

A U C T I O N

71

THE ARCHER M. HUNTINGTON COLLECTION OF ROMAN GOLD COINS PART II

16 May 2013

NUMISMATICA ARS CLASSICA NAC AG
ZÜRICH - LONDON

AUCTION 71

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The Archer M. Huntington Collection of Roman Gold Coins part II

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

1. Auction bidding is conducted in Swiss Francs. The highest bidder who has been acknowledged by the auctioneer when the hammer falls after the third call has legally bought the lot. Bidding usually begins at 80% of the estimate, provided no higher offers have been submitted. Written bids have priority. The successful bidder has committed himself personally to the purchases made. He cannot claim to have acted on behalf of a third party.
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5. A commission of 18% will be levied on the hammer price - phone bidders and bidders using our Live Internet facilities pay an additional charge of 1.5%. The Swiss value added tax (VAT) of 8% is payable on the final price (hammer price, plus buyer's commission and any other amounts chargeable by the Auction House to the buyer). **Gold coins (AV) are exempt from VAT.**
If the purchases are exported, then the VAT will be refunded on production of a legally valid original export declaration stamped by Swiss Customs.
6. Payment is in Swiss Francs and is immediately due upon adjudication of the lot. Late payments will incur a monthly default interest of 1%.
7. Shipping and insurance are at the buyer's cost and risk. Any fees and charges payable abroad are borne by the buyer (successful bidder) who is responsible for acquiring the necessary information about any applicable customs and foreign exchange regulations. The Auction House accepts no liability for any contraventions of such regulations.
8. **The Auction House offers an unconditional and unlimited guarantee for the authenticity of coins.** All identifications and descriptions of the items sold in this catalogue are statements of opinion and were made in good faith.
9. The objects which come under the hammer are auctioned on behalf of a third party or are the property of the Auction House. The buyer (successful bidder) has no entitlement to have the identity of the consignor disclosed to them and acknowledges that the Auction House might receive a commission from the consignor for the sale.
10. The above conditions are a component of each individual contract of sale concluded at the auction. Alterations must be made in writing in order to be valid. If any parts of these Terms and Conditions should be no longer or not fully in conformity with the valid legal situation, this shall not affect the content and validity of the remaining parts. The above-mentioned conditions are written in German, French, Italian and English; the only valid text is the German one.
11. The contractual relationship between parties is subject in all facets to Swiss law. Place of performance is the registered office of the Auction House in 8001 Zurich, and the exclusive court of jurisdiction is Zurich.

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1. Les enchères sont effectuées en Francs Suisses. L'adjudication est réalisée après trois appels consécutifs du plus offrant dont l'offre a été acceptée par le commissaire priseur et qui constitue une obligation. La mise à prix est effectuée en règle générale à 80 %, dans la mesure où il n'y a pas d'offres disponibles et plus élevées. Les offres formulées par écrit sont prioritaires. Chaque enchérisseur s'engage personnellement en ce qui concerne les acquisitions réalisées par ses soins. Il ne peut pas faire valoir le fait d'avoir agi pour le compte d'une tierce personne.
2. Les demandes d'enchères par téléphone ou par écrit (également par moyen électronique) pour les personnes intéressées et non présentes sont réceptionnées jusqu'à 24 heures avant le début de la vente aux enchères. Les enchérisseurs par téléphone acceptent que la communication téléphonique puisse être enregistrée. La salle des ventes n'assume aucune responsabilité quant aux enchères effectuées par téléphone ou par écrit.
3. Les enchérisseurs sont priés de se légitimer avant la vente aux enchères et de se faire enregistrer à l'issue de la vente. La salle des ventes peut exiger une référence bancaire et/ou une garantie. La salle des ventes a le droit de ne pas laisser une personne participer à la vente aux enchères.
4. L'enchérisseur peut, à sa guise, surenchérir une offre ou bien la décliner sans indication de motifs. L'enchérisseur se réserve en outre le droit d'associer des lots, de les séparer, de faire des offres en dehors de l'ordre prévu ou de les laisser de côté, voire de se retirer de la vente aux enchères.
5. Une commission de 18% est perçue sur le prix d'adjudication. Les acquéreurs qui souhaitent participer aux enchères par téléphone ou en ligne avec nos facilités Live Internet paieront un frais supplémentaire de 1,5%. La taxe à la valeur ajoutée suisse d'un montant de 8,0 % sera perçue sur le prix définitif (prix d'adjudication plus supplément et sur tous les autres montants facturés à l'acquéreur par la salle des ventes). **Les pièces de monnaie en or (AV) sont dispensées de la TVA.**
En cas d'exportation de l'objet adjugé vers l'étranger, l'acquéreur se voit restituer la TVA lorsqu'il est en mesure de présenter une déclaration d'exportation réglementaire, en bonne et due forme, revêtu du cachet original des autorités douanières suisses.
6. Le prix total est exigible après application du supplément et doit être acquitté en devises suisses lors de la remise de l'objet adjugé. Pour les paiements effectués ultérieurement, une pénalité de retard de 1 % par mois sera facturée.
7. Les frais d'envoi et d'assurance sont à charge et au risque de l'acheteur. Les taxes ou les impôts facturés à l'étranger sont à la charge de l'acquéreur (enchérisseur). Il lui incombe de s'informer au sujet des directives étrangères en matière de douane et de devises. La salle des ventes décline toute responsabilité pour les éventuelles infractions à l'encontre de ces directives.
8. **La salle des ventes garantit l'authenticité des monnaies sans réserve et sans limitation dans le temps.** Toutes les indications mentionnées dans le catalogue sont rassemblées en toute conscience et en toute bonne foi.
9. Les objets mis aux enchères le sont pour le compte de tierces personnes ou bien sont la propriété de la salle des ventes. L'acquéreur (enchérisseur) n'a aucun droit d'obtenir communication du nom de la personne qui met en vente et se déclare en accord avec le fait que la salle des ventes perçoive une provision de cette dernière.
10. Les présentes conditions font partie intégrante de tout contrat de vente conclu dans le cadre de la vente aux enchères. Les modifications ne sont valables que par écrit. Le fait que des parties des présentes conditions de vente aux enchères venaient à ne plus correspondre, ou du moins plus intégralement, à la situation juridique en vigueur, n'affecte en rien les autres parties, ni dans leur contenu, ni dans leur validité. La version en langue allemande constitue la référence des présentes conditions de vente aux enchères.
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Condizioni di vendita

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

1. La valuta in cui viene condotta l'asta è il Franco Svizzero. L'aggiudicazione al miglior offerente, individuato dal banditore, avviene dopo la terza chiamata e comporta per l'aggiudicatario l'acquisto con tutti i relativi obblighi di legge. Le offerte partono generalmente dall'80% del prezzo di stima a meno che una o più offerte d'importo maggiore siano state presentate. Le offerte scritte hanno la precedenza. Il partecipante all'asta è personalmente responsabile per l'acquisto effettuato e non può pretendere di avere agito per conto di terzi.
2. I partecipanti all'asta non presenti in sala possono presentare offerte telefonicamente, in forma scritta, o per via elettronica fino a 24 ore prima dell'inizio dell'asta. Chi trasmette la propria offerta telefonicamente presta il proprio consenso all'eventuale registrazione della telefonata. La casa d'asta non assume alcun tipo di responsabilità per le offerte trasmesse in forma scritta o telefonica.
3. I partecipanti, per concorrere all'asta, dovranno esibire un documento d'identità. La casa d'asta si riserva il diritto di richiedere referenze bancarie o un deposito cauzionale per permettere la partecipazione all'asta. La casa d'asta si riserva inoltre il diritto di non permettere a un soggetto la partecipazione all'asta.
4. Il banditore d'asta ha facoltà di aumentare o rifiutare un'offerta secondo la propria discrezionalità e senza necessità di fornire una motivazione. Il banditore si riserva inoltre il diritto di unire, separare, cambiare la sequenza prevista o di eliminare e/o ritirare dall'asta determinati lotti.
5. Al prezzo d'aggiudicazione va aggiunta una commissione del 18%. Gli offerenti che parteciperanno all'asta per telefono o 'live' attraverso internet pagheranno un costo supplementare dell'1,5%. L'imposta svizzera sul valore aggiunto, pari attualmente al 8,0%, viene applicata sul prezzo finale (prezzo d'aggiudicazione più commissione ed ogni altro importo imputabile al compratore dalla casa d'aste). **Le monete in oro (AV) sono esonerate dal pagamento dell'IVA.**
In caso d'esportazione dell'oggetto acquistato all'asta verso un paese estero, il compratore ha diritto al rimborso dell'IVA dietro consegna di una valida dichiarazione d'esportazione e corredata da timbro originale dell'ufficio doganale della Confederazione Elvetica.
6. Il pagamento è immediatamente dovuto in franchi svizzeri. In caso di ritardato pagamento, il tasso d'interesse moratorio applicabile è pari all'1% mensile.
7. I costi ed il rischio della spedizione sono a carico del destinatario. Qualunque imposta e contributo legalmente dovuto nel paese d'esportazione è a carico dell'acquirente (compratore in sede d'asta) su cui ricade la responsabilità per la conoscenza delle norme vigenti in materia doganale e di valuta. La casa d'aste non assume alcuna responsabilità per l'eventuale violazione di tali prescrizioni.
8. **La casa d'asta offre una garanzia incondizionata e senza riserva di tempo sull'autenticità delle monete.** Le indicazioni e descrizioni contenute nel catalogo sono opinioni soggettive e sono espresse in buona fede.
9. Gli oggetti offerti vengono messi all'asta per conto di terzi o sono di proprietà della casa d'asta. L'acquirente (compratore in sede d'asta) non ha il diritto di conoscere l'identità del consegnatario dell'oggetto e prende atto che alla casa d'asta potrebbe venir corrisposta dal consegnatario una commissione per la vendita.
10. Le condizioni sopra menzionate costituiscono parte integrante di ciascun contratto individuale di vendita concluso nell'asta. Eventuali modifiche saranno ritenute valide solo se fatte in forma scritta. Nel caso in cui una parte delle presenti Condizioni di Vendita dovesse essere non più totalmente conforme alla vigenti disposizioni di legge, cioè non avrà effetto sulla validità delle parti restanti. L'unica versione di testo delle Condizioni di Vendita che ha valore legale è quella in lingua tedesca.
11. Il rapporto contrattuale fra le parti è regolato in tutti i suoi aspetti dal diritto della Confederazione Elvetica. Il luogo d'adempimento è la sede della casa d'aste a Zurigo (8001). Il foro competente è esclusivamente quello di Zurigo.

TIME TABLE ZEITTADEL ORDRE DE VENTE ORDINE DI VENDITA

Thursday, 16 May 2013

16:00 – 17:00

201 – 280

EXHIBITIONS AUSSTELLUNG EXPOSITION ESPOSIZIONI

London – At our premises

2 – 30 April 2013

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

Zurich – at the Hotel Baur au Lac

Wednesday, 15 May 2013 14:30 - 19:00
Thursday, 16 May 2013 09:30 - 16:00

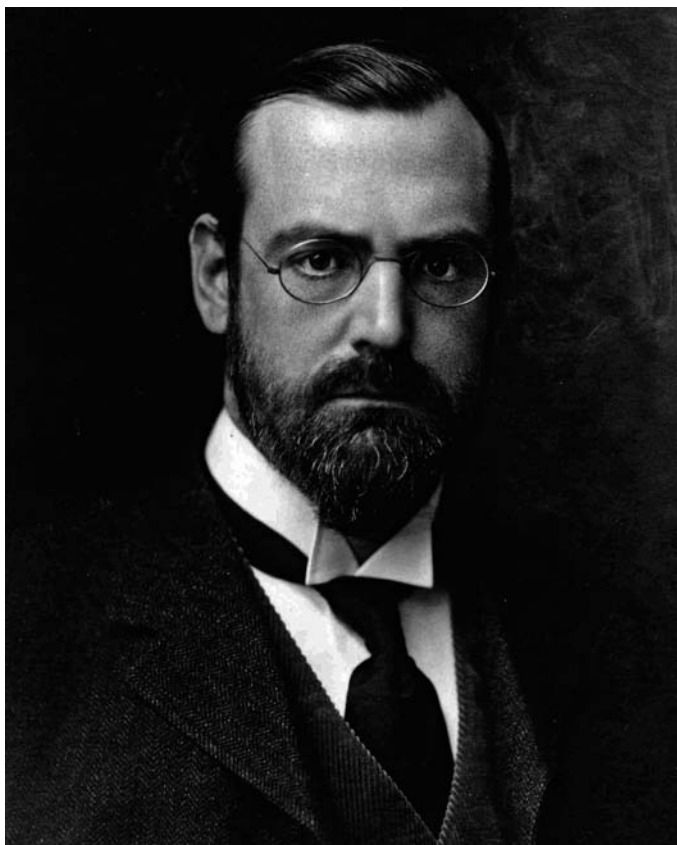
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Please visit our auction online at www.arsclassicacoins.com

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

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

“Wherever I put my foot down, a museum springs up”



Born in New York in 1870, Archer Milton Huntington was to become not only one of the wealthiest and most generous benefactors of his time, but also one of the greatest and most devoted champions of Hispanic art and culture.

Son of Arabella Huntington, and stepson of the wealthy railroad magnate Collis P. Huntington, Archer M. Huntington developed an interest in Hispanic history, art, culture and letters from an early age. It appears that he was inspired by his early travels including a trip to Mexico with his stepfather when he was still a teenager; his parents actively

encouraged him to travel as part of his fine education. Excited by the dramas that punctuated Spain's long and rich history, and enthralled by the artistic and literary heritage of all countries where Spanish influence had permeated, Huntington renounced the idea of a regular college course in favour of focussing on Hispanic studies under the watchful eye of Yale Professor William Ireland Knapp who, in 1892, escorted the young student on his first trip to Spain. This was to be the first of many journeys to the Iberian Peninsula made by the young enthusiast. Travelling by stagecoach, mule and foot, he covered the Northern territories of Spain in particular, acquainting himself with the land that was the setting of the *El Cid*, a poem which he annotated, translated and later published along with some of his own writings in the late 1890s. Not content to confine himself to writing about his travels, Huntington would also actively participate in archaeological digs including the excavations in the ruins of Roman Italica near Seville in 1898.

The railroad heir turned down his father's offer of a job in business and management to pursue his passion rather than a business career. Ardently setting out to assemble a collection from every period and every land where Spanish influence was felt, however remotely, Huntington travelled tirelessly all over the globe collecting coins, books, paintings, sculptures, glass, pottery and a whole host of other artefacts. The aim of this huge undertaking being to create a visual, encyclopaedic and exciting testament to every period and aspect of Hispanic culture; a collection of collections that would convey the human side of history in a way that books alone could not. His love for collecting and eye for beauty was no doubt inherited from his mother, herself a keen collector of art,

jewellery, antiques and other luxury items. In 1905, at the age of just 35, Archer M. Huntington was already well on the way to completing his collection, of which the numismatic component alone contained a staggering number of coins spanning two and a half millennia from the pre-Roman Spanish aboriginal period, the Roman imperial era, the Visigothic takeover, Umayyad Islamic Spain (for which he learned Arabic), the medieval ages, up to the empire of Ferdinand and Isabella and their royal successors.

In the process of assembling his collection, Huntington made many new acquaintances and crossed paths with many distinguished dealers and collectors. As a collector, he adhered strictly to the guidelines for purchasing coins outside Spain, having no interest in removing treasures from the country. Realising that Spanish coins were cheaper to buy in France, he travelled often to Paris and bought a substantial number of coins from Etienne Bourgey; their relationship is charmingly described in 'Sous le Signe du Metal' p. 117-125, a book written by Etienne's granddaughter Sabine Bourgey which also contains excerpts of their correspondence. Another fruitful meeting for Huntington was with the rare book collector Marquez Jerez Marin de los Caballeros whose entire collection, considered the most important collection in Spain at the time, he subsequently bought and went on to exhibit at the Hispanic American Society, an institution he founded in 1904.

At a time when Americans were fairly indifferent about the nation's Hispanic heritage, the philanthropist's love for Spain and the need to house the tens of thousands of books and coins, as well as all the other artefacts he had acquired, led him to fulfil his ambition of establishing New York's Hispanic Society of America. This was conceived as a free museum and research library for study of the arts and cultures of Spain, Portugal and Latin America. In 1949 Huntington transferred ownership of his collection to the HSA's board of trustees, just three years after the numismatic collection had been transferred on indefinite loan to the American Numismatic Society next door.

Huntington had been a great source of support for the American Numismatic Society. Not only did he donate land and subsidies to allow for the construction of the ANS' first building located at Audubon terrace located between 155th street and Broadway but he also financed the publication of the ANS' famous Numismatic Notes. Huntington was president of the ANS from 1905 to 1910 in which year he was named honorary president. Ever the generous benefactor, he continued to support and donate pieces to the ANS for the rest of his life until his death in 1955. An enduring monument to his dedication to numismatic scholarship is the Summer Seminar of the ANS which Huntington made possible: initiated in 1952 it has continued to function annually up to this day.

The ANS is just one of the countless educational institutions and projects which Huntington generously supported. Apparently no complete list of the modest philanthropist's benefactions is recorded but his support was far-reaching, stretching much further than just Manhattan. Huntington himself is often quoted

as having remarked to his mother, “Wherever I put my foot down, a museum springs up”.

It is impossible to underestimate the magnitude of Archer M. Huntington’s achievement. From a numismatic standpoint, he put together an astonishingly complete collection rivalling the world’s largest institutions. His collection is characterized not only by its sheer size, but also by the exceptional rarity and quality of so many pieces. It is widely accepted that the collection could never be repeated, regardless of cost. From an early age, Archer M. Huntington was particularly passionate about numismatics recognising the exceptional importance of coins for bettering our understanding of history. It was typical of his passion and enthusiasm for the field that he attempted to catalogue the vast coin collection himself, only to be defeated by the sheer scale of the task and his other commitments. Instead he decided to fund the distinguished scholar George Miles to catalogue and publish collection at the ANS.

Standing fully 6 feet 5 inches tall, Archer Huntington has cast a long shadow over the study of Hispanic culture. Wherever he put down his sizeable feet he has indeed created a marvellous legacy of museums and societies and, not least, a stunning and diverse collection of coins.

Numismatica Ars Classica is delighted to present the second part of the Archer M. Huntington collection of Roman gold coins. Having touched upon the personal aspects of Archer M. Huntington’s life and his collection in general in the specially-dedicated biography, we would like to use this brief foreword to concentrate on this specific part of the collection.

Huntington set out to collect Roman coins in all metals not only because they were an integral part of his plan to build a collection which included all coins linked to Spain and Hispanic culture, but also because he probably had a specific interest in archaeology and the history of Rome as seen from his participation in the archaeological excavations such as that of the ruins of Roman Italica near Seville in 1898.

The result is an extraordinary collection put together in line with the conventions of the early 1900s, obviously far different to today’s, but this just renders the collection all the more fascinating. In this second and final part, 80 aurei are offered.

The sale of the Huntington collection is the first occasion since 1973, when the Ward collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Arts was sold, in which a numismatic collection of such importance, coming from a public institution, has been offered at a public auction. In the past, the sale of coins (more often than not duplicates) formerly belonging to public collections was a custom carried out by almost all large museums in order to raise the funds necessary for acquiring the specimens missing from their collections. Unfortunately today this practice, with a few laudable exceptions, has almost completely died out and honestly we really cannot comprehend why. Not only could the sale of

duplicates finance the acquisition of missing specimens, but it could also fund the computerization of coin cabinets thus improving usability and accessibility to the public. Furthermore, the enormous number of coin issues with not only licit but also highly prestigious provenances would be a great deterrent for the clandestine market.

Beyond the means of auctions, Huntington had the opportunity of buying coins directly from the most important dealers of the period. We know that Huntington bought from Etienne Bourgey, as mentioned in the biography, whilst we can only speculate that Huntington bought a substantial part of his aurei from, Ercole Canessa. The similarities between the Huntington and Caruso collections are startling. Both collections are exceptionally strong in the period of the “Severans” and the tetrarchy as if they were together given the chance to choose from two wonderful hoards of that period. We know that Caruso bought the majority of his coins at the turn of the century in New York at the Canessa Gallery. This family of great numismatists and Neapolitan antiquarians, who in 1895 had the opportunity of purchasing the entire Boscoreale hoard, by the early 1900s had not one but three galleries; one in Naples, one in Paris’s Place Vendôme and one in New York on 5th Avenue. Given Huntington’s interest in the relationship between Spain and Italy, the link with the Canessa in New York, would seem quite natural.

Finally moving on to the coins, for reasons of practicality it would not be possible to list all of the coins worthy of mention. However, for the first century we certainly cannot fail to mention the aureus of Claudio and Nero (lot 206), the aureus of Vitellius (lot 214) and the two extraordinarily well-preserved aurei of Domitian (lots 225 and 227). For the second century, we would like to draw particular attention to an aureus of Plotina (lot 230), which boasts a very old pedigree, and an aureus of Pertinax (lot 245) of superb style. For the third century, the aurei of the Severans are magnificent with coins of great quality and rarity. We cannot go without mentioning in particular two aurei of Septimius Severus; one exceedingly rare and of the highest importance (lot 230); the other of the finest style (lot 250), as well as a splendid aureus of Geta and Caracalla (lot 255) and an extraordinary aureus of Macrinus (lot 259). The sale concludes with an extraordinary series of aurei of the tetrarchy boasting coins of great quality.

The process of cataloguing this collection has proved to be immensely interesting and stimulating. Huntington left no information detailing how he acquired the coins in his collection, thus making it rather complicated to trace the provenances; especially if one considers that the images in auction catalogues of the early 20th century were all photographs of casts and not the coins themselves. That said, we have managed to seek out a number of provenances and leafing through the catalogue, you will find many coins previously belonging to some of the most prestigious and best known collections such as Du Chastel, Montagu and Ponton d’Amécourt. We are sure that many

others have eluded us and we are equally convinced that many more coins come from highly prestigious sales. However, identification cannot be confirmed as they were not photographed in the respective auction catalogues. By way of example, of over 2,400 coins of the De Quelen collection, only 200 were illustrated.

This second and final sale of the Roman Gold Coins of the Archer M. Huntington collection, presents a unique opportunity for collectors to purchase coins from this and legendary and fascinating collection and we hope that the coins will give their future owners great joy and satisfaction in the knowledge that they are holding in their hands something that was selected by this fascinating gentleman.

US IMPORT RESTRICTIONS ON COINS OF ITALIAN AND GREEK TYPE

None of the coins offered in this sale are subject to any kind of US import restrictions.

Nevertheless, Numismatica Ars Classica NAC AG endeavours to provide its American clients with the best service possible and we will therefore take it upon ourselves whenever possible to carry out all of the customs formalities for importation into the USA and will then ship the lots to each individual client from within the United States.

The Archer M. Huntington collection of Roman Gold Coins part II

The Roman Republic

The mint is Roma unless otherwise stated



- 201 *Julius Caesar and A. Hirtius Praetor.* Aureus 46, AV 8.13 g. C·CAESAR – COS TER Veiled head of Vesta r. Rev. A·HIRTIVS·PR Lituus, jug and axe. C 2. Babelon Hirtia 1 and Julia 22. Bahrfeldt 19. Sear Imperators 56. Calicó 36a. Crawford 466/1.

Minor mark on cheek, otherwise about extremely fine

4'500

Ex HSA 30109.

The Roman Empire

The mint is Roma unless otherwise stated

Octavian, 32 – 29 BC



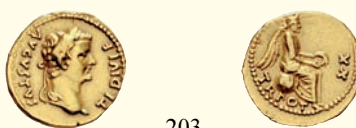
- 202 Aureus, Brundisium or Roma circa 32-29 BC, AV 8.17 g. Bare head r. Rev. Equestrian statue l. of Octavian, naked to waist, with r. hand raised; below, CAESAR·DIVI·F. C 73. Bahrfeldt 104. BMC 594. RIC 262. CBN 82. Calicó 187.

Rare. A very attractive portrait struck on a very broad flan, minor marks,
otherwise about extremely fine

12'000

Ex HSA 22265.

Tiberius augustus, 14 – 37 AD



203

- 203 Quinarius, Lugdunum 18-19, AV 3.81 g. TI DIVI F – AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. TR POT – XX Victory seated r. on globe, holding wreath with both hands. C 50. BMC 14. RIC 6. CBN –. Giard Lyon 126/2d (this coin illustrated). King 2L (this coin). Rare. Good very fine 3'500

Ex HSA 22111.

Gaius, 37 – 41



204



204

- 204 Aureus, Lugdunum 40, AV 7.94 g. C CAESAR AVG PON M TR POT III COS II Laureate head r. Rev. S P Q R / P P / OB C S within oak wreath. C 20. BMC 29. RIC 27. CBN 37. Giard Lyon 182/2a (this coin illustrated). Calicó 329.

Very rare and in unusually good condition for this extremely difficult issue.

Minor marks on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine 25'000

Ex HSA 22214.

Few of Rome's emperors enjoy as foul a reputation as Gaius, who is generally known by the nickname Caligula, meaning 'bootikin' or 'little boots', which he received from his father's soldiers while he was still an amiable child. He grew to despise the nickname almost as much as everyone grew to despise him. There is little need to revisit the list of his debaucheries, incests and acts of depravity – we need only note that his behaviour was a special blend of intellect and insanity, and that he has few peers beyond Nero, Commodus and Elagabalus. On the bright side, Caligula was dutiful when it came to his well-produced coinage. Caligula honoured his great-grandfather Augustus, very likely Tiberius, his murdered parents, Germanicus and Agrippina Senior, and his murdered brothers, Nero Caesar and Drusus Caesar. Among the living he honoured his three sisters – in whom he had more than a casual interest – and, on provincial coinage, his final wife Caesonia and their daughter Drusilla Minor, both of whom were murdered within an hour of Caligula. Beside these issues honouring his family, Gaius struck a very small quantity of coins in silver and gold portraying himself alone. Both his denarii and aurei are extremely rare and almost impossible to find in good condition.

Claudius, 41 – 54



205

- 205 Aureus 49-50, AV 7.81 g. TI CLAVD CAESAR AVG P M TR P VIII IMP XVIII Laureate head r. Rev. PACI – AVGVSTAE Pax-Nemesis advancing r., holding winged caduceus pointing down at snake and holding out fold of drapery below chin. C 62. BMC p. 172 note †. RIC p. 123 note ‡. CBN –. Giard Lyon 62/1a (this coin illustrated). Calicó 370.

A magnificent portrait well struck in high relief, good extremely fine

25'000

Ex HSA 22261.



- 206 Aureus circa 50-54, AV 7.62 g. TI CLAVD CAESAR AVG GERM P M TRIB POT P P Laureate head of Claudius r. Rev. NERO CLAVD CAES DRVSVS GERM PRINC IVVENT Bare headed and draped bust of Nero l. C 4. BMC 79. RIC 82. CBN 85. Calicó 391.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for this very difficult issue. Two superb portraits of fine style well struck in high relief and good extremely fine

35'000

Ex HSA 22304.

The closing years of the reign of Claudius are defined by the poor choices he made about his personal life, which had profound effects upon the state. Perhaps worst of all was his decision in 48 to marry his niece Agrippina Junior, a woman who possessed few virtues beyond a calculating intellect and blinding ambition. Along with Agrippina came her son from a former marriage, L. Domitius Ahenobarbus, who early in A.D. 50 was adopted by Claudius and took the name Nero. The likely explanation for this marriage is Claudius' inability to judge the character of women, though he may also have deemed it necessary to stabilise his regime. Of the four women Claudius married, he divorced the first three: one because she was the sister of the defamed Sejanus, and the other two because of their adulterous affairs and apparent plans to murder him. His fourth and final marriage, to Agrippina, occurred just months after he had ordered the execution of his third wife, Valeria Messalina. The new union was unorthodox, and required a change in the laws governing such affairs, which prohibited uncles from marrying their brothers' daughters. The domineering presence of Agrippina changed the complexion of Claudius' regime, as her top priority was the advancement of Nero, even above his biological son Britannicus. Upon seeing this aureus, no one could have doubted that Nero was destined to succeed Claudius. It likely was struck in 51, not long after Nero had been adopted by Claudius, and in the same year that he assumed the toga *virilis*, the 'toga of manhood' months before the proscribed age. Moreover, it shows the effectiveness of Agrippina, who two years later would secure the marriage of Nero to Claudius' elder daughter, Claudia Octavia, despite her longstanding betrothal to a distant cousin, Lucius Junius Silanus.

Nero augustus, 54 – 68



- 207 Aureus 56-58, AV 7.69 g. NERO CAESAR AVG IMP Bare head r. Rev. PONTIF MAX TR P III P P around oak wreath enclosing EX S C. C 206. BMC 12. RIC 11. CBN 18. Calicó 421.

A lovely portrait, edge nick at three o'clock on obverse, otherwise good very fine

5'000

Ex HSA 22207.



208



- 208 Aureus 58-59, AV 7.58 g. NERO CAESAR AVG IMP Bare head r. Rev. PONTIF MAX TR P V P P around oak wreath enclosing EX S C. C 210. BMC 17. RIC 16. CBN 24. Calicó 424.

A very pleasant portrait struck in high relief, minor marks and traces of edge filing, otherwise about extremely fine

5'000

Ex Rollin & Feuardent sale 20-28 April 1896, Montagu, 156 and HSA 30051.



209



- 209 Aureus 63-64, AV 7.66 g. NERO CAESAR AVG IMP Bare head r. Rev. PONTIF MAX TR P X COS IIII P P EX – S C Roma standing r., l. foot on helmet by dagger and bow, inscribing round shield held on l. knee. C 234. BMC 49. RIC 42. CBN 48. Calicó 438.

Well-struck in high relief, an almost invisible mark at twelve o'clock and an insignificant area of weakness on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine

12'000

Ex Rollin & Feuardent sale 18-23, 1887, Ponton d'Amécourt, 107 and HSA 22303.



210



- 210 Aureus circa 66-67, AV 7.28 g. IMP NERO CAESAR – AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. IVPPITER – CVSTOS Juppiter seated l., holding thunderbolt and sceptre. C 120. BMC 77. RIC 63. CBN 231 Calicó 413.

Lovely reddish Boscoreale tone and good very fine

5'000

Ex HSA 30055. Possibly from the Boscoreale hoard of 1895.



- 211 Aureus circa 66-67, AV 7.17 g. IMP NERO CAESAR – AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. Salus seated l. on a throne, holding patera in r. hand and resting l. at her side; in exergue, SALVS. C 317. BMC 94. RIC 66. CBN 236. Calicó 445. Lovely reddish Boscoreale tone and about extremely fine 7'500
Ex HSA 30056. Possibly from the Boscoreale hoard of 1895.

Galba, 68 – 69

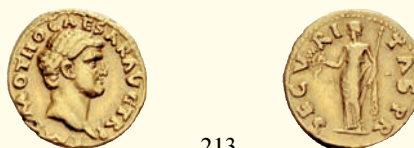


- 212 Aureus circa July 68 to June 69, AV 7.24 g. IMP SER – GALBA AVG Bare head r. Rev. S P Q R / OB C S within wreath. C 286. BMC 29. RIC 164. CBN 73. Calicó 509. Very rare. A bold portrait of great strength struck on a full flan, lovely reddish tone and about extremely fine 18'000

Ex Rollin & Feuardent sale 18-23 April, 1887, Ponton d'Amécourt, 116 and HSA 30047.

Almost more remarkable than Galba's legacy as an emperor for seven months in 68 and 69 is the life he enjoyed before he claimed the purple. He was among the wealthiest men in the empire, and is said not to have travelled anywhere, not even on a casual afternoon ride, with less than ten thousand gold pieces. Being so wealthy and belonging to a noble family, the Suplicii, it is not surprising that he held many important posts in Rome and in the provinces, and was a personal acquaintance of the Julio-Claudians. Galba began his association with the Julio-Claudians with a pinch on the cheek from Augustus when he was a child, and thereafter he was a personal acquaintance of the emperors from Tiberius to Nero, whom he overthrew in 68. Agrippina Junior was apparently infatuated with him, and he enjoyed especially close friendships with Claudius and Livia. Suetonius tells us Livia made Galba her principal heir, leaving him 500,000 aurei, but that Tiberius nullified her bequest on a technicality, reducing the amount to only 5,000.

Otho, 69



- 213 Aureus 15th January-mid April 69, AV 7.25 g. IMP M OTHO CAESAR AVG TR P Bare head r. Rev. SECVR – RI – TAS P R Securitas standing l., holding wreath and sceptre. C 16. BMC 13. RIC 7. CBN 7. Calicó 531a. Very rare. Minor marks on edge and on field, otherwise good very fine 12'000
Ex HSA 22301.

Vitellius, 69



214

- 214 Aureus, Tarraco (?) January-April 69, AV 7.23 g. A VITELLIVS GERMANICVS IMP AVG Laureate head l. Rev. CLEMENTIA IMP – GERMANICI Clementia, draped, seated l., holding branch and long sceptre. C 11. BMC p. 384, note †. RIC 2. CBN –. Calicó 541.

Extremely rare and among the finest specimens known. A very interesting issue with an unusual portrait well struck on a full flan, light reddish tone and extremely fine

50'000

Ex HSA 8051.

The chronologies for the coins of Vitellius struck in Spain and Gaul are only approximately understood. While every Rome mint coin of Vitellius is believed to have been struck after he was hailed Augustus by the senate on April 19, the Spanish and Gaulish issues were produced both during his period of rebellion, as Imperator, and while he reigned as emperor.

This Spanish-mint aureus is a perfect case in point, for its obverse inscription reads A VITELLIVS GERMANICVS IMP AVG. The inclusion of the title Augustus suggests it was struck after that title had been conferred upon him by the senate. However, Sutherland notes a progression in the shortening of the surname *Germanicus* on Vitellius' coinage, which has been used as a guideline for developing a chronology. At Rome it is reduced from GERMANICVS to GERMAN, then GERMA or GERM, and lastly to GER. The Spanish mint issues had only one reduction, from GERMANICVS to GERMAN. As such, this obverse inscription appears to be early due to the full reading of his surname, yet it arguably is late due to the presence of the title Augustus.

The reverse celebrates the *clementia*, or clemency, of Vitellius – an appealing sentiment in the midst of a civil war. The obverse and reverse inscriptions each include the title *imperator* and his surname *Germanicus*, both of which Suetonius (*Vitellius* 8) tells us he received from his army of Upper Germany at the outset of his revolt

Vespasian, 69 – 79



215

215

- 215 Aureus 71, AV 7.22 g. IMP CAES VESP AVG P M Laureate head r. Rev. TR POT II – C – OS III P P Pax seated l., holding olive branch and canuceus. C 565. BMC 60. RIC 40. CBN 42. Calicó 688.

A bold portrait and a magnificent reddish Boscoreale tone, about extremely fine

12'000

Ex HSA 30054. From the Boscoreale hoard of 1895.



- 216 Aureus, Lugdunum 71, AV 7.28 g. IMP CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. TR – POT – COS – III Aequitas standing l., holding scales and sceptre. C 548. BMC 385. RIC 1114. CBN 294. Giard Lyon 10. Calicó 682. Extremely fine 7'500
Ex HSA 22290.



- 217 Aureus, Lugdunum 71, AV 7.19 g. IMP CAES VESPASIAN AVG P M TR P COS III Laureate head r. Rev. PACI – AVGVSTAE Pax-Nemensis advancing r., raising skirt and pointing caduceus to serpent at her feet. C 283. BMC 400. RIC 1130. CBN –. Giard Lyon 20. Calicó 655.
A very attractive portrait struck on a very broad flan, an almost invisible mark on reverse field, otherwise extremely fine 9'000
Ex HSA 22293.



- 218 Aureus 74, AV 7.37 g. IMP CAESAR – VESPASIANVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. FORTVNA – AVGVST Fortuna standing l. on garlanded altar decorated with rams' heads, holding rudder in r. hand and cornucopiae in l. C 172. BMC 275. CBN 246. RIC 699. Calicó 631.
Rare. Several minor marks, otherwise extremely fine / about extremely fine 7'500
Ex HSA 22295.



- 219 Aureus 75, AV 7.24 g. IMP CAESAR – VESPASIANVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. Bull butting r.; in exergue, COS VI. C 112 (misdescribed). BMC 159. CBN 137. RIC 768. Calicó 620.
A bold portrait struck on a full flan, good extremely fine 18'000
Ex HSA 30082.



- 220 Aureus 75-79, AV 7.28 g. IMP CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. AETER – NITAS Aeternitas standing l., holding heads of Sol and Luna; at her feet, lighted altar. C 21. BMC 271. RIC 838. CBN 244. Calicó 588 (this reverse die).
A wonderful portrait of fine style, an almost invisible edge nick at two o'clock on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine / extremely fine 12'500
Ex HSA 30081.

Titus caesar, 69 – 79



- 221 Aureus 74, AV 7.41 g. T CAESAR – IMP VESP Laureate head r. Rev. PONTIF – TR POT Fortuna standing l. on garlanded base, holding rudder and cornucopiae. C 165 var. (head l.). BMC Vespasian 153. CBN Vespasian 127. RIC Vespasian 696. Calicó 751.
A superb portrait perfectly struck and centred on a full flan, extremely fine 15'000
Ex HSA 30080.



- 222 Aureus 77-78, AV 7.34 g. T CAESAR IMP – VESPASIANVS Laureate head r. Rev. Roma seated r. on shields, l. foot over helmet, holding spear in l. hand; on either side, a bird; before her, she-wolf with twins and in exergue, COS VI. C 64. BMC Vespasian 223. RIC Vespasian 954. CBN Vespasian 199. Calicó 738a. A very attractive reverse composition, a faint scratch on reverse field, otherwise extremely fine 10'000

Ex Rollin & Feuardent sale 18-23 April 1887, Ponton d'Amécourt, 156 and HSA 22288.

During the years 77 and 78 the Flavians introduced a host of new reverse types to their precious metal coinage, most of which were based upon types from the Republican and Augustan age. This type is a remarkably faithful reproduction of the reverse from an anonymous Republican denarius struck circa 115/4 B.C. The type is steeped in the Roman legendary tradition: Roma is shown seated on a pile of shields observing the she-wolf suckling Romulus and Remus as birds fly at either side. Literary tradition has it that nourishment was brought to the twins by a woodpecker (picus), and these birds undoubtedly represent them even if they are not that actual type of bird (for in various media similar scenes substitute other birds, such as eagles and ravens).

Domitian caesar, 69 – 81



- 223 Aureus early 76-early 77, AV 7.20 g. CAESAR AVG F DOMITIANVS Laureate head r. Rev. COS – IIII Cornucopiae tied up with ribbons. C 46. BMC Vespasian 197. RIC Vespasian 918. CBN Vespasian 171. Calicó 817. About extremely fine / extremely fine 7'500

Ex HSA 22286.



224

- 224 Aureus 77-78, AV 7.25 g. CAESAR AVG F – DOMITIANVS Laureate head r. Rev. Captive kneeling r., offering standard with *vexillum*; in exergue, COS V. C 48. BMC Vespasian 231. RIC Vespasian 959. CBN Vespasian 205. Calicó 819.

A superb portrait of high style, light reddish tone and extremely fine

10'000

Ex HSA 22285.



225

- 225 Aureus 77-78, AV 7.38 g. CAESAR AVG F – DOMITIANVS Laureate head r. Rev. COS V She-wolf l., with twins; in exergue, boat. C 50. BMC Vespasian 237. RIC Vespasian 960. CBN Vespasian 210. Calicó 820.

A magnificent portrait of fine style, virtually as struck and Fdc

35'000

Ex HSA 22284.

The 'wolf and twins' – the she-wolf suckling Romulus and Remus, the legendary founders of Rome – are perhaps the most enduring of all Roman emblems. As such it is somewhat surprising that they appear on coinage only infrequently, especially as a main type. Indeed, up until the reign of Vespasian it had been absent from coinage as a main type for nearly three centuries (previously it had occurred only on a Republican silver didrachm, c. 275–270 B.C., struck after Rome's defeat of Pyrrhus, and on a Republican copper sextans struck c. 217–215 B.C.). Under the Flavians the type is known for silver denarii of Vespasian and Titus, but principally it was struck in the form of aurei and denarii for Domitian in this issue of 77/78.

Domitian augustus, 81 – 96



226

- 226 Aureus 82, AV 7.57 g. IMP CAES DOMITIANVS AVG P M Laureate head of Domitian r. Rev. TR POT IMP II COS DES VIII P P Helmeted and draped bust of Minerva l., wearing *aegis* and holding sceptre. C 607. BMC 33 note. RIC 137. CBN 36. Calicó 936 (this reverse die).

Very rare. Two very attractive portrait of fine style, extremely fine

30'000

Ex HSA 22277.



227

- 227 Aureus 95-96, AV 7.41 g. DOMITIANVS – AVGVSTVS Bare head r. Rev. GERMANICVS COS XVII Minerva standing l., holding spear. C 165. BMC p. 343 note*. CBN –. RIC 780 (this coin ?). Calicó 856.

Very rare. A bold and unusual bare portrait in the finest style of the period struck in high relief and good extremely fine

25'000

Ex HSA 22280

Trajan, 98 – 117



- 228 Aureus 103-111, AV 7.15 g. IMP TRAIANO AVG GER DAC P M TR P Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. COS V P P S P Q R OPTIMO PRINCIP Octastyle temple within which statue of Pax; five statues on pediment. C 97 var. (not cuirassed). BMC 354. RIC 146. Woytek 267f (this coin cited). Calicó 1010. Very rare. A very interesting reverse type and about extremely fine / good very fine 12'500

Ex Rollin & Feuardent 27 May 1889, du Chastel 331 and HSA 22272



- 229 Aureus 116-117, AV 7.27 g. IMP CAES NER TRAIAN OPTIM AVG GERM DAC Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. PARTHICO P M TR P COS VI P P S P Q R Draped bust of Sol r. C 187 var. (GER). BMC 621. CBN 880. RIC 329. Calicó 1038. Woytek 572f3 (this coin) and pl. 115, 572f3 (this coin illustrated). Scarce. Several minor marks, otherwise about extremely fine 7'500

Ex HSA 30096.

Plotina, wife of Trajan



- 230 Aureus 116-117, AV 7.50 g. PLOTINA AVG – IMP TRAIAN Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. AVG GER DAC PARTHICI P M TR P COS VI P P Vesta, diademed and draped, seated l., holding *pallasium* and sceptre. C 1. BMC p. 124, †. RIC 728. CBN 909 (these dies). Woytek 709 (this coin illustrated). Calicó 1144. An exceedingly rare legend variety of an extremely rare type. A superb portrait struck in high relief, two insignificant edge nicks, otherwise extremely fine 50'000

Ex Sangiorgi sale 11 April 1894, Stettiner, 544 and HSA 22178.

Hadrian augustus, 117 – 138



- 231 Aureus 119-122, AV 7.29 g. IMP CAESAR TRAIAN – HADRIANVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. P M TR – P COS III Roma helmeted seated l. on cuirass, holding Victory in r. hand and spear in l.; behind, shield and quiver. C 1104 var. (not draped and cuirassed). BMC 133. RIC 77c. Calicó 1334. A lovely portrait struck in high relief, almost invisible marks, otherwise good extremely fine 15'000

Ex HSA 22180.

Hadrian was an enigmatic figure composed of equally good and bad qualities. At times he could be incredibly cruel and calculating, like when early in his reign he executed several ex-consuls for allegedly conspiring against the throne, even though upon his accession he had promised never to execute a member of the senatorial order. At other times, he showed great sophistication in his understanding of the needs of the Empire. To start, he reverted the expansionist policies of his predecessor Trajan by pulling back some of the more ambitious borders, and then better fortifying them. He also made a virtual career of traveling throughout the provinces to administer his rule first-hand, which clearly had many positive effects.



- 232 Aureus 125-128, AV 7.30 g. HADRAIANVS – AVGVS TVS Laureate bust r., with drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. Emperor galloping r., holding spear; in exergue, COS III. C 414 var. (omits drapery). BMC 435 (this reverse die). RIC 187d. Calicó 1228 (this reverse die). A bold portrait struck on a full flan and about extremely fine / extremely fine 8'000

Ex HSA 22176.

Antoninus Pius augustus, 138 – 161



- 233 Aureus 140, AV 7.37 g. ANTONINVS AVG – PIVS P P TR P COS III Bare bust of A. Pius l., with drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. AVRELIVS CAES – AVG PII F COS Bare head of M. Aurelius l. C –. BMC p. 27, †. RIC 420. Calicó 1720. Two lovely portraits struck on a very large flan, about extremely fine / good very fine 8'000

Ex HSA 22189.



- 234 Aureus 145-161, AV 7.02 g. ANTONINVS – AVG PIVS P P Bare-headed and cuirassed bust r., with drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. TR PO – T – COS IIII Roma seated l. on a shield, holding *palladium* and spear. C 936 var. (no drapery). BMC 555. RIC 147b. Calicó 1654. Extremely fine 6'000

Ex HSA 22117.



- 235 Aureus 145-161, AV 7.32 g. ANTONINVS – AVG PIVS P P Laureate head r. Rev. TR POT – COS IIII Roma seated l. on a shield, holding Victory and spear. C 934 var. (drapery on l. shoulder). BMC 558. RIC 147c. Calicó 1655. Good extremely fine 7'500

Ex HSA 22192.



- 236 Aureus 154-155, AV 7.19 g. ANTONINVS AVG PI – VS P P TR P XVIII Laureate head r. Rev. COS – IIII Antoninus, togate, standing l., holding globe in r. hand. C 316. BMC 835. RIC 241. Calicó 1531 (this obverse die). Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 9'000

Ex HSA 30004.



- 237 Aureus 155-156, AV 7.33 g. ANTONINVS AVG – PIVS P P IMP II Laureate head r. Rev. TR POT XIX – COS IIII Victory advancing l., holding wreath and palm branch. C 993. BMC 862. RIC 255b. Calicó 1670. Light reddish tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 10'000

Ex Rollin & Feuardent sale 20-28 April 1896, Montagu, 347 and HSA 22191.



- 238 Aureus 155-156, AV 7.16 g. ANTONINVS AVG PI – VS P P IMP II Laureate head r. Rev. TR POT XIX – COS IIII The Emperor standing l., holding globe in r. hand. C 995. BMC 864. RIC 256b. Calicó 1673. About extremely fine 4'500

Ex HSA 22190.

Diva Faustina, wife of Antoninus Pius



- 239 Aureus after 141, AV 7.33 g. DIVA – FAVSTINA Draped bust r. Rev. AVGV – STA Ceres standing facing, head l., holding lighted torch and short vertical sceptre. C 95. BMC A. Pius 395. RIC A. Pius 356. Calicó 1763a. Minor marks, otherwise about extremely fine 4'500

Ex HSA 30120.

Marcus Aurelius augustus, 161 – 180



- 240 Aureus February-December 168, AV 7.10 g. M ANTONINVS AVG – ARM PARTH MAX Laureate head r. Rev. FORT RED TR P XXII IMP V Fortuna seated l., holding rudder and cornucopiae; in exergue, COS III. C 207. BMC 458. RIC 183. Calicó 1857 (these dies).

A bold portrait, traces of edge filing, otherwise good extremely fine

8'000

Ex HSA 30015.



- 241 Aureus February-December 168, AV 7.21 g. M ANTONINVS AVG – ARM PARTH MAX Laureate head r. Rev. TR P XXII IMP V COS III Aequitas seated l., holding scales and cornucopiae. C 898. BMC 465. RIC 189. Calicó 2005 (these dies).

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

12'500

Ex Rollin & Feuardent sale April 18-23, 1887, Ponton d'Amécourt, 318 and HSA 22195.

Lucius Verus, 161 - 169



- 242 Aureus December 163-164, AV 7.29 g. L·VERVS AVG – ARMENIACVS Bare head r. Rev. TR P IIII – IMP II COS II Victory, half-draped, standing r., placing a shield inscribed VIC / AVG on a palm tree. C 248. BMC 294. RIC M. Aurelius 522. Calicó 2174 (these dies).

A spectacular portrait and a coin of extraordinary quality, a perfect Fdc

20'000

Ex HSA 30024.



243

- 243 Aureus December 163-164, AV 7.40 g. L VERVS AVG – ARMENIACVS Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. TR P IIII IMP II COS II Victory, half-draped, standing r., placing a shield inscribed VIC / AVG on a palm tree. C 247 var. (without drapery). BMC M. Aurelius 296 note. RIC M. Aurelius 525. Calicó 2177 (these dies). A spectacular portrait and a coin of extraordinary quality, a perfect Fdc 18'000

Ex HSA 22204.

Commodus augustus, 177 – 193



244

- 244 Aureus 178, AV 6.93 g. L AVREL COM – MODVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. TR P III IMP II COS P P Castor standing l., holding horse by bridle with r. hand and spear with l. C 760. BMC 774. RIC 648. Calicó 2337. Struck in high relief, extremely fine / good extremely fine 15'000

Ex HSA 22214.

Pertinax, 1 January – 28 March 193



245

- 245 Aureus 1 January – 28 March 193, AV 7.27 g. IMP CAES P HELV – PERTIN AVG Laureate head r. Rev. LAETITIA TEM – POR COS II Laetitia standing l., holding wreath and sceptre. C 19. BMC 7. RIC 4a. Calicó 2383.

Rare. An exquisite portrait of superb style struck in high relief on a full flan. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

40'000

Ex HSA 30033.

A self-made man who rose to prominence through dedication and talent, Pertinax's career was illustrious. His father was a former slave and merchant whose wealth bought Pertinax a good education. Pertinax began his adult life as a teacher, but afterward he embarked on a military career. He rose through the ranks serving in Parthia, Britain and Noricum, subsequently serving as governor of several provinces. In 189 the emperor Commodus appointed him prefect of Rome, and he was still serving in that capacity when Commodus was assassinated on New Year's Eve, 192. Though Pertinax has often been portrayed as an unimpeachable moralist, he was more likely an opportunist who was intimately involved in the plot against Commodus. After his accession, Pertinax may have viewed himself as a benevolent dictator, but the praetorians nonetheless murdered him after a reign of just eighty-six days.

Septimius Severus, 193 – 211



246

- 246 Aureus 194, AV 7.33 g. L SEPT SEV PE – RT – AVG IMP III Laureate head r. Rev. VICT AVG – T – R – P II COS II Victory advancing r. holding wreath in r. hand and palm branch in l. C 689. BMC 72. RIC 38. Calicó 2550 (these dies).

Light reddish tone and good extremely fine

15'000

Ex HSA 30030.



247

- 247 Aureus 194, AV 7.33 g. L SEPT SEV PERT – AVG IMP IIII Laureate head r. Rev. ARAB – ADIAB COS II P P Victory advancing l., holding wreath and trophy. C –. BMC p. 33 note *. RIC 41. Calicó 2433 (these dies). Biaggi –. Exceedingly rare and a very intriguing and historically important issue. Well-struck and centred on a full flan and extremely fine 30'000

Ex 22116.

This historical type naming the people of Arabia and Adiabene, though common enough in silver, is a rarity in gold. It was unknown to Cohen when he compiled his monumental work near the end of the 19th Century.

Severus encountered and defeated these peoples after his successful campaign of A.D. 194 against his rival in the East, Pescennius Niger, for which he was acclaimed *imperator* three times for successive victories. He next indulged in a triumphant tour of Syria, rewarding those who had been loyal and punishing others.

After wintering at Antioch, Severus led his army into Mesopotamia in the spring of 195 to ferret out any of Niger's soldiers who had fled east, and to exact revenge on foreigners who had supported Niger's cause. He first annexed the Kingdom of Osroene, installing there a Roman governor yet allowing its king, Agbar, to retain rule over the capital of Edessa and its hinterlands.

He next overcame the Scenite Arabs and the Adiabeni (whose kings, Josephus tells us, had converted to Judaism in the 1st Century B.C.). Consequently, Severus assumed the titles *Parthicus Arabicus* and *Parthicus Adiabenicus*, which are preserved on coinage and are engraved on the Arch of Severus in Rome as PARTHICO ARABICO ET PARTHICO ADIABENICO. In using these full titles, Severus made it clear that these nations were Parthian vassals, yet he did not assume the title *Parthicus*, presumably to avoid causing offense and sparking an unwanted war.

It is curious that Severus assumed these titles before he earned any of the three imperatorships (V, VI and VII) that would follow later in 195. Birley proposes that this odd sequence of events might be explained if these nations submitted quickly, and only later offered resistance; battles must have occurred afterward that were hard-fought enough to merit another rapid sequence of imperatorships.

Severus' coinage celebrating the assumption of these titles was limited to aurei and denarii with two main reverse types, Victory advancing and two captives seated at the base of a trophy (though in one case the trophy is missing and the captives are seated upon shields). Denarii are known from Rome, Alexandria and Laodicea, and aurei only from Rome. Though the main issues were struck at Rome from 195 to 197, the denarii of Laodicea were struck as late as 198, perhaps because the message was of greater import to citizens in the East.



- 248 Aureus 196-197, AV 7.31 g. L SEPT SEV PERT – AVG IMP VIII Laureate head r., with drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. FORTVN – A – E REDVCI Fortuna seated l., holding rudder set on globe and cornucopiae; beneath seat, wheel. C 187 var. (draped and cuirassed). BMC 160. RIC 78c. Calicó 2455.

A wonderful portrait struck in high relief and extremely fine

12'500

Ex HSA 30031.



- 249 Aureus 198-200, AV 7.40 g. L SEPT SEV AVG IMP – XI PART MAX Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. AEQVITA – TI AVGG Aequitas standing l., holding scales and cornucopiae. C 20. BMC –. RIC 122a. Calicó 2431.

A very attractive portrait struck in high relief, a faint scratch on reverse,
otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

10'000

Ex HSA 30026.



- 250 Aureus 200-201, AV 7.09 g. SEVERVS AVG – PART MAX Laureate head r. Rev. FVND – T – OR PACIS The Emperor, veiled, standing l., holding branch and scroll. C 202. BMC 189. RIC 160. Calicó 2459 (this obverse die).

An exquisite portrait in the finest style of the period,
virtually as struck and almost Fdc

25'000

Ex HSA 30037.

Julia Domna, wife of Septimius Severus



- 251 Aureus circa 211-217, AV 7.29 g. IVLIA PIA – FELIX AVG Draped bust r. Rev. PIETATI Pietas, veiled, standing l., holding box and dropping incense on altar. C 157. BMC Caracalla 18a. RIC Caracalla 384. Calicó 2634 (this obverse die).

A masterly portrait in the finest style of the period, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

15'000

Ex HSA 30111.

Caracalla augustus, 198 – 217



- 252 Aureus, Laodicea 198, AV 7.24 g. IMP CAE M AVR A – NT AVG P TR P Laureate and draped bust r. Rev. MINE – R – V – ICT – RIX Minerva standing l., holding Victory and sceptre; in r. field, trophy. C 158. BMC S. Severus 639. RIC 336a. Calicó 2695 (these dies).

Rare. A very interesting issue and an unusual portrait, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

18'000

Ex HSA 30116.

Like many Severan issues of A.D. 198, this Minerva Victrix aureus of Caracalla makes reference to the successful war that the royal family had waged against the Parthians. After the Roman army sacked the capital of Ctesiphon late in January, Severus took the title *Parthicus Maximus*, raised his eldest son Caracalla – then nine years old – from Caesar to Augustus and promoted his youngest son, Geta, to the rank of Caesar. The timing could not have been better scripted, for it occurred on January 28, 198, a century after Trajan had been hailed *Parthicus Maximus* during his equally impressive campaign against the Parthians.

This aureus belongs to one of the first issues struck for Caracalla as emperor. The themes of the reverse types used for his earliest aurei are limited to the new emperor's place in the Severan dynasty and the Parthian victory. However, cause for celebration by the royal family ended soon after the assumption of honors, for on the return journey, Dio tells us Severus made two efforts to take the Arab caravan city of Hatra. Then ruled by King Barsemius, well garrisoned, and defended by massive double walls some four miles long, it had also resisted Trajan's attempts to take it a century before.

The first effort in February or March failed quickly, with the burning of siege engines and the death and injury of a great many Roman soldiers; the second effort in the fall or winter of that year was a virtual repeat of the first. Though Severus was unable to take Hatra by force, the larger Roman agenda may have been served, as a few decades later a Roman cohort was stationed there, and some scholars believe it was installed not long after Severus departed.



253

- 253 Aureus 199-200, AV 7.44 g. ANTONINVS - AVGVSTVS Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. RECTOR – ORBIS Sol standing facing, head l., holding globe and sceptre. C 541. BMC 163. RIC 39a. Calicó 2804.

A charming portrait perfectly struck in high relief, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

20'000

Ex HSA 22234.



254

- 254 Aureus 199-200, AV 7.24 g. ANTONINVS - AVGVSTVS Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. RECTOR – ORBIS Sol standing facing, head l., holding globe and sceptre. C 541. BMC 163. RIC 39a. Calicó 2804 (these dies). A gentle portrait perfectly struck in high relief, good extremely fine

18'000

Ex HSA 22102.



255

- 255 Aureus 199-200, AV 7.13 g. ANTONINVS PIVS – AVG PON TR P IIII Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust of Caracalla r. Rev. P SEPT GETA – CAES PONT Bare headed, draped and cuirassed bust of Geta r. C 6. BMC 261 (these dies). RIC 53. Calicó 2864 (these dies).

Very rare and in exceptional condition. Two extraordinary portraits in the finest style of the period, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

50'000

Ex HSA 30074.

Among the least ornate, yet the most beautiful of the Severan dynastic aurei is this issue with the bust of Caracalla on the obverse and that of his younger brother Geta on the reverse. Although the two boys were relatively close in age, Caracalla was hailed Augustus in 198, whereas Geta remained Caesar until 209. This piece was struck quite early in their Imperial experience, and the hatred that existed at this point was probably viewed as simple boyhood competitiveness rather than the true disdain into which it later evolved. By that time each had their own faction of supporters in Rome and throughout the empire, and after Caracalla had murdered Geta in their mother's arms, he wasted no time in tracking down and murdering a great many other people who had been loyal to Geta. Beyond that Caracalla went to great lengths to destroy busts and images of his brother, even to the point of having his portrait chiselled off of dual-portrait coins struck in the provinces.



256

- 256 Aureus 201-206, AV 7.00 g. ANTONINVS – PIVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICT – PART MAX Victory running l., holding wreath and palm. C 660. BMC 295. RIC 144 var. Calicó 2843 (this obverse die). A spectacular portrait, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

20'000

Ex HSA 30066.



257

- 257 Aureus 202, AV 7.17 g. ANTON P AVG – PON TR P V COS Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust of Caracalla r. Rev. CONCORDIAE AETERNAE Jugate busts r. of Septimius Severus, radiate and draped, and Julia Domna, diademed and draped, on crescent. C 2 var. (S. Severus draped and cuirassed). BMC 389 note. RIC 59a var.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for this difficult issue. Two magnificent portraits of fine style perfectly struck in high relief, good extremely fine

65'000

Ex HSA 30073.

The Severans, not unlike previous emperors, often associated themselves with certain deities. In general terms Septimius Severus likened himself to Serapis, Caracalla to Hercules, and Geta to Bacchus. On this dynastic aureus we find entirely different associations: Septimius wears a radiate crown, equating himself with the sun-god Sol, and Domna's bust rests upon a crescent moon, equating her with the moon-goddess Luna, the celestial consort of Sol. Such imagery reinforces the long-held idea that the very nature of men and women is polar: night and day. This form of expression for that distinction extends through much of Roman coinage, especially later in the empire when double-denominations are indicated, in which case if it is a coin depicting a male, he typically he wears a radiate crown, and if the coin bears the portrait of a female, her bust usually rests upon a crescent.



258

- 258 Aureus 216, AV 6.74 g. ANTONINVS PIVS AVG GERM Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. P M TR P XVIII COS IIII P P Serapis standing facing, head l., raising r. arm and holding sceptre in l. hand. C 347 (this coin). BMC p. 461 note 164 (this coin). RIC 280b. Calicó 2745 (these dies).

A superb portrait struck on a full flan, two absolutely insignificant edge marks, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

18'000

Ex Rollin & Feuarent sale 18-23 April, 1887, Ponton d'Amécourt, 428 and HSA 22109.

Macrinus, 217 – 218



- 259 Aureus 217-218, AV 6.91 g. IMP C M OPEL SEV – MACRINVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. LIBERALITAS AVG Macrinus and Diadumenianus seated l. on platform; behind officer standing l.; before Liberalitas, holding abacus and cornucopiae. Below platform, citizen. C 43. BMC 71. RIC 79. Kent-Hirmer pl. 97, 414 (this reverse die). Calicó 2947.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. A spectacular portrait struck in high relief and a very interesting reverse composition. Good extremely fine

90*000

Ex HSA 30035.

A trusted administrator under the Severans, Macrinus rose to become one of two praetorian prefects under the emperor Caracalla. He took a leading role in the plot to murder his benefactor, having himself enlisted the assassin. Three days after Caracalla's assassination, Macrinus was nominated Augustus by the soldiers after pretending to show sorrow for his master's death. For a time he continued the war against the Parthians, but soon tired of it and sued for peace, offering the enemy large payments in exchange for a non-aggression pact. This did not bode well with the soldiers, who perhaps wanted to pursue the campaign and have an opportunity to claim their share of the legendary wealth of the East. Thus, many soldiers soon deserted to the cause of a new rival, the 14-year-old grandnephew of Julia Domna, Elagabalus, who was alleged to be an illegitimate son of Caracalla. When the opponents finally clashed near a small Syrian village outside Antioch, the forces of Elagabalus got the upper hand and Macrinus fled the field. He made his way in disguise as far as Calchedon before he was captured and executed.

Elagabalus, 218 – 222



- 260 Aureus 219, AV 6.29 g. IMP CAES M AVR – ANTONINVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. P M TR P II – COS II P P Roma seated l., holding Victory and spear; shield leaning against throne. C 137 var. (not cuirassed). BMC p. 543, 88 note. RIC 11d. Calicó 3004.

Rare. Minor marks, otherwise extremely fine 10'000

Ex HSA 30067.

Severus Alexander, 222 - 235



- 261 Aureus circa 225, AV 6.39 g. IMP CAES M AVR SEV ALEXAND AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. P M TR P – COS P P The Emperor in slow quadriga l., holding sceptre and branch. C 225. BMC 11. RIC 16. Calicó 3087A (these dies). Very rare. Extremely fine 12'000

Ex HSA 22224.

Gallienus, 253 – 268



- 262 Aureus 253-254, AV 2.69 g. IMP C P LIC GALLIENVS AVG Laureate and cuirassed bust r. Rev. L – AETITIA AVGG Laetitia standing l., holding wreath and anchor. C 420 var. (LAETIA). RIC 79. Göbl 46p. Calicó 3537 (this obverse die). Extremely fine / about extremely fine 5'000

Ex HSA 30107.

Diocletian, 284 – 305



- 263 Aureus, Cyzicus 284-286, AV 4.58 g. IMP C C VAL DIOCLETIANVS P F AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. IOVI CON – SERVATORI ORBIS Jupiter standing l., holding Victory on globe and sceptre. C 283. RIC 299d. Lukanc 14 and p. 156, 22 (this coin illustrated). Depeyrot 2/3. Calicó 4524.
Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 12'000

Ex HSA 22164.



- 264 Aureus, Antiochia 284-286, AV 4.83 g. IMP C C VAL DIOCLETIANVS P F AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. IOVI CONSERV – ATORI AVG Jupiter standing l., holding thunderbolt and sceptre; at his feet, O and, in exergue, SMA. C 272. RIC 316. Lukanc 10 and p. 154, 8 (this coin illustrated). Depeyrot 1/1. Calicó 4515a.

Struck on a very broad flan and virtually as struck and almost Fdc

14'000

Ex HSA 22100.



- 265 Aureus, Cyzicus 286, AV 4.32 g. IMP C C VAL DIOCLETIANVS P F AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. IOVI C – ONS –ERVATORI Jupiter standing l., holding Victory on globe and sceptre. C 248 var. (cuirassed). RIC 295b. Lukanc 10 and p. 155, 19 (this coin illustrated). Depeyrot 3/2 var. (CONSERV). Calicó 4482.
Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 12'000

Ex HSA 22159.



- 266 Aureus, Antiochia 287-290, AV 5.51 g. DI – OCLETHANVS – AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. COS – II – I Emperor on horseback r., raising r. arm. C 54. RIC 310 (these dies). Lukanc 4 and p. 153, 4 (this coin illustrated). Depeyrot 7/2 (Cyzicus). Calicó 4445.

A bold portrait and an interesting reverse composition, a perfect Fdc

20'000

Ex HSA 22091.

The reverse inscription allows this coin to be dated to a three-year period, as Diocletian entered his fourth consulship in January, 290 and his fifth in January, 293. It was an eventful period for the tireless and dutiful emperor, who devoted the summer of 290 to deal with Bedouin and Saracen raiders who continually interrupted trade and border security by raiding the exposed settlements in Syria. He then travelled the great distance back to the Balkans where, at his palace in Sirmium, he began to work out the details of restructuring the empire. He then moved further westward, to Milan, where he discussed those plans with his co-emperor, Maximian, over the winter of 290/1.

The two must have worked diligently through the early spring, as there were many reforms to implement and some pressing concerns: the attacks of Nubian raiders in the Thebaid, the separatist state of Carausius, the raids of Berber tribesmen in North Africa, and even more distressful, the prospect of a renaissance Persia. Diocletian perhaps left Milan as winter ended early in 291, and returned to the Balkans. He is attested as being in Sirmium on May 13, and he may have remained in the Balkans and the north-western part of Asia Minor for the next five years.

It is unfortunate that the sources are silent for the period 291 to 292, though there is good reason to believe that at least part of this time Diocletian campaigned against the Sarmatians. Since we have so little information, one can only speculate as to the occasion for this *adventus* type, but the most likely candidate is his arrival in Milan late in December, 290. He is attested as being in Sirmium as late as December 18, which accords well with the account of a Gallic orator who, in the panegyric he delivered to Maximian on his birthday in 291 (*Pan. Lat. XI*(3) 10.4-5), recounted his marvel at the arrival in Milan of the two emperors – likened to their patrons Jupiter and Hercules – over snow-capped mountains so late in the year:

“...when from each summit of the Alps your deity first shone forth, a clearer light spread over all Italy; wonder seized upon all who gazed up no less than uncertainty, whether some god was arising from those mountain crests, or by these steps descending to earth from heaven. But when you came closer and closer and people began to recognize you, all the fields were filled not only with men running forth to see but even with flocks of beasts leaving their distant pastures and woods; farmers rushed about among each other, told everyone what they had seen, altars were ignited, incense placed upon them, libations of wine were poured, sacrificial victims slain, everything glowed with joy, everyone danced and applauded, to the immortal gods’ praises and thanks were sung: they invoked not the god transmitted by conjecture but a visible and present Jupiter near at hand, they adored Hercules not as the stranger but as the Emperor.”



- 267 Aureus 289-290, AV 6,00 g. DIOCLETI – ANVS P F AVG Laureate head r. IOVI CONS – ERVATORI Jupiter seated l. on throne, holding thunderbolt and sceptre; at his feet, eagle with wreath in its beak and in exergue, PR. C 266 var. (draped and cuirassed). RIC 142a. Depeyrot 6/4. Lukanc 12 and p. 157, 28 (this coin illustrated). Calicó 4510.

A magnificent portrait and an issue of superb style. Good extremely fine

15'000

Ex HSA 22162.



268

- 268 Aureus 289–290, AV 5.69 g. DIOCLETIA – NVS P F AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. IOVI FVL – GE – RAT – ORI Jupiter standing l., head turned back, hurling thunderbolt at kneeling Titan; in exergue, P R. C 285. RIC 146. Depeyrot 6/8. Lukanc 15 and p. 157, 32 (this coin illustrated). Calicó 4531 (these dies).

An extraordinary portrait and a very interesting reverse composition. A perfect Fdc

18'000

Ex HSA 22151.

The reverse of this aureus of Rome, like so many of the period 293–294, presents a novel type of historical interest. The need for fresh propaganda ran high at this moment, for the emperors Diocletian and Maximian had each selected a junior colleague to help them rule their vast territories. In the West, Maximian had chosen his praetorian prefect Constantius, who in recent years had proven to be loyal and effective. One goal of this imperial expansion was to mount a new offensive against Carausius, the rebel who since 286/7 had ruled Britain and parts of coastal Gaul.

To meet the needs of this great effort, a temporary mint was established at Iantium (Meaux) and the Trier mint resumed production after about 20 years of inactivity. This coin type describes Jupiter, the patron of Diocletian, as *fulgurator* ("thunderbolt hurler") and shows him aiming his bolt at an anguipede, on whose head Jupiter places his hand. This creature beseeches Jupiter for mercy, which the god does not seem prepared to grant. Interestingly, a passage in the panegyric of 291 makes reference to Jupiter (i.e. Diocletian) and his battle with these creatures (*Pan. Lat. XI(3) 3.4*). The creature is called a giant by Cohen and a Titan by Pink, and Bastien suggests it is none other than Typhoeus (Typhon), the most formidable giant defeated by Zeus.

Based on the events of the era, the creature can only represent Carausius, and Zeus the emperor Diocletian. The renewed efforts against Carausius were successful: in 293 Constantius was able to besiege and take the Gallic port city of Boulogne, thus starving the rebel of his main base on the continent. Perhaps because of that critical loss, upon returning to Britain Carausius was murdered by his successor, Allectus. Though the Romano-British Empire was still intact in Britain, its time would soon expire as fresh preparations were being made for a full-scale invasion of the island that would take place in 296.



269

- 269 Aureus, Cyzicus 290, AV 5.46 g. DIOCLETIANVS AVGVSTVS Laureate head l. Rev. CONSVL IIII – P P PRO COS The Emperor standing l., holding globe and *parazonium*. C 46. RIC 285. Depeyrot 11/1. Lukanc 1 and p. 155, 15 (this coin illustrated). Calicó 4435.

Struck in high relief and good extremely fine

12'000

Ex HSA 22090.



- 270 Aureus, Cyzicus 293, AV 5.35 g. DIOCLETIANVS – AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. CONCORDI – A AVGG N N Diocletian and Maximian seated l., both holding globe and *parazonium* crowned by Victory flying above them. C –. RIC 313. Depeyrot 13/1. Lukanc 7 and pl. 154, 6 (this coin). Calicó 4430 (these dies).
Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 18'000

Ex HSA 22087.



- 271 Aureus, Antiochia 293, AV 5.31 g. DIOCLETIANVS – AVGVSTVS Laureate head l. Rev. CONCORDI – A AVGG N N Diocletian and Maximian seated l., both holding globe and *parazonium* crowned by Victory flying above them. C 83. RIC 313. Depeyrot 13/2. Lukanc 7 and pl. 153, 5 (this coin). Calicó 4429 (these dies).
Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 18'000

Ex HSA 22088.

Maximianus Herculus, 286 – 305



- 272 Aureus, Cyzicus 286-287, AV 5.54 g. IMP C MA MAXIMIANVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. CONCO – RDIA – E MILITVM Concordia standing facing, head l., holding two standards; in exergue, S C. C 60. RIC 603 var. (omits cuirassed). Depeyrot 5/2. Calicó 4614.

A perfect Fdc 18'000

Ex HSA 22156.



273

- 273 Aureus 287, AV 5.33 g. MAXIMIA – NVS P F AVG Laureate and cuirassed bust r. Rev. HERCV – L – I – VICTORI Hercules standing facing , head l., holding branch, club and lion's skin; in exergue, P R. C 300 var. (not cuirassed). RIC –. Depeyrot 5A/3. Calicó 4673 (this reverse die).

A magnificent portrait in the finest style of the period, graffito on reverse, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

8'000

Ex HSA 22150.



274

- 274 Aureus, Antiochia 290, AV 5.24 g. MAXIMIANVS AVGVSTVS Laureate and cuirassed bust l., holding spear over shoulder and shield ornamented horseman and enemy motif. Rev. HERCVLI VICTORI Hercules standing facing, head l., with lion's skin over shoulder, holding club and apple; in field, Ξ. In exergue, SMA. C 299. RIC 619. Depeyrot 6/1. Calicó 4671.

Extremely rare, only very few specimens known. A spectacular portrait struck in high relief, minor edge marks, otherwise extremely fine

25'000

Ex HSA 22149.



275

- 275 Aureus 293-294, AV 5.74 g. MAXIMIANVS AVGVSTVS Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. HERCVLI – VICTORI Hercules seated facing on rock, head r., with lion's skin on lap; on l., club and on r., bow and quiver. In exergue, P R. C –. RIC –. Depeyrot 5B/5 (these dies). Calicó 4682 (this obverse die).
Rare. A magnificent portrait in the finest style, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 25'000

Ex HSA 10638.

The invocation on this coin "to Hercules, the Victor" was appropriate in 287 as Maximian was just starting to overcome the anarchy that had reigned in the West for the previous two years. Not only was Hercules the emperor's patron, but he was renowned for his ability to take on a proverbial 'Herculean task' and emerge victorious. Maximian faced threats so numerous and daunting that people might well have presumed that if he triumphed, it was with the benefit of divine assistance.

Hercules is shown as an older, bearded man seated facing upon a rock, looking right, with the skin of the Nemean lion draped over his lap. With his left hand he holds his club, and his bow and arrow-filled quiver are prominently displayed in the right field. The standing figure of Hercules was a universal image and was used on coins from numerous mints over a long period, whereas this powerful image was used only for aurei of Rome in c.287 and aurei of Trier in c.294, when that mint re-opened in anticipation of a new effort to reclaim Britain.



276

- 276 Aureus 294, AV 4.77 g. MAXIMIA – NVS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. HERCVL – I DEBELLAT Hercules standing l., fighting Hydra with club in r. hand; in exergue, PROM. C 255. RIC –. Depeyrot 9/5. Calicó 4660.
Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. A portrait of superb style, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 30'000

Ex HSA 22147.

Around the time the Tetrarchy was formed in 293 minting in the empire began to increase, partly because the size of the imperial bureaucracy had perhaps doubled, and the needs of the army were not lessened. Furthermore, there were donatives for Diocletian's *decennalia* and the courts and bodyguards of the new Caesars Constantius I and Galerius had to be established. All of these expenses carried into 294, when this aureus was struck at the Rome mint, about the time Diocletian implemented his monetary reform. In the West the increase in expenses was piqued in 293 with the mounting of a fresh offensive against Carausius, the naval commander-turned-rebel who since 286 (or possibly early 287) had ruled Britain and controlled much of the north-western coast of Gaul. All this meant that the mint at Trier resumed production

(in 293/4) after a 20-year hiatus, and that in 293 a temporary mint was established at Iantium (Meaux). If recent events were any guide, the success of this new venture was far from guaranteed. Maximian already had failed twice to defeat Carausius: in the spring of 289 he suffered a great naval disaster when moving against the rebel, and two years later a second attempt seems to have been thwarted, though no details of it survive. This was a source of great embarrassment to Maximian, who ultimately had to answer to Diocletian, the senior emperor in the East. It also took a great toll on the resources of the Western provinces, and threatened to inspire other would-be rebels. Thus, when the new campaign was mounted in 293, success was essential. Maximian was relying on Constantius, his former praetorian prefect and new Caesar, who had proven his skills as a commander in the previous years. He had registered impressive (if somewhat brutal) victories against Carausius' Frankish allies in the estuaries of the Rhine, trekking as far as the shores of the North Sea. Now, without the luxury of a fleet, he had to focus on defeating the rebel's allies in Gaul. The campaign was fraught with hardship and uncertainty, but Constantius emerged victorious after he forced the surrender of Bononia (Boulogne), Carausius' major stronghold in Gaul. Constantius blocked the entrance to this port-city by a feat of engineering that seems to have given way to the rising tide only hours after the city had capitulated. It is not known if Carausius was in the city and escaped, or if he had been in Britain throughout the siege, but the loss of Bologne and the consequent surrender of the rest of the Continental allies caused his murder, seemingly by his successor Allectus. Several coin types refer to this campaign, including the reverse of this aureus, which is dedicated "to Hercules the vanquisher" who is shown in the midst of his second labour, the defeat of the Lernaean Hydra. The message is clear, for Hercules was the patron deity of the ruling house of Maximian and Constantius, and the allusion of this coin type to this fresh and inspiring victory cannot be missed.

Galerius caesar, 293 – 305



- 277 Aureus 294, AV 5.73 g. D N MAXIM – IANO CAES Laureate head r. Rev. PRINCIPI IVV – ENTVTIS The Prince standing l., holding standard and sceptre; in exergue, PROM. C 178. RIC –. Depeyrot 9/14. Calicó 4943 (these dies). Very rare. Two minor scratches, otherwise good extremely fine 7'000
Ex HSA 22142.

Galerius augustus, 305 – 311



- 278 Aureus, Siscia circa 308-309, AV 5.28 g. MAXIMIA – NVS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. IOVI CO – N – SERVAT Jupiter standing l., holding thunderbolt and sceptre; in exergue, ?AS (for SIS). C –. RIC 189 var. (eagle at Jupiter's feet). Depeyrot 11/1 var. (eagle at Jupiter's feet). Calicó 4685 (as Maximian). Very rare. A beautiful portrait, hole expertly filled at twelve o'clock on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine 2'500
Ex HSA 10638.

Constantine I augustus, 307 - 337



279

- 279 Solidus, Treveri 310-313, AV 4.45 g. CONSTAN – TINVS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. VBIQVE VICTOR The Emperor standing r., holding spear and globe; at his feet, two captives; in exergue, P T R. C 565. RIC 816. Alföldi 512. Depeyrot 15/8.

Very rare. A very charming portrait struck on a full flan, extremely fine

18'000

HSA 22130.

Theodosius II, 402 – 450



280

- 280 Tremissis, Constantinopolis circa 440-450, AV 1.42 g. D N THEODO – SIVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGVSTORVM Victory advancing to front, head l., holding wreath and *globus cruciger*; in r. field, star and in exergue, CONOB. RIC –, cf. 273. MIRB –, Depeyrot –.

A very unusual style (possibly a barbaric imitation). Reddish tone and extremely fine

400

Ex HSA 30161.

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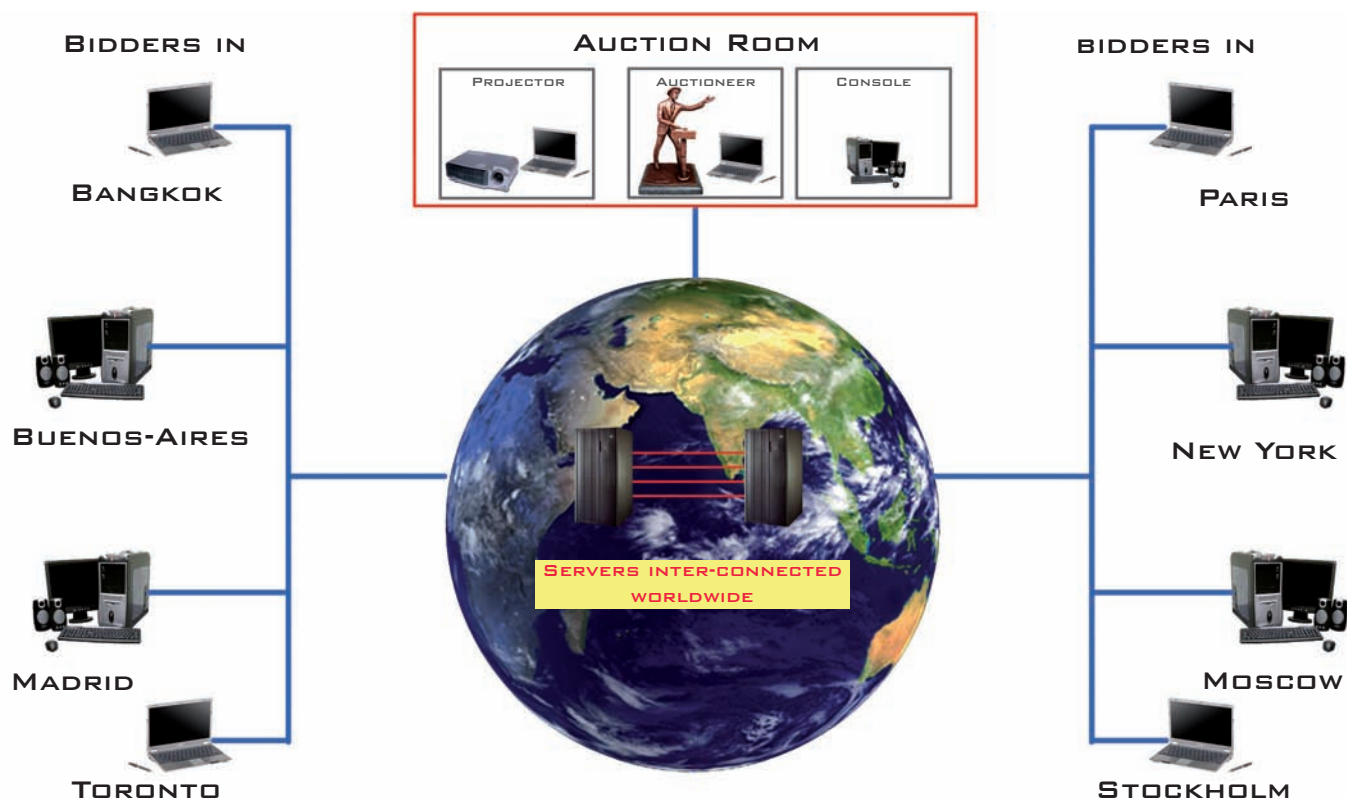
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