

# A U C T I O N

111

An Interesting and Important Series  
of Roman Gold coins

*featuring*

*The Collection of a Retired Banker*

*and*

*The Pierre Bastien Collection*

24 September 2018

NUMISMATICA ARS CLASSICA NAC AG  
ZÜRICH - LONDON

# AUCTION 111

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*The Collection of a Retired Banker*

*and*

*The Pierre Bastien Collection*

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## Auktionsbedingungen

*Durch die Teilnahme an der Auktion werden die folgenden Bedingungen anerkannt:*

1. Die Versteigerung erfolgt in Schweizerfranken. Der Zuschlag erfolgt nach dreimaligem Aufruf an den Höchstbietenden, dessen Gebot vom Auktionator anerkannt wurde, und verpflichtet zur Annahme. Der Ausruf erfolgt in der Regel bei 80%, sofern nicht höhere Angebote vorliegen. Schriftliche Gebote haben Vorrang. Jeder Ersteigerer verpflichtet sich persönlich für die durch ihn getätigten Käufe. Er kann nicht geltend machen, für Rechnung Dritter gehandelt zu haben.
2. Telefonische oder schriftliche Bietaufträge (auch auf elektronischem Weg) von nichtanwesenden Interessenten werden bis 24 Stunden vor Auktionsbeginn entgegengenommen. Telefonische Bieter sind damit einverstanden, dass das Gespräch aufgezeichnet werden kann. Das Auktionshaus übernimmt keinerlei Haftung für schriftliche, elektronische und telefonische Bietaufträge.
3. Bieter werden gebeten, sich vor der Auktion zu legitimieren und anschliessend registrieren zu lassen. Das Auktionshaus kann eine Bankreferenz und/oder Sicherheiten verlangen. Es steht im Ermessen des Auktionshauses, eine Person nicht an der Auktion teilnehmen zu lassen.
4. Es steht dem Versteigerer nach seinem Ermessen frei, ein Gebot heraufzusetzen oder ohne Angabe von Gründen abzulehnen. Der Versteigerer behält sich ferner das Recht vor, Lose zu vereinigen, zu trennen, ausserhalb der Reihenfolge anzubieten oder wegzulassen bzw. von der Auktion zurückzuziehen.
5. Auf dem Zuschlagspreis ist ein Aufgeld von 20.0% zu entrichten - Telefonbieter und Internet Live Bieter entrichten ein zusätzliches Aufgeld von 1.5% auf den Zuschlagspreis. Die schweizerische Mehrwertsteuer von 7,7% wird auf den Endpreis (Zuschlagspreis plus Aufgeld und auf allen andern vom Auktionshaus dem Käufer in Rechnung gestellten Beträgen) erhoben. **Goldmünzen (AV) sind von der MWST befreit.**  
Bei Ausfuhr des ersteigerten Objekts ins Ausland wird dem Käufer die MwSt zurückerstattet, wenn er eine rechtsgültige Ausfuhrdeklaration des schweizerischen Zolls beibringt.
6. Der Gesamtpreis wird mit dem erfolgtem Zuschlag zur Zahlung fällig und ist bei der Aushändigung des Objekts zu bezahlen, ausser es sei vor der Auktion eine andere Abmachung getroffen worden. Für verspätete Zahlungen wird ein Verzugszins von 1% pro Monat in Rechnung gestellt. Das Eigentum geht erst mit der vollständigen Bezahlung auf den Käufer über. In der Regel liefert NAC das ersteigerte Objekt nicht vor der Bezahlung an den Käufer aus. Eine allfällige frühere Auslieferung bewirkt keinen Eigentumsübergang und ändert nichts an der Zahlungsverpflichtung des Käufers.  
Hat der Käufer nicht sofort und auch nicht innert fünf Tagen ab Erhalt einer eingeschriebenen schriftlichen Mahnung bezahlt, so ist NAC ohne weiteres und ohne weitere Anzeige berechtigt, vom Verkauf zurückzutreten.
7. Versand- und Versicherungskosten erfolgen auf Kosten und Risiko des Empfängers. Im Ausland verrechnete Gebühren und Steuern gehen zulasten des Käufers (Ersteigerers). Diesem obliegt es, sich über ausländische Zoll- und Devisenvorschriften zu informieren. Das Auktionshaus übernimmt keine Haftung für allfällige Zuwiderhandlungen gegen solche Vorschriften.
8. **Das Auktionshaus garantiert vorbehaltlos und zeitlich unbeschränkt für die Echtheit der Münzen.** Alle Angaben im Katalog sind nach bestem Wissen und Gewissen zusammengestellt.
9. Die zur Versteigerung gelangenden Objekte werden für Rechnung Dritter versteigert oder sind Eigentum des Auktionshauses. Der Käufer (Ersteigerer) hat keinen Anspruch auf Bekanntgabe des Einlieferers und ist damit einverstanden, dass das Auktionshaus auch von diesem eine Provision erhält.
10. Die vorstehenden Bedingungen sind Bestandteil eines jeden einzelnen an der Auktion geschlossenen Kaufvertrags. Abänderungen sind nur schriftlich gültig. Sofern Teile dieser Auktionsbedingungen der geltenden Rechtslage nicht mehr oder nicht vollständig entsprechen sollten, bleiben die übrigen Teile in ihrem Inhalt und ihrer Gültigkeit unberührt. Massgebend ist die deutsche Fassung dieser Auktionsbedingungen.
11. Das Vertragsverhältnis zwischen den Parteien untersteht in allen Teilen dem schweizerischen Recht. Erfüllungsort ist am Sitz des Auktionshauses in 8001 Zürich, und ausschliesslicher Gerichtsstand ist Zürich.

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## Conditions of Sale

*The following terms and conditions are accepted by all persons participating in the auction:*

1. Auction bidding is conducted in Swiss Francs. The highest bidder who has been acknowledged by the auctioneer when the hammer falls after the third call has legally bought the lot. Bidding usually begins at 80% of the estimate, provided no higher offers have been submitted. Written bids have priority. The successful bidder has committed himself personally to the purchases made. He cannot claim to have acted on behalf of a third party.
2. Absentee bidders can bid up to 24 hours before the start of the auction by writing, telephone or electronically. Telephone bidders must agree that calls may be recorded. The auction house does not accept liability for bidding mandates made by telephone, electronically or in writing.
3. Bidders must show proof of identification before the auction, and subsequently be registered. The Auction House may require a bank reference and/or guarantee. The Auction House reserves the right to deny a person from participating in the auction.
4. The auctioneer may raise or reject a bid without giving a reason, and furthermore reserves the right to combine or split up catalogue lots, or to offer them out of sequence or omit or withdraw them from the auction.
5. A commission of 20.0% will be levied on the hammer price - phone bidders and bidders using our Live Internet facilities pay an additional charge of 1,5%. The Swiss value added tax (VAT) of 7,7% is payable on the final price (hammer price, plus buyer's commission and any other amounts chargeable by the Auction House to the buyer). **Gold coins (AV) are exempt from VAT.**  
If the purchases are exported, then the VAT will be refunded on production of a legally valid original export declaration issued by the Swiss Customs.

6. Payment is in Swiss Francs and is immediately due upon adjudication of the lot and has to be paid with the release of the object to the Buyer, unless otherwise agreed before the sale. Late payments will incur a monthly default interest of 1%. Title in a lot will not pass to the Buyer until NAC has received full payment on his account. NAC will generally not release a lot to a Buyer before payment. Earlier release of the lot does not affect its title nor the Buyer's obligation to pay. If the Buyer has failed to make immediate payment and within 5 days after receipt of a registered, written reminder by NAC to the buyer, NAC may in its sole discretion cancel the sale of the lot.
7. Shipping and insurance are at the buyer's cost and risk. Any fees and charges payable abroad are borne by the buyer (successful bidder) who is responsible for acquiring the necessary information about any applicable customs and foreign exchange regulations. The Auction House accepts no liability for any contraventions of such regulations.
8. **The Auction House offers an unconditional and unlimited guarantee for the authenticity of coins.** All identifications and descriptions of the items sold in this catalogue are statements of opinion and were made in good faith.
9. The objects which come under the hammer are auctioned on behalf of a third party or are the property of the Auction House. The buyer (successful bidder) has no entitlement to have the identity of the consignor disclosed to them and acknowledges that the Auction House might receive a commission from the consignor for the sale.
10. The above conditions are a component of each individual contract of sale concluded at the auction. Alterations must be made in writing in order to be valid. If any parts of these Terms and Conditions should be no longer or not fully in conformity with the valid legal situation, this shall not affect the content and validity of the remaining parts. The above-mentioned conditions are written in German, French, Italian and English; the only valid text is the German one.
11. The contractual relationship between parties is subject in all facets to Swiss law. Place of performance is the registered office of the Auction House in 8001 Zurich, and the exclusive court of jurisdiction is Zurich.

## Conditions de la vente aux enchères

*Du fait de la participation à la vente aux enchères, les conditions suivantes sont réputées être acceptées :*

1. Les enchères sont effectuées en Francs Suisses. L'adjudication est réalisée après trois appels consécutifs du plus offrant dont l'offre a été acceptée par le commissaire priseur et qui constitue une obligation. La mise à prix est effectuée en règle générale à 80 %, dans la mesure où il n'y a pas d'offres disponibles et plus élevées. Les offres formulées par écrit sont prioritaires. Chaque enchérisseur s'engage personnellement en ce qui concerne les acquisitions réalisées par ses soins. Il ne peut pas faire valoir le fait d'avoir agi pour le compte d'une tierce personne.
2. Les demandes d'enchères par téléphone ou par écrit (également par moyen électronique) pour les personnes intéressées et non présentes sont réceptionnées jusqu'à 24 heures avant le début de la vente aux enchères. Les enchérisseurs par téléphone acceptent que la communication téléphonique puisse être enregistrée. La salle des ventes n'assume aucune responsabilité quant aux enchères effectuées par téléphone, électronique ou par écrit.
3. Les enchérisseurs sont priés de se légitimer avant la vente aux enchères et de se faire enregistrer à l'issue de la vente. La salle des ventes peut exiger une référence bancaire et/ou une garantie. La salle des ventes a le droit de ne pas laisser une personne participer à la vente aux enchères.
4. L'enchérisseur peut, à sa guise, surenchérir une offre ou bien la décliner sans indication de motifs. L'enchérisseur se réserve en outre le droit d'associer des lots, de les séparer, de faire des offres en dehors de l'ordre prévu ou de les laisser de côté, voire de se retirer de la vente aux enchères.
5. Une commission de 20.0% est perçue sur le prix d'adjudication. Les acquéreurs qui souhaitent participer aux enchères par téléphone ou en ligne avec nos facilités Live Internet paieront un frais supplémentaire de 1,5%. La taxe à la valeur ajoutée suisse d'un montant de 7,7 % sera perçue sur le prix définitif (prix d'adjudication plus supplément et sur tous les autres montants facturés à l'acquéreur par la salle des ventes). **Les pièces de monnaie en or (AV) sont dispensées de la TVA.**  
En cas d'exportation de l'objet adjugé vers l'étranger, l'acquéreur se voit restituer la TVA lorsqu'il est en mesure de présenter une déclaration d'exportation réglementaire, en bonne et due forme, des autorités douanières suisses.
6. Le prix total en francs suisses est exigible immédiatement après adjudication et doit être acquitté lors de la remise de l'objet adjugé. Pour les paiements effectués ultérieurement un intérêt moratoire de 1% par mois sera facturé. La transmission de la propriété à l'acquéreur a lieu seulement à paiement intégral. En général, NAC ne remet l'objet adjugé à l'acquéreur pas avant paiement. Une éventuelle remise de l'objet n'a cependant pas de l'influence ni sur la propriété du vendeur ni sur l'obligation de l'acquéreur de payer.  
En cas que l'acquéreur n'a pas payé simultanément et non plus entre les cinq jours après réception d'un avertissement sous pli recommandé, NAC est en droit de se départir du contrat sans autre formalité et sans avis ultérieur.
7. Les frais d'envoi et d'assurance sont à charge et au risque de l'acheteur. Les taxes ou les impôts facturés à l'étranger sont à la charge de l'acquéreur (enchérisseur). Il lui incombe de s'informer au sujet des directives étrangères en matière de douane et de devises. La salle des ventes décline toute responsabilité pour les éventuelles infractions à l'encontre de ces directives.
8. **La salle des ventes garantit l'authenticité des monnaies sans réserve et sans limitation dans le temps.** Toutes les indications mentionnées dans le catalogue sont rassemblées en toute conscience et en toute bonne foi.
9. Les objets mis aux enchères le sont pour le compte de tierces personnes ou bien sont la propriété de la salle des ventes. L'acquéreur (enchérisseur) n'a aucun droit d'obtenir communication du nom de la personne qui met en vente et se déclare en accord avec le fait que la salle des ventes perçoive une provision de cette dernière.
10. Les présentes conditions font partie intégrante de tout contrat de vente conclu dans le cadre de la vente aux enchères. Les modifications ne sont valables que par écrit. Le fait que des parties des présentes conditions de vente aux enchères venaient à ne plus correspondre, ou du moins plus intégralement, à la situation juridique en vigueur, n'affecte en rien les autres parties, ni dans leur contenu, ni dans leur validité. La version en langue allemande constitue la référence des présentes conditions de vente aux enchères.
11. La relation contractuelle entre les parties en cause est soumise, dans toutes ses composantes, au droit Suisse. La compétence juridique est fixée au siège de la salle des ventes à 8001 Zurich, et le for juridique exclusif est Zurich.

## Condizioni di vendita

*La partecipazione all'asta comporta l'accettazione delle seguenti condizioni:*

1. La valuta in cui viene condotta l'asta è il Franco Svizzero. L'aggiudicazione al miglior offerente, individuato dal banditore, avviene dopo la terza chiamata e comporta per l'aggiudicatario l'acquisto con tutti i relativi obblighi di legge. Le offerte partono generalmente dall'80% del prezzo di stima a meno che una o più offerte d'importo maggiore siano state presentate. Le offerte scritte hanno la precedenza. Il partecipante all'asta è personalmente responsabile per l'acquisto effettuato e non può pretendere di avere agito per conto di terzi.
2. I partecipanti all'asta non presenti in sala possono presentare offerte telefonicamente, in forma scritta, o per via elettronica fino a 24 ore prima dell'inizio dell'asta. Chi trasmette la propria offerta telefonicamente presta il proprio consenso all'eventuale registrazione della telefonata. La casa d'asta non assume alcun tipo di responsabilità per le offerte trasmesse in forma scritta, elettronica o telefonica.
3. I partecipanti, per concorrere all'asta, dovranno esibire un documento d'identità e registrarsi. La casa d'asta si riserva il diritto di richiedere referenze bancarie o un deposito cauzionale per permettere la partecipazione all'asta. La casa d'asta si riserva inoltre il diritto di non permettere a un soggetto la partecipazione all'asta.
4. Il banditore d'asta ha facoltà di aumentare o rifiutare un'offerta secondo la propria discrezionalità e senza necessità di fornire una motivazione. Il banditore si riserva inoltre il diritto di unire, separare, cambiare la sequenza prevista o di eliminare e/o ritirare dall'asta determinati lotti.
5. Al prezzo d'aggiudicazione va aggiunta una commissione del 20.0%. Gli offerenti che parteciperanno all'asta per telefono o 'live' attraverso internet pagheranno un costo supplementare dell'1,5%. L'imposta svizzera sul valore aggiunto, pari attualmente al 7,7%, viene applicata sul prezzo finale (prezzo d'aggiudicazione più commissione ed ogni altro importo imputabile al compratore dalla casa d'aste). **Le monete in oro (AV) sono esonerate dal pagamento dell'IVA.**  
In caso d'esportazione dell'oggetto acquistato all'asta verso un paese estero, il compratore ha diritto al rimborso dell'IVA dietro consegna di una valida dichiarazione d'esportazione dell'ufficio doganale della Confederazione Elvetica.
6. Il pagamento è da effettuarsi in Franchi Svizzeri immediatamente all'aggiudicazione del lotto, a meno che concordato diversamente prima dell'asta. In caso di ritardato pagamento il tasso d'interesse moratorio applicabile è pari all'1% mensile. La proprietà del lotto non passerà al compratore fino a che la NAC non riceverà il pagamento a saldo dell'acquisto. Generalmente la NAC non rilascia un lotto al compratore prima di ricevere il pagamento di tale. La consegna anticipata di un lotto non incide sulla proprietà di tale né sull'obbligo di pagamento da parte del compratore. Se il compratore non paga subito e nel caso in cui egli non effettui il pagamento entro 5 giorni dalla ricezione di una raccomandata, scritta da NAC come avviso di mancato pagamento, la NAC si riserverà la facoltà di cancellare la vendita di tale lotto.
7. I costi ed il rischio della spedizione sono a carico del destinatario. Qualunque imposta e contributo legalmente dovuto nel paese d'esportazione è a carico dell'acquirente (compratore in sede d'asta) su cui ricade la responsabilità per la conoscenza delle norme vigenti in materia doganale e di valuta. La casa d'aste non assume alcuna responsabilità per l'eventuale violazione di tali prescrizioni.
8. **La casa d'asta offre una garanzia incondizionata e senza riserva di tempo sull'autenticità delle monete.** Le indicazioni e descrizioni contenute nel catalogo sono opinioni soggettive e sono espresse in buona fede.
9. Gli oggetti offerti vengono messi all'asta per conto di terzi o sono di proprietà della casa d'asta. L'acquirente (compratore in sede d'asta) non ha il diritto di conoscere l'identità del consegnatario dell'oggetto e prende atto che alla casa d'asta potrebbe venir corrisposta dal consegnatario una commissione per la vendita.
10. Le condizioni sopra menzionate costituiscono parte integrante di ciascun contratto individuale di vendita concluso nell'asta. Eventuali modifiche saranno ritenute valide solo se fatte in forma scritta. Nel caso in cui una parte delle presenti Condizioni di Vendita dovesse essere non più totalmente conforme alla vigenti disposizioni di legge, cioè non avrà effetto sulla validità delle parti restanti. L'unica versione di testo delle Condizioni di Vendita che ha valore legale è quella in lingua tedesca.
11. Il rapporto contrattuale fra le parti è regolato in tutti i suoi aspetti dal diritto della Confederazione Elvetica. Il luogo d'adempimento è la sede della casa d'aste a Zurigo (8001). Il foro competente è esclusivamente quello di Zurigo.

## Note on US Import Restrictions

In accordance with US Customs and Border Protection regulations (19 CFR Part 12), we attest that all ancient Greek coins, from mints that are now within the modern boundaries of Italy, either have an export licence issued by the Republic of Italy or were outside of Italy prior to 19 January 2011. We also attest that all ancient Greek coins, from mints that are now within the modern boundaries of Greece, were outside of Greece before 17 July 2011. In addition, all coins from mints that are now within the modern boundaries of Bulgaria, Cyprus, Egypt, Iran, Syria and Iraq, were, in the case of Bulgaria, Cyprus, Egypt and Iran, outside of those countries before 30 May 2005, in the case of Iraq before 2 August 1990 and in the case of Syria before 15 March 2011. Numismatica Ars Classica NAC AG will provide appropriate documentation to assist with the importation of any purchased lots into the USA. All other coins were in the possession of Numismatica Ars Classica NAC AG or its consignors prior to these dates.

**TIME TABLE ZEITTADEL ORDRE DE VENTE ORDINE DI VENDITA**

**Monday, 24 September 2018**

**14:30 – 17:00**

**151 – 400**

**EXHIBITIONS AUSSTELLUNG EXPOSITION ESPOSIZIONI**

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**London – At our premises**

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1 September – 11 September 2018

Monday to Friday 9:30 – 17:30  
Saturday & Sunday by appointment only

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**Zurich**

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At the Zurich premises (2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor):	Friday, 21 September 2018 Saturday, 22 September 2018	09:30 – 17:30 by appointment
At the Hotel Baur au Lac, Talstrasse 1, 8001 Zurich:	Sunday, 23 September 2018 Monday, 24 September 2018	10:30 – 17:30 10:00 – 16:00

**Please visit our auction online at [www.arsclassicacoins.com](http://www.arsclassicacoins.com)**

**Die Auktion erfolgt unter Mitwirkung eines Beamten des Stadtmannamtes Zürich 1. Jede Haftung des anwesenden Beamten, der Gemeinde und des Staates für Handlungen des Auktionators entfällt.**

<b>Gradi di conservazione</b>	<b>Grades of preservation</b>	<b>Erhaltungsgrad</b>	<b>Degrés de conservation</b>	<b>Grados de Conservación</b>
Fdc Fior di conio	Fdc Uncirculated	Stempelglanz	Fleur de coin (FDC)	FDC
Spl Splendido	Extremely fine	Vorzüglich	Superbe	EBC
BB Bellissimo	Very fine	Sehr schön	Très beau	MBC
MB Molto bello	Fine	Schön	Beau	BC

## Foreword to the Collection of a Retired Banker

In recent years NAC has anonymously sold many Roman gold coins coming from this collection starting with the late Roman part, which was offered in our auction 92. Other coins have also been anonymously sold in our auctions 100 and 106 and a very large group was auctioned as coming from the Collection of a European Gentleman in our auction 102.

This sale features a wonderful selection of coins from this important and rich collection, which Numismatica Ars Classica plans to publish in its entirety at a later date.

Our anonymous collector not only acquired aurei, but also a good number of gold quinarii, including one of Gaius (lot 158). In my rather long career, this is the only gold quinarius of this emperor that I have seen offered in a public sale and according to King's publication, it is one of only four examples known in private hands.

Other first century highlights include: the beautiful aureus of Nero and Agrippina (lot 161) and the extremely rare and historically important aureus of Galba (lot 162) celebrating Spain, the land the he governed at the time of his revolt against Nero. Belonging to a different consignor but no less noteworthy, is the aureus of Vitellius (lot 163), which boasts not only a superb portrait and interesting reverse, but also a highly prestigious pedigree. Also very rare and interesting is the aureus of Vespasian struck in Antioch (lot 164).

The second century series is enriched by a wonderful series of aurei featuring: an aureus of Trajan of fantastic quality (lot 168); an aureus of Plotina with an exceptionally well-executed portrait (lot 170), along with an interesting series of aurei of Hadrian (lot 171-173). Of the latter we cannot fail to mention the aureus with the reverse representing Trajan and Plotina which has passed through the collections of Montagu, Weber and de Sartiges. The series of aurei for Antoninus Pius is truly exceptional and epitomised by lots 175 and 176.

The aurei of the second half of the second century are exceptionally well-preserved and highlighted by: an aureus of Faustina (lot 182) which also boasts a host of prestigious provenances; an aureus of Lucilla (lot 184) featuring a very accomplished portrait, and two very well-executed aurei of Commodus (lots 185 and 186). These are followed by a quinarius of Commodus (lot 187), a remarkable coin for being both a unique variety and also a rarely available denomination for this emperor.

The series of coins for the Severans features a very interesting aureus of Septimius Severus which celebrates the re-established concord in the army (lot 189) and the stupendous aureus of Caracalla, struck in Laodicea ad Mare, which presents a superbly executed portrait of the emperor (lot 192).

Other highlights include two aurei boasting enviable provenances such as the aureus of Elagabalus with the Emesa stone reverse (lot 193), formerly belonging to the Huntington collection, and the aureus of Severus Alexander (lot 195), which once formed part of the Montagu and Evans collections.

The second part of the third century opens with an apparently unique aureus of Philip II (lot 198) and is followed, just a few lots after, by a very rare aureus of Tetricus (lot 204). Of superb quality and with an unusually beautiful fine portrait is the aureus of Probus (lot 207).

The tetrarchy section includes a series of beautiful aurei including the aureus of Maximianus, with the reverse representation of Hercules fighting the hydra (lot 215), and a delightful aureus of Constantius Chlorus which comes from the Arras hoard (lot 218).

To conclude, we cannot fail to mention the magnificent 2 solidi medallion of Constantine the Great (lot 225) which couples an exceptionally well-executed portrait with an exceptional state of conservation.

It is worth noting that this auction catalogue also features coins from other consignments including a nice selection of Byzantine coins and a small selection of aurei which, despite not being in perfect condition, contains some rarities and several coins with prestigious pedigrees.

We are sure that collectors will appreciate our anonymous collector's refined taste and the sheer variety of coins offered in this auction

## Foreword to the Pierre Bastien Collection

Numismatica Ars Classica is honoured to present the Pierre Bastien collection.

When one of Dr Bastien's children contacted me to propose an interesting collection of coins of the tetrarchy and the fourth century, I immediately noticed the surname at the foot of the e-mail. After some initial hesitation, I couldn't help but ask if he was related in some way to Pierre Bastien.

I knew of Dr Bastien as the author of a large number of brilliant numismatic publications. What I hadn't appreciated was that he was also a collector and, more importantly, numismatic study was not his main profession. I was fascinated to discover that numismatics had started as a side interest for him, which he had been cultivating alongside his career as a doctor.

It is worth noting that Dr Bastien's scholarly numismatic publications are not only of exceptional quality, but are also extremely numerous and wide-reaching. His books still remain key reference works for academics, collectors and cataloguers today.

We are listing here only some of the best-known of his many publications:

- La trouvaille de Çanakkale (Turquie); deniers et antoniniani émis de 261 à 284, Wetteren 1969
- Le trésor de Beaurains (dit d'Arras), Wetteren 1977
- Le monnayage de l'atelier de Lyon. Dioclétien et ses corégents avant la réforme monétaire (285-294), Wetteren 1972
- Le monnayage de l'atelier de Lyon. De la réouverture de l'atelier par Aurélien à la mort de Carin (fin 274-mi. 285), Wetteren 1976
- Le monnayage de l'atelier de Lyon. De la réforme monétaire de Dioclétien à la fermeture temporaire de l'atelier en 316 (294-316), Wetteren 1980
- Le monnayage de l'atelier de Lyon. De la réouverture de l'atelier en 318 à la mort de Constantin (318-337), Wetteren 1982
- Le monnayage de l'atelier de Lyon. De la mort de Constantin à la mort de Julien (337-363), Wetteren 1985
- Le monnayage de l'atelier de Lyon. Du règne de Jovien à la mort de Jovin (363-413), Wetteren 1987
- Le monnayage de l'atelier de Lyon (274-413). Le médaillon de plomb de Lyon. Wetteren 1989
- Le monnayage de Magnence (350-353), Wetteren 1983
- Monnaie et donativa au Bas-Empire, Wetteren 1988
- Le buste monétaire des empereurs romains. Vol. I-III, Wetteren 1992, 1993, 1994

Testament to the respect earned by Dr Bastien within the numismatic community is not only the publication of a volume in his honour published in 1967: *Mélanges de Numismatique offerts à Pierre Bastien*, but also the great number of plaudits received from institutions such as the Belgian Royal Numismatic society of which he was made an honorary member in 1968. He was also made a Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy, Medallist of the Royal Numismatic Society in 1970, and was awarded the Huntington Medal from the American Numismatic Society in 1976. It is worth noting that he was President of the Société Française de Numismatique in 1965, and was awarded the Croix de Guerre for the 1939–1945 war in 1948. He became Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur in 1956 and Chevalier de l'Ordre de Léopold de Belgique in 1960.

Pierre Bastien was born in Lille on 9 March 1912. Having completed his studies at Froyennes in Belgium, he graduated in medicine in Lille in 1937. The following year he became Chief Surgeon, and during World War II he was attached to a field hospital. Taken prisoner, he was sent to Dunkerque and appointed as a surgeon in the hospital, a city where he would remain and practise until his retirement in 1977 when he moved to the United States where his three children were already living.



Parallel to his medical profession, he pursued advanced studies in numismatics and in 1965 he received a degree from the École Pratique des Hautes Études, in Paris, and a Doctorate in history in 1972.

It is absolutely astonishing how Dr Bastien managed to balance his medical career and his passion for numismatic research. Certainly he had the good fortune of meeting a great woman, Maria Louise (Malou). She supported him in so many ways, not only in his medical career (being the administrator of his clinic in Dunkerque), but she was also the manager of the household. She even assisted him in his research by making casts of the coins for his publications, editing his work and learning computer skills for the drawings in the *Buste monétaire*. After her death, this role passed to their daughter Françoise who continued to assist her father with his publications.

Dr Bastien's collection obviously reflects the historical period on which he focused the majority of his research, and is characterized by the extraordinary consistency of the coins' quality.

The aurei of the tetrarchy (lots 209, 211 and 214) are all exceptionally well-preserved as are the coins of Constantine I (lots 221 to 224).

The rest of the fourth century is represented by a series of high quality solidi and fractions, boasting some great rarities and historically important coins such as: the two unique dynastic solidi of Constantine II and Constantius (lot 227) and Constans and Dalmatius (lot 229). Both coins are published by Dr Bastien in an article in *Essays Carson-Jenkins*.

Other exceptionally rare coins in the collection include the solidi of: Constantine II for Aquileia (lot 228); Constans for Thessalonica (lot 231); Constantius II for Aquileia (lot 238); Theodosius I for Aquileia (lot 267), and the 1 1/2 scrupulum of the same emperor (lot 269).

The history of numismatics is full of collectors who contributed to the research and development of the discipline, among whom Pierre Bastien is certainly one of the most eminent. *Numismatica Ars Classica* is a business, however it has always strived to contribute in some form to numismatic research whether it be through the publication of its catalogues or the sponsoring of scientific publications. For this reason, we are particularly honoured that Dr Bastien's family have entrusted us with his collection.

Some parts of this foreword were extracted from the wonderful obituary published by Carmen Arnold-Biucchi in *SNR* 60, 1990. To see the tribute in full, please visit <https://www.e-periodica.ch/cntmng?pid=smb-001:2010:60::177>

## The Roman Republic

The mint is Roma unless otherwise stated



- 151 *C. Iulius Caesar and A. Hirtius*. Aureus 46, AV 8.05 g. C·CAESAR – COS TER Veiled head of Vesta r. Rev. A HIRTIVS PR Lituus, jug and axe. Babelon Julia 24 and Hirtia 2. C 2. Bahrfeldt 19. Sydenham 1018. Sear Imperators 56. RBW 1634. Crawford 466/1. Calicó 37b. About extremely fine 4'000

From the Collection of a Retired Banker.



- 152 *L. Cestius and C. Norbanus*. Aureus January-April 43, AV 7.97 g. Draped bust of Africa r., wearing elephant-skin headdress. Rev. L·CESTIVS / EX·S·C – PR Curule chair with legs decorated with eagles, on top, two snakes facing each other; in exergue, C·NORBA. Babelon Cestia 2 and Norbana 4. Bahrfeldt 25. Sydenham 1154. Sear Imperators 195a. RBW 1718. Crawford 491/1b. Calicó 4. An extremely rare variety. Minor area of weakness on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine 10'000

Ex NAC 9, 1996, 751 and NAC 41, 2007, 22 sales. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.



- 153 *Marcus Antonius and Octavia.* Aureus, mint moving with Marcus Antonius circa 38, AV 8.13 g. M·AN[TONIVS]·JM·F·M·N·AVGV·IMP·TER Bare head of Marcus Antonius r. Rev. [COS·DESIGN·ITER]·ET·[TER·III·VIR·R·P·C] Head of Octavia r. Babelon Antonia 69. C 1. Bahrfeldt 90 and pl. 9, 6 (these dies). Sydenham 1200. RBW –. Crawford 533/3a. Calicó 112.

Of the highest rarity, only seven specimens known of which only three are in private hands.

An issue of tremendous importance and fascination. Struck on a very broad flan, double struck on reverse, otherwise good very fine / very fine

25'000

This aureus, portraying Octavia, the sister of Octavian, and her unwilling husband Marc Antony, is among the most cherished rarities in Roman coinage. It was struck at a point when Antony and Octavia seem to have been a devoted and satisfied couple, as it was not until a few months later, when Octavian insulted Antony by not attending a meeting in Brundisium which he himself had organised, that the troubles began. From that point onwards their relations worsened, with loyal Octavia suffering the consequences of being a pawn in the political contest between her brother and her husband.

Antony had married Octavia in 40 B.C. in an effort to bind himself ever closer to Octavian in a shared desire to dominate the Roman world. During the initial period of bliss Octavia bore Antony two children – Marcellus and Antonia, both of whom would figure strongly into the political landscape of the Augustan age. Afterwards, though, Octavia suffered Antony's indifference for what remained of their eight-year marriage. The greatest insult she endured was Antony's marriage to Queen Cleopatra of Egypt late in 37 B.C., even though he was to remain married to Octavia for the next five years.

Antony struck several coinages portraying Octavia, including two issues of aurei. The first (Cr. 527/1) was struck in celebration of their marriage, and the present issue soon followed. The aurei were supplemented with large issues of cistophori and copper "fleet coinage" that also bore portraits of both Antony and Octavia. All such coinages had ceased by late 37 B.C., at which time the pact between Antony and Octavian had been renewed and Antony had decided to devote himself to Cleopatra.

## The Roman Empire

The mint is Roma unless otherwise stated

### Octavian as Augustus, 27 BC – 14 AD



- 154 Aureus, Lugdunum circa 15-13 BC, AV 7.81 g. AVGVSTVS – DIVI F Bare head r. Rev. IMP – X Diana, in short hunting tunic, standing half l., head r., holding spear and bow; dog standing l. at her feet. In exergue, SICIL. C 145. Bahrfeldt 217. BMC –. RIC 172. CBN 1392. Calicó 217 (this coin).

Very rare. Struck on a very broad flan and complete, about extremely fine

15'000

Ex NFA-Leu 16 May 1984, Garrett part I, 710; Lanz 42, 1987, 440; NAC 27, 2004, 297 and NAC 51, 2009, 155 sales. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.



155

- 155 Aureus, Lugdunum 8 BC, AV 7.87 g. AVGVSTVS – DIVI F Laureate head r. Rev. C CAES Caius Caesar galloping r., holding sword and shield in l. hand; behind, aquila between two standards. In exergue, AVGVST. C 39. Bahrfeldt 233. BMC 498. RIC 198. CBN 1466. Calicó 174a.  
Very rare. A gentle portrait of fine style struck in high relief, about extremely fine 15'000

Ex Helios sale 3, 2009, 80. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

After the death of his favourite nephew Marcellus, Augustus' hopes for the succession turned to the young Caius and Lucius Caesars, his grandsons via his daughter Julia and his close friend and confidant, Marcus Agrippa. Caius was born in 20 BC and Lucius three years later. After the death of Agrippa in 12 BC, Augustus formally adopted both boys and accelerated their progress up the cursus honorum, or ladder of public offices. He also carefully supervised their education and displayed them at public events to endear them to the populace and army. "Augustus gave Caius and Lucius reading, swimming and other simple lessons, for the most part acting as their tutor himself," writes Suetonius. Caius was officially presented by Augustus to the public in 5 BC, and he became Consul in AD 1 at the age of 21. This was an extremely young age for so high an office, although Augustus probably viewed his own consulship at age 19 as an adequate precedent. During Caius' consulship, Augustus sent him on a tour of the eastern frontier with special powers to reassert Roman authority in Armenia. Augustus took care to select experienced advisors for the youth, and the expedition was largely successful. But a brief border conflict broke out with the Parthians in AD 3, and Caius received a wound during a siege. Though not mortally wounded, the injury sapped his energy and he grew ill and depressed. He died at Limyra in Asia Minor, en route back to Italy, in February of AD 4. Lucius had likewise fallen ill and had died in Massalia two years before, and the deaths left Augustus utterly bereft and devastated. Their demise also cleared the way for Tiberius, Augustus' dour son-in-law via his wife Livia, to succeed to imperial power, and rumours abounded that Livia had somehow conspired in the deaths of Caius and Lucius. Such speculation makes for lurid reading and viewing (most notably in the book and television series, "I, Claudius"), but the disparate circumstances of their deaths leaves little doubt regarding Livia's innocence. This rare gold aureus, struck in the Gallic capital of Lugdunum (modern Lyon) in 8 BC, depicts Caius Caesar as a junior cavalry officer, charging headlong on his mount with sword and shield. As Caius would have been, at most, 12 years old at the time of striking, the coin indicates how seriously Augustus took the military training of his grandson.

#### Tiberius augustus, 14 – 37



156

- 156 Aureus, Lugdunum 14-37, AV 7.72 g. TI CAESAR DIVI – AVG F AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. PONTIF – MAXIM Pax-Livia figure seated r., holding vertical sceptre and branch. C 15. BMC 40. RIC 27. CBN 19. Calicó 305a. A very elegant portrait. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 12'500

Ex Noble sale 93, 2010, 4858. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.



157

- 157 Quinarius, Lugdunum 15-16, AV 3.84 g. TI DIVI F – AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. TR POT – XVII Victory seated r. on globe, holding wreath in both hands. C 49 corr. BMC 12. RIC 5. CBN 125. King 1.  
Rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Struck on a very broad flan, extremely fine / good extremely fine 6'000

**Gaius, 37 – 41**



158

158

- 158 Quinarius, Lugdunum 37-38, AV 3.83 g. C CAESAR AVG GERMANICVS Bare head r. Rev. P M TR – POT Victory seated r. on globe, holding wreath in both hands. C –. BMC –. RIC –. CBN –. King –.  
An apparently unrecorded variety of an exceedingly rare denomination (only eleven specimens listed by King of which only four are in private hands). Several edge marks, possible traces of mounting, otherwise very fine 30'000

Ex Gemini sale IX, 2012, 260. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

Gaius Caesar, the great-grandson of Augustus, gained the popular nickname, Caligula (“Little Boots”) as a child following his father, the beloved commander, Germanicus, on campaign. On March 16, A.D. 37, the ailing Tiberius died. It was widely suspected at the time that Caligula had hastened the death of the emperor by suffocating him with a pillow. Although Tiberius had named his own grandson, Gemellus, as heir, his will was nullified on grounds of insanity, and Caligula succeeded to the principate. This gold coin of Caligula is especially desirable as it is an apparently unrecorded variety of the extremely rare quinarius denomination that was struck early in his reign. The reverse type of Victory on a globe with the indication of the emperor’s tribunician power consciously copies a type used for earlier quinarii of Augustus, thereby casting Caligula as a worthy Julio-Claudian successor. Caligula’s ancestry is further emphasized in the obverse legend, which spells out the names of Caesar and Germanicus in full. The types and inscriptions make clear that Caligula, who traced his decent from powerful men beloved by the people, was not to be confused with the hated Tiberius. As it turned out, his seriously flawed character was more than enough to engender extreme dislike for him amongst Rome’s elite, who officially damned his memory after his death. Caligula is generally praised by the ancient sources for the first months of his reign, which exhibited great generosity and attempts to undo the damage done by Tiberius’ oppressive regime. But then, something terrible happened. In October of A.D. 37, Caligula fell seriously ill (possibly due to poisoning) and came close to death. When he recovered, his character had changed for the worse. He seems to have developed a paranoia that members of his family were actively plotting against him or secretly desired to supplant him. Caligula executed Gemellus as well as his own father-in-law, and condemned his sisters, Livilla and Agrippina the Younger, to exile. Only his uncle Claudius was spared because it amused the emperor to mock him for his infirmities. A financial crisis ensued in A.D. 38 due to the emperor’s lavish spending—silver and gold coins like the present quinarius were disbursed as political payments and to support Caligula’s lifestyle until there was little left in the imperial treasury. This led the emperor to raise taxes, demand public loans, and to seize estates in order to raise money. The emperor also annexed the client-kingdom of Mauritania out of a fear that its king, who was also Caligula’s cousin, might become a threat. A projected invasion of Britannia halted at the English Channel, where the emperor reportedly challenged Neptune and collected seashells as the spoils of victory. He subsequently celebrated a ridiculous triumph for victories claimed over the Germanic tribesmen in which Gauls were made to march wearing blond wigs to simulate defeated Germans. Caligula’s already questionable behaviour began to hedge towards madness in A.D. 40, when he took to making public appearances in the guise of various gods and had the heads of deities replaced with his own on statues in Rome. He furthermore ordered the erection of statues of himself represented as Sol, the sun god. This policy was offensive in Rome, where emperors were normally worshipped only after their deaths, but came close to sparking revolt in Judaea, where Caligula attempted to install a colossal statue of himself in the Jerusalem Temple. Realising the violent opposition that this would unleash, the governor of Syria wisely delayed implementing the emperor’s orders. While imminent disaster was avoided in Judaea, Caligula’s claims to divinity provoked a crisis at Rome when he announced that he planned to leave the city and take up residence in Alexandria, where it was long customary for rulers to be treated as living gods. Despite his megalomania, the loss of the emperor to Alexandria was an unpalatable prospect for both the Senate and the Praetorian Guard as it would mean a drastic reduction in their power and influence. In order to prevent the establishment of Alexandria as the new seat of imperial power a plot was set in motion to assassinate Caligula. A cabal led by Cassius Chaerea, a Praetorian officer, accosted the emperor and stabbed him to death in the underground passage of the imperial palaces on January 22, A.D. 41. It was noted that like his great namesake, the dictator Gaius Julius Caesar, Caligula had been stabbed 30 times by a group of conspirators led by a Cassius. Also, as in the case of Caesar, the murder of Caligula did not restore the Republic. Instead, Claudius was proclaimed the new emperor.

Claudius, 41 – 54



159 Aureus 41-42, AV 7.75 g. TI CLAVD CAESAR AVG GERM P M TR P Laureate head r. Rev. CONSTANTIAE AVGVSTI Constantia seated l. on curule chair, raising r. hand; her feet on stool. C 5. BMC 11. RIC 13. Von Kaenel 200 (these dies). CBN 27. Calicó 338.  
A bold portrait of fine style and a lovely reddish tone, Extremely fine 15'000

Ex NAC 21, 2001, 380 and NAC 64, 2012, Alberto Campana, 1107 sales. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

By the time the emperor Claudius came to the throne after the murder of his depraved nephew Caligula, he had been properly schooled in how terribly people can treat one another. Indeed, it was his enduring, impotent position in the eye of the Julio- Claudian storm that made him the central character in Robert Graves' classic work of historical fiction, *I, Claudius*. As a child he could not benefit from his father, who died before he reached his first year, and he apparently suffered a lack of love from his mother, the otherwise admirable Antonia, who, according to Suetonius (*Claudius* 3) described him as "a monster: a man whom nature had not finished but had merely begun". In the bigger picture, Claudius' physical disabilities served him well, for he survived the treacherous reigns of Tiberius and Caligula (though not unscathed, for he suffered through the aftermath of many deplorable acts). His 13-year reign was entirely unexpected. In one of Tacitus' most memorable and personal passages, he states about Claudius: "The more I think about history, ancient or modern, the more ironical all human affairs seem. In public opinion, expectation, and esteem no one appeared a less likely candidate for the throne than the man for whom destiny was secretly reserving it." For most Romans, Claudius' reign was a pleasant departure from the more oppressive reigns of Tiberius and Caligula, both of whom were generally disliked. Claudius seems to have been popular with the people and often with the army, but he usually was at odds with the senate, from whom he demanded hard work and dedication.



160 Aureus 49-50, AV 7.75 g. TI CLAVD CAESAR AVG P M TR P VIII IMP XVI Laureate head r. Rev. PACI – AVGVSTAE Pax-Nemesis, winged, advancing r., spitting into *peplos* and holding in l. hand caduceus pointed towards serpent moving r. C 60. BMC 51. RIC 46. Von Kaenel 778 (these dies). CBN 61. Calicó 369 (this coin).  
Rare. A bold portrait of fine style struck on a full flan. An unobtrusive area of weakness on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 20'000

Ex NAC sale 38, 2007, A Refined Connoisseur of Portraiture, 22.

Nero augustus, 54 – 68



161

- 161 Aureus October-December 54, AV 7.62 g. AGRIPP AVG DIVI CLAVD NERONIS [CAES MATER] Confronted busts of Nero, bare-headed r., and Agrippina Minor, draped l.; in l. field, corn grain. Rev. NERONI CLAVD DIVI F CAES AVG GERM IMP TR P around oak wreath, enclosing EX S C. C 6 var. (no corn grain). BMC 2 (these dies). RIC 3. CBN 4 var. (no corn grain). Calicó 400 (this obverse die).

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, among the finest specimens known.

Two marvellous portraits of fine style perfectly struck in high relief. An unobtrusive edge nick at nine o'clock on reverse and almost invisible marks on reverse field, otherwise good extremely fine

40'000

Ex NAC 46, 2008, 510 and NAC 64, 2012, 1115 sales. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

Nero's most interesting precious metal coinages are his first three. The first two, struck from October 12 to December 3 54, depict either the head of deified Claudius or the confronted busts of Nero and his mother Agrippina. These are replaced with his third issue, which shows the jugate busts of Nero and his mother. All of the precious metal issues Nero struck thereafter (December 4, 55 onward) bear only his portrait. This particular aureus is an important rarity because of the small object – either a grain kernel or a laurel leaf – behind Nero's bust. Thus far, only three or four dies with this feature, all used for aurei, have been noted: one for the confronted bust, one or two for the Divus Claudius, and one for the jugate bust. All of the 'marked' aurei are significant rarities: perhaps six of the confronted bust aurei, including this piece, are known, and the variant is noted in RIC; perhaps three of the Divus Claudius issues are known (though they were essentially unrecognised until von Kaenel's 1986 corpus), and only two of the jugate bust issues are known (similarly unrecognised until published by Curtis L. Clay in the 1982 *Numismatische Zeitschrift*). Considering these 'marked' coins are unusual in character and represent only a tiny percentage of the output, we can say they have no parallel on contemporary coinages. Furthermore, since the feature occurs on all three issues, it justifies a second look at the proposed chronologies: perhaps all of the marked pieces belong to late 54? Both the identification and the significance of the object are unknown. If a laurel leaf, it would probably note the bestowal of honours on Nero or would signify the funerary games Nero held for Claudius. More likely, however, the object is a kernel of grain, in which case it likely refers to a grain donative. Ancient sources reveal that Nero not only matched Claudius by paying each rank-and-file praetorian guard an accession bonus of 150 aurei (Suet. Claud. 10.2; Tacitus, *Annals*, XII, 69, 1-3), but that he added to this "...a free monthly issue of grain" (Suet. Nero 10). Perhaps the bonuses due to the praetorian guardsmen were paid with these aurei marked with the grain kernel to signify their additional bonus of grain. If we consider the comparative rarity of these coins, the fact that 'marking' dies in this manner was unprecedented, and that the marking occurs only on aurei, the scenario described above seems at least plausible.

Galba, 68 – 69



162

- 162 Aureus, Tarraco, April to late 68, AV 7.72 g. IMP – GALBA Laureate head r., with globe at point of bust. Rev. HISPANIA Hispania, draped, standing l., holding corn ears and poppy in r. hand and round shield and two vertical spears in l. C –, cf. 81 (IMP SER GALBA AVG). BMC –, cf. 172 (denarius). RIC 20. CBN –, cf. 9 (denarius). Calicó –, cf. 479 (head l.).

Of the highest rarity, apparently only the second specimen known and the only one in private hands. A very unusual portrait and an interesting and historically important reverse type. Perfectly struck and centred on a full flan. Extremely fine

50'000

Ex NAC sale 51, 2009, 204. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

The coinage of Galba presents a variety of portrait styles because he minted not only at Rome, but also in Spain, Gaul and North Africa. Galba's Spanish coinage may have been produced at more than one mint, but it is clear that most, if not all of it, was struck at a single mint, presumably Tarraco, his old capital city. After news arrived in Spain of the uprising of Vindex, Galba offered his support to the rebel, upon which his own soldiers hailed him imperator at Carthago Nova on April 2, 68. Once he learned of Vindex's defeat, he left Hispania Tarraconensis and led his legions on a long march to Rome. Fortunately, Galba's legions were not required to fight their countrymen since Nero had committed suicide while they were en route, and the capital lay open to receive Galba as emperor. Galba took the helm at a critical moment, for he was the first non-Julio-Claudian emperor and his revolt proved that emperors could be made in the provinces – a lesson the senate and the praetorian guardsmen found hard to accept, but would witness two more times before the civil war had ended.

As one of Galba's most elegant coin types, this aureus celebrates Spain, the land he governed at the time of his revolt against Nero. The personification of Spain is here shown as a woman of dual virtue: fertility of the land, and prowess in war. In some later representations she is accompanied by a rabbit, a symbol of the region. Both Stabo and Pliny wrote that rabbits were so plentiful in Spain that occasionally towns had to be moved because they were overrun, and that on at least one occasion a city's foundation was dangerously undermined by burrows.



Vitellius, 2nd January – 20th December 69 (recognised Emperor in Rome on 19th April)



163

- 163 Aureus April-December 69, AV 7.10 g. A VITELLIVS GERMAN IMP TR P Laureate head r. Rev. LIBERTAS – RESTITVTA Libertas standing facing, head r., holding pileus in r. hand and long rod in l. C –, cf. 48 (denarius). BMC –, cf. 13 (denarius). RIC 80. CBN –, cf. 41 (denarius). Calicó 563.

Extremely rare and possibly the finest specimen known of this intriguing type.

A bold portrait of fine style and a symbolic reverse type. Extremely fine

50\*000

Ex Hirsch XX, 1907, Hoskier, 540; Schulman 4-8 March 1923, Vierordt, 964 and NFA-Leu 16-18 May 1984, Garrett, 751 sales. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

Following the outbreak of a major revolt in Gallia Lugdunensis and plotting among the Praetorian Guard, Nero fled Rome and committed suicide on June 9, A.D. 68. His death ushered in the tumultuous Year of the Four Emperors (A.D. 69), which saw the Roman Empire torn by civil war and the ephemeral reigns of three emperors in quick succession, Galba, Otho, and Vitellius, before the assumption of power by Vespasian and the restoration of stability under the Flavian dynasty. On January 1, A.D. 69, the Rhine legions refused to renew their vows to Galba and instead chose to proclaim Vitellius, the governor of Germania Inferior, as their emperor. At Rome, these developments threw Galba into a panic. In an attempt to strengthen his position, he named L. Calpurnius Piso Licinianus, a young senator with a spotless reputation, to be his successor. This act came as a complete shock to the governor of Hispania Tarraconensis, M. Salvius Otho, who had expected to be adopted as Galba's successor. The disillusioned Otho then turned on Galba, plotting with the Praetorian Guard to encompass his brutal murder of the emperor and the hapless Licinianus on January 15, A.D. 69. The Senate recognised Otho as the new emperor on the same day. He had managed to succeed to the throne even without the blessing of Galba. Meanwhile, Vitellius was marshalling his forces in Germania to march on Rome, where he thought he would face Galba. By the spring his army was on the move and growing in size as it attracted the support of the legions in Gaul and Raetia. On April 14, A.D. 69, Otho's forces marched north to meet the Vitellian army between Bedriacum and Cremona. Although the Othonians were successful in several minor early engagements, Vitellius defeated them when they attempted to press their advantage before all of Otho's legions had arrived. This defeat in the First Battle of Bedriacum caused Otho to give up hope (probably prematurely) and commit suicide, thereby leaving Rome to Vitellius. Vitellius was duly recognised by the Senate, and he appears to have taken his administrative duties seriously. The present aureus advertises his reign as the restoration of liberty to Rome. However, there were at least some who found Vitellius rather more of a libertarian than a restorer of liberty. His detractors claim that he enjoyed banquets four times a day, which put a great financial strain on the Roman elite, since they were required to feed the emperor at their houses. He also had a proclivity for executing his political enemies and a great fear of prophecy and astrology. Vitellius reportedly starved his own mother to death in order to fulfil a prophecy that he would rule longer if his mother died before him. He also expelled the astrologers from Rome out of fear that they might predict an unhappy and early end to his reign. As it turned out, he had good reason to fear. Doom was coming for him. On July 1, A.D. 69, the eastern legions proclaimed Vespasian as rival emperor and were soon joined by the armies of Raetia, Moesia, Illyricum, and Pannonia. The Danubian legions supporting Vespasian began a march on Rome that culminated in a Second Battle of Bedriacum on October 24, A.D. 69. Despite the strength of the opposing Vitellian forces, they lost heart and were defeated after the death of their commander and the mistaken belief that reinforcements from Vespasian were drawing near. When Vitellius learned of this disaster, he offered to abdicate in an attempt to save his life, but it was too late. On December 22, A.D. 69, he was captured and executed. Rome was Vespasian's.

Vespasian, 69 – 79



164

- 164 Aureus, Antiochia  $\bar{z}$   $\bar{z}$  AV 7.42 g. IMP VESPAS AVG P M – TRI P P COS IIII Laureate and draped bust l. Rev. VIRTUS – AVGVSTI Virtus standing r.; l. foot on shield, holding spear and parazonium. C –. BMC –. RIC 1552. RPC 1926 (this obverse die). CBN –. Calicó –, for obverse, cf. 702a (this obverse die).  
Of the highest rarity, apparently only the third and the finest specimen known. A very interesting issue with an unusual portrait struck in high relief. Good very fine 30'000

Ex Triton sale XIV, 2011, 675. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

Domitian augustus, 81 – 96



165

- 165 Aureus 85, AV 7.71 g. IMP CAES DOMIT AVG GERM P M TR P IIII Laureate head r. with aegis. Rev. IMP VIII COS XI CENSORIA POTESTAT P P Germania seated r. on shield, mourning; below, broken spear. C 182. BMC 81. RIC 325. CBN –. Calicó 865.  
A superb portrait and a finely engraved reverse composition. An absolutely insignificant mark on obverse and an almost invisible edge nick at five o'clock on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine 30'000

Ex NAC-Spink Taisei 52, 1994, 2093; NAC 24, 2002, European Nobleman, 63; NAC 40, 2007, 688 and Roma Numismatics 8, 2014, 976 sales. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

Domitian harboured an inferiority complex toward his brother and father. In the matter of military glory, the jealousy was acute: his brother had led the siege of Jerusalem, and his father had led most of the war in Judaea, and had won much glory in his earlier years, including a triumphia ornamentalia for his command in Claudius' invasion of Britain. Domitian had always been eager for a military command, and Suetonius (Domitian 1) tells us that when his father established his government in Rome, Domitian wanted glory so badly that he "...planned a quite unnecessary expedition into Gaul and Germany, from which his father's friends managed to dissuade him". In actuality, his skills in the art of war were enviable: he is said to have been able to shoot an arrow between the spread fingers of a hand without fail. His first campaign – which this well-composed issue celebrates – was against the Chatti in 83. Domitian led a perfectly successful campaign in which the Chatti were roundly defeated and the Roman border was extended beyond the Rhine. In honour of this victory Domitian was hailed Germanicus, won a triumph, and even had an arch erected. The series of coins he struck for several years are especially beautiful and imaginative compared with the rather pedestrian issues of his later years.

Nerva, 96 – 98



- 166 Aureus 97, AV 7.08 g. IMP NERVA CAES AVG P M TR P COS III P P Laureate head r. Rev. CONCORDIA – EXERCITVVM Clasped hands holding legionary eagle set upon prow l. C 28. BMC 27. RIC 15. CBN 16. Calicó 958.

Very rare and in unusually good condition for the issue. A lovely portrait of fine style perfectly struck and centred on a full flan. Extremely fine 20'000

Ex Helios sale 5, 2010, 242. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

The reign of Nerva was quite different than that of his predecessor: not only was Domitian militant in character, but he spoiled his army by increasing their salaries from 225 denarii per year (which had been the standard since the time of Julius Caesar) to 300 per year, and paid them in coins of increased weight and purity. This was a difficult act for an elderly senator to follow, especially since for at least six decades now the army had been instrumental in making and maintaining emperors. Money was key to Nerva's success: he maintained Domitian's standards of heavy, pure aurei and he devoted reverse types to the army. This is an example of Nerva's appeal to the army for concord. Although a general symbol of concordia, the clasped hands may also represent Nerva's hope that the army and the senate could work together. On this piece clasped hands support a legionary eagle set upon a prow, representing the army and the navy. However, even with Nerva's fiscal and numismatic overtures, his relationship with the army was strained at best. In the very year these aurei were struck there were two failed plots against the new emperor: one by troops stationed on the Danube, and another by praetorian guardsmen in Rome, who principally were seeking revenge on those who had murdered Domitian. Aware of his peril, Nerva wisely adopted as his successor the commander Trajan, then governor of Upper Germany, in September or October of the year these aurei were struck. Within four months Nerva had died of what we presume were natural causes, and he was lawfully succeeded by Trajan.

Trajan, 98 – 117



- 167 Aureus 98, AV 7.55 g. IMP CAES NERVA TRAIAN AVG GERM Laureate head r. Rev. PONT MAX TR – POT COS II Germania seated l. on shields, holding palm branch in r. hand and resting l. arm on hexagonal shield. C 290. BMC 8. RIC 15. Woytek 23a. CBN 8. Calicó 1070.

Very rare. A lovely portrait of fine style and a wonderful reddish tone. Extremely fine 15'000

Ex Rauch sale 92, 2013, 1283. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

This attractive gold aureus was struck in A.D. 98, not long after Trajan assumed power as Roman Emperor. The imperial titulature surrounding the obverse portrait names him as Germanicus ("Conqueror of the Germans") while the reverse refers to this title through the personification of Germania. The emphasis on Germania at this early period appears not to refer to specific victories against the Germanic peoples, but rather to Germania Superior as the centre of Trajan's military support. Trajan had served as governor of Germania Superior under Domitian (A.D. 81-96) and still retained this office under Nerva (A.D. 96-98). An attempted coup by the Praetorian Guard caused the elderly and senatorial Nerva to name Trajan as his successor. Trajan was an obvious choice since his great popularity with the legions would mollify the

elements of the army that were disinclined to support Nerva. Nevertheless, when Nerva died on 27 January, A.D. 98, and Trajan was proclaimed the new emperor, he did not immediately set out for Rome. Instead, he remained in the north to undertake a tour of inspection of the legions along the Rhine and Danube frontiers. It was critically important to consolidate his military position before advancing to the capital. Without guaranteeing the loyalty of the legions there remained a risk of possible rivals for the purple and the return of civil war. After all, the disastrous Year of the Four Emperors (A.D. 69), in which four Roman military commanders vied with each other for the supreme power, was still a vivid part of Roman living memory although Trajan had only been 16 years old at the time. To further ensure the security of his position, while still in Germania, Trajan also summoned the Praetorian Prefect, Casperius Aelianus. The ambitious Prefect had posed a threat to stability under Nerva, and therefore Trajan ordered his execution to prevent him from becoming a source of further problems. Only when all of these matters were settled did Trajan advance to Rome to be welcomed as the new emperor. The types of the present aureus, which may have been struck for distribution at his adventus or as a donative for his loyal soldiery, seem to serve a double duty. In the Germania type, Trajan's legions may have seen recognition of their role in the emperor's rise to power, while for others the type was a subtle reminder of the military might that stood behind his principate—potential rivals beware! At the same time, the prominent use of Germanicus in the legend combined with the Germania type may have been intended to evoke the memory of Germanicus Caesar (15 BC- A.D. 9), the beloved Roman commander against the Germanic tribes who was extolled as the Roman equivalent of Alexander the Great for the importance of his victories, the virtue of his character, and early death. Germanicus Caesar had also been the man that all of Rome hoped would succeed Tiberius before his untimely death. Like Germanicus Caesar, Trajan, who was destined to become known as the *optimus princeps* ("Best Emperor"), also cast himself as the glorious military heir loved by the people. Furthermore, the use of Germanicus in his titulature served to connect Trajan to Nero, the grandson of Germanicus. While Nero's debauched reign had led to the Year of the Four Emperors, his memory seems to have been quickly rehabilitated as a tool of legitimacy. Already in A.D. 69, after the fall of Galba and Otho, the usurping Vitellius added the name Germanicus to his titulature to present an (artificial) air of continuity with the Julio-Claudian dynasty. Trajan is said to have openly expressed admiration for Nero's reign, although what precisely he admired has been a source of debate among historians to this day. A connection to Nero may have been particularly important for Trajan, whose reign came close after that of Domitian (A.D. 81-96), the hated last scion of the Flavian dynasty. By assuming the name of Germanicus, Trajan was associated with the last legitimate emperor before the Flavian period.



168

- 168 Aureus 107-108, AV 7.32 g. IMP TRAIANO AVG GER DAC P M TR P Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. COS V P P S P Q R OPTIMO PRINC Hercules standing l., pouring libation from a cup over lighted and garlanded altar, holding club and lion's skin in l. hand. C 67 var. (not cuirassed) BMC 263 var. (wearing aegis). RIC 112 var. (not cuirassed). Woytek 263f. CBN 250 var. (wearing aegis). Calicó 999.

Rare. A lovely portrait and an interesting reverse composition, almost invisible edge marks, otherwise good extremely fine

18'000

Ex Hess-Leu 19, 1962; LHS 97, 2006, 18 and NGSA 7, 2012, 361 sales. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.



169

- 169 Aureus circa 112-117, AV 7.34 g. IMP TRAIANO AVG GER DAC P M TR P COS VI P P Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. CONSERVATORI PATRIS PATRIAE Jupiter standing l., holding thunderbolt in r. hand and sceptre in l., protecting Trajan who stands l. below him, holding branch in r. hand. C 46 var. (draped). BMC 494 var. (draped and cuirassed). RIC 249 var. (draped). Woytek 428f2. CBN 737. Calicó 991a.

About extremely fine / extremely fine

6'000

Ex NAC 31, 2005, 38 and Tkalec 22 April 2007, 215 sales.

**Plotina, wife of Trajan**



170



170

170 Aureus circa 112, AV 7.29 g. PLOTINA AVG – IMP TRAIANI Diademed and draped bust r., hair in plait. Rev. CAES AVG GERMA DAC COS VI P P Vesta seated l., holding palladium in extended r. hand and sceptre in l. C 2. BMC Trajan 525. RIC Trajan 730. Woytek 703 (this coin cited). CBN 676. Calicó 1146a (this coin).

Very rare and in exceptional condition for this very difficult issue. A superb portrait of fine style struck in high relief. Minor edge marks and a nick in reverse field, otherwise extremely fine

40'000

Ex Lanz 94, 1999, Leo Benz, 467; NAC 24, 2002, European Nobleman, 76 and Aureo & Calicó 241, 2012, Imagines Imperatorum, 86 sales. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

It is impossible to assess the influence that Plotina had on her husband, Trajan, for she is scarcely mentioned in the ancient sources. If we are to believe Dio Cassius (68.5.5) and the far later Historia Augusta, she was a modest woman who, if anything, was a restraining force who insisted on high moral standards. Both relate a story that when Plotina entered the imperial palace for the first time as the wife of an emperor, she turned to those gathered at the steps and declared "I enter here such a woman as I would wish to be when I leave." Despite her apparent moral rigour, she is chiefly remembered for her undying support for her husband's eventual successor, Hadrian. The Historia Augusta describes how Trajan was not particularly fond of Hadrian, but that Plotina insisted on his marriage to Sabina, the daughter of Trajan's niece Matidia. The worst accusations, however, concern Plotina's role in assuring that Hadrian succeeded Trajan, who most sources suggest had made no provisions for Hadrian at the time of his death. Eutropius reports: "After Trajan's death Aelius Hadrian was appointed emperor, not, indeed, through any desire on the part of Trajan, but through the agency of Plotina, Trajan's wife, for Trajan, while he was still alive, had refused to adopt him although he was the son of his cousin." (Breviarium 8.6) The sources present a wide array of scenarios. We are told that Plotina delayed the announcement of her husband's death so she could forge a letter of adoption that named Hadrian his successor, or that she lied about the content of the will. The Historia Augusta goes so far as to suggest that after Trajan was dead, Plotina had someone imitate his tired voice to proclaim Hadrian his successor. Even the most flattering versions suggest Plotina went to great effort to convince Trajan, on his deathbed, to adopt Hadrian. The Historia Augusta and Cassius Dio suggest two other men, Trajan's brother-in-law L. Julius Servianus and his confidant L. Neratius Priscus, were his preferred heirs. It was also rumoured that he intended to name no candidate at all, but to leave it to the senate to appoint his successor. If Plotina engineered the accession of Hadrian, she was one of the great architects of the Roman world, and changed the course of history in ways that might be hard to fathom. Hadrian's principate was surely unique, and his decision to reverse the expansionist policies of Trajan had a profound effect on the course of events.

**Hadrian augustus, 117 – 138**



171



171 Aureus 119-122, AV 7.25 g. IMP CAESAR TRAIAN H – ADRIANVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. P M TR P COS III Tiber reclining l., holding rudder and leaning with l. elbow on his inverted urn. C 1113. BMC 132. RIC 79. Calicó 1337 (this coin). Biaggi 642 (this coin).

Very rare. Struck in high relief with a pleasant reddish tone and extremely fine

18'000

Ex Glendining 20 February 1951, Ryan part IV, 1771 and NAC 49, 2009, B.d.B, 210 sales. From the Biaggi and Retired Banker Collections.

Hadrian was born to a Hispano-Roman family of senatorial rank, probably from the city of Italica. He was a second cousin of Trajan by blood and raised in Trajan's household from the age of 10, after Hadrian's parents died. Hadrian was further

connected to the great military emperor by a marriage to Trajan's grand-niece, Vibia Sabina, sometime after A.D. 100. This relationship made it possible for Hadrian to succeed Trajan when he died on 8 August, A.D. 117. The ancient sources disagree on whether the childless Trajan actually adopted Hadrian as his heir on his deathbed or whether Hadrian and Trajan's wife manipulated the situation in order to claim the succession. The new emperor got off to a rocky start by condemning several senators in absentia and ordering their deaths, apparently because they were potential rivals for the throne. This act, which trampled on the customary rights of the senatorial class, was never forgiven and the Senate remained quietly hostile towards Hadrian throughout his reign. The Roman elite was further challenged by Hadrian's policies, which ended the military expansionism that characterized the reign of Trajan and earlier emperors. Instead, Hadrian focused on the administrative, economic, and cultural development of the extant provinces. To this end, Hadrian departed from the traditional model of the Roman principate, in which the emperor spent most of his time at Rome when he was not off on campaign, and spent more than half of his reign outside Italy touring the provinces. The emperor's taste for travel and Greek cultural pursuits also drew unwelcome comparisons with Nero, who had also drawn the ire of the Senate. Between A.D. 122 and 132, Hadrian was frequently on the move from province to province, encouraging self-government among the cities, particularly in the Greek East, where he posed as the defender of Greek freedom and culture. Near the beginning of his travels, while visiting Bithynia, Hadrian is thought to have met the beautiful youth, Antinous, and immediately fell in love with him. By A.D. 128, Antinous had become the emperor's favourite and joined him on his provincial tours. However, in A.D. 130, Antinous died under mysterious circumstances while sailing on the Nile with Hadrian. According to some accounts he was murdered while others claimed that he was sacrificed to the god of the Nile. Whatever the case, Hadrian was deeply grieved by the loss of his favourite, and immediately ordered the deification of Antinous and founded the city of Antinopolis in Egypt to commemorate him. Temples and statues of the youth subsequently sprang up in cities throughout the Empire in order to please the emperor. Although the majority of Hadrian's reign was peaceful, his desire to refound Jerusalem (destroyed by Titus in A.D. 70) as the pagan Roman colony of Aelia Capitolina in A.D. 132 sparked a violent revolt in Judaea under the leadership of a messianic figure named Simon Bar Kokhba. This rebellion, which was not repressed until A.D. 135, was very bloody and resulted in the loss of an entire legion on the Roman side, the death and enslavement of thousands of Jewish rebels, and the destruction of many of their settlements. The war also disillusioned the emperor in his quest to create a harmonious cosmopolitan empire. After his return from the Bar Kokhba War, Hadrian turned his attention to the question of succession. This was a serious problem since his unhappy marriage to Sabina had been childless and he was frequently in ill health. Although he had long suggested that his great-nephew, Cn. Pedanius Fuscus Salinator, would succeed him, during a severe illness in A.D. 136 Hadrian decided to adopt L. Caecilius Commodus, one of the consuls of that year, as his heir. This decision was highly unpopular and inspired a coup that resulted in the execution of Salinator and his grandfather. As the emperor's designated successor and second in command, Commodus took the name of Lucius Aelius Caesar, but did not live long enough to succeed his adoptive father. Aelius died of a haemorrhage on 1 January, A.D. 138, forcing Hadrian to look for yet another possible heir. He found a capable successor in the proconsul of Asia, Titus Aurelius Fulvus Boionius Arrius Antoninus. Hadrian died not long after, on 10 July, A.D. 138, leaving Antoninus to assume control of the Empire. Antoninus immediately ordered the deification of Hadrian, but the Senate, which had long felt abused by the latter, initially balked at this request. The Senate relented when Antoninus threatened to refuse the imperial title, a move that would almost certainly engender civil war. Hadrian thus entered the ranks of the gods and the cowed Senate voted the new emperor the title of Pius in recognition of his display of filial piety towards his adoptive father. This attractive gold aureus is related to Hadrian's later famous "travel series"—coins depicting personifications of provinces, cities, and rivers visited by the emperor during his travels throughout the Empire. Here a male river god holding an oar as a somewhat generic attribute reclines on the reverse below Hadrian's imperial titulature. Unfortunately, unlike Hadrian's issues featuring the Nile, this river god lacks any label, causing some disagreement over which river is represented. The type is most commonly described as the Tiber and dated to the period A.D. 119-122 on the basis of titulature and portrait type. As Hadrian spent much of this period in Rome it is not unreasonable that the type should represent the river that supported the city as the centre of empire. It has also been suggested that the type could represent Tina, the god of the River Tyne in northern England. After a period of revolt and Caledonian invasion in the province of Britannia, in A.D. 122 Hadrian ordered the erection of a wall between the Tyne and Solway Firth to mark the border between Britannia and the Caledonians. If the Tina identification is correct, then this issue is not likely to have been struck before A.D. 122.



172 Aureus circa 134-138, AV 7.28 g. HADRIANVS – AVG COS III P P Bare head r. Rev. G – EN – I – O P R Genius standing l., holding cornucopiae in l. hand and sacrificing out of patera over altar. C 800. BMC 656. RIC 249. Calicó 1269 (this reverse die).

A bold portrait of superb style struck in high relief and a lovely light reddish tone  
extremely fine / good extremely fine 25'000

Ex Leo Hamburger October 1925, Niklovitz, 858; CNG Numismatic Review 25, 2000, 85; NAC 31, 2005, 43 and NAC 64, 2012, 1174 sales. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.



173

- 173 Aureus after 138, AV 7.29 g. HADRIVS – AVG COS III P P Bare bust r., with drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. DIVIS PAREN – TI – BVS Confronted busts of Trajan, l., draped, and Plotina, r., diademed and draped; a star above each head. C 2. BMC 603. RIC 232B. Calicó 1417 (these dies).

Extremely rare and in unusually fine condition for this very difficult and interesting issue. Three magnificent portraits of fine style struck on a very broad flan. About extremely fine

25'000

Ex Rollin & Feuardent 25 April 1896, Montagu, 323; Hirsch 24, 1909, Weber, 1453; Ars Classica 18, 1938, De Sartiges, 220; Hess-Leu 26 March 1961, 158; Stack's 174, 2013, Ebert, 5034 sales. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

This coin portrays Hadrian in a youthful and idealised fashion, and has a reverse type that honours the emperor's adoptive parents Trajan and Plotina. Hill has shown convincingly that it belongs to a series which must have been struck early in the reign of Hadrian's successor, Antoninus Pius. The context for this unorthodox series was the new emperor's stubborn efforts to persuade the senate to vote for divine honours for Hadrian, by which Antoninus earned his epithet "Pius". This bust type is distinctive and belongs to a separate category of Hadrianic portraiture: the emperor is fictitiously youthful and wears only a partial beard that culminates in two tufts at his jaw line. Understandably, Mattingly and Sydenham describe this portrait style as being of "exceptional beauty and distinction." Comparison with sculptures marks this style of portrait as Hadrian in the guise of Diomedes, the Trojan War hero who stole the Palladium from Troy, assuring a Greek victory in the epic siege. The Palladium reportedly was taken to Italy, either by the Trojan prince Aeneas or by Diomedes, who by one tradition returned it to Aeneas in Italy. By Hadrian's time the episode had numerous versions and was a core element of the Roman foundation mythology, making it a perfect marriage of this emperor's infatuation with Greece and his dedication to Rome. The reverse, inscribed DIVIS PARENTIBVS ('to his parent deities'), show the jugate busts of Trajan and Plotina adorned with stars. A related aureus (Calico 1418) that must belong to this series portrays the divine parents, each accompanied by a star, on opposite sides of the coin. Two other reverse types paired with Hadrian as Diomedes recall the divine origins of Rome: ROMVLO CONDITORI ('Romulus the founder'), Romulus striding r.; and VENERI GENETRICI ('Venus who brings forth'), Venus standing. The remaining three reverse types in the series honour Jupiter, a god with imperial associations, and present Hadrian in a military context, presumably to showcase his military successes and to curry support with the army.

#### Antoninus Pius augustus, 138 – 161



174

- 174 Aureus 143-144, AV 7.11 g. ANTONINVS AVG – PIVS P P TR P COS III Laureate head l. Rev. IMPERA – TOR II Victory flying r., carrying trophy in both hands. C 432. BMC 493. RIC 109c. Calicó 1550 (these dies). Rare. Extremely fine

5'000

Ex Jacquier sale 38, 2013, 343.



175

- 175 Aureus 145-161, AV 7.08 g. ANTONINVS AVG – PIVS P P TR P COS III Laureate bust r. with drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. A. Pius seated l. on platform extending r. hand and holding scroll in l.; before him Liberalitas standing l., holding account-board and cornucopiae; in front, citizen with outstretched hands. In exergue, LIB III. C 496 var. (without drapery). BMC 546. RIC 141 var. (without drapery). Calicó 1572.

Rare and possibly the finest specimen known. A magnificent portrait and an incredibly detailed reverse composition. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 20'000

Ex Gemini sale XI, 2014, 442. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.



176

- 176 Aureus 152, AV 7.23 g. IMP CAES T AEL HADR ANTONINVS AVG PIVS P P Laureate head r. Rev. TR POT XV COS III Antoninus on horseback l., raising r. hand and holding *parazonium*. C 965 var. (COS III). BMC 744. RIC 214. Calicó 1665 (this obverse die).

Very rare and in an exceptional state of preservation. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 15'000

Ex Triton IV, 2000, 557 and NAC 41, 2007, 89 sales. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.





177

- 177 Aureus 158-159, AV 7.29 g. ANTONINVS – AVG PIVS P P Laureate and cuirassed bust r. Rev. TEMPL DIVI – AVG REST Octastyle temple, adorned with four statues and a quadriga, within which seated statues of divine Augustus and Livia on centre. In exergue, COS IIII. C –. BMC 549 note. RIC –. Calicó 1629.  
Very rare. Extremely fine 6'000

Ex Chaponnière & Hess-Divo sale 3, 2012, 257. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

The great fire that devastated much of Rome during Titus' reign in 80 started on the Capitoline Hill and quickly spread into the Forum before engulfing the northern salient of the Palatine Hill. Amongst the many ruins of the inferno was the second Temple of Divus Augustus, which although its precise location is not known was probably located in the depression between the two hills. Initially commenced during the reign of Tiberius and finally consecrated during Caligula's reign, the temple was originally of the Ionic order and hexastyle, and was featured on sestertii of Caligula showing the emperor sacrificing at an altar in front of its garlanded façade. However, it was later rebuilt or restored, and on this superb aureus of Antoninus Pius it appears as Corinthian octastyle. When this major reconstructive change took place is not certain – it should perhaps be attributed to Domitian who had instituted a wide-scale policy of reconstruction in an effort to create an Augustan renaissance, although it is not recorded amongst his works in the Chronographia – but under Antoninus Pius it was again restored and features predominantly on his coinage of A.D. 158 and 159. The legend reads TEMPLVM DIV AVG REST COS IIII or AED DIVI AVG REST COS IIII, or a variant thereof, and the interior of the temple shows the statues of Divus Augustus and Livia seated in an elevated position to render a sense of perspective. Along the roofline and in the pediment are four statuary groupings, mostly imprecisely engraved and therefore not clear, although the central group appears to represent the emperor in a quadriga.



178

- 178 Aureus 159-160, AV 7.20 g. ANTONINVS AVG PIVS P P TR P XX IIII Bare-headed draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. PIETATI AVG COS IIII Pietas standing l., holding two children; at her sides two more children. C 632. BMC 1012. RIC 313b. Calicó 1606 (this coin). Biaggi 750 (this coin).  
A bold portrait and a wonderful reddish tone. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 7'000

Ex Ars Classica XVI, 1933, 1731; UBS 75, 2008, 1043 and Künker 143, 2008, 578 sales. From the Biaggi and the Collection of a Retired Banker collections.

**Faustina I, wife of Antoninus Pius**



179

- 179 Aureus 138-139, AV 6.99 g. FAVSTINA AVGVSTAE – TONINI AVGVSTAE Draped bust l., hair elaborately waived in several loops round head and coiled on top. Rev. CONCOR – DIA AVGVSTAE Concordia seated l., holding patera and resting l. arm on figure of Spes; below chair, cornucopiae. C 148. BMC A. Pius 39. RIC A. Pius 328b. Calicó 1776 (this coin). Biaggi 816 (this coin).

Very rare. An unusual and interesting portrait, work of a skilled master engraver. An almost invisible mark on cheek, otherwise about extremely fine / extremely fine 6'000

Ex Schulman 8-10 June 1966, Graham, 1859; Sotheby's 21 June 1990, Hunt, 734 and Meister & Sonntag 11, 2011, 103 sales. From the Biaggi and the Collection of a Retired Banker collections.

**Marcus Aurelius Augustus, 161 – 180**



180

- 180 Aureus 167-168, AV 7.19 g. M ANTONINVS AVGVSTVS – ARM PARTH MAX Laureate head r. Rev. TR P XXII IMP V COS III Aequitas seated l. holding scales and cornucopiae. C 898. BMC 465. RIC 189. Calicó 2005 (these dies).

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 12'000

Ex Bourgey sale 14 May 1914, 223. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.



181

- 181 Aureus circa 173–174, AV 7.32 g. M ANTONINVS – AVGVSTVS TR P XXVII Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. IMP VI C – OS III Marcus Aurelius on horse r., raising r. hand. C 302. BMC 575 note. RIC 281. Calicó 1867 (this obverse die).

Rare. Extremely fine 12'000

Ex Roma Numismatics sale 6, 2013, 945. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

**Faustina II, daughter of Antoninus Pius and wife of Marcus Aurelius**



182

- 182 Aureus 147-152, AV 7.29 g. FAVSTINAE – AVG PII AVG FIL Draped bust r., with band of pearls around head. Rev. VE – NVS Venus standing l., holding apple in r. hand and rudder in l. with dolphin twined around. C 260 var. (no dolphin). BMC A. Pius 1063. RIC A. Pius 517a. Jameson 134 (this coin). Calicó 2097b (this coin). Biaggi 943 (this coin).

A superb portrait of fine style. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 15'000

Ex NAC sale 49, 2008, B.d.B, 281. Privately purchased from J. Hirsch in 1951 for \$ 325. From the Jameson, Biaggi and the Retired Banker collections.

**Lucius Verus, 161 – 169**



183

- 183 Aureus 163-164, AV 7.30 g. L VERVS AVG – ARMENIACVS Bare head r. Rev. TR P III – I – IMP II COS II L. Verus seated l. on platform; behind and before him respectively, officer and soldier. Below platform, king Soahemus standing l. and raising r. hand to his head. In exergue, REX ARMEN / DAT. C 158. BMC M. Aurelius 300. RIC M. Aurelius 512. Calicó 2154 (these dies).

A very interesting reverse type. A perfect Fdc 25'000

Ex Sotheby's 28 November 1986, Deceased Nobleman, 87; Leu 52, 1991, Distinguished American, 210 and Hess-Divo 307, 2007, 1632 sales.

**Lucilla, wife of Lucius Verus**



184

- 184 Aureus 164-169 or 183, AV 7.36 g. LVCILLA – AVGVSTA Draped bust r., hair caught up in double chignon. Rev. PVDI – CITIA Pudicitia, veiled, standing l., drawing back veil with r. hand and resting l. at side. C 59. BMC M. Aurelius 347 (these dies). RIC M. Aurelius 779. Calicó 2216 (this obverse die).

Rare. A portrait of superb elegance and the work of a very skilled master engraver. Perfectly struck and centred on a large flan and good extremely fine 15'000

Ex NFA 14, 1984, 449; NAC-Spink Taisei 16 November 1994, Steinberg, 500 and Hess-Divo 307, 2007, 1634 sales.

Lucilla was the second of six daughters born to the emperor Marcus Aurelius and his wife Faustina II. She was a twin of Titus Aurelianus Antoninus, but he died within a year of their birth. When the emperor Antoninus Pius died in 161 and was succeeded by Lucilla's father and his co-heir Lucius Verus, Lucilla was betrothed to Verus in a gesture meant to tie the two emperors lineage as well as their collective Imperial duties. However, since she was just twelve years old, the marriage was delayed until 164, when Lucilla was fifteen or sixteen. At that time her prospective husband was in Asia Minor leading a campaign against the Parthians, so she sailed east and he took leave of campaign to marry her at Ephesus. The imperial couple had at least one child, but the fate of it or any others they may have had is unknown. After Verus' unexpected death in 169, Lucilla's personal life worsened. The young woman was next married to an elderly senator and she engaged in frequent infidelities. A decade later Lucilla was involved in the plot to assassinate her only surviving brother Commodus, who had become unstable and despotic as emperor. However, her role was discovered in the plot before it came to fruition, and in 182 or 183 she was banished to Capri where she was subsequently executed.

**Commodus augustus, 177 – 192**



185

- 185 Aureus 181, AV 7.22 g. M COMMODVS – ANTONINVS AVG Laureate, and draped bust r. Rev. SECVRITAS PVBLICA TR P VII IMP IIII Securitas seated r., resting head on r. hand and holding transverse sceptre in l.; in exergue, COS III P P. C 700. BMC M. Aurelius 54. RIC 23. Calicó 2325a (this obverse die).

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 20'000

Ex Heritage sale 3026, 2013, 23402. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.



186



- 186 Aureus 187-188, AV 7.20 g. M COMM ANT P – FEL AVG BRIT Laureate and draped bust r. Rev. P M TR P XIII IMP VIII COS V P P Salus seated l., feeding snake coiled around altar; in exergue, SAL AVG. C –. BMC p. 735 note \*. RIC –. Calicó 2322 (this coin). Biaggi 1029 (this coin).

Of the highest rarity, apparently only the second specimen known. A perfect Fdc 25'000

Ex NAC 23, 2002, 1591 and NAC 51, 2009, 334 sales. From the Biaggi and the Collection of a Retired Banker collections.



187



- 187 Quinarius 190-191, AV 3.68 g. COMM ANT P – FEL AVG BRIT P P Laureate and draped bust r. Rev. P M TR P XVI – C – OS VI Victory advancing l., holding wreath and palm branch. C –. BMC –, cf. 745 note †. RIC –, cf. 217 (silver). Kings –, cf. 24b. (this obverse) and 28 (this reverse die in silver).

An apparently unrecorded variety of an exceedingly rare type. Good very fine 20'000

Ex NAC sale 59, 2011, 1032. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

### Septimius Severus, 193 – 211



188



- 188 Aureus 193, AV 7.42 g. IMP CAE L SEP SE – V PERT AVG Laureate head r. Rev. VICT AVG – TR P COS Victory advancing l., holding wreath and palm branch. C 681 var. (SEPT, a slip?). BMC 27. RIC 22. Calicó 2546 (these dies).

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 9'000

Ex Lanz sale 86, 1998, 519.



- 189 Aureus 202-210, AV 7.32 g. SEVERVS – PIVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. CON – COR – DIA Concordia standing l., holding sceptre; between six ensigns; in exergue, MILIT. C 75. BMC 313. RIC 256. Calicó 2438.

Extremely rare, a very interesting and historically important issue. Perfectly struck and centred on a full flan. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 25'000

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 437. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

Septimius Severus began his career as a somewhat obscure man of equestrian rank from the city of Lepcis Magna in North Africa. He prospered under Marcus Aurelius (A.D. 161-180) and Commodus (A.D. 177-192), first attaining the rank of senator and then a position as governor of Pannonia Superior. Severus was quickly propelled to heights far beyond that of a provincial governor after Commodus was assassinated in late A.D. 192. Pertinax, the Urban Prefect of Rome, initially assumed the title of Emperor, but he was murdered three months later, after failing to placate the Praetorian Guard with the traditional gifts of money. When the death of Pertinax became known, the Pannonian legions under Severus proclaimed him the new emperor. Unfortunately, shameful events that took place in Rome while Severus marched south to consolidate his position soon produced rival claimants to the imperial purple. Public outrage was sparked when the Praetorian Guard auctioned off the imperial title to the wealthy Didius Julianus. This in turn inspired Claudius Albinus and Pescennius Niger, commanders in Britannia and Syria, respectively, also to proclaim themselves emperors. Since a power-sharing arrangement was out of the question, it was inescapable that A.D. 193, the Year of the Five Emperors, would be one of great bloodshed and civil war. As it turned out, Severus did not need to defeat Julianus in battle, since he was murdered as the former approached Rome with his army. Thus Severus was able to take possession of the capital before turning his attention to Albinus and Niger who were advancing from opposite ends of the Empire. Considering Pescennius Niger to be the greater threat, Severus offered to recognize Albinus as Caesar (junior co-emperor) in return for peace. Albinus accepted these terms, thereby permitting Severus to defeat Niger at the Battle of Issus (A.D. 194) without fear of attack in the West. However, the peace settlement fell apart in A.D. 196, when Severus' growing dynastic ambitions led Albinus to proclaim himself emperor and invade Gaul. He was defeated near Lugdunum (modern Lyons) and committed suicide the following year. With Albinus safely out of the way, Septimius Severus was free to establish the Severan dynasty as the source of legitimate Roman Emperors until it was finally extinguished in A.D. 235. In A.D. 197, Severus raised his eldest son, Caracalla, to the position of Augustus (full co-emperor) and made his younger son, Geta, Caesar before embarking upon a great war against the Parthians. By A.D. 199, Severus had achieved great successes against the long-time eastern foe of the Roman Empire, capturing the western Parthian capital of Ctesiphon and establishing a relationship with the Arab caravan kingdom of Hatra. At the conclusion of the war, Septimius Severus and his family returned to Rome, stopping in Egypt along the way to visit the sacred sites there. Severus and Caracalla are both known to have had a special devotion to the Graeco-Egyptian god Serapis. Following the lavish celebration of his decennalia (the 10-year anniversary of his reign) in A.D. 202 and the Secular Games in A.D. 204, Severus spent time settling the affairs of North Africa before turning his attention to increasing problems with the Caledonians in Britannia. In A.D. 208 Severus and his two sons crossed the English Channel in order to punish the northern barbarians for their incursions into the Roman province. Together they forced the Caledonians to withdraw north of the Antonine Wall, a feat that had not been achieved since A.D. 162. While still on campaign and hoping to push the Caledonians even further north, in late A.D. 210 Severus fell ill at Eboracum (modern York). He died on 4 February, A.D. 211, leaving behind Caracalla and Geta to carry on his legacy and advance the dynasty. Alas, bitter jealousy between the brothers made it impossible for them to work together for the good of the Empire. Before the end of A.D. 211, Geta was murdered and Caracalla became the sole emperor. As future history would show, no emperor of the Severan dynasty ever rose to power without at least a little blood on his hands. The obverse of this gold aureus features a wonderful portrait of Septimius Severus with his distinctive pronged beard and curly hair. The reverse type depicts Concordia amid six Roman military standards. It is so well preserved that the specific standards are easily identified. Two are aquilae, the sacred eagle-topped standards of the legion. The dishonour incurred by the loss of a legionary eagle was so great that stories abound of soldiers sacrificing themselves to save the aquila in battle. Likewise, on the rare occasions when aquilae and other standards captured by the enemy could be restored through diplomacy or force of arms it was a propaganda coup for the emperors involved, as in the famous case of Augustus and the restoration of the standards lost to the Parthians by Crassus. The other standards flanking the two aquilae on the aureus reverse are signia, standards of the first centuries (units of 100 men) in units of two centuries known as maniples. The hand (manus in Latin) symbol at the top of these signia refers to the name of the manipular unit. Although this aureus is broadly dated to the period A.D. 202-210 it is tempting to associate it more closely with the military donatives and public largesse distributed on the occasion of Severus' decennalia or the Secular Games. Both of these occasions warranted a variety of happy sentiments on the coinage. And really, after the bloody civil war that brought Severus to power in the first place, what could be a happier sentiment than concord and harmony within the army?



190

190 Aureus 210-211, AV 7.08 g. SEVERVS – PIVS AVG BRIT Laureate head r. Rev. CONCORDIA AVGSTORVM Caracalla, laureate and togate, standing l. and Geta, bare-headed and togate, standing r.; both holding Victory standing on globe, holding wreath and palm branch. C –. BMC p. 366, \*. RIC 330a. Calicó 2436 (these dies).

In an exceptional state of preservation. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 20'000

**Julia Domna, wife of Septimius Severus**



191

191 Aureus 193-196 (?), AV 7.39 g. IVLIA DO – MNA AVG Draped bust r. Rev. VENERI – VICTR Venus, naked to waist, standing r. holding apple and palm branch, resting l. elbow on column. C193. BMC Severus 47. RIC Severus 536. Calicó 2641. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 12'000

Ex Rauch sale 94, 2014, 1070. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

**Caracalla augustus, 198 – 217**



192

- 192 Aureus, Laodicea ad Mare 198, AV 7.13 g. IMP CAE M · – AVR ANT AVG Laureate bust r., wearing cuirass decorated with aegis. Rev. SPES PV – BLICA Spes advancing l., holding flower and raising skirt. C 598 var. (different bust and legend). BMC 646 and pl. 43, 18 (these dies). RIC 333. Calicó 2821 (this coin).  
Very rare. A lovely portrait, work of a very skilled master-engraver, perfectly centred on a broad flan and a lovely reddish tone. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 30'000

Ex Egger 20 April 1904, 194; Sotheby's November 1986, Deceased nobleman, 106; NFA XX 1988, 271; NFA 29, 1992, 390; Sotheby's 1993, 106 and Heritage 3032, 2014, 23621 sales. From the Andre Constantine Dimitriadis and the Retired Banker collections.

It was a special honour for a subsidiary imperial mint to strike in gold, and this remarkable aureus of Caracalla was struck at the branch mint of Laodicea in Syria, where the imperial family had resided during war against Pescennius Niger in A.D. 193-194. At the time this coin was struck in A.D. 198, Severus along with his family was again in the East, having just waged a successful war against the Parthians in retaliation for their invasion of Roman territory while he was in Gaul eliminating his final adversary, Clodius Albinus. He sacked the city of Ctesiphon, and after enslaving the population and carrying off much booty – which it should be noted is the likely source of the gold that was used to strike this coin – he took the title Parthicus Maximus. He also elevated the positions of both his sons: Caracalla, his eldest son, was promoted from the rank of caesar to augustus, and Geta, his youngest son, was given the title of caesar. The obverse of this aureus, which belongs to one of the first issues struck for Caracalla as emperor, shows the youthful emperor wearing a cuirass or breastplate centrally embossed with the figure of a gorgoneion. The gorgoneion is often depicted as part of the aegis, a tasseled animal skin thought to be ageless and which extended an aura of immortality to the wearer. As part of the emperor's armour its obvious purpose would have been to serve as a protective amulet during battle. The reverse depicts the goddess Spes, the personification of hope, and here expresses the stability that the Severan dynasty represents for an empire having just suffered several years of civil war. In Antioch on January 1, A.D. 202, Severus and Caracalla jointly assumed the consulship, and soon thereafter returned to Rome, taking the overland route the entire journey. The family's reception once back in the capital was attended with much fanfare. Rome had not only conquered its implacable enemy, Parthia, but Severus celebrated his decennialia with many festivities, including of course generous donatives to the people and the praetorian guardsmen, each of whom received ten gold aurei according to Dio Cassius.



Elagabalus, 218 – 222



- 193 Aureus, Antiochia circa 218-219, AV 7.18 g. IMP C M AVR ANTONINVS P F AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. SANCT DEO SOLI Slow quadriga r., on which is the Stone of Emesa surmounted by eagle, surrounded by four parasols; in exergue, ELAGABAL. C 265. RIC 143. BMC 273. Calicó Very rare and an issue of great historical interest. About extremely fine 17'500

Ex NAC sale 67, 2012, Huntington part I, 197. Ex HSA 8054. From the Huntington and the Retired Banker collections.

Few emperors are known almost exclusively for their peculiarities and perversions, but on the short list of qualified applicants, Elagabalus rises to the top. The 19th Century antiquarian S.W. Stevenson, ever a delight for his artfully delivered comments, did not fail to deliver in his summary of Elagabalus whom he called: "...the most cruel and infamous wretch that ever disgraced humanity and polluted a throne..." Elagabalus and his family had lived in Rome during the reign of Caracalla, who was rumoured to have been Elagabalus' natural father. When Caracalla was murdered, his prefect and successor, Macrinus, recalled the family to their homeland of Syria. Upon arriving, Elagabalus assumed his role as hereditary priest of the Emesan sun-god Heliogabalus. For the Roman soldiers in the vicinity, who engaged in the common practice of sun worship, and who had fond memories of the slain Caracalla, Elagabalus was an ideal candidate for emperor. He was soon hailed emperor against Macrinus, who was defeated in a pitched battle just outside Antioch. Conservative Rome was introduced to their new emperor's eccentricities and religious fervour when they learned of his overland journey from Emesa to Rome, with a sacred meteorite in tow. The journey, which took a year or more, in this collection is depicted on two aurei, this piece from Antioch and another from Rome. Both show the sacred conical stone of Emesa – in all likelihood a meteorite – being transported in a chariot drawn by four horses. The stone is usually emblazoned with an eagle, which on the Rome piece is uncommonly bold.



- 194 Aureus 220, AV 6.31 g. IMP ANTONINVS PIVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. P M TR P III COS III P P Emperor, laureate, seated l. on curule chair, holding globe and sceptre; in l. field, star. C 166. BMC 181. RIC 33. Calicó 3007a.

Rare. A wonderful portrait struck in high relief, absolutely insignificant edge mark at eleven o'clock on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 18'000

Ex Tkalec 2000, 330; NAC 42, 2007, Barry Feirstein part II, 147 and NGSa 5, 2008, 274 sales. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

**Severus Alexander, 222 – 235**



195

195 Aureus circa 225, AV 6.26 g. IMP C M AVR SEV ALEXAND AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. P M TR P – COS P P The Emperor in slow quadriga l., holding sceptre and branch. C 225. BMC 11. RIC 16. Calicó 3087.

Very rare and possibly the finest specimen known. A very elegant and gentle portrait struck in high relief on a full flan. Extremely fine 20'000

Ex Rollin & Feuardent 20 April 1896, Montagu, 544; Hirsch 24, 1909, Weber, 2020; Hess 7 March 1935, Tillman, 87; Sotheby's 5 October 1988; NFA XXX, 1992, 284; Sotheby's 26 October 1993, 111 and Heritage 3032, 2014, 23625 sales. From the Andre Constantine Dimitriadis and the Retired Banker collections.



196

196 Aureus 230, AV 5.90 g. IMP SEV ALE – XAND AVG Laureate bust r., with drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. P M TR P VIII – CO – S – III P P Romulus walking r., carrying spear and trophy. C –. BMC 620. RIC 103. Calicó 3121 (these dies). Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 7'500

Ex Gemini sale IV, 2008, 450. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

**Gordian III, 238 – 244**



197

197 Aureus 239, AV 4.61 g. IMP CAES M ANT GORDIANVS AVG Laureate, draped, and cuirassed bust r. Rev. ROMAE AE – T – ERNAE Roma seated l., holding Victory and spear, shield at side. C –. RIC –, cf. 38 (antoninianus). Calicó 3230a (this reverse die).

Extremely rare. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 4'500

From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

**Philip II augustus, 247 – 249**



198

- 198 Aureus 247, AV 4.70 g. IMP PHILIPPVS AVG Laureate and draped bust r. Rev. LIBERALITAS AVGG III Philip I and II seated l. on curule chairs, extending r. hand and the elder in foreground holding sceptre. C –. RIC –, for reverse type cf. 230 (antoninianus). Calicó –.  
An apparently unique and unrecorded type. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 35'000

Ex Heritage sale 3016, 2012, 23176. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

Numbering amongst the unfortunate boy-emperors of the 3rd Century, Philip II was only about seven years old when his eponymous father hailed him Caesar early in 244. These formative years must have been traumatic for the young Caesar, as his father had come to the throne by way of a coup in Asia Minor, and upon returning to Europe he was perpetually at risk on the Danube front, where he fought hard to keep Rome's enemies at bay. Philip II held the title Caesar for slightly more than three years, during which time he had many attractive coins struck in his honour – principally silver double-denarii and brass sestertii. It is worth noting that the once-abundant aureus became increasingly rare during this period, and, as a consequence, their weight declined. The slide was considerable: the aureus of Severus Alexander (222–235) was generally struck at 50 per pound of gold, under Maximinus I (235–238) it decreased to about 55 per pound, under Balbinus and Pupienus (238) it slid further to 60 per pound, and under Gordian III (238–244) it decreased even further to about 65 per pound. Gordian's successors Philip I and II (244–249) reduced the aureus to a new low of 70 per pound. Although it fluctuated thereafter (often considerably: ranging from 50 to 90 per pound), this new standard was important, for it is very near the weight of the solidus, the coin introduced by Constantine the Great at 72 to the pound that remained constant into Byzantine times.

**Trajan Decius, 249 – 251**



199

- 199 Aureus 249-251, AV 4.06 g. IMP C M Q TRAIANVS DECIVS AVG Laureate and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICT – ORIA AVG Victory advancing l., holding wreath and palm branch. C 107. RIC 7a var. (also draped). Calicó 3300 (these dies).  
Rare. Well struck and centred on a full flan, a minor mark on reverse, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine 8'000

Ex Rauch 82, 2008, 491 and Künker 143, 2008, 655 sales. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

**Volusian, 251 – 253**



- 200 Aureus 251-253, AV 2.85 g. IMP CAE C VIB VOLVSIANO AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. ANNONA AVGG Annona standing facing, head r., holding rudder and corn ears. C –. RIC –. Calicó 3351 (this coin). Biaggi 1425 (this coin).  
Apparently unique and unrecorded. Minor marks and weakly struck on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 7'500

Ex NAC sale 49, 2008, B.d.B, 358. Privately purchased in 1959. From the Biaggi and the Retired Banker collections.

**Gallienus joint reign with Valerian I, 253 – 260 and sole reign, 260 – 268**



- 201 Aureus 253-268, AV 3.37 g. GALLIENVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. MARTI PRO[PVG]NA[T]ORI Mars running r., holding spear in r. hand and shield in l. C –. RIC –, cf. 58 (head wearing crown of reeds). Göbl –, cf. 1439h, i and ff (radiate bust l.) and 1439h and 1440h (head l., wearing crown of reeds). Calicó –, cf. 3553 (head wearing crown of reeds).  
Apparently unique and unrecorded. A magnificent and finely detailed portrait struck on a narrow flan. A perfect Fdc 30'000

Ex Roma sale 8, 2014, 1074. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

**Gallienus sole reign, 260 – 268**



- 202 Binio 260-261, AV 4.95 g. GALLIENVS AVG Radiate head r. Rev. VIRTVS AVGG Mars standing l., holding globe and sceptre; in r. field, P. C 1220. RIC 90. Göbl 407c. Calicó 3642.  
A spectacular portrait of magnificent style. Irregular flan and hairline flan crack at six o'clock on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine 12'500

Ex Rauch 99, 2015, 259 and NAC 100, 2017, 582 sales.



203

- 203 Aureus circa 265-266, AV 3.01 g. GALLIENV – S P F AVG Head l., wearing wreath of reeds. Rev. VI – CTORIA – AVG Gallienus standing l., holding globe in r. hand and sceptre in l., crowned by Victory standing behind him. C 1112. RIC 81. Göbl 692b. Calicó 3614.  
A wonderful portrait of fine style struck on an exceptionally fresh metal. Extremely fine 10'000

**Tetricus I, 271 – 274**



204

- 204 Aureus, Cologne 271, AV 4.44 g. IMP C G P ESV TETRICVS AVG Laureate and cuirassed bust l. Rev. VICTORIA GER M Tetricus, holding globe and sceptre, standing l., crowned by Victory, holding wreath and palm branch; in l. field, bound captive seated l. C 195 var. (different bust). RIC 38 var. (different bust). Schulte 2. L. Dussubieux and B. Gratuze, "Nature et origine des objets en verre retrouvés à Begram et à Bara," *De l'Indus à l'Oxus: Archéologie de l'Asie centrale* (2003), 285 (this coin). Calicó –.  
Extremely rare. A very elegant portrait work of a very talented master engraver.  
Lovely light reddish tone and extremely fine 75'000

Ex CNG sale 87, 2011, 1122. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

In A.D. 271, the unpopular Gallic Emperor, Victorinus, was killed by his own troops, perhaps at the instigation of his own mother, Victoria. Upon the death of her son, Victoria bribed the army to recognize the governor of Gallia Aquitania as the new ruler of the Gallic Empire. This man, C. Pius Esuvius Tetricus, was proclaimed emperor at Burdigala (modern Bordeaux) in the autumn of A.D. 271 and subsequently became known to history as Tetricus I. The relatively brief reign of Tetricus I was fraught with difficulties from the start. He was not recognised in all territories that had previously belonged to the breakaway Gallic Empire. Instead of looking to Gaul as the centre of power, the provinces of Hispania and Lusitania and even the German city of Argentoratum (modern Strasbourg) now recognised the Roman Emperor, Aurelian as their master. Even more troubling were the increasing raids of Germanic peoples into Gaul across the Rhine frontier. Tetricus I enjoyed several major victories over the barbarians early in his reign. The present aureus was struck at Cologne as part of a military donative celebrating one such victory. Soon, however, the Gallic emperor struggled to hold the Rhine and was pushed back from the frontier. His inability to stem the Germanic tide resulted in the transfer of the capital of the Gallic Empire from its traditional seat at Colonia Claudia Ara Agrippinensium (modern Cologne) to Treveri (modern Trier) and increasing discontent in the army. As if the Germanic situation was not dire enough, in A.D. 273, Aurelian mounted a campaign against Tetricus I, who had elevated his son, Tetricus II, to the post of Caesar. The forces of the rival emperors met at the Catalaunian Fields (modern Châlons-en-Champagne) in A.D. 274, but the ancient sources disagree as to what happened next. According to one, probably later and propagandistic account, Tetricus I immediately surrendered while quoting a line from Virgil's Aeneid (*eripe me his invicta malis* ["rescue me undefeated from these troubles"]). The difficulties of empire were too great for him. Other accounts that are usually preferred by modern scholars indicate that Tetricus I was defeated in battle before he surrendered to Aurelian. However, his army continued to fight to a bloody end out of despair. In A.D. 274, Tetricus I and Tetricus II, together with Zenobia, the conquered queen of the breakaway Palmyrene Empire, were forced to walk in the triumphal procession of Aurelian at Rome. In a remarkable twist, the triumphant Aurelian did not execute these usurpers at the conclusion of the procession, but instead pardoned them and gave them minor administrative positions within the Roman Empire. Aurelian's generosity towards his enemies on this occasion is a true bright spot in what was otherwise an age of unrelenting violence and bloodshed. Tetricus I was made a senator and appointed corrector (governor of a minor province) of Lucania et Bruttii in southern Italy. He died of natural causes shortly thereafter.

**Aurelian, 270 – 275**



205

- 205 Bino, Antiochia end 273, AV 5.82 g. IMP C AVRELIANVS AVG Radiate and cuirassed bust r. Rev. RESTITVTOR ORIENTIS Sol standing l., raising r. hand and holding whip in l.; at each side, bound captive seated. C –. RIC –. RIC Online temp. 3185. Göbl 372a = Estiot 165. CBN –. Calicó –.

Very rare. A magnificent portrait of excellent style, minor edge marks and flange slightly bent, otherwise extremely fine

8\*000

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 490. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

The empire that Aurelian inherited at the behest of his army was in shambles, and the task he faced was nothing less than Herculean in scope. This rare bino records the first of his two great successes, which he achieved through his military genius, indomitable spirit and inexhaustible constitution. Romans were still suffering from the disastrous years of Gallienus, who, despite his most valiant efforts, could not keep the empire intact. Just when he was starting to redress these manifold catastrophies in 268, Gallienus was murdered by conspirators in his own command. Among these men were his successor Claudius II, and Aurelian, who would soon have his turn at the helm. Claudius was remarkably energetic and the soldiers were upset when his great promise was cut short by the plague. He was replaced briefly by a relative, Quintillus, who courted senators but failed with soldiers, and who as a result was murdered in the wake of a rebellion raised by Aurelian, who had scored great victories against the Goths and Heruli in Greece. Aurelian worked tirelessly during his five-year reign, initially repelling barbarian invasions of the Balkans and Italy, and crushing uprisings within the army. With the local threats addressed, Aurelian set his sights on recovering the provinces that had been lost to Palmyra in the east and to Gallo-Romans in the west. Early in his reign Aurelian had granted the Palmyrene rulers Zenobia and Vabalathus the lofty titles they desired, and he even struck coinage jointly with Vabalathus at Antioch and Alexandria. But by the spring of 272 he led his army east, liberating one city after another in Asia Minor and causing the surrender of Zenobia and Vabalathus in 272. The recovery of Egypt by the future emperor Probus and a follow-up campaign by Aurelian against a Palmyrene rebel named Antiochus finished matters in the east. Aurelian returned to Rome for a spectacular triumph at which the captured king and queen were displayed in golden chains before hundreds of thousands of cheering citizens. At this time Aurelian claimed the well-earned title "restorer of the orient" (restituttor orientis) that occurs on the reverse of this remarkable coin. In the near future Aurelian would score an equally important victory when he recovered the westernmost provinces, by which he returned the empire to its healthiest state in recent memory. After achieving this greatness, Aurelian styled himself on coins as "restorer of the world" (restituttor orbis) and "God and Lord" (deus et dominus), and even described himself as having been "born God and Master" (deo et domino nato).

**Tacitus, 275 – 276**



206

- 206 Bino, Siscia early 276, AV 6.97 g. IMP C M CL TACITVS P A – VG Radiate and cuirassed bust l., breast plate ornamented with aegis, holding spear and shield decorated with horseman hurling spear. Rev. ROMAE AET – ERNAE Roma seated l., holding Victory and sceptre; beside seat, shield. C 111. RIC 174. CBN 1719 (this obverse die). Calicó 4090.

Very rare. An attractive and unusual portrait. Minor marks, otherwise good very fine

10\*000

Ex NAC sale 51, 2009, 398.

Probus, 276 – 282



207

207 Aureus, Lugdunum 281, AV 6.04 g. IMP C M AVR PROBVS AVG Helmeted and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTO – RIA PROBI AVG Victory advancing r., holding palm branch and wreath; in r. field, two captives seated at sides of trophy. C –. Bastien, Lyon 303 (these dies). RIC –. Calicó –.

Of the highest rarity, only the second specimen known. A portrait of enchanting beauty and a reverse of great interest and fascination. A perfect Fdc

40'000

Ex Gemini sale VI, 2010, 564. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

Probus was proclaimed emperor by the troops under his command at the death of Tacitus in A.D. 276. Unfortunately, the Praetorian Prefect, Florian, was also hailed emperor by his own troops. The two would-be emperors faced each other in Cilicia, where the summer heat and Probus' refusal to give battle turned Florian's officers against him. He was murdered after a reign of only two months, leaving Probus to reign as sole emperor. Between A.D. 278 and 280, Probus was occupied with the struggle against the flood of Germanic peoples crossing the Rhine and Danube frontiers into the provinces of Gaul and Germania. The campaigns of A.D. 278 pushed back the Alamanni, Longiones and the Franks with great slaughter and permitted the emperor to add Germanicus Maximus to his titulare. He further mounted punitive campaigns across the Rhine to strike the barbarians in their homeland. In A.D. 279 and 280, Probus and his generals were focused on defeating the Vandals who had crossed into Raetia and Illyricum as well as the Blemmyes, a nomadic desert people who had invaded Egypt. Despite these successes, Probus was beset by three rival emperors in A.D. 280-281. Julius Saturninus, the governor of Egypt, was proclaimed unwilling emperor in A.D. 280, but he was soon killed by his own troops. The commanders Proculus and Bonosus were proclaimed joint emperors at Lugdunum in the same year, but in A.D. 281 they were handed over to Probus by their duplicitous Frankish allies. Probus ordered their execution before returning to Rome. This beautiful aureus was probably struck for distribution to the army at the triumph celebrated by Probus at Rome in A.D. 281. This triumph honoured the emperor for his many victories as well as for his repression of the usurpers. The reverse type, which features a trophy composed of Germanic shields, focuses on Probus' victories along the Rhine and Danube frontiers, but the two seated captives may perhaps allude to the dual usurpers, Proculus and Bonosus. The wonderful obverse portrait type, depicting Probus wearing an Attic helmet, is rare. This archaic helmet type had become associated with Alexander the Great on Roman medallions and provincial coins earlier in the third century A.D. Here it serves to cast Probus as the great Macedonian conqueror, the archetype of all Roman military emperors.

Diocletian, 284-305



208

- 208 Aureus, Antiochia 286, AV 5.43 g. IMP C C VAL DIOCLETIANVS P F AVG Laureate, draped, and cuirassed bust r. Rev. IOVI CONSERVA – TORI AVGG Jupiter standing l., holding thunderbolt in r. hand and sceptre in l.; in l. field, Σ and in exergue, SMA. C 278. RIC 319. Depeyrot 3/6. Calicó 4519a.  
Perfectly struck and centred on a full flan. Almost invisible marks,  
otherwise good extremely fine 6'000

Ex Künker sale 143, 2008, 725. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.



209

- 209 Aureus, Cyzicus 287-290, AV 5.32 g. DIOCLETIANVS – AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. COS – II – I Emperor on horseback r., raising r. arm. C 54. RIC 287. Bastien, Donativa, p. 62. Lukanc 4 and p. 166, 17. Depeyrot 7/2. Calicó 4445.  
Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 8'000

Privately purchased from Vinchon in 1951. From the Pierre Bastien collection.

The reverse inscription allows this coin to be dated to a three-year period, as Diocletian entered his fourth consulship in January, 290 and his fifth in January, 293. It was an eventful period for the tireless and dutiful emperor, who devoted the summer of 290 to dealing with Bedouin and Saracen raiders who continually interrupted trade and border security by raiding the exposed settlements in Syria. He then travelled the great distance back to the Balkans where, at his palace in Sirmium, he began to work out the details of restructuring the empire. He then moved further westward, to Milan, where he discussed these plans with his co-emperor, Maximian, over the winter of 290/1. The two must have worked diligently through the early spring, as there were many reforms to implement and some pressing concerns: the attacks of Nubian raiders in the Thebaid, the separatist state of Carausius, the raids of Berber tribesmen in North Africa, and even more distressful, the prospect of a renascent Persia. Diocletian perhaps left Milan as winter ended early in 291, and returned to the Balkans. He is attested as being in Sirmium on May 13, and he may have remained in the Balkans and the north-western part of Asia Minor for the next five years. It is unfortunate that the sources are silent for the period 291 to 292, though there is good reason to believe that at least part of this time Diocletian campaigned against the Sarmatians. Since we have so little information, one can only speculate as to the occasion for this adventus type, but the most likely candidate is his arrival in Milan late in December 290. He is attested as being in Sirmium as late as December 18, which accords well with the account of a Gallic orator who, in the panegyric he delivered to Maximian on his birthday in 291 (Pan. Lat. XI(3) 10.4-5), recounted his marvel at the arrival in Milan of the two emperors – likened to their patrons Jupiter and Hercules – over snow-capped mountains so late in the year: "...when from each summit of the Alps your deity first shone forth, a clearer light spread over all Italy; wonder seized upon all who gazed up no less than uncertainty, whether some god was arising from those mountain crests, or by these steps descending to earth from heaven. But when you came closer and closer and people began to recognize you, all the fields were filled not only with men running forth to see but even with flocks of beasts leaving their distant pastures and woods; farmers rushed about among each other, told everyone what they had seen, altars were ignited, incense placed upon them, libations of wine were poured, sacrificial victims slain, everything glowed with joy, everyone danced and applauded, to the immortal gods' praises and thanks were sung: they invoked not the god transmitted by conjecture but a visible and present Jupiter near at hand, they adored Hercules not as the stranger but as the Emperor."





210

- 210 Aureus 289-290, AV 5.04 g. DIOCLETI – ANVS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. IOV – I CONSE – RVATORI Jupiter seated l. on throne, holding thunderbolt in r. hand and sceptre in l.; at his feet, eagle with wreath in its beak and in exergue, PROM. C –. RIC 142a var. (PR in exergue). Lukanc 12. Depeyrot 6/4 var. (PR in exergue). Calicó 4511 (these dies).

A coin of exceptional quality with a superb portrait struck in high relief. A perfect Fdc 12'000

**Maximianus augustus, first reign 286 – 305**



211

- 211 Aureus, Treveri 295-305, AV 5.33 g. MAXIMI – ANVS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. HERCVLI CONSERVAT AVGG ET CAESS NN Hercules standing facing, head l., holding club and bow, quiver and lion's skin over shoulder. In exergue, TR. C –. Bastien, *Date d'émission de deux aurei de Maximien Hercule frappés à Trèves*, in RN X, 1969, pl. XXXVI, 2 (this coin illustrated). RIC 43 var. (CONSER). Depeyrot 12/1 (this coin illustrated). Calicó 4651 var. (CONSERV).

An apparently unique variety of a rare type. A portrait of superb style and an interesting reverse composition. Extremely fine 10'000

Ex M&M sale 28, 1964, 473. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



212

- 212 Aureus circa 286, AV 5.38 g. IMP C M AVR VAL MAXIMIANVS P AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. IOVI CON – SE – R – VAT AVGG Jupiter standing l., holding thunderbolt in r. hand and sceptre in l. C 347. RIC 493E. Depeyrot 2D/4. Calicó 4689 var. (P F AVG).

Very rare. An elegant portrait of fine style, minor mark on neck, otherwise about extremely fine 7'000

Ex Hirsch 29, 1910, 1349 and Rauch 94, 2014, 1304 sales.



- 213 Aureus, Cyzicus circa 291, AV 5.33 g. MAXIMIANVS – AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. CONSVL III – P P PROCOS Maximianus, in consular robes, standing l., holding globe. C 78. RIC 609. Depeyrot 11/6. Calicó 4621. Struck in high relief on a broad flan. Extremely fine 6'000

Ex Heritage sale 3032, 2014, 23648. Previously privately purchased from Spink in 2000. From the Andre Constantine Dimitriadis collection.



- 214 Aureus, Cyzicus circa 293, AV 5.42 g. MAXIMIANVS – AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. CONCORDI – AE AVGG NN The two Augusti seated l., each holding globe and *parazonium*, crowned by Victory between them. C 47. RIC 601. Depeyrot 13/3. Calicó 4612. A superb portrait work of a very skilled master-engraver. A perfect Fdc 12'500

Ex Rollin & Feuardent sale 16-17 June 1924, Vallette, 272. From the Pierre Bastien collection.

If Diocletian was the model of innovation and reform, his Imperial colleague Maximian was the model of loyalty. There were no doubt ample opportunities for Maximian to rebel against Diocletian, or at the very least attempt to set up his own empire in the west. But throughout twenty years of joint rulership, no such attempt was made. Maximian had been a high-ranking soldier of undistinguished parentage, and he clearly was grateful for the opportunity Diocletian had afforded him. However, during these two decades Maximian became addicted to power, and unlike Diocletian, who was more than willing to retire, he had no desire to step down. In May of 305 Maximian was forced to abdicate along with Diocletian. Months dragged on for Maximian, who stewed in forced retirement in his Italian villa until his son, Maxentius, raised a revolt in Rome against the senior emperor Galerius. Maximian jumped at this new opportunity to exercise power, but it is doubtful that he ever planned on playing second fiddle to his estranged son. Maximian was responsible for the initial survival of the revolt, for he rebuffed an invasion of Italy led by the new Caesar Severus II. Having secured Italy, Maximian eventually challenged his son, but could not gain enough support. Having worn out his welcome in Rome, the former emperor fled to the court of his son-in-law Constantine the Great in the west. In a repeat performance, Maximian eventually tired of his idleness and challenged Constantine, only to lose again, and this time to die in the aftermath. After twenty years of honourable service under Diocletian, Maximian tarnished his lifetime's achievements because of his behaviour in his last three years of life. This aureus, an interesting piece struck at Cyzicus at the intermediate weight of 55 to the pound, depicts Diocletian and Maximian seated beside one another with a Victory crowning them for their achievements, both civic and military, as indicated by their globes and swords.



215

215 Aureus circa 294, AV 5.55 g. MAXIMIA – NVS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. HERCVLI – DEBELLAT Hercules standing r., fighting Hydra with club in r. hand; in exergue, PROM. C 255 var. (Hercules I.). RIC – (this type is unknown for this mint). Baldwin-Brett NC 1933, 49. Depeyrot 9/7. Calicó 4662 (these dies).

Very rare and in an exceptional state of preservation. A superb portrait and fascinating reverse type, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 25'000

Ex Gemini sale XII, 2015, 427. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

Around the time the Tetrarchy was formed in 293 minting in the empire began to increase, partly because the size of the imperial bureaucracy had perhaps doubled, and the needs of the army were not lessened. Furthermore, there were donatives for Diocletian's decennialia and the courts and bodyguards of the new Caesars Constantius I and Galerius had to be established. All of these expenses carried into 294, when this aureus was struck at the Rome mint, about the time Diocletian implemented his monetary reform. In the West the increase in expenses was piqued in 293 with the mounting of a fresh offensive against Carausius, the naval commander-turned-rebel who since 286 (or possibly early 287) had ruled Britain and controlled much of the north-western coast of Gaul. All this meant that the mint at Trier resumed production (in 293/4) after a 20-year hiatus, and that in 293 a temporary mint was established at Iantium (Meaux). If recent events were any guide, the success of this new venture was far from guaranteed. Maximian already had failed twice to defeat Carausius: in the spring of 289 he suffered a great naval disaster when moving against the rebel, and two years later a second attempt seems to have been thwarted, though no details of it survive. This was a source of great embarrassment to Maximian, who ultimately had to answer to Diocletian, the senior emperor in the East. It also took a great toll on the resources of the Western provinces, and threatened to inspire other would-be rebels. Thus, when the new campaign was mounted in 293, success was essential. Maximian was relying on Constantius, his former praetorian prefect and new Caesar, who had proven his skills as a commander in the previous years. He'd registered impressive (if somewhat brutal) victories against Carausius' Frankish allies in the estuaries of the Rhine, trekking as far as the shores of the North Sea. Now, without the luxury of a fleet, he had to focus on defeating the rebel's allies in Gaul. The campaign was fraught with hardship and uncertainty, but Constantius emerged victorious after he forced the surrender of Bononia (Boulogne), Carausius' major stronghold in Gaul. Constantius blocked the entrance to this port-city by a feat of engineering that seems to have given way to the rising tide only hours after the city had capitulated. It is not known if Carausius was in the city and escaped, or if he had been in Britain throughout the siege, but the loss of Bologne and the consequent surrender of the rest of the Continental allies caused his murder, seemingly by his successor Allectus. Several coin types refer to this campaign, including the reverse of this aureus, which is dedicated "to Hercules the vanquisher" who is shown in the midst of his second labour, the defeat of the Lernaean Hydra. The message is clear, for Hercules was the patron deity of the ruling house of Maximian and Constantius, and the allusion of this coin type to this fresh and inspiring victory cannot be missed.



216

216 Aureus, Antiochia 294, AV 5.23 g. IMP C M AVR VAL MAXIMIANVS P F AVG Laureate and cuirassed bust r. Rev. FATIS VICTRICIBVS The Parcae standing facing and clasping hands; below, in l. field, Σ. In exergue, SMA. C –. RIC 617. Depeyrot 3/3. Calicó 4637 (this reverse die).

Extremely rare. A very interesting and appealing reverse type perfectly struck on a very broad flan. Good extremely fine 12'500

**Galerius caesar, 293 – 305**



- 217 Aureus, Nicomedia 294, AV 5.28 g. MAXIMIANVS – NOB CAESAR Laureate head r. Rev. SOLI I – NVICTO Sol standing facing, head r., raising r. hand and holding globe and whip in l.; in exergue, SMN. C 200. RIC 7. Bastien, Donativa p. 65, c. Depeyrot 3/4. Calicó 4948 (this coin).

Extremely rare. An unusual portrait and a lovely reddish tone, good extremely fine 9'000

Ex Leu 93, 2005, Perfectionist, 123; Ira & Larry Goldberg 46, 2008, Millennia, 141 and Rauch 87, 2010, 835 sales. Privately purchased from Vinchon in February 1952. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

**Constantius I Chlorus caesar, 293 – 305**



- 218 Aureus, Treveri 303, AV 5.46 g. CONSTAN – TIVS NOB C Laureate head r. Rev. HERCVLI CONSER – AVGG ET CAESS NN Hercules standing facing, head l., leaning l. hand over club, holding bow, quiver and lion's skin over shoulders. In exergue, TR. C –. Baldwin-Brett, NC 1933, 105 and pl. 25, 3. Bastien & Metzger, Beaurains p. 132, 375 (this coin). RIC 45. Depeyrot 10B/7. Calicó 4836 (these dies).

A superb portrait in the finest style of the period and a wonderful reddish tone. Extremely fine 15'000

Ex Hess 14 April 1954, 374; M&M XV, 1955, 854 and Gemini V, 2009, 833 sales. From the Arras Hoard and the Collection of a Retired Banker.

Remembered as 'Chlorus', meaning pale or of poor health, by Byzantine writers, Constantius I was the senior of the two Caesars of the First Tetrarchy, and subsequently the senior Augustus from A.D. 305 until his untimely death in 306. The division of the Roman Empire into a tetrarchy – i.e., the rule by four – was instituted by Diocletian in 293 in order to combat the many threats facing the regime. Having already elevated Maximianus to rule alongside him jointly in 286, Diocletian saw the need to expand their diarchy and therefore appointed each a Caesar to serve as deputy: Galerius, who became the junior Caesar, was adopted by Diocletian and assisted him in ruling the eastern provinces, while Constantius was made the senior Caesar under Maximianus with responsibilities for the western provinces. Along with these adoptions each also chose a patron deity to lend legitimacy to their rule. In the case of Diocletian and Galerius, the god was Jove, and they adopted the name Jovius. Maximianus and Constantius took the name Herculius as their patron was Hercules. Both gods received special recognition on the coinage of their respective tetrarchs, such as on this aureus of Constantius where the reverse depicts Hercules in order to celebrate Constantius' membership in the Herculean house. Constantius' reign as Caesar saw the return to Roman hands of the break-away Romano-British Empire of Carausius and Allectus, and later the defeat of a horde of marauding Alemanni from across the Rhine. He established his capital at Trier, and secured his territories from further unrest. After the abdication of Diocletian and Maximianus in A.D. 305 and his and Galerius' elevations, Constantius inflicted a resounding defeat on the Picts of northern Britain. However, while he was involved in this campaign he fell gravely ill, and subsequently died at Eboracum in A.D. 306.

**Constantius I Chlorus augustus, 305 – 306**



219

- 219 Aureus, Serdica 305-306, AV 5.32 g. IMP CONSTAN – TIVS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. IOVIS CON – SERVATOR Jupiter standing l., holding thunderbolt and sceptre; at feet, eagle standing l. and  $\Xi$  in r. field. In exergue, .SM .SD. C –. RIC 7a. Depeyrot 2/3, p. 108, pl. 16 (these dies). Calicó 4846 (this coin). Biaggi 1853 (this coin). Extremely rare, apparently only the second specimen known .

Struck on an exceedingly broad flan and extremely fine 8'000

Ex Rauch 63, 1999, 333 and Gemini VII, 2011, 432 sales. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

**Licinius I, 308 – 324**



220

- 220 Aureus, Siscia 316, AV 5.21 g. LICINI – VS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. IOVI CONSER – VATORI AVG Jupiter standing l., holding thunderbolt and sceptre, at feet, eagle holding wreath in beak; in r. field, X. In exergue, SIS. C 62. RIC 18. Depeyrot 16/1. Calicó 5108b.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 12'500

**Constantine I, 307 – 337**



221

- 221 Solidus, Treveri 313-315, AV 4.46 g. CONSTANTINI – VS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. VICTOR OMNI – VM GENTIVM Emperor in military attire, standing l., holding standard and shield; in l. field, two suppliants and behind, captive seated l. In exergue, PTR. C 574. Alföldi 655. RIC 27. Depeyrot 37/7.

Extremely rare. A lovely portrait and an interesting reverse type, minor marks, otherwise about extremely fine / extremely fine 8'000

Ex Rollin & Feuarent 20 April 1896, Montagu, 811 and Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge 796, 1908, O'Hagan, 761 sales. From the Hoffmann and the Pierre Bastien collections.



222

- 222 Solidus, Thessalonica 317, AV 4.59 g. CONSTAN – TINVS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. VIRTVS EXE – RCITVS GALL Mars walking r., holding spear in r. hand and trophy over l. shoulder.; on either side, captive seated outward looking back; in exergue, •SM•TS•. C 702. Alföldi 701. RIC 15 (this coin listed). Depeyrot 9/7. Rare. Lovely reddish tone and good extremely fine 8'000

Ex Glendining's sale 7/8 March 1957, property of a late Foreign Ambassador, 430. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



223

- 223 Semissis or 1 1/2 siliquae, Nicomedia 330-331, AV 2.22 g. CONSTANTINI – NVS MAX AVG Rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA CONSTANTINI AVG Victory seated r. on cuirass, inscribing VOT / XXX on shield supported by Genius; in exergue, SMN. C –. Alföldi –. RIC 185. Depeyrot 46/3. Extremely rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. A minor edge mark at eleven o'clock on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 6'000

Privately purchased from Bourgey in 1951. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



224

- 224 Solidus, Nicomedia 335, AV 4.46 g. Rosette-diademed head, looking upwards. Rev. VICTORIA CONSTANTINI AVG Victory seated r. on cuirass and shield, inscribing VOT / XXX on shield supported by small genius; in exergue, SMNC. C –, cf. 617 (VOT XX). Alföldi 613 var. (SMNε). RIC 175. Depeyrot 44/1. Very rare. A very interesting and appealing portrait of fine style perfectly centred on a full flan. Good extremely fine 15'000

Privately purchased from Jean Vinchon in 1955. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



225



- 225 Medallion of 2 solidi, Thessalonica circa 326, AV 8.72 g. CONSTANTINVS – AVG Diademed head r. Rev. SEN A – TVS The Emperor, laureate and togate, standing l., holding globe and sceptre; in exergue, SMTS. C –. Gneecchi –, cf. 51 = Alföldi –, cf. 468 = RIC –, cf. 272 = Depeyrot p. 153 (all Roma, 4 ½ solidi). Apparently unique and unpublished. A spectacular medallion with a magnificent style, almost invisible marks on reverse field, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc 125'000

Ex NAC sale 88, 2015, 499 and previously privately purchased from A. Tkalec in 1998. From the Collection of a Retired Banker.

When it began, 326 held every promise of being the most extraordinary year of Constantine's life. It opened with his sharing the consulship with Constantius II, his middle son by Fausta, who had been made Caesar in November of 324, after the defeat of Licinius I. Their joint-consulship is marked by this rare and beautiful two-solidus medallion of Thessalonica which portrays Constantine in a most elaborate manner, with eyes raised to the heavens. The reverse shows him dressed in richly adorned senatorial garb as he holds an ornate sceptre and a banded globe, representing his singular authority over the world.

This medallion and its companions (including a three-solidus with the same reverse type and a consular bust portrait that is in the British Museum) may have been distributed in mid-April of 326, as entries in the Codex Theodosianus reveal that Constantine was on a westward trek that would have taken him through Thessalonica at about that time. The Codex marks his being at Heraclea on 3 February and 5 March, then in Constantinople on 8 March. From there Constantine likely stopped in Thessalonica before continuing westward, arriving at Aquileia at the start of April to inaugurate a stay in Italy of nearly eight months. While there, Constantine attended celebrations marking his 20th anniversary of power along with the 10th anniversaries of his two eldest sons, Crispus and Constantine II.

In the midst of his stay in Italy, however, a series of tragic events took place. For reasons that still defy explanation, Constantine ordered the execution of Crispus, his eldest son, by Minervina, and his principal heir to the throne. Constantine followed up this horrific act with the execution of his wife, Fausta, the mother to his three remaining sons. Clearly these two events were related, and they amounted to a dynastic crisis that cast a dark cloud over a year that otherwise was devoted to celebrations that concerned the unity and longevity of the ruling family.





Constantine II caesar, 316 – 337



226



226

- 226 Solidus, Nicomedia 325-326, AV 4.46 g. Diademed head r. Rev. CONSTANTI – NVS CAESAR Victory advancing l., holding wreath in r. hand and palm frond in l.; in exergue, N. C 75. Alföldi 62. RIC 112. Depeyrot 38/4 (misdescribed).

Very rare. Minor marks and slightly wavy flan, otherwise good very fine

2'500

Ex Triton sale XIII, 2010, 388. From the White Mountain collection.



227



- 227 Solidus, Constantinople 335, AV 4.37 g. CONSTANTINVS IVN NOB CAES Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. CONSTANT – IVS CAESAR Victory advancing l., holding wreath and palm branch; in exergue, CONS. C –. Alföldi –, RIC –. Bastien, Les émissions dynastiques de Constantin. Deux solidi inédits de Constantinople (335), in Essays Carson and Jenkins, pl. XLV, 6 (this coin illustrated). Depeyrot 5/6 (this coin).

Apparently unique. An issue of tremendous historical importance and fascination. Unobtrusive marks, otherwise about extremely fine

7'500

Privately purchased from M&M in 1988. From the Pierre Bastien collection.

This attractive gold solidus was struck as part of the dynastic series produced in celebration of the vicennalia (20-year anniversary) of the reign of Constantine the Great. Such coins and larger medallion multiples were distributed to the army and high government officials as donatives in order to maintain loyalty. Following on from the upheavals of numerous rival military emperors of the third century A.D., it still remained a wise policy to renew the support of the army at regular intervals with the distribution of gold. The present solidus is a companion piece to the Constans/Delmatius mule also in this sale, but features Constantine II, the eldest son of Constantine the Great and his second wife, Fausta. Constantine II was born in A.D. 316, and his birth probably guaranteed the ultimate doom of Crispus, an earlier son of Constantine and his first wife, Minervina. On March 1, A.D. 317, Constantine II was named Caesar (junior co-emperor) despite the fact that he had not yet reached the age of two. Nevertheless, the young Caesar seems to have been keen for the position. At the age of seven he was campaigning alongside his father against the Sarmatians and in A.D. 326, at the age of ten, Constantine II replaced the executed Crispus as his father's commander in Gaul. Victories over the Germanic peoples of the Rhine frontier earned Constantine II the title of Alamannicus ("Conqueror of the Alamanni") by A.D. 330. Two years later, he joined his father as field commander for the campaign against the Goths. Despite his youth, by the time of the vicennalia, Constantine II had developed a record as a military leader and he is presented as such on the coin. The rather soulful obverse portrait depicts Constantine II wearing a scale cuirass with no drapery to obscure it. The absence of drapery emphasizes Constantine II as a successful military man, a solid warrior and worthy heir capable of defending the Empire once his father died. Like his younger brothers and other relatives promoted by Constantine and advertised on the vicennalia coinage, Constantine II here is presented as the hope for the future and a symbol of stability. Much of this hope seems to have been misplaced and stability became illusory after the death of Constantine the Great in A.D. 337. After their father's death, Constantine II joined his two younger siblings, Constantius II and Constans, in a bloody purge of their family and the division of the Empire between them. Constantine II received Gaul, Britannia, and Hispania and served as guardian over the young Constans who initially possessed Italy, Africa, and Illyricum. A dispute began between these two brothers when Constans also received Thrace and Macedonia. Open conflict was avoided when Constans agreed to give Africa to his brother, but then the two quarrelled over the details of this transfer of territory. At last, in A.D. 340, Constantine II mounted an invasion of Italy with the intention of overthrowing Constans. Unfortunately, Constantine II himself was killed in an ambush near Aquileia and Constans ended up annexing his former territories. In such an ignominious manner did the warrior Caesar die.

**Constantine II augustus, 337 – 340**



228

- 228 Solidus, Aquileia 337, AV 4.41 g. CONSTANTI – NVS P F AVG Laureate, rosette diademed and cuirassed bust r. Rev. GAVDIVM – POPVLI ROMANI Victory seated r. on cuirass, supporting on her l. knee a shield inscribed VOT / XX / MVLT XXX, also supported by Genius; in exergue, SMAQ. C –. RIC 4. Paolucci-Zub 352. Bastien Numismatica 2, 1961, fig. 2 (this coin illustrated). Depeyrot 1/1 (this coin illustrated).  
Of the highest rarity, apparently only two specimens known.  
Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 4'500

Privately purchased from Jean Vinchon in 1960. From the Pierre Bastien collection.

**Constans and Delmatius caesares, 333 – 337**



229

- 229 Solidus, Constantinople 335, AV 4.47 g. FL CONSTANS NOB CAES Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. DELMATI – VS CAESAR Victory advancing l., holding wreath in r. hand and palm branch in l.; in exergue, CONS. C –. RIC –. Bastien, Les émissions dynastiques de Constantin. Deux solidi inédits de Constantinople (335), in Essays Carson and Jenkins, pl. XLV, 7 (this coin illustrated). Depeyrot –.  
Apparently unique. An issue of exceptional importance and historical interest.  
Perfectly struck and centred on a full flan and good extremely fine 35'000

Privately purchased from M&M in 1988. From the Pierre Bastien collection.

This gold solidus was struck as part of the tricennalia donative distributed to the army in celebration of the 30th anniversary of Constantine the Great's reign as Augustus. It belongs to a larger series of coins struck with portraits of members of the imperial family intended to advertise the emperor's intended successors and the appearance of dynastic stability. The obverse of this extremely rare piece features the portrait of Constans, the youngest son of Constantine, who was elevated to the position of Caesar (junior co-emperor) in A.D. 330, thereby joining his elder brothers, Constantine II and Constantius II, who had already become Caesars already in A.D. 317 and 324, respectively. The reverse features the Victory type commonly used for the dynastic series, but names Constans' cousin, Delmatius, rather than Constans, indicating a mistaken muling of obverse and reverse dies at the mint of Constantinople. Other extremely rare solidi of Delmatius with this reverse (RIC VII 98) regularly depict and name Delmatius on the obverse. Thus, the erroneous pairing of a Constans obverse with a Delmatius reverse makes the present coin arguably the rarest of all Delmatius coins. Constantine raised Delmatius to the status of Caesar on 18 September, A.D. 335, in part to ease the administrative duties of Constantine's sons as the emperor planned his great war against the Sasanian Persian Empire. Constantine I also may have elevated Delmatius and Hannibalianus as a means of checking the ambitions of his own sons: they were his heirs, but if Constantine perceived any of them as a threat he could easily put Delmatius ahead of them in the line of succession. As Caesar, Delmatius was primarily responsible for defending Illyricum, Macedonia, and Thrace against incursions by the Goths and Sarmatians. While he seems to have been relatively successful in this regard, the death of Constantine the Great on 22 May, A.D. 337 spelled disaster for him. By September of the same year, the three sons of Constantine agreed to purge their family of all potential rivals and divide the Empire among themselves. Delmatius (with his brother, Hannibalianus), who had already tasted imperial power, was high on the list of possible threats and was liquidated accordingly. It is more than a little ironic that a reverse of Delmatius is paired with an obverse of Constans on this coin. After the bloody purge of the House of Constantine, Constans argued with his brothers over possession of Delmatius' former territories and finally received them as his own in A.D. 338. Delmatius' Illyrian and Thracian provinces were also desired by Constantine II, leading to a bitter quarrel between the brothers that broke out in open warfare in A.D. 340. Constantine II invaded Italy, but was defeated and killed by the forces of Constans. Over the course of the decade that followed, Constans became increasingly unpopular until A.D. 350, when he was overthrown by the usurping military commander, Magnentius—a pagan sympathizer who seems to have had designs on ending the dynasty of Constantine in the West. Delmatius was at last avenged by Fate and his ghost put to rest.

Constans augustus, 337 – 350



- 230 Solidus, Aquileia 337-340, AV 4.35 g. FL IVL CONS – TANS P F AVG Laureate, rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIAE D N AVG Two Victories standing facing, holding between them a wreath inscribed VOT / V / MVLT / X; in exergue, SMAQ. C 161 var. RIC 6. Paolucci-Zub 367. Bastien Numismatica 2, 1961, fig. 3 (this coin illustrated). Depyrot 1/4.  
Very rare. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 2'500

Privately purchased from Jean Vinchon in 1961. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



- 231 Solidus, Thessalonica 337-340, AV 4.48 g. FL IVL CON – STANS P F AVG Laureate, rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIAE – DDD NNN – AVGGG Two Victories standing facing, holding between them a wreath inscribed VOT / V / MVLT / X; in exergue, TSE. C –. RIC 14. Depyrot 2/6.  
Exceedingly rare, apparently only the second specimen known. Almost invisible edge marks, otherwise extremely fine 2'000

Privately purchased from Jean Vinchon in 1961. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



- 232 Solidus, Antiochia 337-347, AV 4.56 g. CONST – ANS AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVGVSTORVM Victory seated r. on cuirass and shield, inscribing VOT / XXX on shield supported by small genius; in exergue, SMANA. C 142. RIC 19. Depyrot 4/10.  
Very rare. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 2'000

Privately purchased from Jean Vinchon in 1961. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



233

- 233 Solidus, Treveri 342-343, AV 4.49 g. FL IVL CONS – TANS P F AVG Pearl and rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. OB VICTORIAM TRIVMFALEM Two Victories standing facing, holding between them a wreath inscribed VOT / X / MVL / XV; in exergue, TR. C 88. RIC 124. Depeyrot 4/4. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 2'000

Privately purchased from Jean Vinchon in 1960. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



234

- 234 Solidus, Treveri circa 347-348, AV 4.53 g. CONSTANS – AVGVSTVS Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIAE DD NN AVGG Two Victories standing facing and supporting between them a shield inscribed VOT / X / MVL / XX; in exergue, TR. C 171. RIC 129. Depeyrot 6/3. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 2'000

Privately purchased from Bourgey in 1954. From the Pierre Bastien collection.

#### Constantius II augustus, 337 – 361



235

- 235 Solidus, Antiochia 337-347, AV 4.51 g. FL IVL CONSTAN – TIVS PERP AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVGVSTORVM Victory seated r. on cuirass and shield, inscribing VOT / XV / MVL / XX on shield supported by small genius; in exergue, SMANF. C 243. RIC 25. Depeyrot 5/3. A perfect Fdc 2'500

Privately purchased from Bourgey in 1955. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



- 236 Solidus, Antiochia 337-347, AV 4.40 g. FL IVL CONSTAN – TIVS PERP AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. FELICITAS ROMANORVM around wreath inscribed VOTIS / XV / MVLTIS XX; in exergue, SMANS. C 76. RIC 30. Depeyrot 5/8.

Very rare. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 3'000

Privately purchased from Jean Vinchon in 1961. From the Bastien collection.



- 237 Solidus, Thessalonica 337-340, AV 4.43 g. FL IVL CONSTAN – TIVS P F AVG Laurel and rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTO – RIAE – D N AVG Two Victories standing facing, holding between them a wreath inscribed VOTIS / XV / MVLTIS / XX; in exergue, TES. C 275. RIC 30. Depeyrot 4/4.

An absolutely insignificant edge mark at four o'clock on reverse,  
otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

1'500

Privately purchased from Jean Vinchon in 1960. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



- 238 Solidus, Aquileia 340-350, AV 4.51 g. CONSTANT – IVS P F AVG Laurel and rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGVSTORVM Victory seated r. on cuirass and shield, inscribing VOT / XX on shield supported by small genius; in exergue, SMAQ. C -. RIC -. Paolucci-Zub -. Depeyrot -.

Apparently unrecorded. An almost invisible trace of double-striking on obverse,  
otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

2'500

Privately purchased from Jean Vinchon in 1961. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



239

- 239 Solidus, Siscia 340-350, AV 4.38 g. FL IVL CONSTAN – TIVS P F AVG Laurel and rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIAE D N AVG Two Victories standing facing, holding between them a wreath inscribed VOTIS / XV / MVLTI / XX; in exergue, SIS \*. C 275. RIC 118. Depeyrot 9/2.  
A perfect Fdc 2'000

Privately purchased from Jean Vinchon in 1961. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



240

- 240 Solidus, Treveri, 342-343, AV 4.38 g. FL IVL CONSTAN – TIVS P F AVG Laurel and rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA – DD NN AVGG Victory standing l., holding trophy and palm; in exergue, TR. C 261. RIC 122. Depeyrot 4/3.  
Rare. A perfect Fdc 2'000

Privately purchased from Jean Vinchon in 1961. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



241

- 241 Solidus, Antiochia 347-355, AV 4.49 g. FL IVL CONSTAN – TIVS PERP AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. GLORIA – REI - PVBLICAE Roma and Constantinopolis enthroned facing, holding between them a wreath inscribed VOT / XX / MVLTI / XXX; Constantinopolis holding sceptre in l. hand and resting r. foot on prow and Roma holding spear in l. hand. In exergue, SMANH. C 108. RIC 83. Depeyrot 6/4.  
About extremely fine 1'000

Ex Giessener Münzhandlung Dieter Gorny 96, 1999, 632 and Gorny & Mosch 219, 2014, 500 sales.



242

- 242 Solidus, Antiochia 347-355, AV 4.44 g. FL IVL CONSTAN – TIVS PERP AVG Pearl-diademed, helmeted, draped and cuirassed bust facing, holding spear and shield ornamented with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. GLORIA – REI – PVBLICAE Roma and Constantinopolis, enthroned facing, holding between them a wreath inscribed VOT / XXX / MVLT / XXXX; Constantinopolis holding sceptre in l. hand and resting r. foot on prow and Roma holding spear in l. hand. In exergue, SMANS. C 112. RIC 88. Depeyrot 7/3.  
Rare. Several edge marks, possibly traces of mounting, otherwise extremely fine 2'000

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 501.



243

- 243 Solidus, Nicomedia 351-355, AV 4.41 g. FL IVL CONSTAN – TIVS PERP AVG Helmeted, draped and cuirassed bust facing, holding spear in r. hand and shield decorated with horseman and enemy motif in l. Rev. GLORIA – REI – PVBLICAE Roma and Constantinopolis, enthroned facing, supporting between them a wreath inscribed VOT / XXX / MVLT / XXXX Constantinopolis holding sceptre in l. hand and resting r. foot on prow and Roma holding spear in l. hand. In exergue, SMNP. C 112. RIC 74. Depeyrot 5/1.  
Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 1'500

Privately purchased from Bourgey in 1956. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



244

- 244 Solidus, Nicomedia 351-355, AV 4.51 g. FL IVL CONSTAN – TIVS PERP AVG Pearl-diademed, helmeted, draped and cuirassed bust facing, holding spear and shield ornamented with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. GLORIA – REI – PVBLICAE Roma and Constantinopolis, enthroned facing, supporting between them a wreath inscribed VOT / XXX / MVLT / XXXX; Constantinopolis holding sceptre in l. hand and resting r. foot on prow and Roma holding spear in l. hand. In exergue, SMNP. C 112. RIC 74. Depeyrot 5/1.  
An almost invisible graffito on obverse, otherwise extremely fine 1'500

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 502.

**Decentius caesar, 351 – 353**



245



- 245 Solidus, Treveri 353, AV 3.96 g. D N DECENTI – VS FORT CAES Bare-headed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICT AVGV LIB ROM ORB Victory standing r. and Libertas standing l., supporting a trophy between them; the latter holds a sceptre in l. hand. In exergue, T R. C –. RIC –, 295 var. (DECENTIVS NOB CAES). Bastien, Magnence –. Depyrot –.

An apparently unrecorded variety of an exceedingly rare type. A lovely portrait of fine style, unobtrusive graze at two o'clock on obverse edge, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine

20'000

On 18 January A.D. 350, Magnentius, the commander of the elite Herculian and Jovian guard units in Gaul, was acclaimed emperor by his troops in opposition to the increasingly unpopular Constans. After the assassination of Constans and the defeat of Nepotian, another scion of the house of Constantine at Rome, Magnentius ruled the Western Empire knowing that eventually he would be challenged by Constans' brother, Constantius II, the emperor in the East. In preparation for the inevitable conflict, in the winter of A.D. 350-351 Magnentius appointed his brother, Magnus Decentius, as Caesar charged with overseeing the general defense of Gaul and holding the Rhine frontier against the Germanic tribes. Decentius fulfilled his duties from his capital at Treveri (Trier), but Magnentius' cause was doomed. Constantius II pulled himself away from a difficult war against the Sasanian Persians, in A.D. 351, and marched west to defeat Magnentius at the Battle of Mursa Major (25 September) in Pannonia. Magnentius and the remnants of his army escaped back to northern Italy and then to Gaul to regroup. Constantius II, however, was in no hurry to pursue Magnentius, instead preferring to weaken his power in Gaul by instigating an invasion by Chnodomar, the chieftain of the Germanic Alemanni, in 352 B.C. Decentius fared poorly against this incursion and suffered several reverses before Constantius II again faced Magnentius at the Battle of Seleucus Mons (3 July, A.D. 353). The eastern emperor inflicted a crushing defeat on Magnentius who, despairing of all hope, committed suicide. Decentius only learned of these disastrous events at Senones (modern Sens) on 18 August, while marching too late to his brother's aid. Filled with despair, Decentius hanged himself, thereby ending the revolt of Magnentius and leaving Constantius II to reunite the western and eastern provinces under a single emperor. This impressive and apparently unrecorded solidus was struck at Treveri in A.D. 353, probably as part of a donative intended to shore up the flagging loyalty of the army on the eve of Magnentius' final showdown with Constantius II. Like that of Magnentius on his coins, the obverse portrait of Decentius wears no imperial diadem because he was never recognised as a co-ruler by Constantius II, unlike the contemporary Pannonian usurper, Vetranio. It is unclear whether the use of bare-headed portraits by Magnentius and Decentius was also a conscious means of distinguishing these pagan rulers from the Christian Constantius II. The reverse type advertises the hoped-for victory over Constantius II that never came. The Victory of the Augustus (Magnentius) stands on the left while the Libertas (Liberty) of the Roman People stands on the right, together holding a trophy of arms. The message here is very clear: the victory of Magnentius over Constantius II would preserve the freedom of the Roman Empire from the real and perceived political and religious abuses of the house of Constantine—a beautiful, golden, pipe-dream.

**Julian II caesar, 355 – 361**



246



246

- 246 Semmissis, Antiochia 355-361, AV 2.26 g. IVLIAN – VS CAES Bare-headed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVGVSTORVM Victory seated r. on cuirass, holding shield decorated with an eight-pointed star; below shield, winged genius supporting it. In exergue, ·SMAN·. C 56 var. (SMAN). RIC 176 var. (SMAN). Depyrot 13/2 (this coin illustrated).

Extremely rare. Almost invisible marks on obverse, otherwise good very fine / about extremely fine

1'750

Ex Vinchon 23 April 1976, 275; Spink 13 April 2000, Dreesman, 211 and Heritage 3032, 2014, 23677 sales. From the Andre Constantine Dimitriadis collection.



**Julian II augustus, 360 – 363**



247



247

- 247 Solidus, Sirmium 361–363, AV 4.45 g. FL CL IVLIA – NVS P P AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VIRTVS EXERCI – TVS ROMANORVM Soldier, helmeted, standing r., holding trophy over l. shoulder and placing r. hand on head of kneeling captive; in exergue, \* SIRM wreath. C 78. RIC 95. Depeyrot 21/1. Rare. Several edge marks, possible traces of mounting, a slightly wavy flan, otherwise extremely fine 4'000

Privately purchased from Bourgey in 1951. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



248



248

- 248 Solidus, Antiochia 361–363, AV 4.43 g. FL CL IVLIA – NVS P P AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VIRTVS EXERCI – TVS ROMANORVM Soldier, helmeted, standing r., holding trophy over l. shoulder and placing r. hand on head of kneeling captive; in exergue, ANTA. C –. RIC 197. Depeyrot 15/2. A very elegant portrait of fine style. Extremely fine 4'500

The death of Julian II in 363 was followed by the brief and uneventful reign of Jovian that lasted only a year, and which proved to be the final blow to a unified Roman Empire. The social, ethnic, political and religious differences between Asiatic Romans and European Romans were too great to be dismissed. In the end it was not the senate or the people who determined to divide the Roman Empire, it was the army. Significant portions of the eastern and western armies had been united in 361 when Julian II marched toward Asia Minor to battle Constantius II. With the unexpected death of Constantius II, the Empire, and its army, was uncomfortably united for the remaining three years under Julian II and Jovian. However, with the death of the latter in 364, the army took matters into its own hands and forced an east-west split under the brothers Valentinian I and Valens. Except for being united for half-year periods under Gratian and Theodosius I, the empire was divided and had separate emperors for all of its remaining 112 years.

**Jovian, 363 – 364**



249



- 249 Solidus, Sirmium 363-364, AV 4.50 g. D N IOVIA – NVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. SECVRITAS – REIPVBLICE Emperor, in military attire, standing facing, head l., holding standard with Christogram and globe; to his l., a bound captive seated l., with head turned towards the Emperor; in exergue, \*SIRM\*. C 16. RIC 110. Depeyrot 23/1. Rare. Minor marks, otherwise good extremely fine 3'500

Ex Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge 13 June 1911, Glas Sandeman, 645 and Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge 20 July 1914, Schlesinger Y. Guzman, 193 sales. Privately purchased from Bourgey in 1954. From the Pierre Bastien collection.

Valentinian I, 364 – 375



250

- 250 Solidus, Antiochia 364-367, AV 4.33 g. D N VALENTINI – ANVS P F AVG Rosette and pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. RESTITVTOR – REIPVBLICAE Emperor standing facing, holding *labarum* ornamented with cross in r. hand and Victory on globe in l.; in l. field, long cross. In exergue, \*ANTA\*. C 26. RIC 2b. Depeyrot 20/1. Extremely fine 1'750

Ex Monnaies d'Antan sale 15, 2014, 424.



251

- 251 Solidus, Treveri circa 367-375, AV 4.51 g. D N VALENTINI – ANVS P F AVG Rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTOR – IA AVGG Two emperors seated facing, together holding globe; behind and between them, the upper part of Victory with outspread wings. Below on exergual line, palm-branch; in exergue, TROBC. C 43. RIC 17b. Depeyrot 43/1.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 1'500

Privately purchased from M&M in 1965. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



252

- 252 Solidus, Treveri 367-375, AV 4.47 g. D N VALENTINI – ANVS P F AVG Rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTOR – IA AVGG Two emperors seated facing, together holding globe; behind and between them, the upper part of Victory with outspread wings. Below on exergual line, palm-branch; in exergue, TROBT. C 43. RIC 17b. Depeyrot 43/1.

Rare. A small edge nick at one o'clock on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine 1'250

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 505.



253

- 253 Solidus, Constantinopolis 365-375, AV 4.50 g. D N VALENTINI – ANVS P F AVG Rosette and pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. RESTITVTOR – REIPVBLICAE Emperor standing facing, holding *labarum* ornamented with cross and Victory on globe; in exergue, \*CONS wreath. C 25. RIC 25a. Depeyrot 21/1. Light reddish tone and extremely fine 1'750

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 504.

#### Valens, 364 – 378



254

- 254 Solidus, Cyzicus 364-367, AV 4.48 g. D N VALEN – S P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. RESTITVTOR – REIPVBLICAE Emperor standing facing, holding *labarum* ornamented with Christogram and Victory on globe; in exergue, SMKT. C 32. RIC 2c. Depeyrot 4/4. Of lovely style and extremely fine 1'000

Privately purchased from Bourgey in 1949. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



255

- 255 Solidus, Antiochia 364-367, AV 4.46 g. D N VALENS – PERP AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. RESTITVTOR – REIPVBLICAE Emperor standing facing, holding *labarum* ornamented with Christogram and Victory on globe; in exergue, ANTS\*. C 31. RIC 2d. Depeyrot 27/3. Extremely fine 1'000

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 507.



256

- 256 Solidus, Thessalonica 364-367, AV 4.40 g. D N VALEN – S P F AVG Pearl diademed bust l., wearing imperial mantle and holding *mappa* and short sceptre. Rev. SALVS – REIP Emperor standing facing, head r., holding *labarum* and Victory on globe and spurning with r. foot captive kneeling l.; in r. field, two stars. In exergue, SMTES. C 43. RIC 3b. Depeyrot 31/2.

Rare. Light scratch on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine

2'500

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 506. From the Ritter von Galatti collection.



257

- 257 Solidus, Treveri circa 367-375, AV 4.43 g. D N VALENS – P F AVG Rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTOR – IA AVGG Two emperors seated facing, together holding globe; behind and between them, the upper part of Victory with outspread wings. Below on exergual line, palm-branch; in exergue, TROBS. C 53. RIC 17e. Depeyrot 43/2.

Good extremely fine

750



258

- 258 Solidus, Treveri circa 367-375, AV 4.45 g. DN VALENS – P F AVG Pearl-diademed and draped bust r. Rev. VICTOR – IA AVGG Two emperors seated facing, together holding globe; behind and between them, the upper part of Victory with outspread wings. Below on exergual line, palm-branch; in exergue, TROBS. C 50. RIC 39a1. Depeyrot 45/1.

Good extremely fine

900

Privately purchased from M&M in 1965. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



259

- 259 Solidus, Nicomedia quinquennalia 368, AV 4.52 g. D N VALENS – P F AVG Pearl-diademed bust l., wearing imperial mantle and holding *mappa* in r. hand and sceptre in l. Rev. VOTA PV – BLICA Valentinian and Valens, nimbate and wearing imperial mantle, seated facing on throne, each raising *mappa* and holding sceptre. In exergue, two kneeling captives; between them MN ligate and on outer side, S – M. C 86. RIC 16b.6 (this coin). Depeyrot 22/2.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Extremely fine 4'500

Ex Glendining's sale 16-21 November 1950, Platt Hall part II, 2067. From the Pierre Bastien collection.

**Gratian, 367 – 383**



260

- 260 Solidus, Treveri 373-374, AV 4.45 g. D N GRATIANVS P F AVG Pearl and rosette diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTOR – IA AVGG Two emperors seated facing, together holding globe; behind and between them, the upper part of Victory with outspread wings. Below on exergual line, palm branch; in exergue, TROBT. C 38. RIC 17g. Depeyrot 43/3.

A minor mark on obverse field, otherwise extremely fine 1'250

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 509.



261

- 261 Solidus, Thessalonica circa 378-383, AV 4.55 g. D N GRATIA – NVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTOR – IA AVGG Two emperors seated facing, together holding globe; behind and between them, the upper part of Victory with outspread wings. Below on exergual line, palm branch; in exergue, TESOB. C 38. RIC 34a. Depeyrot 34/1. A perfect Fdc 2'000

Ex Glendining's sale 16-21 November 1950, Platt Hall part II, 2072. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



262



- 262 Solidus, Treveri 378-383, AV 4.50 g. D N GRATIA – NVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTOR – IA AVGG Two emperors seated facing, the one on the r. smaller, together holding globe; behind and between them, the upper part of Victory with outspread wings. Below on exergual line, palm branch; in exergue, TROBT. C 38. RIC 49b. Depeyrot 47/2.

A magnificent reddish tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 2'000

Privately purchased from M&M in 1965. From the Pierre Bastien collection.

#### Valentinian II, 375 – 392



263



- 263 Solidus, Constantinopolis 378-383, AV 4.38 g. D N VALENTINI – ANVS P F AVG Pearl -diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. CONCORDI – A AVGGG Constantinopolis, helmeted, seated facing, head r., on throne, holding sceptre and globe; r. foot on prow. In exergue, CONOB. C –. RIC 46d var. (with officina letter). Depeyrot 38/4 var. (with officina letter). Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 1'250

Privately purchased from Jean Vinchon in 1966. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



264



- 264 Solidus, Lugdunum 383-388, AV 4.52 g. D N VALENTINI – ANVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTOR – IA AVGG Two emperors nimbate seated facing, together holding globe; behind and between them, the upper part of Victory with outspread wings. Below on exergual line, palm branch; in field, L – D and in exergue, COM. C 37. RIC 38a. Depeyrot 17/1.

Traces of edge filing, otherwise extremely fine 1'000

Ex Gorny & Mosch 203, 2012, 456 and Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 511 sales.



265

- 265 Solidus, Constantinopolis 383-388, AV 4.55 g. D N VALENTINI – ANVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. CONCORDI – A AVGGGI Constantinopolis, helmeted, seated facing, head r., on throne, holding sceptre and globe; r. foot on prow. In exergue, CONOB. C 2. RIC 67a. Depeyrot 48/5. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 1'750

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 510.



266

- 266 Solidus, Treveri August 388-May 392, AV 4.52 g. D N VALENTINI – ANVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTOR – IA AVGG Two emperors nimbate seated facing, together holding globe; behind and between them, the upper part of Victory with outspread wings. Below on exergual line, palm branch; in field, T – R and in exergue, COM. C 37. RIC 90a. Depeyrot 53/1.

Lovely reddish tone and good extremely fine 1'500

Privately purchased from Bourgey in 1954. From the Pierre Bastien collection.

#### Theodosius I, 379 – 395



267

- 267 Solidus, Aquileia 379-383, AV 4.47 g. DN THEODO – SIVS P F AVG Rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTOR – IA AVGG Two emperors nimbate seated facing, together holding globe; behind and between them, the upper part of Victory with outspread wings. Below on exergual line, palm branch; in exergue, AQOBF. C 37. Paolucci-Zub 774. RIC 21c. Depeyrot 17/2.

Extremely rare. Extremely fine 2'500

Privately purchased from Jean Vinchon in 1954. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



268

- 268 Solidus, Constantinopolis 378-383, AV 4.49 g. D N THEODO – SIVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. CONCOR – DIA AVGGG Constantinopolis, helmeted, seated facing, head r., on throne, holding sceptre and shield; r. foot on prow. In exergue, CONOB. C 9. RIC 43b. Depeyrot 29/2. Rare. A perfect Fdc 2'750

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 512.



269

- 269 1 1/2 scrupulum, Constantinopolis circa 383-388, AV 1.68 g. DN THEODO – SIVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVGVSTORVM Victory seated r. on cuirass, behind which shield, inscribing VOT V / MVLT X on shield. In exergue, CONOB. C –, 50 var. RIC –, 73b var. (MVL instead of MVLT and Christogram on exergual line). Depeyrot –, cf. 41/1 (semis). An apparently unrecorded variety of an exceedingly rare type. Minor marks, otherwise about extremely fine 3'000

Privately purchased from Jean Vinchon in 1954. From the Pierre Bastien collection.

### Magnus Maximus, 383 – 388



270

- 270 Solidus, Treveri 383-388, AV 4.42 g. D N MAG MA – XIMVS P F AVG Rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. RESTITVTOR – REIPVBLICAE Emperor standing facing, head r., holding *labarum* ornamented with Christogram and Victory on globe; in l. field, star. In exergue, SMTR. C 4. RIC 76. Depeyrot 50/1. Very rare. A graffito on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 6'500

Ex Rauch sale 94, 2014, 1403.



**Arcadius, 383 – 408**



271

- 271 Solidus, Constantinopolis 387, AV 4.45 g. D N ARCADIVS – VS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. CONCORDIA – AVGGGH Constantinopolis, helmeted, seated facing, head r., r. foot on prow, holding sceptre and shield inscribed VOT / V / MVL / X; in exergue, CONOB. C –. RIC 70c var. (rosette-diademed). LRC –. Depeyrot 48/3. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 2'000

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 516.



272

- 272 Solidus, Ravenna 402-408, AV 4.52 g. D N ARCADIVS – VS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGGGH Emperor standing r., l. foot on captive, holding standard and Victory on globe; across field, R – V and in exergue, COMOB. LRC 272. RIC 1286. Depeyrot 7/2. Ranieri 2. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 750

Privately purchased from Vinchon in 1954. From the Pierre Bastien collection.

**Honorius, 393 – 423**



273

- 273 Solidus, Sirmium 393-396, AV 4.44 g. D N HONORIVS – VS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGGGH Emperor standing r., l. foot on captive, holding standard and Victory on globe; in field, S – M. In exergue COMOB. C 44. LRC 692 (Constantinopolis). RIC 14d. Depeyrot 34/3. Extremely fine 600

Privately purchased from Vinchon in 1962. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



274

- 274 Solidus, Mediolanum 395-402, AV 4.41 g. D N HONORI – VS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG Emperor standing r., l. foot on captive, holding standard and Victory on globe; in field, M – D. In exergue, COMOB. C 44. Ulrich-Bansa pl. 61, a. LRC 712. RIC 1206d. Depeyrot 16/2. Good extremely fine 750

Privately purchased from Bourgey in 1949. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



275

- 275 Solidus, Ravenna 402-403, 405-406, AV 4.45 g. D N HONORI – VS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG Emperor standing r., l. foot on captive, holding standard and Victory on globe; in field, R– V and, in exergue, COMOB. C 44. LRC 736. RIC 1287d. Depeyrot 7/1. Two almost invisible marks on obverse field, otherwise good extremely fine 600

From the Pierre Bastien collection.



276

- 276 Solidus, Ravenna 402-403, 405-406, AV 4.47 g. D N HONORI – VS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG Emperor standing r., l. foot on captive, holding standard and Victory on globe; in field, R– V and, in exergue, COMOB. C 44. LRC 736. RIC 1287. Depeyrot 7/1. About extremely fine 600

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 517.

- 277 Solidus, Ravenna 402-403, 405-406, AV 4.42 g. D N HONORI – VS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG Emperor standing r., l. foot on captive, holding standard and Victory on globe; in field, R– V and, in exergue, COMOB. C 44. LRC 736. RIC 1287. Depeyrot 7/1. Light scratch on neck, otherwise extremely fine 700

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 518.



278

- 278 Solidus, Constantinopolis 408-420, AV 4.48 g. D N HONORI –VS P F AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. CONCORDI – A AVGG Γ Constantinopolis, helmeted, seated facing, head r., on throne, holding sceptre and Victory on globe, r. foot on prow; in l. field, eight-rayed star and in exergue, CONOB. C 3. MIRB 13B. LRC 776 (this officina unlisted). RIC Theodosius II 201. Depeyrot 73/1. A perfect Fdc 1'250

Privately purchased from M&M in 1961. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



279

- 279 Solidus, Constantinopolis 408–422, AV 4.20 g. D N HONORI – VS P F AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust three-quarters facing, holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VOT XX – MVL T XXX S Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in exergue, CONOB. C 68. LRC –. RIC Theodosius II 218. Depeyrot 74/1.

An almost invisible metal flaw on obverse, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine

500

Ex CNG e-sale 323, 2014, 447.

#### Theodosius II, 402 – 450



280

- 280 Solidus, Constantinopolis 408-420, AV 4.48 g. D N THEODO – SIVS P F AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust three-quarters facing, holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. CONCORDI – A AVGG Γ Constantinopolis, helmeted, seated facing, head r., on throne, holding sceptre and Victory on globe, r. foot on prow; in l. field, eight-rayed star and in exergue, CONOB. LRC 313. (this officina unlisted). MIRB 12b. RIC 202. Depeyrot 73/2. A perfect Fdc 1'250

Privately purchased from Jean Vinchon in 1962. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



281

- 281 Solidus, Constantinopolis circa 420–422, AV 4.41 g. D N THEODO – SIVS P F AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust three-quarters facing, holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VOT XX – MVLT XXX E Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in exergue, CONOB. MIRB 15e. LRC 352 var. (different officina). RIC 219. Depeyrot 74/2.

A light graffito on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 600

Ex Lanz 38, 1986, 961; SKA 1 February 1989, 53 and Heritage 3032, 2014, 23762 sales. Previously purchased from Spink in 1985. From the Andre Constantine Dimitriadis collection.



282

- 282 Solidus, Thessalonica 424-425, perhaps to 430, AV 4.34 g. D N THEODO – SIVS P F AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust three-quarters facing, holding spear and shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. GLOR ORVI – S TERRAR Emperor, in military attire, standing facing holding *labarum* and globe surmounted by cross; in l. field, star and in exergue, TESOB. LRC 364. MIRB 58. RIC 361. Depeyrot 51/1.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 750

Ex Künker sale 248, 2014, 7606.



283

- 283 Semis, Constantinopolis 444, AV 2.23 g. DN THEODO – SIVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGG Victory seated r. on cuirass, inscribing + / XXXV on shield; in l. field, star and in r. field, Christogram. In exergue, CONOB. MIRB N42c. LRC –. RIC 331. Depeyrot 80/4.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Light reddish tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 1'500

Privately purchased from M&M. From the Pierre Bastien collection.

**Aelia Pulcheria, sister of Theodosius II**



- 284 Solidus, Constantinopolis 423–429, AV 4.35 g. AEL PVLCH – ERIA AVG Pearl-diademed, draped bust r., wearing double necklace and earrings, crowned by Manus Dei. Rev. VOT XX – MVLT XXX Γ Victory standing l., supporting long jewelled cross, in exergue, CONOB. MIRB 19b. LRC 439 (different officina). RIC Theodosius II 227. Depeyrot 75/3. Extremely fine 3'500

**Marcian, 450 – 457**



- 285 Solidus, Constantinopolis 450-457, AV 4.47 g. D N MARCIA – NVS P F AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust three-quarters facing, holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG Z Victory standing l., supporting long jewelled cross; in r. field, star. In exergue, CONOB. MIRB 5b. LRC 481. RIC 510. Depeyrot 87/1. A perfect Fdc 750

Ex Künker sale 248, 2014, 7612.



- 286 Solidus, Thessalonica circa 450-457, AV 4.43 g. D N MARCIA – NVS P F AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust three-quarters facing, holding spear and shield decorated with horseman-enemy motif. Rev. GLOR ORVI – S TERRAR Emperor standing facing, holding *labarum* and globe surmounted by cross; in field l., star. In exergue, TESOB. MIRB 17. LRC –. RIC 523. Depeyrot 54/1. Rare. Almost invisible metal flaws, otherwise extremely fine 800

Ex Christie's March 1986, Goodacre, 38; Spink's 12 January 2009, 3030; Künker 168, 2010, 7957; Künker 193, 2011, 1057 and Künker 248, 2014, 7613 sales.

**Aelia Verina, wife of Leo I**



- 287 Solidus, Constantinopolis 471 or 473, AV 4.44 g. AEL VERI – NA AVG Pearl-diademed and draped bust r., wearing necklace and earrings, crowned by the Hand of God. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG Victory standing l., supporting long jewelled cross; in r. field, star. In exergue, CONOB. LRC 593 (these dies). MIRB 4a. RIC 632. Depeyrot 93/2. Extremely rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Light reddish tone and extremely fine 25'000

Ex NAC 10, 1997, 733; Aureo & Calico 241, Imagines Imperatorum, 2012, 405 sales.

As the wife of Leo I and the mother-in-law of his successor Zeno, Aelia Verina held the title of Augusta for nearly the last three decades of her life. We have relatively detailed accounts of her machinations from 474 onward, and considering all of the power plays being made at court during Leo's reign, we might presume she was deeply involved in the intrigues. When her husband Leo I was ailing in 473, Verina helped arrange his adoption of their six-year-old grandson, Leo II, as successor rather than their son-in-law Zeno, a healthy man in his mid-30s with significant military experience. Despite his ideal qualifications, Zeno was not well liked, a feeling that Leo and Verina must have shared. The child Leo II was first raised to Caesar in October, 473, and finally to Augustus in January, 474, less than a month before his grandfather died. The saga continued when the already fragile health of Leo II began to fail and it was necessary on February 9, 474, to have the boy proclaim his own father, Zeno, his co-emperor. When Leo II died in November, the cause of his demise must have been the fodder of palace gossip. Zeno was now sole emperor, and this displeased his mother-in-law Verina so much that she caused a false rumour to be spread of an impending palace coup, upon which she recommended that Zeno and Ariadne flee Constantinople for their own safety. Verina now hoped to get her lover, the magister officiorum Patricius, installed as emperor, but she met unexpected resistance in the senate which instead hailed emperor her brother Basiliscus. Thus, after her initial plot against her son-in-law, Verina now plotted against her brother, who responded by executing her lover Patricius. Once again, Roman history proves truth is stranger than fiction. The old empress was forced into hiding as she worked for the return of Zeno as the lesser of two evils. Once Zeno recovered his throne from Basiliscus, Verina still devoted the rest of her life to undermining Zeno, which resulted in her exile to a fortress in the wilds of Isauria. Two of her counter-revolutionary efforts included backing a coup in 479 in the name of her other son-in-law, an ambitious young nobleman named Marcian, and her support of the rebellion of Leontius in 484. Verina's coins are rare today, but must have been issued in some quantity at the time. Her solidi, tremisses and Æ2s all bear her profile portrait, and she is also portrayed on some of Leo's smallest bronzes as a standing figure flanked by the letters BE, representing the Greek version of her name, Berina.

**Basiliscus sole reign, 9th January 475 – August 476**



- 288 Solidus, Constantinopolis early 475, AV 4.49 g. DN BASILIS – CYS P P AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG Victory standing l., supporting long jewelled cross; in r. field, star. In exergue, CONOB. MIRB 1a. LRC 607. RIC 1003. Depeyrot 101/1. Good extremely fine 1'250

Ex Künker sale 248, 2014, 7620.

**Zeno second reign, 476 – 491**



289

- 289 Solidus, Constantinopolis 476-491, AV 4.48 g. D N ZENO – PERP AVG Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVCCC Θ Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in r. field, star, and in exergue, CONOB. MIRB 7. LRC 639. RIC 911. Depeyrot 108/1.

Almost invisible traces of overstriking, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

400

Ex Künker sale 248, 2014, 7617.

**PSEUDO-IMPERIAL COINAGE**

**Odovacar, 476 – 493**



290

- 290 *In the name of Zeno, 474-491.* Solidus, Roma 476-493, AV 4.40 g. D N ZENO P – ERP F AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVCCC •A• Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in r. field, star, and in exergue, COMOB. Lacam Rome, Class II. RIC 3657 (Zeno). Metlich p. 11, fig. 2. Depeyrot 92/1 (Zeno). Very rare. Good extremely fine 2'500

## The Byzantine Empire

The mint is Constantinopolis unless otherwise stated

### Anastasius, 11 April 491 – 1 July 518



- 291 Solidus 491-498, AV 4.46 g. D N ANASTA – SIVS P P AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust three-quarters facing, holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGGS Victory standing l., supporting long jewelled cross; in r. field, star and in exergue, CONOB. DO 3f. MIBE 3a. Sear 3. Good extremely fine 500

Ex Rauch sale 95, 2014, 739.

### Justin II, 15 November 565 – 5 October 578



- 292 Solidus 565-578, AV 4.43 g. D N I – VSTI – NVS PP AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing, holding *globus* surmounted by Victory and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG Γ Constantinopolis seated facing, head r., holding long sceptre and *globus cruciger*; in exergue, CONOB. DO 4 var. (unlisted officina). MIBE 5. Sear 345. About extremely fine 300

Ex Hirsch 153, 1987, 721 and Hirsch 296, 2014, 2422 sales.



- 293 Solidus, Alexandria 567-578, AV 4.55 g. D N I – VSTI – NVS PP AVI Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing, holding *globus* surmounted by Victory and shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGGI Constantinopolis seated facing, head r., holding long sceptre and *globus cruciger*; in l. field, Christogram and in exergue, CONOB. DO -. MIBE 14. Sear 347a.

Rare. Obverse from a slightly rusty die, otherwise good extremely fine 750

Privately purchased from Florange Ciani in 1960. From the Pierre Bastien collection.





294

- 294 Solidus, Thessalonica 565-578, AV 4.43 g. D N I – VSTI – NVS PP AVI Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing, holding *globus* surmounted by Victory and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG Constantinopolis seated facing, head r., holding long sceptre and *globus cruciger*; in exergue, CONOB. DO –. MIBE 16. Sear 364D.

Very rare. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

2'000

Privately purchased from CNG.



295

- 295 Solidus, Ravenna circa 575-578, AV 4.39 g. D N I – VSTI – NV P P AVG Helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, holding *globus* surmounted by Victory and shield decorated with horseman-enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGGP Constantinopolis seated facing, head r., holding spear and *globus cruciger*; in exergue, CONOB. DO 210b.2. MIB 21. Sear 407.

A perfect Fdc

750

Privately purchased from Bourgey in 1959. From the Pierre Bastien collection.

#### Phocas, 23 November 602 – 5 October 610



296

- 296 Solidus 607-610, AV 4.48 g. d N FOCAS – PERP AVC Draped and cuirassed bust facing, wearing crown and holding *globus cruciger*. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGG E Angel standing facing, holding *globus cruciger* and long staff surmounted by Christogram. In exergue, CONOB. DO 10. MIBE 9. Sear 620.

Good extremely fine

300

Privately purchased from Bourgey in 1966. From the Pierre Bastien collection.



297

- 297 Solidus 607-610, AV 4.39 g. d N FOCAS – PERP AVG Draped and cuirassed bust facing, holding *globus cruciger* and wearing crown surmounted by cross on circlet. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGG Z Angel standing facing, holding *globus cruciger* and long staff surmounted by Christogram; in exergue, CONOB. DO 10.8. MIBE 9. Sear 620.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

300

Ex Heritage sale 3032, 2014, 24030.

**Heraclius, 5 October 610 – 11 January 641, with colleagues from January 613**



- 298 Solidus 639–641, AV 4.49 g. Heraclius, with long beard, standing between his two sons, all crowned and wearing *chlamys* and holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VICTORIA – AYG4 Z Cross potent on base and three steps. In l. field, Heraclian monogram and in r. field, E; in exergue, CONOB. DO 44e. MIB 53. Sear 770. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 400

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 539.



- 299 Solidus of 22 siliquae 610–613, AV 4.12 g. d N hERACLI – VS P P AVG Draped and cuirassed bust facing wearing plumed helmet with cross on circlet and holding cross. Rev. VICTORIA AVG4I Cross potent on three steps; in exergue, OB+\*. DO 6. MIBE 58. Sear 774. Rare. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 1'200

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 540.

**Constans II, September 641 – 15 July 678, with colleagues from 654**



- 300 Solidus 651-654, AV 4.45 g. D N CONSTAN – tIN4S P P AVG Bust facing with short beard, wearing crown and *chlamys* and holding *globus cruciger*. Rev. VICTORIA – AV4 C S Cross potent on three steps. DO 16b. MIB 20. Sear 953. Struck on a very broad flan and extremely fine 500

Ex CNG sale 97, 2014, 769.



- 301 Solidus 654-659, AV 4.39 g. d N CONSTANTIN4S C CONSTANTIN Facing busts of Constans on l. and Constantine IV on r., each wearing crown surmounted by cross and *chlamys*; between them, cross. Rev. VICTORIA – AVG4 B Cross potent on base and three steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 25b. MIBE 26. Sear 959. An insignificant graffito on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine 350

Ex Rauch sale 95, 2014, 778.



302

- 302 Solidus circa 661–663, AV 4.41 g. [d N CONS] – tANIϠ Facing bust of Constans II, with long beard, on l., wearing plumed helmet and *chlamys*, and Constantine IV, on r., wearing crown and *chlamys*; between them, cross. Rev. VICTORI – A – AVGϠ E Heraclius, on l., and Tiberius, on r., standing facing and both holding a long cross; between them, cross potent on globe. In exergue, CONOB. DO 28c. MIBE 29. Sear 962.

Extremely fine 350

Ex Rauch sale 95, 2014, 785.

**Constantine IV, Pogonatus 13 April 654 – 10 July 685**



303

- 303 Solidus 681–685, AV 4.37 g. P CONS – TN – ϠS P P A Bust, three-quarters facing, wearing helmet and cuirass, holding spear and shield decorated with horseman-enemy motif. Rev. VICTORA – A – VGϠ A Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 12a.1. MIB 10. Sear 1157.

Struck from slightly rusty dies, otherwise extremely fine 500

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 542.

**Anastasius II Artemius, 3 June 713 – 715**



304

- 304 Solidus 713–715, AV 3.99 g. d N APTEMIϠS A – NASTASIϠS MYL Facing bust, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding *anexikakia* and *globus cruciger*. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGϠ I Cross potent on base and three steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 2i. MIB 2. Sear 1463.

Rare. Traces of edge filing, otherwise good extremely fine 1'500

**Leo III the Isaurian, 25 March 717 – 18 June 741, with colleagues from 25 March 720**



- 305 Solidus circa 720-725, AV 4.47 g. d N D LEO – N PA M $\Psi$ L' Facing bust of Leo III, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* and *anexikakia*. Rev. D N CONSt – ANtIN $\Psi$ S M' Facing bust of youthful Constantine V wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* and *anexikakia*. DO 4b.2. Sear 1504.

Almost invisible scratches in reverse field, otherwise good extremely fine 1'000

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 548.

**Constantine V Copronymus, 17 June 741 – 14 September 775, with Leo IV as associate ruler, from 751**



- 306 Solidus circa 741-751, AV 4.46 g. D N CO – NS – tANtIN $\Psi$ S Facing bust of Constantine, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding cross potent and *anexikakia*. Rev. d – LEO–N PA M $\Psi$ L Facing bust of Leo III, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding *anexikakia*. DO 1d. Sear 1550.

Good extremely fine 800

Ex Münz Zentrum 65, 1988, 1762 and Gorny & Mosch 219, 2014, 551 sales.



- 307 Solidus circa 757-775, AV 4.44 g. CONSt – AntInOSS LEOOn $\Psi$ COS Facing busts of bearded Constantine V on l. and Leo IV, beardless, on r., each wearing crown and *chlamys*; between them, pellet and in field above, cross. Rev. G – LC – ON PAM $\Psi$ L $\Phi$  Facing bust of Leo III, wearing crown and *loros* and holding cross potent. DO 2g.1. Sear 1551.

About extremely fine 500

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 552.

**Leo IV Khazar, 775 – 780, with Constantine VI from 776**



308



308

- 308 Solidus 778-780, AV 4.42 g. LCOh VS SC̅̅̅Oh COhStAhtlhOS Facing busts of Leo IV on l. and Constantine VI on r., seated facing on double throne, each wearing crown and *chlamys*; in field above, cross. Rev. LCOh PAP COhStAhtlhOS PATHR Facing busts of Leo IV, on l., and Constantine VI, on r., each wearing crown and *chlamys*; in central field, pellet and above, cross. DO 2. Sear 1584.  
An insignificant area of weakness on obverse, otherwise extremely fine 800

Ex CNG sale 97, 2014, 793.

**Constantine VI, 8 September 780 – 19 August 797**



309



- 309 Solidus circa 790-792, AV 4.41 g. COhStAnt[InOS CA – b'Δ] Facing busts of Constantine VI and Irene, both crowned and with cross between their heads; Constantine wears *chlamys* and holds *globus cruciger* in r. hand and Irene wears *loros* and holds cruciform sceptre in l.; in central field, pellet. Rev. SIRINI [AVΓ' AV mitHR'] Leo III, Constantine V and Leo IV seated facing, each wearing crown and *chlamys*. DO 2a.2. Sear 1591.  
Rare. Good very fine 1'000

Ex CNG sale 97, 2014, 796.

**Nicephorus I, 1 November 802 – 26 July 811, with Stauracius from December 803**



310



- 310 Solidus 803-811, AV 4.45 g. hICI – FOROS bASILES Facing bust of Nicephorus, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding cross potent and *anexikakia*; in l. field, pellet. Rev. STAΨRA – CIS dESPOSE Facing bust of Stauracius, wearing crown and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* and *anexikakia*. DO 2a.3. Sear 1604.  
An unobtrusive graffito on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine 800

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 558.



311

- 311 Solidus 803-811, AV 4.49 g.  $\eta\text{ICI} - \text{FOROS BASILES}$  Facing bust of Nicephorus, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding cross potent and *anexikakia*. Rev.  $\text{StA}\Psi\text{RA} - \text{CIS dESPOSX}$  Facing bust of Stauracius, wearing crown and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* and *anexikakia*. DO 2c.2. Sear 1604. Good extremely fine 800

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 557.

**Basil the Macedonian, 27 September 867 – 29 August 886, with colleagues from 870**



312

- 312 Solidus 868-879, AV 4.40 g.  $+\text{IhS XPS REX} - \text{REGNANTI}\Psi\text{M}^*$  Christ, nimbate, seated facing on lyre-backed throne, wearing tunic and himation, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l. Rev.  $\text{BASILIOS ET CONStAntA}\Psi\text{GGb}'$  Facing busts of Basil on l., bearded, wearing crown and *loros* and Constantine on r., beardless, wearing crown and *chlamys*; both holding patriarchal cross between them. DO 2a. Sear 1704. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 1'000

**Constantine VII Porphyrogenitus, 6 June 913 – 9 November 959, with colleagues from 914**



313

- 313 Solidus circa 949–959, AV 4.45 g.  $+\text{IhS XPS ReX ReGNANTI}\Psi\text{M}^+$  Facing bust of Christ, nimbus with three pellets in each limb, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding book of Gospels in l. Rev.  $\text{COnStAnt Ce ROMAn A}\Psi\text{c}\zeta \text{IA}$  Facing busts of Constantine, with short beard, on l., wearing crown and *loros*, and Romanus II, beardless, on r., wearing crown and *chlamys*, holding long patriarchal cross between them. DO 15. Sear 1751. Good extremely fine 750

Ex Rauch sale 94, 2014, 1560.



314



314

- 314 Solidus circa 949–959, AV 4.42 g. +IhS XPS ReX ReGNANTihM+ Facing bust of Christ, nimbus with three pellets in each limb, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding book of Gospels in l. Rev. COnStAnt Ce ROMAn AΥς ζ IA Facing busts of Constantine, with short beard, on l., wearing crown and *loros*, and Romanus II, beardless, on r., wearing crown and *chlamys*, holding long patriarchal cross between them. DO 15. Sear 1751.

A minor scuff on obverse, otherwise extremely fine 500

Ex Hirsch sale 296, 2014, 2439. From the Dr. Arthur Ziegler collection.



315



- 315 Bulla of "one solidus" 913-944, AV 4.16 g. [+ ihSΥS X – RISTΥS\*] Facing bust of Christ bearded, with cross behind head, wearing tunic and himation, raising r. hand in benediction and holding book of Gospels in l. hand. Rev. Facing busts of Constantine VII on l., Romanus I in centre, and Christophorus on r.: Romanus bearded, wearing crown with cross and *loros*, Constantine and Christophorus bearded, wearing *chlamys*. ZV –, cf. 65 (bulla of two solidi). cfr. Spink sale 135, 1999, 228 (gold bulla of two solidi).

Extremely rare and an issue of great historical importance. An insignificant area of weakness on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 20'000

Constantine VII was a technically illegitimate fourth son of Leo VI (866-912) and Zoe Karbonopsina, born in 905, before the two were married. However, because Zoe gave birth in the Purple Room of the imperial palace, the room in which legitimate heirs were traditionally born, Constantine's place in the imperial succession was established. Due to this peculiar situation, Constantine VII was commonly known by the nickname Porphyrogenitus ("Born in the Purple"). At the age of two, Constantine VII was made junior co-emperor with his father and uncle, Alexander. Unfortunately, Leo VI died in 912 and Alexander in the following year, leaving the eight-year-old Constantine VII to rule under the guidance of a council of seven regents dominated first by Nicholas Mysticus, the Patriarch of Constantinople, and then by his mother. Both Nicholas and Zoe became wildly unpopular due to their failures to push back the expanding Bulgarian Empire of Tsar Simeon and in 919 the regency was given to Romanus Lecapenus, a successful admiral in the Byzantine navy. Romanus secured his position by marrying his daughter to Constantine VII, which allowed him to assume the title of basileopater ("Father of the Emperor"). In 920, Romanus was made Caesar and then full co-emperor in rapid succession. He then increased his influence by elevating his sons, Christopher (in 921) and Stephen and Constantine (in 924), as Caesars, thereby casting Constantine VII further into the shadows. The real power of the Byzantine Empire remained concentrated in the hands of Romanus until 944, when he was overthrown by his own sons. The coup gave Constantine VII, now grown to manhood, his own chance to seize the throne that was rightfully his. With the aid of his wife, Constantine VII deposed the sons of Romanus in 945 and appointed his own child, Romanus II, as Caesar. As independent emperor, Constantine VII delegated much of his authority to able ministers and military men so that he could continue the academic and literary pursuits he loved. During his reign his generals managed to reclaim some territories previously lost to the Islamic Arabs and a diplomatic relationship was opened with the Kievan Rus'. Constantine VII died in November of 959, possibly poisoned by his son or his daughter-in-law, Theophano. This apparently unique gold one-solidus bulla belongs to the co-regency period when Romanus I ruled as senior emperor alongside Constantine VII and Christopher. All three are depicted on the reverse, but notably the portrait of Romanus I takes pride of place in the centre and at a larger scale while Constantine VII and Christopher are smaller to indicate their lower status, despite the fact that Constantine VII was actually the legitimate emperor. As only Christopher appears from among the sons of Romanus I, this bulla must date to the narrow period between his elevation in 921 and the elevation of his younger siblings in 924. Indeed, the bulla may have been produced in connection with the celebration of Christopher's rise to imperial power. The obverse type features the image of Christ Pantocrator ("All-Powerful"), arguably the most popular depiction of Christ in Byzantine art since at least the sixth century. A similar image appears in mosaic form in Hagia Sophia, the patriarchal basilica in Constantinople where emperors were crowned. The image was highly suitable for imperial Byzantine coins not only due to the association of Christ Pantocrator with the crowning of emperors, but because Byzantine emperors were held to be sanctioned by Heaven and served as direct agents of Christ on earth. The Christ Pantocrator type here also may have been intended to further advertise the elevation of Christopher, whose name means "Christ-bearer."

**John I Tzimisces, 11 December 969 – 11 January 976**



- 316 Tetrarteron 969–976, AV 4.14 g. +IhS XIS ReX ReGNANTIhM Facing bust of Christ, with decorated nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l. Rev. +ΘEOTOC BOHΘ'IoδESp Facing busts of Virgin, nimbate, wearing tunic and *maphorion*, M – Θ above her head, crowning John, with short beard, on l., wearing crown and *loros*, and holding long plain cross; above John's head, Manus Dei. DO 6a. Sear 1789. Scarce. About extremely fine 750

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 563.

**Basil II Bulgaroctonos, 976 – 1025, with Constantine VIII, co-emperor throughout the reign**



- 317 Histamenon 1005-1025, AV 4.43 g. + IhS XIS REX REGNANTIhM Bust of Christ facing with ornate crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding book of Gospels in l.; triple border. Rev. +bASILE COhSTAHTIB R Crowned facing busts of Basil, on l. and Constantine, on r., wearing *loros* and *chlamys* respectively and holding a plain cross on shaft between them; triple border. DO 6a. Sear 1800. Good extremely fine 1'250

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 564. Previously privately purchased from Sternberg in 1988.



- 318 Histamenon circa 1005-1025, AV 4.24 g. +IhS XIS ReX ReGNANTIhM Facing bust of Christ, nimbus with two pellets in each limb, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, holding Book of Gospels with both hands. Rev. +bASIL' C CONStAhTI'bR Facing crowned bust of Basil, with short beard, on l., wearing *loros* of square pattern, and Constantine, beardless, on r., wearing plain *chlamys* holding between them long patriarchal cross with X on shaft. DO 15b. Sear 1806. Minor traces of edge filing, otherwise extremely fine 1'000

Ex Künker sale 248, 2014, 7686.



**Constantine VIII, 15 December 1025 – 12 November 1028**



319 Histamenon 1025-1028, AV 4.42 g. +IHS XIS REX REGNANTIhM Nimbate bust of Christ facing, raising r. hand in benediction and holding book of Gospels in l. Rev. +CōnS – tAhtI – bASILEŪS ROM Crowned bust facing, wearing *loros*, holding labarum with pellet on shaft and *anexikakia*. DO 2. Sear 1815.  
Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 750

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 567. Previously privately purchased from Leu in 1992.

**Romanus III Argyrus, 1028 – 1034**



320 Histamenon 1028-1034, AV 4.42 g. +IhS XIS RCX – RCGNANTIhM Christ, nimbate, enthroned facing raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l. Rev. ΘCC bOHΘ' – RōmAhō Romanus on l., crowned and wearing *loros*, standing facing and holding *globus cruciger*; on r., Virgin, veiled and nimbate, standing facing and crowning the Emperor. Between their heads, M – Θ. DO 1c. Sear 1819.  
Extremely fine / good extremely fine 450

Ex Hirsch sale 296, 2014, 2443. From the Dr. Arthur Ziegler collection.



321 Histamenon 1028-1034, AV 4.40 g. +IhS XIS RCX – RCGNANTIhM Christ, nimbate, enthroned facing raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l. Rev. ΘCC bOHΘ' – RōmAhō Romanus on l., crowned and wearing *loros*, standing facing and holding *globus cruciger*; on r., Virgin, veiled and nimbate, standing facing and crowning the Emperor. Between their heads, M – Θ. DO 1c. Sear 1819.  
Extremely fine / about extremely fine 350

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 568.

Constantine IX Monomachus, 11 June 1042 – 11 January 1055



322

- 322 Histamenon 1042-1055, AV 4.40 g. +IhS XIS REX – REGNANTIhM Christ, nimbate, enthroned facing raising r. hand in benediction and holding book of Gospels in l. Rev. + CøhST – A hTh – bASILEYS [Rm] Bust facing, wearing crown with cross and *pendilia* and *loros*, holding labarum and *globus cruciger*. DO 2a. Sear 1829. Good extremely fine 400

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 570.



323

- 323 Histamenon 1042-1055, AV 4.40 g. +IhS XIS REX REGNANTIhM Facing bust of Christ, nimbate, raising r. hand in benediction and holding book of Gospels in l. Rev. + Cøh – tAth – bASILEYS Rm Bust facing, wearing crown with cross and *pendilia* and *loros*, holding long cross with pelleted ends and *globus cruciger*. DO 3. Sear 1830. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 750

Ex Hirsch sale 296, 2014, 2444. From the Dr. Arthur Ziegler collection.



324

324

- 324 Histamenon 1042-1055, AV 4.40 g. +IhS XIS REX – REGNANTIhM Facing bust of Christ, nimbate, raising r. hand in benediction and holding book of Gospels in l. Rev. + CøhStAnt – nOS bASILEYS Rm Bust facing, wearing crown and *chlamys*, holding sword and *globus cruciger*; in upper l. and r. fields, star. DO 4c. Sear 1831. Rare. Extremely fine 1'000

Ex Christie's 5-6 December 1990, Hunt, 773 and Gorny & Mosch 219, 2014, 573 sales.



325

- 325 Tetarteron 1042-1055, AV 4.06 g. +IhS XIS RC XbCSNANTIhm Facing bust of Christ, nimbate, raising r. hand in benediction and holding book of Gospels in l. Rev. +CōnNSt – Ant – BASILEŪS – Rm Crowned bust facing, holding trefoil-tipped sceptre and *globus cruciger*. DO 5a. Sear 1832 var. (pelleted cross).  
Extremely fine 1'000

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 574.

**Theodora, 1055 – 1056**



326

- 326 Histamenon 1055-1056, AV 4.41 g. +IhS XIS DCX RCGNANTIhm Christ, nimbate, standing facing on footstool, wearing pallium and *colobium* and holding Book of Gospels. Rev. +Θ̅COΔ̅ω̅PA – Λ̅V̅FOVC̅t̅ Λ̅ Theodora, crowned, and the Virgin, nimbate, standing facing holding *labarum* between them; the Empress wears *saccos* and *loros*, the Virgin is clad in *pallium* and *maphorion*. On either side of her shoulders, M – Θ̅. DO 1c. Sear 1837.  
Rare. Extremely fine 2'000

Ex Sincona sale 17, 2014, 352.



327

- 327 Histamenon 1055-1056, AV 4.12 g. +IhS XIS DCX RCGNANTIhm Christ, nimbate, standing facing on footstool, wearing *pallium* and *colobium* and holding Book of Gospels. Rev. +Θ̅COΔ̅ω̅PA – Λ̅V̅FOVC̅t̅ Λ̅ Theodora, crowned, and the Virgin, nimbate, standing facing holding *labarum* between them; the Empress wears *saccos* and *loros*, the Virgin is clad in *pallium* and *maphorion*. On either side of her shoulders, M – Θ̅. DO 1d. Sear 1837.  
Rare. Slightly double stuck on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 1'750

Ex Clement Platt FPL 1931, A. collection, 1739 and Sincona sale 17, 2014, 353.

Isaac I Comnenus, 1 September 1057 – 22 November 1059



- 328 Histamenon 1057-1059, AV 4.38 g. +IhS XIS REX – REGNANTIhm Christ, nimbate, seated facing on backless throne, raising r. hand in benediction and holding book of Gospels in l. Rev. +ICAΛKIOC ΠA – CIAEV CPom Isaac standing facing, wearing crown with cross and *pendilia* and *loros*, grasping scabbard with l. hand and holding sword over his r. shoulder with r. hand. DO 2. Sear 1843.

Extremely fine 750

Ex M&M 11, 1953, 280 and Gorny & Mosch 219, 2014, 576 sales.



- 329 Histamenon 1057-1059, AV 4.41 g. +IhS XIS REX – REGNANTIhm Christ, nimbate, seated facing on backless throne, raising r. hand in benediction and holding book of Gospels in l. Rev. +ICAΛKIOC ΠA – CIAEV CPom Isaac standing facing, wearing crown with cross and *pendilia* and *loros*, grasping scabbard with l. hand and holding sword over his r. shoulder with r. hand. DO 2. Sear 1843.

Extremely fine 750

Ex Münz Zentrum 65, 1988, 1826 and Gorny & Mosch 219, 2014, 577 sales. Previously privately purchased from Münzhandlung Kiehn.



- 330 Histamenon 1057-1059, AV 4.33 g. +IhS XIS REX – RGNANTIhm Christ, nimbate, seated facing on backless throne, raising r. hand in benediction and holding book of Gospels in l. Rev. +ICΛAKIOC – [RACIAE CPom] Isaac standing facing, wearing crown with cross and *pendilia* and *loros*, holding *labarum* and sword. DO 1. Sear 1844.

An insignificant scratch in the outer reverse field, otherwise extremely fine 500

Ex Rauch sale 95, 2014, 817.

Constantine X Ducas, 23 November 1059 – 23 May 1067



- 331 Histamenon circa 1059-1067, AV 4.47 g. +IhS XIS RCX – RCGNANTIhm Christ, nimbate, enthroned facing, raising r. hand in benediction and holding book of Gospels in l. Rev. +KωNRACΛ – OΔΟΥKAC Constantine standing facing, wearing crown with cross and *pendilia* and *loros*, holding labarum and *globus cruciger* surmounted by pelleted cross. DO1a. Sear 1847. Good extremely fine 400

Ex Giessener Münzhandlung Dieter Gorny 87, 1998, 842 and Künker 248, 2014, 7694 sales.

Romanus IV Diogenes, 1 January 1068 – September 1071 and associate rulers



- 332 Histamenon circa 1068-1071, AV 4.38 g. KωN – MX – ANΔ Three figures standing on separate cushions; Michel VII, in centre, wearing crown with cross and *pendilia* and *loros* and holding sceptre; Constantius, on l. and Andronicus, on r., both in similar attire and each holding *globus cruciger*. Rev. +RωMANS – EVDΔOXIA. Three figures standing facing; Christ, nimbate, in centre, crowning Romanus on l. and Eudocia on r., both wearing crown and *loros* and holding *globus cruciger*. Above, IC – XC. DO 1. Sear 1859. Extremely fine / good extremely fine 750

Ex Künker 35, 1997, 638 and Hirsch 296, 2014, 2450 sales. From the Dr. Arthur Ziegler collection.



- 333 Tetarteron 1068-1071, AV 4.02 g. +ΘKE – ROHΘ Facing bust of the Virgin, wearing tunic and *maphorium*; holding medallion of the Infant Christ; in field, MHP ligate – ΘV. Rev. Broken legend, half-figures of Romanus, wearing *loros* and crown with cross and *pendilia*, on l. and Eudocia, wearing *loros* and crown with pinnacles and *pendilia*, on r.; holding between them globe which supports long cross. DO 3. Sear 1862. Reverse struck from worn dies, otherwise good extremely fine / extremely fine 500

Ex Sincona sale 17, 2014, 358. Previously privately purchased from Leu in 1969.

**Michael VII Ducas, October 1071 – 31 March 1078, with colleagues from 1074**



- 334 Histamenon 1071-1078, AV 4.40 g. Bust of Christ facing, wearing decorated nimbus, raising r. hand in benediction and holding book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev. +MIX – AHA – RACIA OΔ Half figure of Michael facing, wearing *loros* and crown with cross and *pendilia* and holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*. DO 2a. Sear 1868. Good extremely fine / extremely fine 350  
Ex Rauch sale 94, 2014, 1579.



- 335 Histamenon 1071-1078, AV 4.40 g. Bust of Christ facing, wearing decorated nimbus, raising r. hand in benediction and holding book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev. +MIX – AHA – RACIA OΔ Half figure of Michael facing, wearing *loros* and crown with cross and *pendilia* and holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*. DO 2c. Sear 1868. Extremely fine 350  
Ex Rauch sale 95, 2014, 825.

**Alexius I Comnenus, April 1081 – August 1118, with colleagues from 1088**



- 336 **Post-reform coinage, 1092-1118.** Hyperpyron, 1092/93-1118, AV 4.42 g. +KERO – HΘEI Christ, nimbate, seated facing on backless throne, wearing tunic and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev. A/ΔE/ZIω / ΔEC/ΠO/TH – Tω/KO/MNH/Nω Alexius standing facing, wearing crown, *divitision* and *chlamys* and holding *labarum* with globule on shaft and *globus cruciger*; in upper r. field, *Manus Dei*. DO 20g. Sear 1913. Stuck on an exceptionally broad flan. Obverse slightly double struck and an insignificant graffito on outer reverse field, otherwise good extremely fine 500  
Ex Schulman FPL 111, 1963, 2438; Münz Zentrum 65, 1988, 1845 and Gorny & Mosch 219, 2014, 582 sales.



337

- 337 **Post-reform coinage, 1092-1118.** Hyperpyron, Thessalonica 1092/93-1118, AV 4.31 g. +KERO – HΘEI Christ, nimbate, seated facing on backless throne, wearing tunic and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev. AAE/ZI/ω / ΔEC/ΠO/TH – Tω/KO/MNH/N/ω Alexius standing facing, wearing crown, *divitision* and *chlamys* and holding *labarum* with globule on shaft and *globus cruciger*; in upper r. field, *Manus Dei*. DO 20h. Sear 1924. Good very fine 300  
Ex CNG e-sale 320, 2014, 644.

**John II Comnenus, August 1118 – April 1143, with colleagues from 1119**



338

339

- 338 Hyperpyron 1118-1122, AV 4.23 g. Christ, with decorated nimbus, seated facing on backless throne, wearing tunic and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev. IωΔCCΠOTH John on l., wearing crown and *loros* and the Virgin nimbate, on r., wearing tunic and *maphorion*, both hold patriarchal cross between them; above emperor, *Manus Dei* and in r. field, ΘV / MHR ligate. DO Ia. Sear 1938. Very fine 150  
Ex Sincona sale 17, 2014, 372. Ex stock Heinrich Pilartz, Cologne. 25. 11. 1964.
- 339 Hyperpyron 1118-1122, AV 4.29 g. Christ, with decorated nimbus, seated facing on backless throne, wearing tunic and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev. [IωΔCC]ΠOTH John on l., wearing crown and *loros* and the Virgin nimbate, on r., wearing tunic and *maphorion*, both hold patriarchal cross between them; above emperor, *Manus Dei* and in r. field, ΘV / MHR ligate. DO Ia. Sear 1938. Good very fine 250  
Ex CNG e-sale 320, 2014, 646.

**Manuel I Comnenus, 8 April 1143 – 24 September 1180**



340

- 340 Hyperpyron, 1167-1183 (?), AV 4.25 g. +KERO – [HΘEI] Facing bust of Christ, nimbate, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding scroll in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev. MA/NO/VH Λ / ΔEC/ΠOΤ/H – ω/Π/OP/ΦV/PO/TE/NNH/T Manuel standing facing wearing crown, *divitision* and *chlamys* and holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*; in upper r. field, *Manus Dei*. DO 1e.6. Sear 1956. Obverse slightly double struck, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc 400  
Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 584.



341

- 341 Hyperpyron, 1167-1183 (?), AV 4.33 g. +KERO – HΘ[EI] Facing bust of Christ, nimbate, wearing *pallium* and *colobium* raising r. hand in benediction and holding scroll in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev. MA/NOHA / ΔEC/ΠOT/H – [ω ΠOP/ ΦV/POΓ/NNH/T] Manuel standing facing wearing crown, *divitision* and *chlamys* and holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*; in upper r. field, *Manus Dei*. DO 1b. Sear 1956.  
Good very fine / about extremely fine 200

Ex CNG e-sale 320, 2014, 652.

**John III Ducas called Vatatzes, 1221 – 3 November 1254**



342

342

- 342 Hyperpyron, Magnesia 1232-1254 (?), AV 4.60 g. Christ enthroned facing, nimbate, wearing tunic and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev. [Iω/..] – w/Π/Φ/Π/H John on l. wearing *divitision* and *loros*, holding *anexikakia* and *labarum*, crowned by the Virgin on r.; at sides of the Virgin's head, MP – ΘV. DO 5.10. Sear 2073.  
Obverse slightly double struck, otherwise good extremely fine 500

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 586.



343

344

- 343 Hyperpyron, Magnesia 1232-1254 (?), AV 4.07 g. Christ enthroned facing, nimbate, wearing tunic and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev. Iω/ΔC/[..]Π/[..] – [..]Φ/[..]T/ΠP/Φ[...]. John on l. wearing *divitision* and *loros*, holding *anexikakia* and *labarum*, crowned by the Virgin on r.; at sides of the Virgin's head, MP – ΘV. DO 15b. Sear 2073.  
Obverse slightly double struck, otherwise good extremely fine 300

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 587.

- 344 Hyperpyron, Magnesia 1232-1254 (?), AV 4.46 g. Christ enthroned facing, nimbate, wearing tunic and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev. [Iω/..] – [..]Φ/[..]Π/[...]. John on l. wearing *divitision* and *loros*, holding *anexikakia* and *labarum*, crowned by the Virgin on r.; at sides of the Virgin's head, MP – ΘV. DO 4. Sear 2073.  
Several graffiti, otherwise good very fine 200

Ex CNG e-sale 320, 2014, 656.





345

- 345 Hyperpyron, Magnesia 1232-1254 (?), AV 3.86 g. Christ enthroned facing, nimbate, wearing tunic and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC and in r. field, Π. Rev. Ιω/ΔΕ/ΠΙ/[.] – w/ΠΡ/Φ [...] John on l. wearing *divitision* and *loros*, holding *anexikakia* and *labarum*, crowned by the Virgin on r.; at sides of the Virgin's head, MP – ΘV. DO 16. Sear 2073.  
Clipped, otherwise good very fine 150

Ex Ibercoin sale 16, 2014, 429.

#### Michael VIII Ducas-Angelus-Comnenus-Palaeologus as Despot and Emperor, 1258 - 1261



346

- 346 Hyperpyron, 1261-82, AV 4.36 g. The Virgin *orans* within city walls furnished with six groups of towers; in upper field, MP – ΘV and in lower r. field, Π. Rev. X/M/ΔΕ/ΠΙΟ/Τ[.] – ΟΠ/Α[.] St. Michael on l. presenting the kneeling emperor to Christ enthroned on r., holding Book of Gospels; in upper centre field and r. field, IC – XC. PCPC 5. DO 20. Sear 2243.  
In exceptional condition for this difficult issue, an insignificant area of weakness on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine 750

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 589.

#### Andronicus II, Palaeologus 11 December 1282 – 24 May 1328 and associated rulers from 1294



347

- 347 Hyperpyron 1303-1320, AV 3.88 g. Bust of the Virgin *orans* within city walls furnished with four groups of towers, the central castle flanked by two pellets; in upper field, cluster of pellets and in lower field, C – Π / K – N. Rev. MX/ΔΙ blurred legend Christ nimbate standing facing, blessing the kneeling figures of bearded Andronicus II on l. and beardless Michael IX on r.; both wear *divitision* and *loros*. In field, IC – XC. LPC p. 62, 1. PCPC 128. DO 387. Sear 2396.  
Very fine / good very fine 200

Ex CNG e-sale 320, 2014, 657.



348

- 348 Hyperpyron 1325-1328, AV 4.09 g. Bust of the Virgin *orans* within city walls. Rev. blurred legend, Andronicus II and Andronicus III kneeling at either side of Christ, standing facing and crowning both emperors. In field, IC – XC. LPC 108. PCP 185.1. DO 493. Sear 2461.

Struck from worn dies, otherwise about extremely fine 300

Ex CNG e-sale 320, 2014, 658.



349

- 349 Hyperpyron 1303-1320, AV 4.05 g. Bust of the Virgin *orans* within the city walls furnished with four groups of towers, the central castle flanked by two pellets; in upper field, cluster of pellets and in lower field,  $\Lambda$  –  $\Pi$ . Rev. blurred legend, Christ nimbate standing facing, blessing the kneeling figures of bearded Andronicus II on l. and beardless Michael IX on r.; both wear *divitision* and *loros*. In field, IC – XC. LPC 108. PCPC 185. DO –. Sear 2461

Insignificant area of weakness on reverse, otherwise about extremely fine / good very fine 200

Ex Rauch sale 95, 2014, 832.



350



350

- 350 ***The Coinage of the Crusaders. Baudouin II of Courtenay (?), 1240-1261.*** Hyperpyron, Constantinopolis 1240-1259, AV 4.17 g. Christ, with crossed nimbus, enthroned facing, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; above r. cushion of throne, cross of pellets. Rev. The Emperor standing facing, holding *labarum*, crowned by the Virgin, standing at his side. DO 9c. Sear –. Metcalf p. 229.

Very rare. Slightly off centre, otherwise extremely fine 500

Ex Künker sale 248, 2014, 7703.

We have, doubtfully, attributed this hyperpyron to Baudouin de Courtenay on the basis of what is reported by Metcalf (op. cit., pp. 229-230) and Hendy (DO, vol. 4, part 2, pp. 475 and 476, table 14). These two scholars, referring to documents of the period – in particular the treatise “Pratica della Marcatura” written by the Florentine merchant Francesco Balducci Pegolotti towards the end of the XIII century – assigned this type of hyperpyra with the randomly dotted pellets at either side of the throne to the Latin Authorities, whilst expressing the need for further evidence.

Baudouin was crowned emperor at Saint Sophia in Easter 1240, but left his dominion for France until he joined the Fifth Crusade, during which he was present at Damietta in June 1249. In January 1266, he sold his titular rights to the Kingdom of Thessalonica to Hugues IV, Duke of Burgundy, for 13,000 livres tournois. Under the Treaty of Viterbo, concluded on 27th May 1267, Emperor Baudouin ceded all of his rights over Greece (except the city of Constantinople) to Charles I d’Anjou, king of Sicily; a contract confirmed by the betrothal of his son to Charles’ daughter.

## Auction 111 - Part II

### The Roman Empire

The mint is Roma unless otherwise stated

#### Octavian as Augustus, 27 BC – 14 AD



- 351 Aureus, Colonia Patricia (?) circa 18 BC, AV 7.89 g. CAESARI – AVGVSTO Laureate head r. Rev. MAR – VLT Hexastyle domed temple; within, *aquila* between two standards. C 189. Bahrfeldt 158. BMC 372. RIC 104. CBN 1201. Calicó 246.

Very rare. A lovely portrait of fine style and a light reddish tone, minor marks and a small scrape on reverse field, otherwise good very fine

6'000

Ex Triton I, 1997, 1274 and Triton XI, 2008, 802 sales.



- 352 Aureus, Lugdunum circa 2 BC - 4 AD, AV 7.83 g CAESAR AVGVSTVS – DIVI F PATER PATRIAE Laureate head r. Rev. AVGVSTI F COS DESIG PRINC IVVENT Caius and Lucius standing facing, each togate and resting hand on shield; behind each shield, a spear. Above on l., *lituus* to r. and, on r., *simpulum* to l. In exergue, CL CAESARES. C 42. Bahrfeldt 235. BMC 513. RIC 206. CBN 1648. Calicó 176a.

Several edge marks, possible traces of mounting, otherwise very fine

2'500

Ex Künker sale 248, 2014, 7434. From the Dieter Braun collection.

#### Tiberius augustus, 14 – 37



- 353 Aureus, Lugdunum 14-37, AV 7.71 g. TI CAESAR DIVI – AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. PONTIF – MAXIM Pax-Livia figure seated r. on chair with ornated legs, holding long vertical sceptre and branch. C 15. BMC 39. RIC 29. Calicó 305c.

Struck on a very broad flan and perfectly centred, about extremely fine

5'000

Ex Rauch sale 92, 2013, 1223.

**In the name of Antonia, wife of Nero Claudius Drusus**



354



354

- 354 Aureus circa 41-45, AV 7.72 g. ANTONIA AVGVSTA Draped bust r., wearing crown of corn ears. Rev. CONSTANTIAE – AVGVSTI Antonia as Constantia standing facing, holding long torch and cornucopia. C 1. BMC Claudius 109. RIC Claudius 65. CBN Claudius 12. Calicó 318.

Rare. A lovely reddish tone, several minor marks and an edge nick at two o'clock on obverse, otherwise good very fine

5'000

Ex Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge 796, 1908, H. Osborne O'Hagan, 78 and Hirsch 193, 1997, 26 sales.

This aureus is part of the series that was struck by the emperor Claudius in honour of his deceased parents – in this case his mother, Antonia. Neither of Claudius' parents had been honoured with coinage during the previous three regimes, so the task was left to their afflicted 50-year-old son, whom no one could have predicted would one day be emperor. Antonia, even more so than Livia, was the model of a Roman noblewoman. Her parents Marc Antony and Octavia (Augustus' sister) represented both sides of the civil war that ended at the Battle of Actium in 31 B.C., and from her father, who died shortly after Actium, she inherited an economic empire in the east. Throughout her life Antonia managed her considerable business, political and domestic responsibilities with skill and personal flair. While in her late teens Antonia married Livia's youngest son Nero Claudius Drusus, with whom she seems to have been ideally matched. Together they had three children, with the youngest (the future emperor Claudius) being born in the summer of 10 B.C. on the same day her husband dedicated the Altar of Lugdunum to Augustus. To Antonia at that time, life must have seemed unimprovable. However, the remainder of her life would be a string of sore disappointments. In 9 B.C. her husband died tragically (and she refused ever to remarry), her youngest son Claudius developed severe physical disabilities, her promising son Germanicus was murdered in A.D. 19, and her only daughter, Livilla, was forcibly starved to death (by Antonia herself) after it was exposed that she had poisoned her husband. Antonia's grandchildren fared no better: the three girls were terribly disturbed and unfortunate, her two eldest grandsons were executed after being branded public enemies, and the behaviour of her youngest grandson, Caligula, was so objectionable that many historians believe Antonia took her own life in 37 because she could not face the prospect of living in the reign of Caligula. The reverse of this aureus features Antonia in the guise of Constantia, the personification of courage and perseverance, both qualities for which she was renowned.

**Nero caesar, 50 – 54**



355



- 355 Aureus 50-54, AV 7.69 g. NERO CLAVD CAES DRVSVS GERM PRINC IVVENT Bare-headed and draped bust of Nero I. Rev. SACERD COOPT IN OMN CONL SVpra NVM EX S C Simpulum on r. and lituus on l., above tripod and patera respectively. C 311. BMC Claudius 84. RIC Claudius 76. CBN Claudius 91. Calicó 441a (this coin). Biaggi 241 (this coin).

Struck on a very broad flan and unusually complete for the issue.

Several edge nicks, otherwise good very fine

4'500

Ex Merzbacher 2 November 1909, 1232; Glendining 16-21 November 1950, Platt Hall part II, 1059 and NAC 49, 2008, B.d.B., 140 sales. From the Biaggi Collection.

**Nero augustus, 54 – 68**



356



356

- 356 Aureus circa 64-65, AV 7.20 g. NERO CAESAR – AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. IVPPITER – CVSTOS Jupiter seated l. on throne, holding thunderbolt and long sceptre. C 118. BMC 67. RIC 52. CBN 218. Calicó 412. Good very fine 2'500

Ex Giessener Munzhandlung Dieter Gorny 33, 1986, 360; Lanz 62, 1992, 545 and Hauck & Aufhäuser 21, 2009, 279 sales.

**Vespasian, 69 – 79**



357



- 357 Aureus, Lugdunum 71, AV 7.49 g. IMP CAES VESPASIAN AVG P M TR P PP COS III Laureate head r. Rev. PACI – AVGVSTI Pax-Nemesis advancing r., raising skirt and pointing caduceus to serpent at her feet. C 283. BMC 400. RIC 1130. CBN 303. Giard, Lyon 20. Calicó 655 (this obverse die). About extremely fine 3'500

Ex Tkalec 29 February 2012, 167 and Rauch 90, 2012, 367 sales.



358



- 358 Aureus 71, AV 6.70 g. IMP CAES VES – P AVG P M Laureate head r. Rev. NEP – RED Neptune standing l., r. foot on globe, holding *acrostolium* and sceptre. C 272. BMC 54. RIC 44. CBN 37. Calicó 653a. Minor marks on obverse and a light scratch on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 3'500

Ex Gorny & Mosch 207, 2012, 604 and Gorny & Mosch 219, 2014, 382 sales.

Gorny and Mosch sold this coin as an issue of the mint of Antiochia (RPC 1919). We disagree with this attribution as we feel that it is a product of the mint of Rome.



359

359 Aureus 76, AV 7.07 g. IMP CAESAR – VESPASIANVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. COS VII Cow walking r. C 117. BMC 176. RIC 840. CBN –. Calicó 622.

Light reddish tone and very fine 2'500

Privately purchased from CNG.

**Titus caesar, 69 – 79**



360

360 Aureus 74, AV 7.33 g. T CAESAR – IMP VESP Laureate head r. Rev. PONTIF – TR POT Fortuna standing l. on garlanded base, holding rudder and cornucopiae. C 165 var. (head l.). BMC Vespasian 153. RIC Vespasian 696. CBN Vespasian 127 (this reverse die). Calicó 751a.

Struck on a very broad flan and with a lovely reddish tone, about extremely fine / extremely fine 4'500

Ex NAC H, 1998, 1880; NAC I, 1999, 1819; Gemini IX, 2012, 305 and Künker 216, 2012, 879 sales. From the Harry N. Sneh collection.

**Domitian augustus, 81 – 96**



361

361

361 Aureus 92-94, AV 7.56 g. DOMITIANVS – AVGVSTVS Bare head r. Rev. GERMANICVS Domitian standing in quadriga l., holding laurel branch in r. hand and sceptre in l.; in exergue, COS XVI. C 161 var. (laureate head r.). BMC 213. RIC 749. CBN 190. Calicó 853.

Very rare. Minor marks and an edge nick at six o'clock on reverse, otherwise good very fine 5'000

Ex Triton XV, 2012, 1518 and Gorny & Mosch 219, 2014, 392 sales.

Trajan augustus, 91 – 117



362

- 362 Aureus 103-111, AV 7.32 g. IMP TRAIANO AVG – GER DAC P M TR P Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. COS V P P S P Q R OPTIMO PRINC Arabia standing l., holding branch and bundle of cinnamon sticks; at her feet, a camel walking l. C 88 var. (not cuirassed). BMC 294. RIC 142 var. (not cuirassed). Woytek 290f. CBN 418. Calicó 1004a

Two unobtrusive edge marks, otherwise good very fine

4'500

Ex Triton sale XV, 2012, 1521.



363

- 363 Aureus circa 107-108, AV 6.44 g. IMP TRAIANO AVG GER DAC P M TR P Laureate bust r., with drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. COS V P P S P Q R OPTIMO PRINC Eagle, with open wings, standing facing on thunderbolt, head to l. C 96 var. (draped). BMC 351 var. (draped and cuirassed). RIC 144 var. (draped). CBN 251 var. (draped and cuirassed). Woytek –, cf. 261 (draped and cuirassed). Calicó 1009 var. draped and cuirassed).

An apparently unrecorded variety. Edge filing, possibly from a mount, otherwise good very fine

2'500

Ex Rauch sale 94, 2014, 849.



364

- 364 Aureus 114–116, AV 7.19 g. IMP CAES NER TRAIANO OPTIMO AVG GER DAC Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. P M TR P COS VI P P S P Q R Fortuna seated l., holding rudder and cornucopiae; in exergue, FORT RED. C 153 var. (not cuirassed). BMC 569. RIC 318. CBN 805 (these dies). Woytek 525f. Calicó 1026.

Light reddish tone and good very fine

3'000

Ex LHS 95, 2005, 799 and Heritage 3032, 2014, 23584 sales.

**Matidia, daughter of Trajan's sister**



365 Aureus 112, AV 7.28 g. MATIDIA AVGVSTAE – MARCIANAE F Draped bust r., hair elaborately dressed, above which crescent-shaped diadem. Rev. PIETAS AVGVSTAE Matidia, as Pietas, standing facing, head l., placing hands over Sabina and Matidia the younger. C 9. BMC Trajan 659. RIC Trajan 759. Woytek 728.1. CBN 911. Calicó 1157.

Very rare. A lovely portrait of fine style and a very pleasant good very fine 6'000

Ex Stack's Bowers & Ponterio sale 174, 2013, 5407.

Matidia was the only niece of the emperor Trajan who, having no children of his own, displayed the greatest affection for her. He essentially treated her as a daughter, and she often accompanied him on his travels. In addition to her close connection to Trajan, Matidia shared a mutual fondness for the future emperor Hadrian, who she admired enough to permit him to marry her youngest daughter Sabina. When Matidia died in 119, her funeral oration was delivered by Hadrian himself, as her uncle Trajan had died two years earlier. The reverse of this coin depicts Matidia in the guise of the goddess Pietas affectionately placing her hands on the heads of two young children, both female, who doubtless represent her own two daughters Matidia the Younger and Sabina.

**Hadrian augustus, 117 – 138**



366 Aureus 125-128, AV 7.20 g. HADRIVS – AVGVSTVS Laureate and bearded head r., with drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. COS – III Hadrian on horse pacing r., raising r. hand. C 406. BMC 430. Strack 150. RIC 186. Calicó 1215a. Good very fine 3'500

Ex Künker sale 248, 2014, 7507. From the Dieter Braun collection.



367 Aureus circa 134-138, AV 7.22 g. HADRIVS – AVGVSTVS Bare-headed and draped bust r. Rev. VENERIS – FELICIS Venus seated l., holding Cupid in r. hand and spear in l. C1448. BMC 751. RIC 280c and pl. XIV, 281 (this reverse die). Calicó 1392 (these dies).

A scuff on obverse and some marks on reverse, otherwise good very fine 2'000

Ex Künker 204, 2012, 646 and Künker 248, 2014, 7511 sales.





368



368

368 Aureus circa 134-138, AV 7.18 g. HADRIANVS – AVGVSTVS P P Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. COS – III Hadrian on horse prancing r., raising r. hand. C 410. BMC 503. RIC 348e. Calicó 1221a.  
Ex Heritage sale 3032, 2014, 23590. Very fine 2'000

**Sabina, wife of Hadrian**



369



369

369 Aureus 134-138, AV 7.35 g. SABINA – AVGVSTA Draped bust r., hair coiled and piled on back of head behind metal tiara. Rev. CONCOR – DIA AVG Concordia seated l., holding patera in extended r. hand and resting l. elbow on statue of Spes. C –. BMC –. RIC –. Calicó 1426 (these dies).  
Ex Künker sale 193, 2011, 706. Rare. A very pleasant very fine 4'000

**Antoninus Pius augustus, 138 – 161**



370



370

370 Aureus, 148-149, AV 7.17 g. ANTONINVS AVG – PIVS P P TR P XII Bare head r. Rev. C – OS – III Aequitas standing l., holding scales and cornucopiae. C 237. BMC 646. RIC 177a. Calicó 1498 (for obverse) and 1498a (for reverse, this die). Two minor scuffs, otherwise about extremely fine 2'000  
Ex Hirsch sale 296, 2014, 2191



371



371 Aureus 151-152, AV 7.27 g. ANTONINVS AVG – PIVS P P TR P XV Laureate head l. Rev. COS – III Antoninus standing l., holding globe, l. arm at side. C 305. BMC 771. RIC 206. Calicó 1518.  
Struck on a broad flan and with a lovely reddish tone, about extremely fine 4'500



372



372

- 372 Aureus 155-156, AV 7.02 g. ANTONINVS AVG – PIVS P P IMP II Laureate head r. Rev. TR POT XIX – COS III Antoninus, togate, standing l., holding globe in r. hand. C 995. BMC 864. RIC 256a. Calicó 1673.

Good very fine 2'500

Ex Künker sale 226, 2013, 841.

### Marcus Aurelius caesar, 139 – 161



373



- 373 Aureus 158-159, AV 7.19 g. AVRELIVS – CAES AVG PII F Bare-headed and draped bust r. Rev. TR POT XIII – COS II Virtus, helmeted, standing r., l. foot on helmet, holding spear and *parazonium*. C 747 var. (AVRELIVS ANTON). BMC A. Pius 692. RIC A. Pius 480b. Calicó 1969 (this obverse die).

A lovely portrait, minor edge marks, otherwise about extremely fine

4'500

Ex SBV 25, 1990, 422 and UBS 78, 2008, 1679 sales.



374



374

- 374 Aureus, Roma 159-160, AV 7.27 g. AVRELIVS CAES – AVG PII F Bare-headed and draped bust r. Rev. TR POT XIII – COS II Mars advancing r., carrying spear and trophy over shoulders. C 752. BMC A. Pius 994. RIC A. Pius 481b. Calicó 1973.

About extremely fine

4'000

Ex Künker 143, 2008, 583; Chaponnière & Hess-Divo 2, 2010, 225 and Künker 226, 2013, 851 sales.

### Marcus Aurelius augustus, 139 – 161



375



375

- 375 Aureus 164-165, AV 7.27 g. ANTONINVS AVG – ARMENIACVS Bare-headed and cuirassed bust r. Rev. P M TR P XIX IMP II COS III Victory, half-draped, standing r., placing a shield inscribed VIC / AVG on a palm tree. C 475. BMC 364 note. RIC 127. Calicó 1891.

Struck on a very broad flan and complete. Minor marks, otherwise good very fine

3'500

Ex Hirsch 245, 2006, 509 and UBS 64, 2006, 199 sales.

**Faustina II, daughter of Antoninus Pius and wife of Marcus Aurelius**



376

376 Aureus 161-176, AV 7.29 g. FAVSTINA – AVGVSTA Draped bust r. Rev. HIL – A – R – ITAS Hilaritas standing l., holding long palm and cornucopiae. C 110. BMC M. Aurelius 98. RIC M. Aurelius 684. Calicó 2057. Several minor edge marks, otherwise good very fine 2'500

Ex Rauch sale 20 September 2012, 1037.

**Lucius Verus, 161 - 169**



377

377 Aureus 163, AV 7.23 g. L VERVS AVG ARMENIACVS Bare head r. Rev. TR P III IMP II COS II Armenia seated l., on bow and quiver; behind, trophy. In exergue, ARMEN. C 4. BMC 236 note. RIC M. Aurelius 498. Calicó 2104. Struck on a broad flan and about extremely fine 6'500

Ex M&M 93, 2003, Bally-Herzog, 191 and ACR 12, 2014, 836 sales. Previously purchased from the E. Merzbacher in 1903 for 165 francs.



378

378 Aureus 165, AV 7.28 g. L VERVS AVG – ARMENIACVS Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. TR P V IMP II COS II Victory, half-draped, standing r., placing shield inscribed VIC / AVG on a palm tree. C 268 (not cuirassed). BMC 383. RIC M. Aurelius 534. Calicó 2179. About extremely fine 6'000

Ex Sotheby's sale 21 June 1990, Hunt, 748.

**Commodus caesar, 166 – 177**



379



379

379 Aureus circa 177, AV 7.04 g. IMP L AVREL COMM – ODVS AVG GERM SARM Laureate and draped bust r. Rev. TR P II COS P P Pile of arms; in exergue, DE GERMA. C 89. BMC p. 498, †. RIC M. Aurelius 633. Calicó 2235 (these dies).

Very rare and an issue of great interest and fascination, several edge marks, possible traces of mounting, otherwise good very fine

4'500

**Septimius Severus, 193 – 211**



380



380

380 Aureus, 201-210, AV 7.13 g. SEVERVS – PIVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. RESTITVTOR – VRBIS Roma seated l. on shield, holding *palladium* and spear. C 605. BMC 358. RIC 288. Calicó 2529.

Good very fine

2'500

Ex Künker 216, 2012, 1108 and Ira & Larry Goldberg 80, 2014, 3513 sales.

**Caracalla augustus, 198 – 217**



381



381

381 Aureus 209, AV 6.98 g. ANTONINVS – PIVS AVG Laureate bust r., with aegis on l. shoulder. Rev. PONTIF TR – P XI – I – COS III Mars striding l., holding branch in r. hand and trophy in l. C –. BMC p. 358 note\* var. (draped). RIC 109b var. (draped). Calicó 2787 var. (draped).

An apparently unrecorded variety. A bold portrait and a finely detailed reverse composition. About extremely fine

7'000

Ex Künker sale 248, 2014, 7551.



382

382 Aureus 210-213, AV 7.34 g. ANTONINVS – PIVS AVG BRIT Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. PROVIDENTIAE – DEORVM Providentia standing l., holding wand in r. hand and sceptre in r.; at feet, globe. C 528 var. (only laureate). BMC 100 note var. (only laureate). RIC 227 var. (only laureate). Calicó 2801a.

Rare. A bold portrait work of a skilled master engraver. About extremely fine 7'500

Ex Roma Numismatics sale 5, 2013, 843.

#### Macrinus, 217 – 218



383

383 Aureus 217-218, AV 6.69 g. IMP C M OPEL SEV MACRINVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. FELICITAS TEMPORVM Felicitas standing l., holding caduceus and cornucopiae. C 14. BMC p. 496 \*. RIC 58. Calicó 2938.

Very rare. Several minor marks and scratches and traces of edge filing, otherwise good very fine 12'500

Ex CGB 23, 2004, 518 and Gitbud & Naumann 21, 2014, 677 sales. Previously sold by Ciani in 1941. From the Chantenay-Saint-Lambert (Nièvre) hoard found on the 4th April 1908.

#### Gordian III, 238 – 244



384

384 Aureus, Roma 241-243, AV 4.95 g. IMP GORDIANVS PIVS FEL AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. AETER – NITATI AVG Sol, radiate, standing facing, head l., raising r. hand and holding globe in l. C 37 var. (only laureate). RIC 97. Calicó 3186 (this reverse die).

Minor marks and area of smoothing on reverse field, otherwise about extremely fine 2'500

Ex Stack's 8 June 1994, 2037 and Heritage 3032, 2014, 23628 sales. From the Andre Constantine Dimitriadis collection.



- 385 Aureus 241-243, AV 4.55 g. IMP GORDIANVS PIVS FEL AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. IOVI – STATORI Jupiter standing facing, head r., holding sceptre and thunderbolt. C 108 var. (not draped and cuirassed). RIC 99. Calicó 3200 (this coin). Biaggi 1358 (this coin).  
Light reddish tone and about extremely fine / extremely fine 3'500

Ex M&M 13 June 1953, 842 and NAC 49, 2008, B.d.B., 350 sales. From the Biaggi collection.

#### Herennia Etruscilla, wife of Trajan Decius



- 386 Aureus 249-251, AV 4.14 g. HER ETRVSCILLA AVG Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. PVDICITIA AVG Pudicitia veiled, seated l., holding sceptre and drawing veil with r. hand. C 18 var. (omits drapery). RIC Decius 59a. Calicó 3308.  
A lovely portrait, several edge marks, otherwise about extremely fine 6'000

Ex UBS sale 78, 2008, 1860. Previously purchased from Münzhandlung Basel.

#### Carus, 282 – 283



- 387 Aureus 282-283, AV 4.12 g. IMP C M AVR CARVS P F AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. PAX – A – ET – ERNA Pax walking l., holding olive branch and sceptre. C 44. RIC 31. Calicó 4269 (this coin). Biaggi 1643 (this coin).  
A very attractive portrait of fine style with a lovely reddish tone. Traces of mounting on edge and slightly bent, otherwise about extremely fine 5'000

Ex M&M 19, 1959, 251 and NAC 49, 2008, B.d.B., 404 sales. From the Biaggi collection.

**Diocletian, 284-305**



388

- 388 Aureus, Cyzicus circa 284-294, AV 4.52 g. IMP C C VAL DIOCLETIANVS P F AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. V – I – CTORI AVG Victory in biga galloping r., holding wreath and palm branch. C 464 var. (not cuirassed). RIC 303. Depeyrot 1/2. Calicó 4567a (this reverse die).  
Rare. Minor edge marks, otherwise about extremely fine 4'500

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 219, 2014, 491.



389

- 389 Aureus, Carthago circa 296-305, AV 5.25 g. DIOCLETIA – NVS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. IOM CONSERVATORI AVGG ET CAESS NN Jupiter standing facing, head l., holding thunderbolt in r. hand and sceptre in l. C–. RIC 6 var. (IOVI). Depeyrot 2/5. Calicó 4522 (this coin).  
Very rare. Light reddish tone, two minor edge marks, otherwise about extremely fine 6'000

Ex NAC sale 49, 2008, B.d.B., 422. From the Biaggi collection.

**Maximinus II Daia augustus, 310 – 312**



390

- 390 Aureus, Alexandria 311-313, AV 5.36 g. MAXIMI – NVS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. SOLI IN – VICTO Sol standing l., raising r. hand and holding head of Serapis in l.; in exergue, ALE. C –, cf. 160 (as caesar). Alföldi 488. RIC 132. Depeyrot 13/4. Calicó 5038 (these dies).  
Rare. A bold portrait and a lovely reddish tone. Good very fine 5'000

Ex Hirsch 29, 1910, 1363 and UBS 78, 2008, 1946 sales.

**Constantine I augustus, 307 – 337**



- 391 Solidus, Ticinum 315, AV 4.38 g. CONSTAN – TINVS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. P M TRIB P COS III P P PRO COS Prince seated l. on curule chair, holding globe and sceptre; in exergue, SMT. C 398. Alföldi 303. RIC 30 (this coin listed). Depeyrot 12/6.

Several edge marks, otherwise good very fine 2'500

Ex Ars Classica II, 1922, 1744. Gemini-Heritage VIII, 201, 437 and Gorny & Mosch 207, 2012, 699 sales.

- 392 Solidus, Ticinum 320-321, AV 4.32 g. CONSTANT – INVS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. PRINCIPI I – VVENTVTIS Prince, in military attire, standing r., holding globe and transverse spear; in exergue, SMT. C 411. Alföldi 335. RIC 105. Depeyrot 17/6.

Several marks on edge and in field, otherwise good very fine 2'500

Ex Rauch 63, 1999, 346 and Ira & Larry Goldberg 70, 2012, 3406 sales.

**Constantine II caesar, 316 – 337**



- 393 Solidus, Sirmium 321, AV 4.49 g. D N CONSTANTINVS IVN NOB CAES Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. FELIX PROC – ESSVS COS II Prince standing l., holding globe and baton; in exergue, SIRM. C 107 var. (without D N on obverse). RIC –. Alföldi 127 var. (without D N on obverse). Depeyrot 4/2.

Exceedingly rare, apparently only the third specimen known. A minor edge nick at one o'clock on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine 4'500

Privately purchased from Vinchon in 1967. From the Pierre Bastien collection.

**Constans, 340 – 350**



- 394 Solidus, Treveri 342-343, AV 4.19 g. FL IVL CONS – TANS P F AVG Pearl and rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. OB VICTORIAM TRIVMFALEM Two Victories standing facing, holding between them a wreath inscribed VOT / X / MVLT / XV; in exergue, TR. C 88. RIC 124. Depeyrot 4/4.

Light scratches on obverse and edge marks, otherwise about extremely fine 1'500

Ex Monnaies d'Antan sale 15, 2014, 419.



**Julian II caesar, 355 – 361**



395



395

- 395 Solidus, Antiochia 355–361, AV 4.26 g. D N IVLIANVS – S NOB CAVS Bare-headed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. GLORIA – REI – PVBLICAE Roma and Constantinopolis enthroned facing and supporting wreath bearing an eight-pointed star; in exergue, SMANS. C 23 var. (CAES). Mazzini 23v./a (this coin). RIC 166 var. (CAES). Depeyrot 10/2 (this coin mentioned).

Very rare. Graffito on obverse and traces of edge filing, otherwise good very fine 1'500

Ex Schulmann 5 March 1923, 2801; M&M 52, 1979, 781; Sternberg VII, 1977, 1108; Spink 13 April 2000, Dreesmann, 210 and Heritage 3032, 2014, 23676 sales. From the Mazzini and the Andre Constantine Dimitriadis collections.

**Julian II augustus, 360 – 363**



396



396

- 396 Solidus, Antiochia 361-363, AV 4.41 g. FL CL IVLIA – NVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r., with long beard. Rev. VIRTVS EXERCITVS ROMANORVM Soldier standing r., head l., holding trophy over l. shoulder and placing r. hand on head of kneeling captive; in exergue, ANTA. C –. RIC 197. Depeyrot 15/2. Good very fine 2'000

Ex Stack's 18 April 2005, Louis E. Eliasberg Sr., 20. From the John H. Clapp collection.

**Magnus Maximus, 383 – 388**



397



- 397 Solidus, Treveri 383-388, AV 4.44 g. D N MAGNVS MA – XIMVS P F AVG Rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. RESTITVTOR – REI PVBLICAE Emperor standing facing, head r., holding labarum with Christogram and Victory on globe; in l. field, star. In exergue, SMTR. C 4. RIC 76. Depeyrot 50/1.

Very rare. Almost invisible marks, otherwise extremely fine 7'000

Ex Giessener Münzhandlung Dieter Gorny 22, 1982, 525 and Künker 248, 2014, 7596 sales.

**Honorius, 393 – 423**



398

- 398 Solidus, Ravenna 402-403, 405-406, AV 4.44 g. D N HONORI – VS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG Emperor standing r., holding *labarum* and Victory on globe, l. foot spurning captive; in field, R– V and, in exergue, COMOB. C 44. LRC 736. RIC 1287. Depeyrot 7/1. About extremely fine 500

Ex Künker sale 248, 2014, 7603. From the Dieter Braun collection.

**Aelia Pulcheria, sister of Theodosius II**



399

- 399 Solidus, Constantinopolis 441-443, AV 4.44 g. AEL PVLCH – ERIA AVG Pearl-diademed, draped bust r., wearing double necklace and earrings, crowned by the Hand of God. Rev. IMP XXXXII COS – XVII P P Constantinopolis enthroned l., holding sceptre and *globus cruciger*, l. foot on prow, shield at her side; in l. field, star. In exergue, COMOB. LRC 442. MIRB 35. RIC 303. Depeyrot 84/3.

Rare. Graffito on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine 2'000

Ex Vinchon 9-10 December 1997, 74; Gorny & Mosch 203, 2012, 489 and Gorny & Mosch 219, 2014, 520 sales. From the Dr. Andreas Urs Sommer collection.

**Leo I, 457 – 474**



400

- 400 Solidus, Constantinopolis circa 468-473, AV 4.44 g. D N LEO PE – RPET AVG Pearl diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and ornamental shield. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG I Victory standing l. supporting long jewelled cross; in r. field, star and, in exergue, CONOB. LRC 529. MIRB 3b. RIC 605. Depeyrot 93/1. Graffito on obverse, otherwise good very fine 250