

Western Cape Numismatic Society



A WCNS
Publication
August 2023

Coin of the Year winners 2023

Every year, the Coin of the Year awards honor and recognize coins from around the world for their numismatic design, artistic vision, and craftsmanship. The competition was first launched by Krause Publications in 1984 and receives nominations from an international consortium of mint representatives and numismatists. Coins issued up to two years prior to the year of the awards are judged by an international panel of experts.

This year, the COTY awards for coins dated 2021 had winners selected from among 100 finalists in 10 categories, including Best Gold, Best Circulating Coin, Most Artistic Coin, and the coveted award for the overall Coin of The Year, which this year was won by a Ukrainian issue.

In the past, South Africa has won at least two awards: The prestigious Coin of the Year with the 1997 Protea Series Silver R1 and the Best Contemporary Event Coin with the 2017 R2 sterling silver series coin, celebrating the 50th anniversary of the first heart transplant in Cape Town.

1997 Woman of South Africa R1 silver coin

Frontal view of woman's face, the harsh South African countryside - Mother Earth, flowing into Sister Moon.



Photo source—Numista



Photo source—Numista

2017 R2 Commemorative Silver Coin

The reverse of the R2 sterling-silver coin depicts a detailed human torso with all its veins, skeleton, organs and a prominent circle indicating the position of the heart in a human chest, simulating a "heart transplant"

The category winners for this year are as follows:

Most Historically Significant Coin: United Kingdom: Centenary: Discovery of Insulin: 50 pence



Photo Source - Royal Mint



Photo Source - Royal Mint

Best Contemporary Event Coin: Ukraine: 25th Anniversary: Ukrainian Constitution: 10 hryvnia



Photo Source - Numista



Photo Source - Numista

Best Bi-Metallic Coin: Austria: Smart Mobility: 25 euro



Photo Source—Austrian Mint



Photo Source—Austrian Mint

Best Gold Coin: United States: American Liberty: \$100 gold coin.



Photo Source - US Mint



Photo Source - US Mint

Best Silver Coin - China 20 Yuan, Auspicious Culture - Swans



Photo Source - Peoples Bank of China



Photo Source - Peoples Bank of China

Best Crown - Canada 20 Dollar: Silver, Gold and Black Rhodium Plating The Grey Wolf - Black and Gold



Photo Source - Royal Canadian Mint



Photo Source - Royal Canadian Mint

Most Innovative Coin - Austria 20 Euro, Silver, The Milky Way



Photo Source - Austrian Mint



Photo Source - Austrian Mint

Best Circulating Coin - Canada 10 Cents, Nickel-Plated Steel 100th Anniversary - Bluenose



Photo Source - Royal Canadian Mint



Photo Source - Royal Canadian Mint

Most Inspirational Coin - Tokelau 20 New Zealand Dollars, Silver, The Next Evolution



Photo Source - Numista

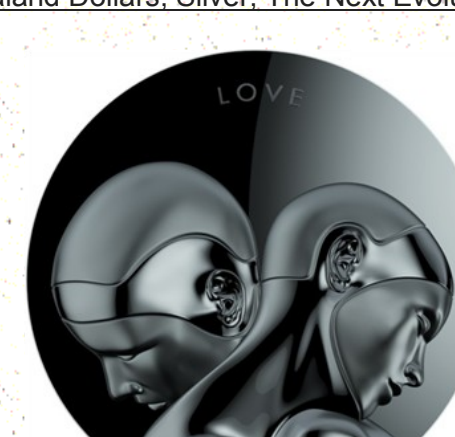


Photo Source - Numista

Most Artistic Coin and COIN OF THE YEAR - 30th Anniversary of Ukraine's Independence.



Photo source—Coinweek

Coinweek comments:

The winning coin has a stunning design, worthy of its Most Artistic category win. On the obverse, storks are seen flying over a field of traditional Ukrainian textile patterns. Ukraine's coat of arms sits at the top of the design. The reverse features an embroidered band resembling a strand of DNA, symbolizing the nation's top.

"A delicately colorized and beautifully designed 5 Hryvnias, the Most Artistic Coin winner, commemorating the 30th Anniversary of Ukraine's Independence, won the top COTY award by a landslide in which the coin received 30 percent of total votes, more than doubling its closest competitor. It is very unusual for the overall COTY Champion to win by that large a margin."