



### "The Snakequeen of the Grisons"

In times past the snakes in the woods of the Grisons had their own political system and mysterious rules. The white Snakequeen usually crept more ill - than well-intentioned with her ladies-in-waiting attending upon her throughout the forests of the Grisons. Who succeeded to carry off her dainty golden crown was wealthy to the end of his days. Usually it was the creature in pursuit of the thieves, most of them lost their lives. But if the thief could steal her poison that she hid in the cleft of a rock before having a bath, she would be doomed to death.

### Characteristics



### Model

"The Snakequeen of the Grisons"

### Artist

Peter Emch, Zurich

### Technical Data

Alloy: Silver 0,835

Weight: 20 g

Diameter: 33 mm

### Legal tender value

20 francs

### Date of issue

8 March 1995

### Mintage

Standard coinage, uncirculated:

235 000 pieces

Proof: 30 700 pieces

(including coins for sets)

### Coinage

Swiss Federal Mint, Berne

### Distribution

Swiss National Bank

CH-3003 Berne

Phone 031 312 02 11

### Responsible for the issue

Federal Administration of Finances

CH-3003 Berne

Phone 031 322 60 76

1995



Official Swiss  
commemorative coin

The first Swiss commemorative coin was minted in 1936. Since 1974 the Confederation issues yearly one commemorative coin with a contemporary topic in two versions: uncirculated (standard coinage) and proof-quality (especially for coin collectors).

These coins are the creations of Swiss artists. The Federal Administration of Finances in co-operation with the Federal Office of Culture performs competitions of fine arts or places corresponding individual orders.

The net profits resulting from the sales of the series are appointed to support Swiss cultural projects by means of lump sum payments.

### **The Artist**

Peter Emch was born 1945 in Bienne. After completing his studies at the arts-and-craft school he left Bienne and worked as a graphic artist in Paris and Zurich. Due to a scholarship awarded by the municipality of Zurich he was able to spend a formative period in New York.

Since 1980 Peter Emch teaches at the arts-and-crafts school in Zurich.

In various notable exhibitions throughout Europe and America his creations specifically drawings, wood-engravings and oil paintings roused a great interest.

### **The series**



The commemorative coins HELVETICA from 1994 to 1996 are dedicated to the set topic "Landscape and Legends". The second coin of this four-piece set for coin collectors and art-lovers is dedicated to "The Snakequeen of the Grisons".

The artist Peter Emch not only evokes memories of the past with his four fabulous creatures dominating typical Swiss landscapes but also gives an original contribution to the renaissance of Swiss mythology.

The four-piece set in proof-quality will be issued 1996 in short supply (5000 sets). Availability from summer 1995.