

## Design: Dominique Studer

«Take a juggler, give him a range of different things such as ink, a computer, photographs, gouache, acrylic paint and various varnishes. Place all these things at the tip of a brush and computer mouse and let him get to work.»

Dominique Studer has been producing pictures since 1988. Following an apprenticeship as a window dresser, he began his career as a self-taught artist and then went on to gain further training with the painter Peter Bacsay. He completed internships at various studios and studied at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris.

Born in Sion in 1962, he now lives and works in St-Maurice in Valais. He has displayed his works as a graphic artist, painter and illustrator at numerous individual and group exhibitions in Switzerland and abroad. Dominique Studer has been a member of visarte since 1996.

[www.domstuder.com](http://www.domstuder.com)



Photo: Pauline Pilloud et Domstuder

## Characteristics

### Effigy

«Cow fighting»

### Artist

Dominique Studer, St-Maurice

### 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

19<sup>th</sup> January 2012

### Mintage

Standard coinage, uncirculated:

max. 94000 coins

Proof coin in presentation case:

max. 12000 coins



### Coined and issued by

Federal Mint Swissmint

CH-3003 Bern

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## Official commemorative coin 2012

### «Cow fighting»

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

### Cow fighting in Valais

Eringer cows have been kept in Valais since time immemorial. These small and sturdy animals are characterised by a lively temperament and pugnacity. The ease with which they move in difficult terrain makes them ideal for the mountains. Due to their rather modest milk yield, however, the middle of the last century saw a considerable temporary decline in the number of these brown-and-black cows. Thanks to the unique tradition of cow fighting, which is enjoying growing popularity, the population of Eringer cows is on the increase again and now amounts to around 13500 animals.

The natural struggles for dominance in the herd get under way in the spring when the animals are let out on the pastures for the first time. When they are taken up to the mountains in early June, cows from different stalls come face to face. This always results in tussles for dominance within the herd. This natural combative behaviour led to the first organised cow fights in 1922. In addition to the regional qualifiers at the autumn and spring festivals, the queen of queens is crowned at the cantonal finals in Aproz each May.

