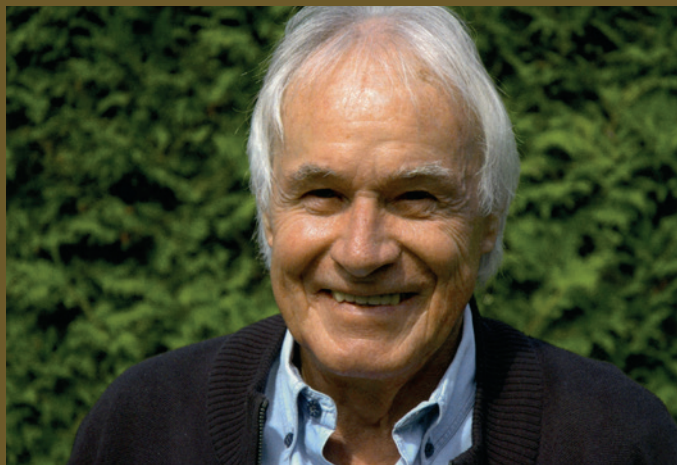


Design: Ueli Colombi

Marine artist Ueli Colombi was born in Thun in 1940. Even as a schoolboy he was fascinated by ships and spent every minute of his free time on or near the water. After training to be a sailor with Schweiz. Reederei AG in Basel, the son of well-known Thun architect Livio Colombi completed an apprenticeship as a draughtsman and then took a degree course at the technical university to become an architect. In between whiles, he was constantly taking to the water. After his degree, Colombi worked in Vancouver (Canada) for several years as an architect, then returned to Switzerland to continue in the same profession. It is no surprise that his projects included the restoration of steamboats, for example the "Blümlisalp". At some point, he began to create stone lithographs of Swiss steamboats, before moving on to acrylic paintings. His subjects are people and ships, and he has been a full-time artist since 2005.



Characteristics

Effigy

"Blümlisalp" steamboat

Artist

Ueli Colombi, Merligen

Technical data

Alloy: Silver 0,835

Weight: 20 g

Diameter: 33 mm

Legal face value

20 Swiss francs

Date of issue

24 January 2019

Selling period

Up to 23 January 2022

or while stocks last

Mintage

Uncirculated coin:

20,000 pieces

Proof coin in presentation case:

5,000 pieces



Coined and issued by

Federal Mint Swissmint

CH-3003 Bern

Tel. +41 58 4 800 800

Fax +41 58 462 60 07

www.swissmint.ch

Official commemorative coin 2019

"Blümlisalp" steamboat Swiss steamships



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 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.

“Blümlisalp” steamboat

When she entered into service on 31 July 1906, the “Blümlisalp” steamboat surpassed all other boats on the lakes of Thun and Brienz in terms of size, performance and elegance. The double-deck saloon steamer from the Belle Époque owes its name to the Blümslialp massif in the Bernese Oberland. For decades, the “venerable lady”, as she is affectionately known, was the largest and most luxurious saloon steamer on Lake Thun. Due to increased competition from large motor-driven boats, the “Blümlisalp” was the last paddle steamer on Lake Thun to be decommissioned on 1 August 1971, and she only narrowly escaped the scrapyard. Thanks to significant private involvement, it was possible to save the “Blümlisalp” and return her to working order. She made her second maiden voyage on 22 May 1992 and has been back in regular service as the BLS fleet's flagship since then. In winter 2005/2006, the saloon steamer underwent essential renovation at the time of her 100th birthday. At the end of 2012, the Vaporama cooperative steamboat enthusiasts entrusted the operator BLS AG with the “Blümlisalp”, having obtained her in 1989 for the symbolic price of one Swiss franc. Today, the “venerable lady” from the Belle Époque continues to delight passengers with her combination of state-of-the-art technology, stylish ambience and ultimate comfort.

The “Blümlisalp” steamboat is 63.4m long, 13.3m wide and has space for 750 passengers. She has an inclined 650 HP two-cylinder hot-steam condensing compound engine and can achieve speeds of 25km/h.

Source: BLS AG, Wikipedia