

20 EURO SILVER COIN

AMERIKA – THE HEALING POWER OF THE BEAR



Series	Eyes of the World
Face Value	€ 20
Date of Issue	18 January 2023
Coin Design	Anna Rastl
Diameter	34 mm
Quality	Proof
Mintage	30,000
Alloy	Silver Ag 925
Fine Weight	2/3 oz (20,74 g)
Total Weight	22.42 g
Edge	ridged edge



**Recommended initial
issue price:** € 69,60 (incl. 20% VAT)

*Comes in a case complete with a numbered
certificate of authenticity and protective slipcase.*

For the indigenous people of North America, a bear was not just a bear and humans merely one type of being among other beings. The bear also possessed a soul and was considered a supernatural being that was viewed with a mixture of awe and fear. The calmness, self-assurance and imperturbability expressed in the bear's expression on the *Healing Power of the Bear* are a fitting reflection of this.

In the mythology of the indigenous people of North America, who nowadays refer to themselves as Native Americans or First Nations, great strength and healing powers were attributed to the bear. In some legends, bears instructed humans in medicine and herbalism and there are even stories in which bears change their shape to live unrecognised among humans.

The Native Americans of the Great Plains performed a bear dance before hunting a grizzly, in which the hunters, led by a shaman in a bear skin, asked for the protection of supernatural powers. Before, during and after the bear hunt, many taboos were enforced with the aim of reconciling the bear's soul with death. These rituals express a view of the world that is unwilling to make a distinction between humans and nature. Animals, plants, stones and the elements also possess a soul. The serious-looking and good-natured expression of the bear on the *Healing Power of the Bear* reminds us that we should live in harmony with nature.

On the coin's obverse, a snarling bear stands upright against a forest background, the image framed by an ornament reminiscent of Native American handicraft. The reverse features a stylised bear head in close-up looking directly at the viewer through emerald-green eyes made of crystals by Swarovski®.



EYES OF THE WORLD COLLECTOR CASE

Made of elegant, lacquered wood, the *Eyes of the World* collector case consists of a protective slipcase and a storage box, both featuring a stylised eye in the centre that hints enticingly at what lies inside. As well as space for the five superb silver coins in the *Eyes of the World* series, under the decorative coin tray there is room to store the coin certificates.

Continent by continent, the coins not only pay homage to the exceptional animals that were praised in the myths of previous cultures, but also take us on a fascinating journey through human history.

SERIES OVERVIEW



Australia –
the Serpent
Creator

2021



Europe –
the Wisdom
of the Owl

2021



Asia –
the Power
of the Tiger

2022



Africa –
the Serenity
of the Elephant

2022



Americas –
the Healing
Power
of the Bear

2023

P.P./Proof Silver Ag 925