

A U C T I O N

48

A remarkable selection of Greek Coins

21st October 2008

NUMISMATICA ARS CLASSICA NAC AG
ZÜRICH - LONDON

AUCTION 48

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A remarkable selection of Greek Coins

Hotel Baur au Lac
Talstrasse 1, 8022 Zürich
Tel. + 41 (44) 220 50 20

NUMISMATICA ARS CLASSICA NAC AG

www.arsclassicacoins.com

Niederdorfstrasse 43
Postfach 2655
CH – 8022 Zürich
Tel. +41 (44) 261 1703
Fax +41 (44) 261 5324
zurich@arsclassicacoins.com

3rd Floor Genavco House
17 Waterloo Place
London SW1Y 4AR – UK
Tel. +44 (20) 7839 7270
Fax +44 (20) 7925 2174
info@arsclassicacoins.com

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The authenticity of the coins is unconditionally guaranteed, without time limit. All identifications of the items sold in this catalogue are statements of opinion and made in good faith.

The coins will be dispatched by registered and insured mail for the account and the risk of the purchaser. The purchaser is responsible for any dues or taxes outside of Switzerland and is advised to acquaint himself with the formalities. The auctioneer cannot be responsible for contraventions.

The auction is held in Zurich and any legal questions arising shall be determined in Zurich. A buyer consigning commissions or executing room bids acknowledges the acceptance of the above conditions.

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TIME TABLE ZEITTAFEL ORDRE DE VENTE ORDINE DI VENDITA

Tuesday, 21st October 2008 14.00 – 15.30 hrs 1 – 111

EXHIBITIONS AUSSTELLUNG EXPOSITION ESPOSIZIONI

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9.30 – 18.30 hrs (20th October) and 9.30 – 12.30 (21st October)

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Gradi di conservazione	Grades of preservation	Erhaltungsgrad	Degrés de conservation	Grados de Conservación
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

A remarkable selection of Greek Coins

Campania, Cumae



- 1 Didrachm circa 460-450, AR 7.52 g. KVME Female head (nymph Kyme ?) r., wearing necklace and pearl diadem. Rev. KVMAI – O – N retrograde Mussel; above, ear of barley upward. Rutter –, cf. 32-34. *Historia Numorum Italy* –, cf. 526.

An apparently unique and unrecorded type with an impressive and delightful archaising portrait. Good very fine

3'500

Ex A.D.M. collection.

Calabria, Tarentum



- 2 Nomos circa 340-325, AR 7.86 g. Naked *ephebus* on horse prancing r., holding reins, shield and two spears in l. hand and striking with spear in r.; at sides, Π – Λ. Beneath horse, KAA / Δ. Rev. TAPAΣ Taras, naked, seated on dolphin r., adjusting the crest of a helmet held in his l. hand with r.; on both sides, star. Below dolphin, KAA. Vlasto 545 (these dies). SNG München 640 (these dies). AMB 93 (these dies). Fischer-Bossert 761d (this coin). *Historia Numorum Italy* 896.

Rare and among the finest specimens known. An elegant issue in the finest style of the period. Old cabinet tone, an absolutely insignificant area of weakness on obverse, good extremely fine

7'500

Ex Spink Numismatic Circular 101, 1993, 10.



3

- 3 Stater circa 333-331/0, AV 8.52 g. TAPA Veiled and diademed head of Hera r., wearing earring and necklace; below chin, dolphin swimming downwards. Behind neck, [E]. Rev. TAPANTINΩN Young Taras standing r., raising hands in supplication to Poseidon seated l., leaning forward and holding trident; in field r., star / ⚡. Below stool, *diphros* and K. Vlasto 1 (these dies). de Luynes 241 (these dies). AMB 89 (these dies). Kraay-Himer pl. X, 315 (this reverse die). SNG France 1777 (these dies). Jenkins Essays Thompson, pl. 10, 13 and 19 (these dies). Fischer-Bossert G5. *Historia Numorum Italy* 901 (these dies)

Extremely rare and one of the most desirable Greek issues in gold. A reverse composition of great beauty and superb style, minor marks otherwise good very fine

35'000

Of all the coins of Tarentum, this gold stater perhaps elicits the greatest praise for the skill and ingenuity of the engraver. The composition is masterful, and one can only imagine how this would have looked on the grand scale of a statuary group. Beyond the composition, we may revel in the quality of the engraving, which breathes life into a scene that otherwise might appear stiff and formal. The artist treats us to nothing less than an impassioned plea of young Taras to a towering, but caring figure of Poseidon, who considers the proposal.

A coin type of such a highly personal nature demands a tie to history. Various opinions have been offered, which help to narrow the possibilities down to the period 342 to 330 B.C. The two events in this era that could have prompted this coinage are interventions in Southern Italy on behalf of the Tarentines by Archidamus of Sparta in 342 and Alexander the Molossian, whose more enduring (but no less disastrous) campaign began in 334. Robinson prefers the former, interpreting the scene as an allusion to the plea of Taras to its mother city Sparta. Other scholars prefer the latter, associating the coinage with Alexander, especially since the thunderbolt symbol is prominent. Robinson argues that the thunderbolt need not be taken as a certain allusion to Alexander, as it is a common symbol, and that the type is more appropriate to the relationship between colony and mother city.

Though the obverse generally is not the focal point of this coinage, it is worth noting that the beautiful female head – usually described as Persephone – may actually be Hera. In particular, her stephane is decorated with palmettes in a manner identical to that worn by Hera on the staters of Elis. Also of interest is the fact that the inscription TAPA before her face has generally been missed by researchers: Robinson only hinted at what appeared to be portions of the inscription on the Gulbenkian example, though we are fortunate that Rutter, in his recent *Historia Numorum Italy*, includes it in his description of the type.



- 4 *In the name of Alexander the Molossian.* Corcyraean stater circa 334-330, AR 10.93 g. Head of Zeus of Dodona r., wearing oak wreath. Rev. ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟ[Υ] – ΤΟΥ ΝΕΟΠΤΟΛΕ[ΜΟΥ] Thunderbolt; in field l., eagle with folded wings, standing l. *Traité* 331 and pl. CCLXXXIII, 4 (this obverse die). *Vlasto* NC 1926, pl. 9, 12 (this obverse die). *Kunstfreund* 196 (this coin). *Vlasto* 1868.

Extremely rare and among the finest specimens known of this intriguing and historically important issue. A bold portrait of Zeus and a lovely old cabinet tone, extremely fine 30'000

Ex Leu-M&M 1974, *Kunstfreund*, 196; M&M 75, 1989, 235 and NAC 9, 1996, 32 sales.

This silver coin illustrates much more significantly than the gold issue of Alexander the Molossian the need to have coinage of the Epirote weight standard for the troops while Tarentum continues with parallel issues of coins on the Italiote standard. Hence the two existed side by side at the same time, and this may lend support to the theory that Alexander disembarked in Tarentum in 334 B.C. with his great army not as a conqueror but as an ally of the city. This enterprise cost him his life, killed in battle in 330 B.C.



- 5 Stater circa 302, AV 8.55 g. TAPA Veiled and diademed head of Hera r., wearing earring and necklace; below chin, dolphin swimming downwards. Behind neck, IOP. Rev. Horse stepping r., crowned by rider; in field l., ΣΙ. Beneath horse, tripod. *Vlasto* –. *de Luynes* 242 (these dies). *SNG France* 1842 (these dies). *Fischer-Bossert* G 19. *Historia Numorum Italy* 953.

Of the highest rarity, only the second and by far the finest specimen known. A delicate portrait by a skilled master engraver. An insignificant mark on neck, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine 50'000

The reverse of this gold stater falls comfortably within the scope of Tarentine coin designs showing horsemen in a range of riding styles and riding activities that illustrate horses in every pose, from standing to leaping in high action. In this case we have a relatively sedentary scene, but one which certainly relates to a victory in a horse race due to the inclusion of a wreath and a tripod.

Horseback riding was introduced at the thirty-third Olympic Games, held in 648 B.C., and generally took a secondary place to chariot events. Beyond the typical horse race, the *keles*, other events included javelin throwing from horseback, and acrobatics, such as riders leaping on and off horseback, and riders finishing the race course on foot beside their mount (the *anabates*, 'dismounter'). Since the saddle and stirrup were not yet invented, riding was more dangerous in ancient times, and spectators were ever-interested in witnessing a mishap.

This design finds a parallel on a famous Attic pot dateable to c. 520-500 B.C. The vase depicts a victorious rider on horseback, preceded by a herald and followed by an attendant who carries two prizes, a wreath in his outstretched hand and a high-handled tripod balanced upon his head (*BMC Vases* B 144). Numerous tripods have been found at Olympia in the excavations of the stadium banks, and it would appear that they were used as prizes at the early festivals.



- 6 Half-shekel circa 212-209, AR 3.72 g. Horseman r., crowning his horse; in field r., KAH. Between horse's legs, ΣEPAM / BOΣ. Rev. Taras on dolphin l., holding trident in his l. hand and *aplustre* in his r.; in field r., monogram. Below dolphin, T – A – PAΣ. Vlasto 971. SNG ANS 1264. SNG France 2062. Historia Numorum Italy 1078. Lightly toned and good extremely fine 1'000

Lucania, Heraclea



- 7 Nomos circa 360-320, AR 7.87 g. Head of Athena r., wearing crested helmet decorated with Scylla hurling stone; before head, EY. Rev. HP[A – KΛHIΩN] Heracles standing facing, trunk twisted r., strangling the Nemean lion; between his legs, jug. In field l., ΑΠIOΛ and club. SNG ANS 66. Hunterian 7 (these dies). Work ANSNNM 91, 47. Historia Numorum Italy 1378. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 8'000

Ex Tkalec sale 1994, 18.

Laus



- 8 Triobol circa 490-470, AR 1.23 g. Man-headed bull standing l., looking backwards; above, ΛΑ. Rev. Calf standing r., above, ΛΑΣ retrograde. Sternberg 12. SNG Munchen 921 (these dies). SNG Copenhagen 1149 (these dies). Historia Numorum Italy 2276. Very rare. Toned and about extremely fine 800

Metapontum



- 9 Drachm circa 540-520, AR 2.52 g. MET Ear of barley. Dotted border. Rev. The same type incuse. Notched border. SNG Munchen 941. Noe-Johnston cf. 29. Historia Numorum Italy 1460.
A rare denomination in unusually fine condition for the issue. Dark tone and extremely fine 700



- 10 Nomos circa 540-520, AR 8.19 g. ME – TA retrograde Ear of barley. Raised and braided dotted border. Rev. Same type incuse. Notched border. Gorini 9, obverse enlarged on p. 133 and on the front page (this coin). AMB 129 (this coin). Noe-Johnston 94. Historia Numorum Italy 1470.
Perfectly struck and centred in exceptionally high relief. Among the finest Archaic nomoi of Metapontum in existence. An insignificant area of weakness at twelve o'clock, otherwise Fdc 15'000

Ex NAC sale 13, 1998, 129. From the Star collection.



- 11 Third stater circa 290-280, AV 2.61 g. NIKA Head of Nike, facing three-quarters r., wearing *ampyx* and double pearl necklace. Rev. METAIION Ear of barley with leaf to r. Gulbenkian 71. Kraay-Hirmer pl. 84, 245 (this obverse die). Johnston G3 (this coin). Historia Numorum Italy 1629 (these dies).
Very rare and a very attractive specimen of this charming issue. Almost extremely fine 10'000

Ex NAC sale 9, 1996, 66.



12

- 12 Nomos circa 290-270, AR 7.90 g. Bearded head of Heracles Soter r., hair bound with ribbon; lion skin tied around neck and club over l. shoulder. Rev. META Ear of barley with leaf to r., above which, two-handled cup (?). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 85, 248 (this coin). Johnston D 4.3 (this coin). *Historia Numorum Italy* 1621.

Of the highest rarity, only the second and by far the finest specimen known from these dies. A magnificent portrait in the finest style of the period with a lovely old cabinet tone, extremely fine

35'000

Ex Hess-Leu 1958, 19 (illustrated on the front cover); Leu 20, 1978, 15 and NAC 8, 1995, 67 sales. From the Herzfelder and Star collections.

The staters of Metapontum from the mid-4th through to the mid-3rd Century B.C. offer an interesting combination of predictability and variety: predictable due to the consistent use of the grain-ear reverse type, varied because many different portraits were employed. Demeter, Apollo, Zeus, Heracles and Leucippus and Tharragoras are all honoured with portraits rendered in a wide variety of styles, some of which were nearly full-facing.

One of the rare surprises is this issue with the bearded head of Heracles. In her die study of Metapontine staters, Johnston identified three dies for this remarkable issue. The obverse die of the coin offered here is of superior craftsmanship compared with the other two to such an extent that we would be led to believe that this is the prototype of the issue executed by a highly skilled engraver, whilst the other two are inferior copies produced by his apprentices. Johnston also remarks on this difference in quality and suggests that different artists were at work; she also notes that the other two obverse dies share a common reverse die, whereas this obverse die is paired with its own reverse die.

The sculptural prototype for this Hercules head can only belong to the category of sculptures now classified as the 'Farnese Hercules', which is most popularly represented by the statue now in the Naples Archeological Museum. That particular sculpture is a Roman copy of a Greek work thought to have been cast in bronze later in the 4th Century B.C. by Lysippus of Sicyon or by a sculptor from his circle.

The engraver of this die captured the weariness of that Heracles, imbuing the portrait with life by capturing a flow of motion in hair, the bowed diadem, and the beard that is similar in form to that of the famous portrait of Sophocles in the Vatican. (see Richter, *Greek Portraits*, p. 207). Of equal fascination is the resemblance with this portrait to the most skilful obverse dies of roughly contemporary Roman Republican didrachms with the head of Heracles on the obverse and the she-wolf and twins on the reverse (Cr. 20/1); the facial features are so similar that even though the Metapontine portrait is bearded and the Roman is clean-shaven, they are none the less comparable.

This issue was extremely rare up until the mid-1990s, when a certain number of specimens appeared on the market. Fortunately, these all came from the inferior quality dies and no specimen from this particular die has been sold since then, in fact, there are only two specimens known of which this is undoubtedly the finest.

Sybaris



- 13 Nomos circa 520, AR 7.87 g. Bull standing l., looking backwards; in exergue, VM. Rev. The same type incuse. Kraay, NC 1958, pl. I, 19. Gorini 6. ACGC 572. SNG Copenhagen 1154. SNG ANS 832. Historia Numorum Italy 1729.

A very appealing old cabinet tone. Unusually well struck and centred on a full flan,
extremely fine

7'000

Thurium



- 14 Nomos circa 443-400, AR 7.88 g. Head of Athena r., wearing crested Attic helmet decorated with olive wreath. Rev. ΘΟΥΡΙΩΝ Bull walking r. with bowed head; in exergue, fish r. SNG ANS 904 (this obverse die). Holloway, Art and Coinage in Magna Graecia, p. 16, 1 and enlarged p. 128 (this coin). Historia Numorum Italy 1775.

Rare. Unusually well centred and complete, nicely toned and of elegant
Classical style. A countermark on reverse, otherwise extremely fine

5'000

Ex NAC 9, 1996, 81; NAC 25, 2003, 34 and Triton IX, 2006, 675 sales. From the A.D.M. collection.



- 15 Triobol circa 443-400, AR 1,12 g. Head of Athena r., wearing crested Attic helmet decorated with olive wreath; before forehead, [A]. Rev. ΘΟΥΡΙΩΝ Bull walking l. with bowed head; in exergue, fish. SNG ANS 1110 (this obverse die). SNG Lloyd 470. SNG Ashmolean 1010. Historia Numorum Italy 1757.

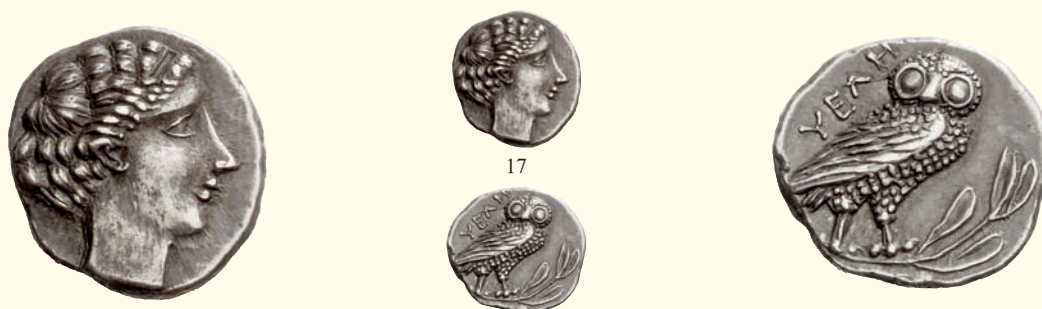
Old cabinet tone and of lovely early Classical style, extremely fine

500

Velia



- 16 Drachm circa 535-465, AR 3.87 g. Forepart of lion r., tearing stag's leg. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. Rosen 20 (these dies). Dewing 450 (these dies). Williams 16. Historia Numorum 1259.
Exceptionally well centred and complete with a lovely tone, extremely fine 5'000



- 17 Drachm circa 430-420, AR 4.01 g. Head of nymph r., hair bound with a band. Rev. YEΛH Owl standing r., with closed wings, perched on olive twig. SNG ANS 1266. Dewing 455 (these dies). Jameson 384 (this coin). Williams 183b (this coin). Historia Numorum Italy 1272.

Perfectly struck on sound metal with a pleasant old cabinet tone, good extremely fine 8'000

Ex Sotheby's 1907, Delbeke, 30; Leu-M&M 1965, Niggeler I, 44; Glendining 1986, Knoepke, 46 and Leu 57, 1993, 10 sales. From the Jameson and Star collections.

Bruttium, Caulonia



- 18 Nomos circa 525-500, AR 7.78 g. KAVA Apollo, diademed, walking r., holding laurel branch in upraised r. hand and small running *daimon*, holding long branch, on outstretched l. arm; in field r., stag r. on platform, with head reverted. Rev. The same type incuse l. without legend. SNG Fitzwilliam 723 (these dies). Gulbenkian 120 (this obverse die). Noe A 7. Historia Numorum Italy 2035.

Rare. An attractive specimen of this desirable issue well-struck on a full flan with a pleasant iridescent tone. Minor oxidation on reverse, otherwise extremely fine

15'000

Rhegium



- 19 Tetradrachm circa 450-445, AR 17.35 g. Lion's head facing. Rev. RECI – NOS Apollo Iocastus seated l. on stool, *himation* over lower limbs, holding sceptre in r. hand and resting l. on hip; all within laurel wreath. Jameson 452 (these dies). C.C. 34 (these dies). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 98, 282. Herzfelder 1. *Historia Numorum* Italy 2477. Very rare and undoubtedly the finest specimen known. The prototype of the entire series and a masterpiece of archaizing style perfectly struck on sound metal, lightly toned and Fdc 90'000

Ex NFA sale XII, 1989, 182.

The earliest coinage of Rhegium, a colony at the end of the 'toe' of Italy, was modelled after the coinage of Sicily, as this city's contacts were much stronger with the island across the strait than with its Italian neighbours. This magnificent tetradrachm is a perfect example: its denomination and weight standard were ideal for trade in Sicily, and even its thick fabric and its designs on both sides in relief, would have made it more acceptable in its intended market.

Enough praise cannot be showered upon this particular coin, which is a pristine example from the first pair of dies used to strike coins at Rhegium. Though the charm of the series endured, none of the Archaic period dies quite match the quality of this first set, which was the prototype for all that followed. The lion's scalp is a tour de force because of its sublime simplicity; the reverse is both forceful and elegant, and possesses all of the best qualities of late Archaic Greek art.

In the late 19th Century Percy Gardner expressed interest in the "...remarkable series of seated male figures, which are artistically of the greatest interest." This included the symbolical bearded figure from the Rhegium tetradrachms, sitting in the attitude of Zeus, and a similar figure on the early coins of Tarentum. He described each of these figures as a *Demos* of the city, but current studies tend to adopt the view that J. P. Six expressed in the *Numismatic Chronicle* of 1898, that the figure is Iocastus, the traditional founder of Rhegium. Not only would he be an appropriate subject, but on some examples (Hertzfelder 59-60) a serpent is shown beneath the chair, and the legend holds that Iocastus died from a snake bite.



20



20

- 20 Drachm 450-445, AR 4.19 g. Lion's head facing. Rev. RECI – NOS Apollo Iocastus seated l. on stool, *himation* over lower limbs, holding sceptre in r. hand and resting l. on hip; all within laurel wreath. SNG Fitzwilliam 838 (this reverse die). Herzfelder –, obverse die unlisted and 16 (this reverse die). *Historia Numorum* Italy 2478.

Rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Toned and about extremely fine

2'500

Ex CNG 42, 1997, 94 and CNG 67, 2004, 194 sales.



21



- 21 Tetradrachm circa 320-300, AR 16.80 g. Lion's head facing. Rev. PHΓINΩN Laureate head of Apollo l.; in field l., monogram YE. Gulbenkian 148 (these dies). Jameson 2410 (these dies). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 100, 290 (these dies). AMB 230 (this coin). Herzfelder 117. *Historia Numorum* Italy 2502.

Extremely rare and among the finest specimens known of this intriguing issue which is the last tetradrachm minted at Rhegium. Perfectly struck in high relief and of impressive Hellenistic style. Lightly toned, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

45'000

Ex NAC sale 13, 1998, 230. From the Star collection.

In his 1957 study of the coinage of Rhegium, Hertzfelder divided the city's tetradrachm coinage into three phases: the first pairs a facing lion's scalp with the seated figure of Iocastus on the reverse, the second pairs a lion's scalp with the head of young Apollo that typically faces right, and the third retains the lion's scalp/Apollo head types, but in a different variety. The most important change in the third series is a markedly different style in the head of Apollo. Instead of the previous 'heavy' portrait, it is now thin and elegant; its form and detailing is not caricature-like, but is refined. The most obvious diagnostic difference is the transformation of Apollo's hair from being gathered in a bun at the back of his head to having its full length run down the back of his neck.

The importance of this transformation of Apollo cannot be underestimated: as so often is the case with Sicilian coinage, it seems to be an evolution inspired by fashionable changes at Syracuse. The electrum coinage issued by the tyrant Agathocles (317-289 B.C.) bears an identical wreathed head of Apollo with long, flowing hair. Hertzfelder's Apollo die R99 so precisely copies the Syracusan electrum (especially pl. 15, no. 2 of Jenkins' study "Electrum at Syracuse" in *Essays Robinson*) that it invites speculation that a Syracusan engraver may have been involved.

Certain details should be noted: at Rhegium Apollo wears an unusual laurel wreath of three layers, compared with the normal two-level wreath at Syracuse, and delicate ringlets of hair trace the forehead and temple of Apollo at Rhegium, whereas at Syracuse they are controlled. However, these are of little consequence when compared to the overall stylistic and compositional similarities, which even include a diagnostic 'dominant' lock of hair at top-and-centre of Apollo's head.

Since Hertzfelder's die count on this final series at Rhegium is minuscule (two Apollo dies and three lion's scalp dies), we should presume that it was a brief issue, even if a substantial number of coins may have been struck. With all of this in mind, it is understandable that these last tetradrachms of Rhegium have, in recent decades, been the subject of studies that increasingly favour a date later than 356-351 B.C., the period proposed by Hertzfelder and recently adopted by Rutter.

The occasion for this numismatic connection between Syracuse and Rhegium was from c. 302 to 293 B.C., when Agathocles was in southern Italy and fought two campaigns in Bruttium that briefly brought the region under his control. Since the electrum coinage of Agathocles generally is considered to have been struck at the outset of his reign, c. 317-310 B.C., the prototype for the new Rhegium Apollo would have been familiar for at least a decade before Agathocles intervened in the affairs of the region.

Thus, we should consider that the final series of tetradrachms from Rhegium belong to a period in which the city was under the direct or indirect control of Syracuse. Precious few details survive of Agathocles' campaign in Bruttium, but we might presume that any Syracusan campaign in Bruttium would have been impossible without the cooperation of Rhegium, a city with a strategic location on the strait between Sicily and Italy. Indeed, Agathocles hardly could have commenced operations against Hipponium, Croton and other cities without concern that his supply lines from Sicily would be in perpetual danger of disruption.

Temesa



- 22 Nomos circa 450, AR 8.13 g. Tripod with three handles, legs ending in lion's feet; on either side, grave. Rev. Crested Corinthian helmet r.; below, TEM. Stazio pl. 21, 9. Jameson 464 (these dies). AMB 234 (these dies). Extremely rare. Toned and good very fine / about extremely fine 12'000

Ex NAC sale 8, 1995, 107.



19 3:1

Terina



23

- 23 Nomos 400-360, AR 7.88 g. TEPINAIΩN Head of nymph Terina r., wearing *sphendone* decorated with star and necklace. Rev. TEP – INA Nymph Terina seated l. on *cippus*, holding patera in r. hand and resting l. on seat; in field r., Nike flying upwards to crown her. Regling 77. Jameson 491 (these dies). Holloway-Jenkins 83. Historia Numorum Italy 2628 (these dies).

Very rare and probably the finest specimen known. A very appealing issue in fine late Classical style, old cabinet tone and extremely fine

18'000

Ex Vinchon 14 April 1984, de Béhague, 22 and M&M 89, 2000, Suter, 24 sales. From the Star collection.

Originally a colony of Croton, Terina was founded late in the 6th Century B.C. on a site that has not certainly been identified, but which likely is beneath the modern city of Sant'Eufemia Vetere on the south-western coast of the Italian peninsula. It seems to have remained under the influence of its mother city until 365 B.C., when it came under the dominion of the Lucanians, who nine years later were replaced by the Bruttians. Except for a brief intervention by Alexander the Molossian in about 330/325 B.C., Terina remained under the Bruttian yoke until 203 B.C., when it was razed by the army of Hannibal.

If coinage may be taken as a yardstick for civic pride, the spirit of this city remained intact despite its history of continual subjugation to stronger peoples. Its 'independent' silver coinage spans more than 150 years, and with few exceptions its silver coins feature on the obverse a female head, and on the reverse a female figure (usually winged) standing, seated or taking flight. The engravers at Terina demonstrated their creativity by creating a significant variety of styles and sub-types within this comparatively narrow range of subject matter.

This coin was struck from one of the most accomplished sets of dies from Terina. The portrait clearly is meant to represent a divinity (most probably the fountain nymph Terina) but in this case the figure on the reverse is not the usual winged figure (Victory or a syncretic figure), but a wingless female.

A wingless figure occurs only one other time on the silver coinage of Terina – on the very first issue, on which the figure holds a branch, is contained within a wreath, and is identified by the inscription as Nike; Poole and Head specifically identified her as Nike Apteros. There is less certainty about the figure on this coin, which ultimately Holloway and Jenkins consider a personification of the city itself, being crowned by a small Victory which flies toward her from behind. Since the coinage of Terina has strong agonistic content, we might consider this remarkable composition to celebrate an athletic victory.

Sicily, Abacaenum



- 24 Litra circa 420-410, AR 0.73 g. Female head facing three-quarters l. Rev. Sow and piglet standing r.; above, BA and in exergue, A. SNG ANS 899 (these dies). Bertino AIIN 20 suppl., pl. XII, 19 and enlarged pl. XV, 9 (these dies). Rare. Dark tone and extremely fine 900

Acragas



- 25 Didrachm circa 490-483, AR 8,94. AKRA Eagle standing l., with folded wings. Rev. Crab. SNG ANS 941. SNG München 50. Jameson 498 (these dies). Lightly toned, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 5'000



26 2:1

Camarina



26

- 26 Tetradrachm circa 425-405, AR 17.15 g. Fast quadriga driven r. by helmeted Athena, holding *kentron* and reins; above, Nike flying l. to crown her. In exergue, linked amphorae and KAM – A – PINA. Rev. Bearded head of Heracles r., wearing lion skin headdress; in field l., olive branch. SNG ANS 1204 (these dies). C.C. 55 (these dies). Westermarck-Jenkins 151 and reverse enlarged on pl. 16.

Extremely rare, the finest of only seven specimens known of which only two are in private hands. This coin, a masterpiece of the Classical Sicilian art, is the finest tetradrachm produced by the mint of Camarina. Perfectly struck and centred on a full flan with a superb old cabinet tone, virtually Fdc

90*000

Ex NAC sale 9, 1996, 139. From the Star collection.

Camarina, a port city on the southern coast of Sicily, issued a relatively limited and inconsistent coinage. It produced only one issue of didrachms before it was re-founded by Gela in 461 B.C. Thereafter it struck an abundance of small-value coins – mainly silver litrai – before, in about 425 B.C., it began two decades of output that included this masterful tetradrachm.

Along with tetradrachms, these two inspired decades saw the production of silver didrachms, drachms, hemidrachms and litrai, complemented by a most attractive series of bronzes. After its destruction by Carthage in 405 B.C., coinage was limited to one minuscule issue of silver coins, and bronzes of no particular distinction.

Greatly inspired is the obverse, most certainly an unsigned work of the master engraver Exakestidas, which we may describe as a masterpiece since the compact chariot scene assumes a grand scale, floating within a remarkably open field. The horses are charged with energy, their heads tossing to and from in a pattern that became nothing less than canonical on Sicilian tetradrachms. We may also revel in a small, but interesting detail, for the group rises above the ground line, gaining skyward momentum as the front hooves of the lead horse break through the engraver's dotted border. This "quadriga" by Exakestidas is still influenced by those of Syracuse, however it is definitely his most original and, in our opinion, most accomplished example of this representation.

This coin was struck from arguably the finest portrait die of Camarina's tetradrachm series. Only four other dies boast such a high artistic standard even if we consider this one to be the finest: R10 features a bearded Heracles that is more vigorous but considerably less refined; and dies R13 through to R15, signed and unsigned work by Exakestidas, all bear a clean-shaven head of Heracles in fine style. This bearded portrait of Heracles curiously appears, isolated, among a series of portraits where the god is represented as beardless. The master engraver, author of this enchantingly beautiful die, remains unknown, and whilst we might speculate that the presence of the olive branch is a type of distinctive signature, as suggested by Rizzo when discussing the works of the so-called "Maestro della Foglia" in Catania, the absence of other issues bearing this symbol makes it impossible to prove such a theory. Nevertheless, we are undoubtedly in the presence of one of the best examples of Sicilian numismatic art.



27

- 27 Tetras circa 420-405, Æ 2.47 g. *Gorgoneion*. Rev. KAMA Owl standing r. on one leg, clutching lizard with the other claw; in exergue, three pellets. Calciati III p. 55, 19. SNG ANS 1224. Westermark-Jenkins 193. Lovely dark green patina and good extremely fine 400

Catana



28

- 28 Litra circa 410-405, AR 0.89 g. Ivy-wreathed head of Silenus l. Rev. KAT – ANE Winged thunderbolt between two shields decorated with stars. SNG ANS 1266 var. Bohrerger ACIN 1979, Li 6. Very rare. A magnificent portrait in the finest Classical style, lovely tone and extremely fine 10'000

Ex A.E. Cahn 84, 1933, 124; M&M 28, 1964, 43; Leu 45, 1988, 38 and Leu 81, 2001, 69 sales. From the Star collection.



29

- 29 Tetradrachm signed by Heracleidas circa 405-402, AR 16.95 g. Laureate head of Apollo, facing three-quarters l., his hair falling in loose curls around the face; in field r., [HPAKΛEΙΔΑΣ]. Rev. Fast quadriga driven l. by charioteer holding reins with both hands; in field above, Nike flying r., holding *taenia* and wreath to crown the charioteer. In exergue, KATANAIΩN / fish l. Kraay-Hirmer pl. 15, 43 (these dies). Rizzo pl. XIV, 10 and XVI, 2 (these dies). Gulbenkian 190 (these dies). C.C. 62 (these dies). Holloway, *Art and Coinage in Magna Graecia*, p. 112 (this coin). AMB 337 (this coin).

Very rare. A superb specimen of this desirable issue, work of a distinguished master engraver.

Unusually well-struck on a full flan with a pleasant old cabinet tone,
about extremely fine

75'000

Ex NAC sale 13, 1998, 337. From the Star collection.

This tetradrachm has been engraved by Heracleidas. On the obverse, rather than on the reverse, we see the head of Apollo. Unlike the usual pattern (with the chariot on the obverse) the images have been inverted, bearing witness to Heracleidas' originality and artistic freedom. Apollo's head is portrayed facing; his thick and abundant hair, criss-crossed by the laurel leaves of his crown, is less detailed and is shown as a soft mass, cascading around his face. The outline of the face itself is heavily marked; the lips are straight and firm, the eyes deep set. No less vigorous is the chariot on the reverse; the charioteer is holding the reins in both hands, testifying to the fierce competition of the horses and lending great dynamism to the entire competition, enriched by the usual motif of the Nike flying to right to crown the charioteer.

Gela



- 30 Didrachm circa 490-475, AR 8.63 g. Naked horseman r., hurling javelin from upraised r. hand. Rev. CE – Λ – A Forepart of man-headed bull r. Kraay-Hirmer pl. 55, 155 (these dies). SNG Aberdeen (this reverse die). Jenkins 8. Lightly toned, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 5'000

Himera



- 31 Hexas 430-409, Æ 1.87 g. Youth riding goat l., blowing conch shell; below, fish l. Rev. IMEPA Nike alighting l., holding *aplustre*; in field l., two pellets. SNG Copenhagen 319. David Freedman collection 161 (misdescribed). Calciati I p. 43, 34. Dark green patina and extremely fine 500

Leontini



- 32 Tetradrachm circa 435-430, AR 17.14 g. Laureate head of Apollo l., hair rolled behind neck. Rev. Λ – EON – TIN – O – N Lion's head l., with jaws open and tongue protruding; around, four barley grains. Rizzo pl. XXIII, 10 (this obverse die). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 8, 24 (this obverse die). AMB 351 (this obverse die). SNG ANS 236 (this obverse die). Bohringer, *Studies Price*, pl. 12, 51 (these dies). Struck on a very broad flan and with a superb iridescent tone, extremely fine 12'000

Messana



- 33 Tetradrachm circa 425-421, AR 17.28 g. Biga of mules driven r. by charioteer, wearing long *kiton*, holding reins in both hands and *kentron* in r.; above, Nike flying r., holding wreath in r. hand and *taenia* in l. In exergue, laurel leaf with berry. Rev. ΜΕΣΣΑ – Ν – Ι – ΟΝ Hare leaping r.; below, dolphin r. SNG Tübingen 608 (these dies). SNG Lloyd 1094 (these dies). Caltabiano 494.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

7'500



- 34 Tetradrachm circa 412-408, AR 17.25 g. Biga of mules driven l. by female charioteer, holding *kentron* and reins; above, Nike flying r., holding wreath in both hands. Rev. Hare leaping r.; in the background, three corns of barley. In exergue, ΜΕΣΣΑΝΙΟΝ / barley corn. Rizzo pl. XXVII, 17 (these dies). SNG ANS 379 (these dies). SNG Lloyd 1107 (these dies). Caltabiano 601.1 (this coin illustrated).

Very rare. Attractive tone and extremely fine

10'000

Ex NAC sale 10, 1997, 119. From the Gillet and A.D.M. collections.

Nacona



- 35 Uncia circa 400, Æ 1.52 g. NAKONAIO Head of nymph r., wearing earring and necklace; hair bound with fillet. Rev. Goat standing r.; above, bunch of grapes and pellet. In front, ivy leaf. Gabrici p. 39. de Hirsch, NC 1883, p. 170, 8 and pl. 9, 8. Rizzo pl. LX, 11. Calciati I p. 325, 2.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Dark green patina and extremely fine

1'200

Naxos



- 36 Didrachm circa 430-415, AR 8.23 g. NAΞΙΩΝ Laureate head of Apollo r.; behind, laurel leaf with berry. Rev. Naked Silenus squatting, holding *cantharus* in uplifted r. hand and *thyrsus* in l.; in field r., tendril and ivy-leaves; to l., herm. SNG Lloyd 1158. Boston 309 (these dies). Lockett 844 (this coin). Cahn 110.18 (this coin).
Very rare. Toned and good very fine 15'000

Ex Sambon-Canessa 1907, de Ciccio, 245; Naville VI, 1924, Bement, 420 and NAC 9, 1996, 183 sales. From the Lockett and A.D.M. collections.

Panormus



- 37 Bronze after 241, Æ 9.88 g. ΠΑΝΟΠ – ΜΙΤΑΝ Helmeted and bearded head r. Rev. *Gorgoneion* on *triskeles* cornered by three stalks of grain. Gabrici pl. VIII, 3. SNG ANS 561. Calciati I, p. 333, 15.
Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Brown tone and extremely fine 800

Segesta



- 38 Didrachm circa 455-440, AR 8.36 g. Hunting dog (Cirneco of the Etna) standing l.; above, barley grain. Rev. ΣΕΓΕΣΤΑΙΙΒ retrograde Head of Aigeste r., hair bound with fillet. Ars Classica sale 16, 1933, 599 (these dies). Hurter 73d (this coin).
Rare. Obverse from a slightly rusty die, otherwise good very fine 3'000

Ex NAC sale 25, 2003, 88. From the A.D.M. collection.

Selinus



39

- 39 Tetradrachm circa 450, AR 17.34 g. ΣΕΛΙΝΟ – Ν – ΤΙ – ΟΣ retrograde Slow quadriga l. in which stand Apollo and Artemis, shooting arrow and holding reins respectively. Rev. Σ – ΕΛΙ – Ν – Ο – Σ The river-god Selinus naked standing l., holding branch and pouring libation over garlanded altar, in front of which stands cock; in field r., statue of bull standing l. on platform set upon stepped block; above, Selinon leaf. Rizzo pl. XXXI, 9 and enlarged on pl. XXXII, 2 (this coin). SNG Lloyd 1221 (these dies). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 66, 186 (this obverse die). Kunstfreund 101 (this coin). Schwabacher 3b (this coin).

Very rare and among the finest specimens known. Perfectly struck on sound metal and exceptionally well centred and complete. Lightly toned and good extremely fine

55'000

Ex Leu-M&M 1974, Kunstfreund, 101 and Leu 76, 1999, 49 sales. From the Star collection.

The close relationship between the Classical period coinage of Selinus and Himera has not escaped notice, as it seems to provide evidence of ties between these two cities, despite their locations on opposite shores of Sicily. We can recognize a general similarity between the tetradrachms of these cities: both have a chariot scene on the obverse and a sacrifice scene on the reverse. We can also see that a cock, the badge of Himera, has been incorporated into the design of this magnificent Selinus tetradrachm; indeed, it enjoys as prominent a position as the Selinon leaf, which was the canting type for Selinus. The solidarity of these Greek cities dates back to at least 480 B.C., when Himera and Selinus alone supported the Carthaginians against Acragas, who was a troublesome rival to both. It is a curious, yet typically Greek Sicilian twist of fate that Himera and Selinus were both destroyed by Carthage in 409 B.C.

The chariot scene is atypical in that it includes two deities – in this case the sibling gods Apollo and Artemis. Artemis drives the quadriga as her twin brother Apollo draws his bow; the choice of this type is hardly surprising since Apollo was the deity of choice at Selinus, which had a massive temple dedicated to the god on its eastern hill.

The reverse shows the river-god Selinus holding a lustral branch of purification as he strides toward a garlanded altar to sacrifice from a patera (for four interesting varieties, see Kraay-Hirmer nos. 186, 188-190). We are fortunate that the inscription names Selinus, who otherwise might be mistaken for Apollo. In addition to the aforementioned cock and Selinon leaf, there is also a bull upon a monumental base. Were it not for the fact that the base differs so greatly from one die to the next, we might presume that it was a local monument; but the inconsistent presentation virtually rules out that possibility.

A. H. Lloyd, in his study of the coin types of Selinus in the 1935 *Numismatic Chronicle*, identifies the statue as the brazen bull of Phalaris in which Phalaris of Acragas (tyrant c. 570-549 B.C.) is said to have roasted his enemies alive. Since Himera was one of the important acquisitions of Phalaris in his quest to become tyrant of Sicily, Lloyd considered this type to represent the longstanding friendship between Himera and Selinus.



40

- 40 Didrachm circa 440, AR 8.73 g. Σ – Ε – Λ Ι – Ν Ο – Τ Ι – Ο Ν Heracles, naked, to r., pressing l. knee against Cretan bull and grasping r. horn with l. hand; r. hand wields club, about to strike the bull. Rev. ΗΥΨ – ΑΣ The river-god Hypsas, naked, standing l. holding branch and patera, pouring libation over altar around which a serpent twines; to r., heron walking r. Above, parsley leave. Rizzo pl. XXXI, 16 (this coin). H. Lloyd NC 1925, pl. XII, 25 (this coin). SNG Spencer-Churchill 49 (this coin). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 67, 187 (these dies). SNG Lloyd 1252 (this coin). Boehringer SNR 76, p. 10, 45 (this coin).

Very rare and undoubtedly the finest specimen known. Two magnificent dies,
work of an extremely skilled master engraver, perfectly struck and centred.

Lightly toned and good extremely fine

20'000

Ex Naville-Ars Classica 16, 1933, 637; M&M 54, 1978, 108 and Leu 25, 1980, 63 sales. From the duplicates of the British Museum, Lloyd and Spencer-Churchill collections.

Much like the contemporary tetradrachms of Selinus, the designs on the didrachm are laden with complex symbolism that has drawn a variety of interpretations, some of which conflict with ancient literary evidence that, in theory, provides information to explain the coin type.

The historian Diogenes Laertius, who early in the 3rd Century A.D. chronicled the lives and doctrines of ancient philosophers, preserves a deed that tradition attributed to Empedocles, a philosopher who lived at least five centuries earlier. Empedocles was said to have brought relief to Selinus, whose people suffered a pestilence from nearby brackish waters. He accomplished this feat by re-routing two rivers to bring fresh, flowing water of a different character into the marshes that were the source of pestilence. His effort was so successful that the people of Selinus began to worship him as a god.

Since two river-gods are identified on the Classical-period coins of Selinus – the eponymous Selinus, and Hypsas – it might be assumed that these were the two rivers that Empedocles had diverted. However, A. H. Lloyd, in his 1935 study of the coin types of Selinus, noted that the course of the Hypsas is several miles from Selinus, and is separated by elevated territory that would make any such diversion impossible.

Instead, Lloyd suggested the river diversion occurred at Acragas, and that during the five centuries that passed between the event and its retelling by Diogenes Laertius, the understanding of the true location was lost. As for the obverse type of Heracles subduing the Minoan bull, Lloyd considered it a canting reference to Selinus, which earlier had been named Heraclea Minoa.

Syracuse



- 41 Tetradrachm circa 480-475, AR 17.28 g. Slow quadriga driven r. by charioteer, holding *kentron* and reins; above, Nike flying r. to crown horses. Rev. ΣΥΡΑΚ – Ο – ΣΙ – Ο – Ν Pearl-diademed head of Arethusa r., wearing necklace; around, four dolphins swimming clockwise. SNG ANS 34 (these dies). Boehringer 124. Struck on sound metal and good extremely fine 10'000

Ex A.D.M. collection.



- 42 Obol circa 480-470, AR 0.59 g. Pearl-diademed head of Arethusa r., wearing necklace. Rev. Four-spoked wheel. Cf. Boehringer pl. 29, B 32. Toned and good extremely fine 600



- 43 Tetradrachm circa 420, AR 17.39 g. Slow quadriga driven r. by charioteer, holding *kentron* and reins; above, Nike flying l. to crown him. Rev. ΣΥΡ – ΑΚ – ΣΙ – Ο – Ν Head of Arethusa r., hair contained in *sphendone* with a headband, wearing earring and necklace with lion's head pendant; around, four dolphins swimming clockwise. SNG ANS 239 (these dies). Dewing 832 (this obverse die) and 835 (this reverse die). McClean 2684 (these dies). Boehringer 711. Very rare and in unusually good condition for the issue. Lightly toned and extremely fine 10'000



- 44 Tetradrachm circa 420-415, AR 17.31 g. Slow quadriga driven r. by charioteer, holding reins and *kentron*; above, Nike flying r. to crown horses; in exergue, grasshopper. Rev. ΣΥΠΑΚΟΣΙ – ON Head of Arethusa r., hair caught up at nape of neck by small *saccos*, wearing earring and necklace. Around, four dolphins swimming clockwise. Rizzo pl. XL, 16 (these dies) and reverse enlarged on pl. XLI, 7. SNG ANS 246 (these dies). Kunstfreund 112 (these dies). Kraay-Hirmer 31, 95 (this reverse die). Boehringer 726.
Very rare and the finest specimen known of this elegant and desirable issue. Struck on a very broad flan and exceptionally well centred with a lovely old cabinet tone, extremely fine 40'000

Ex NAC sale 8, 1995, 160.



- 45 Tetradrachm circa 420-415, AR 17.21 g. Slow quadriga driven r. by charioteer, holding reins and *kentron*; in exergue, grasshopper. Rev. ΣΥ – ΠΑ – Κ [Ο]ΣΙΩΝ Head of Arethusa l., wearing hook-earring and necklace; hair bound with cord and wound five times around the head; on either side, two dolphins snout. Rizzo pl. XL, 18 (these dies) and reverse enlarged on pl. XLI, 8. Boston 349 (these dies). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 31, 96 (this reverse die). AMB 453 (this coin). Jameson 787 (these dies). Kunstfreund 113 (these dies). Tudeer p. 99, 1 (these dies). Boehringer 728.

Very rare and among the finest specimens known. The finest representation of Arethusa of this period and a superb example of early Classical style.

Lightly toned and about extremely fine

60'000

Ex NAC sale 13, 1998, 453 (expertly conserved since previous publication).



46

- 46 Tetradrachm signed by *Sosion* circa 415-405, AR 16.77 g. Fast quadriga driven l. by charioteer, holding *kentron* and reins; above Nike flying r., to crown the driver with an open wreath. Rev. ΣΥΠΑΚΟ – ΣΙΟ – Ν Head of Arethusa with thickly waved hair caught up at nape of neck in serpentine waves, wearing necklace, earring and *ampyx* inscribed ΣΟΣΙ / ΩΝ. Around, four dolphins. Rizzo pl. XLII, 2 (these dies). Gulbenkian 272 (these dies). Kraay-Himer pl. 32, 97 (these dies). AMB 455 (these dies). Tudeer 2.

Very rare and probably the finest specimen known. Struck on an exceptionally large flan and lightly toned. Minor flan crack at four o'clock on obverse and minor porosity. Good extremely fine

25'000

Ex NAC sale 9, 1996, 214.



44 2:1



45 2:1



47

- 47 Tetradrachm signed by *Euth* and *Eumenos* circa 405, AR 17.28 g. Fast quadriga driven r. by winged young god, holding reins with both hands; above, Nike flying l. to crown him. In exergue, EYΘ, dolphin, Scylla to r., holding trident in l. hand over l. shoulder and pursuing a fish with her outstretched r. Rev. ΣΥΠΑΚΟ – ΣΙΩΝ Head of Persephone or Demeter (or Arethusa with the features of Persephone or Demeter), wearing double hook earring and necklace with lion pendant; hair wreathed in barley ears, poppy heads, oak leaves and acorns; beneath neck truncation, EVM. Around, four dolphins swimming clockwise. Rizzo pl. XLIII, 11 (this reverse die). SNG ANS 273 (these dies). Kraay-Himer pl. 33, 103 (this reverse die) and pl. 37, 107 (this obverse die). Giacosa pl. 31 (this coin). AMB 460 (this coin). Tudeer 46w (this coin).

Very rare and among the finest specimens known of this beautiful and innovative issue, work of two skilled master engravers. Perfectly struck and centred in high relief on sound metal, lightly toned and good extremely fine

75'000

Ex NAC sale 13, 1998, 460. From the Pennisi collection.

Horses had been shown in high action on Sicilian coins since early in the 5th Century B.C., notably at Gela and Leontini, but the first time it occurred at Syracuse was in about 430 B.C., when an isolated group of coins were produced from four obverse dies (Boeh. V295-298). Even if they were not artistically inspired, these unsigned dies were a ground-breaking effort. Tetradrachms with horses in nearly identical postures were also struck at Katane, and it is not certain which mint was the innovator, and which the copyist.

About fifteen years passed before another effort was made at Syracuse to show horses in action; from that point onward, however, Syracusan artists abandoned the tradition of showing horses moving at a modest pace and in orderly profile. The occasion for this change seems to have been the conflict with Athens that raged on land and offshore from 415 to 413 B.C. The creativity of Syracusan die engravers was suddenly unleashed, ushering in the mint's most celebrated period, c. 415 to c. 385 B.C. Often accompanying these explosive designs were signatures of the artists who had engraved the dies. This particular coin, struck about a decade into this period of great creativity, bears the abbreviated signatures of 'Euth' (Euthydamos?) on its obverse and Eumenos on its reverse.

The chariot scene has changed from earlier versions in several ways. With a few exceptions Nike had traditionally crowned the horses, but in this period the charioteer tends to receive Nike's wreath. Also, the chariot is not shown in strict profile, allowing the artist to foreshorten certain elements (notably the wheels) and to show the contours of the horses, driver and chariot, especially when – as here – they are shown struggling into a turn.

The charioteer on this die – the only one signed by 'Euth' – is winged, which has invited various identifications, including Agon or Eros. The composition clearly inspired the last obverse die used to strike tetradrachms at Selinus on the eve of its destruction by Carthage in 409 B.C. It is always possible, of course, that 'Euth' himself cut the die for Selinus, which, like Syracuse, had opposed the intervention of Athens.

There also is a maritime element to the obverse die: in the exergue there is a powerful rendition of Scylla capturing a fish, which might allude to the Syracusan defeat of the Athenian fleet in 412 in the Straits of Messina, the realm of Scylla. Another clue, perhaps, was suggested by Jenkins, who describes this Nike as holding in her left hand an *aphalston* or a palm branch, either of which could allude to a naval victory – perhaps, again, the victory of Syracuse over the Athenian fleet. The reverse of Eumenos also departs from earlier versions. Not only is the style markedly different, but the goddess is no longer the Artemis-Arethusa of old; instead she is wreathed in barley ears and poppy heads, and thus is probably Persephone or Demeter.



48

- 48 Tetradrachm signed by *Eucleidas* circa 405-400, AR 17.27 g. Fast quadriga driven l. by female charioteer, holding reins in l. hand and raising flaming torch in r.; above, Nike flying r. to crown her. In exergue, barley ear to l. Rev. Σ[ΥΡΑΚΟΣΙΟ]Σ Head of Athena facing three-quarters l., wearing double-hook earring, necklace of pendant acorns with central *gorgoneion*-medallion and triple-crested Attic helmet on whose bowl signature EVK – AEIA. On both sides, two dolphins swimming downwards. Rizzo pl. XLIII, 21 (these dies). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 112 (this reverse die). Alföldi, *Florilegium Numismaticum* p. 359, 6-7 (these dies). AMB 465 (this coin). Tudeer 59.

Extremely rare and one of the greatest masterpieces of the Classical numismatic art. Struck in high relief and with a superb iridescent tone.

Die break on reverse, otherwise extremely fine

60'000

Ex NAC sale 13, 1998, 465.

Among the most famous and desirable coins of Syracuse are the two varieties of facing-head tetradrachms, both of which appear to have been struck in the same, brief period of achievement, c. 405-400 B.C. The more influential of the two, Kimon's Arethusa *Soteira*, became a model throughout the Mediterranean world for die engravers and artists in different media. Eucleidas' Athena did not win such widespread renown (though it may have inspired coins of the Lycian dynasts struck c. 400-380 B.C.), yet as a work of art it is no less accomplished.

Kimon and Eucleidas both faced the challenge of producing a naturalistic portrait that would appeal to contemporary Greek sensibilities. Kimon framed his Arethusa within a mass of flowing hair, darting dolphins, and inscriptions that were cleverly integrated into the design elements. Eucleidas, did likewise, but had to include within that framework a decorative triple-crested Attic helmet. He represented the vastly different textures of skin, hair and metal in a convincing manner – a great achievement considering it was not at the expense of the composition and beauty.

Jenkins, in his *Coins of Greek Sicily*, comments on Eucleidas' "splendid head of Athena": "...here we see the head of the goddess in semi-facing view. It is the first of such realizations in the range of Sicilian coins to achieve a solid and convincing feel of three-dimensional sculpture, and this is managed without carving the actual planes of the relief very high. Considerable animation is given to the composition not only by the turbulence of the hair but by the crests and other details of the helmet, among which is concealed the artist's signature. The sculptural effect is aided by the way in which at least one of the dolphins on the right seems to appear as if from behind the head..."

The use of Athena's portrait on a tetradrachm of Syracuse was, in itself, an innovation. For two reasons we can reject the idea that the portrait is Arethusa donning an Attic-style helmet to commemorate the defeat of the Athenian invasion of 415-413 B.C.: first, she wears a gorgoneion pendant, which aids in her identification; second, though it would be acceptable to revel in a victory over the Athenians, it would be sacrilegious to mock the goddess Athena, and dressing the local water nymph in Athena's helmet would tread dangerously close to that line. Furthermore, Athena's cult was well-established at Syracuse, and was serviced by a then-ancient temple on Ortygia, an island near the mainland that had been the original site of colonization.

It is also interesting to note that for products of the same mint and approximately the same time, Kimon's two facing-Arethusa dies were prepared as obverses (forecasting a diagnostic change in Syracusan coinage), whereas Eucleidas' two facing-Athena dies were reverses. This was a critical error in the latter case since the reverse die receives the full energy of the hammer blow. Eucleidas' masterful die soon developed a crack beneath Athena's chin that widened with each successive strike. With this in mind, it is at least possible that Kimon decided to use his facing-Arethusa as an obverse based upon having witnessed the fate of Eucleidas' facing-Athena.



- 49 Drachm unsigned work by *Eucleidas* circa 405-400, AR 4.11 g. [ΣΥ – Π – Α – Κ] – ΟΣΙ – ΩΝ Head of Athena facing three-quarters l., wearing double hook earring and necklace of pendant acorns with central medallion and triple-crested Attic helmet. On either side, a couple of dolphins snout to snout. Rev. [ΣΥ – Π – Α – Κ – ΟΣΙ] – ΩΝ Naked Leukaspis advancing r., wearing crested helmet and holding spear in r. hand and oval shield in l.; sword suspended by strap over r. shoulder. In background l., square altar ornamented with garland, and to r., forepart of slain ram on its back. In exergue, [ΛΕΥΚΑΣΠΙΣ]. Rizzo pl. XLVII, 1 (this obverse die). Jameson 810. SNG ANS 310 (this obverse die). Kunstfreund 121 (this coin). Boehringer, Essays Thompson pl. 38, 6. Lacroix, Travaux Le Rider pl. 19, 10 (this coin).

Very rare and among the finest specimens known. A magnificent portrait in the finest style of the period, lightly toned and extremely fine

20'000

Ex Leu-M&M sale 1974, Kunstfreund, 121.

The influence of the facing, helmeted head of Athena engraved by Eucleidas for tetradrachms at Syracuse (Rizzo pl. 43, 21-22; an example of which is lot 49 in this sale) is demonstrated by the fact that it was the model for this drachm struck from unsigned dies. The composition is identical, differing only in the fine details due to the smaller scale of the work.

The Eucleidas portrait was also used for hemidrachms of the same emission, which are paired with a reverse showing a chariot scene. The advancing warrior on this drachm is identified as the hero Leukaspis based upon an inscription in the exergue which rarely is visible on the known examples. The reason for the selection of this type may be historical, as Diodorus informs us that Leukaspis was a Sican who was killed in battle by Heracles. During the turbulent age when this drachm was struck, Syracuse needed every ally it could muster, and an overture like this might have been meant to curry support among the indigenous Sican population.



- 50 Hemidrachm circa 405-400, AR 1.99 g. Σ – Υ Head of Athena facing three-quarters l., wearing double hook earring and necklace of pendant acorns with central medallion and triple-crested Attic helmet. In field l., two dolphins swimming downwards and in field r., two dolphins snout to snout. Rev. Fast quadriga driven l. by charioteer, holding *kentron* and reins; above, Nike flying r. to crown the driver. Rizzo pl. XLVII, 3 (these dies). SNG Copenhagen 674 (these dies). SNG München 1095 (this reverse die).

An exquisite elegant portrait, toned and extremely fine

2'000

Ex NAC sale 10, 1997, 146.



51

- 51 Decadrachm signed by *Kimon* circa 404-400, AR 43.38 g. Fast quadriga driven l. by charioteer, holding reins and *kentron*; in field above, Nike flying r. to crown him. In exergue, display of military harness set on two steps and below l., [ΑΘΛΑ]. Rev. [ΣΥΡΑΚΟΣ] – ΙΩΝ Head of Arethusa l., wearing earring with pendant and beaded necklace; wavy hair bound in front with *ampyx* and caught up behind by net. Around, three dolphins, while a fourth makes dorsal contact with neck truncation; on its body, the signature KIMΩΝ. Regling 5e (this coin). Jameson 1920 (this coin). Jongkees 5d (this coin).

Very rare. Struck in high relief with a delightful old cabinet tone, obverse from a rusty die, otherwise very fine / about extremely fine

55'000

Ex Hirsch 32, 1912, 306 and NAC 18, 2000, 130 sales. From the Jameson collection and the Naro Hoard.

Scholars have long attempted to ascribe Kimon's decadrachms to an historical event as they seem in every way to be commemorative medallions. The Syracusan defeat of the Athenian navy in 413 at first seems an ideal choice, though current thought on the dating of this issue favours the victorious actions of Syracuse in the otherwise devastating invasion of Sicily by the Carthaginians from 406 to 405 B.C.

The most compelling reason to associate the Kimonian decadrachms with a military victory is the display of armour and weaponry that appears in the exergue along with the inscription ΑΘΛΑ, which indicates 'prizes', or at least 'agonistic contests'. Since it was a common practice of Greek soldiers to engrave dedicatory inscriptions on captured armour, a connection might be drawn between that practice and what we observe here.

The obverse scene of a charioteer guiding his team through a bend is devoted entirely to victory. Despite their inherent dissimilarities, the four elements of the scene exist in harmony: the driver is calm and composed, the horses toss their heads wildly as they charge forward, Nike floats above as if undisturbed by the great contest below, and the display of arms and armour is fixed, as if monumental.



52

- 52 Decadrachm signed by *Euainetos* circa 400, AR 42.44 g. Fast quadriga driven l. by charioteer, holding reins and *kentron*; in field above, Nike flying r. to crown him. In exergue, display of military harness set on two steps and below l., AΘΛΑ. Rev. ΣΥ – PA – ΚΟΣΙΩΝ Head of Arethusa (Kore-Persephone) l., wearing barley wreath, triple pendant earring and beaded necklace; around three dolphins, while a fourth makes dorsal contact with neck truncation. Below, EY – ANE. Boston 421 (these dies). de Luynes 1248 (these dies). SNG Copenhagen 689 (these dies). Kraay-Himer pl. 34, 104 (these dies). Gallatin RIII / CII.

Very rare and a magnificent specimen of this desirable coin. Struck on an exceptionally large flan and unusually complete with a delightful light iridescent tone.

Several light scratches on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine

60'000

Ex Giessener Münzhandlung.

Both his contemporaries and successors regarded Euainetos as the ultimate master. No work of ancient coinage has been copied over a longer period or more frequently than his signed Syracusan decadrachm. Most siculo-punic issues replicate the chariot and team, as well as the head on the obverse. The female head in particular must have made an unusually deep impression on the ancients, appearing not only gold and electrum Carthaginian issues, but also on many 4th and 3rd century B.C. coins from sites as geographically disparate as Spain and Crete. In the 3rd century B.C., the head even served as the model for the tondo on varnished Greek bowls. From copyists' embellishments of corn-ears and stalks, we can only assume that they interpreted Euainetos' female head as an effigy of Kore-Persephone. Most researchers have nonetheless interpreted the work as representing Arethusa, in which case the corn-ears are out of place, although reeds of similar appearance would have fitted in very well. Such long-lasting impact and exceptional ubiquity is nevertheless understandable only in the context of a much-revered goddess, certainly not a local nymph.



- 53 Tetradrachm circa 310-304 under *Agathocles*, AR 16.62 g. ΚΟΡΑΣ Head of Kore-Persephone r., wearing barley wreath, earring with drop pendant and necklace; hair flows freely over neck. Rev. Nike, naked to waist, standing r., holding nail in l. hand and hammer in lowered l., about to affix conical helmet to top of trophy of arms consisting of cuirass, shield and greaves. In field l., monogram AI and to r., *triskeles*. In exergue, ΑΓΑΘΟΚΛΕΟΣ. Gulbenkian 334 (this obverse die). SNG Delepierre 703 (this reverse die). McClean 2835 (these dies). AMB 512 (this coin). Ierardi 88.b (this coin).

A magnificent specimen perfectly struck and centred on a full flan.

Lightly toned and good extremely fine

25'000

Ex NAC sale 13, 1998, 512. From the Star collection.



- 54 Bronze circa 295-289 under *Agathocles*, Æ 9.22 g. ΣΩΤΕΙΡΑ Draped bust of Artemis r. with quiver on shoulder, wearing earring and necklace. Rev. ΑΓΑΘΟΚΛΕΟΣ / ΒΑΣΙΛΕΟΣ Winged thunderbolt. SNG München 1268. SNG Morcom 754. Calciati II p. 277, 142.

A lovely untouched green patina and good extremely fine

500

Tyndaris



- 55 Hexas circa 254-214, Æ 2.84 g. ΤΥΝΔΑΡΙΤΑΣ Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. Cock standing r.; behind, star and before, cricket. Gabrici 18. Calciati I p. 81, 14.

Extremely rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Delightful green patina and good extremely fine

1'200

The Carthaginians in Sicily



- 56 Tetradrachm, uncertain mint circa 330-320, AR 17.16 g. Head of Tanit-Persephone l., wearing barley wreath, earring and pearl necklace. Rev. Horse prancing r. in front of palm tree with two clusters of dates. SNG Lockett 1037 (this obverse die). Jameson 913 (this obverse die). Naville sale 10, 1925, 365 (these dies). Jenkins part III 125 (this coin cited).

A magnificent issue in the finest style of the period. Well struck in high relief on a full flan and with a lovely light tone, extremely fine

25'000

Ex Hess-Leu 26, 1962, 128 and Leu 59, 1994, 78 sales. From the Star collection.

Macedonia, Acanthus



- 57 Tetradrachm circa 470, AR 17.01 g. Lion r., attacking bull kneeling to l. and biting into his hind quarters; above, Θ. In exergue, stylised acanthus flower. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. SNG ANS 10. de Luynes 1535. SNG Spencer Churchill 108 (this coin). Desnaux 57 (this coin illustrated).

Rare. Well-struck in high relief, nicely toned and extremely fine

12'000

Ex Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge 1911, Sandeman, 81 and Ars Classica 17, 1934, 332 sales.

Lete or Siris



58

- 58 Stater circa 520, AR 9.21 g. Nude ithyphallic satyr grasping r. arm of nymph, trying to move away from him; in field l., above and r., three pellets. Rev. Rough incuse square. Svoronos, *Hellenism Primitif*, pl. VII, 27 (these dies). *Traité I* 1566 and pl. L, 5. *AMNG* pl. XIV, 31.

Very rare and probably the finest specimen known. A superb example of this desirable issue in superb Archaic style, well struck in high relief with an attractive light tone,
good extremely fine

40'000

Ex Leu sale 50, 1990. 96.

For a coinage that clearly was important in its time, and which today is known in a considerable variety of styles, it is remarkable that the mint identification is still a matter of debate. Even if we do not know where in the Thraco-Macedonian region these coins were struck, in some cases we know where they ended up since they have been found in documented hoards from Thrace, Rhodes, Syria, Jordan, Bactria, Egypt, and Southern Italy (where 18 were amongst the coins of the 1911 Taranto hoard; ICGH 1874).

On the rare occasions that inscriptions are present on these coins, they seem to be retrograde and are faintly engraved, and thus are difficult to read. An apparent mis-reading in the 19th Century as 'Letaion' led to an enduring attribution to Lete, a Macedonian city about 15 miles north of Thessalonica. That tentative identification has been used by generations of scholars. However, more recently some authorities have come to accept Svoronos' reading as 'Sirinon', the ethnic of Siris, a town in the region of Mt. Pangaeus. Kraay agreed with Svoronos' reading, and thus associated these coins with the Satrai, a tribe also in the Pangaion region.



59

59

- 59 Stater circa 500, AR 9.21 g. Nude ithyphallic satyr grasping r. arm of nymph, trying to move away from him; in field l., above and r., three pellets. Rev. Incuse square diagonally divided. Svoronos, *Hellenism Primitif*, pl. VII, 22 (these dies). *Traité I* 1567 and pl. L, 6. *SNG ANS* 953.

Toned and good very fine

4'500

Mende



- 60 Tetradrachm circa 425, AR 17.24 g. Dionysus, head r., wearing ivy wreath and *himation*, reclining on mule back l., holding *cantharus* with r. hand and resting l. on the animal's side. Rev. MEN – ΔΑ – IO – N around linear square containing four palmettes in saltire with a star in the centre; all within incuse square. Kraay-Hirmer pl. 131, 405. *Traité* IV 985 and pl. CCCXVI, 3 (these dies). Jameson 1970 (these dies). *Kunstfreund* 139 (this coin). SNG ANS 344 (these dies). Noe 82 (this coin cited).

Very rare and a superb specimen of this desirable issue of fine Classical style.

Lovely old cabinet tone and extremely fine

35'000

Ex Naville 4, 1922, 442; Leu-M&M 1974, *Kunstfreund*, 139 and Leu 76, 1999. 98 sales. From the Star collection and the Mende (Kaliandra) Hoard of 1913 (IGCH 358).

Mende excelled in the wine trade, rivalling Thasos, Maronea, Naxos, Lesbos and Chios. The ancient authorities Cratippus, Athenaeus, Menander, Hermippus of Smyrna and Demosthenes all speak of the quality and fame of Mende wine. Thus, it is not surprising that on its principal trade coin, the tetradrachm, Mende would choose a design that celebrated wine production. Indeed, most coins of the city bear designs that refer to wine production or to the retinue of Dionysus, the god of wine.

On this example we see an elderly Dionysus in luxurious repose on the back of an ass, clutching a *cantharus* of wine. As shown here, he usually relaxes with his left arm downward, but on occasion (*Mende (Kaliandra) Hoard* no. 65) he assumes an even more decadent pose with his left arm propped upon the head of the ass; on other examples the god's identification is further secured by the fact that he holds a *thyrsus* (*Mende (Kaliandra) Hoard* nos. 60, 61, 63).

Hardly a more appropriate image exists of this god, famed for his wild indulgences and his appreciation for the fruit of the vine. Of great interest is the contrast between the god and the ass: the stiff, servile attitude of the mount contrasts sharply with the decadent, reclining figure of Dionysus. While the ass is focused and dedicated to his workaday task, with its musculature taut and well defined, Dionysus appears unconcerned and soft in his physical form.

In that sense we have two completely different works of art compressed into one scene. The contrast can hardly be accidental, and it must have provided the die engraver with the challenge of unifying these disparate elements into seamless coexistence.

Neapolis



- 61 Drachm circa 400-350, AR 3.72 g. Gorgoneion. Rev. N – [E] – O – Π Laureate head of Parthenos r., wearing earring and necklace. SNG ANS 429 (this reverse die). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 140, 343 (this reverse die). *Kunstfreund* 192 (this reverse die). SNG Berry 40 (this reverse die).

A superb specimen in exceptional condition, attractively toned and extremely fine

3'000

From the Star collection.

Olinthus



- 62 Tetradrachm circa 370-367, AR 14.41 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. X - A - Λ - ΚΙΔ - ΕΩΝ Six-stringed cithara; in upper centre field, ΔΕ. In exergue, ΕΠΙΤΙΜΑΡΧΟΥ. AMNG III pl. 17, 13. SNG ANS 503 (this obverse die). Robinson-Clement, Excavations at Olinthus, 97: A 64 / P 84.

Rare. A beautiful example of late Classical style perfectly struck in high relief,
lightly toned and good extremely fine

18'000

Ex NAC sale 5, 1992, 93. From the Star collection.

Kingdom of Macedonia, Philip II 359 – 336 and posthumous issues



- 63 Tetradrachm, Pella 342/1-337/6, AR 14.51 g. Laureate head of Zeus r. Rev. ΦΙΛΙΠ - ΠΙΟΥ Naked horseman r., holding palm in r. hand and reins in l.; below horse, thunderbolt and in exergue, N. Price Macedonians pl. 11, 57. Gulbenkian 461.

A wonderful portrait of superb style perfectly struck in very high relief,
lightly toned and Fdc

10'000

Ex Leu 18, 1977, 118 and Leu 71, 1997, 139 sales. From the Star collection.



64



- 64 Stater, Abydos 323-316, AV 8.58 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. Charioteer driving fast biga r.; below, star / monogram MO. In exergue, ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ / horse's leg. Thompson *Studia Naster*, 27 and pl. 7, 27. Le Rider –. cf. p. 267 and pl. 91, 14.

Two absolutely insignificant nicks on edge at twelve o'clock on obverse and eleven o'clock on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine

7'500

Alexander III, 336 – 323 and posthumous issues



65



- 65 Stater, Memphis 332-323, AV 8.58 g. Head of Minerva r., wearing crested helmet decorated with serpent. Rev. ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ Nike standing l., holding wreath and stylus; in outer field l., thunderbolt and in lower field l., ΔΙ. SNG Copenhagen 643. Price 3975.

Good extremely fine

3'500



66



66

- 66 Tetradrachm, Mesembria circa 175-125, AR 16.64 g. Head of Heracles r., wearing lion skin. Rev. ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ – ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ Zeus seated on throne l., holding eagle on his r. hand and sceptre in l.; below throne, KO. In inner field l., Corinthian helmet / MA. Price 1077.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

1'500

Antigonos III Doson, 229 – 221



67

- 67 Tetradrachm, Amphipolis circa 227-225, AR 17.06 g. Head of Poseidon r., hair bound in seaweed. Rev. Apollo, holding bow, seated l. on prow inscribed ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΟΥ. Below, monogram. SNG Berry 365. SNG Alpha Bank 1046 (these dies). Merker ANSNM 9, p. 49.

A wonderful portrait well struck on a full flan and with a delightful tone.

Good extremely fine

10'000

Ex M&M 76, 1991, 699; Leu 71, 1997, 161 and Leu 83, 2002, 205 sales. From the Star collection.

Thraco-Macedonian tribes, the Bisaltae



68



68

- 68 Octodrachm circa 480, AR 27.95 g. Warrior, wearing *causia* and holding two spears, standing behind horse. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. *Traité I* pl. XLVII, 1. Svoronos, *Hellenisme Primitif*, pl. 12, 3 (this coin). Raymond, *ANS NM* 126, pl. 2, 6 (these dies). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 125, 384. Boston 617 (these dies).

Struck on very broad flan and with a very appealing old cabinet tone. Minor flan crack,

otherwise about extremely fine

9'000

Ex Hirsch 13, 1905, Roussopoulos, 1006; Naville 1, 1921, Pozzi, 695; Hess-Leu 36, 1968, 150; Leu 45, 1988, 97 and NAC 29, 2005, 172 sales

Thrace, Abdera



- 69 Tetradrachm circa 480, AR 14.65 g. XPA Griffin seated l., with r. forepaw raised. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. Jameson 1028 (this coin). Kunstfreund 36 (this coin). May Abdera 54 (this coin not illustrated). Apparently unique. A beautiful specimen in full Archaic style, old cabinet tone and minor marks on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 20'000

Ex Leu-M&M 1974, Kunstfreund, 36 and Leu 72, 1998, 140 sales. From the Jameson, Mathej and Star collections.

Aenus



- 70 Tetradrachm circa 410, AR 16.36 g. Head of Hermes r., wearing *petasus* with dotted brim. Rev. AIN – [I] Goat walking r.; in field r., caduceus. SNG Lockett 1157 (these dies). Locker-Lampson 131 (these dies). Kraay-Himer pl. 137, 422 (these dies). May 255c (this coin).

Rare. A marvellous specimen of full Classical style with a very pleasant dark tone.

Minor scratch on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine

8'000

Ex Naville V, 1923, 1509; R. Ratto 4 April 1927, 789; NFA XXII, 1989, 236; NAC 6, 1993, 131; Sotheby's Zurich 26 October 1993, 24 and Leu 83, 2002, 138 sales.

Kingdom of Thrace, Lysimachus 323-281



71



71

- 71 Tetradrachm, Byzantium 323-281, AR 17.17 g. Diademed head of deified Alexander III r., with the horn of Ammon; below neck truncation, A. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ – ΛΥΣΙΜΑΧΟΥ Athena enthroned l., holding Nike and spear in r. hand and resting l. elbow on shield decorated with *gorgoneion*; in inner field l., ΘΕ / monogram within circle. Cf. SNG Berry 408. Müller 315. NAC sale O, 2004, 1565. Thompson –.

Toned and extremely fine

1'500

Island off Thrace, Thasos



72



72

- 72 Drachm circa 435-411, AR 3.61 g. Naked ithyphallic satyr supporting nymph under thighs with r. arm, the l. hand under her back. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. SNG Copenhagen 1018. SNG Ashmolean 3664. Le Rider pl. I, 8.

Toned and extremely fine

1'200



73



- 73 Tetradrachm circa 411-390, AR 15.33 g. Ivy-wreathed head of bearded Dionysus l. Rev. ΘΑΣΙΩΝ Heracles, wearing lion skin, kneeling r. in archer stance, about to shoot arrow; in lower field r., flower. All within linear frame. Le Rider pl. II, 23 var. (different symbol). Gulbenkian 465 var. (different symbol).

An apparently unrecorded symbol for this rare issue. Of fine Classical style and with a lovely tone, extremely fine

25'000

Thessaly, Larissa



- 74 Didrachm circa 150, AR 11.96 g. Head of nymph Larissa facing three-quarters l., wearing *ampyx*, earring and necklace. Rev. ΛΑΡΙΣΣΑ – Σ / ΑΙΩΝ Bridled horse advancing r., r. foreleg raised. SNG Copenhagen 119. Jameson 1092. Hermann Larissa pl. V, 2.

Attractively toned, minor marks otherwise extremely fine

6'000

Ex LHS sale 100, 2007, 223.

Illyria, Dyrrachium



- 75 Stater circa 360, AR 10.87 g. Cow standing l., with head turned back, suckling calf kneeling r.; on flank, Δ. Rev. Δ – Υ – Ρ around floral pattern within linear frame; in exergue, club. Cf. Delepiere 1167. BMC 9.

A very attractive issue perfectly struck on sound metal, lightly toned and extremely fine

10'000

Ex Christie's sale 11 December 1992, Elisabeth Washburn King collection property of the Bryn Mawr college, 679. Privately purchased from M&M in 1946 for \$ 46.40. From the Star collection.

Attica, Athens



76

- 76 Tetradrachm circa 450, AR 17.17 g. Head of Athena r., wearing crested helmet, earring and necklace; bowl ornamented with spiral and three olive leaves. Rev. AΘE Owl standing r., head facing; in upper field l., olive twig with two leaves and berry. All within incuse square. Star group IV-V. Svoronos pl. 9.

A wonderful specimen perfectly struck in very high relief and with a lovely iridescent tone.

Absolutely insignificant die break on reverse, otherwise virtually as struck and Fdc

10'000

Privately purchased from Spink in 1994.



77

- 77 Tetradrachm circa 440-430, AR 17.19 g. Head of Athena r., wearing crested helmet, earring and necklace; bowl ornamented with spiral and three olive leaves. Rev. AΘE Owl standing r., head facing; in upper field l., olive twig with two leaves and berry. All within incuse square. Dewing 1592. Kraay-Himer pl. 119, cf. 363. Svoronos pl. 12, cf. 22.

Struck on an exceptionally large flan, lightly toned and extremely fine

4'000



78

- 78 Tetradrachm circa 430-410, AR 17.19 g. Head of Athena r., wearing crested helmet, earring and necklace; bowl ornamented with spiral and three olive leaves. Rev. ΑΘΕ Owl standing r., head facing; in upper field l., olive twig with two leaves and berry. All within incuse square. Boston 1085. McClean 5811 and pl. 207, 2. Svoronos pl. 14, cf 1-2.

Of superb early Classical style, wonderfully toned and good extremely fine

7'500

Ex Vinchon 15 November 1965, 279 and Leu 77, 2000, 208 sales. From the Star collection.

The Celator on Volume 14, n.7 in July 2000 in an article about the results of Leu auction 77 made the following comment about the coin here offered: "However, Athens did very well when a common type tetradrachm of astounding beauty (est 2500) sold to a determined Belgian collector fighting off bidding attacks from all corners".



79

- 79 Tetradrachm circa 86-84, AR 16.75 g. Head of Athena r., wearing Attic crested helmet decorated with Pegasus on bowl and small quadriga on visor. Rev. MARKOY – TAMIOY in monograms Owl standing r. perched on amphora inscribed A; all within laurel wreath. Boehringer AMUGS 5, pp. 28-31 and pl. 9, 10 (this coin). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 120, 366 (this coin). Dewing 1653. Thompson New Style 1293a (this coin).
Lightly toned and good extremely fine 4'500

Ex Leu sale 13, 1975, 158.

Few Athenian coins are as historically relevant as those of 87/6-84 B.C., when the Roman consul Sulla landed his army in Greece to wage war against Mithradates VI, the Pontic king who recently had taken the region by force. Not only are these coins the last 'ancient' silver coins struck in Athens, but they are directly tied to historical events, and are mentioned in the ancient literature.

The Sullan coinage at Athens consists mainly of silver tetradrachms, a smaller component of silver drachms, and a bronze coinage that today is very rare. The silver coins employ the basic designs of Athenian 'New Style' tetradrachms, which in ancient times were called *stephanophoroi* ('wreath-bearers') because the reverse design was enclosed within a wreath. But that is where the similarities end between Athenian coinage and the Athenian-style coinage of Sulla. The style of Sulla's coins is quite different than their predecessor Athenian coinage, and the symbols and weighty inscriptions that cluttered the reverse field of the Athenian coins are replaced only with two monograms or two trophies.

The monogram coins seem to have been the first issue, for which Thompson suggested a starting date of 86 B.C., after Sulla captured Athens. The trophy coins are regarded as the second issue, and presumably were struck shortly before Sulla left Athens to return to Rome. However, there seems little reason to doubt that some of the monogram coins were struck outside of Athens, and for this and other reasons they often have been described as 'pseudo-Athenian' coins. Sulla landed in Greece in the spring of 87 B.C., and did not capture Athens for a year. During that period he would have needed coinage to support his army and to conduct a siege. Appian (*Mith.* V.30) describes how Sulla immediately collected money from the Greeks who supported the Romans against Mithradates. Might not this new fund have been converted into coinage that had a familiar Athenian type, but was easily distinguishable as a product of Sulla?

Another source, Plutarch (*Lucullus* II.2), describes how Sulla's proquaestor L. Licinius Lucullus was put in charge of coinage on this expedition, and that he did such a fine job that the coins he made came to be named after him: "...it was called 'Lucullan' after him, and circulated very widely because the needs of the soldiers during the war caused it to be exchanged quickly." An inscription from Delphi concerning the sale of slaves echoes Plutarch: "...they paid for these in one sum of a hundred and fifty 'flats' of Lucullus..." A colloquial description like 'flats' would be fitting for Athenian 'New Style' coins, which are broad and thin, and would lend themselves to such a nickname.

Aegina



- 80 Stater circa 480, AR 12.25 g. Sea turtle seen from above. Rev. Large skew pattern. Boston 1111. *Traité* 1036 and pl. XXX, 18. Dewing 1674. *Kunstfreund* 16 (this coin). Millbank 15.
Well struck and centred in exceptionally high relief. Lightly toned and extremely fine 18'000

Ex Leu-M&M 1974, *Kunstfreund*, 16; Leu 36, 7, 1985, 129 and Leu 71, 1999, 178 sales. From the Star collection.

Though it is technically impossible to know which city-state was the first in Greece to strike coins, it would seem that the honour belongs to Aegina, an island off the coast of Attica whose people excelled as sailors and merchants. The first type of Aeginetan stater, now attributed to c. 555-550 B.C., has on its obverse a turtle with spider-like flippers and a narrow, shield-shaped carapace decorated with a row of pellets along the central ridge; the reverse features a small, deep incuse square with raised, thin criss-crossing ridges. Such was the basic form of Aeginetan coinage for centuries to come.

The initial issue was followed by a similar one (c. 550-530 B.C.) on which the turtle had a heavy collar, and the raised dividers in the incuse square assumed the familiar 'Union Jack' pattern. The collared turtle/'Union Jack' type subsequently went through at least five stages of development, covering the period c. 530 to c. 450 B.C. The shell on these later pieces is often decorated with a trefoil collar, with some taking on the form usually described as a 'T-back' the T-form created by the decorative pellets. Curiously enough, mixed within these turtles, from the periods c. 550-530 and c. 500-490/80 B.C., are 'proto tortoise' coins, which instead of a turtle show a tortoise with a shield-shaped, segmented shell.

Aegina's next evolution was dramatic, for the familiar turtle was permanently replaced with a tortoise. The date of this exchange is not certainly known, though dates such as c. 457, c. 450, or c. 446 B.C. have been offered. In this case the tortoise had an oblong-shaped shell with raised, segmented squares that made it distinct from the earlier 'proto-tortoises', which had a shell that tapered at the end and which was of sharper relief. The 'Union Jack' incuse punch remained with the incuse areas being relatively shallow, with thick bars separating the sunken squares and triangles. The bars eventually became thinner, and various symbols and letters were placed within the sunken areas. On some of the last staters, generally dated from c. 350 into the 320s, the island's ethnic appears in the obverse field as the letters AI flanking the tortoise, or within the incuse portions of the reverse, abbreviated as AI, AII or AIII. Though minting of the tortoises seems to have ended by the late 4th Century B.C., they continued to circulate, with some of the later drachms even being included in a hoard from Zougia in the Peloponnese (ICGH 301) that was buried in about 146 B.C.

Corinthia, Corinth



- 81 Stater circa 490-450, AR 8.65 g. Bridle Pegasus flying r.; below, *koppa*. Rev. Helmeted head of Athena r., wearing pearl necklace; behind, *koppa*. Calciati 80. Ravel P 150 / T 212.
Toned and about extremely fine / extremely fine 2'500

Syciona, Sycion



82

- 82 Drachm circa 431-400, AR 6.08 g. Dove, with raised wings, alighting l; below and above tail, Σ – E. Rev. Dove flying l; all within laurel wreath. BMC 26ff. *Traité* 764 and pl. CXX, 1. SNG Copenhagen 34. BCD Peloponnesos 174 (this coin).

Rare. Well struck in high relief on a very broad flan and extremely fine

5'000

Ex Vinchon 3 December 1984, 16 and LHS 96, 2006, BCD, 174 sales. From the Star collection.



83

- 83 Stater circa 431-400, AR 12.14 g. Chimera crouching l., with open jaw and r. paw raised; in exergue, ΣΕ. Rev. Dove flying l.; above tail, Σ. All within olive wreath. BMC 22 var. de Nanteuil 947 (this coin). *Traité* 777 and pl. CCXX, 19 (this coin). BCD Peloponnesos 185 (this coin).

Very rare and one of the very first staters issued by Sycion.

Lovely tone and of fine style, extremely fine

12'000

Ex Naville I, 1921, Pozzi, 1800; Hess-Leu 36, 1968, 218; Sotheby's 7 May 1975, Woodbridge, 126 and LHS 96, 2006, BCD, 185 sales. From the Star collection.

Elis, Olympia



84

- 84 Stater 340, AR 12.06 g. Laureate head of Zeus r. Rev. F – A / A – P Eagle, with closed wings, perched r. on the head of a ram. Kraay-Hirmer pl. 158, 505 (these dies). Gulbenkian 552 (these dies). Jameson 1244 (this coin). BCD Olympia 153 (these dies). Seltman 194c (CK/εγ) (this coin).

Very rare. A fantastic portrait struck in high relief with a pleasant old cabinet tone,
insignificant double-striking on reverse, otherwise extremely fine

20'000

Ex Sotheby's, Wilkinson and Hodge 11 December 1894, Montagu, 183; Christie, Manson & Woods 25 May 1908, Sir James Knowles, 72 and Sotheby's New York 19 December, 25 (illustrated on the front cover page) sales. From the Jameson and Star collections.

Argolis, Argos



85

- 85 Stater circa 370-350, AR 11.83 g. Head of Hera r., wearing *stephane* ornamented with palmettes, earring and pearl necklace. Rev. APΓ – ΕΙΩΝ Two dolphins swimming counter-clockwise; between them, crab. BMC 40. SNG Lockett 2495 (this coin). BCD Peloponnesos 1061 (these dies).

Extremely rare. Nicely toned and surface somewhat porous, otherwise good very fine 15'000

Ex Ars Classica 14, 1929, 281; Glendining 27 May 1959, Lockett, 1989 and Vinchon 1995, 102 sales.

Among Greek cities, Argos claimed to be one of the oldest. Indeed, Homer calls the Greeks 'Argives' in the *Iliad*, and we may consider this name the root for Argonaut. During the Bronze Age the territory of Argos included other famous and powerful cities such as Mycenae and Tiryns, and this city was still renowned when in the 490s B.C. its coinage commenced with silver drachms and fractions that showed a wolf, symbolic of Apollo Lykios, who was worshipped in the city.

Interestingly, on the largest Argive coin of this early period, the drachm, a wolf is shown in full, on triobols only its forepart is shown, and on obols only its head – thus we have a shrinking of design coordinating with a decrease in denomination. Two denominations smaller than the aforementioned were also easy to identify: hemiobols bore the archaic letter *heta*, and tetartemoria the letter *tau*. With some modernizations to the designs, and an occasional different type, this system remained intact for about 120 years.

Then, in about 370 B.C., soon after the defeat of Sparta at Leuctra, Argos began to strike larger denomination coins with fresh designs of high artistry. Without question the period c. 370-350 was the peak for the mint at Argos, and we have more than a few numismatic masterpieces to show for that effort. Argos was particularly famous for its sculptors (including Myron, Polycleitus and Phidias' master Ageladas), so we can presume that the mint could easily draw upon a thriving arts community.

The two main issues from this period are staters and drachms. Both show on their obverse the head of Zeus' wife Hera, who wears a stephane decorated with palmettes. About six miles outside the city was the Heraeum, where this goddess is said to have been worshipped since thirteen generations before King Agamemnon ruled over Bronze Age Mycenae. Her original temple burned down in 423 B.C., so the Hera reproduced on these coins must be based upon the renowned 26-foot statue by Polycleitus.

The Hera stater shows on its reverse two dolphins swimming in opposite directions, creating a circular pattern, whereas the Hera drachm shows Diomedes, the Argive king of Homer's *Iliad*, advancing with drawn sword and the Palladium.

The dolphins must relate to the worship of Poseidon, and to two mythological episodes that were etched into the Argive consciousness. In one instance the local river-god Inachus was among those forced by Hera and Poseidon to choose between them for possession of the land; when they chose Hera, Poseidon withdrew their waters. Consequently, it was explained, the rivers only carried water after a heavy rain. In another episode, Poseidon is said to have created the Springs of Lerna, a few miles south of Argos. Apparently Hera convinced Poseidon to send back the sea, and the grateful Argives made a sanctuary to Poseidon Prosclystius ('the floodier') at the point where the tide ebbed.

The Diomedes type is derived from a local tradition that this Argive king and Trojan War hero brought to Argos the Palladium, the sacred statue of Athena that had fallen to Troy from the heavens. Pausanias indicates there were two temples to Athena in Argos – one on the summit and another on the slope of the acropolis, which is said to have been dedicated to Diomedes. The composition of this advancing Diomedes type is a marvel, as related by Percy Gardner: "The hero's attitude well expresses the mixture of caution in movement and readiness to meet the foe...which so well suited the character of Diomedes."

Arcadia, Megalopolis



86

- 86 **For the Archadian League.** Stater Summer 363 – Spring 362, AR 12.19 g. Laureate head of Zeus Lykaios l. Rev. Youthful and naked Pan seated l. on rocks, holding *lagobolon* in r. hand and resting l. elbow on rock covered by drapery and inscribed, on lower l. part, OΛYM. At his feet, *syrinx* and in field l., AR ligate. Gulbenkian 532 (this obverse die). *Traité* III pl. CCXXIV, 2 (these dies). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 159, 512 (this obverse die). BCD Peloponnesos 1511 (these dies). Gerin 11 (dies 1/c).

Very rare. A superb issue of late Classical style struck in high relief. Usual die break on obverse and a finely detailed and complete reverse composition. Minor marks, otherwise good very fine

60'000

Ex Triton sale VIII, 2005, 329.

Though the Greeks are generally regarded for how highly they valued independence, on numerous occasions they abandoned their civic pride in the hope that safety or success would result from joining forces. The best examples of this are found in the various leagues that were organized in Greece, including the Archadian League, formed by 370/69 B.C. in the heart of the Peloponnesos.

Much like the inhabitants of the island of Rhodes, who in 408/7 B.C. abandoned their ancestral homes to found a metropolis, the Arcadians created a new city, which they appropriately called Megalopolis ('big city'). From this administrative centre, with its concentrated population, the united Arcadians could at last stand up to the Spartans, who recently had been defeated by the Boeotians at Leuktra.

The designs of the league's coinage are thoroughly regional in nature: the portrait is that of Zeus Lycaeus, whose sanctuary was on Mount Lycaeus (the Mount Olympus of Arcadia), and the reverse shows the seated figure of Pan, who was especially worshipped in the region, and whose sanctuary was also on Mount Lycaeus.

Various theories have been offered to explain the inscription 'Olym' on the mountain rock upon which Pan rests. The other known inscription, 'Chari', is also an abbreviated name. They usually are described as the names of magistrates or die engravers, but a more enticing prospect was supported by Barclay Head, who thought these staters were probably issued for national festivals based upon religious bonds. If so, Head suggested, the two names would allude to the Olympic Games and the agonistic festivals in honour of the Charites.

Phaenus



87

- 87 Stater circa 360-340, AR 12.05 g. Head of Demeter r., wearing barley wreath, earring with pendants and pearl necklace. Rev. ΦΕ – ΝΕ – ΩΝ Hermes, naked but for *chlamys* over his l. shoulder and arms and *petasus*, carrying on his l. arm infant Arkas, who raises his r. hand to touch *petasus*, and holding caduceus in r. BMC 13 (these dies). SNG Berry 867 (these dies). Kraay-Himer pl. 160, 515 (these dies). SNG Lockett 5225 (these dies). Weber 4322 (these dies). BCD Peloponnesos 1622 (these dies). Schultz 6.1 (this coin).
Very rare. Struck in high relief with a beautiful old cabinet tone
and of superb late Classical style, good extremely fine 80'000

Ex Sotheby's, Wilkinson and Hodge 23 March 1896, Montagu, 420; Sotheby's. Wilkinson and Hodge 3 February 1909, Benson, 586 and Leu 81, 2001, 225 sales. From the Gillet and Star collections.

As one of the great mythological types of Greek coinage, the reverse design of this stater recalls an episode that would have been familiar to any Arcadian: the rescue of the infant Arcas by Hermes. Arcas was born from the union of the ever-lustful Zeus and a nymph or princess named Kallisto ('very beautiful'), who by procreating with Zeus broke her vow of chastity. Zeus' wife, Hera, was furious and in one of the many versions of this tale she turned Kallisto into a she-bear; however, Zeus intervened on behalf of his infant child by sending Hermes to rescue Arcas.

Hermes then delivered Arcas to his own mother, Maia, who raised the boy from infancy to adulthood on Mt. Kyllene. He is said to have become ruler of the Pelasgians, who thereafter were called Arcadians, and is said to have had three legitimate sons, Elatos, Apheidas and Azan, among whom the territory of Arcadia was divided.

All the while the mother Kallisto remained in bear form until she encountered her son, who was by then in his third decade. Unaware that the bear was in fact his mother, Arcas chased her into the sanctuary of Zeus Lykaeos on Mt. Kyllene. Since this transgression would have invoked the death penalty for both, Zeus again intervened by transforming Kallisto into the constellation of the Great Bear and Arcas into the Bear-ward (Arktophylax), thus preserving them for eternity.

Portions of this legend are represented on other Arcadian coins, including bronzes of Orchomenos and Methydrion which show Kallisto falling back, transfixed by an arrow, with the infant Arcas at her side. It would appear that legends of Arcas enjoyed a resurgence of popularity in the 4th century B.C., seemingly with the founding of the Arcadian League in 370/69 B.C.

The Cyclads, Naxos



- 88 Didrachm late 3rd century BC, AR 7.74 g. Ivy-wreathed head of Dionysus r. Rev. NAEI Crater decorated with garland; in field l., ΚΤΗΣΙΦ. In field r., *thyrsus* with ribbons. Dewing 1956 (these dies).
Toned and extremely fine 5'000

Paros



- 89 Drachm circa 510-480, AR 6.31 g. Goat kneeling r.; in exergue, dolphin. Rev. Irregular pattern within incuse square. ACGC pl. 6, 120 (this obverse die). Lederer SNR 30, pl. 2, 34 (this obverse die).
A rare variety. Well struck and with a very pleasant old cabinet tone, extremely fine 7'500

Ex Hess-Leu 31, 1966, 375 and Leu 28, 1981, 120 sales. From the Star collection.

Creta, Gortyna



- 90 Stater circa 320-280, AR 11.90 g. Europa, wearing transparent *kiton*, seated r. on curved trunk with thinly-leaved plane tree, lifting drapery with l. hand and resting r. on trunk. Rev. Bull standing r. with head reverted. Svoronos Crète 61 and pl. 14, 8. Le Rider 19, pl. 13, 7.
Unusually well detailed for the issue. A minor mark in reverse field, otherwise good very fine 5'000

Mysia, Cyzicus



91

- 91 Stater circa 380, EL 16.03 g. Bearded and horned head of Silenus (or Pan) l., wearing ivy wreath; below neck truncation, *tunmus*. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square with granular surfaces. SNG von Aulock 7139. Boston 1564. Kraay-Hirmer pl. 200, 722. Gulbenkian 662 (this obverse die). SNG France 330. von Fritze 191. Rare. A stunning portrait of late Classical style and a lovely reddish tone. Insignificant flange crack, otherwise extremely fine 40'000

Ex Sotheby's sale 7 March 1996, 109. From the Star collection.

More than any other Cyzicus stater, this one speaks to the relations between Cyzicus and its great trading partner to the north, Panticapaeum, the site of modern Kerch. Numerous Cyzicene staters have been found in the region of Kerch, testifying to their broad circulation in the Crimea. This arresting Pan-Silenus head seems to have been borrowed from the obverse of the gold staters of Panticapaeum, which were issued in great quantity from about 350 to 320 B.C.; however, if the stater predates that period we might presume the motif was inspired by other art media from the Crimean empire of Panticapaeum.

There is ample evidence of the relation of these two cities as supplier and consumer of gold. It has been suggested that the main supply of gold for Cyzicene staters was the rich mines of the Ural mountains, which produced high-purity gold in such an abundant quantity that Greenwell indicates that for quite some time inhabitants of the Crimea valued it at nearly one-third less than the Greeks.

Such a dramatic disparity in the value of a commodity as desirable as gold gave the Greeks a unique opportunity to profit from the Crimean trade, especially since the region exported other valuable commodities, such as grain, fish, slaves and amber. The natural foe of Cyzicus in this regard was Athens, which jealously guarded its trade relations with Panticapaeum and its hinterlands.

Lampsacus



92

- 92 Stater circa 412, EL 14.93 g. Forepart of Pegasus l.; below, \ddagger . All within vine wreath. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. SNG France 1112 (these dies). Rosen 523 (this reverse die). de Sartiges 343 (this coin). Baldwin 12v (this coin, also listed as v and p due to the wrong weight).

Rare and among the finest specimens known. Well struck in high relief and extremely fine 24'000

Ex Sotheby's, Wilkinson and Hodge 1900, Late Collector, 324; Sotheby's Wilkinson and Hodge 1907, Delbeke, 180 and Leu 30, 1982, 165 sales. From the de Sartiges collection.

To some degree we can gauge the importance of ancient cities based on their coinage; with this yardstick we can see Lampsacus was among the more prosperous of the ancient Greek states in Asia Minor. Not only did Lampsacus produce a few different groups of electrum staters in the 5th Century B.C., but in the next century, when it enjoyed self-government and it struck more than 40 different issues of gold staters. Its high-value coinage must have been quite familiar, for in the Delian inventories it is usually referred to by the familiar term 'Lampsacene gold'.

The archaic appearance of the electrum staters invited earlier scholars to date them far earlier than hoard evidence now indicates they were struck. Wroth placed them as far back as 500 B.C., Head and Gardner both settled on 434 B.C. and Brett on c. 450 B.C. for this particular issue. Brett's own words reveal that style was her only objection to a later date: "These coins...look like a special issue such as might be occasioned by a sudden outbreak of hostilities, and if their style permitted, we should have suggested that the revolt of Chios and Lampsakos against the Athenian Hegemony, ca. 412 B.C., furnished a plausible explanation of the issues."

The current view is that they were struck c. 412 B.C. in response to the general revolt against the Athenian alliance. Athens had for centuries been a dominant force in the Greek world, but its leading role was formalised in 478/7 B.C., when it formed a Greek alliance against the Persians that today is dubbed the Delian League or the Athenian Empire. Members states, of course, wavered on the relative value of benefits versus the costs of membership, and Athens was not afraid to use force to prevent defections. This most memorably occurred in 416 B.C. when the island of Melos was sacked for refusing to join, and then sold all of its women and children into slavery.

Thus, when Athens suffered its critical defeat in the Sicilian expedition of 415-413 B.C., numerous states revolted against Athenian hegemony. Lampsacus rebelled shortly before the Athenians defeated the Spartans at the battle of Cynossema in 411 B.C. and the Spartan fleet under the command of Mindarus was fatally defeated in 410 B.C. by Alcibiades. Such ventures required fresh currency, and it would appear that this rebellion was the circumstance that prompted this issue of Lampsacene staters. The prospect is strengthened by the fact that coins of this type were contained in the Vourla hoard (IGCH 1194), with a burial date in the last decade of the 5th Century B.C.



- 93 Stater circa 350, AV 8.42 g. Laureate head of Zeus I., with lotus-tipped sceptre on far shoulder. Rev. Forepart of Pegasus r.; partially within incuse square. Kraay-Hirmer pl. 202, 729 (these dies). Boston 1595 (these dies). Baldwin 29 (dies I-γ) and pl. II, 34 (these dies).

Rare. A magnificent specimen without the usual obverse die rust. A fantastic portrait struck in high relief on a very broad flan, extremely fine 30'000

The staters of Lampsacus are among the most appealing of all ancient gold coinages; not only is their artistry of a very high standard, but there is a considerable variety in obverse types, all of which are paired with the standard reverse depicting the forepart of a winged horse. This particular coin, struck at the end of the Classical period, bears the head of Zeus, the supreme deity of the Greeks. In her masterful study of 1924, Brett documents 41 issues of staters for a period of 50 or 60 years, leading us to conclude that the gold coinage of Lampsacus was as exciting in ancient times as it is today.

We may generalise by saying Greek gold coins fall into two broad categories: imperial and civic. The former, when well managed, was struck consistently and in large quantities. The civic coinages tended to be struck only periodically in response to crises, and this is the case even at some of the most prolific mints, such as Syracuse and Tarentum. However, Lampsacus seems to have issued a regular gold coinage, just as it had done in earlier times using electrum. Comparisons between Lampsacus, Cyzicus, Mytilene and Phocaea can readily be made except that the latter three mints continued to issue electrum long after the Archaic age had closed.



- 94 Stater circa 330, EL 8.40 g. Female head (Aphrodite ?) I., wearing laurel of lotus flowers, hair caught up in *saccos* behind. Rev. Forepart of Pegasus r. within very shallow incuse square. Boston 1602. SNG France 1142. Gulbenkian 696 (this obverse die). BMC pl. 19, 8 (these dies). Baldwin 41b and pl. III, 31 (this coin). Very rare. An interesting and unusual portrait, good very fine 10'000

Ex Leu 42, 1987, 286 and NAC 27, 2004, 178 sales. From the Waddington and Gillet collections and the duplicates of the Bibliothèque Nationale de France.

This stater belongs to what Brett identifies as the terminal issue of gold at Lampsacus. She only tentatively identifies the head on the obverse as Aphrodite wearing a lotus wreath and a sphendone. The reverse depicts the forepart of a winged horse facing right, as the staters had on all but the very earliest issues, on which it faced left. Though this creature is identified generally as the mythological Pegasus, some consider it best to describe it as the protome of a "winged horse" as we have a non-mythological parallel in the protome of a winged boar at Clazomenae and other cities of Asia Minor. We may also be sure that the "winged horse" was a readily identifiable badge of Lampsacus, as these staters bore no ethic, and the variable obverse types made reverse the only consistent design element of the coinage.

Troas, Tenedos



- 95 Tetradrachm, circa 180, AR 16.70g. Janiform head composed of a laureate and bearded head of Zeus l. and a diademed head of Hera r. Rev. ΤΗΝΕΔΙΩΝ Double axe; below, monogram and bunch of grapes and two *pilei* surmounted by star. Gulbenkian 974 (this obverse die). de Callatäy Studies Price 90 and 27, 90 (this coin illustrated).

A magnificent portrait of the finest Hellenistic style, lovely tone and good extremely fine 10'000

Ex Tkalec-Rauch 16-17 November 1987, 103.



Lesbos, Mytilene

- 96 Hecte circa 454-427, EL 2.52 g. Head of bearded god r. (Priapus) hair bound with only partially visible band. Rev. Female head r. (the nymph Chione or Dione), hair caught up in *sphendone*; the whole within incuse square. BMC 47. de Luynes 2556. Bodenstedt 43 a/β.

Extremely rare. About extremely fine 2'500

Ionian, Phocaea

- 97 Hecte circa 521-478, EL 2.63 g. Boar's head l.; below, seal l. Rev. Irregular incuse punch. BMC 30 (this reverse die). Jameson 1509 (this coin). Bodenstedt 14b/β.3 (this coin).

Very rare. Perfectly struck and centred, good extremely fine 5'000

Ex Hirsch 25, 1909, Philippsen, 2185 and Leu-M&M 1965, Niggeler part I, 387 sales. From the Jameson collection.

Caria, Caunus



- 98 Stater circa 410-390, AR 11.71 g. Iris with curved wings, in a kneeling running position l., wearing long *kiton* and holding caduceus and wreath in outstretched hands. Rev. $\nabla - \Gamma$ Conical baetyl; All within partially incuse square. Kraay-Hirmer pl. 187, 636. Weber 7507 (these dies). BMC 11 and pl. 16, 7 (these dies). Kunstfreund 166. W.G. Sayles "ancient coins, Collection II, 1997, K. 164 (this coin). K. Konuk, Essays Price, 1998, pl. 49, 112b (this coin illustrated).

Rare and by far the finest specimen known. A charming issue of masterly style perfectly struck and centred on a very broad flan. Lightly toned and good extremely fine

50'000

Ex Leu sale 48, 1989, 239 (illustrated on the front page).

The 'Winged Carians' is a coinage that until very recently was only understood in the broadest terms. Hoard evidence suggested a mint in south-western Asia Minor, but the true stumbling block to identification of the mint was the poor understanding of the ancient Carian script. Breakthroughs began in the 1960s, but it was not until researchers began to work with Carian inscriptions from the Nile delta where mercenaries from Caria were employed, that significant progress was made in the 1980s.

Work on the script and language continues, with new conclusions being published continually. At present it would seem that the script has more than forty individual signs considered to be alphabetic, and although many of them resemble characters from the Greek language, their phonetic value typically is quite different. The language dates back at least to the 7th Century B.C. and seems to have been used into the 1st Century A.D.

The three principal signs on the 'Winged Carians' are letters resembling an upside down Delta, a Gamma and an Iota from the Greek alphabet; it is now believed that they equate 'kbi', which matches well with Khbide, the Lycian name for Kaunos (modern Dalyan), a Carian port city close to the Lycian border and to the island of Rhodes. Thus, it is to Kaunos that this coinage is now generally attributed.

As if the script and language were not hurdles high enough, researchers are still uncertain about the meaning of the designs. The winged female on the obverse has been described as Nike or Eirene, but since she holds a wreath and a kerykeion she is best identified as Iris (or an Anatolian equivalent of this Greek messenger goddess). Based on archaeological discoveries at the site of Kaunos, the reverse type seems to be a baetyl, in this case a conical stone apparently venerated as a 'House of God' which was the principal object of worship for the local cult.

Cnidus



99

- 99 Drachm circa 411-394, AR 6.11 g. Forepart of lion r., with open jaws and tongue protruding. Rev. Head of Aphrodite r., hair bound in *saccos*, wearing earring and necklace; behind, A. All within incuse square. Pozzi 2605 (this coin). SNG von Aulock 2598 (these dies). Jameson 2303 (these dies). Cahn 95.7 and pl. 7, 95 (this coin). Toned. Minor die break on reverse, otherwise about extremely fine 1'200

Ex Naville 1, 1920, Pozzi, 2605 and Hess 1954, 162 sales.

Islands off Caria, Rhodes



100

- 100 Tetradrachm circa 404-385, AR 15.42 g. Head of Helios facing three-quarters r. Rev. POAION Rose; in field r., eagle standing r. with closed wings. de Nanteuil 572. Ashton Essays Carson-Jenkins pl. I, 1. Bérend, SNR 51, 16 (this coin). Attractively toned and good very fine 10'000



- 101 Tetradrachm circa 380, AR 15.23 g. Head of Helios facing three-quarters r. Rev. POΔ – ION Rose with bud to l.; in field r., corn ear and in field l., Φ. All within incuse square. BMC 23 (this obverse die). Gulbenkian 768. Bérend, SNR 51, pl. 7, 81 (this coin).

An elegant and delicate portrait, one of the finest of the entire series, perfectly struck in high relief. Attractively toned and good extremely fine

40'000

Ex Leu 13, 1975, 256; NFA 5, 1978, 163 and Sotheby's 4 December 1990, Hunt part III, 35 sales.

The coinage of Rhodes has been the subject of intensive study in recent decades, and many aspects of the series are now more clearly defined. Coinage for 'Rhodes' commenced in 408/7 B.C. after the citizens of three major cities on the island largely abandoned their ancestral homes to create a new city, Rhodes, on the northern tip of their island. This bold act was the catalyst by which Rhodes became a powerful maritime state that prospered throughout the political chaos of the Greek world during the forthcoming age of the Hellenistic monarchies.

This Chian-weight tetradrachm was struck in the midst of the period of great production at Rhodes, by which time the mint's engravers were routinely producing facing heads of excellent style in high relief. This series covers nearly two decades that span the tail end of the 5th and the early years of the 4th Century B.C.; it includes 41 different symbols and control letters that have thus far been identified, though statistical analysis suggests more are yet to be discovered.

Perhaps the most surprising aspect of Rhodian coinage from this period is that it appears to have enjoyed relatively limited circulation. Hoard evidence shows that they are seldom found outside of the island of Rhodes or the nearby regions on the mainland. Considering the formidable reputation of Rhodian sailors and their extensive mercantile contacts, one might presume the larger silver coins would be widely dispersed throughout the Greek world, especially since the Delian inventories indicate Rhodian coinage was commonly used, and coins of the Rhodian type apparently were in demand by Greek mercenaries.

A key to this riddle might be the anachronistic weight standard used by Rhodes, which may have assured its coins were not readily exchangeable with those struck to the more popular Attic and Phoenician/Ptolemaic weight standards. Though it is always possible that most of the Rhodian coins exported in trade were melted due to their inconvenient weight, it is just as likely that Rhodian coinage was struck to a local standard with the intention that it would remain local to pay for the extraordinary expenses accrued each year by this powerful state, and that trade was largely conducted in the 'international trade currencies' produced by the major Greek states

Seleucid Kings of Syria. Antiochus IV Epiphanes, 175 – 164.



- 102 Tetradrachm, Seleucis Syriae circa 167, AR 16.74 g. Laureate head of Zeus r. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΑΝΤΙΟΧΟΥ – ΘΕΟΥ ΕΠΙΦΑΝΟΥ Zeus seated l. on throne, holding Nike about to crown him on his outstretched r. hand and sceptre in his l.; in exergue, ΝΙΚΗΦΟΡΟΥ. CSE 106. Spaer 1003. SMA 63. Mattingly Essays Carson-Jenkins 57 (this coin ?).

Rare. A fantastic portrait of Hellenistic style struck on a very broad flan,
lightly toned and extremely fine

7'000

Cyrrhestica. Bambyce under the Persian Empire



- 103 Didrachm in the name of 'Abyaty circa 342-331, AR 7.87 g. *hd' d w'th* in Aramaic characters. Draped female bust facing with flowing hair, wearing necklace; in field r., [rosette]. Rev. 'byty in Aramaic characters High priest and driver, holding reins, in quadriga r. Seyrig, RN 1971, 4. Price Essays Carson-Jenkins 16-17. Mildenberg, Travaux Le Rider, cf. 3.

Very rare and in fine condition for the issue. About extremely fine

5'000



- 104 Didrachm in the name of 'Abdhadad circa 342-331, AR 8.47. *'tr'th* in Aramaic characters. Facing bust of Atagartis, wearing headgear, two long plaits hanging down the shoulders and framing her face. Rev. *'bhdd* in Aramaic characters Distyle temple within which bearded priest standing l. in long Persian cloak and conical hat, holding *phiale* and raising r. hand; in field l., *thymiaterion*. Seyrig, RN 1971, 3. Mildenberg, Travaux Le Rider, 21.

Very rare. Test cut on reverse, otherwise good very fine

4'000

Nabatea, Obodas III circa 30 – 9 BC



105



105

- 105 Didrachm 29/28 BC, AR 6.97 g. Jugate draped and diademed busts r. of Obodas and queen. Rev. *Obodas the king, king of the Nabateans in Aramaic characters* Eagle, with folded wings, standing l.; in field, O Π. Meshorer Qedem 3, cf. 20. Rare. Toned and good very fine 3'000

Kingdom of Bactria, Euthydemus I, 230-190



106



106

- 106 Tetradrachm, Balkh circa 205-190, AR 16.58 g. Diademed head of Euthydemus r. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΕΥΘΙΔΗΜΟΥ Heracles seated l. on rock, holding a club, his lower hand resting on another pile of rocks; in lower field r., control-mark. SNG Copenhagen 235 var. (different control mark). Bopearachi p. 158, 15. Rare. About extremely fine 4'000

Ex NAC sale 29, 2005, 232

Agathocles, circa 185 – 170



107



107

- 107 Tetradrachm, Merv (?) circa 185-170, AR 17.00 g. Diademed and draped bust of Agathocles r. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ – ΑΓΑΘΟΚΛΕΟΥΣ Zeus standing facing, holding sceptre and figure of Hekate with torches; in inner field l., monogram. Bopearachi series Id. Mitchiner 137a. A magnificent portrait well struck in high relief. Lightly toned and almost Fdc 7'000

Ex Triton sale III, 1999, 692.

Antimachus, 174 – 165



108

- 108 Drachm, Balkh circa 174-165, AR 4.27g. Diademed and draped bust of Antimachus I r., wearing *causia*. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΘΕΟΥ – ANTIMAXOY Poseidon standing facing, holding trident in r. hand and cradling filleted palm branch in crook of l. arm; in field r., monogram. Mitchiner type 125 (this monogram missing). Bopearachi series II monogram C. Very rare. Lightly toned and extremely fine 2'000

Nicias, 80-60



109

- 109 Tetradrachm, Pushkalavati circa 80-60, AR 9.92 g. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΣΩΤΗΡΟΣ ΝΙΚΙΟΥ Diademed and draped bust r., wearing crested helmet. Rev. The same legend of the obverse in Karosthi characters. Helmeted Athena advancing to front, brandishing thunderbolt and holding shield; in lower field l., monogram. Mitchiner –. Bopearachi –. Exceedingly rare. Minor marks, otherwise extremely fine 15'000

Ex NAC sale 29, 2005, 232 (expertly conserved since previous publication).

Mitchiner has considered this issue false in the third volume of his *Corpus on Indo-Greek and Indo-Schythian coinage*. His opinion was based on an article published by H. De Shortt in the *Numismatic Chronicle* of 1963. In this article its author reported to have examined a coin of this series that seemed to be a cast. When this specimen was offered in the previous sale, it presented areas of oxidation; without any doubt it is struck and not cast, and raises no suspicion over its authenticity.

Ptolemy VI Philometor, 180 – 145 BC or Ptolemy VIII Euergets, 145 – 116 BC



- 110 *In the name of Arsinoe II.* Octodrachm, Alexandria 180-116, AV 27.62 g. Diademed and veiled head of the deified Arsinoe II r.; in field l., K. Rev. ΑΡΣΙΝΟΗΣ – ΦΙΛΑΔΕΛΦΟΥ Double cornucopiae filled with fruit and bound with fillets. Svoronos 1498 and pl. 51, 19. SNG Copenhagen 322. Boston 2293.
Perfectly struck and good extremely fine 16'000

Ex Numismatica Genevensis sale I, 2000, 129.



- 111 Tetradrachm, Paphos 150, AR 14.32 g. Diademed head of Ptolemy VI r., wearing *aegis*. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ – ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ Eagle standing l. on thunderbolt; in field, ΛΑΑ - ΠΑ. SNG Copenhagen 620. Svoronos 1445.
Toned and virtually as struck and almost Fdc 800

Ex Oslomynthandel sale 54, 1823.

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