

On the obverse, all Polish coins feature:

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

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

NBP

Narodowy Bank Polski

Polish Painters of the 19th and 20th Centuries

Alfred Wierusz-Kowalski



On 24 August 2015 Narodowy Bank Polski will be putting into circulation a collector banknote with the face value of 20 zł “600th Anniversary of the Birth of Jan Długosz”

Narodowy Bank Polski is the central bank of the State, responsible for its monetary policy and price stability. The Bank's functions are described in the Constitution of the Republic of Poland and the Act on NBP. NBP holds the exclusive right to issue the currency of the Republic of Poland. As the central bank, it does not provide accounts for the general public, accept deposits from or extend loans to individuals. It acts as a banker to the State budget and public sector entities. NBP also holds and manages the foreign exchange reserves of the State. Finally, it functions as a banker to banks, creating conditions for the operation of the Polish banking system. Narodowy Bank Polski is one of the most important research and analytical centres in the fields of economics and financial markets. For more information on NBP visit: www.nbp.pl

Narodowy Bank Polski

We protect the value of money

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 96 and +48 22 185 91 59.



Collector coins

Alfred Wierusz-Kowalski

Alfred Wierusz-Kowalski was born in Suwałki on 11 October 1849. He received his education in the Warsaw Drawing Class, and later studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Dresden and in Munich – where he set up his private studio and became a leading representative of the milieu of Polish painters there at the turn of the 19th and 20th century.

The artist's paintings – realistic and imbued with emotions – show scenes from everyday life in Polish villages and small towns. They reveal the world of simple activities and games – horse-driven carts carrying passengers on muddy roads at dusk, excursions to the market, sleigh rides, wedding processions and groups of carts on the way to church pulled by teams of horses. These images are set in the scenery of the Polish landscape, featuring meagre trees, thickets, dusty roads, roads wet with melting snow, cottages perched in the distance or woods outlined against the sky.

The vibrant joyfulness of laughing peasants dashing through the snow in sleighs alternates with the melancholy contemplation of travellers getting ready for a journey at dawn. The realism of Alfred Wierusz-Kowalski's work does not consist only in his attention for detail and truth of detail, but in being capable of expressing the mood of the moment and the essence of the presented scene and the surrounding landscape.

Evocative, atmospheric and immersed in the realities of the 19th century, his paintings quickly won popularity and gained lasting fame for the artist when sent to exhibitions and art galleries



in European and American cities. Distinctions, awards and purchases made by state and private collections have established Wierusz-Kowalski's position as a truly talented painter. Today the artist's work is displayed in numerous museum galleries.

Alfred Kowalski died on 15 February 1915 and was buried in Munich. In 1936 his remains were brought to Poland and interred along the "Avenue of Merit" at the Powązki Cemetery in Warsaw.

An iconic example of the artist's painting is a picture of a wolf looking at a sleeping, snow-covered village. The image of this lone wolf – from the picture "Wolf" (120 x 150 cm) – has been reproduced on the collector coin, while the artist's portrait is a photograph taken at the Munich studio.

*Eliza Ptasińska
Regional Museum in Suwałki*

Face value 20 zł

Metal: Ag 925/1000 and paints: red, yellow, green and blue

Finish: proof

Dimensions: 40.0 mm x 28.0 mm

Weight: 28.28 g

Edge: plain

Mintage: up to 30,000 pcs

Coin designer:

Dominika Karpińska-Kopiec

Issuer: NBP

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

On 30 July 2015, Narodowy Bank Polski is putting into circulation collector coins from the series "Polish Painters of the 19th and 20th Centuries" – Alfred Wierusz-Kowalski with the face value of 20 zł.