

All Polish collector coins feature:

- face value
- image of the Eagle established as the state emblem of the Republic of Poland
- inscription: Rzeczpospolita Polska
- year of issue



Issuing collector items is an occasion to commemorate important historic figures and anniversaries, as well as to develop the interest of the public in Polish culture, science, and tradition.

Information on the issue schedule can be found at the www.nbp.pl/money website.

Should you have any questions, please contact our consultants at the following phone numbers: +48 22 185 91 59 and +48 22 185 13 03.

Collector coins issued by NBP are sold at NBP regional branches and in the NBP online shop.

On 3 November 2020, Narodowy Bank Polski will be putting into circulation a silver coin of the series "The Enduring Soldiers Accused by the Communists" – Mieczysław Dziemieszkiewicz alias Rój, with a face value of 10 złoty.

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Narodowy Bank Polski

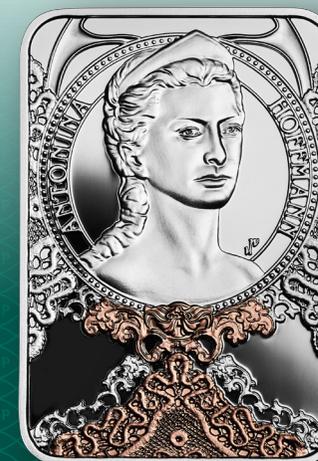
We protect the value of money

NBP

Narodowy Bank Polski

Great Actresses

Antonina Hoffmann



Collector coins

Great Actresses – Antonina Hoffmann

On 27 October 2020, Narodowy Bank Polski is putting into circulation a silver coin of the series "Great Actresses" – Antonina Hoffmann, with a face value of 20 złoty.

Antonina Hoffmann (born 16 June 1842 in Trzebinia – died 16 June 1897 in Kraków) was an outstanding theatre actress in Kraków of the turn of the 19th and 20th century. Endowed with a talent and looks, she played over four hundred roles during her acting career that spanned nearly four decades. She performed in classical repertoire plays, among others, dramas by William Shakespeare and Friedrich Schiller, she was successful in comedies and contemporary social dramas. However, she won acritical acclaim for her numerous roles in Juliusz Słowacki's dramas – as Amelia in *Mazepa*, Roza in *Lilla Weneda*, Idalia in *Fantazy*, Salomea in *Horsztyński*, and title roles in *Balladyna* and *Beatrix Cenci* and other.

Hoffmann hailed from an impoverished, evangelical landowning family. In her youth, she attended a finishing school for girls in Warsaw, which was managed by her mother after the latter sold her estate. Against the wishes of her family, she decided to dedicate her life to the stage. After taking a few private acting lessons from an outstanding actor Jan Królikowski, she enrolled at the School of Drama where she made her debut, while still a student, in the Warsaw government theatres on 12 February 1859. In 1860, Hoffmann moved to Kraków where she quickly became the leading actress. She became the friend and a stage rival of Helena Modrzejewska. They often acted together, exchanged their experiences and learned the tricks of the trade from each other. In 1861, Hoffmann became a lifelong partner of Stanisław Koźmian – a member of the *Stańczycy* (a Galician political party). From 1871, he was a long-time artistic



director of a Kraków theatre. He created the so-called "Kraków School" of acting, a method in which actors did away with artificiality and honed team acting skills. Hoffmann was an exponent of this modern style – her acting was restrained, a far cry from declamation and stardom. Towards the end of her career, she was hired by theatre director Tadeusz Pawlikowski to the Kraków Municipal Theatre (currently the Juliusz Słowacki Theatre in Kraków) which opened on 21 October 1893. She would

Face value 20 zł

Metal: Ag 925/1000

Finish: proof, selective plating

Dimensions: 40.00 × 28.00 mm

Weight: 28.28 g

Edge (side): plain

Mintage: up to 13,000 pcs

Coin: Urszula Walerzak

Issuer: NBP

The coins, commissioned by NBP, were struck by Mennica Polska S.A.



perform on this stage, one of the best theatres in contemporary Poland, for the rest of her life.

The reverse of the coin shows the bust of Antonina Hoffmann from the 1872 sculpture by Władysław Elias and images of laces from her stage costumes.

The obverse of the coin includes the image of the facade of the Juliusz Słowacki Theatre in Kraków.

Diana Poskuta-Włodek