

A U C T I O N

95

The Ernst Ploil Collection of Roman Coins Part II

6 October 2016

NUMISMATICA ARS CLASSICA NAC AG
ZÜRICH - LONDON

AUCTION 95

6 October 2016

The Ernst Ploil Collection of Roman Coins - Part II

Hotel Baur au Lac
Talstrasse 1, 8001 Zurich
Tel. + 41 (44) 220 50 20

NUMISMATICA ARS CLASSICA NAC AG

www.arsclassicacoins.com

Niederdorfstrasse 43
8001 Zurich

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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7. Versand- und Versicherungskosten erfolgen auf Kosten und Risiko des Empfängers. Im Ausland verrechnete Gebühren und Steuern gehen zulasten des Käufers (Ersteigerers). Diesem obliegt es, sich über ausländische Zoll- und Devisenvorschriften zu informieren. Das Auktionshaus übernimmt keine Haftung für allfällige Zuwiderhandlungen gegen solche Vorschriften.
8. **Das Auktionshaus garantiert vorbehaltlos und zeitlich unbeschränkt für die Echtheit der Münzen.** Alle Angaben im Katalog sind nach bestem Wissen und Gewissen zusammengestellt.
9. Die zur Versteigerung gelangenden Objekte werden für Rechnung Dritter versteigert oder sind Eigentum des Auktionshauses. Der Käufer (Ersteigerer) hat keinen Anspruch auf Bekanntgabe des Einlieferers und ist damit einverstanden, dass das Auktionshaus auch von diesem eine Provision erhält.
10. Die vorstehenden Bedingungen sind Bestandteil eines jeden einzelnen an der Auktion geschlossenen Kaufvertrags. Abänderungen sind nur schriftlich gültig. Sofern Teile dieser Auktionsbedingungen der geltenden Rechtslage nicht mehr oder nicht vollständig entsprechen sollten, bleiben die übrigen Teile in ihrem Inhalt und ihrer Gültigkeit unberührt. Massgebend ist die deutsche Fassung dieser Auktionsbedingungen.
11. Das Vertragsverhältnis zwischen den Parteien untersteht in allen Teilen dem schweizerischen Recht. Erfüllungsort ist am Sitz des Auktionshauses in 8001 Zürich, und ausschliesslicher Gerichtsstand ist Zürich.

Conditions of Sale

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

1. Auction bidding is conducted in Swiss Francs. The highest bidder who has been acknowledged by the auctioneer when the hammer falls after the third call has legally bought the lot. Bidding usually begins at 80% of the estimate, provided no higher offers have been submitted. Written bids have priority. The successful bidder has committed himself personally to the purchases made. He cannot claim to have acted on behalf of a third party.
2. Absentee bidders can bid up to 24 hours before the start of the auction by writing, telephone or electronically. Telephone bidders must agree that calls may be recorded. The auction house does not accept liability for bidding mandates made by telephone, electronically or in writing.
3. Bidders must show proof of identification before the auction, and subsequently be registered. The Auction House may require a bank reference and/or guarantee. The Auction House reserves the right to deny a person from participating in the auction.
4. The auctioneer may raise or reject a bid without giving a reason, and furthermore reserves the right to combine or split up catalogue lots, or to offer them out of sequence or omit or withdraw them from the auction.
5. A commission of 20.0% will be levied on the hammer price - phone bidders and bidders using our Live Internet facilities pay an additional charge of 1,5%. The Swiss value added tax (VAT) of 8,0% is payable on the final price (hammer price, plus buyer's commission and any other amounts chargeable by the Auction House to the buyer). **Gold coins (AV) are exempt from VAT.**
If the purchases are exported, then the VAT will be refunded on production of a legally valid original export declaration issued by the Swiss Customs.

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

Conditions de la vente aux enchères

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

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

Condizioni di vendita

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

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

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, since we are in possession of the necessary documentation for importation into the United States.

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.

TIME TABLE ZEITTADEL ORDRE DE VENTE ORDINE DI VENDITA

Thursday, 6 October 2016 15:40 – 17:20 192 – 354

EXHIBITIONS AUSSTELLUNG EXPOSITION ESPOSIZIONI

London – At our premises

1 – 22 September 2016

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

Zurich

At the Zurich premises (2 nd Floor):	Monday, 3 October 2016	09:30 – 17:30
	Tuesday, 4 October 2016	09:30 – 17:30
At the Hotel Baur au Lac, Talstrasse 1, 8001 Zurich:	Wednesday, 5 October 2016	09:30 – 18:00
	Thursday, 6 October 2016	09:00 – 13:00

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

Foreword

After the resounding success of the sale of the first part of his collection, Numismatica Ars Classica is pleased to present the second part of the Ernst Ploil Collection of Roman Coins.

Ernst Ploil is an Austrian lawyer and his law firm, Ploil Krepp Boesch Rechtsanwälte GmbH, specialises in advising international businesses on commercial law, copyright law, and art completion law and is one of the leading legal practices in Austria in these fields. Ploil had already begun collecting ancient coins as a schoolboy and he was further inspired at high school where he learnt Latin and Greek. He went on to study law, anthropology, ancient history, archaeology, ancient numismatics and sociology at the University of Vienna. Currently, aside from his activities as a lawyer, Ploil acts as an expert in Art Nouveau objects for the Austrian auction house Kinsky of which he is one of the CEOs. Aside from coins, he actively collects Viennese Art Nouveau objects as well as old and contemporary paintings, mainly from central Europe and the United States.

In this second part of the sale, we have decided not to offer any Roman Republican, Imperial or Twelve Caesars coins so as not to overlap with those of the Gasvoda collection. The coins of this period, along with a small selection from the second and third centuries AD, will be offered by NAC in 2017.

The average quality of the coins in the Ploil collection is extremely high, nevertheless the collection has been built with a dedicated systematic approach that unfortunately is becoming increasingly rare in modern numismatics. Obviously Ploil has dedicated a lot of time and effort to the study and research of numismatics in order to achieve this impressive result, but perhaps it is this scholarly dedication to his collection that allowed him to appreciate even more his experience as a collector. The result is an extremely interesting and comprehensive collection where no metal or denomination has been overlooked. It is evident that when our collector found an emperor historically stimulating, he managed to put together such a complete set of their coinage that it would rival even the greatest collections of the past.

As in the first part of the collection, part two also offers a large number of historically important coins; a testimony to our collector's love affair with history.

It would be impossible to mention all of the noteworthy coins in this auction, so we will limit ourselves to just a small selection beginning with Nerva; one of the emperors that Ploil has collected with such passion and interest that he has managed to achieve an incredibly complete set. Among Nerva's coins we simply must mention a beautiful aureus (lot 196) and an extremely rare as with an interesting reverse depicting Neptune (lot 203).

The series of Trajan is masterfully represented; in particular, with two aurei that celebrate Trajan Pater, the father of Trajan. In the first (lot 224), the famous general is depicted on the reverse with Nerva, whereas in the second (lot 225) he is represented alone.

The selection of Hadrian offers a variety of truly impressive denarii and aurei. The series begins with an excellent aureus bearing on the reverse a radiate bust of Sol (lot 240), which was previously part of the Evans and Platt Hall collections. Of great charm and interest are also lots 242 and 246; lot 242 features a fascinating reverse depicting Hercules within an unusual distyle temple, and of particular historic interest, lot 246 features a numismatic recording of what the Romans believed to be the date of the founding of Rome. The coin was struck to commemorate the games held on April 21st, 121 AD and it is clearly stated in the legend that this date is a celebration of the 874th anniversary of the founding of the Roman's capital.

Among the coins issued by Antoninus Pius we cannot fail to mention a dupondius that features two spectacular portraits of the emperor and of Marcus Aurelius (lot 270), both obviously realised by a very skilled master engraver. This section also features a beautiful aureus of Faustina I (lot 282). The reigns of Marcus Aurelius and Lucius Verus offer an array of aurei in a perfect state of preservation as seen especially in lots 285, 287 and 291.

The series of Commodus features several wonderful coins, including a previously unrecorded aureus, also in a perfect state of preservation (lot 299), bearing on the reverse an unusual representation of Fortuna.

The series of the Severan dynasty offers excellent coins in every metal, including a rare and fascinating aureus of Septimius Severus depicting on the reverse the emperor and his sons on prancing horses (lot 319), two very rare and interesting denarius (lot 321), a spectacular and rare sestertius of Caracalla commemorating his campaign in Britain, as well as a rare silver medallion of the same emperor (lot 333). The sale closes with a series of sestertii and denarii of Gordian I and Gordian II and two antoniniani of Pacatianus (lots 350 and 351).

It is obvious what joy compiling this collection brought Ploil, and it should not be underestimated what a tremendous feat this impressive collection took to complete. We sincerely hope that these coins will go on to be collected with as much enthusiasm and dedication as their previous owner.



Nerva, 96 – 98



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192

- 192 Aureus 96, AV 7.31 g. IMP NERVA CAES AVG – P M TR P COS II P P Laureate head r. Rev. FORTVNA – AVGVST Fortuna standing l., holding rudder in r. hand and cornucopiae in l. C 58. BMC 10 note. RIC 4. CBN –. Calicó 963. Rare. Minor marks in field, otherwise good very fine 6'000
Ex UBS sale 64, 2006, 185.



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- 193 Denarius 96, AR 3.29 g. IMP NERVA CAES AVG P M TR P COS II P P Laureate head r. Rev. FORTVNA – AVGVST Fortuna standing l., holding rudder in r. hand and cornucopiae in l. C 59. BMC 10. RIC 4. CBN –.
A lovely portrait struck in high relief, light iridescent tone and extremely fine 600
Ex UBS sale 53, 2002, 176.



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194

- 194 Dupondius 96, Æ 14.14 g. IMP NERVA CAES AVG P M TR P COS II P P Radiate head r. Rev. FORTVNA – AVGVST Fortuna standing l., holding rudder in r. hand and cornucopiae in l.; in field, S – C. C 62. BMC 93. RIC 61. CBN 78.
A beautiful brown tone and a lovely portrait, minor encrustations on reverse, otherwise good very fine 450

Ex Karl Kress 112, 1959, 509a (midescribed as Paduan); SBV 26, 1991, 478; M&M List 550, 1992, 50; Monetarium SKA, 1 December 1992, 8 and UBS 61, 2004, 4528 sales.



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195 Quadrans 96-98, Æ 4.64 g. IMP NERVA – CAES AVG Draped bust of Juno r., wearing stephane. Rev. Rudder on globe; in field, S – C. C 140. BMC 146. RIC 114. CBN 135.

Rare. Dark green patina and good very fine

750

Ex Lanz sale 123, 2005, 538.



196



196 Aureus 97, AV 7.56 g. IMP NERVA CAES AVG – P M TR P COS III P P Laureate head r. Rev. CONCORDIA – EXERCITVM Clasped hands holding legionary eagle set upon prow l. C 28. BMC 27. RIC 15. CBN 16. Calicó 958.

Very rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Minor marks, otherwise about extremely fine / extremely fine

20'000

Ex Leu 45, 1988, 327 and Sternberg XXXII, 1996, 614 sales.



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197 Denarius 97, AR 3.59 g. IMP NERVA CAES AVG – P M TR P COS III P P Laureate head r. Rev. CONCORDIA EXERCITVM Clasped hands. C 20. BMC 25. RIC 14. CBN 15.

Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine

600

Ex Rauch sale 70, 2002, 474.



198



198

- 198 Denarius 97, AR 3.27 g. IMP NERVA CAES AVG P M TR P COS III P P Laureate head r. Rev. FORTVNA – P R Fortuna seated l., holding corn ears and sceptre. C 79. BMC 41. RIC 17. CBN 28. Rare. Lovely iridescent tone, weakly struck on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 450

Ex Lanz sale 106, 2001, 358.



199



199

- 199 Denarius 97, AR 3.24 g. IMP NERVA CAES AVG P M TR P II COS III P P Laureate head r. Rev. SALVS – PVBLICA Salus seated l., holding corn ears in r. hand. C 60. BMC p. 9 note. RIC – (cf. 33 for aureus). CBN 44. Rare. Struck on a very broad flan and with a lovely iridescent tone, unobtrusive metal flaw on neck, otherwise about extremely fine 350

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 117, 2002, 544.



200



200

- 200 Sestertius 97, Æ 28.78 g. IMP NERVA CAES AVG P M TR P II COS III PP Laureate head r. Rev. PAX – AVG Pax seated l., holding branch in r. hand and sceptre in l.; in exergue, S C. C 124. BMC 137. RIC 102. CBN 121. Rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. A bold portrait and an attractive dark green patina, small flan crack at five o'clock on obverse, otherwise extremely fine 4'000

Ex Triton IX, 2005, 1013 and Triton IX, 2006, 1441 sales. From the Michael Weller collection.



- 201 Dupondius 97, Æ 12.98 g. IMP NERVA CAES AVG P M TR P COS III P P Radiate head r. Rev. FORTVNA – AVGVST Fortuna standing l., holding rudder in r. hand and cornucopiae in l.; in field, S – C. C 69. BMC 123. RIC 84. CBN 111.

Very rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Dark green patina gently smoothed, otherwise about extremely fine

3'000

Ex NAC 11, 1998, 416 and Triton IV, 2000, 523 sales.



- 202 Dupondius 97, Æ 16.66 g. IMP NERVA CAES AVG P M TR P COS III P P Radiate head r. Rev. CONCORDIA – EXERCITVM Clasped hands holding legionary eagle set on prow l.; in field, S – C. C 32. BMC 122. RIC 81. CBN 109.

Struck on a very broad flan and with a lovely brown tone. Minor area of porosity on obverse, otherwise good very fine / about extremely fine

400



- 203 As 97, Æ 11.15 g. IMP NERVA CAES AVG – P M TR P COS III P P Laureate head r. Rev. NEPTVNO CIRCENS[ES CO]NSTITVT / S – C Neptune standing facing, holding trident in l. hand; below in field, recumbent figure of sea-god (Oceanus ?). C –. BMC 132 var. (Neptune standing r., but this obverse die). RIC –. CBN –. Rauch sale 89, 2011, 1446 (these dies).

Of the highest rarity, apparently only the second specimen known of this variety and one of very few of this extremely interesting type. Green patina somewhat tooled and an insignificant area of corrosion on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine

2'500

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 122, 2003, 2079.

This type with Neptune standing facing seems to be unrecorded, the normal type showing him standing to the right. In 1926 when they published volume II of RIC, Mattingly and Sydenham noted that the specimen housed in the British Museum Collection was a modern forgery, possibly an altered as with reverse FORTVNA AVGVST (see RIC II p. 228, note, without corresponding entry). A decade later, however, Mattingly had changed his mind, for in volume III of BMC he includes the type (with Neptune standing to the right) as his no. 132, and discusses both the coin's significance and its authenticity in the introduction (BMC II p. 1): "There is one new type of great interest, found on the As of the third issue, and on it alone. Genuine specimens of the coin could not be traced by Eckhel, who naturally condemned it. His condemnation was repeated by Cohen, and it is only quite recently that the genuineness of this type has been established. The specimen referred to in the text, p. 24, no. 132 n., was found in the eighteenth century and was briefly recorded. It was then lost to sight, until quite recently, when it passed into the possession of Sir Arthur Evans. The legend, 'Neptuno Circens. Constitut. S. C.' records an otherwise forgotten measure of Nerva, some foundation or establishment in honour of Neptune. The known specimens of the coin probably all read 'circens' (or 'circensi') not 'circenses'...., and we have to think, therefore, not of new circus games in honour of the god – a measure out of keeping with Nerva's known parsimony – but of the setting up of a statue to Neptune of the Circus. This meaning is borne out by the detail of the type, for beside the great standing Neptune is a little figure of the old deity Consus, who is 'Neptunus Circensis', half buried in the earth to suggest his underground altar in the Circus." Subsequently, G. de Loÿe made a thorough study of the type ("Les as de Nerva au type « Neptuno »,," *RN⁶*, vol. 26, 1984, pp. 95-103), and concluded that there are only seven known specimens: one from the Tarascon Hoard; one each in the collections of the Ashmolean Museum, the Fitzwilliam Museum, and the Staatliche Museum, Berlin; and three in the British Museum. However, all depict Neptune standing to the right as opposed to fully frontal as on our coin.



- 204 Denarius 97, AR 3.37 g. IMP NERVA CAES AVG GERM P M TR P II Laureate head r. Rev. IMP II – COS III P P Clasped hands. C 96. BMC 70. RIC 48. CBN 52.
Lovely iridescent tone and good extremely fine 600

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 123, 2004, 309.



- 205 Denarius circa 98, AR 3.38 g. [I]MP NERVA CAES AVG GERM P M TR P II Laureate head r. Rev. IMP II – COS III P P Libertas standing l., holding *pileus* in r. hand and sceptre in l. C 89. BMC 66. RIC 43. CBN 49.
Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine 750

Ex Freeman & Sear Mail Bid 7, 2002, 457 and NAC 29, 2005, 528 sales.



- 206 Cistophoric tetradrachm, Pergamum 98, AR 10.99 g. IMP NERVA CAES AVG – P M TR POT P P Laureate head r. Rev. COS – III Legionary eagle between two standards surmounted by hand and crown. C 44. BMC 80. RIC 118. CBN 63. Very rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue.
Light tone and good extremely fine 2'000

Ex Rauch sale 94, 2014, 834.



- 207 Cistophoric tetradrachm, Pergamum 98, AR 10.59 g. IMP NERVA CAES AVG – P M TR POT P P Laureate head r. Rev. COS – III Temple within which cult statue of Diana; on frieze, DIANA PERGE. C 42. BMC 83. RIC 116. CBN 64. Light iridescent tone and about extremely fine 1'250

Ex NAC sale 21, 2001, 429.

Trajan, 98 – 117



- 208 Denarius 28 January-February 98, AR 3.35 g. IMP NERVA CAES TRAIAN AVG GERM P M Laureate head r. Rev. PROVID (in exergue) – TR P COS II – P P Trajan standing r., receiving globe from Nerva standing l. C 319. BMC 53. RIC 28. CBN 2. Woytek 10a.
Extremely rare. Iridescent tone and good very fine 1'000

Ex Lanz sale 132, 2006, 373.



209



- 209 Aureus 98-99, AV 7.23 g. IMP CAES NERVA TRA – IANI AVG GERM Laureate head r. Rev. P M T – R P COS II P P Roma seated l. on cuirass, holding Victory in r. hand and *parazonium* in l. C 204 var. (Roma seated on helmet). BMC p. 314, †. RIC 8. CBN 49. Calicó 1041a (this coin). Woytek 59a¹.
A very attractive portrait well-struck in high relief on a full flan.

Good extremely fine / extremely fine 12'000

Ex NAC 21, 2001, 431 and Triton VIII, 2005, 1125 sales.



210



- 210 Cistophoric tetradrachm, Asia Minor 98-99, AR 10.77 g. [IMP] CAES TRAIAN – AVG GERM P M TR P P P Laureate head r. Rev. COS – II Temple within which cult statue of Diana; on frieze, DIANA PERG. C 54. BMC 709. RIC 721. CBN 964.

A very interesting portrait and a wonderful old cabinet tone.

Extremely fine / about extremely fine 1'000

Ex Triton VI, 2003, 872.



211



211

- 211 Sestertius 98-99, Æ 27.82 g. IMP CAES NERVA TRAIAN – N AVG GERM P M Laureate head r. Rev. TR POT – COS II P P Pax seated l., holding branch in r. hand and sceptre in l.; in exergue S – C. C 611. BMC 718. RIC 401. CBN 61. Woytek 58a.

Brown-green patina gently smoothed on reverse, otherwise extremely fine

4'000

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 138, 2005, 236.



212

- 212 Sestertius circa 103-104, Æ 21.52 g. IMP CAES NERVAE TRAIANO AVG GER DAC P M TR P COS V P P Laureate head r. Rev. S P Q R OPTIMO – PRINCIPI Trajan, holding branch in r. hand and sceptre in l., standing l. on throne placed on a *daïs*, adorned with festoons and four eagles; captives on r.; in field, Victory flying l., crowning Trajan. In exergue, S C. C 519. BMC 826 var. (drapery on l. shoulder). RIC 551. CBN 213. Woytek 184a² (this coin illustrated).

Extremely rare and a very interesting reverse type. Brown tone with some minor areas of porosity, otherwise very fine

3'500

Ex Münzhandlung Basel I, 1934, 620; Glendining's 16 November, 1950, Platt Hall part II, 1322; Leu-M&M 2 November, Niggeler part III, 1207 and Künker 124, 2007, 9022 sales.

This impressive reverse type commemorates Trajan's recent victory over the Dacians. The emperor is shown standing upon a platform decorated with a garland, with a kneeling figure on either side of him pulling at the folds in his toga in the act of supplication. Along the front of the platform stand four eagles, representing Rome's legions, the source of its military might. Trajan holds a branch in his right hand and a sceptre in his left. The branch, which is ambiguous, could be either an olive branch, which signifies peace, or more likely a branch of laurel, signifying martial prowess; both were awarded to successful generals and both look similar with thin, elongated leaves (the olive branch when shown on coins usually also has the fruits, but not always). The sceptre as an adjunct is a symbol of authority indicating the right to govern. Finally, Victory flies in from the right, crowning the emperor with a laurel wreath.

Troubles with Dacia began more than a decade before Trajan became emperor. In A.D. 85 under the emperor Domitian, the warlike king of the Dacians, Diurpaneus, began raiding into the Roman province of Moesia, to which Rome responded by reorganising the region under direct imperial control and sending in several legions under the praetorian prefect, Cornelius Fuscus. In 87, however, Fuscus, who had four or five legions under his control, suffered a sound defeat at the small mountain pass of Tapae where he was ambushed by forces led by Diurpaneus. Two legions were annihilated and Fuscus himself was killed. After this battle, King Diurpaneus took the name Decebalus, which roughly translates to 'strong as ten' or 'the brave one'. The situation worsened the following year after Domitian sent in more legions under Tettius Iulianus, who was likewise soundly defeated at the Second Battle of Tapae. The removal of troops to augment the Roman buildup along the Danube had the effect of weakening other areas of Rome's extensive borders, and thus it comes as no surprise that the Germanic tribes along the Rhine frontier launched a series of raids into Roman territory. To meet this more ominous threat, Domitian settled his dispute with Decebalus by agreeing to pay tribute to the Dacians for maintaining peace in the region.

On Trajan's accession, the new emperor immediately set about reversing this controversial tribute policy. He engaged the Dacians and defeated Decebalus at Tapae in 102, annexing some territory and establishing Dacia as a client kingdom under Roman protection with a small local garrison. However, in 105 Decebalus massacred the Roman garrison, which precipitated another war with Rome. This time Trajan was unforgiving, and after a long siege of the Dacian capital of Sarmizegetusa the Romans decisively defeated their enemy. Decebalus fled with his family but was subsequently cornered and, loathing the prospect of being paraded in Rome in chains, he committed suicide by slashing his own throat.

Interestingly, a funerary stele discovered at Gramini in Greece indicates that before he died, Decebalus was captured by one Tiberius Claudius Maximus, a Roman cavalry scout from the Legio VII Claudia. The stele mentions that Claudius was personally decorated by the emperor for delivering to him a gruesome trophy - Decebalus' head and right hand - which was subsequently taken to Rome and thrown down the Gemonian stairs.



213



213

- 213 As circa 103-104, Æ 11.72 g. IMP CAES NERVAE TRAIANO AVG GER DAC P M TR P COS V P P Laureate head r. Rev. S P Q R OPTIMO – PRINCIPI Column in form of club, resting on lion's skin placed upon pedestal; in field, S – C. C 565. BMC 946. RIC 581. CBN 234. Woytek 176a.
Rare. Well-struck and centred on a full flan, dark green patina and extremely fine 1'000

Ex Naville 11, 1925, Levis, 507 and Künker 133, 2007, 8777 sales.



214



214

- 214 Dupondius circa 103-107, Æ 13.21 g. IMP CAES NERVAE TRAIANO AVG GER DAC P M TR P COS [V P] P Radiate head r. Rev. S P Q R OPTIMO PRINCIP' Cuirass; in field, S – C. C 573 var. (with aegis). BMC 913. RIC 582 var. (with aegis). CBN 233. Woytek 188bA (this coin cited).
A finely detailed reverse composition. Lovely green patina somewhat smoothed on obverse and a small flan crack, otherwise extremely fine 1'500

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 117, 2002, 563.



215



- 215 Aureus circa 104/105-107, AV 7.28 g. IMP TRAIANO AVG GER DAC P M TR P COS V P P Draped, cuirassed and laureate bust r. Rev. S P Q R OPTIMO PRINCIP' Trajan, in military dress, on horse galloping r., hurling spear at fallen barbarian to r. C 501 var. (bust not cuirassed). BMC 245 (bust not cuirassed). RIC 208 var. (bust not cuirassed). CBN 241. Calicó 1107a. Woytek 202 f.
A wonderful portrait well struck and centred on a full flan. Good extremely fine 18'000

Ex NAC sale 21, 2001, 433.



216



216

- 216 Sestertius 104/105-107, Æ 26.59 g. IMP CAES NERVAE TRAIANO AVG GER DAC P M TR P COS V P P Laureate bust r., drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. S P Q R OPTIMO PRINCIPI Trajan on horseback r., spearing down at fallen enemy; in exergue, S C. C 508. BMC 833. RIC 534. CBN 217. Woytek 203aA.
A spectacular enamel-like emerald green patina, good very fine / about extremely fine 4'500

Ex Lanz sale 106, 2001,369.



217



- 217 Denarius circa 106-107, AR 3.42 g. IMP TRAIANO AVG GER DAC P M TR P COS V P P Laureate head r., wearing aegis. Rev. S P Q R OPTIMO PRINCIPI Pax seated l., holding branch in r. hand and sceptre in l.; below, at her feet, a kneeling Dacian. C 417. BMC 218. RIC 187. CBN 398. Woytek 220c.
A superb old cabinet tone and extremely fine 450

Ex Rauch sale 89, 2011, 1453.



218



218

- 218 Aureus circa 107-108, AV 6.99 g. IMP TRAIANO AVG GER DAC P M TR P Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r., wearing aegis. Rev. COS V P P S P Q R OPTIMO PRINC Octastyle temple, adorned with five statues; within, statue of Jupiter standing. C 97 var. (without aegis). BMC 354 note. RIC 146 var. (without aegis). CBN 253 var. (without aegis). Calicó 1011. Woytek 267r.
An extremely rare variety, apparently only the third specimen known of a very rare type.
Several edge marks, possible traces of mounting, otherwise very fine / good very fine 4'500



- 219 Denarius circa 107-108, AR 3.57 g. IMP TRAIANO AVG GER DAC P M TR P Laureate head r., drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. COS V P P S P Q R OPTIMO PRINC Spes walking l., holding flower and raising skirt. C 84. BMC 319. RIC 127. CBN 273. Woytek 266b². Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 250



- 220 As circa 107-108, Æ 9.40 g. IMP CAES NERVAE TRAIANO AVG GER DAC P M TR P COS V P P Laureate head r., drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. S P Q R OPTIMO PRINCIPI Octastyle temple with portico on either side; at centre, architrave adorned with figure of Jupiter and other figures; on roof, figure holding spear between two Victories. In exergue, S C. C 550 var. (without drapery). BMC 958. RIC 577 var. (without Jupiter seated at centre). CBN 355. Woytek 307b (this coin cited) and Woytek 306b (dupondius, this reverse die). Very rare. Brown tone and about extremely fine / extremely fine 3'000

Ex Hess, 6 January 1926, Löbbbecke, 1151 and Lanz 109, 2002, 398 sales.

In addition to his stable government and military conquests that saw the expansion of the empire to its greatest extent, the emperor Trajan is also known for implementing beneficial social welfare policies and an extensive public building program that transformed much of Rome. The reverse of this fine middle *aes* issue shows the temple complex of Jupiter Victor, the 'giver of Victory', located in Regio X on the Palatine.

According to Livy, the temple of Jupiter Victor had an ancient history, having been vowed by Q. Fabius Maximus Rullianus in 295 B.C. during the battle of Sentinum against the Samnites (Livy X.29.14, 18). It apparently was constructed quickly, being dedicated probably in either 294 or 293 B.C. on the Ides of April (April 13), as Livy makes the additional statement that at the battle of Aquilonia in 293 B.C. L. Papirius had vowed a cup of new wine to Jupiter Victor (Livy X.42.7). At some point the temple seems to have been either damaged or destroyed, probably during the great fire that ravaged Rome in A.D. 80, as it was restored under the emperor Domitian, who laid an artificial foundation for it and probably greatly expanded the original structure, which he commemorated on his coinage. The reason for Trajan's use of the type on his coins is not certain; it does not appear that he either restored the temple or added to its construction, so we should perhaps see its use a part of his decennial series that was selected merely to represent his recent military prowess over. After all, he had just successfully finally subdued the Dacians, incorporating the former kingdom as a province to the empire.

The temple was a large and imposing building in the Corinthian style with an octastyle façade. As seen on this coin, it featured colonnades at the sides, frontal steps, and within resided a great statue of Jupiter Victor. Sestertii of the same type show the addition of an altar before the steps and statues of Victory and Pax(?) before the end columns of the colonnade (Woytek 253). By the time of the emperor Elagabalus, the front courtyard had had a *propylaea* constructed before it, as can be seen on one of his medallions, now unfortunately lost (Gnecchi III, 6), and on later extremely rare sestertii and medallions of Severus Alexander. Under Elagabalus, the temple was re-dedicated to the sun god Sol El Gabal, but seemingly re-dedicated again under Severus Alexander to Jupiter Ultor.



221



- 221 Denarius circa 108-109, AR 3.36 g. IMP TRAIANO AVG GER DAC P M TR P Laureate bust r., drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. COS V P P S P Q R OPTIMO PRINC Felicitas standing l., holding caduceus and cornucopiae. C 81. BMC 303. RIC 121. CBN 271. Woytek 280bD. Good extremely fine 500



222



222

- 222 Dupondius circa 108-109/110, Æ 11.68 g. IMP CAES NERVAE TRAIANO AVG GER DAC P M TR P COS V PP Radiate bust r., drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. S P Q R OPTIMO PRINCIPI Dacia seated l. on shield and arms; in l. field, trophy. C 533. BMC 928. RIC 563. CBN 322. Woytek 327bD¹ (this coin cited). Brown-green patina and about extremely fine / extremely fine 800

Ex Lanz sale 106, 2001, 375.



223



- 223 Denarius circa 110, AR 3.25 g. IMP TRAIANO AVG GER DAC P M TR P Laureate bust r., drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. DAC C[AP] (in exergue) COS V P P S P Q R OPTIMO PRINC Dacia standing l. with hands bound; on ground, various arms. C 121. BMC 383. RIC 99. CBN 454. Woytek 289b¹. Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine 350

Ex M&M List 345, May 1973, 311 and UBS sale 63, 2005, 316.



- 224 Aureus circa 112-113, AV 7.12 g. IMP TRAIANVS AVG GER DAC P M TR P COS VI P P Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. DIVI NERVA ET TRAIANVS PAT Confronted busts of Nerva, on l., laureate and with drapery on l. shoulder and Trajan Pater, on r., bareheaded and draped. C 104 var. (laureate only). BMC 498. RIC 726 var. (TRAIANO on obverse). CBN 690. Calicó 1138a. Woytek 405f¹.
 Very rare. Three outstanding portraits of high style struck on a very broad flan and with a superb reddish tone. Minor marks, otherwise extremely fine 25'000

Ex Meister & Sonntag sale 4, 2006, 85.

Marcus Ulpius Traianus, the first senatorial member of the Ulpii, came to prominence under Nero, at which time he served with distinction commanding the 10th Legion during the Jewish War. For his successes in the East and as gratuity for having allowed Titus the honour of capturing Joppa after he had brought it to its final resistance, Vespasian awarded him the consulship in 70. Trajan Pater subsequently served as governor of Syria where he earned the ornamenta triumphalia for his successful defence of Rome's borders against Parthia, and he ended public life as proconsul of all Asia, a supreme honour bestowed upon him in 79. The final crown to his glory was accorded posthumously, for he was deified in about 115. This tribute is recorded only by this coinage. On the reverse of this aureus Trajan Pater's portrait is bareheaded, for he never was emperor, whereas the portrait of the former emperor Nerva is laureate.



- 225 Aureus circa 112-113, AV 7.15 g. IMP TRAIANVS AVG GER DAC P M TR P COS VI P P Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. DIVVS PATER TRAIANVS Bareheaded and draped bust of Trajan's father r. C 2 var. (not cuirassed). BMC 506. RIC 763. CBN 691. Calicó 1137 (misdescribed). Woytek 408f² (this coin cited).
 Very rare and in unusually fine condition for this difficult and fascinating issue. Two attractive portraits struck on a very broad flan, about extremely fine / good very fine 12'500

Ex Leu sale 86, 2003, 829.

Marcus Ulpius Traianus, or Trajan Pater, was the biological father of the emperor Trajan. He hailed from Spain where his family maintained business interests, but he was distantly of Umbrian origins. Josephus mentions that Trajan Pater had a successful military career, commanding the illustrious Tenth Legion in Syria (Legio X Fretensis) while serving with distinction on the staff of the future emperor Vespasian during the Jewish War. He was held in such high esteem by his general that after the latter's elevation to the throne, he made him suffect consul in A.D. 70. From A.D. 73-77 Trajan Pater served as proprator of Syria, and during his administration he successfully repelled an invasion by the Parthians under Vologases II. For this he received the triumphal regalia. Subsequently, from A.D. 79-80, he served as proconsul of Asia, the pinnacle of his career. It is not certain when Trajan Pater died, but it seems to have been before A.D. 100, perhaps after his son's elevation. His son had him deified in either A.D. 112 or 114, and he was commemorated on three issues of Trajan's coinage as well as in contemporary inscriptions and on statuary. As a citizen who had never attained the throne, he is always shown bareheaded.



226



226

- 226 Denarius circa 112-113, AR 3.06 g. IMP TRAIANVS AVG GER DAC P M TR P COS VI P P Laureate bust r., drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. DIVVS PATER – TRAIAN Trajan Senior seated on curule chair, holding *patera* and sceptre. C 140. BMC 500. RIC 252. CBN 696. Woytek 406b².

Wonderful iridescent tone and extremely fine

200

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 112, 2001, 4297.



227



- 227 Aureus circa 113-114, AV 7.28 g. IMP TRAIANO AVG GER DAC P M TR P COS VI P P Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. CONSERVATORI PATRIS PATRIAE Jupiter standing l., holding sceptre in l. hand and thunderbolt in extended r. over the head of small figure of Trajan standing l., holding branch in extended r. hand and short sceptre in l. C 46 var. (not cuirassed). BMC 494. RIC 249 var. (not cuirassed). CBN 737. Calicó 991 (this coin). Woytek 428f²³ (this coin).

Rare. Perfectly centred on a full flan and extremely fine

12'500

Ex Ars Classica 17, 1934, Sir Arthur Evans, 753; Lanz 94, 1999, Benz, 423; Lanz 102, 2001, 548 and Lanz 114, 2003, 361 sales.



228



- 228 Aureus circa 113-114, AV 7.27 g. IMP TRAIANO AVG GER DAC P M TR P COS VI P P Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. S P Q R OPTIMO PRINCIPI Aquila between standard and *vexillum*. C 576. BMC 456. RIC 294 var. (not cuirassed). CBN 734. Calicó 1119. Woytek 418f¹.

Rare. Two almost invisible edge marks, otherwise about extremely fine

7'500

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 151, 2006, 425.



229



- 229 Denarius circa 114-116, AR 3.10 g. IMP CAES NER TRAIANO OPTIMO AVG GER DAC Laureate and draped bust r. Rev. P M TR P COS – VI P P S P Q R Felicitas standing l., holding caduceus in r. hand and cornucopiae in l. C 278. BMC 541. RIC 434. CBN 821. Woytek 519v.
Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 500



230



- 230 Denarius circa 114-116, AR 3.36 g. IMP CAES NER TRAIANO OPTIMO AVG GER DAC Laureate and draped bust r. Rev. P M TR P COS VI P P S P Q R Mars walking r., holding spear in r. hand and trophy over l. shoulder. C 270. BMC 536. RIC 337. CBN 819. Woytek 520v.
Light iridescent tone and extremely fine 250



231



- 231 Denarius circa 114-116, AR 3.50 g. IMP CAES NER TRAIANO OPTIMO AVG GER DAC Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. P M TR P COS VI – P P S P Q R Fortuna seated l., holding rudder in r. hand and cornucopiae in l.; in exergue, FORT RED. C 154 var. (not cuirassed). BMC 581. RIC 318 var. (not cuirassed). CBN 831. Woytek 526h.
Light iridescent tone and extremely fine 300



- 232 Denarius circa 116, AR 3.58 g. IMP CAES NER TRAIAN OPTIM AVG GER DAC PARTHICO Laureate and draped bust r. with drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. P M TR P COS VI P P S P Q R Radiate and draped bust of Sol r. C 267. BMC 625. RIC 342. CBN 868 var. (with aegis). Woytek 557x (this coin illustrated).
Rare. Two attractive portraits of high style and a lovely iridescent tone. Extremely fine 1'500

Ex Münzenetage Antike Numismatik List 2, 2001, 111.



- 233 Sestertius circa 116-117, Æ 24.61 g. IMP CAES NER TRAIANO OPTIMO AVG GER DAC PARTHICO P M TR P COS VI P P Laureate bust r., wearing aegis. Rev. REX PARTHIS – DATVS Trajan seated l. on platform, behind him, prefect, addressing Parthamasiris in the presence of soldiers. C 328. BMC 1045. RIC 668. CBN –. Woytek 594t-2² (this coin illustrated).

A very attractive brown-green patina and an interesting reverse composition. About extremely fine

Ex Lanz sale 109, 2002, 411.

2'000



- 234 Dupondius circa 116-117, Æ 11.72 g. IMP CAES NER TRAIANO OPTIMO AVG GER DAC PARTHICO P M TR P COS VI P P Radiate and draped bust r. Rev. SENATVS POPVLVSQVE ROMANVS Trajan standing facing, head l., between two trophies, holding spear; in exergue, S C. C 356. BMC 1052. RIC 676. CBN 928. Woytek 586 v.

Wonderful light green patina gently smoothed, otherwise extremely fine

Ex Rauch sale 70, 2002, 491.

600



- 235 **Restored issue of M. Porcius Cato.** Denarius circa 112-113, AR 3.10 g. Draped and diademed female bust r.; behind, ROMA and below, CATO. Rev. IMP CAES TRAIAN AVG GER DAC P P REST Victory seated r., holding patera and palm branch; in exergue, VICTRIX. C –. BMC –. RIC 775. CBN –. Komnick 11.0. Woytek 809 (these dies).

Of the highest rarity, apparently only the second specimen known and the only one in private hands. A very intriguing issue,

lightly toned and good very fine 9'000

Ex NAC sale 78, 2014, 933.

The restoration types of Trajan rank among the most interesting of all Roman coins. They have long been appreciated not only for their rarity and historical interest, but also for the evidence they offer that on some occasions Romans took pause to recognize their coins as items of singular interest. There can be no doubt that these nostalgic issues represent a rare numismatic indulgence on the part of the emperor and his officials at the Rome mint.

The restorations celebrate types that had been issued over a period of about three centuries. They are segregated into two major groups: denarii bearing types of the early Republic through the reign of Augustus and aurei honouring rulers from Julius Caesar through Nerva. Though their great rarity assures that not every type has yet been discovered, at present 50 distinct issues are recorded for denarii and 28 for aurei.

Plotina, wife of Trajan



- 236 Denarius 112-114, AR 3.51 g. PLOTINA AVG – IMP TRAIANI Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. CAES AVG GERMA DAC COS VI P P Vesta, draped and veiled, seated l., holding palladium and short sceptre. C 3. BMC Trajan 526. RIC Trajan 730. CBN Trajan 679. Woytek 705.1¹ (this coin).

Very rare. Old cabinet tone, minor scratch on reverse, otherwise good very fine 2'500

Ex MMAG List 217, November/December 1961, 28; SKA Bern 1, 1983, 330 and Peus 366, 2000, 1358 sales.

It is impossible to assess the influence Plotina had on her husband, Trajan, for she is scarcely mentioned in the ancient sources. If we are to believe Dio Cassius (68.5.5) and the far later Historia Augusta, she was a modest woman who, if anything, was a restraining force who insisted on high moral standards. Both relate a story that when Plotina entered the imperial palace for the first time as the wife of an emperor, she turned to those gathered at the steps and declared "I enter here such a woman as I would wish to be when I leave."

Despite her apparent moral rigor, she is chiefly remembered for her undying support for her husband's eventual successor, Hadrian. The Historia Augusta describes how Trajan was not particularly fond of Hadrian, but that Plotina insisted on his marriage to Sabina, the daughter of Trajan's niece Matidia.

Marciana, elder sister of Trajan



- 237 *Diva Marciana*. Denarius circa 112-117, AR 3.26 g. DIVA AVGVSTA – MARCIANA Draped bust r., hair elaborately dressed, above which crescent-shaped diadem. Rev. CONSECRATIO Eagle with spread wings perched l. on sceptre, head r. C 4. BMC Trajan 650. RIC 743. CBN Trajan 756. Woytek 719¹.
Very rare and in unusually good condition for the issue. A lovely portrait of fine style and a light iridescent tone. Extremely fine / good extremely fine 6'000

Ex Tkalec sale 17 May 2010, 206.

Matidia, daughter of Marciana



- 238 Denarius circa 112-117, AR 3.33 g. MATIDIA AVGVSTAE – MARCIANAE F Draped bust r., hair arranged in coils with jewels on crown of head. Rev. PIETAS AVGVSTAE Matidia as Pietas, veiled, standing l., sacrificing over altar decorated with garlands. C 8. BMC Trajan 658. RIC Trajan 758. CBN Trajan –. Woytek 727² (these dies). Very rare. Light iridescent tone and good very fine 3'500

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 138, 2005, 238.



- 239 *Diva Matidia*. Denarius circa 119-120, AR 3.24 g. DIVA AVGVSTA – MATIDIA Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. CONSECRATIO Eagle, with spread wings, standing r. with head l. C 1. BMC Hadrian 328. RIC Trajan 751. Very rare. Light iridescent tone, about extremely fine / good very fine 3'500

Ex Leu sale 91, 2004, 538.

Matidia was the only niece of the emperor Trajan who, having no children of his own, displayed the greatest affection for her. He essentially treated her as a daughter, and she often accompanied him on his travels. In addition to her close connection to Trajan, Matidia shared a mutual fondness for the future emperor Hadrian, who she admired enough to permit him to marry her youngest daughter Sabina. When Matidia died in 119, her funeral oration was delivered by Hadrian himself, as her uncle Trajan had died two years earlier.

Hadrian, 117 – 134



240

- 240 Aureus 117, AV 7.34 g. IMP CAES TRAIAN HADRIANO AVG DIVI TRA PARTH F Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. DIVI NER NEP P M TR P COS Radiate bust of Sol r.; below, ORIENS. C 1003. BMC 35. RIC 16. Calicó 1293.

Two spectacular portraits, work of a very talented master-engraver, perfectly struck in high relief on a full flan. Good extremely fine

30'000

Ex Naville III, 16 June 1922, Sir. A. Evans, 53; Glendining & Co., 16 November 1950, H. Platt Hall, 1349; Leu 2, 1972, 391 and Leu 93, 2005, Perfectionist, 23 sales.



241

- 241 Denarius 118, AR 3.42 g. IMP CAESAR TRAIAN HADRIANVS AVG Laureate bust r., drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. P M T - R P - C - OS DES - III Aeternitas standing l., holding heads of Sun and Moon; at sides, in field, AET - AVG. C 129 var. (without drapery). BMC p. 251, †. RIC 48.

Good extremely fine

400

Ex Rauch sale 86, 2010, 770.



242



- 242 Aureus 119-122, AV 7.25 g. IMP CAESAR TRAIAN – HADRIANVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. P M T – R P C – OS III Hercules standing facing, holding club in r. hand and apple in l., between two women within distyle temple; below, ladder-like flight of stairs between a fish on l. and head of Jupiter r. on r. C 1085 var. (head laureate). BMC 99 note. RIC – (cf. 60 var., laureate head on obverse and prow below the temple on reverse). Biaggi 639 (this coin). Calicó 1324 (this coin).

Extremely rare, a very interesting and fascinating issue. Struck in high relief and with a finely detailed reverse composition. Good extremely fine

35'000

Ex NAC 16 November 1994, Gilbert Steinberg, 392 and Rauch 82, 2008, 314 sales. From the Biaggi collection and privately purchased from Ratto in 1954.

Both Trajan and Hadrian hailed from Spain although their family's paternal ancestry was of distant Umbrian origin. Hadrian's mother was from Gades (modern Cádiz) – the oldest continuously inhabited town in Spain and one of the oldest in all of Europe – which was originally a Phoenician (Tyrian) settlement located on the southwestern coast of Spain on a narrow spit of land bounded by the sea on three sides. At the very tip of Gades was located the important temple honouring the Phoenician god Melqart, who in Roman times was conflated with Hercules and worshipped as Hercules Gaditanus. It was thought that Hercules himself was buried beneath the temple's foundations. Although no remains of this temple to Melqart exist today, scholars of the subject have conjectured that its design might have served as a model for other Phoenician temples in the far western Mediterranean world.

The temple featured on the reverse of this splendid aureus is unusual in form, and is clearly not of the standard Greek or Roman variety. Most apparent is the flat roof lacking any sort of pediment and supported by four columns, but also unusual is that the sanctuary is approached by a narrow staircase. These features are clearly Levantine in origin. The significance of the prow and the head of Jupiter either side of the steps is uncertain, but on related issues appear equally ambiguous figures: a river-god, a fish, and another head, possibly that of Cronus-Saturnus. Within the temple the figure of Hercules stands facing the viewer, holding the apple of the Hesperides and resting on his club, a nymph(?) wearing an unusual headdress standing to either side of him. The significance of the nymphs is uncertain, but it has been suggested that they represent Virtus and Voluptas, thus symbolizing the choice between virtue and pleasure. There are two additional types of Hadrian which seem to be related: Hercules standing in a similar pose, although alone, in a flat-roofed temple which is depicted either tetrastyle or distyle; and another showing Hercules standing beside the river-god Tiber and a ship's prow. This last has the additional inscription HERC GADIT, which leaves no doubt as to the identity of the hero as Hercules Gaditanus. These related issues seem to mark the dedication of a temple to Hercules Gaditanus along the banks of the Tiber, but if so no archaeological evidence of the structure survives today.



243



- 243 Denarius 119-122, AR 3.37 g. IMP CAESAR TRAIAN H – ADRIANVS AVG Laureate bust r., with drapery on l. shoulder and strap over r. Rev. P M TR – P COS III Clementia standing l., holding sceptre and sacrificing out of *patera* over lighted altar; in exergue, CLEM. C 212 var. (without strap). BMC 251. RIC 116 var. (without strap). A magnificent old cabinet tone and good extremely fine 1'000

Ex NAC sale 54, 2010, 451.



245



244



245

- 244 Denarius 119-122, AR 3.52 g. IMP CAESAR TRAIAN – HADRIANVS AVG Laureate bust r., drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. P M TR P – COS III Salus seated l., feeding from *paterna* a snake coiled round altar. C 1151. BMC 207. RIC 98. About extremely fine 300
- 245 Sestertius 119-122, Æ 24.81 g. IMP CAESAR TRAIANVS – HADRIANVS AVG Laureate bust r., drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. PONT MAX TR POT COS III Hadrian seated l. on platform, extending r. hand to woman standing r., holding child on l. arm and placing r. on head of a second child at her r. side; in field, at sides, S – C and in exergue, LIBERTAS RESTI / TVTA. C 949 var. (laureate and draped). BMC 1160. RIC 568. A very attractive portrait and a lovely reddish-green patina somewhat smoothed, otherwise about extremely fine 1750

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 121, 445.



246



- 246 Aureus 121, AV 7.24 g. IMP CAES HADRIANVS AVG COS III Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. ANN DCCCLXXXIII NAT VRB P CIR CO – N The Genius of the Circus reclining l., head r., balancing wheel on knee with r. hand and placing l. arm around one of the turning posts of the Circus (three obelisks on a base). C 162. BMC 333 and pl. 53, 5 (these dies). RIC 144. Calicó 1200 (these dies). Extremely rare and in unusually fine condition for this historically important issue. Well-centred on a full flan and good very fine 17500

Ex Hirsch XVIII, 1907, Imhoof-Blumer, 803; Glendining & Co., 20 February 1951, Ryan, 1757; Hess-Leu 15, 7 April 1960, 326 (there given an incorrect pedigree) and LHS 100, 2002, 326 sales.

This aureus commemorates games held on April 21, A.D. 121, to mark the 874th birthday of the city of Rome (natalis urbis or natalis Romae dies). The games associated with the celebration took the name Parilia in honour of the deity Pales, though at some point in the 2nd Century they apparently took on the alternative title Romaia. The origins of the festival were quite rustic, with participants jumping through bonfires and purifying animals from their flocks and herds with ashes and blood dispensed by the Vestals. By Hadrian's time it no doubt had acquired a more cosmopolitan flavour. What makes this type so unusual is the reverse inscription, for it records the year of the games with the *anno urbis conditae* formula. ANN DCCCLXXXIII NAT VRB tells us this coin was issued to celebrate what Romans considered to be the 874th birthday of their capital. The design itself refers to the games, showing a genius seated at the base of an obelisk, or meta (three metae are shown on sestertii of this type), around which he places his left arm as he steadies a wheel on his knee. The meaning of the rest of the inscription, P CIR CON, a series of three abbreviations, is not certainly known, and has been read differently by authorities. Two options include: *populo circensibus concessit* ('the spectacle of games in the circus at Rome given to the people') and *primum circensibus constituti* ('the games of the circus were for the first time instituted to be given'). The latter reading would suggest that Hadrian took credit for some kind of renewed or revitalized version of these games; considering that in 121 he left Rome on a four-year trip to the provinces, he no doubt considered it wise to provide a spectacle in Rome before his departure.



247 Aureus 125-128, AV 6.97 g. HADRIANVS – AVGVSTVS Laureate head r., drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. COS – III Sol in prancing quadriga l. C 293. BMC 378. RIC 168. Calicó 1209a (this coin).
 Rare. A magnificent portrait of fine style struck in high relief on a very broad flange, almost invisible marks, otherwise extremely fine 15'000
 Ex Leu 10, 1974, 146; Leu 30, 1982, 361 and Tkalec April 2007, 219 sales.



248 Denarius 125-128, AR 3.42 g. HADRIANVS – AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. COS – III Abundantia seated l., holding hook in r. hand and cornucopiae in l.; below, modius. C 379 var. (without drapery). BMC 385. RIC 170. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 400



249 Cistophoric tetradrachm, unidentified C mint after 128, AR 10.80 g. HADRIANVS – AVGVSTVS P P Head r. Rev. COS – III Statue of Artemis Ephesia standing facing, extending hands and flanked by stags and thymeteria. C 319. BMC 1061. RIC 489. Metcalf, Cistophori 88 var. (O4/R4).
 In unusually fine condition for the issue. Struck on a very broad flange and with a light old cabinet tone. Two light scratches on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 3'000
 Ex Gorny & Mosch 114, 2002, 169; CNG-Classical Numismatic Review 27, 2002, 72 and Triton VII, 2004, 967 sales.



- 250 Aureus 132-134, AV 7.15 g. HADRIVS – AVGVSTVS Bare youthful head r., drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. COS – III P P Hadrian standing l., raising r. hand and holding spear; two standards on l. and one on r. C 485. BMC 530 (this obverse die). RIC 204b (this obverse die). Mazzini 485v (this coin). Jameson 103 (this coin). Calicó 1239 (these dies).

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. An unusual and interesting portrait, a trace of edge filing, otherwise about extremely fine 12'500

Ex Rollin & Feuardent 26-27 May 1909, Sir Arthur Evans, 105; NAC I, 1999, 1925 and Triton VII, 2004, 971 sales. From the Mazzini and Jameson collections.

When Hadrian became emperor he exhibited a shocking new feature for an emperor: a beard. This was a novelty among the noblemen of Rome, who had been clean-shaven for centuries; beards were for Romans of low status, or for Greeks – especially philosophers and poets. Despite having to overcome centuries of tradition, Hadrian's Greek bearing took hold immediately, and beards remained the fashion for emperors through the fall of the Tetrarchy. Virtually all of Hadrian's portraits show a middle-aged man with a full, closely cropped beard. However, on this aureus we observe a separate category of portrait: a youthful Hadrian with a partial beard that culminates into two tufts of hair at his jaw line which was described by Mattingly and Sydenham as a portrait of "exceptional beauty and distinction". This type has long puzzled scholars, and there has been no general acknowledgment of when or why it was employed. This may be explained by the methods used to date and arrange the coins of Hadrian: there are very few chronological guideposts in his coin inscriptions, so scholars have had to rely on the evolution of inscription formats and the styles of the portraits. This approach has yielded useful conclusions, though seemingly at the expense of a clear understanding of this portrait style. In recent decades this type has been recognized as a distinct category of Hadrianic portraiture. Comparison with sculptures in the round has identified it as Hadrian in the guise of Diomedes, the Trojan War hero who stole the Palladium from Troy, and thus assured a Greek victory in the epic siege. The Palladium reportedly was taken to Italy, either by the Trojan prince Aeneas or by Diomedes, who by one tradition returned it to Aeneas in Italy. The episode had numerous versions by Hadrian's time, but it was a core of the Roman foundation myth and thus was a perfect marriage of this emperor's infatuation with Greece and his dedication to Rome. Hill was probably correct when he described this aureus as having been struck by Antoninus Pius in 138, shortly after Hadrian's death. Most scholars, however, have seen it as a lifetime issue struck c. 132-135. The main problem is that this portrait type is utilized principally (or exclusively) with three different obverse inscriptions and four reverse types (and some of these reverse types are also paired with normal busts). Thus, conventional wisdom would disperse these few coins with the Diomedes portrait into different phases of Hadrian's coinage. But their great rarity and unique character argues for a separate treatment. We must also take into account that the other three reverse types used with this bust comprise a retrospective coinage that focuses on the divine parentage of Hadrian and of Rome. They are: ROMVLO CONDITORI ('Romulus the founder), Romulus striding r.; VENERI GENETRICI ('Venus who brings forth') Venus standing; and DIVIS PARENTIBVS ('to his parent deities), busts of Trajan and Plotina. All considered, it seems that the Diomedes-portrait aurei probably were all struck contemporarily, perhaps soon after Hadrian's death as a special issue that, for reasons that remain a mystery, employed different inscriptions and reverse types. The other option is to categorize the Diomedes-portrait aurei by other dating criteria, which would seemingly eliminate any special occasion for the use of this distinctive portrait type.



- 251 Aureus 134-138, AV 7.21 g. HADRIVS – AVGVSTVS Bare head l. Rev. VOT – PVB The Genius of the Senate standing r., holding sceptre, facing him, the Genius of the Roman people, standing l., holding *patera* in r. hand on altar and cornucopiae in l. C 1473. BMC 775 note. RIC 288g. Calicó 1403.

Very rare. A light scratch on reverse, otherwise good very fine 4'500

Ex NAC F, 1996, 1610 and Meister & Sonntag 7, 2009, 39 sales.



252



- 252 Denarius 134-138, AR 3.32 g. HADRIANVS – AVGVSTVS III P P Bare head r. Rev. FELIC – IT – A – S AVGV Felicitas standing l., holding caduceus and clasping r. hands with Hadrian standing r. C 628. BMC 613. RIC 237. Light iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 1'000

Ex Peus sale 366, 2000, 1354.



253



- 253 Denarius 134-138, AR 3.40 g. HADRIANVS – AVGVSTVS P P Laureate head r., drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. COS – III Eight-rayed star on crescent. C 458. BMC 512. RIC 355. Superb iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 2'500

Ex NAC sale 21, 2001, 453.



254



- 254 Denarius 134-138, AR 3.32 g. HADRIANVS – AVGVSTVS III P P Bare and draped bust r. Rev. ROMVLO – CONDITORI Romulus advancing r., holding spear and trophy. C 1317 var. (bare head). BMC 709. RIC 266. Good extremely fine 750



255



- 255 Denarius 134-138, AR 3.40 g. HADRIANVS – AVGVSTVS III P P Bare head r., drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. MONE – T – A AVGV Moneta standing l., holding scales in r. hand and scales in l. C 963. BMC 677. RIC 256. Light iridescent tone and extremely fine 350



256

- 256 Denarius 134-138, AR 3.23 g. HADRIANVS – AVG COS III P P Bare head r. Rev. VOTA – PVBLICA Hadrian veiled standing l., holding *patera* over tripod. C 1481. BMC 777. RIC 290.
Lovely iridescent tone, obverse slightly off-centre, otherwise extremely fine 400
Ex Lanz 68, 1994, 442 and Künker 111, 2006, 6724 sales.



257

- 257 Denarius 134-138, AR 3.33 g. HADRIANVS – AVG COS III P P Bare head r. Rev. GERMA – NIA Germania standing facing, head r., holding spear in r. hand and resting l. on shield. C 805. BMC 837. RIC 302.
Rare. Wonderful old cabinet tone and about extremely fine 500



258



258

- 258 Denarius 134-138, AR 3.60 g. HADRIANVS – AVG COS III P P Bare head r. Rev. ADVENTVS – AVGVSTI Roma standing r., holding spear and clasping hands with Hadrian standing l. C 94 var. (bust draped). BMC 584. RIC 227.
About extremely fine 250



259



259

- 259 Sestertius 134-138, Æ 24.71 g. HADRIANVS AVG COS III P P Bareheaded and draped bust r. Rev. ADVENTVI AVG MA – VRETANIAE Mauretania standing l., holding *vexillum* in l. hand and *patera* over garlanded altar; in l. field, Hadrian standing r., holding roll; behind altar, bull and in exergue, S C. C 63. BMC 1664. RIC 897.
Rare. A very appealing portrait and a green patina, somewhat smoothed, otherwise about extremely fine 3'000
Ex Triton VII, 2004, 949.



260 Cistophoric tetradrachm, Nicomedia in Bithynia circa 138, AR 10.34 g. IMP CAES TRA – HADRIANO AVG P P Laureate head r. Rev. S – P R / COM BIT Octastyle temple on three steps; across frieze, ROM S P AVG. C 246 var. (bare head). BMC 1098 note. RIC 4262b. Metcalf, Cistophori –, cf. B12/30.

In exceptional condition for the issue. A magnificent portrait struck on a very broad flan and a superb light iridescent tone. About extremely fine 4'500

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 114, 2002, 270.



261 *Divus Hadrianus*. Denarius 139, AR 3.05 g. DIVVS HADRI – ANVS AVG Bare head r. Rev. CONSE – CRATIO Eagle standing facing, head l., on globe. C 271. BMC Antoninus Pius 33 note. RIC 389b.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Old cabinet tone and extremely fine 1'000

Sabina, wife of Hadrian



262 Denarius 128-136, AR 3.25 g. SABINA AVGVSTA – HADRIANI AVG P P Draped and veiled bust r. Rev. VE – S – TA Vesta seated l., holding *palladium* in r. hand and sceptre in l. C 81. BMC Hadrian 915. RIC Hadrian 410. Wonderful iridescent tone, extremely fine / good extremely fine 750



- 263 Denarius 128-136, AR 3.23 g. SABINA AVGVSTA – HADRIANI AVG Diademed and draped bust l. Rev. IVNO – NI – REGINAE Juno standing l., holding *patera* in r. hand and sceptre in l. C 37. BMC Hadrian 909 var. (with wreath of corn ears). RIC Hadrian 401b.

A portrait of fine style and a light tone, minor areas of weakness on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine / extremely fine

750

Ex Tkalec sale May 2009, 137.



- 264 *Diva Sabina*. Denarius 138-139, AR 3.44 g. DIVA AVG – SABINA Diademed and draped bust r., wearing wreath of corn ears. Rev. PIE – TATI – AVG Altar. C 56. BMC Hadrian 960. RIC Hadrian 422a.

Very rare. Light iridescent tone and extremely fine / good extremely fine

600

Ex Gomy & Mosch sale 155, 2007, 326.

Aelius caesar, 136 – 138



- 265 Aureus 137, AV 7.48 g. L AELIVS – CAESAR Bare head l. Rev. TRIB POT – COS II Concordia seated l., holding *patera* in extended r. hand and resting l. elbow on cornucopiae; in exergue, CONCORD. C 12. BMC Hadrian 999. RIC Hadrian 443c. Calicó 1445.

Very rare. An attractive portrait of fine style, minor edge mark, otherwise about extremely fine

10'000



266



266

- 266 Denarius 137, AR 3.28 g. L AELIVS – CAESAR Bare head r. Rev. TR POT – COS II Pietas standing l., raising r. and wrapping l. in her robe. C 53. BMC Hadrian 972 note. RIC Hadrian 432.
Old cabinet tone, minor metal flaw on reverse, otherwise about extremely fine 300



267



267

- 267 Denarius 137, AR 2.88 g. AELIVS – CAESAR Bare head r. Rev. TR POT – COS II Concordia seated l. on throne, holding patera in r. hand and resting l. elbow on cornucopiae balanced on ground; in exergue, CONCORD. C 1. BMC Hadrian 891. RIC Hadrian 436.
Old cabinet tone and about extremely fine 300

Ex Numismatica Wien 4, 1974, 434 and Giessener Münzhandlung 29, 1984, 2908 sales.

Antoninus Pius caesar, 138



268



- 268 Aureus 138, AV 7.42 g. IMP T AEL CAES – ANTONINVS Bareheaded, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. TRIB POT COS – DES-II Concordia seated l., on throne, leaning l. arm on statue of Spes and holding patera in outstretched r. hand; below throne, cornucopiae. In exergue, CONCORD. C –. BMC Hadrian 1019. RIC Hadrian 453b var. (not cuirassed). Calicó 1486 (these dies).
Very rare. An unusual portrait struck in high relief, about extremely fine 6'000

Ex Künker sale 124,7628

Antoninus Pius augustus, 138 – 161



- 269 Denarius 139, AR 3.81 g. ANTONINVS – AVG PIVS P P Bare head r. Rev. TR P – C – OS II Modius with two corn ears and poppy. C 834. BMC 88 note. RIC 44.
Light iridescent tone and extremely fine 250



- 270 Dupondius 139, Æ 15.92 g. ANTONINVS – AVG PIVS P P Radiate head r. Rev. AVRELIVS CAES AVG PII F COS DES Draped and bare-headed bust l.; below, S – C. C –. BMC 1206. RIC 1207.
Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. A superb dark green patina and two charming portraits of superb style. Extremely fine 10'000

Ex Hess-Leu 1961, 193; Leu 30, 1982, 378; NAC 10, 1997, 637; Triton I, 1997, 1478; Triton III, 1999, 1093 and NAC 23, 2003, 1567 sales.

Although Antoninus Pius succeeded Hadrian as emperor of Rome, he truly was third or fourth down the line of preference. Hadrian's first choice as successor was the nobleman Aelius, who was hailed Caesar in 136, but who died unexpectedly after a year in office. Hadrian then determined he would pass the throne to Aelius' son Lucius Verus – then only seven years old – and to the 17-year-old Marcus Aurelius, who was a distant relative and a close companion. In truth the middleaged Antoninus Pius was merely a surrogate emperor in the eyes of Hadrian, and he remained truthful to his promise to act as guardian for Marcus Aurelius and Lucius Verus. Indeed, he was so faithful to the memory of Hadrian that he earned his surname "Pius" because he fought so diligently to convince the senate's to deify Hadrian. Over the years of his own principate, Antoninus Pius groomed both as his eventual successors, and thus continued the tradition of adoptive succession. He enjoyed a productive and mostly peaceful reign, and unlike Hadrian, who travelled extensively, Antoninus Pius never once left Italy in his twenty-two years on the throne. Unlike the great variety of Hadrian's coinage on which he celebrates his extensive travels, Antoninus' reverse types are localized, and on occasion they reflect the attention he paid to the betterment of Rome and Italy. This dupondius is one of his more interesting types, as it bears the portrait of Antoninus Pius on the obverse and that of his elder heir Marcus Aurelius on the reverse.



271 Sestertius 140-144, Æ 27.42 g. ANTONINVS AVG – PIVS P P TR P COS II Bare head r. Rev. PROVIDENTI – AE DEORVM Winged thunderbolt; at sides in field, S – C. C 682. BMC 1266. RIC 618. Dark brown tone gently smoothed, otherwise about extremely fine 1'000



272 Quinarius 145-161, AV 3.41 g. ANTONINVS – AVG PIVS P P Laureate head r. Rev. TR POT – COS III Liberalitas standing l., holding abacus in r. hand and cornucopiae in l.; in ex., LIB III. C –. BMC 567 note. RIC 155. King 21. Very rare. Minor marks, otherwise about extremely fine / good very fine 3'500
Ex Rauch sale 86, 2010, 823.



273 As 145-161, Æ 12.25 g. ANTONINVS AVG PI – VS P P TR P COS III Laureate and draped bust r. Rev. S P Q R / OPTIMO / PRINCIPI / S C in oak wreath. C –. BMC 1764. RIC 827a var. (without drapery). A magnificent portrait and a pleasant brown tone, very gently smoothed on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine 3'500

Ex Aufhäuser 6, 1989, Beckenbauer, 390 and Künker 133, 2007, 8876 sales.



274



- 274 Aureus 147-148, AV 7.45 g. ANTONINVS – AVG PIVS P P TR P XI Laureate bust r., with drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. C – O – S – II – II Liberalitas standing l., holding abacus in r. hand and cornucopiae in l.; at sides on field, LIB – V. C 504 var. (without drapery). BMC 627. RIC 169c. Calicó 1578 (these dies).
A very elegant portrait struck in high relief, good extremely fine 7'000



275



- 275 Aureus 148-149, AV 7.10 g. ANTONINVS AVG – PIVS P P TR P XII Laureate head r., with drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. COS – IIII Aequitas standing l., holding scales in r. hand and cornucopiae in l. C 235. BMC 650. RIC 177e. Calicó 1503.
Extremely fine 4'500

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 190, 2010, 499.



276



- 276 As 148-149, Æ 9.65 g. ANTONINVS AVG – PIVS P P TR P XII Laureate head r. Rev. MVNIFICENTIA AVG Elephant cuirassed, advancing r.; in exergue, COS IIII / S C. C 565. BMC 1840. RIC 862a.
Rare. Brown-green patina somewhat smoothed, otherwise extremely fine 2'000

Ex Birkler & Waddell Ltd sale 2, 1980, 369 and UBS 55, 2002, 1947 sales.



277



- 277 Aureus 152-153, AV 7.28 g. ANTONINVS AVG – PIVS P P TR P XVI Draped, cuirassed and bareheaded bust l. Rev. CO – S – IIII The Emperor, togate, standing l., holding globe in extended r. hand and scroll in l. C 308. BMC 798. RIC 226e. Calicó 1523. Good extremely fine 9'000

Ex Hess-Leu 16 April 1964, 304; Künker 111, 2006, 6759 and Künker 133, 2007, 8878 sales.



278



- 278 Aureus 152-153, AV 7.28 g. ANTONINVS AVG – PIVS P P TR P XVI Laureate bust r., with drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. LIBERALITAS – VII-COS IIII Liberalitas standing l., holding abacus in r. hand and rod in l. C –. BMC p. 116, note †. RIC –. Calicó 1583. Very rare and an interesting reverse type. Extremely fine 7'500

Ex Rauch Summer sale 2007, 544.



279



280



- 279 Denarius 158-159, AR 3.38 g. ANTONINVS AVG PIVS P P TR P XXII Laureate head r. Rev. COS – III Tetrastyle shrine, within which stands facing male figure on low base, holding branch in r. hand and standard in l. C 331. BMC 930. RIC 285. Extremely fine 200

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 125, 2003, 492.

- 280 *Divus Antoninus Pius.* Denarius after 161, AR 3.51 g. DIVVS – ANTONINVS Bare head r. Rev. CONSECRATIO Eagle standing r., head l., on altar decorated with garlands. C 155. BMC M. Aurelius 48. RIC M. Aurelius 431. Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine 250

Ex Rauch sale 91, 2012, 386.



281

- 281 **Divus Antoninus Pius.** Sesterce after 161, Æ 24.31 g. DIVVS ANTONINVS Bare head r. Rev. Statue of Antoninus seated on car drawn l. by four elephants, each with rider on neck. In exergue, S C. C 766. BMC M. Aurelius 891. RIC M. Aurelius 1274.

Rare. Light green patina on obverse and dark tone on reverse. Good very fine 2'000

Faustina I, wife of Antoninus Pius



282

- 282 **Diva Faustina.** Aureus after 141, AV 7.37 g. DIVA – FAVSTINA Draped bust r., hair coiled on top of head. Rev. CONSECRATIO Peacock walking r. with head reverted. C 174. BMC A. Pius 471 (these dies). RIC A. Pius 384. Calicó 1783.

Rare and in an exceptional state of preservation. Virtually as struck and Fdc 15'000

Ex Rauch sale 82, 2008, 350.

Marcus Aurelius caesar, 139-161



283

- 283 **Denarius 140-144,** AR 3.27 g. AVRELIVS CAES – AR AVG PII F COS Bare head r. Rev. PIETAS AVG Knife, sprinkler, ewer, *lituus* and *simpulum*. C 451. BMC A. Pius 277. RIC A. Pius 424a.

Light iridescent tone and extremely fine 250

Ex Rauch sale 75, 2005, 522.

Marcus Aurelius augustus, 161-180



- 284 Aureus 161-162, AV 7.43 g. IMP M AVREL ANTONINVS AVG P M Bareheaded, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. CONCORDIAE AVGVSTOR TR P XVI M. Aurelius and L. Verus standing facing each other with clasped hands; the one on the l. holds roll. In exergue, COS III. C 72. BMC 187. RIC 45. Calicó 1830. An interesting and finely detailed reverse type. About extremely fine 6'000

Ex MK sale 76, 251.



- 285 Aureus 168, AV 7.13 g. M ANTONINVS AVG – ARM PARTH MAX Laureate head r. Rev. TR P XIII IMP V COS III Aequitas seated l., holding scales in r. hand and cornucopiae in l. C 898. BMC 465. RIC 189. Calicó 2005 (these dies). Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 12'500

Ex Rauch sale 82, 2008, 361.



- 286 Sestertius 176-177, Æ 29.63 g. M ANTONINVS AVG – GERM SARM TR P XXXI Laureate head r., drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. IMP VIII COS III – P P M. Aurelius and Commodus seated l. on platform; behind them, officer holding sceptre. To l., Liberalitas standing l., holding abacus. Below, citizen mounting steps, holding out fold of toga in both hands; in field at sides, S – C and in exergue, LIBERALITAS / AVG VII. C 424 var. (without drapery). BMC 1608. RIC 1208 var. (without drapery). Rare. Brown tone, gently smoothed, otherwise about extremely fine 2'500

Ex Rauch sale 68, 2001, 439.



287



- 287 Aureus 176-177, AV 7.28 g. M ANTONINVS AVG – GERM SARM Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. TR P XXXI IMP VIII COS III P P Pile of arms; in exergue, DE GERM. C 155. BMC 736. RIC 362. Calicó 1845.

Extremely rare. A very interesting and historically important reverse type. Struck in high relief on a full flan, almost invisible mark on obverse, otherwise extremely fine

18'000

Ex Naville III, 1922, Sir Arthur Evans, 74 and Lanz 97, 2000, 640 sales. From Dr. H. Wintz collection.

The empire enjoyed an age of relative peace and prosperity under Hadrian and Antoninus Pius, but with the accession of the co-emperors Marcus Aurelius and Lucius Verus in 161, the nation braced for war. Their immediate tasks were not to draft legislation with the senate or to engage in charitable deeds, but to lead their legions to the great river boundaries and defend their empire. Lucius Verus went to the East to guard against the Parthians and Marcus Aurelius marched northward to the long frontier defined by Rhine and the Danube. Marcus Aurelius was to spend much of his life as emperor waging unwanted wars on the frontiers, which sometimes required leading his soldiers deep into German territory on dangerous expeditions. Not long before this aureus was struck Marcus Aurelius had scored victories over the Sarmatians and the Germans, which he celebrated on coinage struck mainly in 176. Amid the victories Marcus Aurelius celebrates here, though he had to contend with a serious illness and a usurpation by the Syrian governor Avidius Cassius.



288



- 288 *Restored issue of M. Antonius.* Denarius 161-169, AR 3.36 g. ANTONINVS AVGVR / III VIR R P C Galley I. Rev. ANTONINVS ET VERVS AVG REST Legionary eagle between two standards; in field, LEG – VI. C M. Antonius 83. BMC M. Aurelius 501. RIC 443. Good very fine 200

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 130, 2004, 2207.

Faustina, wife of Marcus Aurelius



289



- 289 Sestertius 161-176, Æ 29.76 g. FAVSTINA – AVGVSTA Draped bust r. Rev. FECVND – AVGVSTAE Fecunditas standing l. between two girls and holding two infants in her arms; in field, S – C. C 96. BMC M. Aurelius 902. RIC M. Aurelius 1635.

A very appealing portrait struck on a very large flan, brown tone, somewhat smoothed, otherwise extremely fine

2'500

Lucius Verus, 161-169



- 290 Dupondius 161, Æ 11.79 g. IMP CAES L – AVRE L VERVS AVG Radiate and draped bust r. Rev. CONCORD AVGVSTOR TR P Lucius Verus and Marcus Aurelius standing facing one another, clasping right hands; in field, S – C. C 34 var. (without drapery). BMC M. Aurelius 867. RIC M. Aurelius 1293. Lovely green patina and about extremely fine 500

Ex Rauch sale 68, 2002, 460.



- 291 Aureus 163-164, AV 7.30 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 on palm tree a shield inscribed VIC / AVG. C 247 var. (without drapery). BMC M. Aurelius 296 note. RIC M. Aurelius 525. Calicó 2177 (these dies). In exceptional state of preservation. A perfect Fdc 15'000

Ex Künker sale 100, 2005, 66.



- 292 Denarius 163-164, AR 3.60 g. L VERVS AVG – ARMENIACVS Cuirassed and bareheaded bust r. Rev. TR P IIII – IMP II COS II Mars standing r., holding spear in r. hand and l. on shield. C 228 var. (also laureate). BMC M. Aurelius 284. RIC M. Aurelius 514 var. (also laureate). Lovely iridescent tone and about extremely fine 150



293



293

- 293 Sestertius 163-164, Æ 25.14 g. L – AVREL VERVUS – AVG ARMENIACVS Laureate bust r. Rev. TR – P III – IMP II COS II Mars advancing r., holding spear in r. hand and trophy on l. shoulder; in lower field, S – C. C 224. BMC M. Aurelius 1109. RIC M. Aurelius 1379.
Brown-green patina very gently smoothed on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine 2'000



294



- 294 Aureus February-December 165, AV 7.36 g. L VERVUS AVG – ARM PARTH MAX Laureate head r. Rev. TR P V – IMP III COS II L. Verus on prancing horse r. spearing down fallen enemy. C 275 var. (bust laureate, draped and cuirassed). BMC M. Aurelius 390. RIC M. Aurelius 545. Calicó 2185 (this obverse die).
A superb portrait struck in high relief, unobtrusive nick at nine o'clock on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 9'000

Ex Schulman 226, 1956, 2083 and Tkalec February 2007, 49 sales.



295



- 295 Aureus February-December 168, AV 7.34 g. L VERVUS AVG – ARM PARTH MAX Laureate head r., with slight drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. FORT RED TR P VIII IMP V Fortuna seated l., holding rudder in r. hand and cornucopia in l.; in exergue, COS III. C. 100 var. (laureate, draped and cuirassed). BMC M. Aurelius 475 var. (this coin cited in note). RIC M. Aurelius 582 (this coin). Calicó 2132.
A magnificent portrait of fine style struck in high relief. Almost invisible nick at eleven o'clock on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine 9'000

Ex Sotheby's 796, 1908, O'Hagan, 452; Naville II, 12 June 1922, Vautier, 990; Stack's, 21 November 1967, H.P. McCullough, 900 and Leu 91, 2004, 578 sales. From the C. Seltman collection.

Lucilla, wife of Lucius Verus



- 296 Aureus circa 164-169 or 183, AV 7.22 g. LVCILLAE AVG ANTONINI AVG F Draped bust r., hair caught up in double chignon. Rev. V – E – NVS Venus standing l., holding apple in r. hand and sceptre in l. C 69. BMC M. Aurelius 321. RIC M. Aurelius 783. Calicó 2218.

A very pleasant portrait struck on a very large flan, an almost invisible metal flaw on reverse field at five o'clock, otherwise good extremely fine 12'500
 Ex Lanz sale 94, 1999, 650.

Commodus caesar, 166 – 177



- 297 Denarius 175-176, AR 3.35 g. COMMODO CAES AVG FIL GERM SARM Draped and bareheaded bust r. Rev. PRINC – IVVENT Commodus standing l., holding branch in r. hand and sceptre in l.; on r. field. Trophy. C 609 var. (also cuirassed). BMC M. Aurelius 649. RIC M. Aurelius 616 var. (also cuirassed).

Rare. Light iridescent tone and about extremely fine 350
 Ex Peus sale 386, 2006, 769.

Commodus augustus, 177 – 192



- 298 Aureus 181-182, AV 7.28 g. M ANTONINVS – COMMODVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. TR P VII IMP – IIII COS III – P P Commodus on horse prancing r., brandishing javelin at lion in r. field.; in exergue, VIRTU AVG. C 959. BMC 90. RIC 39. Mazzini 959 (this coin). Calicó 2363 (this coin). Biaggi 1021 (this coin).

Very rare. Struck on a very large flan and with a lovely light reddish tone, good very fine / about extremely fine 6'000
 Ex Hirsch XVIII, 1907, Imhoof-Blumer, 1034; Glendining's 16-21 November 1950, Platt Hall part II, 1603 sales. From the de Moustier, Mazzini and Biaggi collections.



299

- 299 Aureus 186-189, AV 7.22 g. M COMM ANT P – FEL AVG BRIT Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. FORTVNAE·MANENTI Fortuna seated l., holding horse by bridle with r. hand and cornucopiae in l.; in exergue, C V P P. C –. BMC –, cf. 231 (denarius). RIC –, cf. 191 (denarius). Calicó –.
Apparently unique and unrecorded. A very interesting and fascinating issue struck in high relief on a very broad flan. A simply perfect Fdc 45'000

Ex Numismatica Genevensis sale 4, 2006, 188.

This unique aureus of Commodus, the reverse previously only known from rare denarii (see RIC 191a; MIR 18, 751), features the unusual type of Fortuna Manens on the reverse. Fortuna was the Roman goddess of luck or chance, and appears to have originally come to Rome from either Antium or Praeneste. As the personification of changing circumstances, Fortuna could bring either good or bad luck according to her whim, and evincing such fickleness it was only natural that the empire's inhabitants were particularly careful not to offend her. Thus she was adored everywhere, and in every town could be found statues and altars honoring her various manifestations.

The title Manens in Latin means "enduring" or "abiding." Here it reflects Fortuna as the deliverer of permanent good fortune. Her appearance at this time, during Commodus' fifth consulate and probably more precisely dating to the year A.D. 189, may refer to the downfall of Commodus's favorite, the freedman Marcus Aurelius Cleander. Under Commodus, who cared little for the day-to-day administration of the vast empire, Cleander had concentrated much power for himself, and in addition he was notoriously greedy. He shamelessly sold every conceivable public office, sharing some of the proceeds with his sovereign but pocketing substantial wealth himself. His rapaciousness became so burdensome that even the grain supply was adversely affected. Of course, with around a million mouths to feed the reliable delivery of food shipments from Rome's breadbaskets was absolutely essential, but Cleander's meddling had caused near collapse of the system. This, in turn, led to widespread civil unrest, and it was only with Cleander's brutal murder at the hands of the mob that civil war averted.



300

- 300 Aureus 190, AV 7.20 g. M COMM ANT P F – EL AVG BRIT P P Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. TEMP FELIC P M TR P XV IMP VIII COS VI Winged caduceus set on two cornucopiae in saltire. C 718 var. (P P at end of reverse legend). BMC 282. RIC 214. Calicó 2335.
Very rare. Struck on a very broad flan, minor marks, otherwise about extremely fine 9'000

Ex UBS sale 64, 2006, 205.



301

- 301 Denarius 191-192, AR 3.95 g. L AEL AVREL C – OMM AVG P FEL Head r., wearing lion's skin headdress. Rev. HERCVL – I ROMA – NO AVG Club flanked by bow and quiver. C 195. BMC 343 (these dies). RIC 253. Old cabinet tone and about extremely fine 400

Ex Aufhäuser sale 16, 2001, 353.

Few Roman coins excite as much commentary as those of Commodus which show him possessed of Hercules. Not only do they present an extraordinary image, but they offer incontrovertible support to the literary record. The reports of Commodus' megalomania and infatuation with Hercules are so alarming and fanciful that if the numismatic record was not there to confirm, modern historians would almost certainly regard the literary record as an absurd version of affairs, much in the way reports of Tiberius' depraved behaviour on Capri are considered to be callous exaggerations. Faced with such rich and diverse evidence, there can be no question that late in his life Commodus believed that Hercules was his divine patron. Indeed, he worshipped the demigod so intensely that he renamed the month of September after him, and he eventually came to believe himself an incarnation of the mythological hero. The Herculean imagery on this famous coin type is arresting. Though the concept of an emperor donning a lion's scalp was novel to coinage, it would have compared favourably to the countless images throughout the empire of Hercules in his mature, bearded incarnation. The reverse depicts familiar instruments of the hero: the club, bow, and quiver with arrows. By tradition, Hercules had fashioned his knotted club from a wild olive tree that he tore from the soil of Mount Helicon and subsequently used to kill the lion of Cithaeron when he was only 18 years old. Probably the most familiar account of his bow and arrows was his shooting of the Stymphalian birds while fulfilling his sixth labour. The reverse inscription HERCVLI ROMANO AVG ('to the August Roman Hercules') makes the coin all the more interesting, especially when it put into context with those of contemporary coins inscribed HERCVLI COMMODO AVG, which amounts to a dedication 'to Hercules Commodus Augustus'



302

- 302 Aureus 192, AV 7.13 g. L AEL AVREL CO – MM AVG P FEL Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. LIB AVG VIII P M TR P XVII COS VII P P Liberalitas standing l., holding abacus in r. hand and cornucopiae in l. C 324 var. (only draped). BMC 311. RIC 239a. Calicó 2281.

Rare. A bold portrait struck in high relief on a large flan, minor marks on obverse and on edge, otherwise good extremely fine / extremely fine

15'000

Ex Rauch sale 80, 2007, 173.



303

- 303 Denarius 192, AR 3.24 g. L AEL AVREL COMM AVG P FEL Head r., wearing lion skin headdress. Rev. HER – CVL / RO – MAN / AV – GV at sides of club. All within wreath. C 190. BMC 339. RIC 251.

Extremely fine

600

Ex Lanz sale 121, 2004, 423.



- 304 Denarius 192, AR 3.02 g. L AEL AVREL COM – M AVG P FEL Laureate head r. Rev. MAGN /IFICENT /IAE·AVG / COS VII / P·P in five lines. All within wreath. C 343. BMC 336. RIC 248.
Rare. Hairline flan crack at eleven o'clock on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine 300

Didius Julianus, March 28th – early June 193



- 305 Denarius 193, AR 3.43 g. IMP CAES M DID – IVLIAN AVG Laureate head r. Rev. P M TR – P COS Fortuna standing l., holding in r. hand rudder set on globe and cornucopiae in l. C 10. BMC 6. RIC 2.
Almost invisible traces of double striking, otherwise extremely fine 2'500
Ex Triton sale VII, 2004, 991.

Pertinax, 1st January – 28th March 193



- 306 Aureus 193, AV 6.99 g. IMP CAES P HELV – PERTIN AVG Laureate head r. Rev. AEQVIT·AVG·TR P·COS II Aequitas standing l., holding scales in r. hand and cornucopiae in l. C 1. BMC 14. Woodward, NC 1957, pl. 10, obverse die 1. RIC 1a. Calicó 2379 (these dies).
Very rare. A bold portrait struck on a broad flan, about extremely fine / good very fine 18'000

Ex Hirsch 175, 1992, 921; CNG 50, 1999, 1552; Harlan J. Berk Bid or Buy 119, 2001, 40 and UBS 52, 2001, 230 sales.

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 none the less murdered him after a reign of just eighty-six days.



307



307

- 307 Denarius 193, AR 3.20 g. IMP CAES P HELV – PERTIN AVG Laureate head r. Rev. AEQVIT AVG – TR [P COS] II Aequitas standing l., holding scales in r. hand and cornucopiae in l. C 2. BMC 15. RIC 1a.

Old cabinet tone and about extremely fine 1'500

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 138, 2005, 246.



308



308

- 308 Denarius 193, AR 2.98 g. IMP CAES P HELV – PERTIN AVG Laureate head r. Rev. PROVID – DEOR COS II Providentia standing l., holding up both hands to large star. C 43. BMC 13. RIC 11a.

Extremely fine / about extremely fine 1'750

Ex Lanz sale 120, 2004, 375.

Pescennius Niger, 193 – 194



309



309

- 309 Denarius, Antioch 193-194, AR 3.12 g. IMP CAES C PESC NIG – ER IVS [AVG CO]S II Laureate head r. Rev. [FEL]ICITAS TEMPOR Crossed cornucopiae. C 18 var. (different legends). BMC –. RIC 14b var. (different legends).

Very rare. Light iridescent tone and extremely fine 2'000

Ex CNG Mail sale 61, 2002, 1847. From the Marc Melcher Collection.



310



- 310 Denarius, Antioch 193-194, AR 2.86 g. IMP CAES C PESCEN NIGER IVSTA Laureate head r. Rev. M – ONETA – E AVG Moneta standing l., wearing *polos*, holding scales in r. hand and cornucopiae in l. C 56 var. (different obverse legend). BMC 310 var. (different obverse legend). RIC 64 var. (different obverse legend).

Very rare. An attractive portrait of fine style and unusually struck on very fresh metal. Light iridescent tone, unobtrusive area of weakness on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine 4'500



311

- 311 Denarius, Antioch 193-194, AR 2.34 g. IMP CAES C PI – SE NIGIR AVG Laureate head r. Rev. HILARITAS AVG Globe, decorated with four stars, supported by two capricorns; below in field, S – C. C –. BMC p. 77, ‡ var. (different obverse legend). RIC 30a var. (different obverse legend).
 Very rare. A very attractive portrait, old cabinet tone and exceptionally well-centred. About extremely fine 3'000
 Ex Lanz 68, 1997, 438 and Rauch 72, 2003, 641 sales.



312

312

- 312 Denarius, Antioch 193-194, AR 2.53 g. IMP CAES S PESC NIGER IVS AVG COS II Laureate head r. Rev. FELICITAS – TEMPORVM Basket containing three corn ears. C 16. BMC 293. RIC 17.
 Very rare. Toned, minor areas of weakness, otherwise good very fine / about extremely fine 2'000
 Ex NAC sale 78, 2014, 2319.



313

313

- 313 Denarius, Antioch 193-194, AR 2.54 g. IMP CAES C PESC – NIGER IVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. [FORTVN]A – E REDVCI Fortuna standing l., holding cornucopiae in r. hand and sceptre in l. C –. BMC –, RIC –.
 Very rare. A bold portrait and a lovely tone, good very fine 1'750
 Ex Lanz sale 132, 2004, 405.



314

- 314 Denarius, Antioch 193-194, AR 2.68 g. IMP CAES C P – ESCE NIGER IVS Laureate head r. Rev. SAECVLI FELICITAS Crescent and seven stars. C –, cf. 63 (different legend). BMC –, cf. 312 (different legend). RIC –, cf. 73a. (different legend).
 Very rare. Wonderful old cabinet tone and good very fine 1'500
 Ex Künker sale 124, 2007, 9236.

Clodius Albinus caesar, 193 – 195



- 315 Denarius 193-195, AR 3.40 g. D CLODIVS AL – BINVS CAES Bare head r. Rev. PROVID – A – VG COS Providentia standing, holding in r. hand wand over globe and sceptre in l. C 58. BMC 38. RIC 1a.
Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine 1'000

Clodius Albinus augustus, 195 – 197



- 316 Denarius, Lugdunum 195 or 196-197, AR 3.17 g. IMP CAES D CLO – SE P ALB AVG Laureate head r. Rev. VICT – A – VG – COS II Victory advancing r., holding wreath in r. hand and palm over l. shoulder. C 79. BMC 277. RIC 43a. Giard, Lyon, 39.
Rare. Wonderful iridescent tone and about extremely fine 500

Septimius Severus, 193 – 211



- 317 Aureus 193, AV 7.31 g. IMP CAE L SEP – SEV PERT AVG Laureate head r. Rev. VIRT·AV – G – TR P COS Virtus standing to front, head l., holding Victory in r. hand and reverted spear in l. C 751. BMC 32. RIC 24. Calicó 2570. A bold portrait struck in high relief, an almost invisible mark on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine 12'000



- 318 Aureus 196-197, AV 7.20 g. L SEPT SEV PERT – AVG IMP VIII Laureate head r., with drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. FORTVN – AE REDVCI Fortuna seated l., holding rudder in r. hand and cornucopiae in l. C 187 var. (draped and cuirassed). BMC 160 and pl. IX, 10 (these dies). RIC 78c. Calicó 2455 (this obverse die).
A wonderful portrait struck in high relief, about extremely fine 8'000



- 319 Aureus 201-210, AV 7.38 g. SEVERVS – PIVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. VIRTVS AVGVSTORVM Septimius Severus, Caracalla and Geta on horses prancing l., each with r. hand raised. C 770. BMC 374. RIC 305. Calicó 2578. Very rare. A very fascinating reverse type. Struck on a very large flan, minor marks, otherwise about extremely fine 15'000

Ex Giessener Münzhandlung 36, 1987, 509a; Spink 13 April 2000, Dreesmann part I, 6; Triton VI, 2003, 945 and Künker 83, 2003, 1029 sales. From the Marc Melcher collection.

The reverse of this splendid aureus is sharply struck and shows quite clearly the individual facial features of each of the riders. Closest to the viewer is Caracalla, cloaked and wearing a military breastplate, with boyish looks and a laureate crown. Next is Severus, with much facial hair and a laureate crown. Finally, there is Geta, young and slim, with smooth cheeks and lacking his crown. Each is posed with his arm extended as if receiving an ovation, and is very similar to the Adventus type with emperor on horseback which was to become very common on later coinage until the reign of Constantine the Great. The significance of the type here, though, is different, and is proclaimed in the legend, VIRTVS AVGVSTORVM, or "bravery of the emperors." This relates to Severus' campaigns in northern Britain after A.D. 209, where he took his wife and two sons to wage war against the Caledonians of northern Britain. He did so in part because of the genuine threat that these northern peoples presented, but his primary interest in doing so seems to have been to provide a constructive outlet for the near constant quarrelling of his two sons. He felt it would be better if they focused their attentions on an enemy of Rome rather than each other, and in the process gain invaluable command experience. Based at Eboracum (modern York), Severus sent his sons to lead the troops. He also used this opportunity to elevate Geta to the rank of Augustus. However, while in Britain Severus fell ill and died in A.D. 211, leaving behind two sons who were still intent on eliminating one another.



- 320 Aureus, Eastern mint (?) 202-210, AV 7.21 g. SEVERVS – PIVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. PACATOR – ORBIS Draped bust of Sol r. C 355. BMC 353 (Roma). RIC 282 (Roma). Calicó 2487a (this reverse die). Very rare. Two wonderful portraits struck on a very large flan, about extremely fine 8'000



- 321 Denarius 202-210, AR 3.11 g. SEVERVS – PIVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. PROVIDENTIA Head of Medusa facing on aegis. C 591. BMC 357. RIC 286.

Extremely rare and a very interesting reverse type. Light iridescent tone and good very fine / about extremely fine

6'000

Ex NAC sale 25, 2003, 507.

This reverse type, though dramatic, at first glance seems non-specific. From this we might presume its meaning was sufficiently clear at the time that the mint masters did not see the need to specify its meaning. The Medusa and Medusa-upon-Aegis types occur on precious metal coins of Septimius Severus and Caracalla, all of which perhaps belong to c. 207 since one of them names the 15th renewal of Severus' tribunician power in its reverse inscription. The obverses of all of these issues are comparable, and are contemporary. The meaning of this type seems fairly clear: it is a reference to the foresight of the two Augusti, Septimius and Caracalla, in their preparation to invade Britain in the following year, 208. Not only does the inscription name their foresight, their providentia, but Medusa was sacred to Minerva, the protectress of heroes who is said to have come forth from the brain of Jupiter fully armed and of mature age. Minerva is said to have worn the Aegis as a protective garment and as a symbol of her bravery, and eventually to have placed the snake-haired head of Medusa upon it. The emperors were fond of this imagery and many adopted it by adorning their cuirass breastplates with the Medusa head. One might consider these Medusa issues as pre-campaign propaganda by which the emperors hoped to assure the people and the army that they had fully investigated the need for, and felt confident in the certainty of success of a war against the Britons. This particular type with the small Medusa head within a large Aegis is the rarest of the variants and seemingly is known only for denarii of Septimius Severus.



- 322 Denarius 202-210, AR 2.89 g. SEVERVS – PIVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. COS – III P P Triumphal arch of Severus, showing four columns surmounted by chariot of six horses; on either side, horseman. C 104. BMC 320. Banti 32. RIC 259. Extremely rare. Struck on a very large flan and complete, old cabinet tone and good very fine 2'500

Ex Hirsch 200, 1998, 132; NAC 18, 2000, 595 and Künker 124, 2007, 9243 sales

Roman architectural types have long ranked among the most sought-after coins by scholars, historians, archaeologists and collectors, not only because their designs are often attractive, but also because they are usually valuable in reconstructing the appearance of buildings, temples and monuments that no longer exist. Another category altogether is coins depicting ancient structures that survive, the population of which is far smaller than the category of vanished structures. In terms of rarity and importance, the great prizes include provincial coins depicting the Acropolis in Athens, and, imperial coins depicting, in Rome, the Colosseum, the arch of Septimius Severus, and the Circus Maximus (even though its modern remains largely consist of an open field). This denarius depicts the Arcus Severi, the triumphal arch erected by Septimius Severus in honour of his defeat of Parthia early in 198. It was dedicated in 204, at which time asses showing it were struck for Severus and Caracalla. The arch made its second and final appearance on denarii of 206 issued in the name of Severus in celebration of his fifteenth anniversary. Today the arch can still be seen at the north entrance of the Roman Forum; it is almost completely intact, though the statues that once decorated on the roof are no longer present. They may have been removed in late antiquity or in the intervening millennium, during which time the Forum came to be filled with debris so deep that even this imposing, 68-foot-tall monument was below ground level. Indeed, it was not until excavations by Carlo Fea in 1803 and subsequent efforts by the Napoleonic administration that the long-hidden arch began to be revealed.



- 323 Aureus 204, AV 7.42 g. SEVERVS – PIVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. COS III LVDOS SAECVL FEC Bacchus, wearing leopard's skin, standing r., panther at feet, holding *cantharus* in r. hand and *thyrsus* in l., and Hercules standing l., holding club set on ground in r. hand and lion's skin draped over l. arm. C 108. BMC 314. RIC 257. Calicó 2444. Rare. Perfectly struck and centred on a very large flan, extremely fine 12'500

Ex Freeman & Sear List 9, Spring 2004, 90 and Triton VIII, 2005, 1159 sales.

With the civil wars successfully behind him, a new Severan dynasty established, and Rome's external enemies at bay, the emperor Septimius Severus and his family were finally free to return to Rome. Their arrival in the capital in A.D. 202 after a long and circuitous route coincided with the tenth anniversary of Septimius Severus' reign, his *decennalia*, which was celebrated with magnificent games, a donative to the people, and a majestic triumph. If these festivities were indeed grand, the celebrations when Rome inaugurated a new age, or *saeculum*, just two years later in A.D. 204 were even more lavish: the Romans partied for an entire month! (Actually, in Rome lengthy celebrations were not all that unusual; extrapolating from Ovid's incomplete *Fasti*, the Romans spent about a third of the year celebrating various *feriae* (festivals) and *ludi* (games)). Again the celebrations consisted of magnificent games, sacrifices, and another welcome donative to the inhabitants of the city, all of which were presided over by the emperor and his two sons. The reverse of this coin shows Liber (or Bacchus) and Hercules, who together were patrons of Severus' home and feature prominently on the coinage struck at this time. The legend, LVDOS SAECVL(ares) FEC(it), leaves no doubt that the games were the gift of the emperor to the citizens of Rome.



324



- 324 Aureus 210, 7.10 g. SEVERVS – PIVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. P M TR P XVIII COS III P P Victory advancing r., holding trophy over l. shoulder and leading captive by hand. C 571. BMC 23. RIC 237. Calicó 2517 (this coin). Biaggi 1096 (this coin).

Rare. An absolutely insignificant trace of edge filing at five o'clock on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine / extremely fine

12'000

Ex Bourgey sale 13-15 November 1951, Motte, 41 and NAC 49, 2008, 314 sales. From the Biaggi collection.



325



325

- 325 Sestertius 210, Æ 18.90 g. L – SEPT SEVE – RVS PIVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. P M TR P XVIII COS III P P Severus and Caracalla, both veiled, standing vis-à-vis and sacrificing over altar; behind them, in the centre, figure of Concordia or Pietas. In exergue, S C. C 560. BMC 191. RIC 798.

Very rare. A lovely brown patina and a pleasant portrait, about extremely fine

3'500

Ex J. Schulman 243, 1966, Graham, 1981 and R. Schulman 291, 1990, 1117 sales.

In A.D. 208 Septimius Severus decided that a campaign to subdue the northern half of Britannia was in order. For years the Picts had proved troublesome, but news had recently arrived in Rome that the northern barbarians had invaded yet again, wreaking considerable havoc in the Roman settlements to the south and leaving much death and destruction in their wake. The emperor, his wife Julia Domna and two sons, Caracalla and Geta, arrived in Britain in early A.D. 209, and the emperor immediately set about the task of subduing the lands of the Picts. Both the Firth of Forth and the Tay were bridged and a network of forts and encampments were built. The Romans quickly subdued their enemies, inflicting such a decisive defeat that the Picts were compelled to surrender late in the year. Severus took this opportunity to elevate his younger son, Geta, to the rank of Augustus, and also assumed the title Britannicus, at the same time also bestowing the title on both of his sons.

This coin was struck in A.D. 210, and the reverse depicts the imperial brothers jointly sacrificing over a tripod while being watched over by a veiled figure variously described as Pietas or Concordia (and sometime erroneously described as the emperor himself). The type was employed for coins struck in the names of all three imperial colleagues. Both Dio Cassius and Herodian tell us that the reason Septimius Severus took his family to Britain when he should have perhaps delegated the task to a subordinate was partly to remove his sons from the indolent lives they were leading in the capital. The brothers' hatred for one another ran deep, and the emperor possibly felt that the experience in Britain would serve to unite them. Needless to say, it did not.

The peace treaty established between Rome and the Picts did not last, and in A.D. 210 the tribes revolted. By this time Severus had already fallen gravely ill, and thus the conduct for the Roman campaign was left in the hands of Caracalla, with Geta serving an administrative role at Eboracum (York). Severus's health continued to deteriorate, and he died at York in early A.D. 211. Caracalla quickly settled affairs in Britain, and the family left for Rome. The British campaigns did nothing to ameliorate the animosity that the imperial brothers shared, for Caracalla sent his henchmen to murder his younger brother, whom they stabbed while he was seeking protection in the arms of his mother, Julia Domna.



326 **Divus Severus.** Denarius circa 211, AR 3.12 g. DIVO SEVERO PIO Bare head r. Rev. CONSECRATIO
Eagle standing on thunderbolt with head l. C 84. BMC Caracalla and Geta 21. RIC Caracalla 191c.
Good extremely fine 350
Ex Giessener Münzhandlung sale 89, 1998, 454.

327 **Divus Severus.** Denarius circa 211, AR 3.21 g. DIVO SEVERO PIO Bare head r. Rev. CONSECRATIO
Throne on which there is a wreath; below, stool. C 87. BMC Caracalla and Geta 25. RIC Caracalla 191e.
Scace. Extremely fine 300

Julia Domna, wife of Septimius Severus



328 **Aureus** 193-196, AV 7.20 g. IVLIA·DO – MNA AVG Draped bust r. Rev. VENER – I – VICTR Venus
standing r., leaning l. elbow on column, holding apple in r. hand and palm branch in l. C 193. BMC S.
Severus 47. RIC S. Severus 536. Calicó 2641. Biaggi 1155 (this coin).
A very attractive portrait struck in high relief. Good extremely fine 15'000
Ex Glendining's November 1950, Platt Hall part II, 1697 and NAC 40 2007, 759 sales.



329 **Denarius** 196-211, AR 3.48 g. IVLIA – AVGVSTA Draped bust r. Rev. ANTONINVS – PIVS AVG
Laureate and draped bust of Caracalla r. C 1. BMC S. Severus 8. RIC S. Severus 544.
Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Light iridescent
tone and good extremely fine 2'500
Ex Rauch sale 67, 2001, 559.

Caracalla caesar, 195 – 198



330

- 330 Aureus 195-198, AV 7.27 g. M AVR ANTON – CAES PONTIF Bareheaded, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. PR – INCI – PI IVV – ENTVTIS Caracalla togate, standing l., holding baton in r. hand and spear in l.; in r. field, trophy. C 504. BMC 207. RIC 13b. Calicó 2797 (this obverse die).

Rare. A very gentle portrait, about extremely fine / extremely fine 9'000

Ex NFA mail bid sale 31, 1993, 508.

Caracalla augustus, 198 – 211



331

- 331 Denarius 199-200, AR 2.24 g. ANTONINVS – AVGVSTVS Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust of Caracalla r. Rev. AETERNIT IMPERI Confronted busts of S. Severus I. and Caracalla r., both laureate, draped and cuirassed. C 2. BMC 158. RIC 32.

Rare. Lovely portraits and a very appealing light iridescent tone, extremely fine 2'500

Ex Giessener Münzhandlung sale 69, 1984, 644.



332

- 332 Sestertius 211, Æ 25.25 g. M AVREL ANTONI – NVS PIVS AVG Laureate bust r., drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. VICT BRIT TR P XIII COS III Victory standing r., l. foot on helmet, erecting trophy; in r. field, turreted woman standing facing and captive seated l. C –, cf. 641 (different obverse legend). BMC –. RIC –, cf. 483d (different obverse legend).

Very rare. A wonderful untouched green patina and extremely fine 7'000

Ex Rauch sale 74, 2004, 578.

This beautifully patinated coin is an unrecorded type from A.D. 211 that was part of a large issue struck to commemorate the conclusion to the campaign against the Picts in northern Britannia. Other types commemorating the event are abundant, and were struck in the names of each of the emperors. Here the reverse shows the goddess Victory erecting a trophy, at the foot of which is a bound captive seated to the left. To the right of the captive a female figure, draped and veiled, stands facing, wearing what appears to be either a *kalathos* or a turreted crown upon her brow. The identity of this female figure is not certain – she holds no accoutrements that can specifically identify her – but the crown suggests that she should most probably be identified as the personification of the province of Britannia.



- 333 Medallion of 10 denarii 209-211, AR 29.76 [IMP M AVR ANTONINVS PIVS AVG P M TR P XIII] Laureate and cuirassed bust l. Rev. AEQ[VITATI] P[VBLICAE] Three Monetae standing l., holding scales and cornucopiae. C –, cf. 10. Gnechi –. Toynbee –.
Apparently unique and unrecorded. A very interesting portrait, surface somewhat corroded, otherwise about very fine 6'000

The reverse of this seemingly unique medallion depicts the Tres Monetae, a popular type for Roman Imperial medallions which made its first appearance during the reign of the emperor Commodus. It was typically employed as a type when there was a need for a commemorative issue but which did not require a readily associative type. The Monetae represent the goddess Juno as the protectress of minting, and the reason that there are three is simple: there were three metals – gold, silver and bronze – used for minting coins. Each Moneta is shown holding in her hands a set of scales for weighing coins to allow for their honest measure, and a cornucopia which alludes to the bounty of the state. At the foot of each rests a pile of metal (or perhaps struck coins). On this medallion the type is accompanied by the legend AEQ[VITATI] P[VBLICAE], and in this respect refers to the responsibility of the mint to provide for conformity and fairness in its minting duties. Juno was the daughter of Saturn, and when the Romans first minted coins they did so in the temple of Juno Moneta. Later the treasury and mint were moved to the Temple of Saturn on the Capitoline Hill.



- 334 Aureus 210-213, AV 7.31 g. ANTONINVS – PIVS AVG BRIT Laureate bust r., drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. LIB – AVGG VI – ET V Caracalla and Geta seated l. on platform; in l. field, Libertas standing l. holding *abacus* and cornucopiae, and below, citizen. C –. BMC p. 371 *. RIC 215c. Calicó 2692 (mis-described). Very rare. A bold portrait and a very interesting reverse type. Extremely fine 15'000



335 Denarius 210-213, AR 3.62 g. ANTONINVS – PIVS AVG BRIT Laureate head r. Rev. MARTI PROPV – GNATORI Mars advancing l., holding spear in r. hand and trophy in l. C 150. BMC 88. RIC 223.
Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 200



336 Sestertius circa 214-217, Æ 24.40 g. M AVREL ANTONINVS PIVS AVG GERM Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. PROVIDENTIAE DEORVM Providentia standing l., holding in r. hand wand on globe and sceptre in l.; in field, S – C. C 537. BMC 271. RIC 572a.
A magnificent portrait of fine style struck in high relief. Dark green patina very gently smoothed, otherwise extremely fine 6'000



337 *Divus Caracalla*. Denarius circa 222-235, AR 2.53 g. DIVO ANTONINO MAGNO Bare head r. Rev. CONSECRATIO Eagle standing l. on globe, head reverted. C Caracalla 32. BMC Elagabalus 7. RIC S. Alexander 717.
Rare. Surface somewhat porous, otherwise about extremely fine 500

Ex M&M 2, 1998, 583 and Meister-Sonntag 8, 2009, 950 sales.

Macrinus, 217 – 218



- 338 Denarius 217-218, AR 3.41 g. IMP C M OPEL SEV MACRINVS AVG Laureate and cuirassed bust r.
 Rev. IOVI C – ONSERVATORI Jupiter standing l., holding thunderbolt in r. hand and sceptre in l. C 33.
 BMC 17. RIC 73. Good extremely fine 200



- 339 Denarius 217-218, AR 3.36 g. IMP C M OPEL SEV MACRINVS AVG Laureate and cuirassed bust r.
 Rev. SECVRITAS TEMPORVM Securitas standing l., legs crossed, holding sceptre in r. hand and leaning
 on column. C 122 var. (not draped). BMC 28 note. RIC 91.
 Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 250

Diadumenian caesar, 217 – 218



- 340 Denarius 217-218, AR 3.11 g. M OPEL ANT DIADVMENIAN CAES Bareheaded, draped and cuirassed
 bust r. Rev. PRINC IVVENTVTIS Diadumenian standing front, head r., holding standard and sceptre; in
 field r., two standards. C 3 var. (only draped). BMC Macrinus 87. RIC Macrinus 102.
 Light iridescent tone and extremely fine 450

Elagabalus, 218 – 222



- 341 Denarius 219-220, AR 3.07 g. IMP ANTONINVS AVG Laureate and draped bust r. Rev. TEMPORVM FELICITAS Felicitas standing l., holding caduceus in r. hand and cornucopiae in l. C 282. BMC 168. RIC 150. Light iridescent tone, minor scratches, otherwise extremely fine 200

Severus Alexander caesar, 221 – 222



- 342 Denarius 221-222, AR 3.16 g. M AVR ALEXANDER CAES Bareheaded and draped bust r. Rev. PIETAS AVG Lituus, knife, vase, *simpulum* and sprinkler. C 198. BMC Elagabalus 266. RIC 3. Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Good extremely fine 2'500

Ex Tkalec sale 7 May 2009, 171.

Severus Alexander augustus, 222 – 235



- 343 Aureus 228-231, AV 6.17 g. IMP SEV ALE – XAND AVG Laureate head r., with drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. LIBERA – LI – TAS AVG III Liberalitas standing l., holding abacus in r. hand and cornucopiae in l. C 123 var. (not draped). BMC 557 var. (not draped). RIC 204 var. (not draped). Calicó 3069 (these dies). An apparently unrecorded variety. In exceptional condition, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 15'000

Ex Triton III, 1999, 1135; Heritage 3020, 2012, 25247 and Roma Numismatics 5, 2013, 851 sales.

Gordian I, 1st – 22nd April 238



- 344 Denarius 238, AR 2.90 g. IMP M ANT GORDIANVS AFR AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r.
 Rev. SECVRITAS AVGG Securitas seated l., holding short sceptre in l. hand. C 10. BMC 11. RIC 5.
 Rare. Light iridescent tone and about extremely fine / extremely fine 3'000



- 345 Denarius 238, AR 3.27 g. IMP M ANT GORDIANVS AFR AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r.
 Rev. ROMAE AETERNAE Roma seated l. on shield, holding Victory in r. hand and leaning l. on sceptre.
 C 8. BMC 8. RIC 4. Rare. About extremely fine / good very fine 2'000



- 346 Sestertius 238, Æ 21.46 g. IMP CAES M ANT GORDIANVS AFR AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r.
 Rev. PROVIDENTIA AVGG Providentia standing l., legs crossed, leaning on column and holding in r. hand wand over globe and cornucopiae in l.; in field, S – C. C 6. BMC 5. RIC 9.
 Rare and a very attractive example of this difficult issue. A bold portrait and an attractive green patina, flan crack at twelve o'clock on obverse, otherwise extremely fine 7'500

Ex M&M list 457, 1983, 34; Leu 33, 1983, 119 and Lanz 109, 2002, 706 sales.

Gordian II, 1st – 22nd April 238



- 347 Denarius 238, AR 3.16 g. IMP M ANT GORDIANVS AFR AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTO – RIA AVGG Victory advancing l., holding wreath in r. hand and palm branch in l. C 12. BMC 28. RIC 2. Rare. Light iridescent tone and about extremely fine / extremely fine 2'000

Ex Giessener Münzhandlung sale 48, 1990, 916.



- 348 Denarius 238, AR 3.06 g. IMP M ANT GORDIANVS AFR AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VIRTVS – AVGG Virtus standing l., resting r. hand on shield and holding reverted spear in l. C 14. BMC 30. RIC 3. Rare. Well-struck and centred on a full flan, extremely fine 2'000



- 349 Sestertius 238, Æ 20.17 g. IMP CAES M ANT GORDIANVS AFR AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VIRTVS AVGG Virtus standing l., resting r. hand on shield and holding reverted spear in l. C 15. BMC 31. RIC 8. Rare. A bold portrait and a dark green patina somewhat smoothed, otherwise about extremely fine / extremely fine 4'000

Ex Künker sale 100, 2005, 71.

Pacatianus, 248 – 249



350



350

- 350 Antoninianus, Viminacium 248-249, AR 3.50 g. IMP TI CL MAR PACATIANVS P F AVG Radiate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. FIDES [MILITVM] Fides standing l., holding two standards in each hand. C 4. RIC 3. Extremely rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Light tone, weakly struck on reverse, otherwise about extremely fine 7'500

The year 248 marked what Romans believed was the thousandth anniversary of their capital city – a milestone by any standard. While the games went on in Rome the empire was sinking ever deeper into danger from its enemies on the borders, and these concerns were taking their toll in the provinces. One particularly vulnerable region was the Balkans, which existed under the ever-present threat of barbarian invasion across the Danube.

Finally, in the spring or early summer of 248 the legions on the Danube supported their commander Pacatian in a rebellion against the reigning emperor Philip I 'the Arab, who sent his prefect Decius to put down the uprising. The revolt lasted a few months at the most, and sometime between the spring of 248 and early 249 Pacatian was murdered by his own men.

Though it had ended, Pacatians revolt indirectly caused the downfall of Philip, for the soldiers brought their complaints forth to Decius, who in the meantime had won his mens respect by cleaning the region of Goths, Germans and Dacian Carpi who had invaded Roman territory during the rebellion. In about June, 249 the same soldiers who had sponsored Pacatian hailed Decius their emperor, and encouraged him to march on Rome. Philip brought a large army against him, but was defeated in September or October, 249, thus ending his bashful and ineffective reign of five years.

The only coinage known for Pacatian is double-denarii that were over-struck upon earlier Roman silver coins. Find spots and stylistic considerations have led scholars to attribute them to a mint in Moesia, perhaps Viminacium, a legionary stronghold near the Danube in Moesia Superior. Ever since a mint was opened there by Gordian III, Viminacium had been a prolific issuer of provincial coins, yet there are none for Pacatian, and the issues at this mint for Trajan Decius in 248 are either dubious or non-existent. Either Pacatians rebellion and the resulting barbarian invasions prevented the mint from operating at that time or it did not issue provincial coins because it was occupied with striking the double-denarii Pacatian used to pay his legions.



351



351

- 351 Antoninianus, Viminacium 248-249, AR 4.44 g. IMP TI CL MAR PACATIANVS P F AVG Radiate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. FORTVNA REDVX Fortuna seated l., holding rudder in r. hand and cornucopiae in l. C 5 var. (obverse legend without P F). RIC 4 var. (obverse legend without P F). Very rare. Unusually well struck for the issue, good very fine / very fine 5'000

Ex Helios sale 8, 2012, 98.

Trajan Decius, 249 – 251



- 352 Aureus 249–251, AV 4.04 g. IMP C M Q TRAIANVS DECIVS AVG Laureate and cuirassed bust r. Rev. GENIVS EXERC ILLVRICIANI Genius standing l., holding *patera* in r. hand and cornucopia in l.; in r. field, standard. C 48. RIC 16a. Calicó 3290. Extremely fine 8'000

Ex Tkalec sale 7 May 2006, 219.

If we consider the reign of Philip I to have been an exercise in futility, that of his successor, Trajan Decius, represents something even worse, for he was the first Roman emperor to be killed by the enemy in battle. (This is true, assuming, as we probably should, that Gordian III was murdered, and not killed by soldiers of Shapur.) Decius was the first in a long line of 'military emperors', usually of humble origins, to hail from the Balkans. Despite his energy and commitment, Decius ruled less than two years and spent the lion's share of that time defending Rome's borders. The character of his regime was made clear from the outset, when his friends in the senate bestowed upon him the surname Trajan in memory of the famous 2nd-century emperor, who also was a proactive militarist. But the Trajan of the previous century reigned in a time of Roman military supremacy, and was mainly concerned with enlarging his empire rather than defending it. Early in 250 Decius was defending the Danube from multiple attacks by the Carpi and the Goths, and he soon hailed his eldest son Herennius Etruscus Caesar. Initially the two successfully fought side by side, but over the succeeding months a revolt within the besieged city of Beroe allowed the Goths, under their chief Kniva, to pillage Thrace. Helpless to stop the feeding frenzy, Decius determined he would ambush the Goths as they returned home with their booty. His first engagement in the spring of 251 was a great success (causing Decius to raise his eldest son from Caesar to Augustus), but his army was later ambushed at Abrittus, about 75 miles from the Black Sea coast in modern Bulgaria. It was a devastating blow to the Roman armies, and to the people, for not only did many soldiers die, but Decius and his teenage son also perished. For an emperor who was fully occupied with military affairs, Decius did find time to attend to coinage. Not only did he eliminate the officina markings used by his predecessor Philip I, but he introduced two new base metal coins, the innovative double-sestertius, and an 'as' of reduced size, which traditionally is called a semis. In addition to these he struck a series of double-denarii commemorating eleven deified emperors, beginning with Augustus and ending with Severus Alexander. In the series there are notable exceptions (such as Claudius) and inclusions (such as Commodus) which have long puzzled numismatists and historians.



- 353 Double-sestertius 249-251, Æ 31.07 g. IMP C M Q [TRAI]ANVS DECIVS AVG Radiate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. FELICITAS SAECVLI Felicitas standing l., holding long caduceus in r. hand and cornucopiae in l.; in field, S – C. C 40. RIC 115c.

A magnificent portrait well struck in high relief and with a very pleasant green patina.

Metal flaws, otherwise extremely fine

4'000

Ex Künker sale 89, 2004, 2533.



354

- 354 Medallion of 6 siliquae, Aquileia circa 385, AR 13.58 g. D N VALENTINI - ANVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VOT/X/MVLT/XX within wreath; in exergue, AQPS. Gneocchi -. C -. Toynbee -. RIC -. NAC sale 29, 2005, 647.

Of the highest rarity, only the second specimen known. A spectacular medallion perfectly struck on sound metal with an iridescent tone and an impressive portrait in the finest style of the period.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

60'000

This impressive silver multiple, of a previously unrecorded type, is the equivalent of 3 light miliarenses or 6 siliquae. Worth one quarter of the gold solidus, the triple-miliarensis weighs 1/24th of a Roman pound and was first struck as a denomination at the end of the reign of Constantine the Great (A.D. 336-7). Most recorded examples feature the reverse legend *Triumfator Gentium Barbararum* with a standing figure of the emperor, though several other types are known. The last issue of these multiples in the West was in the early 5th century, though in the Eastern Empire the denomination survived for a further century. Votive legends on triple-miliarenses are unusual and no examples have been published for the second half of the 4th century. This specimen commemorates the completion of the first decade of the young Valentinian's reign and bears the mint mark of Aquileia in northern Italy. There are no published silver coins of this mint recording Valentinian's decennalia, though there are rare issues in gold and bronze. During this period, the imperial court was normally in residence at Milan, so the most likely occasion for the production of this remarkable type at Aquileia would have been the emperor's stay in the city in the latter part of A.D. 385. There may have been celebrations at this time to commemorate his first decade of rule with consequent presentations of specially minted coins to high officials.



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NUMISMATICA ARS CLASSICA NAC AG
Niederdorfstrasse 43 Telefon +41 44 261 1703
CH-8001 Zürich Fax +41 44 261 5324
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