

HELVETICA 1999

The commemorative coin «Fête des Vignerons»

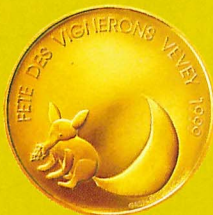
The obverse of the *100-franc gold piece* shows a fox eating a grape, and a semi-circular inscription above this shows the words «FÊTE DES VIGNERONS VEVEY 1999».

On the reverse, the fox is seated, looking at the grapes still hanging on the vine.

Above this is a semi-circular inscription reading «CONFOEDERATIO HELVETICA 1999» with the legal tender value «100 FR» to the right.

The *5-franc bi-metal coin* shows individual grapes on the core section of Nordic-Gold. The outer ring of cupro-nickel has a circular text with the words «FÊTE DES VIGNERONS VEVEY 1999».

On the core section of the reverse is the surrounding text «CONFOEDERATIO HELVETICA 1999» and the legal tender value «5 Fr» to the right.



Characteristics

Model

«Fête des Vignerons»

Artist

Gaspard Delachaux,
Valeyres-sous-Ursins

Technical Data

100-franc gold coin

Alloy: Gold 0,900

Weight: 22,58 g

Diameter: 28 mm

5-franc bi-metal coin

Outer ring in cupro-nickel and core in
Nordic-Gold

Weight: 15 g

Diameter: 33 mm

Legal tender value

Gold coin: 100 Swiss francs

Bi-metal coin: 5 Swiss francs

Date of issue

25th June 1999

Mintage

100-franc gold coin

Proof coin in presentation case only:

3 000 pieces

5-franc bi-metal coin

Standard coinage, uncirculated:

160 000 pieces

Proof coin in presentation case:

16 000 pieces

Coinage

'swissmint'

Official Mint of the Swiss

Confederation

Responsible for the issue:

'swissmint'

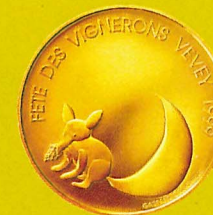
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Official Swiss
commemorative
coins

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Fête des
Vignerons



HELVETICA - Official Swiss commemorative coins

The Swiss Confederation has been issuing commemorative coins on topical subjects since 1936. The official name of this series of coins is HELVETICA. These coins feature the work of distinguished Swiss artists. In co-operation with 'swissmint', the Federal Office of Culture organises design competitions for these coins, or commissions individual orders. The net profit from the sale of the commemorative coins is allocated to support for Swiss cultural projects.

Fête des Vignerons



Fête des Vignerons

La Fête des Vignerons is organised by the Vevey Guild of Winegrowers, a corporation whose origins date back to the 17th century. Three times a year, the Guild visits the vineyards under its jurisdiction and evaluates the winegrowers' work. La Fête des Vignerons has always been held in honour of the winegrowers, who are feted and rewarded five times each century. The inaugural day reconstitutes the original Festival, when the winegrowers were crowned, paraded and honoured at a banquet. Alrevin, the personification of a working winegrower, is proclaimed King of the Festival. He becomes the centre of a vast, baroque show that recounts the winegrowers' life and work. In 1999, la Fête des Vignerons will be held from 29th July to 15th August. During this period, 15 open-air performances and 4 processions will be held. Over 5000 local actors participate and nearly half a million people are expected to attend this spectacle.

The Artist

The artist Gaspard Delachaux was born in Lausanne on 24th December 1947, and today lives in Valeyres-sous-Ursins. He completed his schooling in 1965 with the Federal School Diploma in Latin and English. After a short period at the Faculty of Arts in Lausanne, he attended the Fine Arts School in the same town (specialising in sculpture and engraving). Since 1987, he has taught at the Cantonal School of Art in Lausanne, where he is responsible for the sculptural arts department. He has been widely exhibited in Switzerland and abroad: 1991: «Prix Charles Oulmont», Fondation de France.