

Obverse

The obverse depicts a horizontal strip of film in reference to the film and television work of Jozef Kroner. Overlying the strip's central frame is a representation of Tóno Brtko, the character played by Kroner in the film *The Shop on Main Street* (*Obchod na korze*). The left side of the strip is mostly covered by a stylised comedy and tragedy mask, stage boards and a theatre curtain, referencing Kroner's theatrical career. In the right-hand frame is the Slovak coat of arms and, directly above it, the year of issuance '2024'. Below the coat of arms are the mint mark of the Kremnica Mint (Mincovňa Kremnica), consisting of the letters 'MK' placed between two dies, and the stylised initials 'TL', referring to the coin's designer Tomáš Lamač. Inscribed in the upper part of the design is the name of the issuing country 'SLOVENSKO', and in the lower part are the denomination and currency '10 EURO'.

Reverse

The reverse shows a portrait of Jozef Kroner and a facsimile of his signature below it. Between the signature and bottom edge is a small cartoonish image of a fish, a reference to Kroner's passion for fishing. To the left of the portrait is the name 'JOZEF KRONER', forename above surname, and to the right are the dates of his birth and death, '1924' and '1998', one above the other.

Kroner greatly enjoyed fishing in Slovakia's Danubian backwaters

Coin details

Denomination:	€10
Composition:	.900 silver, .100 copper
Weight:	18 g
Diameter:	34 mm
Edge lettering:	• SLOVENSKÝ DIVADELNÝ A FILMOVÝ HEREC • SPISOVATEĽ (Slovak theatre and film actor - writer)
Issuing volume:	limited to a maximum of 15,000 coins in either brilliant uncirculated or proof quality
Designer:	Tomáš Lamač
Engraver:	Dalibor Schmidt
Producer:	Kremnica Mint (Slovakia)

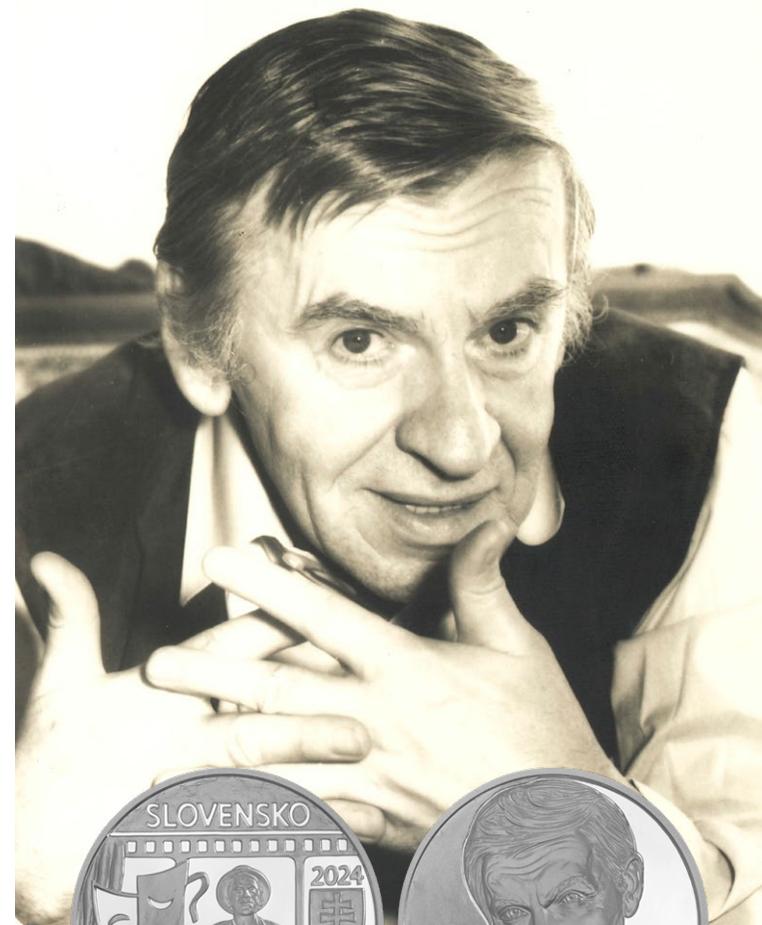


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Photographs from the Slovak National Theatre archives
(Eduard Hollý), and the private archive of Zuzana Kronerová

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100th anniversary
of the birth of
Jozef Kroner

SILVER COLLECTOR EURO COIN

Jozef Kroner (20 March 1924 – 12 March 1998) was an actor in theatre, film, television and radio, as well as a voiceover artist and writer. Following an extensive and successful amateur career, Kroner was taken on by the Martin-based Army Theatre (now the Slovak Chamber Theatre) in 1948. He received his first professional training at courses organised by the Martin theatre, and it was also there that he met his future wife, the actress Terézia Hurbanová.

The characters Kroner played in Martin were usually much older than he actually was. He learnt, however, to draw out their essential, human aspects, related not to their age but to their personal disposition. By this approach, he soon established himself as an actor able to do full justice to complex characters, whether conveying their private or social sides (a notable example being Professor Poležajev in the eponymous film). In contrast to such older roles was his performance as Kubo in the play of the same name and in the later television adaptation. This foreshadowed his future comedic roles, in which he exuded an infectious and sparkling humour, natural ease, and joy of acting.



Kroner and his daughter Zuzana Kronerová after taking part in the television talk show *Gala Borisa Filana*



Portrait photograph of Kroner made in 1965 after the premiere of *The Shop on Main Street* (*Obchod na korze*)

In 1956, when already an experienced actor, Kroner joined the Drama Company of the Slovak National Theatre. The conviction and humanising power of his acting led to his being cast in roles of good people defenceless against the outside world (such as Dr Galen in *Biela nemoc*, Uhrík in *Kým kohút nezaspieva*, and Orgon in *Tartuffe*). In his comedy acting, he radiated love for people and a benevolent understanding of their flaws (for example, as Ondrej Klbko in *Sen noci svätajánskej* and Matej Nič in *Pokus o lietanie*).

An opportunity to round out his repertoire with a tragicomic role of philosophical depth came when he played the main character Tevye in a production of the musical *Fiddler on the Roof* at Bratislava's New Stage Theatre. But the main showcase for his versatility was the screen, including film performances that were comedic (*Štvorylka*; *Pacho, hybský zbojník*), tragicomic (*Statočný zlodej*) and serious (*Polnočná omša*; *Tisícročná včela*). For his portrayal of Tóno Brtko in the film *The Shop on Main Street* (Slovak: *Obchod na korze*), he received a special mention at the 1965

Cannes Film Festival (the film itself won the 1966 Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film).

In 1984 Kroner bid farewell to the Slovak National Theatre, but he continued to work in film, radio and television and to do voiceover work. In these media, as in the theatre, his performances covered a broad spectrum of characters, from quirky rural types to the tragic, from characters in children's works to great figures of world literature.

His work as a writer reflected his passion for fishing. He wrote books of memoirs entitled *Herec na udici* (Actor on a fishing-rod), *S kamerou a udicou* (With a camera and fishing-rod) and *Neobyčajný testament* (Remarkable testament), as well as the children's book *O rybke Beličke* (About Belička the Fish).

In 1978 he was awarded the title of National Artist, and in 2018 he was posthumously awarded the Pribrina Cross (First Class).



Kroner playing Rasplyuev in the Slovak National Theatre's 1966 production of *The Death of Tarelkin* (*Tarelkinova smrť*), alongside Ondrej Jariabek in the role of Okh