

Obverse

The central image is based on the logo of the Slovak Teachers' Choir, showing the head of a woman with long flowing hair in left profile. The upper part of the design depicts horizontal parallel lines overlaid with the Slovak coat of arms and, below it, the name of the issuing country 'SLOVENSKO'. In the middle of the lower part is a silhouette relief view of Trenčín, positioned above the coin's denomination and currency '10 EURO' and below the year of issuance '2021'. Between that date and the silhouette image are the mint mark of the Kremnica Mint (Mincovňa Kremnica), consisting of the letters 'MK' placed between two dies, and the stylised letters 'ZF' referring to the coin's designer Zbyněk Fojtů.



The choir performing its 95th anniversary concert at the Slovak Radio building

Reverse

In the upper segment of the reverse are the dates '1921' and '2021' placed either side of a stylised lyre. The rest of the design depicts three staves of notation for the national anthem of the Slovak Republic, with a treble clef at the beginning of the upper and middle staves. The letters shown in most of the white circular noteheads are sequenced to form the name 'SPEVÁCKY ZBOR SLOVENSKÝCH UČITEĽOV'.

Coin details

Denomination:	€10
Composition:	.900 silver, .100 copper
Weight:	18 g
Diameter:	34 mm
Edge lettering:	• DUCH NÁRODA ŽIJE V PIESNI, V ŇOM SA VZNÁŠA K VÝŠINÁM (Through song, the nation's spirit lives and soars to the heights)
Issuing volume:	limited to a maximum of 11,000 coins in either brilliant uncirculated or proof quality
Designer:	Zbyněk Fojtů
Engraver:	Dalibor Schmidt
Producer:	Kremnica Mint (Slovakia)



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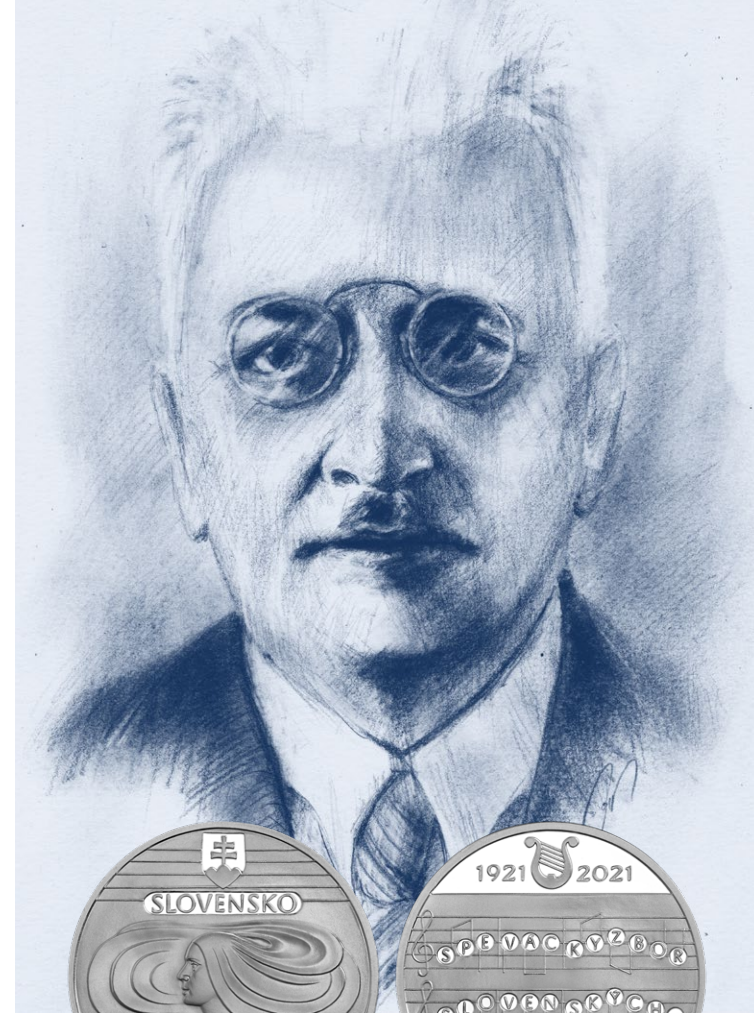
Photographs by Martin Šopinec and Ivan Šoš

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100th anniversary of the Slovak Teachers' Choir

SILVER COLLECTOR EURO COIN



The Domov SZSU building in Trenčianske Teplice

The Slovak Teachers' Choir (Spevácky zbor slovenských učiteľov – SZSU) was established in the town of Trenčín on 3 March 1921, its founding motto being “*To inspire love for the nation through singing*” (“*Spevom budiť lásku k rodu*”). Its emergence stemmed from efforts to deepen fraternal relations between Slovaks, Czechs, and Slavs in general and to edify the Slovak nation. For one hundred years, the choir has existed as a Slovak-wide amateur male singing ensemble. While its membership is composed mainly of teachers, it also includes people from other occupations. A permanent home for the choir – Domov SZSU – was established in Trenčianske Teplice in 1933, paid for partly by contributions from teachers. In 1961 the choir “handed over” its property to the Revolutionary Trade Union Movement (Revolučné odborové hnutie). Since 1968 Domov SZSU has been administered by the state, at present through the Ministry of Education, Science,

Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic. The choir has enjoyed a high reputation throughout its existence and occupies a special place in the past and present of Slovak education and culture.

From 1921 to 1943 the choir was conducted by **Miloš Ruppeldt** (depicted on the cover). He grounded the choir and its repertoire in Slovak folk music and at the same encouraged well known composers to write for male choir as a new form of Slovak artistic expression. After his death, the composers **Ján Cikker** and **Dezider Kardoš** took charge of the choir between 1943 and 1945, during which time, however, the choir was unable to perform for the public. The highly regarded voice teacher **Ján Strelec** conducted the choir from 1945 to 1954, raising the level of its artistic expression and its vocal culture. Under his leadership, the choir received top state awards. From 1954 to 1977 the choir was conducted by **Juraj Haluzický**. Over a two-year period,



The choir's current conductor, Štefan Sedlický



The gold medal awarded to the choir at the 8th World Choir Games in Riga in 2014

he and then co-conductor **Ján Valach** honed the choir's intonational rhythm and overall level of interpretation, with the result that the choir won several awards at notable competitions and festivals. The choir's conductor from 1977 to 2001 was **Peter Hradil**, under whom the choir further harmonised its musicality and the precision of its intonational rhythm. During this period, the choir performed concerts in nearly every country in Europe, the United States, and Japan. The choir's conductor since 2002 has been **Štefan Sedlický**, who is credited with bringing a dynamic approach and increasing the choir's vocal and interpretative quality. Under his conductorship, the choir won a gold medal at the 8th World Choir Games in Riga in 2014 and also won the Grand Prix award at the Slovakia Cantat international competition in Bratislava in 2019. The choir has had more than 500 members during its 100-year history and at present has 55 members.