA - Ceneri 2020

The Ceneri base tunnel is 15.4 kilometres long and is the thirdlargest New Rail Link through the Alps (NRLA) construction project after the Lötschberg and Gotthard base tunnels. Its portals are located to the north near Bellinzona and to the south in Vezia near Lugano. Like the Gotthard base tunnel, it consists of two single-track bores roughly 40 metres apart, connected by crosspassages set at 325 metre intervals (48 in total). 2.5 kilometres in front of the southern portal in Vezia is the Sarè underground junction, which will permit the tunnel's future extension southwards. For planning and financial reasons, construction of this extension has been scheduled for 2030. To connect the Ceneri base tunnel to the existing rail network, various structures have been built at the Camorino intersection at the tunnel's north portal. At the request of the canton of Ticino, the so-called "Bretella" – a new direct rail link between Locarno and Lugano – has been built. For Ticino, the Ceneri base tunnel thus represents a quantum leap for public transport, thanks to considerably reduced journey times. Effective construction costs amount to around CHF 3.6 billion. The Ceneri base tunnel will operate at a daily capacity of 170 freight and 180 passenger trains, with the latter reaching speeds of 200km an hour in the tunnel (according to the timetable). After 12 years under construction, the Ceneri base tunnel will go into operation in December 2020.

Sources: Federal Office of Transport (FOT), AlpTransit Gotthard AG, Wikipedia