



The coin

On the obverse, a depiction of the Federal Parliament Building as seen from the Kirchenfeld Bridge occupies the majority of the lower half. At the top left – parallel with the edge – the inscription «BUNDESHAUS PALAIS FEDERAL PALAZZO FEDERALE» can be seen in two lines.

Characteristics

Image on the coin

«Parliament building»

Artist

Benjamin Pfäffli, Burgdorf

Technical specifications

Alloy: Silver 0.835

Weight: 20 g

Diameter: 33 mm

Legal value

20 Swiss francs

Date of issue

8th June 2006

Minting

Standard coinage, uncirculated:

max. 65 000 coins

Proof coin in presentation case:

max. 8 000 coins

Coined and issued by *swissmint*

Official Mint of the

Swiss Confederation

CH-3003 Bern

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2006



Parliament building
FAMOUS MONUMENTS

A splendid piece of Switzerland

The commemorative coins of Switzerland are designed by important native artists. Elegant, valuable and timeless, they epitomise the country's solid cultural heritage. As tasteful collectors' pieces available at attractive prices, they are also extremely popular. The commemorative coins have a legal face value and are minted in limited series. The net profit from their sales is used by the Confederation to promote cultural projects in Switzerland.

The Parliament building

After an eight-year construction period, the Federal Parliament Building was ceremonially inaugurated by the United Federal Assembly on 1st April 1902. It was placed as a kind of keystone between the existing East and West wings. In architectural terms, the Parliament building may be assigned to the historicism style. It incorporates a wealth of stylistic elements, and with the rich artistic adornments, the building appears almost opulent, typifying the end of the 19th century. Never before or since has the democratic

concept of Switzerland been implemented materially and artistically in such a way in a building. In his design, Hans Wilhelm Auer (1847 – 1906), the architect of the Parliament building, wanted to integrate «the whole of Switzerland» in physical terms as well. He put this into practice in that, for example, the types of stone used represent Switzerland's geology in all its diversity. For the interior design, too, materials from all regions of Switzerland were used and craftsmen from these regions were employed in the execution of the work.

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The artist

Benjamin Pfäffli was born in Biel on 4th October 1961. He attended school in Müntschemier and later in Ins. In 1978, he began an apprenticeship as a typesetter with the Stämpfli company in Bern. Following the end of his training in 1982, he worked for a year in the

Stämpfli design department. He then managed the typesetting department at the Löffler printing company in Sumiswald for four years and supervised an apprentice. During this period, Benjamin Pfäffli attended a part-time course at the College of Typographical Design in Aarau, where he trained with

Dario Zuffo as a typographical designer in just under three years. He then put all the experience he had gathered into practice during a year at the Gygax graphic design studio in Sumiswald, where he came into contact with desktop publishing for the first time. In August 1987 he opened his own design studio, initially in Zollbrück, later in Burgdorf. His area of activities encompasses corporate design, development of logos, POS material, cultural posters and CD covers.

