

Obverse

The coin's obverse design depicts the SNT's Historical Building. At the bottom centre is the Slovak coat of arms, which bisects the year of issuance '2020'. The name of the issuing country is inscribed along the upper edge of the design. To the left of the issuance year is the mint mark of the Kremnica Mint (Mincovňa Kremnica), consisting of the letters 'MK' placed between two dies. To the right of the year are the stylised letters 'PV' referring to the designer Peter Valach.



The theatre's Historical Building, 1960

Reverse

The reverse features the Slovak National Theatre logo enclosed within a square frame. A pair of comedy and tragedy masks appear below the logo at the bottom of the design. Above the logo are the coin's denomination '10' and currency 'EURO', one above the other. The year '1920' is shown with the first two digits to the left of the logo and the last two digits to the right. The inscription appearing along almost the entire edge of the design, except at the very bottom, is 'SLOVENSKÉ NÁRODNÉ DIVADLO' (Slovak National Theatre) and '100. VÝROČIE ZALOŽENIA' (100th anniversary of establishment), with the two parts separated by a point.

Coin details

Denomination:	€10
Composition:	.900 silver, .100 copper
Weight:	18 g
Diameter:	34 mm
Edge:	SLOVENSKÉ NÁRODNÉ DIVADLO 1920 - 2020
Issuing volume:	limited to a maximum of 12,000 coins in either brilliant uncirculated or proof quality
Designer:	Peter Valach
Engraver:	Dalibor Schmidt
Producer:	Kremnica Mint (Slovakia)



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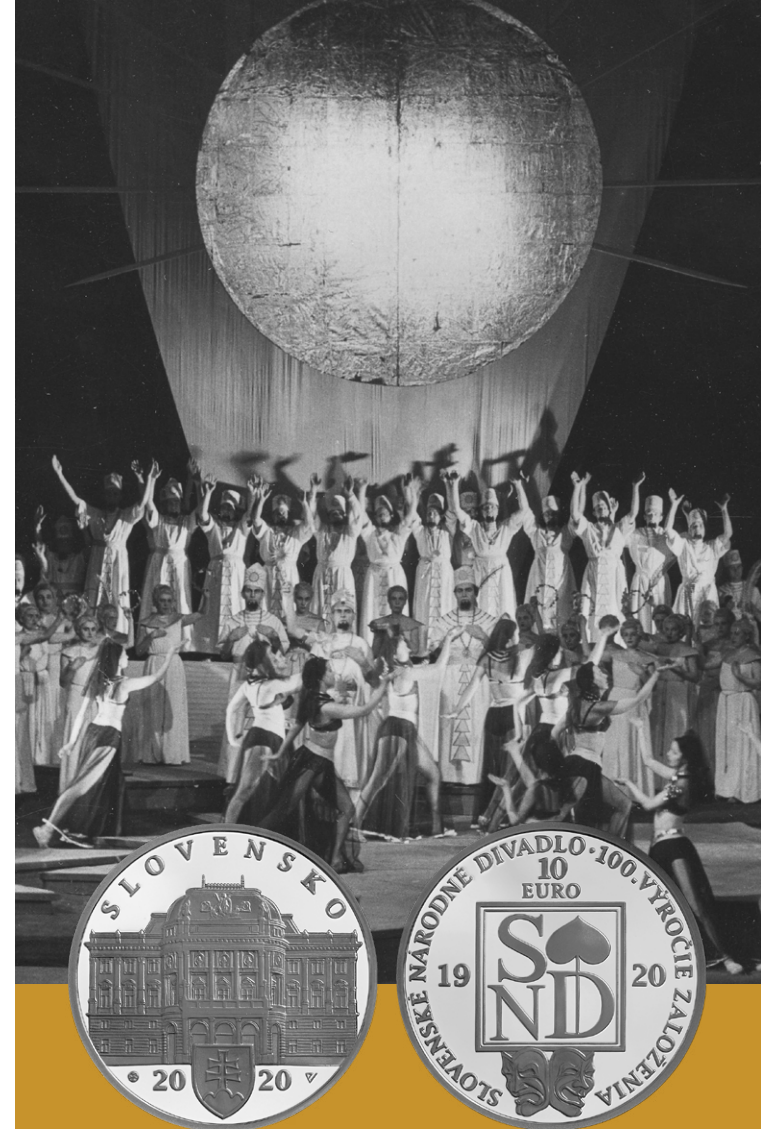
Original Slovak text written by Jana Laslavíková

Photographs: SNT's archive

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Slovak National Theatre

100th anniversary

SILVER COLLECTOR COIN



The theatre's drama company, 1925

The Slovak National Theatre (SNT) / Slovenské národné divadlo (SND) has played a symbolic role since its establishment. The setting-up of the first permanent professional theatre in Slovakia was a demanding process, not helped initially by a shortage of professional performing artists as well as a lack of clarity about what objectives the SNT was supposed to meet. The SNT's establishment in 1920 was preceded by cultural, societal and political events related to the establishment of the first Czechoslovak Republic. In 1919 the SNT Cooperative (Družstvo SND) was founded in Bratislava with the aim of ensuring the operation of a permanent professional theatre in Slovakia. The SNT's first ever season opened on 1 March 1920 with a gala performance of Bedřich Smetana's opera *The Kiss* (Hubička), attended by government representatives. The opera was performed by the Eastern-Czech Theatre Company whose director, Bedřich Jeřábek, was also the first head of the SNT. In the early years, most of the theatre's productions were in Czech. With the emergence, however, of a new generation of Slovak actors

(including Janko Borodáč, Olga Országhová-Borodáčová, Andrej Bagar), an increasing number of productions were performed in Slovak. During the interwar period, the SNT's opera and ballet productions were directed by the SNT's head, Oskar Nedbal, and by his nephew, Karel Nedbal. The first Slovaks to perform as operatic soloists at the SNT were Mária Kišonová-Hubová, Štefan Hoza, Margita Česányiová and Janko Blaho.

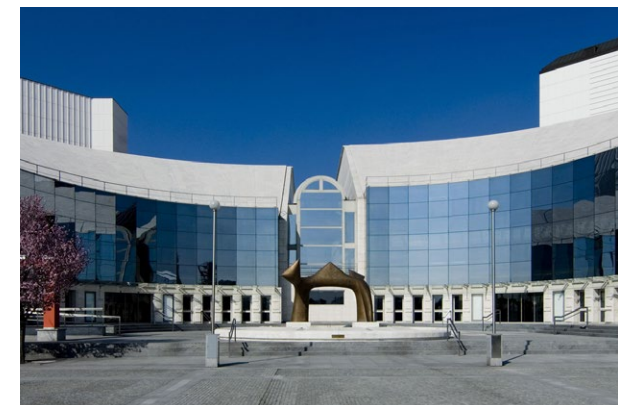
The theatre's activities were adversely affected by the political changes in 1938-39, which resulted in Czech members of the theatre's drama, opera and ballet companies being forced to leave. The post-war coming to power of the Communist Party resulted in the theatre being constrained to conform with the regime's



The ballet *Romeo and Juliet* being performed at the theatre in 1954, with Gertrúda Boudová and Jozef Zajko

official doctrine, which called for art to be understandable for masses. In 1989 artists and performers, including many from the SNT, contributed prominently to the political, societal and artistic transformations in Slovakia.

Today, the SNT is based at two buildings in Bratislava: its New Building situated on the left bank of the Danube River, and its Historical Building situated on Hviezdoslavovo Square in the city centre. The older venue, originally known as the City Theatre (Városi Színház in Hungarian), was built in 1886 to a design by the renowned Viennese architectural studio Fellner & Helmer, which designed many other theatre buildings across Europe. Until 1919 all the productions performed at what is now the Historical Building were in German or Hungarian. Between 1969 and 1972 this building was extended to the rear. The SNT now uses it for selected opera and ballet productions. The New Building, designed by the Bratislava-based architectural studio Architekti BKPŠ, was opened in 2007 and is a venue for drama, opera and ballet productions.



The theatre's New Building, opened in 2007