

Design: Sylvia Bühler

Born in Olten in 1963, Sylvia Bühler embarked on her artistic career in the late 1980s. As a self-taught artist, now resident in the Appenzell region, she chalked up her first international successes with her hand-moulded figures. Soon her work also came to the attention of the Swiss public. In the years from 1993 to 1996, Sylvia Bühler dedicated herself to painting on silk and since 1995 to acrylic painting which she subsequently combined with other techniques. She has made Appenzell traditions the subject of her artistic work in an unmistakable and modern style of painting. In her work, she combines traditional components from peasant-style painting with contemporary artistic elements and techniques, thus laying the foundation stone for today's modern Appenzell folk painting. The industrious artist has won many invitations to tender for the design of traffic roundabouts and is supported by the Appenzell Ausser-rhoden Cultural Foundation. In 1992, she founded AR't Herisau with which to offer a platform for up-and-coming artists from Appenzell. Sylvia Bühler lives in Waldstatt in Ausserrhoden where she also has her workshop. Her works have been shown in various individual and group exhibitions in Switzerland and abroad (USA, Shanghai).



Characteristics

Effigy

«Silvesterchlausen»

Artist

Sylvia Bühler, Waldstatt

Technical data

Alloy: outer ring in aluminium-bronze,
core made of copper-nickel

Weight: 15 g

Diameter: 33 mm

Legal face value

10 Swiss francs

Date of issue

24th January 2013

Mintage

Standard coinage, uncirculated:

max. 92000 coins

Proof coin in presentation case:

max. 11500 coins



Coined and issued by

Federal Mint Swissmint

CH-3003 Bern

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www.swissmint.ch

Official commemorative coin 2013

«Silvesterchlausen»

Swiss customs



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Swissmint

Official commemorative coins

Each year, the Federal Mint Swissmint issues a small number of commemorative coins featuring carefully selected subjects. The coins in bimetall, silver and gold bear an official nominal value and are available in various minting qualities. The net proceeds from the sale of the coins are used to promote cultural projects throughout Switzerland.

Commemorative coin series: Swiss customs

With the «Silvesterchlausen» commemorative coin, the Federal Mint Swissmint is continuing the «Swiss customs» series. The previous issues were dedicated to the following customs: 10-franc bimetall coin: 2011 «Bern Onion Market, 2012 «Cow fighting»; 5-franc bimetall coins: 1999 «Fête des Vignerons, Vevey», 2000 «Basler Fasnacht», 2001 «Zürcher Sechseläuten», 2002 «Escalade, Geneva» and 2003 «Chalandamarz».

Silvesterchlausen

Silvesterchlausen is the most impressive winter custom in the rural districts of Ausserrhoden. It has been kept up on 31st December in Herisau and a few other communes since time immemorial. Two communes, Urnäsch and Waldstatt, have remained true to the «Old New Year's Eve» in accordance with the Julian calendar in which the Silvesterchläuse are out on the street on 13st January every year. Silvesterchlausen developed originally from the custom of singing in the New Year and the earlier widespread Bettelchlausen (begging for alms) and was only permitted on the days around the turn of the year. In the 19th and 20th centuries, the custom took on more rigid forms. Individuals got together in groups of Chläuse

known as Schuppeln, to ring their cow bells in harmony, creating an impressive effect. The costumes of the Silvesterchläuse became ever more elaborate and varied.

The Chläuse get themselves ready in the early morning around five or six o'clock. They start well away from the village at a farm to which the Schuppel has been invited for breakfast. From there the Chläuse

move from farm to farm. In front of each house they form a circle, ringing their cow bells and singing a «Zäuerli», a wordless yodel. Finally they wish the house owner and his family a happy New Year with a firm handshake and move on to the next house in the same order as they arrived.

Sources: www.herisau.ch and www.appenzell.info

