

A U C T I O N

132

30-31 May 2022

NUMISMATICA ARS CLASSICA NAC AG
ZÜRICH - LONDON

AUCTION 132

30-31 May 2022

A Very Important Series of Greek, Roman & Byzantine Coins

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Auktionsbedingungen

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

1. Die Versteigerung erfolgt in Schweizer Franken. Der Zuschlag erfolgt nach dreimaligem Aufruf an den Höchstbietenden, dessen Gebot vom Auktionator (für elektronische (online) Auktionen: virtueller Auktionator) anerkannt wurde, und verpflichtet zur Annahme. Der Ausruf erfolgt in der Regel bei 80% des Schätzpreises, sofern nicht höhere Angebote vorliegen. Schriftliche Gebote haben Vorrang. Jeder Ersteigerer verpflichtet sich persönlich für die durch ihn getätigten Käufe. Er kann nicht nachträglich geltend machen, für Rechnung Dritter gehandelt zu haben.
2. Telefonische oder schriftliche Bietaufträge (auch per E-Mail oder Fax) von nichtanwesenden Interessenten werden bis 24 Stunden vor Auktionsbeginn entgegengenommen. Elektronische Angebote über die Onlineplattform werden bis zu 24 Stunden vor Beginn der Auktion angenommen. Sie sind unwiderruflich und verbindlich. Telefonische Bieter sind damit einverstanden, dass das Gespräch aufgezeichnet werden kann. Das Auktionshaus übernimmt keinerlei Haftung für schriftliche, elektronische und telefonische Bietaufträge.
3. Bieter werden gebeten, sich vor der Auktion zu legitimieren und anschliessend registrieren zu lassen. Das Auktionshaus kann eine Bankreferenz und/oder Sicherheiten verlangen. Es steht im Ermessen des Auktionshauses, eine Person nicht an der Auktion teilnehmen zu lassen.
4. Es steht dem Versteigerer nach seinem Ermessen frei, ein Gebot heraufzusetzen oder ohne Angabe von Gründen abzulehnen. Der Versteigerer behält sich ferner das Recht vor, Lose zu vereinigen, zu trennen, ausserhalb der Reihenfolge anzubieten oder wegzulassen bzw. von der Auktion zurückzuziehen.
5. Auf den Zuschlagspreis ist ein Aufgeld (Provision) von 22,0% zu entrichten - Telefonbieter und Internet Live Bieter entrichten ein zusätzliches Aufgeld von 1% auf den Zuschlagspreis. Die schweizerische Mehrwertsteuer von 7,7% wird auf den Endpreis (Zuschlagspreis plus alle weiteren vom Auktionshaus dem Käufer in Rechnung gestellte Beträge) erhoben. **Goldmünzen (AV) sind von der MwSt. befreit.**
Bei Ausfuhr des ersteigerten Objekts ins Ausland wird dem Käufer die MwSt. zurückerstattet, wenn er eine rechtsgültige Ausfuhrdeklaration des schweizerischen Zolls beibringt.
6. Der Gesamtpreis wird mit erfolgtem Zuschlag zur Zahlung fällig und ist bei der Aushändigung des Objekts zu bezahlen, ausser es sei vor der Auktion eine andere Abmachung getroffen worden. Für verspätete Zahlungen wird ein Verzugszins von 1% pro Monat in Rechnung gestellt. Das Eigentum geht erst mit der vollständigen Bezahlung auf den Käufer über. In der Regel liefert NAC das ersteigerte Objekt nicht vor der Bezahlung an den Käufer aus. Eine allfällige frühere Auslieferung bewirkt keinen Eigentumsübergang und ändert nichts an der Zahlungsverpflichtung des Käufers.
Hat der Käufer nicht sofort und auch nicht innert fünf Tagen ab Erhalt einer eingeschriebenen schriftlichen Mahnung bezahlt, so ist NAC ohne weiteres und ohne weitere Anzeige berechtigt, vom Verkauf zurückzutreten.
7. Versand und Versicherung 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. Alle Angaben im Katalog wurden nach bestem Wissen und Gewissen zusammengestellt. Erweist sich ein Objekt nach dem Auktionsverkauf als Fälschung, so wird NAC den Verkauf namens des Einlieferers rückgängig machen und dem Käufer (Ersteigerer) den Kaufpreis (inkl. MWST) zurückerstatten. Der Käufer (Ersteigerer) kann eine solche Rückabwicklung ab dem Tag des Zuschlages für einen Zeitraum von zwei Jahren verlangen, sofern er den Mangel nach Entdeckung desselben mit eingeschriebenem Brief innert einer Frist von 5 Tagen gerügt hat.
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. NAC behält sich das Recht vor, eigens erstellte Fotografien oder Abbildungen der Objekte in seinen Publikationen und/oder auf seiner Website zu veröffentlichen und damit zu werben.
11. Die vorstehenden Bedingungen sind Bestandteil eines jeden einzelnen an der Auktion geschlossenen Kaufvertrags. Änderungen 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.
12. Das Vertragsverhältnis zwischen den Parteien untersteht in allen Teilen dem schweizerischen Recht. Erfüllungsort ist der 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 (for e-auctions there will be a virtual auctioneer). 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 send bids electronically up to 24 hours before the start of the sale. Bidders wishing to send a written bid by email, fax or participate by telephone must send their bids no later than 24 hours before the start of the auction. All bids are final and binding. Telephone bidders must agree that calls may be recorded. The auction house does not take responsibility for bidding mandates made by telephone, electronically or in writing.
3. Bidders must show proof of identification before the auction, and subsequently register. 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. Furthermore, they have the right to combine, separate, and offer catalogue lots in a different order, as well as omit or withdraw them from the auction.
5. A commission of 22% will be levied on the hammer price - phone bidders and bidders using our Live Internet facilities pay an additional charge of 1%. The Swiss value added tax (VAT) of 7.7% is payable on the final price (hammer price, plus buyer's commission and any other amounts chargeable by the Auction House to the buyer). **Gold coins (AV) are exempt from VAT.**
If the purchases are exported, then the VAT will be refunded on production of a legally valid original export declaration issued by Swiss Customs.
6. Payment in Swiss Francs is due immediately 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 be subject to a monthly default interest of 1%. The ownership of a lot will not pass to the Buyer until NAC has received full payment on their 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 or within 5 days after receipt of a registered, written reminder, 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 on any applicable customs and foreign exchange regulations. The Auction House accepts no liability for any contraventions of such regulations.
8. All identifications and descriptions of the items sold in this catalogue are statements of opinion and were made in good faith. Should an item sold later be found to be a fake, NAC shall cancel the sale made on behalf of the consignor and refund the sale's price (including VAT as applicable) to the buyer. The buyer is entitled to claim such a refund within a period of two years from the date of the auction, provided that they have notified NAC of the defect by registered letter within 5 days from its detection.
9. The objects which come under the hammer are auctioned on behalf of a third party or are 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. NAC reserves the right to use photographs and other representations of objects sold at auction, for promotional purposes, in its own publications and on its website.
11. 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 be 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.
12. 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 (pour les ventes aux enchères électroniques il y aura le commissaire-priseur virtuel). 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 (ou plutôt en ligne pour les ventes aux enchères électroniques) doivent être réceptionnées jusqu'à 24 heures avant le début de la vente aux enchères. Toutes les offres sont finales et contraignantes. 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 22% 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%. La taxe à la valeur ajoutée suisse d'un montant de 7,7 % sera perçue sur le prix définitif (prix d'adjudication plus supplément et sur tous les autres montants facturés à l'acquéreur par la salle des ventes). **Les pièces de monnaie en or (AV) sont dispensées de la TVA.**
En cas d'exportation de l'objet adjudgé 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 adjudgé. 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 pas l'objet adjudgé à l'acquéreur 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. Toutes les indications mentionnées dans le catalogue sont rassemblées en toute conscience et en toute bonne foi. S'il s'avérait après la vente qu'un objet n'était pas authentique, NAC annulerait la vente faite de la part du consignataire et rembourserait le prix de vente (y compris toute TVA appliquée) à l'acheteur. L'acheteur a droit à demander un tel remboursement entre une période de 2 ans à partir de la date de la vente aux enchères, pourvu qu'il ait averti NAC du défaut par lettre recommandée dans un délai de 5 jours depuis sa détection.
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. NAC se réserve le droit d'utiliser les photographes et d'autres représentations des objets vendus lors de ses ventes aux enchères à des fins promotionnelles, dans ses propres publications et sur son site Internet11.
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.
12. 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. Ogni offerta è finale e vincolante. Coloro che trasmettono la propria offerta telefonicamente, prestano il proprio consenso all'eventuale registrazione della telefonata. La casa d'asta non si assume alcun tipo di responsabilità per le offerte trasmesse in forma scritta, elettronica o telefonica.
3. Per concorrere all'asta, i partecipanti 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 rifiutare la partecipazione all'asta di un soggetto.
4. Il banditore d'asta ha la 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 22%. Gli offerenti che parteciperanno all'asta per telefono o 'live' attraverso internet pagheranno un costo supplementare dell'1%. L'imposta svizzera sul valore aggiunto, pari attualmente al 7,7%, viene applicata sul prezzo finale (prezzo d'aggiudicazione più commissione ed ogni altro importo imputabile al compratore dalla casa d'aste). **Le monete in oro (AV) sono esonerate dal pagamento dell'IVA.**
In caso d'esportazione dell'oggetto acquistato all'asta verso un paese estero, il compratore ha diritto al rimborso dell'IVA a seguito di 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 pagamento ritardato, il tasso d'interesse moratorio applicabile è pari all'1% mensile. La proprietà del lotto non passerà al compratore fino a che NAC non riceverà il 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 dovesse effettuare il pagamento subito o 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) il quale è responsabile della conoscenza di norme vigenti in materia doganale e di valuta. La casa d'asta non si assume alcuna responsabilità nell'eventuale violazione di tali prescrizioni.
8. Le indicazioni e descrizioni contenute nel catalogo sono opinioni soggettive ed espresse in buona fede. Nel caso in cui un oggetto venisse ritenuto falso, NAC annullerà la vendita condotta per conto del consegnatario e rimborserà all'acquirente il prezzo di vendita (compreso di IVA, se applicata). L'acquirente ha diritto di richiedere tale rimborso entro un periodo di due anni a partire dalla data della vendita all'asta, a condizione che abbia avvisato NAC del difetto tramite lettera raccomandata entro cinque giorni dalla sua scoperta.
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. NAC si riserva il diritto di usare fotografie e altre ripresentazioni di oggetti venduti durante l'asta, nelle proprie pubblicazioni e sul proprio sito internet per motivi promozionali.
11. 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 non dovesse essere più totalmente conforme alle vigenti disposizioni di legge, ciò 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.
12. Il rapporto contrattuale fra le parti è regolato in tutti i suoi aspetti dal diritto della Confederazione Elvetica. Il luogo d'adempimento è la sede della casa d'aste a Zurigo (8001). Il foro competente è esclusivamente quello di Zurigo.

TIME TABLE ZEITTADEL ORDRE DE VENTE ORDINE DI VENDITA

Monday, 30 May 2022	18:30 – 19:30	151 – 236
Tuesday, 31 May 2022	14:00 – 19:30	237 – 718

EXHIBITIONS AUSSTELLUNG EXPOSITION ESPOSIZIONI

London – At our premises

20 April – 10 May 2022

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

Zurich

At the Zurich premises (2 nd Floor):	Saturday, 28 May 2022	by appointment only
At the Hotel Baur au Lac, Talstrasse 1, 8001 Zurich:	Sunday, 29 May 2022	10:30 – 17:30
	Monday, 30 May 2022	10:30 – 17:00
	Tuesday, 31 May 2022	10:00 14:00

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

NGC Grading

Numismatica Ars Classica has decided to include in its electronic catalogue NGC grading for selected lots.

We decided that the printed version of the catalogue will continue to feature only our own grading since we firmly believe that this is an integral part of the professionalism and expertise that an auction house should offer to its clients. Nevertheless, we do understand that some clients consider an external and independent grading an additional tool for valuing any lots they might be considering.

Not all coins offered herein come with NGC grading, however, Numismatica Ars Classica would be happy to apply for it on behalf of any purchase requiring it, strictly upon request and for an additional cost.

To obtain a quotation for this service, please do not hesitate to contact our London office at info@arsclassicacoins.com.

Note on US Import Restrictions

In accordance with US Customs and Border Protection regulations (19 CFR Part 12), we attest that all ancient Greek and Roman coins, from mints that are now within the modern boundaries of Italy, either have an export licence issued by the Republic of Italy or were outside of Italy prior to 19 January 2011. We also attest that all ancient Greek coins, from mints that are now within the modern boundaries of Greece, were outside of Greece before 1 December 2011. In addition, all coins from mints that are now within the modern boundaries of Bulgaria, Cyprus, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Syria Libya, Algeria, Jordan, Morocco and Turkey were, in the case of Bulgaria, Cyprus, Egypt and Iran, outside of those countries before 30 May 2005, in the case of Iraq before 2 August 1990, in the case of Syria before 15 March 2011, in the case of Libya before February 2018, in the case of Algeria, before August 2019, in the case of Jordan before 5 February 2020, in the case of Morocco before January 2021 and in the case of Turkey before June 2021. Numismatica Ars Classica NAC AG will provide appropriate documentation to assist with the importation of any purchased lots into the USA. All other coins were in the possession of Numismatica Ars Classica NAC AG or its consignors prior to these dates.

Greek Coins

Etruria, Populonia



151



151

151 10 units circa 300-250, AR 4.14 g. Laureate male head l.; behind, X. Rev. Blank. SNG ANS 26 (these dies). SNG Firenze 451 (these dies). Vecchi 59 (this coin). Historia Numorum Italy 168.

Undoubtedly one of the finest specimens known. A wonderful portrait perfectly struck on a broad flan and with an enchanting iridescent tone.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 4'000

Ex Bourgey sale 2-3 April 2001, 4.

Cumae



152



152

152 Didrachm circa 420-380, AR 7.41 g. Nymph's head r. Rev. KVMA[ION] Mussel shell l.; above; barley grain. Sambon 280. Rutter 165. Historia Numorum Italy 532.

Rare. Light iridescent tone, die break on obverse field, otherwise good very fine

2'000

Ex NAC sale 9, 1996, 7.

Neapolis



153



153 Didrachm circa 395-385, AR 7.55 g. Head of nymph Parthenope r., wearing diadem, earring and necklace. Rev. Man-headed bull advancing r., crowned by Nike flying r.; in exergue, NEOΠΟΛΙΤ[ΗΣ]. Sambon 364. SNG ANS 294. Rutter -. Historia Numorum Italy 563.

A lovely portrait of superb style and a pleasant light iridescent tone.

About extremely fine / good very fine 2'500

From an Exceptional Collection assembled between the early 70s and late 90s.

Calabria, Tarentum



154

- 154 Nomos circa 510-450, AR 7.98 g. TAPAΣ *retrograde* Oecist seated on dolphin r., l. arm extended; below, pecten. Rev. The same type l. incuse. Vlasto 68 (this coin). Fischer-Bossert 16d (this coin). Gorini 3, enlarged p. 202-203 (this coin). Kent-Hirmer pl. 102, 294 (this coin). Historia Numorum Italy 826.

Very rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Perfectly centred on a full flan and with a superb old cabinet tone, minor metal flaw on obverse field, otherwise about extremely fine / extremely fine

7'500

Ex NAC sale 13, 1998, formerly exhibited at the Antikenmuseum Basel, 72. From the Curinga hoard (IGCH 1881). From the Vlasto and Athos and Dina Moretti collections.

Dating from the late sixth century, this nomos shows Phalanthus naked, riding a dolphin, expressing a motif destined for popular success in the coins of Taras: the dolphin brings Phalanthus safe and sound across the sea (also evidenced by the presence of a pecten in the lower field of the coin), and conveys him to Italy, according to the dictate of the Delphic oracle. We learn from the *Periegesis of Greece* of Pausania (II cent. A.D.) that statues of Taras, Phalanthus, and Phalanthus' dolphin (cf. Paus. X 13) were among the votive offerings (*anathemata*) presented to Delphi by the Tarantines with a fifth of the spoils taken from the Peucetii and the Iapygians. The reverse has the same representation as the obverse, in incuse, using a well-known technique of early coinage that was deployed at many other Southern Italian cities besides Taras.



155

155

- 155 Nomos circa 470-465, AR 7.69 g. TAPAΣ Oecist on dolphin l., raising both hands; below, pecten. Rev. Female head (Satyra ?) l., within linear circle in incuse circle. Vlasto 149 (these dies). SNG Ashmolean 206 (these dies). BMC 53 (these dies). Fischer-Bossert 101. AMB 74 (these dies). Historia Numorum Italy 838

Rare. Light iridescent tone and about extremely fine

1'500



156

156 Nomos circa 450-440, AR 7.85 g. TAPAΣ *retrograde* Dolphin rider r., both arms outstretched; below, shell. Rev. TAPAΣ *retrograde* Oecist seated l., holding distaff and sceptre. Vlasto 180 (these dies). Jameson 96. Fischer-Bossert 157c (this coin). Gillet 58 (this coin). Historia Numorum Italy 844.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Of superb style and with a wonderful old cabinet tone. Obverse slightly off-centre, otherwise about extremely fine / extremely fine

6'000

Ex NAC sale 4, 1991, 6. From the Charles Gillet collection.



157

157 Nomos circa 370, AR 7.77 g. Naked horseman galloping on prancing horse r., holding whip in his outstretched r. hand. Rev. Phalantos on dolphin l., holding cantharus in r. hand, beneath, TAPAΣ. Vlasto 486 (this coin). Gillet 82 (this coin). Fischer-Bossert 448d (this coin).

Undoubtedly one of the finest nomoi of Tarentum in existence. A coin of enchanting beauty, the work of a very talented master engraver. Perfectly struck and centred on a full flan and with a magnificent old cabinet tone. Good extremely fine

25'000

Ex Leu sale 50, 1990, 25 (obverse illustrated on the front cover). From the Vlasto and Charles Gillet collections.



- 158 Obol or twelfth stater circa 333-330, AV 0.58 g. Radiate head of Helios facing slightly l. Rev. Thunderbolt; above, ΑΑ and below, ΕΞ. Vlasto 1864-1865. de Luynes 1892 (this obverse die). Fischer-Bossert pp. 380-381. cf. *Historia Numorum Italy* 906. About extremely fine / extremely fine 1'000

From the Collection of a Mentor.



- 159 Stater circa 276-272, AV 8.55 g. Laureate head of Zeus r.; behind, NK ligate. Rev. TAPANTINΩΝ – [A]ΠΙΟΛ Eagle standing r. on thunderbolt, with spread wings; in lower r. field, helmet. Fischer-Bossert G37b (this coin). BMC 4 var. *Historia Numorum Italy* 983.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, undoubtedly among the finest specimens known. Unusually struck on a very large flan and complete.

Superb reddish tone and good extremely fine 30'000

Ex Santamaria sale 18 February 1958, 924. From an Exceptional Collection assembled between the early 70s and late 90s.

This very rare gold stater dates to the time of King Pyrrhus of Epirus' involvement in Tarentine affairs in southern Italy. During the first decades of the third century B.C., Roman power had extended to most of Italy. Attempting to subdue the loose tribal confederation of Lucanians in the southwestern tip of the peninsula who had proven a nuisance to their ambitions, the Romans violated their preexisting treaty with Tarentum when they sent warships into the Tarentine Gulf to blockade the city of Thurium. The Tarentines responded in force, expelling the garrison which the Romans had installed at Thurium. Knowing that this would precipitate an unwanted war with Rome for which they were unprepared, the people of Tarentum called on Pyrrhus for assistance. At the time that this request from Tarentum came, Pyrrhus had just been evicted from his Macedonian possessions by King Lysimachus of Thrace. The previous decades had seen Pyrrhus largely as a pawn in the great games of the warring Diadochs, the successors of Alexander the Great, and their sons. While he had certainly proven to be a capable and dynamic general during these events, at the time Tarentum called on him, having recently lost his kingdom in Macedonia and reduced to only his possessions in Epirus (and that owing substantially to financial and material support from the Ptolemaic Kingdom in Egypt), the prospect of a western campaign offered Pyrrhus an outlet for his energies as well as a chance for expanding his domain and for earning greater glory. While Pyrrhus defeated the Romans decisively in three engagements, he had not counted on Roman tenacity. At this time the Romans controlled an incredibly vast territory and also had the support of a large network of allied states, all of which could provide more troops and material. Additionally, his gains were not without cost: in each engagement he lost large numbers of his most experienced officers, which indeed provides some insight into Roman military tactics. According to Plutarch, these losses caused him to quip "[if] we are victorious in one more battle with the Romans, we shall be utterly ruined." (Plutarch, Pyrrhus 21.9), which gives us the modern phrase Pyrrhic victory, meaning a success earned at such a heavy toll that any sense of achievement or profit is negated. The gold of Tarentum is all very rare today, but must have originally seen a very large output. In addition to staters, there are halves, thirds, quarters, eighths, tenths, twelfths, and sixteenths. Additionally, at this time the silver nomoi were reduced in weight from circa 7.9 g to circa 6.6 g, and were struck in prodigious quantities. This increased productivity simply illustrates the effect of war on a mint, especially of a city like Tarentum needed to hire mercenaries in order to wage war. The gold is often signed and features the portraits of Zeus, Herakles, Apollo and Athena on the obverse, with either their respective animals (the eagle and the owl), representations of the eponymous founder of Tarentum, Taras, or Athena Alkidemos ('defender of the people').

Lucania, Heraclea



160



160

- 160 Nomos circa 390-340, AR 7.48 g. Head of Athena facing three-quarters r., wearing triple-crested Attic helmet. Rev. [-HPAKA[HIΩN] Heracles standing r., strangling the Nemean lion; in l. field, [bow]. Jameson 238 (these dies). SNG München 813 (these dies). Gillet 122 (this coin). Jameson 238 (this coin). Work 21. Van Keuren 20. SNG ANS 56. Historia Numorum Italy 1375.

Very rare. Wonderful iridescent tone and good very fine / very fine 1'500

Ex Hirsch XIV, 1905, 75 and Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge 26 April 1907, 27 sales. From the Jameson and Charles Gillet collections and an Exceptional Collection assembled between the early 70s and late 90s.

The types of this nomos reflect the cultural and artistic influences on Tarentum in the early fourth century BC. The obverse type is a superbly rendered three-quarter facing head of Athena wearing a triple-crested helmet. It is almost certainly derived from the famous image of the goddess engraved by Euainetos for Syracusan tetradrachms in the period 405-400 BC. This Syracusan type, along with the three-quarter facing head of Arethusa engraved by Kimon, was extremely popular and exerted a great influence on the development of coin types throughout the Mediterranean in the fourth century BC. The reverse depicts Heracles slaying the Nemean lion as the first of his Twelve Labors. It appears here as an indicator of the ethnic origins of the Tarentines. Tarentum was arguably the greatest of the few colonies sent out from the Dorian Greek city of Sparta. Like all Dorians, the Spartans claimed to be the descendants of the sons of Heracles who returned to the Peloponnesus to reclaim their lands after a period of exile. Indeed, the dual kings of Sparta were said to be direct heirs of Heracles through Eurysthenes and Procles. As Tarentum was founded in 708 BC by members of the disenfranchised Parthenian class of Sparta, the Tarentines could also claim Heraclid descent.

Laos



161

- 161 Nomos circa 510-500, AR 7.91 g. [AAFΣ] Man-headed bull (the river god Laos) r., head reverted. Exergual line of raised dots between two lines. Rev. [MON] Same type l. incuse. Incuse wreath border. SNG Copenhagen 1145 (these dies). SNG ANS 132. AMB 123. Weber 727 (these dies). Sternberg series I, 1. Historia Numorum 2270 (these dies).

Extremely rare. Struck on unusually good metal and with a light old cabinet tone.

Minor traces of overstriking on obverse field, otherwise good very fine 12'500

From the Collection of a Mentor.

The obverse and reverse taken together compose the ethnic adjective Lavinos, "of Laos", river-port colony of Sybaris, to which the remaining inhabitants of the mother-city would have fled after the destruction of Sybaris by its neighbours in 510 BC. The thick, late incuse fabric of this very short coinage seems to support this view, as does the type; the Sybaritic bull converted into a conventional river-god type to represent the river-god Laos.

Metapontum



- 162 Nomos circa 500, AR 8.05 g. META Ear of barley; in r. field, grasshopper. Rev. Ear of barley incuse; in l. field, outline of a dolphin. Gorini 10 and p. 136. SNG ANS 1207. AMB 130. Noe 104. Historia Numorum Italy 1472. Extremely rare and undoubtedly the finest specimen known. Perfectly struck and centred in high relief on a full flan and exceptionally fresh metal. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 40'000

Ex Roma Numismatics sale XIII, 2017, 38.

In around 720 B.C. Metapontum was founded in southern Italy by Achaean colonists escaping hard times in the Peloponnesos. In time all of southern Italy came to be known as Magna Graecia ("Greater Greece") because of the extensive Greek colonization there. Jealous of the fertility of the surrounding region and nursing ethnic hatreds, the Metapontum joined with the neighbouring Achaean cities of Kroton and Sybaris in destroying the Ionian colony of Siris (ca. 550 B.C.), but when conflict arose between these allies, Metapontum did nothing to save Sybaris from destruction at the hands of Kroton in 510 B.C. The city did, however, provide a safe haven for the ascetic philosopher Pythagoras and his followers after they were driven out of Kroton. In the fifth century B.C. Metapontum supported the disastrous Athenian expedition against Syracuse (414-413 B.C.) and resisted attack by Dionysios I of Syracuse, but gradually seems to have fallen into decline. By the fourth century B.C., Metapontum and other neighbouring cities were threatened by the rise of the Italic Lucanians. Although there is no evidence of direct Lucanian attack on Metapontine territory, the menace was serious enough that Metapontum entered into alliance with its long-time rival, Taras, and the Molossian king, Alexander I, with a view to breaking Italic power in 334 B.C. Unfortunately, despite several victories, Alexander was treacherously killed at the Battle of Pandosia (331 B.C.), leaving Metapontum and the other cities of Magna Graecia to face the Italic threat on their own.



- 163 Nomos circa 430-400, AR 8.00 g. Head of Heracles r., wearing lion's skin headdress. Rev. META Ear of barley; in l. field, fly. Noe 428. Historia Numorum Italy 1505. Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, possibly the finest specimen known. A vigorous portrait of fine style, slightly off-centre, as is usual for this issue. Superb light iridescent tone, a hairline flan-crack at five o'clock on obverse, otherwise extremely fine 6'000

Ex NAC sale 9, 1996, 63.



- 164 Tetrobol circa 290-280, AV 2.61 g. Head of Nike, facing three-quarters r., wearing *ampyx* and double pearl necklace. Rev. METAION Ear of barley with leaf to r.; in r. field, crater. Gulbenkian 71 (these dies). SNG Lockett 405 (this coin). SNG ANS 396 (these dies). AMB 152 (these dies). Johnston G4 (this coin illustrated). *Historia Numorum Italy* 1629.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, undoubtedly the finest specimen known. A portrait of enchanting beauty perfectly struck in high relief.

Good extremely fine 25'000

Ex Glendining's sale 25 October 1955, Lockett part I, 291. From an Exceptional Collection assembled between the early 70s and late 90s.

After its foundation by Greek colonists from Achaia in 720 BC, Metapontum profited greatly from the fertile lands that surrounded it. Metapontum grew into one of the wealthy Greek cities of southern Italy. However, in the fifth century BC the city began to fall into decline. It managed to weather its ill-advised support for the doomed Athenian Expedition against Syracuse in 414-413 BC and later attacks by Dionysius I of Syracuse, but the city was no longer what it had once been.

In the fourth century BC, Metapontum and neighboring cities of Magna Graecia were increasingly threatened by the Italic Lucanians. Indeed, their menace was felt so keenly by Metapontum that in 344 BC the city entered into alliance with its longtime rival, Tarentum, and the Molossian king, Alexander I, in the hope of breaking Lucanian power. Unfortunately, despite several victories, Alexander was betrayed and killed at the Battle of Pandosia (331 BC), thus leaving Metapontum and Magna Graecia at large without a defender. Nevertheless, the Metapontines reacted with dismay when Tarentum hired the grand army of the Spartan mercenary leader Cleonymus to campaign against the Lucanians in 303-302 BC. Cleonymus quickly compelled to make peace and then promptly threatened Metapontum. The Tarentines were spared only after promising to pay the vast sum of 600 talents and providing 200 of their most attractive women as hostages.

The present gold tetrobol may have been struck in the early third century as part of the Metapontine effort to pay off the indemnity imposed by Cleonymus. The three-quarter facing head of Nike on the obverse reflects the continued influence of the celebrated facing Arethusa type designed by Kimon for the coinage of Syracuse at the end of the fifth century BC. The ear of barley on the reverse was a recognized badge of the city that extended back to the beginning of Metapontine coinage in the sixth century BC.

Poseidonia



- 165 Nomos circa 520-500, AR 7.52 g. ΠΙΟΣ Poseidon bearded, diademed and naked but for chlamys over shoulders, advancing r., hurling trident in upraised r. hand. Rev. The same type incuse. SNG Lloyd 430 (this obverse die). Brosseau 29a = b (this coin). BMC 6. *Historia Numorum Italy* 1107.

Very rare and in superb condition for this difficult issue. Of excellent style and struck on unusually good metal. Light old cabinet tone and extremely fine

25'000

Ex Naville 5, 1923, British Museum duplicates, 506 and Bourgey 12 June 1959, 57 sales. From an Exceptional Collection assembled between the early 70s and late 90s.

Sybaris



166



166

- 166 Nomos circa 550-510, AR 7.58 g. Bull standing l. on dotted exergual line, looking backwards; in exergue, VM. Rev. The same type incuse. SNG Copenhagen 1388. SNG ANS 839. Dewing 406. Jameson 1873. Historia Numorum Italy 1729.

In exceptional condition for the issue. Struck on a very broad flan and complete. Wonderful old cabinet tone, unobtrusive metal flaws on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine

4'000

Privately purchased from Franceschi in November 2012.



167



167

- 167 Nomos circa 550-510, AR 7.60 g. YM Bull standing l. with head reverted. Rev. The same type incuse. SNG München 1157. SNG ANS 817. SNG Copenhagen 1390. Historia Numorum Italy 1729.

Lovely old cabinet tone. Struck on a narrow flan, otherwise extremely fine

2'500

Ex NFA sale XX, 1988, 614.



168



168



169



- 168 Drachm circa 550-510, AR 2.47 g. Bull standing l. on dotted exergual line, looking backwards; in exergue, VM. Rev. The same type incuse. SNG Ashmolean 848. SNG ANS 847. Dewing 409. Historia Numorum Italy 1736.

Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine

1'000

Ex Hess-Leu 49, 1971, 28 and New York XLV, 2019, 5 sales. From the J. Desneux collection.

- 169 Nomos circa 515-510, AR 7.44 g. Bull standing l. on dotted exergual line, looking backwards; in exergue, VM. Rev. The same type incuse. SNG Copenhagen 1388. SNG ANS 843 (this reverse die). SNG Lockett 459 (these dies). Historia Numorum Italy 1729.

Surface slightly porous, otherwise extremely fine

1'500



170

170 Nomos circa 450, AR 8.00 g. MVBA retrograde Naked Poseidon walking r., brandishing trident in r. hand and extending l. arm; in r. field, bird flying r. Rev. Bull standing r. above dotted exergual line; in exergue, MVB retrograde. Kraay, NC 1958 pl. 3, 9 (these dies). ACGC 584 (these dies). SNG Fitzwilliam 580 (these dies). Kraay-King SNR 66, pl. 4, 11 (this coin). Historia Numorum Italy 1743.

Very rare. Light iridescent tone and good very fine

3'000

Ex Leu 13, 1975, 26; Leu 61, 1995, 42 and NAC 78, 2014, 184 sales.

Thurium



171

171 Nomos circa 443-400, AR 7.91 g. Head of Athena r., wearing crested and wreathed Attic helmet. Rev. ΘΟΥΠΙ[ΩΝ] Bull standing l.; in exergue, fish l. SNG Copenhagen 1413. Jörgensen 3 and pl. VIII, 4 (these dies). Historia Numorum Italy 1775.

A portrait of excellent style and a lovely light old cabinet tone. Almost invisible traces of double striking on reverse, otherwise extremely fine

4'500

Ex Leu 54, 1997, 12 and Triton XXI, 2018, 321 sales.



172

172 Dinomos circa 400-350, AR 15.74 g. Head of Athena l., wearing crested Attic helmet decorated with Scylla scanning; below, Δ. Rev. ΘΟΥΠΙΩΝ Bull butting r.; in exergue, fish. Noe, ANSNNM 71, D4. SNG ANS 960 (these dies). SNG Lockett 489 (these dies). Historia Numorum Italy 1804.

Very rare. A portrait of superb style struck in high relief and a lovely iridescent tone. Minor marks on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine / extremely fine

5'000

Ex Leu sale 38, 1986, 10. From an Exceptional Collection assembled between the early 70s and late 90s.

Velia



173

173 Nomos circa 280, AR 7.57 g. Head of Athena l., wearing crested Attic helmet decorated with griffin on bowl; behind, IE within linear square and above, [A]. Rev. YEΛHTΩN Lion pulling down stag l. SNG Ashmolean 1394. Williams 564. de Nanteuil 194 (these dies). Dewing 474 (these dies). Historia Numorum Italy 1318. Wonderful old cabinet tone, struck on a broad flan and complete. Extremely fine 5'000

From an Exceptional Collection assembled between the early 70s and late 90s.

Bruttium, The Brettii



174

174 Drachm circa 216-214, AR 5.00 g. Diademed bust of Nike r. Rev. BPETTIΩN Naked river-god facing with chlamys over l. arm, crowning himself and holding sceptre; in r. field, *lituus*. Scheu, NC 1962, S48. Historia Numorum Italy 1962.

Struck in high relief and with a lovely old cabinet tone. Extremely fine 1'500

From an Exceptional Collection assembled between the early 70s and late 90s.



175

175 Reduced quadrigatus circa 215-205, AR 5.61 g. Jugate busts of the Dioscuri r., wearing chlamydes and laureate pilei; above, two stars and in l. field, cornucopia and Γ. Rev. BPETTIΩN The Dioscuri galloping r., raising r. hands and holding palm branches; above, two stars. Below horses, Γ and spear. H. Pfeiler, Die Münzprägung der Brettier, JNG 1964, pl. 1, 5 (these dies). Jameson 405 (these dies). Gillet 276 (these dies). SNG ANS 2 (this reverse die). Historia Numorum Italy 1941 (these dies).

Extremely rare and among the finest specimens known of this intriguing issue.

Struck on fresh metal and with a light iridescent tone. Extremely fine 15'000

Ex Gemini sale IV, 2008, 22.

This impressive and rare didrachm was struck by the Brettii to finance the ongoing war against the Romans. Although the Brettii had been Roman allies at the outbreak of the Second Punic War (218-201 BC), after the crushing defeat inflicted by

Hannibal on the Romans at Cannae (216 BC) they threw their support behind the Carthaginians. Bruttium became a stronghold for Hannibal and a staging area for Carthaginian attacks on neighbouring regions and the Brettii some of his staunchest allies in Italy. The Brettii remained loyal to Hannibal even after 204 BC, when his former conquests and allies in Italy had been lost. Alas, Hannibal was not nearly so supportive of his allies. When he was recalled to defend Carthage in the following year he completely abandoned the Brettii to face the wrath of Rome alone. The Romans duly punished their faithless allies by seizing much of the territory of Bruttium, refusing to grant the Brettii a new treaty of alliance (even a severely disadvantageous one) and by establishing colonies to keep a perpetual watch over them. Interestingly, while the Brettian didrachm also prominently features the Dioscuri, the twin saviour gods who were said to have fought alongside the Roman forces at the Battle of Lake Regillus (c. 496 BC) early in the history of the Republic. The Dioscuri on the reverse echo the type chosen for the new denarius denomination although here they are unarmed and holding palms while on the denarius they charge with couched lances. The depiction of the draped busts of Castor and Pollux on the obverse is probably one of the finest in ancient Greek numismatics and may perhaps lie behind a very similar draped image of a single Dioscurus used more than a century later when Rome's disgruntled Italian allies revolted and embarked upon the Social War (91-88 BC).

Croton



- 176 Nomos circa 530-500, AR 7.47 g. [koppa]PO Tripod, legs terminating in lion's feet. Rev. Same type incuse. SNG ANS 238-241. de Luynes 712. AMB 194. Jameson 417 (this coin). Scheffold, Meisterwerke der griechischen Kunst, 1960, 445 (this coin). Historia Numorum Italy 2075.

In exceptional condition for the issue. Perfectly struck and centred on a full flan and with a superb old cabinet tone. Good extremely fine 6'000

Ex New York sale 4, 2002, 37. From the Jameson and Käppeli collections.

Locri



- 177 Nomos circa 320-280, AR 7.71 g. ΛΟΚΡΩΝ Laureate head of Zeus r. Rev. Eagle flying l. with dead hare in talons; above, thunderbolt. SNG ANS 526 var. (monogram on reverse). SNG Ashmolean 1561. Historia Numorum Italy 2324.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Struck on a very large flan and with a superb old cabinet tone. Minor traces of double striking on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine 5'000

Ex Glendining 24 November 1950, Ryan, 1477. From an Exceptional Collection assembled between the early 70s and late 90s.



154



157



181



162



165



175



175



183



189



200



206



206



205



216



224



233



209



210





- 178 Didrachm circa 279-274 under Pyrrhus, AR 8.29 g. Head of Achilles l., wearing crested helmet ornamented with griffin; beneath neck truncation, [A]. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ / ΠΥΡΡΟΥ Thetis, veiled, seated l. on a sea-horse swimming to r.; she holds the shield of Achilles, adorned with a Gorgon head. BMC 8. SNG Lloyd 657. Jameson 1128. Kraay-Hirmer pl. 150, 473.

Extremely rare and an issue of great historical importance and fascination. Struck on a very broad flan and with a superb old cabinet tone. Minor cleaning marks below neck on obverse, otherwise good very fine

10'000

From the Collection of a Mentor and purchased from Spink & Son in the 80's.

Few Greek coins are as explicitly historical as this nomos of Locri, struck in the wake of Roman dominion over Southern Italy. For centuries Rome had been expanding its influence in Italy and it was only a matter of time before the Greeks of Southern Italy felt the sting of Rome. Perhaps the real turning point was 285 B.C., when Thurium sought Rome's protection against the Lucanians; next came Rhegium and Croton, and then Locri, which received a garrison of Roman soldiers in 282 as a defence against the Brettii. Tarentum, however, resisted. Ever since 303 it had enjoyed a non-aggression pact with Rome, but the Romans breached that agreement in 282 when their ships appeared off the city's shore. The Tarentines sank some of the vessels, expelled the Roman garrison from Thurium, and in the following year, 281, appealed to King Pyrrhus of Epirus for aid. Pyrrhus gathered an army to defeat Rome, subdue Southern Italy and, according to Plutarch, conquer Sicily and Carthage. He arrived in Italy early in 280 and Locri immediately switched its loyalty from Rome to Pyrrhus. The Greek king soon defeated the Romans at Heraclea, but his subsequent march on Rome in 279 failed, and when he met the Romans again at Ausculum the engagement was so costly that the king could ill afford another 'Pyrrhic victory'. Thus, at the end of May, 278, Pyrrhus left Italy for a new adventure: defending Syracuse from the Carthaginians. During Pyrrhus' three fruitless years in Sicily, Locri fell back into Roman hands, seemingly in 277. Thus it was left to the Locrians to slaughter the Roman garrison in 275 to again welcome Pyrrhus on his less-than-triumphant return to Italy. The Epirote king did not stay long in Locri, but made his way to Tarentum, where he prepared to fight the Romans yet again. This time Pyrrhus met the Romans at Beneventum, where he, again, lost too many soldiers to consider the venture a success. Pyrrhus returned to Tarentum, and after some months abandoned his desire to wage war on Rome. In the Fall of 275 or early in 274, Pyrrhus finally sailed back to Epirus, leaving the whole of Southern Italy at the mercy of Rome.



- 179 **Rhegium**
Bronze circa 260-215, Æ 8.63 g. Laureate head of Apollo l.; behind, cornucopia. Rev. ΠΗΓΙ ΝΩΝ Tripod. SNG ANS 720. SNG Morcom 476. Historia Numorum Italy 2543.

In superb condition for the issue. A lovely brown-green patina, extremely fine / good extremely fine

1'000

From the collection of Tom Virzi.

- 180 **Terina**
Nomos circa 440-425, AR 7.62 g. Head of nymph Terina l., all within olive wreath Rev. [ΤΕΡΙΝΑΙΟΝ] Nike seated l. on stool, holding wreath in extended r. hand and kerykeion; below, Θ. Regling 18. Holloway-Jenkins 18. McClean 3 (these dies). Historia Numorum Italy 2576.

Wonderful old cabinet tone, several minor marks, otherwise extremely fine

2'500

From the Collection of a Mentor.

Sicily, Agrigentum



181

- 181 Tetradrachm circa 420-415, AR 17.34 g. AKPAG – ANTIN – O – N Eagle l., with wings spread, perched on dead hare lying on rock against which rests a murex and a cockle-shell. Rev. Crab; in l. field, a cockle-shell. Beneath, a large fish (*polypryum cernium*) swimming l. Seltman, NC 1948, pl. I, i (this obverse die). Gulbenkian 163 (this obverse die). AMB 257 (this obverse die). Kraay-Hirmer 163-164 (these die). Rizzo pl. I, 16 (this obverse die). Boston, MFA 235 (this obverse die). Westermark, Akragas 529.

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

A magnificent representation of masterly style, perfectly centred on an exceptionally broad flan. Wonderful light tone and good extremely fine

250'000

From a Swiss collection, privately purchased from Tkalec in 1995 and notarized as being in Switzerland prior to 2004.

The designs of this rare Agrigentum tetradrachm are a feast of nature in all three media – the sky, the land and the waters. The detailed depiction of the creatures reveals that this engraver was not only a talented artist, but a keen observer of the natural world. In that sense this piece ranks among the masterworks of the Classical period, for there is no attempt to idealize the subjects, only to show them in their truest form. The obverse depicts creatures from all three media by the fanciful addition of a cockleshell and a murex shell to the rocky mount upon which the eagle devours the prey only moments before it had snatched from the land beneath. The reverse limits its subject matter to the waters, but in doing so shows an exciting array, including a giant ocean perch, a crab and a cockleshell, representing three of the principal categories of creatures that reside in the waters. Though there are many varieties within the murex family, the shell here may represent the murex bandararis, from which the royal purple dye was famously extracted. "Love of splendour, fairest of mortal cities, home of Persephone! Thou that inhabitest the hills of noble dwellings above the banks, where feed the sheep beside the stream of Acragas! I beseech thee, Queen, along with the kindly favour of gods and men, graciously to welcome at the ends of renowned Midas, this coronal from Pytho, I beseech thee also to welcome himself, as a champion of all Hellas in the art, which Pallas Athene invented when she wove into music the dismal death-dirge of the Gorgons bold." Thus the great Theban poet Pyndarus opens the XII Pythic, with a cletic hymn to the city of Acragas to welcome its son Midas (not an athlete, but a flautist and twice winner of the Pythian games in 490 and 486).

Alontion



182

- 182 Bronze circa 400, Æ 6.32 g. Male head l., wearing Phrygian cap. Rev. AΛONTINΩN Man-headed bull standing l., spouting water; in exergue, crab. Campana 14a. SNG Copenhagen 143. Calciati 2.

Very rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Attractive dark green patina, minor area of weakness on reverse, otherwise about extremely fine

1'500

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 208, 2012, 1102.

Camarina



183

183

- 183 Tetradrachm circa 425-405, AR 16.76 g. [KAMAPINAIΩN] *retrograde* Athena driving galloping quadriga r.; above, Nike flying l. and placing wreath tied with a fillet on Athena's head. In exergue, three amphorae. Rev. Beardless head of Heracles r., wearing lion's skin headdress; in r. field, bow. Hunterian 4 (these dies). SNG ANS 1207 (these dies). Gillet 367 (this coin). Westermark-Jenkins 156.3 (this coin and this reverse illustrated).

Extremely rare and in superb condition for the issue. An impressive portrait of fine style and a superb old cabinet tone. Obverse slightly off-centre and minor marks, otherwise extremely fine

15'000

From the Charles Gillet Collection and an Exceptional Collection assembled between the early 70s and late 90s.

The city of Camarina in Sicily was originally founded as a colony of Syracuse in 598 BC, but the relationship between colony and mother-city seems to have been troubled almost from the start. In the mid-sixth century BC, Camarina joined Gela and the native Sikels in a disastrous war against Syracuse. As a result of their insolence, the Camarinans were punished by suffering the destruction of their city and becoming direct dependents of Syracuse. The situation improved in 492 BC, when Hippocrates, the tyrant of Gela, defeated the Syracusans at the Battle of Heloros and received the territory of Gela in the peace settlement that followed. He refounded the city and increased the population by settling mercenaries within its walls. Unfortunately, things began to take a bad turn under Gelon, Hippocrates' successor to the Geloan tyranny. He installed a puppet-tyrant named Glaucus to rule Camarina on his behalf while Gelon himself advanced to become tyrant of both Gela and Syracuse. Unfortunately, Glaucus had been unpopular and the people of Camarina overthrew and killed him. This sat poorly with Gelon, now the most powerful man in Greek Sicily, who avenged the hapless Glaucus by destroying Camarina in 484 BC and removing the population to Syracuse. New hope for Camarina emerged in 461 BC, when the Geloans refounded the city for a third time, seemingly proving the old adage that "the third time's a charm." The restored Camarina still retained its old enmity towards Syracuse and therefore joined Athens and Leontini in a conflict against Syracuse and its Dorian Greek allies in 427-424 BC. Under the terms of the peace settlement at the Congress of Gela that ended the war, Syracuse ceded the city of Morgantina to Camarina in return for a monetary payment. Although the principles agreed to at the Congress of Gela attempted to exclude influence by Greek powers outside of Sicily, Camarina briefly accepted an Athenian naval alliance in 422 BC. However, during the great Sicilian Expedition of 415-413 BC the city offered little assistance, instead preferring to remain neutral as the Athenians destroyed themselves at Syracuse. Unfortunately, not long after the Athenian threat was removed, the power of Carthage became a much more serious and long-lived menace to Greek Sicily. In 405 BC, the Carthaginian general Himilco besieged and captured Gela, which sent shockwaves throughout Greek Sicily. Fearing that it would not be possible to defend neighbouring Camarina, Dionysios I, the tyrant of Syracuse, forcibly removed the people of Camarina to Syracuse and left their city to be taken by the Carthaginians. Himilco ordered the destruction of the walls and the territory of Camarina became tributary to Carthage. Many of the Camarinans, uncomfortable at living among the Syracusans, their long-time enemies, and despairing of ever returning home chose to settle at Leontini instead. This beautifully preserved tetradrachm was struck in the last and probably most prosperous period of Camarina's tragic history before the Carthaginian conquest. The obverse follows the long tradition of quadriga types in Sicily, extending back to the sixth-century coinage of Syracuse, reflecting Syracusan numismatic and artistic influence throughout the island as well as the agonistic ethos that informed the constant jockeying for power among the cities of Sicily. Athena appears in the car, rather than a more generic charioteer or Nike, because she was the patron deity of Camarina. The ruins of her temple are still visible at Camarina and in its environs have been found numerous lead plates inscribed with information about Camarinan citizens, possibly used for democratic jury selection. The reverse type is a wonderfully rendered head of young Heracles. Although it is not signed by the artist as are some fourth-century dies of Camarina, this is surely the work of a master engraver as well. Exquisite detail is present in the mane of the lion and especially in the eyelashes of both the lion and of the young Heracles. If you took the high artistry associated with the Arethusa depictions of the celebrated period of signed dies at Syracuse and applied it to the image of Heracles this reverse would be the result—a true work of numismatic art.

Catana



184

184

184 Tetradrachm signed by *Kra...* circa 450-445, AR 17.26 g. Charioteer driving slow quadriga r., holding *kentron* and reins. On the chariot, the signature KPA. Rev. KATANAIION Laureate head of Apollo r. Riccio pl. X, 9 (these dies). SNG Lockett 728 (this reverse die). AMB 327 (this coin).

Very rare and in unusually fine condition for this very difficult issue. Lovely iridescent tone, the obverse from a worn die, otherwise good very fine / about extremely fine

15'000

Ex NAC 13, 1998, formerly exhibited at the Antikenmuseum Basel, 327. From the Athos and Dina Moretti collection.

As a backdoor attempt to defeat Sparta in the ongoing Peloponnesian War, in 414-413 BC, the Athenians undertook a great naval campaign to capture Syracuse and take control of the vast agricultural wealth of Sicily. The campaign ended in disaster for the Athenians, who lost their fleet, money and supplies, and had their men enslaved by the victorious Syracusans. The large quantities of silver that came to Syracuse and from plunder and the sale of slaves resulted in an explosion of silver coin production and ushered in a period of numismatic art, the likes of which had not been seen previously. Taking great pride in their work, the engravers responsible habitually signed the dies they created for use at Syracuse and at other cities. Despite the fact that Catana had made the terrible mistake of serving as a base for the Athenian Expedition, it too was swept up in the immediate Sicilian postwar prosperity and the new flowering of art. This tetradrachm of Catana is signed by Euainetos, an artist who also worked on dies for Syracuse and is most famous for his later Syracusan decadrachm dies. The present tetradrachm reflects the strong typological influence that Syracuse exerted over much of Sicily (even those under Punic control) in the late fifth and fourth centuries BC. The fast quadriga of the obverse is taken directly from the coins of Syracuse and is very similar to the racing chariot depicted on Euainetos' decadrachm die. However, the panoply of armor that appears in the exergue of the Syracusan decadrachm obverse is here replaced by a crab. Here also, Nike not only carries a wreath to crown the charioteer, but also a plaque bearing the name of the engraver. The head of Apollo is beautifully executed and reflects the height of classical art attained by Sicilian engravers in the period of the signing artists. Alas, shortly after this coin was produced, Dionysius I of Syracuse avenged the wrongs of the Athenian Expedition by capturing Catana, plundering the city, enslaving its inhabitants and repopulating it with Campanian mercenaries. It is possible that the present coin was struck as part of financial preparations for the conflict with Syracuse that the Catanians knew would come.



185

185 Tetradrachm signed by Euainetos circa 410-405, AR 17.17 g. Fast quadriga to l. about to steer around an Ionic column; charioteer wears long chiton and holds reins in both hands. Above, Nike flying r., holding wreath and a tablet inscribed EYAIN. Under horses' hooves, pellet and in exergue, crab. Rev. KATANAIION Laureate head of Apollo l.; in l. field, a bell hanging on a knotted fillet and in r. field, crayfish. Rizzo pl. XIV, 6 (these dies). Gulbenkian 188 (these dies). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 14, 42 (these dies). AMB 334 (these dies). SNG ANS 1260 (these dies).

Very rare. A masterpiece of enchanting beauty, the work of one of the finest Sicilian engravers. Struck on a full flan and complete and with a superb old cabinet tone. Traces of overstriking on reverse and cleaning marks, otherwise about extremely fine

15'000

From an Exceptional Collection assembled between the early 70s and late 90s.

Centuripae



186



186

186 Bronze after 241 BC, Æ 10.35 g. Laureate head of Zeus r.; in l. field, eagle. Rev. KENTO – ΠΙΠΙΝΩΝ Winged thunderbolt; below, Δ. SNG Morcom 574. Mini 5 (this coin illustrated). SNG ANS 1311. Calciati 3. A lovely portrait and an attractive green patina. About extremely fine 300

Eryx



187



187 Didrachm circa 420-416, AR 8.48 g. Hunting dog "Cirneco of the Etna" standing r.; behind, three stalks of barley. Below, in oblong frame, IRVKAZIB. Rev. Head of Aphrodite (?) r. Campana, CNAI 22 (this coin listed). McClean 2235. Jameson 566. SNG Lockett 747 (this coin). Very rare. Light old cabinet tone and good very fine 3'000

Ex Ars Classica V, 1923, 877 and Glendining 25-28 October 1955, Lockett part I, 628 sales. From the Collection of a Mentor.

Gela



188



188 Didrachm circa 490-475 BC, AR 8.51 g. Naked and helmeted rider on prancing horse r., wielding spear in raised r. hand, l. arm behind horse's mane, holding reins. Rev. CE – ΛΑ *partially retrograde* Forepart of man-headed bull r.; all within shallow circular incuse. Boston, MFA 241 (these dies). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 55, 156 (these dies). Hunterian 210 (these dies). Jenkins 28. Of excellent style and with a magnificent old cabinet tone. Good extremely fine 10'000

Ex CNG Numismatic Review Winter 2019, 495050. Sold with a PNG Photo-certificate dated 27 March 2000.



189



189

- 189 Tetradrachm circa 440-430, AR 17.32 g. Slow quadriga driven r. by charioteer holding *kentron* and reins; above, Nike flying r. to crown the horses; in exergue, [ΓΕΛΟΙΟΝ] *retrograde*. Rev. [ΣΟΣΙΠΟΛΙΣ] *retrograde* Forepart of man-headed bull r., crowned by a female figure (the nymph Sosipolis?) standing before it. K. Regling, Sammlung Warren 232 (this coin). Rizzo pl. XVII, 21. Jameson 587 (these dies). SNG Ashmolean 1735 (these dies). SNG ANS 70 (these dies). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 56, 159 (these dies). Jenkins 371.22 (this coin, wrong weight).

Very rare. A very intriguing issue with an interesting reverse composition, the work of a very talented master-engraver. Wonderful old cabinet tone, weakly struck on obverse, as usual for this issue, otherwise very fine / about extremely fine

15'000

Ex Sotheby's 2 May 1905, Well Known Amateur, 44; Hess-Leu 36, 1968, 69; Leu 48, 1989, 38; Leu 59, 1994, 55; Giessener Münzhandlung 82, 1997, 33 and NAC 106, 2018, 175 sales. From the Matthey, Warren and Harald Salvesen collections.

The 'Sosipolis' tetradrachms are perhaps the most famous coins of Gela. The identification of this nymph or goddess, who crowns a man-headed bull with a laurel wreath, is not certainly known, though we are fortunate to know that her name or title is Sosipolis ('savior of the city') since it is inscribed in the field. As Jenkins notes in his study of Geloan coinage, the inscription must refer to the woman as there are gold coins struck sometime later at Gela that show the head of the woman accompanied by the inscription Sosipolis. Attempts have been made to identify her with Greek deities, including Demeter and Tyche, with the latter being a good possibility, but she most likely is a water-nymph who in local lore was related to Gelas, the man-headed bull whom she crowns.



190



- 190 Dilitron circa 416-405, AV 1.74 g. Rider on horse pacing r., wearing chiton, Phrygian helmet and boots, holding in r. hand reins and in l. spear. Rev. ΓΕΛΑΣ Forepart of man-headed bull (the river-god Gelas) r.; above, barley grain. Rizzo pl. XIX, 6 (these dies). BMC 1. de Luynes 939 (these dies). AMB 292 (these dies). Jenkins 490.

Of the highest rarity, the fifth specimen known and one of only three in private hands. A very interesting and fascinating issue struck on a very large flan.

Almost invisible marks, otherwise extremely fine

20'000

From an Exceptional Collection assembled between the early 70s and late 90s.

Despite the rising power of Syracuse as the fifth century progressed, Gela still retained much influence among the Greek cities of Sicily. In 415 B.C., a congress at Gela established an alliance that thwarted Athenian attempts to conquer the island and ultimately led to the destruction of the Athenians at the siege of Syracuse in 413 B.C. Thanks to Gela, the Greek cities of Sicily had weathered the storm and remained independent of the faltering Athenian Empire. Unfortunately, a new menace loomed on the horizon in the form of the Carthaginians. When a great Punic army marched against Agrigentum and destroyed it in 406 B.C., the Geloans gave refuge to the survivors. Knowing that their wealthy city would be the next target, the Geloans begged for assistance from Dionysios I, the ruling tyrant of Syracuse. The Carthaginians lay siege to Gela in 405 B.C. and probably would have taken the poorly fortified city immediately if not for the bravery of the defenders. The Geloans managed to hold out until Dionysios I arrived with an army, but when this was defeated they were forced to surrender the city to plunder and destruction by the Carthaginians, escaping with their families to Leontini. This gold dilitron was struck as an emergency issue in the dark days as the Punic noose began to tighten around Gela.



191



191

191 Tetradrachm circa 415-405, AR 16.28 g. [ΓΕ - ΛΩ - ΙΩ - Ν] Fast quadriga driven r. by Nike, holding *kentron* and reins; above eagle flying r. and, in exergue, [large pellet]. Rev. [ΓΕΛΑΣ *retrograde*] Forepart of river-god Gela advancing l. through reeds; ibis and garlanded altar before his mid section. In l. field, fish swimming upwards and above, barley grain. Jenkins O 96 / reverse unlisted.

Of the highest rarity, only two specimens known. An unusual and interesting representation with a superb old cabinet tone. Struck on a narrow and ragged flan and with some minor porosity, otherwise good very fine

5'000

Ex NFA VII 1979, 55; Sotheby's 19-20 June 1991, 65; Vecchi 2, 1996, 217; NAC I, 1999, 1152; Hirsch 221, 2002, 68 and NAC 106, 2018, 1174 sales.

Himera



192



192 Hemilitra circa 415-409, Æ 3.57 g. IM – E Head of nymph l., wearing sphendone; in l. field, six pellets. Rev. Six pellets within wreath. SNG Copenhagen 320. SNG ANS 186. Calciati 35

Wonderful enamel-like green patina and good extremely fine

500

Leontini



193



193 Tetradrachm circa 475, AR 16.74 g. Fast quadriga driven r. by charioteer, holding *kentron* and reins; above, Nike flying r. to crown horses. Rev. ΛΕ – Ο – ΝΤ – Ι – Ν – ΟΝ *retrograde* Lion's head r., with open jaws and tongue protruding; around four barley grains. Rizzo pl. XXII, 6 (this reverse die). SNG ANS 199 (this obverse die). Gillet 436 (this coin).

Rare. Struck on exceptionally fresh metal and with a wonderful light old cabinet tone. Good extremely fine

7'500

Ex NAC sale 8, 1995, 130. From the Charles Gillet collection.



194

194 Tetradrachm circa 455-440, AR 17.29 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. LE – O – N – TI – NO – N Lion's head r., with jaws open and tongue protruding; around, four barley grains. Boehringer, Leontini 45 (this obverse die). SNG Lloyd 1056 (this obverse die). Gillet 443 (this coin). SNG Ashmolean 1787 (this obverse die).
A very appealing portrait struck on an exceptionally large flan.

Wonderful iridescent tone and good extremely fine 15'000

From the Charles Gillet collection.



195

195 Tetradrachm circa 450, AR 17.27 g. Laureate head of Apollo l. Rev. Λ – EON – TINO – N Lion's head l., with open jaws and protruding tongue; around, four barley grains. Jameson 1830 (these dies). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 8, 24 (this obverse die). AMB 351 (these dies). SNG ANS 236 (these dies). Boehringer, Studies Price, pl. 12, 51 (this obverse die).

An elegant portrait of excellent Classical style struck on very fresh metal.

Lovely light iridescent tone and good extremely fine 7'500

Ex NAC sale 10, 1997, 117.



196

196 Tetradrachm circa 430-425, AR 17.82 g. Laureate head of Apollo l. Rev. LEO – N – TI – NON Lion's head l., with open jaws and protruding tongue; around, three barley grains and, behind, laurel leaf. Rizzo pl. XXIII, 4 (these dies). SNG ANS 229 (these dies). AMB 353 (these dies). Boehringer, Leontinoi, pl.12, 55 (these dies).

Perfectly struck and centred on a full flan and with a superb old cabinet tone. Good extremely fine

4'000

From the Harald Salvesen collection (privately purchased from Victor England in the 90's).



- 197 Tetradrachm circa 430-425, AR 17.15 g. Laureate head of Apollo l. Rev. LEO – N – TI – NON Lion's head l., with open jaws and protruding tongue; around, three barley grains and, behind, laurel leaf. Rizzo pl. XXIII, 4 (these dies). SNG ANS 229 (these dies). AMB 353 (these dies). Boehringer, Leontinoi, pl.12, 55 (these dies). Wonderful iridescent tone, almost invisible traces of overstriking on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine 3'000

Ex NFA sale XXIX, 1992, 6.

Mamertini



- 198 Quadruple circa 288-270, Æ 18.65 g. AΠEΘΣ Laureate head of youthful Ares r.; behind, Campanian helmet. Rev. MAMEΠ – [TINΩN] Eagle standing l. on thunderbolt. SNG ANS 402. Särström series II, group A, 17-27. Calciati 3. Lovely green patina and about extremely fine / extremely fine 500



- 199 Pentoncia circa 220-200. Æ 11.79 g. Laureate head of young Ares l.; behind, sword in scabbard. Rev. MA – MEP – [TINΩN] Horseman, holding a lance, standing beside horse; in l. field, Π. Särström 200-208. SNG ANS 429. Calciati 25. A portrait of excellent style and a wonderful brown tone. Good very fine 500

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 207, 2012, 59. From the Tom Virzi collection.

Messana



- 200 **As Zankle under the Samians.** Chalcidian drachm circa 500, AR 5.61 g. DANKLE Dolphin swimming l. within sickle-shaped open harbour; outer edge of wharf surrounded by dots. Rev. Mussel shell within nine squares, part incuse and part in relief. SNG Copenhagen 388. SNG ANS 301. Rosen 61. Gielow 63ff.
 Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, undoubtedly amongst the finest specimens in private hands. Perfectly struck and centred on a full flan and with a superb old cabinet tone. Good extremely fine 30'000

Ex Leu 25, 1980, 57; Leu 65, 1996, 84 and NAC 114, 2019, 55 sales.

The foundation of Zancle in c. 735 BC is variously attributed to colonists from the Greek Sicilian city of Naxos or to Chalcidian Greek pirates operating out of Cumae on the coast of Italy. The city was located on a sickle-shaped promontory on the Strait of Messina from which it derived its name. Zanklion was a native Sikeli word for "crescent" or "sickle." Already in the eighth and seventh centuries BC, Zancle was populous and prosperous enough to participate in the foundation of new colonies like Rhegium in southern Italy and Mylai and Himera in northern Sicily. In c. 487 BC, the Zancleans wished to extend their influence still further along the northern coast of Sicily by founding a new colony at Kale Akte. To assist in this endeavour they sent an invitation to the Ionian Greeks of western Asia Minor, hoping to increase the population of the new colony. Their invitation was accepted by a group of aristocrats from Samos. They had supported the failed Ionian Revolt (499–493 BC) against the Persian Empire and were now desperate to find a new place to live that was beyond the reach of the Great King. It seemed like the Zanclean plan for colonising Kale Akte would go off without a hitch...until the unthinkable happened. While on the way to Zancle, the Samians were met by Anaxilos, the tyrant of Rhegium, who suggested to them that it might be less work than founding a new city to simply take the city that the Zancleans already had. As it happened the Zancleans were in the countryside waging war against the Sikeli leaving the city largely undefended. The Samian aristocrats, who were no strangers to plotting, took this advice and seized Zancle. When the Zancleans returned and saw what had happened to their city, they appealed to Hippocrates, the powerful tyrant of Gela. Hippocrates soon arrived at the head of an army, but, much to the horror of the Zancleans, he did not begin operations to rid the city of the Samians. Instead, he began negotiations for the division of Zanclean territory and property between Gela and the Samians! Once the negotiations were brought to a mutually agreeable conclusion, Hippocrates promptly enslaved the Zancleans who had called for his aid and returned home. The Samians only enjoyed their stolen city for eight years, after which they were themselves driven out by Anaxilos and Zancle became a dependency of Rhegium. The tyrant refounded the city as Messana and gave its name to the strait between Sicily and southern Italy. The city remained under Rhegine domination until 461 BC, when it was reclaimed by a group of Zanclean exiles and mercenaries. This exceptionally attractive drachm of Zancle was struck during the period of the Samian occupation, but features the traditional types of the city. The obverse depicts a dolphin leaping within a crescent-shaped enclosure representing the shape of the harbour and serving as a punning symbol of the city's name. For clarity the name is also inscribed using an archaic spelling in which delta was used rather than the initial zeta of the Attic Greek form of the name.



- 201 **Tetradrachm** circa 425-421, AR 17.31 g. Biga of mules driven r. by charioteer, holding reins and *kentron*; above, Nike flying r. to crown the mules. In exergue, olive twig with berry. Rev. MESSANA Hare springing r.; below, dolphin swimming r. Jameson 649 (these dies). SNG Lloyd 1093 (these dies). SNG ANS 357 (these dies). Caccamo Caltabiano 493. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 10'000
 From a private Swiss collection and notarized as being in Switzerland prior to 2004.



202

202 Tetradrachm circa 425-421, AR 17.34 g. Biga of mules driven r.; above Nike flying r. to crown mules. In exergue, two dolphins snout to snout. Rev. ME – Σ – Σ – AN – IO – N Hare leaping r.; below, dolphin r. SNG Lloyd 1092. SNG ANS 361 (this obverse die). Caccamo Caltabiano 500.

Perfectly struck and centred on a full flan and with a light tone. Good extremely fine 10'000

Ex Nomos Fixed price list winter-spring 2010, 15 and Triton XXI sale, 2018, 342 sales.



203

203 Tetradrachm circa 420-413, AR 17.50 g. ΜΕΣΣΑΝ – [Α] Biga of mules driven l. by charioteer, holding reins and *kentron*; in exergue, two dolphins swimming snout to snout. Rev. ME – Σ – Σ – ANI – ON *retrograde* Hare springing r.; below, grasshopper eating grape cluster with tendrils. Rizzo pl. XXVI, 6 (these dies). SNG Copenhagen 402 (these dies). SNG Ashmolean 1847 (these dies). Caccamo Caltabiano 512.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, undoubtedly among the finest specimens known. Struck on exceptionally fresh metal and good extremely fine 18'000

From a Swiss private collection. Privately purchased from Tkalec on 16th May 1995 and notarized as being in Switzerland prior to 2004.



204

204 Tetradrachm circa 412-408, AR 16.91 g. Biga of mules driven l. by nymph Messana; above, Nike flying r. to crown the nymph. In exergue, two dolphins, snout to snout. Rev. ΜΕΣΣΑ – Ν – Ι – Ο – Ν Hare running l.; below, head of Pan l. SNG Ashmolean 1848 (these dies). Boston 293 (these dies). Caltabiano 606.

Very rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Lovely iridescent tone and about extremely fine 7'500

Ex Beausant Lefèvre 11, October 2011, 14 and NAC 114, 2019, 58 sales. Privately purchased in Paris in 1938.

Naxos



205

- 205 Drachm circa 461-430, AR 3.77 g. Bearded and ivy-wreathed head of Dionysus r. Rev. N – A – XI – ON Naked, bearded Silenus, with pointed ears, ruffled hair and long tail, facing squatting, the r. leg folded to the side and l. raised. He turns l. towards cantharus in his raised r. hand, while the l. rests on his l. knee, the tail showing behind his l. leg. SNG ANS 518-519 (these dies). Jameson 676 (these dies). SNG Copenhagen 486 (these dies). de Luynes 1064 (these dies). Cahn, Naxos 56 (this coin illustrated).

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, possibly the finest specimen known.

A portrait of enchanting beauty struck on a very broad flan, Wonderful old cabinet tone and good extremely fine

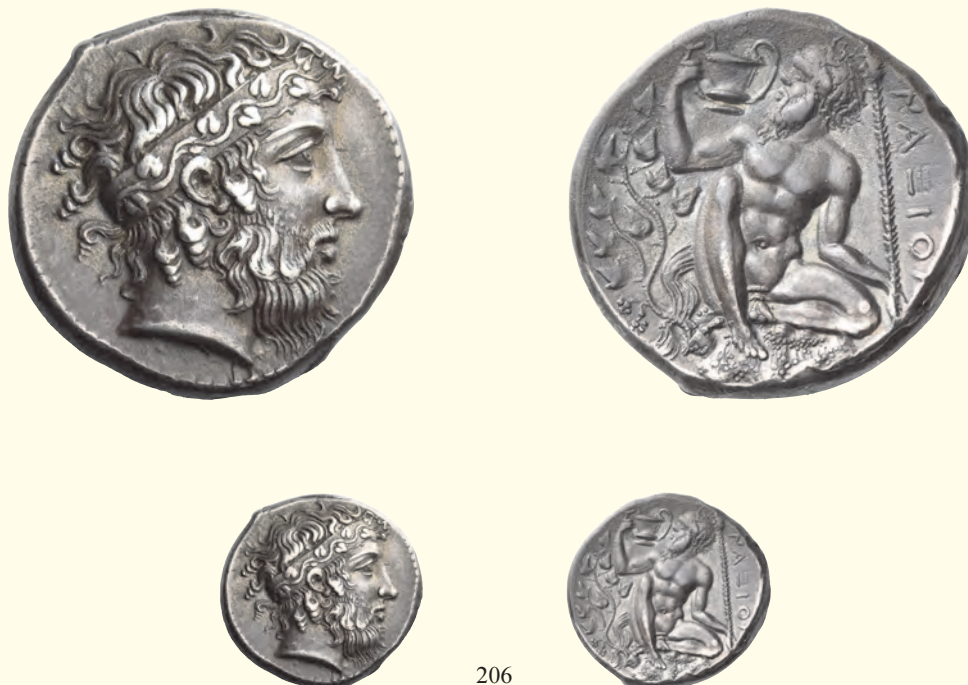
60'000

From the Herbert Herzfelder collection and an Exceptional Collection assembled between the early 70s and late 90s.

Founded along the eastern coast of Sicily within the shadows of Mt. Aitna in 735 BC, Naxos was the oldest Greek colony of the island. Its settlers came from Chalkis in Euboia and from Ionia. Within just a few years, due to its rich volcanic soil and burgeoning viticulture, the colony prospered such that it began founding colonies of its own: first Leontini in 730 BC, and a few years later the colony of Aitne, which subsequently took the name Katane. However, its flourishing economy attracted the attention of its neighbors, the most powerful of which was Syracuse. In 476 BC, the tyrant of Syracuse, Hieron I, sent his troops to attack the Naxians, and after overwhelming them he removing its citizens to along with those from Katane to Leontini. This was the beginning of the lasting enmity between the neighbors. When Hieron died in 461, the Naxians returned to their city, having formed close alliances with their two colonies. At the end of the fifth century, in 403 BC, Syracuse again gained the upper hand, and after destroying Naxos the Syracusans slaughtered the men and sold the women and children into slavery.

This magnificent drachm, arguably the finest known, copies the types of the city's famous tetradrachm coinage (Cahn 54). The head of Dionysos, crowned with the symbolic ivy-wreath that shows his status as the god of viticulture and drunkenness, takes precedence as the obverse type. The reverse shows Silenos, the oldest and wisest – and also the most inebriated – of the woodland spirits that were human in appearance but with the ears and tails of a horse, and followed Dionysos' female attendants, the mainads, whom they often raped. Here he is shown doing what he did best, drinking from a cantharus full of wine. His expression and pose are those of the deeply inebriated: he is unable to stand so sits sprawled with his legs apart, with his lips puckered to inhale more wine from his cup. Euripides noted in his play, *the Cyclops*, that Silenos attended Polyphemos, the cyclops blinded by Odysseus. Polyphemos was said to live on the slopes of Mt. Aitna; thus it is another reason the Naxians used Silenos as the reverse type.

Cahn dates this issue to c. 461-430, which suggests that it may have been a celebratory issue struck to promote the city's refoundation after Hieron's death and the return of the exiles. In addition to the drachms, there were also struck a very large output of tetradrachms, litra and hemilitra during this period – all illustrative of the prosperity of the newly refounded colony.



206

206 Tetradrachm, circa 415, AR 17.31 g. Bearded head of Dionysus r., hair bound with stephane adorned with ivy-wreath. Rev. NAΞΙΩΝ Bearded, naked Silenus, with pointed ears, ruffled hair and long tail, squatting on rock, facing; r. leg raised and l. folded to the side. He turns l. towards cantharus in his r. hand, while holding thyrsos in his l. In l. field, ivy plant creeps upwards, behind which his long tail is visible. Rizzo pl. XXXVIII, 19 (these dies). SNG Copenhagen 493 (these dies). Kent-Hirmer pl. 3, 8-9. SNG Lockett 843 (these dies). SNG ANS 524 (these dies). AMB 386 (this obverse die). Cahn, Naxos 103.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, undoubtedly among the finest specimens known. A magnificent portrait of superb early Classical style struck in high relief. Lovely old cabinet tone and good extremely fine

150'000

From an Exceptional Collection assembled between the early 70s and late 90s.

Founded in 736 BC by colonists from Euboian Chalkis, Naxos was one of the oldest Greek settlements on Sicily. As time progressed, Sicily came to be home to many Chalkidian and Dorian Greek colonies, which often came into conflict with one another. Thus, when the Athenians determined that an assault on Dorian Syracuse could be a key to victory in the Peloponnesian War (431-404 BC) the Naxians lent their enthusiastic support. Upon their arrival in 415 BC, the Naxians furnished the Athenians with supplies and the use of their city as a base for prosecuting the war against Syracuse. They remained staunch supporters of the Athenian cause through the Syracusan campaign until the defeat and massacre of the Athenian fleet at the Assinaro River (413 BC) brought it to a horrific end.

This particular Naxian issue was probably struck at the beginning of the disastrous campaign and is very highly regarded in the Sicilian series for the quality of its artistry. The exceptionally well-preserved Hirsch specimen in the collection of the Royal Library of Belgium has been described and published as "the Coin of Coins".

The types follow established models in the coinage of Naxos, but are now infused with the dynamism of a high classical style, throwing off the stiffer archaic-influenced style of earlier issues. The head of Dionysos is more naturalistic and human, whereas his visage on earlier issues tended to include elements familiar from the masks of Greek tragedy. The squatting Silenos, however, is a skillfully-executed masterpiece of Greek numismatic art.

Syracuse



207

- 207 Tetradrachm circa 480-478, AR 17.27 g. Slow quadriga driven l. by charioteer, holding reins and *kentron*; above, Nike flying l. to crown horses. Rev. ΣΥΡΑ – ΚΟ – Σ – Ι – ΟΝ Pearl-diademed head of nymph Arethusa r., wearing necklace. Around, four dolphins. Jameson 747 (these dies). de Nanteuil 325 (these dies). Boston, MFA 341. SNG ANS 19 (these dies). Boehringer 76.1 (this coin).

A pleasant portrait of late Archaic style and a lovely old cabinet tone.

About extremely fine

15'000

Ex Hirsch XIV, 1905, Merkens, 195 and CNG e-294, 2013, 76 sales. From the Robert and Julius Diez collection.



208



208

- 208 Tetradrachm circa 415-405, AR 17.36 g. Slow quadriga driven l. by charioteer holding reins and *kentron*; above, Nike flying r. to crown him and in exergue, two dolphins snout to snout. Rev. ΣΥΡΑΚΟΣΙΩΝ *partially retrograde* Head of nymph Arethusa l. surrounded by four dolphins. Tudeer 29. de Luynes 1182 (these dies). SNG ANS 261 (these dies). McClean 2707 and pl. 95, 9 (these dies). Coins, Artists and Tyrants 29.

Very rare. A portrait of great beauty, the work of a skilled engraver, and a wonderful old cabinet tone. Obverse off-centre, otherwise extremely fine

15'000

From the Athos and Dina Moretti collection. Privately purchased from Leo Mildenberg in November 1955.



209

- 209 Tetradrachm signed by Euainetos and Eukleidas circa 425-413, AR 17.54 g. Fast quadriga driven r. by charioteer holding reins and kentron. Above, Nike flying l., carrying in one hand a wreath to crown him; EYAINETO on exergual line. In exergue, wheel. Rev. ΣΥΡΑΚΟΣΙΩΝ Head of nymph Arethusa l., wearing ampyx, spondone, earring and necklace; on the spondone, swan and EVKΛΕΙ. Around, four dolphins. Gulbenkian 276 (these dies). SNG ANS 266 (these dies). Tudeer 37. Coins, Artists, and Tyrants 37.

Very rare and undoubtedly the finest specimen known. A portrait of Arethusa of masterly style and a magnificent obverse composition, the work of two talented and celebrated master-engravers. A perfect Fdc 100'000

Privately purchased from Tkalec on 16th May 1995 and notarized as being in Switzerland prior to 2004.

It is generally agreed that the golden age of Syracusean numismatic art falls into the decades immediately following the crushing defeat of the Sicilian Expedition (415-413 BC) dispatched by Athens in the hope of conquering Syracuse. This flowering of the engraver's art at this time may have been due in large part to the plunder taken from the Athenians, which was subsequently coined for Syracusean use. Just as the metal of the coins produced in this period represented the triumph of Syracusean arms over the Athenians so too did the high artistry advertise a triumph of spirit. In this period, Syracusean die engravers experimented with the traditional quadriga and Arethusa types of their city to come up with new and vibrant creations, and, filled with pride in their work, frequently signed their dies. The present tetradrachm, signed by the artists Euainetos and Eukleidas, represents one of the very best examples of the engraver's art in this generally sublime period of coin artistry. The quadriga is given a new and dramatic appearance as it hurtles across the obverse and the broken wheels of hapless contenders lie in the exergue. The high Classical perfection of Arethusa's rendering is likewise breathtaking as is the quality of her preservation.



210

210 Tetradrachm signed by Eukleidas circa 413-399, AR 17.31 g. Fast quadriga driven l. by female charioteer, holding reins in l. hand and raising flaming torch in r.; above, Nike flying r. to crown her. In exergue, [barley ear to l]. Rev. [ΣΥΡΑ]Κ – ΟΣΙΩΝ Head of Athena facing three-quarters l., wearing double-hook earring, necklace of pendant acorns with central gorgoneion-medallion and triple-crested Attic helmet on whose bowl signature EVK – ΑΕΙΔ. On both sides, two dolphins swimming snout to snout. Rizzo pl. XLV, 4a, 5 (these dies). SNG Lloyd 1384 (these dies). Tudeer 58. Coins, Artists and Tyrants 58.b (this coin).

Extremely rare. A magnificent portrait of superb style, the work of one of the most celebrated master engravers. Struck on excellent metal and with a lovely old cabinet tone, reverse slightly off-centre, otherwise good very fine / about extremely fine

80'000

Ex Leu sale 20, 1978, 46. From an Exceptional Collection assembled between the early 70s and late 90s.

Among the most famous and desirable coins of Syracuse are the two varieties of facing-head tetradrachms, both of which appear to have been struck in the same, brief period of achievement, c. 405-400 B.C. The more influential of the two, Kimon's Arethusa Soteira, became a model throughout the Mediterranean world for die engravers and artists in different media. Eukleidas' Athena did not win such widespread renown (though it may have inspired coins of the Lycian dynasts struck c. 400-380 B.C.), yet as a work of art it is no less accomplished. Kimon and Eukleidas both faced the challenge of producing a naturalistic portrait that would appeal to contemporary Greek sensibilities. Kimon framed his Arethusa within a mass of flowing hair, darting dolphins, and inscriptions that were cleverly integrated into the design elements. Eukleidas, did likewise, but had to include within that framework a decorative triple-crested Attic helmet. He represented the vastly different textures of skin, hair and metal in a convincing manner – a great achievement considering it was not at the expense of the composition and beauty. Jenkins, in his *Coins of Greek Sicily*, comments on Eukleidas' 'splendid head of Athena': "...here we see the head of the goddess in semi-facing view. It is the first of such realizations in the range of Sicilian coins to achieve a solid and convincing feel of three-dimensional sculpture, and this is managed without carving the actual planes of the relief very high. Considerable animation is given to the composition not only by the turbulence of the hair but by the crests and other details of the helmet, among which is concealed the artist's signature. The sculptural effect is aided by the way in which at least one of the dolphins on the right seems to appear as if from behind the head...". The use of Athena's portrait on a tetradrachm of Syracuse was, in itself, an innovation. For two reasons we can reject the idea that the portrait is Arethusa donning an Attic-style helmet to commemorate the defeat of the Athenian invasion of 415-413 B.C.: first, she wears a gorgoneion pendant, which aids in her identification; second, though it would be acceptable to revel in a victory over the Athenians, it would be sacrilegious to mock the goddess Athena, and dressing the local water nymph in Athena's helmet would tread dangerously close to that line. Furthermore, Athena's cult was well-established at Syracuse, and was serviced by a then-ancient temple on Ortygia, an island near the mainland that had been the original site of colonization. It is also interesting to note that for products of the same mint and approximately the same time, Kimon's two facing-Arethusa dies were prepared as obverses (forecasting a diagnostic change in Syracusan coinage), whereas Eukleidas' two facing-Athena dies were reverses. This was a critical error in the latter case since the reverse die receives the full energy of the hammer blow. Eukleidas' masterful die soon developed a crack beneath Athena's chin that widened with each successive strike. With this in mind, it is at least possible that Kimon decided to use his facing-Arethusa as an obverse based upon having witnessed the fate of Eukleidas' facing-Athena.



211



211

- 211 Tetradrachm circa 405, AR 17.31 g. Fast quadriga driven l. by female charioteer holding reins in l. hand and torch in raised r.; in field above, Nike flying r. to crown her. In exergue, ear of barley. Rev. [ΣΥ – ΠΑΚΟΣΙΩΝ] Head of nymph Arethusa r., hair brought up to crown of head and tied, forming a tuft of loose strands, wearing triple-pendant earring and necklace with pendant. Around, four dolphins. Rizzo pl. XLVII, 8 (these dies) and reverse enlarged pl. XIX, 6 (this die). Gulbenkian 284 (these dies). AMB 466 (these dies). Tudeer 62. SNG Lloyd 1385 (these dies). Coins, Artists and Tyrants 62c (this coin).

Very rare. An interesting and unusual portrait of Arethusa of fine style and a lovely old cabinet tone. Minor traces of overstriking on reverse, otherwise good very fine / about extremely fine

7/500

Ex Hess-Leu sale 28, 1965, 88. From an Exceptional Collection assembled between the early 70s and late 90s.



212



212

- 212 Tetradrachm unsigned work of Parmenides circa 405, AR 16.01 g. Fast quadriga driven l. by charioteer pulling back the reins with both hands and holding *kentron* in his r.; above, Nike flying r. to crown him. Below the hooves of the horses, a wheel set on double exergual line, beneath which barley grain (off flan). Rev. [ΣΥΠΑΚΟΣΙΩΝ] Head of nymph Arethusa facing l., wearing *saccos* adorned with stars and zigzag rims, triple pendant earring and a pearl necklace. Beneath neck truncation, Silenos head r. Around, four dolphins. Rizzo pl. XLVII, 16 (reverse only illustrated, this die). SNG Lloyd 1388 (this coin). SNG München 1064 (these dies). Tudeer 70. Coins, Artists and Tyrants 70f (this coin).

Of the highest rarity, only six specimens known of this important and intriguing issue.

Old cabinet tone, several marks on obverse field, otherwise very fine

7/500

Ex Naville VI, Bement, 1924, 519; Triton I, 1997, 341; Gemini VII, 2011, 165 and NAC 106, 2018, 200 sales. From the duplicates of the British Museum, the Lloyd and Athos and Dina Moretti collections.

This tetradrachm belongs to the most celebrated period of Syracusan numismatic art - the period of the signing artists (ca. 413-400 B.C.). During this period, a large new series of tetradrachms was struck from silver captured from the Athenians following their unsuccessful siege of Syracuse and especially from ransom payments made to repatriate about 2,300 Athenian hoplites who had survived the debacle. These had been captured by the Syracusans and imprisoned under awful circumstances in the city's stone quarry. All of this Athenian money was melted down and re-struck as a new, celebratory tetradrachm series featuring a racing quadriga on the obverse and the head of Arethusa, the patron nymph of Syracuse, on the reverse. Some of the best artists in Sicily produced dies for this new coinage. Filled with pride in their work, which often pushed the boundaries of Classical Greek numismatic representations and involved artistic experimentation, many of the artists signed their dies. This particular coin is a rarity for the period in that the Arethusa die is not signed with the artist's name, but instead features the small head of a satyr beneath the neck truncation. This may have been the personal emblem of the artist or perhaps a pun on his name. The obverse type is the usual racing chariot that was a traditional type for Syracusan coinage going back to the second quarter of the fifth century B.C., but now it is infused with a dynamism not seen before. Whereas the horses of earlier chariots were arranged one on top of each other in cookie-cutter fashion, here each horse is an individual, each with its own distinct leg and head positions. The potential monotony of four horse heads in a row is skillfully alleviated by turning back the head of the third horse from the right. The turning head is also associated with a broken rein that trails below. That horse is going to be a serious problem for the charioteer, who is already driving at breakneck speed. Through these small but important details, the die engraver draws us into the exciting story of the race, although the Nike flying above assures us that, whatever dangers are posed by the third horse, the charioteer will still manage to finish as the victor.



213

- 213 Hemilitron signed by *Eu-* circa 405, AE 3.57 g. Head of Arethusa I., hair in sphenone, EY on *ampyx*; in r. field, grain ear. Rev. $\Sigma\text{Y} - \text{PA}$ Wheel of four spokes; dolphins in lower quarters. SNG ANS 404. Calciati 21.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. A portrait of enchanting beauty, the work of a talented master-engraver. A wonderful untouched green patina and good extremely fine

5'000

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 203, 2012, 64.



214

- 214 Double decadrachm or 100 litrae circa 405-400, AV 5.75 g. $\Sigma\text{ΥΠΑΚΟΣΙΩΝ}$ Head of the nymph Arethusa I., wearing necklace, bar and triple-pendant earring; hair elaborately waved and caught up behind in sakkos ornamented with stars. Behind head, barley grain. Rev. $\Sigma\text{ΥΠΑΚΟΣΙΩΝ}$, Naked young Heracles kneeling r. on rocky ground, head to front, strangling Nemean lion with both arms; on the strip of ground, barley grain. SNG Lloyd 1419 (these dies). Jameson 2430 (these dies). Bérend 4.5 (this coin)

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. A superb portrait struck in very high relief and a finely engraved reverse composition. Good extremely fine / extremely fine

40'000

Ex Hess-Leu 16 April 1957, 115; Hess-Leu 04 April 1963, 19 and Leu 36, 1985, 72 sales. From the Athos and Dina Moretti collection.

Before this series, gold coinage in the Western Mediterranean was episodic, and was only issued in times of emergency. Syracuse had traditionally set trends for coinage in Sicily, so it comes as no surprise that it led the way on the issuance of gold. The need for gold coinage in such quantity must have been military, and we can speculate that these coins were used to pay the mercenaries whom Dionysius I hired to promote his ambitions. This coinage was probably introduced sometime around 400 B.C. and appears to have been struck in parallel with the silver decadrachms of the Kimon and Euainetos types. Though the precise date of this gold coinage is not known, the best opinions range from c. 406 to c. 390 B.C. as the starting point, and c. 370/65 B.C. as the end. Of particular value in establishing the context of this coinage are the Avola Hoards (ICGH 2122 and 2124) found not far south of Syracuse, which contained examples of this type in superb condition. Since other gold coins were found with them, including Persian darics and Lampsacus staters, these hoards probably were deposited by c. 370 or 360 B.C. Dozens of military actions are spread over the decades of Dionysius' reign, so it is impossible to isolate one that explains the genesis of this series. However, a theory was put forth by Boehringer, who associated these coins with Dionysius' great victory over the besieging Carthaginians in 396 or 395. He suggested that because the Carthaginians were routed at their encampment on the plain at the Anapus river, to the south of Syracuse, it was meaningful that the half-denomination of this series, the gold dekadrachm (50-litra), portrays the river-god Anapus. Perhaps fortifying this idea is a report by Diodorus (14.75.1-3) that Dionysius collected 300 talents from the Carthaginian commander Himilco as a term of surrender after the defeat. That influx may have been converted into coinage to pay his troops. It is not clear why the Heracles-and-lion type was introduced with this issue, though it may be emblematic of the Greek struggle against the Carthaginians, with the lion being symbolic of that culture.



- 215 Tetradrachm signed by Kimon circa 405-400, AR 16.83 g. Head of nymph Arethusa facing three-quarters l., wearing pearl-shaped pendant and necklace over collier ornamented with pearls; hair flowing in loose tresses; across her forehead, *ampyx* on which the signature [KIMΩΝ]. Around three dolphins emerging from curls and a fourth swimming downwards; in l. field, ΣΩ. Above, outside dotted border, [ΑΡΕΘΟΥΣΑ]. Rev. ΣΥΡΑΚ – [ΟΣΙΩΝ] Fast quadriga driven l. by chiton-clad charioteer, holding kentron and reins; above, Nike floating r., holding wreath to crown the charioteer. Beneath the two further horses, an overset column (meta); in exergue, ear of barley l. Rizzo pl. XLVIII, 11 (these dies). SNG ANS 288 (these dies). Dewing 846 (these dies). AMB 473 (this reverse die). H. Cahn, *Arethusa Soteira*, in *Essays Carson-Jenkins*, 1 (this obverse die). Ognina hoard, SNR 57, 1978, pl. 31, 298 (these dies). Burlington Art exhibition 1904, 238 (this coin). Tudeer 81. *Coins, Artists and Tyrants* 81j.

Extremely rare. A magnificent portrait of masterly style struck on a very broad flan. Superb old cabinet tone and very fine 15'000

Ex Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge 15 March 1897, 53 and Sotheby's 4 April 1973, Metropolitan, 238 sales. From the Ward and Mentor collections.

Certainly among the most influential coinages of the ancient Greeks, this set of dies rank among Kimon's finest. The obverse offers an arresting portrait of the nymph Arethusa, whose placid countenance is a foil to the hive of activity that surrounds it (and to the energetic scene on the reverse). First to catch the viewer's attention is Arethusa's hair, which flows wildly in all directions, though not to the detriment of her appeal; indeed, the fact that it flows back permits an unobstructed view of her beauty. Four dolphins artfully intertwine with the strands of Arethusa's hair: one at the right is shown in full, one at the left is nearly full, and only the faces of the remaining two are shown, one at each side. Kimon imparts a "playful quality" to these sea mammals - a naturalistic triumph considering that is one of the most endearing features of these sea mammals. Even the dotted border is of interest, as it restrains the expansive power of Arethusa's image. Perhaps most masterful of all, though, is how Kimon incorporates three inscriptions into the design. His signature appears on the *ampyx* that restrains the nymph's hair; her name, Arethusa, is creatively placed at the top outside the border; and an abbreviation for "saviour" is so cleverly hidden among the dolphins and the strands of hair at the left that it was not acknowledged until very recently (H. A. Cahn, "Arethusa Soteira", *Essays in honour of Robert Carson and Kenneth Jenkins*, 1993, pp. 5-6). The reverse is equally masterful: here we observe a quadriga in high action, viewed at a slight angle, which allowed the artist to demonstrate his ability to convey perspective. Here, it would seem, we have a momentary snapshot of a victorious team after the meta: the driver, with his firm grip on the reins and his command of the goad, is restraining the horses, which rear up and toss their heads in all directions. Clearly Kimon captured a moment when a driver performs an unconventional, but masterful action that catches his appeal by surprise, yet, was necessary to secure a victory, as symbolised by the crowning of the driver by Nike. We may note that the border is a thin, solid line that does not distract us from the powerful scene; Kimon even delights in allowing the hoofs of the lead horse to break through the border. The combination of the obverse depicting "Arethusa the Savior" and the reverse dedicated to a victorious charioteer, and the remarkable quality of the dies, earmarks this as a commemorative issue. As such, it has been associated with historical events, principally the defeat of the Athenian fleet at Syracuse in 413 B. C. and, perhaps more likely, the good fate of the Syracusans in the otherwise devastating invasion of Sicily by the Carthaginians from 406 to 405 B. C.



216

- 216 Decadrachm signed by Euainetos circa 400 BC, AR 43.19 g. Fast quadriga driven l. by charioteer, holding reins and kentron; in field above, Nike flying r. to crown him. In exergue, display of military harness set on two steps and below, [A]ΘΛ[A]. Rev. ΣΥ - ΠΑΚ - Ο - ΣΙ - ΩΝ Head of Arethusa (Kore-Persephone) l., wearing barley-wreath, triple pendant earring and beaded necklace. Around, three dolphins, while a fourth makes dorsal contact with neck truncation; beneath, EY - AINE. SNG München 1075. AMB 480 (this obverse die). Gallatin RIII/C.I (this coin listed and this obverse illustrated).

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, undoubtedly one of the finest signed decadrachms of Euainetos in private hands. A portrait of Arethusa of masterly style perfectly struck on a full flan and exceptionally complete.

Wonderful old cabinet tone and good extremely fine

100'000

Published in Gallatin in 1930 and from an Exceptional Collection assembled between the early 70s and late 90s.

Coins of the artist Euainetos are among the most exquisite works of art from the ancient Greek world. Of special value are his decadrachms, which must have been distributed widely, for they were influential to artists in regions far removed from the shores of Sicily. It is unlikely that many were exported through the normal channels of commerce, and we might suggest that, much like the staters of Olympia, some were acquired as keepsakes and were carried to a variety of destinations. The decadrachms of Kimon and Euainetos were introduced early in the reign of the tyrant Dionysius I (405-367 B.C.), and those of Euainetos continued to be struck for decades, perhaps even beyond the 360s. We might presume that Dionysius took a personal interest in producing such large coins of fine style to evince his patronage of the arts and to promote the success of his rule. There is also good reason to believe that after Euainetos' initial contributions, die cutting for the series eventually was carried out by understudies and successors. In some cases, Euainetos' signature appears to have been retained as a fixed element of the design until about midway through, when it was lost altogether. In general, these understudies meticulously copied the work of the master engraver. Gallatin notes that the entire series shows a most amazing repetition of the details of the arrangement of the hair, with locks and curls being slavishly repeated. Though a precise context has not been convincingly established for the Syracusan decadrachms of Kimon and Euainetos, it is tempting to associate their introduction with a military victory. The display of armour and weaponry that appears in the exergue is militant, and the inscription ΑΘΛΑ, which indicates prizes for at least agonistic contests, only adds to that prospect. Since it was a common practice of Greek soldiers to engrave dedicatory inscriptions on captured armour, a connection might be drawn between that phenomenon and what is presented on the decadrachms. The obverse also appears to allude to victory with its vivid scene of a charioteer guiding his team through a bend.



217



217

- 217 Drachm circa 375-345, Æ 33.21 g. ΣΥΡΑ Head of Athena l., wearing Corinthian helmet with bowl ornamented with olive wreath. Rev. Pair of dolphins swimming downwards almost snout to snout, between them star with eight rays. SNG Morcom 697. SNG ANS 454. AMB 494. Calciati 62.
Rare in this condition. A wonderful green-brown patina with minor corrosion, otherwise about extremely fine 1'500



218



- 218 Corinthian stater, 344-337, AR 8.66 g. Pegasus flying l. Rev. ΣΥΠΑΚΟΣΙΩΝ Head of Athena r., wearing Corinthian helmet. SNG Lloyd 1442. SNG Oxford 2032. SNG ANS 504. AMB 495. Calciati Pegasi II, 1.
Lovely light iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 4'000
From a Swiss private collection and notarized as being in Switzerland prior to 2004.



219



- 219 Tetradrachm circa 310-305, AR 17.07 g. ΚΟΡΑΣ Head of Kore-Persephone r., wearing barley wreath, earring with drop pendant and necklace; hair flows freely over neck. Rev. Nike, naked to waist, standing r., holding nail in l. hand and hammer in lowered l., about to affix conical helmet to top of trophy of arms consisting of cuirass, shield and greaves. In field l., monogram AI and to r., *triskeles*. In exergue, ΑΓΑΘΟΚΛΕΟ[Σ]. Gulbenkian 334 (this obverse die). SNG Delepierre 703 (this reverse die). McClean 2835 (these dies). AMB 512 (these dies). Ierardi 88.

In exceptional condition and struck from the finest obverse die of the issue. Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine 10'000

From an Exceptional Collection assembled between the early 70s-late 90s.



220

- 220 Tetradrachm circa 310-305, AR 17.12 g. Head of Persephone l., wearing barley wreath, triple-pendant earring and necklace; beneath neck truncation, ΦΙ. Around, three dolphins. Rev. Fast quadriga driven l. by charioteer, holding reins in l. hand and kentron in outstretched r.; above, *triskeles* l. In exergue, ΣΥΡΑΚΟΣΙΩΝ / AI ligate. SNG München 1209 (this obverse die). SNG ANS 643 (this obverse die). Ierardi 76. In an exceptional state of preservation, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 7500
From a Swiss private collection and notarized as being in Switzerland prior to 2004.



221

222

- 221 Bronze circa 278-276, Æ 9.92 g. [ΣΥΡΑΚΟΣΙΩΝ] Head of Heracles l., wearing lion's skin headdress. Rev. Athena Promachos advancing r., holding thunderbolt in her r. hand and shield in her l. SNG ANS 847 var. (thunderbolt on reverse). Calciati 175.
A magnificent portrait of fine style and a lovely dark brown patina. Good extremely fine 750
- 222 Bronze circa 275-216, Æ 5.59 g. [ΣΥΡΑΚΟΣΙΩΝ] Head of Kore-Persephone l., wearing wreath of grain ears, single-pendant earring and pearl necklace; behind, torch. Rev. Bull butting l.; above club and TI; in exergue, IE. SNG ANS 572 var. (different controls). Calciati 191 (DS50/R141)
Wonderful enamel-like green patina and extremely fine 300



223

- 223 16 litrae circa 269-215, AR 13.57 g. Veiled head of Philistis l.; behind, wreath. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΙΣΣΑΣ - ΦΙΛΙΣΤΙΔΟΣ Slow quadriga driven r. by Nike, holding reins with both hands; in field, Φ. Burnett, Enna Hoard 26 (these dies). SNG ANS 874 (these dies). CCO 175.
A wonderful portrait of fine style. Unobtrusive traces of double striking on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine 2500

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 232, 2015, 78.



- 224 32 Litrae circa 250-216, AR 28.51 g. Diademed head of Hieron I.; in r. field, star and below, Φ. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΟΣ / ΙΕΡΩΝΟΣ Nike driving slow quadriga r.; above, star and below, K. Caroccio –, unlisted die-coupling. (for obverse, Caroccio 5 and for reverse, Caroccio 9). Traité 1361 var. (bucranium on obverse but this reverse die). McClean 2905 (this obverse die).

An apparently unrecorded variety of an extremely rare type. Possibly the finest specimen in private hands of this important and spectacular issue. A very impressive portrait struck in high relief on fresh metal and with a lovely iridescent tone.

Good extremely fine / extremely fine

45'000

Ex M&M Numismatics LTD sale I, 1997, 49.

It was claimed that Hieron II, the future tyrant of Syracuse (ca. 275-269/265 B.C.) and king of Sicily (269/265-215 B.C.) was exposed as an infant, but a swarm of bees miraculously kept him alive by feeding him honey until he was rescued. As an adult, he became a general in the Syracusan army and used the forces at his command to take control of the government at Syracuse and become tyrant. Despite the negative connotations of tyranny, Hieron II is said to have been a good ruler and an able administrator. He spent much of the 260s B.C. waging war against the Mamertines, a large band of Campanian mercenaries who terrorized the cities of eastern Sicily from a base at Messana. By 264 B.C., Hieron II had Messana under siege, but was prevented from capturing the city and completely eradicating the Mamertines by the arrival of a Carthaginian garrison. When he returned to Syracuse he was acclaimed king in recognition of his successes in freeing Sicily from the Campanian scourge. However, things began to get out of hand when he resumed the offensive against Messana the following year. By this time, the Mamertines had entered into an alliance with the Romans and ejected the Carthaginians with the help of the consul Appius Claudius Caudex. Hieron II again besieged Messana, this time with the help of the Carthaginians. Their failure to desist when Caudex ordered them to stop ignited the First Punic War (264-241 B.C.). Hieron II was forced to withdraw to Syracuse and face a Roman siege in 263 B.C. Realizing that the odds were against him, the king quickly came to terms with the Romans, thereby preserving much of his Sicilian kingdom in exchange for accepting the status of a subordinate Roman ally and the payment of an indemnity of 100 talents. However, his absolute loyalty as the First Punic War progressed earned him great respect at Rome. In gratitude, the Romans revisited the peace treaty with Syracuse in 248 B.C., cancelling the outstanding indemnity payments and according Hieron II the status of an equal ally. Following the elevation of his position vis-à-vis the Romans, the king of Syracuse worked hard to present himself to the rest of the Greek world as a Hellenistic king, comparable in grandeur to the rulers of the great dynasties of the Antigonids, Seleucids, and Ptolemies. He beautified Syracuse with new building programs and contributed large gifts of money and grain to Rhodes after the devastating earthquake of 227 BC. He also instituted new tax laws that were considered so equitable that they were ultimately adopted by the Romans as the basis for tribute payments from subject cities of Sicily. Hieron II remained a staunch ally of Rome at the outbreak of the Second Punic War (218-201 B.C.), warning the Roman administration in Sicily of impending Carthaginian attacks and sending support to Rome in the aftermath of the disastrous battles of Lake Trasimene (217 B.C.) and Cannae (216 B.C.). The aged and respected king died in 215 B.C., leaving his kingdom to his grandson, Hieronymos, who was not nearly as wise as his grandfather. This extremely rare 32-litra multiple was certainly struck after 265 B.C., when Hieron II assumed the royal title, and possibly as late as the period 225-215 B.C. if his system of litra multiples was intended to be exchangeable with the Roman quadrigatus didrachm, as is sometimes suggested. The obverse portrait type depicts Hieron II as a Hellenistic king in the manner of the contemporary monarchs of Macedon, Egypt, and Syria. He wears a diadem - the universal symbol of Hellenistic kingship - and has a slightly elevated gaze, both of which are common features of other royal portraits of the period. The reverse type, however, looks to the old civic coinage of Syracuse, which had featured quadrigae and Nike (usually flying above) since the early fifth century B.C. The novelty here is that on Hieron's 32-litra piece, Nike actually drives the chariot herself. If there was an intended relationship between the litra multiples and the quadrigatus then it may be that Nike driving the chariot is derived from the quadrigatus reverse type, which depicts Victory driving a chariot for Jupiter.



225

225 Decadrachm or 60 litrae circa 217-214, AV 4.27 g. Head of Kore-Persephone l., wearing barley wreath; behind, wreath. Rev. Fast biga driven r. by charioteer holding *kentron* and reins; above, MI and, in exergue, IEPΩNOΣ. SNG Copenhagen 819 (this obverse die). De Luynes 1360 (these dies). Gulbenkian 350 (these dies). Carroccio 94d (this coin).

In superb condition for the issue. An almost invisible die-break on brow-bone, otherwise good extremely fine

6'000

Ex Hirsch XIII, 1905, Rhousopoulos, 471 and Naville XIII, 1928, Allatini et al., 364 sales. From an Exceptional Collection assembled between the early 70s and late 90s.



226



226 12 litrae 214-212, AR 10.16 g. Head of Athena l., wearing crested Corinthian helmet decorated with griffin on bowl. Rev. ΣΥΠΑΚΟΣΙΩΝ Artemis standing l., shooting arrow; at her feet, springing dog l. and in l. field, YA / ΣΑ. Jameson 892 (these dies). SNG ANS 1041 var. (YA / Σ). Burnett, Enna Hoard D 33 (these dies).

Wonderful iridescent tone, an almost invisible mark on reverse field, otherwise good extremely fine

2'500

Islands off Sicily, Lipara



227



227 Bronze last quarter IV century, Æ 8.02 g. Laureate head of Apollo l. Rev. ΛΙΠΑ – ΠΑΙΩΝ Trident. SNG Morcom 871. SNG Copenhagen 1097. Calciati 28.

Very rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Lovely light green patina and good very fine

2'000

The Carthaginians in Sicily, Sardinia and North Africa



228



228 Didrachm, Panormos circa 400, AR 8.59 g. *sys* in Punic characters Horse prancing r. Rev. Male head r. with two dolphins in front and with a third swimming behind (off-flan). Jameson 693 (these dies). BMC 20 (these dies). Jenkins, Punic Sicily I, 12 (this coin listed). SNG Lloyd 1589 (this coin).

Extremely rare. A very interesting issue with an unusual and pleasant portrait struck on fresh metal. Wonderful iridescent tone, reverse slightly off-centre, otherwise good extremely fine

10'000

From the Lloyd and Mentor collections and the duplicates of the British Museum.



229



229

229 Stater, Carthago circa 350-320, AV 9.30 g. Head of Tanit l., wearing barley wreath, triple-pendant earring and necklace. Rev. Horse standing r., in lower r. field, three dots in triangle. SNG Copenhagen 129. Jenkins-Lewis 24 (these dies). Extremely fine 3'500

From the Collection of a Mentor.



230



230 Tetradrachm, uncertain mint in Sicily "people of the camp" circa 350-320, AR 17.15 g. Head of Tanit-Persephone l., wearing barley-wreath, earring and pearl necklace; around, four dolphins. Rev. Horse leaping l. in front of palm tree with two clusters of dates. de Luynes 1436 (these dies). SNG Fitzwilliam 1477 (these dies). SNG Lockett 1036 (these dies). Jenkins Punic Sicily III, 136.

A portrait of excellent style. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

10'000

Privately purchased from Tkalec on 17th January 1995 and notarized as being in Switzerland prior to 2004.



231 Tetradrachm, uncertain mint in Sicily "people of the camp" circa 350-320, AR 17.00 g. Head of Tanit-Persephone I., wearing wreath of reeds; around, four dolphins. Rev. Horse prancing l.; behind, palm tree with cluster of dates. de Luynes 1434 (these dies). Boston, MFA 489 (this obverse die). Jenkins Punic Sicily III, 141. Struck on excellent metal and perfectly centred. Extremely fine 6'000

Ex Gemini sale VII, 2011, 197. From the Patrick Tan collection.

In the centuries leading up to the First Punic War, Carthaginians and Romans had pursued a relationship of indifference, for their realms of influence did not overlap in any meaningful way. Their first treaty appears to have been made in 509 B.C., and they peacefully co-existed for centuries. The Romans were perhaps less sophisticated than the worldly Carthaginians in these early diplomatic ventures, as Carthage continually got what it desired: an assurance that Rome would not intervene in Carthaginian affairs in the Western Mediterranean. In return, Rome was immune from potential conflict, being quite occupied with its own efforts for regional conquest. The principal cause of Rome's first war with Carthage is uncertain – perhaps it was a fear that Carthage would gain control of the north-eastern part of Sicily, or simply a desire to reap the spoils of victory from a Sicilian expedition. In a larger sense, however, conflict was inevitable in light of Rome's meteoric expansion in central and southern Italy by the mid-3rd Century B.C. It seems there was no long-term plan on either side of the war, simply an escalation as Rome and Carthage became embroiled in partisan events in Sicily. The root cause was the disposition of the city of Messina, which had been violently taken by Mamertine mercenaries, who found an ally in Rome. Meanwhile, in opposition, the Carthaginians had formed a partnership with Hieron II, who recently had become king of Syracuse. The Romans successfully laid siege to Syracuse and, through their merciful treatment of Hieron, gained in him a staunch ally. This development alarmed the Carthaginians, who responded in 262 with an invasion of Sicily. After a particularly violent sack of Agrigentum, an ally of Carthage, hostilities continued on both land and sea, and by the mid-250s had even extended to North Africa, where the Romans occupied Tunis, only to have their victorious army virtually annihilated. Fortunes teetered from one side to the other in a series of violent encounters in Sicily, North Africa, and Southern Italy. By 241 it was apparent that the Romans would not yield, despite their mounting losses; after a final naval disaster near the Aegates Insulae, the Carthaginian general Hamilcar Barca sued for peace. As the spoils of victory, Rome gained control (with Hieron II) over Sicily and its adjacent islands, and was to receive from Carthage an indemnity of 3,200 talents over the next decade. Carthage was left broken, and still had to wage war on the home front against unpaid mercenaries and Libyans. In subsequent years, Romans also took control of Sardinia, which forced the Carthaginians to expand their interests in Spain and eventually gave rise to the Second Punic War (218-201 B.C.).



232 Tetradrachm, uncertain mint in Sicily circa 320-300, AR 17.07 g. Head of Tanit-Persephone I., wearing barley wreath, triple-pendant earring and necklace; around, four dolphins. Rev. Horse's head l.; below neck truncation, 'mhmhnt' in Punic characters and behind, palm tree. McClean 3044 (these dies). SNG Lloyd 1630 (this obverse die). Jenkins Punic, 142. A perfect Fdc 12'500

Privately purchased from Tkalec on 17th January 1995 and notarized as being in Switzerland prior to 2004.



233

- 233 Tetradrachm, uncertain mint in Sicily circa 320-310, AR 17.31 g. Female head r., wearing oriental tiara with plain band before forehead. Rev. Lion prowling r., with head facing; behind, palm tree with two clusters of dates; in exergue, *s'mmhnt* in Punic characters. de Luynes 1472 (these dies). Rizzo pl. 68, 8 (these dies). Boston, MFA 36 (these dies). AMB 562 (these dies). Kent-Hirmer 208 (these dies). Jenkins Punic Sicily III, 272. Extremely rare and possibly the finest specimen known. Perfectly struck in high relief on a very broad flan and with a spectacular old cabinet tone. Good extremely fine 50'000

From an Exceptional Collection assembled between the early 70s-late 90s.

This extraordinary tetradrachm seems to have been struck late in the 4th Century B.C., perhaps between 320 and 310, and is very likely in the early part of that range. It belongs to a series containing just three sets of dies, each of which presents this interesting subject matter in a different way. Though each is spectacular and original in its own right, if one set of dies had to be chosen as the most accomplished, it certainly would be the one used to strike this coin. In his die study of the Siculo-Punic series, Jenkins was hard-pressed to find a place for this group among the other series of tetradrachms. Even if the superior style of engraving and the unusual subject matter were not obvious considerations, the fact that only three sets of dies were used and that they do not link with other issues (or even within themselves) demonstrates it was a special and isolated series. Aspects of the engraving style led Jenkins to conclude that they belonged at the end of his series 2d (head of Kore/horse animated before palm tree) or the beginning of his series 3 (dolphins around the head of Arethusa/horse head and palm tree). If linked with Jenkins' series 3, this coinage might be associated with preparations by the Carthaginian leader Hamilcar (son of Gison) to combat Agathocles; as such, Jenkins suggests they may have been minted for the 2,000 elite citizens who headed the new Carthaginian armada. A convincing interpretation of the designs has thus far been impossible to achieve. The head was traditionally described as Dido (Elissa), the legendary foundress of Carthage, but that identification has not found much support in recent decades. She may also be the personification of Libya, for that would match well with the prowling lion on the reverse. Jenkins objects to that idea, however, noting that celebrating an indigenous people subject to Carthaginian rule would not have been "consistent with Carthaginian nationalism". To the contrary, Robinson suggests Libya would have been an ideal subject if the bulk of the Carthaginian army at this time were comprised of mercenaries from Carthaginian Libya. Another possibility is that the Punic goddess Tanit (being in some ways the equivalent of the Greek goddess Artemis) is represented, and in many respects she seems to be the best choice.



234

234 Tetradrachm, Entella (?) circa 320-300, AR 16.81 g. Head of Heracles-Melqart r., wearing lion's skin headdress. Rev. Head of horse l., below neck truncation, 'mhmhnt in Punic characters and behind, palm tree. AMB 564. Jenkins Punic IV, 319. SNG Lloyd 1644 (these dies).

In exceptional condition for the issue, possibly the finest specimen known. A perfect Fdc 12'500

Ex Leu sale 72, 1998, 129.



235

235 Trihemistater, Carthago circa 270-260, AV 12.55 g. Head of Tanit-Persephone l., wearing barley-wreath, bar and triple pendant earring and necklace with pendants. Rev. Horse standing r., head turned back. Jenkins & Lewis 392 (this coin illustrated). AMB 569. MAA 26. SNG Copenhagen 181.

Struck on a full flan, minor marks, otherwise about extremely fine / extremely fine 10'000

From the R.B. Lewis and Mentor collections.



236

236 Trihemistater, Carthago (?) circa 255-241, EL 10.84 g. Head of Tanit l., wearing barley-wreath, bar and triple pendant earring and necklace with pendants. Rev. Unbridled horse standing r.; above, sun disk. SNG Fitzwilliam 1516. Jenkins-Lewis 446 (this coin illustrated).

Rare. A hairline flan crack at twelve o'clock on obverse and minor edge marks, otherwise about extremely fine / good very fine 4'000

From the R.B. Lewis and Mentor collections.

Thraco-Macedonian tribes, The Bisaltae



- 237 Octodrachm circa 475-465, AR 28.20 g. C-ΙΣ-Α-Λ-ΤΙ-ΚΩΝ Warrior, wearing causia and holding two spears, standing behind horse. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. AMNG III/2, 4-5 var. (different arrangement of legend). Svoronos, *Hellénisme Primitif*, 5 -6 var. (different arrangement of legend). SNG Ashmolean 2242 var. (different arrangement of legend).

Very rare and in an exceptional state of preservation. A spectacular representation perfectly struck and centred on a full flan and with a light iridescent tone.

Good extremely fine 25'000

Ex Schweizerischer Bankverein 38, 1995, 86 and Tkalec 25 October 1996, 20 sales.

The Bisaltae were a Thracian or Pelasgian tribe inhabiting the reaches of the lower Strymon river valley in eastern Macedonia bordering the lands of Thrace to the east. The economy was one of pastoral-nomadism, although the aristocracy certainly exploited the silver mines in the mountainous region between them and the territory of the Krestones and Mygdones to their west, the bullion of which produced this handsome octodrachm. An interesting feature of these large coins, and also the larger issues of the Derrones as well as of Alexander I in Macedonia, is their manufacturing process. From the flattening that is always present on the reverse, it appears that the striking occurred in two distinct stages with the reverses and obverses having been struck individually. First, the reverse die, which served merely as an ornamental device rather than having the functional purpose of pushing metal into the obverse die, was hammered against the planchet, then the planchet was turned over and struck again from the obverse die. This second striking caused some flattening on the reverse of the coin, as can be seen here in the slight flattening of the raised portions of the four inner divisions of the larger incuse square. The purpose of this unusual manufacturing process is not certain, but probably should be seen in the context of the massive size of the coins themselves. During Xerxes' invasion of Greece in 480 B.C., the Bisaltae refused assistance to the large Persian army. After they vacated the region following their costly campaign against the Greeks, Alexander I of Macedonia conquered and annexed the Bisaltaian homeland. In doing so he came to control the rich silver mines of the Pangaeon district and subsequently struck his first coinage, which copies exactly these Bisaltaian octodrachms except that they are inscribed with his own name.

The Krestonians or Mygdonians



- 238 Stater circa 485-480, AR 8.63 g. Goat kneeling r., head reverted; above, dotted Θ. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. Svoronos, *Hellénisme Primitif* pl. I, 2. (Derroniens). AMNG III/2, 4 (Aegae). Asyut 150 (Aegae). Rosen 88 (Aegae). de Luynes 1530. SNG Lockett 1295 (this coin). Gulbenkian 390. Lorber, *Pour Denyse* issue 4 and pl. 14, 4. Rare. Wonderful old cabinet tone, a minor metal flaw at four

o'clock on edge, otherwise extremely fine 5'000

Ex Naville VI, 1923, Bement, 624 and Glendining's 12-13 February 1958, Lockett part VI, 1214 sales. From the Paul Malthéy collection and from an Exceptional Collection assembled between the early 70s-late 90s.

Lete or Siris



239 Stater circa 520-485, AR 9.83 g. Nude ithyphallic satyr grasping r. arm of nymph trying to move away from him; at sides and above, three pellets. Rev. Incuse square with diagonally divided rough surfaces. AMNG III/2, 14 (Lete). SNG Berry 31. SNG ANS 958. Peykov A0020. Dewing 1022. Svoronos, *Hellénisme Primitif* pl. VIII, 6.

Struck on fresh metal and with a wonderful old cabinet tone. Extremely fine 5'000

Ex NFA XXVI, 1991, 56; NAC 6, 1993, 118 and MDC Monaco 4, 2018, 20 sales.

Uncertain



240 Drachm circa 480-460, AR 4.31 g. Male goat standing r. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. Svoronos, *Hellénisme Primitif* pl. III, 21. de Sartiges 327 (these dies). *Traité* 1947 (these dies). Sheedy, *Non-Parian Group 1c* (this coin illustrated).

Extremely rare, three specimens listed by Sheedy of which this is apparently the only one in private hands. Old cabinet tone and good very fine 2'000

Ex M&M sale 76, 1991, 773. From the Collection of a Mentor.

Macedonia, Mende



241 Tetradrachm circa 520-480, AR 17.23 g. MINA *retrograde* Ithyphallic ass walking r., crow perching l. on its back. Rev. Mill sail incuse. Asyut 207. SNG Lockett 1335 (this coin). Noe, Mende -, cf. 2.

Exceedingly rare and one of the finest specimens known of one of the earliest issues of Mende. Light old cabinet tone, obverse slightly off-centre and reverse surface slightly porous, otherwise extremely fine 15'000

Ex Glendining's 12-13 February 1958, Lockett, part VI, 1255. From an Exceptional Collection assembled between the early 70s-late 90s.



242

- 242 Tetradrachm circa 423, AR 16.90 g. Elderly Dionysus, wearing ivy wreath and himation, reclining on mule's back l., holding cantharus with r. hand and resting l. on the animal's side. In exergue, caduceus. Rev. MEN – ΔA – I[O] – N around linear square containing vine with four bunches of grapes; all within incuse square. SNG ANS 350 (these dies). Jameson 1965 (these dies). Gulbenkian 412. Gillet 762 (this coin). Noe, Mende 93.

Very rare. A very attractive specimen of this desirable issue in the finest style of the period.

Struck on a very broad flan and with a pleasant old cabinet tone. Almost invisible marks and traces of double striking on obverse, otherwise extremely fine

15'000

Ex Bourgey sale 5 December 1932, G..., 129 and NAC 4, 1991, 98 sales. From the Charles Gillet collection.

Mende excelled in the wine trade, rivalling Thasos, Maronea, Naxos, Lesbos and Chios. The ancient authorities Cratippus, Athenaeus, Menander, Hermippus of Smyrna and Demosthenes all speak of the quality and fame of Mende wine. Thus, it is not surprising that on its principal trade coin, the tetradrachm, Mende would choose a design that celebrated wine production. Indeed, most coins of the city bear designs that refer to wine production or to the retinue of Dionysus, the god of wine. On this example we see an elderly Dionysus in luxurious repose on the back of an ass, clutching a cantharus of wine. As shown here, he usually relaxes with his left arm downward, but on occasion (Mende [Kaliandra] Hoard no. 65) he assumes an even more decadent pose with his left arm propped upon the head of the ass; on other examples the god's identification is further secured by the fact that he holds a thyrsus (Mende (Kaliandra) Hoard nos. 60, 61, 63). Hardly a more appropriate image exists of this god, famed for his wild indulgences and his appreciation for the fruit of the vine. Of great interest is the contrast between the god and the ass: the stiff, servile attitude of the mount contrasts sharply with the decadent, reclining figure of Dionysus. While the ass is focused and dedicated to his workaday task, with its musculature taut and well defined, Dionysus appears unconcerned and soft in his physical form. In that sense we have two completely different works of art compressed into one scene. The contrast can hardly be accidental, and it must have provided the die engraver with the challenge of unifying these disparate elements into seamless coexistence.

Olynthus, The Chalcidian League



243

- 243 Tetradrachm circa 389-379, AR 14.43 g., Laureate head of Apollo l. Rev. X – [A] – Λ – ΚΙΔ – ΕΩΝ around kythara. Robinson-Clement Group 77. Boston, MFA 580 (these dies). SNG ANS 486.

A portrait of lovely style struck in very high relief and a wonderful old cabinet tone. Extremely fine / about extremely fine

7'500

Ex M&M sale 52, 1975, 114.

Scione



- 244 Tetradrachm circa 480-470, AR 16.44 g. Head of Protesilus r., wearing Attic helmet decorated with wreath and crest inscribed [ΠΡΟΤΕΣΙΛΑΟΣ *retrograde*]. Rev. S – K – I – O Stern of galley with aphlaston l.; all within incuse square. SNG Spencher-Churchill 124. Babelon, Protésilas à Scioné, RN 1951, pl. I, 6. Boston, MFA Suppl. 144. Price, Macedonians 29 var. Dewing 1076 var. cf. Gorny & Mosch sale 280, 2021, 175. Very rare. Light old cabinet tone, minor traces of double striking on obverse, otherwise good very fine / very fine 4'000

Ex Giessener Münzhandlung Dieter Gorny sale 67, 1994, 90.

Kings of Macedonia, Alexander I, 498 – 454



- 245 Octodrachm circa 465-460, AR 29.01 g. Warrior, wearing causia and holding two spears, standing behind horse. Rev. ΑΛΕ – ΞΑ – ΝΔ – ΡΟ around a shallow incuse square frame which surrounds a quadripartite incuse square. Svoronos, *Hellénisme Primitif*, pl. XIII, 9. Raymond, ANSMN 126, 46. Boston MFA 627. McFadden, *The ancient coin market*, *Minerva* vol. 6, 1, p. 49 (this coin illustrated). Very rare and possibly the finest specimen known of this important issue. A spectacular issue of extraordinary style perfectly struck and centred on a very large flan. Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine 100'000

Ex Tkalec sale 28th February 1994, 74.

When Alexander I succeeded his father as king of Macedonia in 498 BC, the kingdom was already closely connected to the Persian Empire and paid tribute to Darius I. Indeed, Alexander used his family's friendly relationship with the Persians to expand his kingdom and gain access to the silver mines of Mount Dysoron. After the death of Darius, the Macedonian king recognized the authority of Xerxes I and supported him in his attempts to punish the Greeks for their involvement in the Ionian Revolt. He even went so far as to campaign alongside the Persian Great King and the general Mardonius during their invasion of mainland Greece in 480-479 BC. Despite his Persian connections, Alexander I was much more of an opportunist than a loyal ally. After the Battle of Salamis, the king began to realize the likelihood of a Greek victory and therefore abandoned his previous medizing ways and began to represent himself as a philhellene. Before the decisive Battle of Plataea (479 BC), he made secret contact with the Greek leaders, claiming that he had always hated the Persians and had murdered envoys sent to his father in c. 512 BC. Furthermore, he said that he had only served Xerxes out of compulsion and that he had tried to warn the Greeks of the Persian invasion in 480 at great personal risk. In the aftermath of the Persian War, Alexander I continued to develop his Hellenic image by establishing a specious association between the dynasty to which he belonged, the Argead house, and the Greek city of Argos through Temenos, a son of Heracles. He also made sure to maintain a friendly relationship with Athens and added a Hellenic character to his court by patronizing the great Greek artists and poets of the age. Although the Macedonians at large were still widely regarded by the Greeks as a barbarian people, Alexander's reinvention of himself was so successful that he was considered Greek enough to participate in the Olympic games of 476 BC. At the same time that Alexander I was emphasising his Hellenic connections, the present octadrachm, which was probably struck from silver mined in Mount Dysoron, reveals the strong influence of his non-Greek Thracian neighbours. The large denomination is inherited directly from the Thraco-Macedonian tribes. Likewise the types of a horseman leading his horse and a quadripartite square surrounded by a Greek legend are almost identical to types used by the Bisaltae.

Philip II, 359 – 336 and posthumous issues



- 246 Stater, Amphipolis circa 323-315, AV 8.59 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ Prancing biga r., driven by charioteer holding *kentron* and reins; below horses, cantharus. de Sartiges 194 (this coin). Gulbenkian 837 (these dies). Gillet 783 (this coin). Le Rider 256b (this coin).

An exceedingly rare issue, only two specimens known. Undoubtedly the finest portrait of the entire series, the work of a talented master-engraver. An almost invisible trace of double striking on obverse and light oxidation on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine

30'000

Ex M&M-Leu 28 May 1974, Kunstfreund, 231; NAC 8, 1995, 226 and NAC 84, 2015, 597 sales. From the Vicomte de Sartiges and Charles Gillet collections.

The gold staters of Philip II have always been appreciated for their late Classical artistry and for their historical interest. Once their types and the quality of their gold were established, the staters of Philip II became a preferred gold coinage, particularly in Thrace and in Celtic Europe, where they spawned many imitations during the Hellenistic period. The popularity of the coins caused them to be struck in Macedonia, and to a lesser extent in western Asia Minor, under Alexander the Great and the powerful generals who survived his death as the Diadochi ("Successors").

The types of Philip's staters serve to advertise his Hellenic qualities at a time when Macedonians were considered barbarians by many in mainland Greece yet the king had ambitions to dominate the Greek cities and lead them against the Persian Empire. Apollo was the Greek deity par excellence whose oracle at Delphi could influence the course of Greek affairs. Indeed, Philip's involvement in the Third Sacred War (356–346 BC) between the Amphictyonic League of Delphi and the Phocians earned him a seat on the league council with two votes. If he had not been an agent of Apollo, who was? Likewise, the chariot on the reverse advertises a victory won by Philip II in the Olympic games of 348 BC. As entry in the games was reserved only for those of Hellenic ancestry, the type also served to underline the Greek identity of Philip II and the Macedonians in general.

This extremely rare stater was struck at the Macedonian mint of Amphipolis in the troubled period between the death of Alexander the Great in 323 BC and the end of the Second Diadochic War (319-315 BC). Depending on at what point in this period the coin was struck, it may have been issued by Antipater, who ruled as regent for Alexander's empire until his death in 319 BC. Coins such as this would have been needed for paying veterans of Alexander's wars as they returned to Macedonia. They were also necessary to finance Antipater's own conflicts with the rebellious Greeks during the Lamian War (323-322 BC) and against Alexander's generals Perdiccas and Eumenes, who challenged his authority over the empire during the First Diadochic War (322-319 BC). Alternatively, if it was struck after 319 BC the stater was produced in the context of the struggle between Polyperchon, Antipater's successor as regent, and Cassander, Antipater's son who desired the regency. This conflict over Macedonia, which resulted in Cassander's assumption of the regency in 317 BC evolved into the wider struggle between the generals of Alexander the Great known as the Second Diadochic War.



- 247 Stater, Colophon circa 322, AV 8.64 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ Prancing biga r., driven by charioteer holding *kentron* and reins; below horses, tripod. Thompson, Posthumous Philip II staters of Asia Minor, in *Studia Oblata* 12. Jameson 978 = Gillet 785 (this obverse die). Le Rider pl. 90, 16.

An impressive portrait struck in high relief. An almost invisible mark on horse's body, minor edge nick at ten o'clock on reverse, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

20'000



248

- 248 Tetradrachm, Pella circa 323-315, AR 14.44 g. Laureate head of Zeus r. Rev. ΦΙΛΙΠΠ – ΠΟΥΥ Horseman riding r., holding palm branch and bridle; below, snake and in exergue, shield. SNG Lockett 1414 (these dies). Le Rider 530. Lovely iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 3'000

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 224, 2014, 134.



249

- 249 Tetradrachm, Amphipolis circa 315/4-295/4, AR 13.99 g. Laureate head of Zeus r. Rev. ΦΙΛΙΠΠ – ΠΟΥΥ Horseman riding r., holding palm branch and bridle; below, Λ on bucranium, and in r. field, monogram. SNG ANS 763. Le Rider pl. 47, 2. Light iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 3'000

Alexander III, 336 – 323 and posthumous issues



250

- 250 Distater, Amphipolis circa 336-323, AV 17.15 g. Head of Athena r., wearing triple-crested Corinthian helmet; bowl decorated with coiled snake. Rev. ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ Nike standing l., holding wreath and stylis; in outer l. field, trident. SNG Copenhagen 623. SNG Lockett 1423 (this coin). Troxell, ANS NS 21, group A. Price 171. A very attractive specimen of fine style of this desirable issue.

Minor edge marks, otherwise about extremely fine 30'000

Ex Glendining's 12-13 February 1958, Lockett, 1333 and Triton IX, 2006, 753 sales.



251



- 251 Tetradrachm in name and types of Alexander III, Magnesia ad Maeandrum circa 282-225, AR 17.21 g. Head of Heracles r., wearing lion's-skin headdress. Rev. ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ Zeus seated l., holding eagle and sceptre; in l. field, monogram and in outer r. field, Δ. Under throne, meander pattern. Price —.
A bold portrait of fine style. Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine 2'500

Ex Gorny & Mosch 146, 2006, 173 and Manhattan II, 2011, 134 sales.

Time of Philip III – Antigonus I



252



252

- 252 Half unit, uncertain mint in Western Asia Minor circa 323-310, Æ 4.17 g. Macedonian shield decorated with head of Alexander III facing slightly l. on central boss. Rev. B – A Crested helmet. Price 2801.
Rare. Dark green patina and about extremely fine 500

Ex Tkalec sale 28 October 1994, 81.

Demetrius Poliorcetes, 306 – 284



253



- 253 Tetradrachm, Salamis circa 300-295, AR 17.21 g. Nike, holding trumpet and *stylis*, standing l. on prow. Rev. ΔΕΜΗΤΡΙΟΥ / ΒΑ – ΣΙΛΕΩ – Σ Naked Poseidon striding to l., brandishing trident in upraised r. hand and stretching out l. arm which is wrapped in his mantle; in field l., axe and below legs, Η. AMNG pl. XXXIII, 1. SNG Ashmolean 3244. Newell 54 and pl. III, 1.

Rare and in unusually fine condition for this issue. Struck in high relief and with a wonderful old cabinet tone. Minor area of weakness on reverse, otherwise extremely fine

5'000

From an Exceptional Collection assembled between the early 70s and late 90s.



254 Tetradrachm, Pella circa 294-293, AR 17.20 g. Nike, holding trumpet and *stylis*, standing l. on prow. Rev. ΔΕΜΗΤΡΙΟΥ / ΒΑ – ΣΙΑΕΩ – Σ Naked Poseidon striding to l., brandishing trident in upraised r. hand and stretching out l. arm which is wrapped in his mantle; in field l., monogram. In field r., dolphin / star. Dewing 1196. Newell 68 (this obverse die).

Perfectly struck on very fresh metal. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 5'000



255 Tetradrachm Amphipolis, 291–290, AR 17.06 g. Diademed head r., with horn. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ – ΔΗΜΗΤΡΙΟΥ Poseidon half draped, seated l. on a rock, holding *aphlaston* in r. hand and leaning with l. hand on trident; in l. field, Phrygian helmet. Newell 136. Meydancikkale 2583.

Rare. A magnificent portrait struck in high relief,
light iridescent tone and good extremely fine 5'000

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 215, 2013, 805.

The coinage of adventurer-king Demetrius Poliorcetes was produced on a large scale at a number of mints throughout the Eastern Mediterranean and Asia Minor. He struck a full range of denominations in all metals, and in doing so employed the types of Alexander the Great and distinctive types of his own creation. Demetrius and his father, Antigonos, declared themselves kings in 306 after Demetrius' great naval victory over an Egyptian fleet near Salamis, by which he gained control of Cyprus. He spent the next year trying to capture Rhodes, but had to abandon his task prematurely when his father recalled him to Greece in 304 to campaign against the Macedonian King Cassander. Nonetheless, Demetrius' tactics had been innovative enough to earn him the epithet Poliorcetes ('the besieger'). In Greece, Demetrius enjoyed much success opposing Cassander. But by this time Cassander had joined Lysimachus and Seleucus in an effort to defeat Antigonos and Demetrius, who seemed determined to conquer the whole of Alexander's kingdom. Thus, Demetrius left Greece to join his father in Asia Minor, where they were defeated by the coalition in 301 at the Battle of Ipsus. Antigonos died, but Demetrius escaped to become a rogue commander. With a powerful fleet and a host of allies who remained loyal despite the monumental defeat, Demetrius was still a force to be reckoned with in Asia Minor. Upon learning of the death of Cassander in 297, he shifted his focus back to Greece. Demetrius besieged and took Athens and, after much effort, was proclaimed king of Macedon in 294. During the next six years he engaged in much warfare, but eventually lost his title of king in 288 when Macedon was invaded simultaneously by Lysimachus and Pyrrhus of Epirus. Thereafter, Demetrius lingered in Central Greece and the Peloponnese, rallying support and besieging Athens, which in 287 had established a democracy and revolted against his rule. As the siege dragged on without good results, Demetrius realised his options in Greece were vanishing, so he crossed into Asia Minor later in 287. There he enjoyed some limited success until he was defeated by Seleucus in the spring of 285 and was forced to surrender. Demetrius lived another two years as a captive, dying in the spring of 283 of what seems to have been excessive drinking.

Philip V, 221 – 179



- 256 Tetradrachm, Pella or Amphipolis circa 211-197, AR 17.12 g. Head of young Perseus I, wearing winged griffin-headed helmet, sword on his r. shoulder, in centre of Macedonian shield. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ – ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ Club within oak-wreath; in l. field, M. Boehringer, Chronologie pl. 8, 7 (these dies). Mamroth, Philip –. AMNG III, 1 (Philip VI and these dies). SNG Alpha Bank 1051 var. (without M). SNG München 1125 var. (withou M).

Rare and in superb condition for the issue. A wonderful Hellenistic portrait of fine style perfectly centred on a full flan. Light tone and good extremely fine 7'500

Ex Triton VIII, 2005, 191; Gorny & Mosch 199, 2011, 225; Heritage 3026, 2013, 23106 and Heritage 3037, 2015, 30910 sales.



- 257 Didrachm, Pella or Amphipolis circa 184-179, AR 8.36 g. Diademed head of Philip V r. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ – ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ Club; above, monogram and below, two monograms. All within oak-wreath; in l. field, trident. Mamroth 23. Boston, MFA 718 var. (one different monogram on reverse). McClean 3630 and pl. 135, 3 var. (one different monogram). A very appealing and realistic portrait of fine style.

Light iridescent tone and about extremely fine 4'000

The reverse type depicting a club honours the divine ancestor of the Macedonian kings-Heracles. According to tradition, three sons of Temenos of Argos, a great-great-grandson of Heracles, ultimately founded the Argead or Temenid dynasty of Macedon. Although the bloodline of this dynasty actually came to an end with the death of Alexander the Great and the murders of his heirs, Philip III Arrhidaeus and the child Alexander IV, Heracles remained a Macedonian national hero and Alexander the Great a beloved memory of Macedonian imperial power. The losing conflicts of Philip V and his son Perseus against the Romans in the Second and Third Macedonian Wars (200-197 BC and 171-168 BC), respectively, resulted in the destruction of the Macedonian kingdom and its division into four districts (merides) under close Roman control. Nevertheless, the coinage of Philip V exerted a great influence on the development of the new coinages struck for the Macedonian merides and the wider Greek world. Virtually identical club-in-wreath reverses were used for the reverse of tetradrachms struck for the First Meris, but with a legend naming the district instead of a king. The oak wreath border on the coins of Philip V may represent the beginning of a wide fashion for wreathed reverse types that developed in the mid-second century BC.

Perseus, 178 – 168



258

- 258 Tetradrachm signed by Zoilos, Pella 178, AR 16.67 g. Diademed head r., slightly bearded; below, ΖΩΙΛΟΥ. Rev. ΒΑΣΙ - ΛΕΩΣ / ΠΕΡ - ΣΕΩΣ Eagle standing r. on thunderbolt, with open wings; in field r., Σ monogram. The whole within wreath. de Sartiges 212 (these dies). Mamroth 1. AMNG I pl. 35, 23 (these dies). de Luynes 1712 (these dies). Boehringer, Chronologie pl. 7, 5 (these dies). Gillet 238 (these dies).

Extremely rare and undoubtedly one of the finest specimens known. A realistic and finely executed portrait, the work of a very talented master engraver.

Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine / extremely fine

30'000

Ex Tkalec 23 October 1992, 69.

The portraits of Perseus range greatly in quality of engraving. When Mamroth (ZfN 38, 1928) divided Perseus' issues into five groups spanning the eleven years of his reign, he identified the initial issue, 179/178 B.C., as having a bust of exceptional style and relief that was accompanied by the signature of an official named Zoilus. Since the signature appears rather boldly beneath the neck of the king – a most unusual circumstance to be sure – we should consider that he was more than a mere mint official, but something closer to a chief adviser. Perhaps he held a critical advisory role with Perseus, which included control of the imperial purse; such an arrangement would hardly be unprecedented. It is possible that his name disappeared after the initial issue because it was seen as too bold a step, and that the attempt at promotion backfired by creating resentment or suspicion. We know that Zoilus had been involved with the imperial Macedonian mint during the previous administration of King Philip V, that he signed a tetradrachm for Amphaxitis, the region in Macedon that contained Thessalonica. Also, he may have issued the Rhodian-style drachms with the name Ermias that were struck soon after Perseus' defeat. In this regard he seems much more than a simple mint-master, but more of a trusted court official with a special talent for finances. After Zoilus' initial 'signed' issue, the style of engraving for Perseus' tetradrachms slowly decreases, most noticeably with the final group, which Mamroth assigns to 171-168 B.C., the period of the Third Macedonian War. The decline in art was accompanied by a drop of about ten percent in weight, which reflects the desperation of the circumstances as Macedon and Rome drew ever closer to a war that would end with a crushing Roman victory at Pydna in June, 168.

Kings of Paeonia. Patraus, 335 – 315



259 Tetradrachm, Astibos or Damastion 335-315, AR 12.89 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. [ΠΙΑΤΡ]ΑΟ – Υ Warrior on horseback r., spearing fallen enemy; in l. field, monogram. SNG Copenhagen 1389. SNG ANS 1030 ff. Paeonian Hoard –, cf. 400.

Light iridescent tone. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 500

Tauric Chersonesus, Panticapaeum



260 Stater circa 340-325, AV 9.07 g. Bearded head of Pan l., wearing wreath of ivy leaves. Rev. Π – Α – Ν Griffin standing l., head facing on stalk of barley, holding spear in its mouth. de Luynes 1792. Weber 2690. SNG BM Black Sea 867. N. Zograph, Ancient Coinage, BAR Supplementary Series 33, pl. XL, 11. Gulbenkian 589 (this obverse die). Gillet 854 (this coin). Dewing 1842. Weber 2690 (this obverse die). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 142, 440.

Rare. A magnificent specimen of this desirable issue struck in high relief. Almost invisible marks on reverse field, otherwise good extremely fine 60'000

Ex M&M 64, 1984, 344; Triton II, 1998, 344 and Tkalec 29 February 2000, 50 sales. From the Charles Gillet and O. Lewis collections and displayed at the Phoenix Art Museum.

Struck at Panticapaeum, a city in the Crimean peninsula at the outer limits of the Greek world, this gold stater offers a glimpse into the conspicuous wealth and the intriguing culture of the Scythians during the age of Alexander the Great. The origins of the Scythians were a mystery to the Greeks. Herodotus offered three versions: the first suggests they arrived from the northern steppes to displace the Cimmerians, the second two describe how they were descended from Zeus and the daughter of the Borysthenes river or from Heracles and a half-woman, half-snake who lived in the woodlands. Hence, we can understand why a Greek would think of the Scythians as rough and uncultured cousins. Colonists from Miletus founded Panticapaeum in about 600 B.C. to gain access to the raw materials and agricultural wealth of the Crimea, which was one of the main sources of grain for Athens. The exchanges between the cultures were substantial, as art objects of Greek manufacture are often found in the Crimea; but the Scythian-Greek relationship was sometimes hostile. Indeed, the Macedonian king Philip II caused the aggressive Scythian king Atheas to be murdered, and, perhaps about the time this gold stater was struck, the Scythians defeated a large army that Alexander the Great had sent against them under the command of his general Zopyrion. The artistry of the Scythians is unique because of its influences from nomadic, Greek and Near-Eastern cultures. It is imbued with a vitality and a fierceness that contrasts sharply with Greek art of the time, which had abandoned Archaic vigour in favour of idealised beauty. The griffin appears on Scythian art of other media which often is found in royal tombs known as kurgans. Sometimes the creature has horns – as on this coin – other times it has a row of spines along its head and neck that are connected by webbing. Though the bearded head on the obverse is clearly meant to represent a divinity – most likely Pan – the long hair and beard closely resemble depictions of Scythian men on other works of art, such as a contemporary gilt silver cup excavated from the Gaimanova Mogila kurgan and a particularly famous Greek gold vessel depicting Scythian men that was excavated from the Kul Oba kurgan.

Thrace, Abdera



- 261 Stater, magistrate Dionysas circa 395-360, AR 12.77 g. Griffin crouching l. Rev. Δ – Ι – ΟΝΥ – Σ – ΑΣ Ivy-wreathed head of Dionysus r.; all within incuse square. Jameson 2001 (these dies). May, Abdera 292. Chrissantaki-Nagle p. 123. Robinson, NC 1934, 2, pl. IV (these dies).
Rare. A very interesting and appealing issue. Light iridescent tone and extremely fine 6'000

Ex NFA XXV, 1990, 47 and New York XXVII, 2012, Prospero, 223 sales.



- 262 Stater circa 346/5-336, AR 11.68 g. ΕΠΙ Griffin lying l., raising r. forepaw; in exergue, ΠΑΥΣΑΝΙ[Ω]. Rev. ΑΒΔΗΠΙ – ΤΕΩΝ Laureate head of Apollo r.; all within shallow incuse square. AMNG II 139. Weber 2388 (these dies). SNG Ashmolean 3490 (this obverse die). SNG Fitzwilliam 1642 (this obverse die). Chrissantaki-Nagle pl. 8, 11. May, Abdera 467.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Struck on a very broad flange and on unusually fresh metal. Extremely fine 10'000

Ex Triton XIII, 2010, 84, Heritage 3037, 2015, California, 30911 and NAC 96, 2016, America, 1055 sales.

Maroneia



- 263 Stater circa 411-397, AR 12.76 g. Prancing horse l. Rev. ΜΑΡ – ΩΝ – ΙΤΕ – ΩΝ square linear frame enclosing vine with four grape-clusters. The whole within shallow incuse square. Schönert-Geiss, Maroneia 169. McClean 3962 (these dies).

Wonderful iridescent tone and about extremely fine / good very fine 2'500

Ex NAC sale 9, 1996, 305.

Islands off Thrace, Thasos



264



264

- 264 Diobol circa 525-463, AR 1.20 g. Naked ithyphallic satyr running r. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. Dewing 1318. Le Rider, Thasiennes 4. Rosen 144.

Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine 750

Ex Busso Peus 337, 1993, Duplicates of Berlin Museum, 78 and Busso Peus 340, 1994, 399 sales.

Kings of Thrace, Lysimachus 323-281 and posthumous issues



265



- 265 Stater, Pella (?) mid III century BC, AV 8.46 g. Diademed head of deified Alexander III r., with horn of Ammon. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ – ΛΥΣΙΜΑΧΟΥ Athena enthroned l., holding Nike and spear and resting l. elbow on shield. Thompson, Essays Robinson –. Pozzi 2622.

A fine portrait of excellent style struck on a full flan. Extremely fine 6'000

Ex Hirsch XIII, 1905, 695 and Hirsch XX, 1907, Hoskler, 213 sales. From the Collection of a Mentor.



266



- 266 Drachm, Mytilene circa 294-290, AR 4.23 g. Diademed head of the deified Alexander III r., with horn of Ammon. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ – ΛΥΣΙΜΑΧΟΥ Athena Nikephoros seated l. holding Nike and spear and leaning l. elbow on shield; in outer l. field, lyre and in exergue, ME. Thompson, Essays Robinson, –, cf. 138.

Light iridescent tone, hairline flan crack at two o'clock on reverse, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 1'500

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 169, 2008, 63

Mostis, 125 – 86



- 267 Tetradrachm circa 125-86, AR 16.77 g. Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ – ΜΟΣΤΙΑΔΟΣ Athena seated l., holding Nike and spear and resting l. elbow on shield; in inner l. field, monogram. In exergue, ΜΕΤΟΥΣΚΒ. SNG BM Black Sea 309 var. (different legend and monogram). SNG Copenhagen 1172 var. (different legend and monogram). de Callataÿ, *Le roi thrace Mostis et une surfrappe d'un Alexandre tardif de Mésembria*, in RBN 137 (1991), pl. II, 3. de Luynes 1822.

Extremely rare and possibly the finest specimen in private hands. A very interesting issue with a pleasant Hellenistic portrait. Light old cabinet tone, a minor scratch on reverse field at eleven o'clock, otherwise about extremely fine

7'500

Ex Tkalec sale 23 October 1992, 85.

Mostis is a somewhat mysterious figure in the history of late Hellenistic Thrace. He is known only from inscriptions and rare coinage. From this limited evidence it is believed that Mostis was a king of the Caeni—a Thracian tribe living along the coast of the Propontis—who took power following the death of the almost equally obscure king Ziselmis in ca. 139/8 BC. The date for the beginning of his reign is assumed from the evidence of overstrikes. Considering that last date known for his tetradrachms is year 38, which may be equivalent to 102/1 BC, it has been suggested that Mostis was overthrown in 101/0 BC, when the praetor T. Didius conquered the territory of the Caeni and added it to the Roman province of Macedonia. The present tetradrachm features a late portrait of Mostis wearing the diadem of Hellenistic kingship and drapery over his shoulder. This latter feature may perhaps reflect the influence of Ptolemaic coinage or— a feature that may perhaps be derived from the draped bust of Artemis Tauropolos on the tetradrachms of the Macedonian districts that circulated widely in Thrace. Such drapery had not been a regular feature of Hellenistic royal portraits on coins previously in Macedonia, Thrace, or in the Attalid Kingdom. The reverse type depicting Athena Nikephoros is derived from the popular tetradrachms struck by Lysimachos beginning in 297/6 BC and which continued to be produced by cities of the Propontic and western Black Sea coasts down to the first century BC.

Scythian rulers in Thrace, Canites circa 180 – 150



- 268 Bronze circa 180-150, Æ 7.30 g. Bearded head of Tanousas r., wearing Scythian bashlyk. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ]-[KAN]ITOY Cornucopia; below, ΒΑΚ. Draganov 90. SNG Stancomb –.

Rare. Wonderful green patina and about extremely fine

2'500

Ex Tkalec sale 23 October 1992, 88.

Thessaly, Larissa



- 269 Didrachm 350-300, AR 12.19 g. Head of the nymph Larissa facing three-quarters l., wearing *ampyx*, earring and necklace. Rev. ΔΑΠΙ – Σ / ΑΙΩΝ Bridled horse advancing r., r. foreleg raised. L-S type 2, series A, Dies O3/R4. BCD Thessaly 311 (this obverse die) and 310 (this reverse die).

Struck in high relief on a very broad flan and with a lovely light iridescent tone. Good extremely fine

7'500

Ex NAC 1, 1989, 156 and Gorny & Mosch 240, 2016, 645 sales.

The Oitaioi



- 270 Didrachm after 167, AR 7.62 g. Lion's head l. with spear in its jaws. Rev. ΟΙΤΑΙ / ΩΝ Youthful Heracles standing facing, wearing ivy-wreath, holding club and lion's skin. de Nanteuil 850. SNG Copenhagen 179. Valassiadis, The Coinage of the Oitaeans, in *Obolos* 7, 10. SNG Lockett 1588 (this coin). Weber 2883 (this coin). BCD Thessaly I, 1217. BCD Thessaly II, –.

Extremely rare and possibly the finest specimen in private hands. Struck on excellent metal and with a wonderful old cabinet tone. Good extremely fine

20'000

Ex *Ars Classica* VI, 1924, Bement, 929; *Ars Classica* X, 1925, 528 and Glendining 12-13 Febrary 1958, Lockett part II, 1451 sales. From the H. Weber collection and from an Exceptional Collection assembled between the early 70s and late 90s.

The types of this didrachm of the Oitaioi focus on the mythology of Heracles because it was within their territory that the greatest of all Greek heroes met his tragic end and subsequently ascended to the gods. Deianeira, the wife of Heracles, was almost carried off by the Centaur Nessos as she attempted to cross the Euenos River. She was saved by the timely arrival of Heracles, who shot the Centaur with a poisoned arrow. However, as Nessos lay dying, he told Deianeira to make a potion from his blood that he said would ensure the fidelity of husband Heracles, who had the unfortunate habit of fathering children with other women throughout Greece, Italy, the Near East, and North Africa. Deianeira followed his instructions and soaked her husband's shirt in the blood, not realising that it was contaminated with the poison (the venom of the Lernean Hydra) of the arrow that killed Nessos. When Heracles put on the shirt, the poison immediately began to burn his flesh and realizing that it would ultimately kill him, Heracles ascended Mount Oita, the mountain from which the Oitaioi derived their name, and built his own funeral pyre at the summit. Casting himself onto the flaming pyre, Heracles destroyed his mortal self, but freed his immortal self to rise to join the Olympian gods.

Illyria, Dyrrachium



271 Drachm circa 250-229, AR 2.31 g. Head of Heracles r., wearing lion's skin headdress. Rev. Δ[YP] Pegasus flying r. SNG Copenhagen 433. SNG Delepierre 1171.
In unusually fine condition for the issue. Wonderful iridescent tone and good very fine 500
Ex Kovacs Mail Bid IX, 1995, 84 and NAC 114, 2019, 165 sales.

Epirus, Corcyra



272 Drachm circa 400-350, AR 5.58 g. Forepart of bull r. Rev. Eight pointed star; between rays, stars. All within a pearl circle and two linear circles. *Traité* pl. 284, 3 = BMC 70.
Extremely rare. Old cabinet tone and about extremely fine 5'000
Ex M&M 13, 1954, 1122 and M&M Basel 88, 1999, 164 sales.

Acarmania, Anactorium



273 Stater circa 320-280, AR 8.60 g. Pegasus flying l.; below, monogram. Rev. Head of Athena l., wearing Corinthian helmet; above, ΛΥΣΙ and behind neckguard, monogram and *thymiaterion*. BCD Akarnania -. SNG Copenhagen 295. Calciati, Pegasi 70. Lovely iridescent tone and good extremely fine 750

Boeotia, Thebes



274 Stater circa 368-364, AR 12.12 g. Boeotian shield. Rev. Amphora, two ivy leaves on each handle; in field, KA -BI. All within incuse circle. Hepworth 61. BCD Boiotia 539. McClean 5601.
Extremely fine 800

Attica, Athens



- 275 Didrachm, 'Wappenmünzen' type circa 520, AR 8.56 g. Gorgoneion facing with open mouth and protruding tongue. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square, diagonally divided. Svoronos 63. Seltman group D83 (P63/A56). Kroll pl. 2, 15. Rosen 196.
Extremely rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Struck in high relief and perfectly centred with a lovely old cabinet tone. Extremely fine 25'000

From a Distinguished Swiss collection.

By the traditions represented in the works of Aristotle and Plutarch, Athenian coinage was introduced by Solon, who became Archon of Athens in 594/3 B.C. However, hoard evidence shows that those literary references cannot be accurate, as they speak to a time long before coinage was first produced in Athens. The references either must be to drachm weights of silver (rather than, specifically, to coined silver) or the original texts were subjected to later revisions. The first coinage of Athens, known as Wappenmünzen ('heraldic coins'), appears to have been introduced in about 545 B.C., near the start of the tyranny of Pisistratus. It would seem that local elites were the driving force behind this coinage as the variety of designs, fourteen in all, likely represent shield-like family badges. The small number of dies employed and the rarity of the coins both indicate that these were not substantial issues. Among the coinages, the didrachm was unusual, though in the earliest phase of Athenian coinage, it was in fact the standard denomination: a coin that was equal in weight to a Corinthian stater (about 8.6 grams). However, sometime between c. 525 and c. 515 B.C., during the tyranny of Hippias (527-510), the Wappenmünzen coinage was superseded by the Gorgoneion tetradrachm series. The introduction of double-weight coins perhaps indicates that the Athenians planned to start using coins for the purpose of large transactions and international trade, rather than principally for local use.



- 276 Obol, 'Wappenmünzen' type circa 515-510, AR 0.57 g. Wheel with four spokes. Rev. Incuse square divided diagonally. SNG Copenhagen 7. Seltman pl. IV, p. Svoronos pl. 1, 54-56.
Very rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Old cabinet tone and good very fine 1'000

From the Collection of a Mentor.



- 277 Tetradrachm circa 431, AR 17.18 g. Head of Athena r., wearing crested helmet decorated with olive leaves and spiral palmette. Rev. AΘE Owl, with closed wings, standing r. with head facing; in upper field l., olive twig and crescent moon; all within incuse square. Svoronos pl. X. Dewing 1593.
Good extremely fine 500
- 278 Tetradrachm circa 134-133, AR 16.87 g. Head of Athena r., wearing crested Attic helmet, bowl decorated with tendrils, griffin and the protomes of four horses above the visor. Rev. A - ΘE / TIM - APXOY / NIKAI[O] / ΣΩΣΙΓΓE Owl with closed wings and head facing, perched r. on amphora on which Δ. In inner l. field, anchor downwards with star to r.; ME below. All within wreath. Thompson, New Style 363g. Svoronos pl. 50, 5 (these dies).
Wonderful iridescent tone and good extremely fine 2'500

Islands off Attica, Aegina



- 279 Stater circa 480–457, AR 12.27 g. Sea-turtle with heavy collar and dots running down its back. Rev. Large skew pattern incuse. Milbank, ANSNM 24, p. I, 15. Holloway, ANSMN 17, pl. VI, 4. Dewing 1674.
Struck in high relief and with a superb old cabinet tone. About extremely fine 7500

Leu 79, 2000, 578; NGSA 7, 2012, 63 and Triton XXII, 2019, 222 sales. From the Gasvoda collection.

Corinthia, Corinth



- 280 Stater circa 405-345, AR 8.59 g. Pegasus flying l.; below, *koppa*. Rev. Helmeted head of Athena r.; in l. field, ivy-leaf. Pegasi, Calciati 118. Ravel 370. BCD Corinth 51.
Lovely iridescent tone and good extremely fine 1'000

From the Collection of a Mentor.

Sicyonia, Sicyon



- 281 Stater circa late 330s, AR 12.25 g. Chimera advancing l., with r. paw raised; above, wreath and beneath, ΣΕ. Rev. Dove flying l., below its neck, Ν. All within olive wreath. *Traité* 776 and pl. CCXX, 13. BMC 57. BCD Peloponnesos I, 218 (this obverse die).

Struck on exceptionally fresh metal and good extremely fine 4'000

Elis, Olympia



- 282 Drachm, Olympiads 82-87 circa 452-432, AR 5.24 g. [F]AΛEI[ON] Eagle flying l. with wings above and below, possibly grasping snake in its talons; above l., countermark. Rev. Nike running r., holding wreath in her outstretched l. hand and chiton with her r. BMC 7. Lappa 100. Schwabacher NC 1939, 12 and pl. I, 15 (this coin). Seltman Olympia, p. 33 and pl. VIII, 6. SNG Delepierre 2045 (these dies). BCD Olympia 27 (this coin).
Extremely rare. Old cabinet tone, countermark on obverse, otherwise very fine 500

Ex M&M Fixed Price List 236, 1963, 4 and Leu sale 90, 2004, BCD, 27. From the Mentor collection.

Crete, Phaistos



283

- 283 Stater circa 350, AR 11.65 g. ΦΑΙΣΤΙΩΝ] Heracles seated l. atop lion's skin draped over rock, head slightly r., club resting against l. leg; before him, tree upon which is hung his bow and quiver; behind, large amphora. Rev. ΦΑΙΣ Bull butting l.; all within wreath. *Traité* pl. 256, 5 (these dies). Svoronos, *Crete* 33 and pl. XXIV, 2 (these dies). *Le Rider*, *Monnaies Crétoises* pl. XXII, 29 (these dies).

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Struck in high relief on a very broad flan and with a superb old cabinet tone. Extremely fine

35'000

Ex M&M sale XIX, 1959, 455. From a Distinguished Swiss collection.

Phaistos was one of the important palace centers of Bronze Age Crete. Following the description given in Strabo's *Geography*, its site was discovered by Thomas Spratt in 1853. Although the palace complex was destroyed by earthquake in the 18th century BC, it was rebuilt only to be destroyed again by the invading Achaeans in c. 1400 BC. Phaistos was subsequently abandoned, but in the Iron Age the site was resettled as a Greek city. According to the account given by Diodorus Siculus in the first century BC, Phaistos could trace its foundation back to the great Cretan king Minos, who controlled the Aegean Sea with his ships and could command Athens to pay tribute in youths to feed the monstrous Minotaur. Phaistos was said to have been built alongside Knossos and Kydonia—the other cities attributed to Minos—probably to reflect its frequent political domination by Knossos. In contrast, another probably local tradition known to Pausanias in the second century AD claimed that the city was founded by a son of Herakles, the eponymous hero Phaistos. Unfortunately, the strength of Herakles and his son seem not to have been passed on to the city in full measure. In the early second century BC Phaistos was destroyed by Gortyna out of revenge for Phaistian involvement in a Gortynian civil war in the late third century BC. The present stater seems to endorse the origin story reported by Pausanias in which Phaistos was connected to Herakles. The obverse depicts the great hero resting after his labours while the reverse type indicates that he is specifically resting after the completion of his seventh labour: the capture of the Cretan Bull. This creature had been a curse on Crete in the days of King Minos, for not only did its rampages cause great destruction throughout the island, but its beauty inspired an unnatural desire in the king's wife that led to the birth of the Minotaur. Not surprisingly under the circumstances, Minos was very happy to have Herakles carry away the Cretan Bull to mainland Greece. However, after the animal arrived at the court of Eurystheus of Tiryns the bull is said to have escaped to cause new destruction in the environs of Marathon in Attica. It was later killed by Theseus not long before his departure from Athens to Crete with the intent to slay the Minotaur.

The Cyclades, Tenos



- 284 Didrachm circa 260-240, AR 6.62 g. Head of Apollo Carneius r. Rev. THNIΩN Poseidon standing l., holding dolphin and sceptre; in l. field, bunch of grapes. SNG Copenhagen 769. SNG Lockett 2631. Dewing 1970. Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. An interesting Hellenistic portrait struck on very fresh metal. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 7/500

Privately purchased from Herbert Kreindler in 2002 and notarized as being in Switzerland prior to 2004.

Although it is struck to a much lower weight standard than the Attic, this didrachm derives its types from two of the most widely recognized Attic-weight coinages of the third century BC. The reverse type depicts Poseidon holding a dolphin and trident, a modified version of the Zeus who graced the reverse of tetradrachms struck both during the lifetime and after the death of Alexander the Great. Here Zeus has essentially been turned into Poseidon by the replacement of his usual eagle with a dolphin and the substitution of his scepter with a trident. Likewise, while the laurel wreath worn by the youthful horned head on the obverse signals a representation of Apollo Carneius, the model for the head is clearly that of Alexander the Great with the horn of Ammon found on tetradrachms initially struck by Lysimachos in 297/6 BC. Even the anastole hairstyle typical of the Alexander portraits remains visible here at the same time that the head is supposed to be read as Apollo Carneius. This issue of Tenos, perhaps above all others of the third century BC, illustrates how strongly the coinage of Alexander the Great and Lysimachos influenced the civic coinages that evolved in the decades that followed their deaths. While influenced by some of the most common and widespread coinages of the Hellenistic age, the present didrachm, of Tenos is actually one of the rarest in coinage struck by cities of the Cyclades.

Uncertain mint in the Aegean Islands



- 285 Stater circa 600, AR 12.32 g. Head of horse r. Rev. Incuse square punch. For type, cf. CNG sale 91, 2012, 343 (twelfth stater). Regling Kunstwerk 26 (as Cyclades and Sporades and located in Berlin).
Of the highest rarity, apparently only the second specimen known and the only one in private hands. A very intriguing issue struck on a broad flan. Good very fine 20'000

Ex Tkalec sale 29 February 2000, 74.

This unique silver stater from the earliest period of Greek coinage after the parting of electrum into gold and silver was produced at an uncertain mint. The horse head is known as a type on several emissions of early fractional silver variously attributed to Asia Minor and the Thracio-Macedonian region. However, the apparent use of the Aeginetan weight standard for the stater seems to point to a mint in mainland Greece or the Aegean islands more strongly than to Asia Minor. Although the stater features a different incuse punch design on the reverse and a less dynamic pose of the horse head, the dotted treatment of the animal's mane seems to suggest a potential stylistic relationship with other unpublished fractional issues (e.g., CNG EA 370, lot 138; CNG EA 466, 120). Unfortunately, this possible connection of style does not help much to identify the originating mint.



159



214



164



246



260



392



395



299





294



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306



315



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354



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335



342

Pontus, Amisus



286



286

286 Bronze circa 125-100, Æ 21.48 g. Male bust r., wearing leather cap. Rev. AMI – ΣΟΥ Quiver. SNG von Aulock 57. SNG Copenhagen 131. SNG BM Black Sea 1138.

Rare. A very interesting portrait of fine style and a lovely brown tone. Unobtrusive adjusting marks, otherwise about extremely fine

1'000

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 211, 2013, 259.

Kings of Pontus, Mithradates VI, 120 – 63



287



287

287 Tetradrachm 93-92, AR 16.73 g. Diademed head r. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ / ΕΥΠΙΑΤΟΡΟΣ / Η Pegasus grazing l.; at sides, star over crescent / ΕΣ / monogram. All within ivy-wreath. SNG von Aulock 6 (this obverse die). SNG Copenhagen 234 (this obverse die). de Callataÿ, Guerres pl. X, D31/R –.

A portrait of fine style perfectly centred and a light iridescent tone.

Minor marks on obverse, otherwise extremely fine

3'500

Paphlagonia, Sinope



288



288

288 Bronze circa 125-100, Æ 21.03 g. Male bust r., wearing leather cap. Rev. ΣΙΝΩ – ΠΙ[ΗΣ] Quiver. SNG Stancomb 792. SNG BM Black Sea 1523.

A very interesting portrait of fine style. Dark brown tone and extremely fine

1'500

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 211, 2013, 265.

Bithynia, Heraclea Pontica



289



289 Drachm circa 360-340, AR 3.74 g. Youthful head of Heracles l., wearing lion's skin headdress; below neck, club l. Rev. ΗΡΑΚΛΕ[ΙΑ] Head of Hera l., wearing turreted *stephane* adorned with palmette and two punctated discs, pendant earring, and necklace. BMC 18. SNG BM Black Sea 1597 (these dies). SNG von Aulock 357.

Very rare. Two lovely portraits of excellent style and a superb old cabinet tone. Extremely fine

5'000

From the Collection of a Mentor.

King of Bithynia, Prusias I 238 (?) – 183



290



290

290 Tetradrachm 238-183, AR 16.29 g. Diademed head r. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ - ΠΡΟΥΣΙΟΥ Zeus Stratius standing l., holding wreath over royal name and sceptre; in inner l. field, thunderbolt / ME ligate / monogram. Recueil Général 9b. Jameson 1387. SNG von Aulock 6878.

A spectacular Hellenistic portrait of excellent style struck in high relief.

Wonderful iridescent tone and good extremely fine

7'500

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 240, 2016, 208.

Nicomedes III, 127 – 94



291



291

291 Tetradrachm 96-95 (year 203), AR 16.93 g. Diademed head r. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ – ΕΠΙΦΑΝΟΥΣ / ΝΙΚΟΜΗΔΟΥ Zeus standing l., holding wreath and sceptre; in inner l. field, eagle standing l. on thunderbolt above monogram and date (year 203). Recueil Général II, p. 202. de Callatay, Guerres, p. 60, D143/R – (different monogram). Struck in very high relief and with a wonderful light iridescent tone.

Virtually as struck and Fdc

1'500

Ex Roma Numismatics sale 9, 2015, 405.

Mysia, Cyzicos



292



292

- 292 Stater circa 500-450, EL 16.03 g. Facing head of Athena, wearing crested helmet; below, tunny-fish l. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. SNG France 196 (these dies). Greenwell 32 and pl. II, 7 (possibly this coin). *Traité* 2611 = von Fritze 69 and pl. II, 21 (these dies).

Extremely rare. An interesting and unusual representation of Athena struck in high relief. Extremely fine

35'000

Possibly ex Sotheby, Wilkson & Hodge sale 10 July 1884, Whittall, 744. From a Distinguished Swiss collection.

The Mysian city of Cyzicus holds a special place in the history of ancient Greek coinage. Whereas most Greek cities had abandoned the use of electrum—an alloy of gold and silver that may have been first found naturally in the Pactolus River of Lydia—in favor of parted silver and gold for coinage, Cyzicus and a few others still held on to this old tradition in the classical period. This seems to have been done in order to facilitate trade along the coasts of the Black Sea, where electrum continued to be a preferred alloy. This preference continued as late as the fourth century BC, when the city of Olbia found it necessary to establish an exchange rate between Cyzicene staters and Olbian silver drachms. The present electrum stater features the facing helmeted head of Athena. This is a fairly rare treatment of the goddess for the early Classical period with most mints preferring to depict her head in profile. Facing heads of Athena are much more common in the fourth century BC after Kimon of Syracuse created a fashion for this sort of treatment with his celebrated facing head of Arethusa. The head on the Cyzicene stater, however, seems to be influenced to some degree by contemporary gorgoneion types, suggesting that the goddess may have been intended to serve some apotropaic purpose.



293



293



294



294

- 293 Hecte circa 500-450, EL 2.56 g. Boar walking l.; below, tunny-fish l. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. von Fritze 90. Rosen 467. Unusually well centred and complete. Good extremely fine 1'500

- 294 Hecte circa 500-450, EL 2.76 g. Female head l., wearing circular earring and necklace, hair bound in sphendone, below, tunny-fish l. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. von Fritze 106. Boston, MFA —. SNG France —. Very rare. A superb portrait of fine style. Minor flan crack, otherwise extremely fine 2'500

Ex Roma Numismatics sale 7, 2014, 654.



295



295



296



296

- 295 Hemihecte circa 480-460, EL 1.35 g. Naked male figure kneeling l., holding tunny fish by tail. Rev. Quadripartite incuse punch with irregular surfaces. von Fritze 112. Boston, MFA 1489. von Aulock 1202.

In an exceptional state of preservation and perfectly struck and centred. Good extremely fine 2'000

Ex Triton sale VI, 2003, 306.

- 296 Hecte circa 400, EL 2.70 g. Perseus kneeling r. wearing winged cap and cloak, head l., holding head of Medusa; below, tunny fish r. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. *Traité* II 2, pl. 174, 19. von Fritze 162. SNG France 312. Very rare. Lovely reddish tone, a minor scuff on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine 500

From the Collection of a Mentor.



297



297

- 297 Stater circa 380, EL 16.23 g. Head of youthful Satyr r., wearing ivy wreath and with a goat's ear; below, [tunny fish r.]. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. Jameson 1418a (these dies). SNG France 331. Gillet 1080 (this coin). Von Fritze 192 and pl. VI, 4 (these dies).

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. A spectacular portrait of enchanting beauty struck in high relief, light reddish tone and extremely fine

50'000

Ex Leu-M&M 28 May 1974, Kunstfreund, 210 and NAC 7, 1994, 239 sales.



298



298

- 298 Stater circa 380, EL 16.15 g. Eagle standing l. on tunny fish l. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. von Fritze 223 and pl. 6, 35. Traité pl. 175, 25. SNG France 350. Boston, MFA 1569.

Very rare. Perfectly struck and centred, lovely reddish tone and extremely fine

20'000

Ex Sotheby's 7 March 1996, 110 and NAC 10, 1997, 233 sales.

Lampsacus



299



- 299 Stater circa 350, AV 8.49 g. Laureate head of Zeus l., with lotus-tipped sceptre over far shoulder. Rev. Forepart of Pegasus r.; all within shallow and partially incuse square. Baldwin, Lampsakos 29 and pl. II, 32 (these dies). Boston, MFA 1595. Jameson 1442 (this coin). SNG France 1137 (these dies). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 202, 729.

Rare. A spectacular portrait of excellent style struck in high relief.

Good extremely fine / extremely fine

40'000

Ex Hess-Leu 16 April 1957, 253. From the Jameson and a Distinguished Swiss collection.

Kings of Pergamum, Attalos I, 241 – 197



300

- 300 Tetradrachm 241-197, AR 17.10 g. Laureate head of Philetarus r. Rev. ΦΙΛΕΤΑΙΡΟΥ Helmeted Athena seated l., holding spear with l. hand and crowning with r. the legend; behind, bow, in inner l. field A and in outer l. field, bunch of grapes. SNG von Aulock 1358. SNG France 615. Westermark V.LXVIII/R.–
Struck in very high relief and with a lovely iridescent tone. Extremely fine 1'000

Ex NAC sale 106, 2018, 260. Privately purchased from Spink & Son at the NYICC in 1999. From the Harald Salvesen collection.

Islands off Troas, Tenedos



301

- 301 Tetradrachm circa 100-70, AR 16.70 g. Janiform head of a laureate male and diademed female. Rev. ΤΗΝΕΔΙΩΝ Labrys; below, bunch of grapes – bust of Artemis r. and monogram. All within laurel wreath. de Callataÿ, Studies Price, p. 100, note 11a (this coin cited).
An apparently unique variety. Struck on an exceptionally large flan and with a lovely iridescent tone. Minor porosity on obverse, otherwise good very fine 3'500

Ex Giessener Münzhandlung Dieter Gorny sale 82, 1997, 98. From the Harald Salvesen collection

Aeolis, Cume



302

303

- 302 Tetradrachm magistrate Straton, circa 160-150, AR 16.75 g. Diademed head of Kyme r. Rev. ΚΥΜΑΙΩΝ Horse standing r., l. foreleg arched high in the air over one-handed cup; in exergue, ΣΤΡΑΤΩΝ. All within oak wreath. SNG Berry 992 (this obverse die). Oakley, Kyme, ANS MN 27, 39 (this obverse die).
Light iridescent tone and extremely fine 1'000

Ex NFA sale XX, 1988, 719. From the Harald Salvesen collection.

- 303 Tetradrachm magistrate Herakleides, circa 160-150, AR 16.91 g. Diademed head of Kyme r. Rev. ΚΥΜΑΙΩΝ Horse standing r., l. foreleg arched high in the air; below, eagle on thunderbolt and one-handed cup and in exergue, ΗΡΑΚΛΕΙΔΗΣ. All within oak wreath. Oakley, Kyme, ANS MN 27, 65 (this obverse die).
A portrait of fine style and a lovely iridescent tone. Minor area of weakness on reverse and an unobtrusive mark on chin, otherwise good extremely fine 1'250

Ex NAC sale 114, 2019, 234. From the Harald Salvesen collection (privately purchased from Leu Numismatik on 1st June 1987).



304

- 304 Tetradrachm magistrate Kallias, circa 160-150, AR 16.65 g. Diademed head of Kyme r. Rev. KYMAIΩΝ Horse standing r., l. foreleg arched high in the air over one-handed cup; in exergue, ΚΑΛΛΙΑΣ. All within oak wreath. SNG von Aulock 1636. Oakley, Kyme, ANS MN 27, 22 (this obverse die).

Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine

1'500

Ex Lanz sale 36, 1986, 334. From the Harald Salvesen collection.

Myrina



305

- 305 Tetradrachm circa 155-145, AR 16.65 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. MYPINAIΩΝ Apollo Grynus standing r. with laurel branch and patera; to r., *omphalos* and amphora. In l. field, two monograms. All within laurel wreath. Sacks, ANSMN 30, issue 43.

Virtually as struck and Fdc

1'000

Lesbos, Mytilene



306

- 306 Hecte circa 521-478, EL 2.58 g. Gorgoneion facing, with tongue protruding. Rev. Incuse head of Heracles r., wearing lion's skin headdress. SNG Lockett 2756. SNG von Aulock 1691. Linzalone 1167. Bodenstedt 19.

In exceptional condition for the issue, perfectly struck and centred. Good extremely fine

3'500

Ex Berk 114, 2000, 11 and Triton VI, 2003, 338 sales.



- 307 Hecte circa 521-478, EL 2.58 g. Forepart of bull r. Rev. Lion's head r. with open jaws, incuse. SNG von Aulock –, cf. 7720 (lion l.). SNG Lockett –, cf. 2751 (lion l.). Bodenstedt –, cf. for obverse 5 and for reverse 2. An extremely rare variety of a very rare type. Perfectly struck and centred on a full flan. Good extremely fine 2'500
Ex Tkalec sale 29 February 2000, 87.

- 308 Hecte circa 521-478, EL 2.58 g. Lion's head r., with open jaws. Rev. Calf's head l., incuse. SNG von Aulock 1687. Weber 5605. Bodenstedt 12. In an exceptional state of preservation. Light reddish tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 2'000
Ex Tkalec sale 29 February 2000, 91.



- 309 Hecte circa 521-478, EL 2.55 g. Head of lion r., with open jaws. Rev. Calf's head r., incuse. Rosen 554. Dewing 2233. Boston, MFA 1679. Bodenstedt 13. Lovely reddish tone, obverse from a slightly rusty die, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine 1'000
Ex Roma Numismatics e-sale 29, 2016, 158.

- 310 Hecte circa 521-478, EL 2.56 g. Forepart of winged lion l. Rev. Cockerel's head l., incuse. Jameson 1472. Bodenstedt 9.1 Good extremely fine 2'000
Ex Roma Numismatics e-sale 30, 2016, 142.



- 311 Hecte, circa 521-478, EL 2.51 g. Lion's head r., with open jaws. Rev. Cockerel's head l., incuse. de Luynes 2544. SNG Copenhagen 302. Bodenstedt 7. Lovely reddish tone and good extremely fine 1'500
Ex Aretusa sale 2, 1994, 162.

- 312 Hecte circa 478-455, EL 2.52 g. Head of Athena r., wearing earring, necklace, and crested Attic helmet decorated with three olive leaves over visor and a spiral palmette on the bowl. Rev. Confronted bulls' heads within incuse square. Bodenstedt 35. SNG von Aulock 1695. Boston, MFA 1683. Very rare. A very interesting portrait of fine style perfectly centred on a full flan. Extremely fine 1'500
Ex Tkalec sale 23 October 1992, 113.



- 313 Hecte circa 454-427, EL 2.53 g. Head of Athena r, wearing crested Corinthian helmet. Rev. Two overlapping female heads within incuse square. Bodenstedt 55. SNG von Aulock 7735.
Very rare and in exceptional condition for this intriguing issue.
About extremely fine / extremely fine 12'500

Ex Giessener Münzhandlung 46, 1989, 235 and Gorny & Mosch 236, 2016, 237 sales.



- 314 Hecte circa 454-427, EL 2.51 g. Diademed female head facing slightly r. Rev. M Bull's head l.; all within incuse square. Bodenstedt 44. Boston, MFA –. BMC 49.
Rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. A very interesting and unusual portrait, light reddish tone and extremely fine / about extremely fine 2'500

Ex Roma Numismatics sale XI, 2016, 357.

- 315 Hecte circa 454-427, EL 2.51 g. Bearded head of satyr r. Rev. Head of wolf (or lion) facing within incuse square. Bodenstedt 47. SNG von Aulock –.
Extremely rare. A spectacular portrait of excellent style struck in high relief. Good extremely fine 3'500

Ex Roma Numismatics sale XI, 2016, 361.



- 316 Hecte circa 454-427, EL 2.55 g. Head of Persephone r. Rev. Lyre. Bodenstedt –. Boston MFA –. cf. CNG sale 57, 2001, 477.
Extremely rare, apparently only the third and by far the finest specimen known. Good extremely fine 2'500

Ex Roma Numismatics sale XI, 2016, 360.

- 317 Hecte circa 454-427, EL 2.56 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. Head of bearded satyr r., with animal's ears, within incuse square. *Traité II*, 2173. Bodenstedt 51. SNG Copenhagen 307.
Rare. Two magnificent portraits of excellent style. Extremely fine / good extremely fine 2'000

Ex Roma Numismatics sale XI, 2016, 363.



- 318 Hecte circa 454-427, EL 2.52 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. Goat's head r. within incuse square. Bodenstedt 59. SNG von Aulock 1698.
Rare and in unusually fine condition for this difficult issue. Minor area of weakness on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 1'250

Ex Roma Numismatics sale XI, 2016, 371.



- 319 Hecte circa 454-427, EL 2.54 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. Rock partridge advancing r. within linear frame. All within incuse square. *Traité II*, 2199. *Bodenstedt* 58. *SNG von Aulock* 1699.
Very rare, only five specimens listed by *Bodenstedt*. Extremely fine 2'000

Ex Roma Numismatics sale XI, 2016, 370.

- 320 Hecte circa 454-427, EL 2.40 g. Head of Athena r., wearing Attic helmet. Rev. Bearded head of Pharnabazos r., wearing Persian tiara, within linear frame; all within incuse square. *Bodenstedt* 71. *Boston, MFA* 1706. *SNG Fitzwilliam* 4349.

Two very interesting portraits of fine style. Extremely fine / about extremely fine 1'000

Ex Roma Numismatics e-sale 60, 2019, 265.



- 321 Hecte, circa 431-428, EL 2.58 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. Calf's head r., within incuse square. *Traité II*, 2163 and pl. 159, 40. *SNG von Aulock* 7727. *Bodenstedt* 56.

Of lovely style and extremely fine 1'500

Ex Roma Numismatics sale XI, 2016, 367.



- 322 Hecte circa 412-378, EL 2.53 g. Head of Ariadne l., her hair in *sakkos* decorated with three grape bunches. Rev. Lion r., holding spearhead in jaws, linear frame around. All within incuse square. *SNG von Aulock* –. *Weber* 5617. *Bodenstedt* 78.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, undoubtedly among the finest specimens known. A lovely portrait struck in high relief and perfectly centred. Extremely fine / good extremely fine 5'000

Ex *Aufhäuser* 10, 1993, 129 and *Gorny & Mosch* 236, 2016, 236 sales.

This hecte was struck as part of the coordinated electrum production undertaken by Mitylene on the island of Lesbos and the Aeolian city of Phocaea. The obverse features a superlative representation of Ariadne, the daughter of King Minos who assisted Theseus in his quest to slay the Minotaur. Her representation is extremely rare on ancient coins and this is almost certainly the finest Greek depiction. Here she is shown after the death of the Minotaur and her escape with Theseus to Naxos. Upon arriving on Naxos from Crete, the exhausted Ariadne is said to have fallen asleep. She awoke on the beach to see Theseus sailing home to Athens without her. Understandably, Ariadne was broken hearted and almost overcome with despair, but she was saved by the sudden appearance of Dionysus. The wine-god took her as his wife and carried her off to Olympus. The Dionysiac crown of grapes that Ariadne wears beneath her *sakkos* head covering may perhaps represent her wedding crown. According to Greek mythology, after the wedding this crown was placed in the heavens to serve as an eternal memorial of the happy event. It remains there to this day as the constellation of the Corona Borealis. Although it is often described as a lion breaking a spear, the reverse type actually seems to depict the animal gnawing on a bone. The type invites comparison with similar images of lions devouring prey on fourth-century coins of Velia in Magna Graecia, Morgantina in Sicily, and Plakia in Mysia.



- 323 Stater circa 350-350, AR 11.12 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. MY / T – I Lyre; in inner l. field, *thyrsus*. All within linear square. Weber 5673 = Locker Lampson 297 var. (without *thyrsus*). SNG von Aulock 7751 var. (without *thyrsus*). SNG Lockett 2782 var. (without *thyrsus*). BMC 30. Gillet 1117 (this coin). Very rare and in exceptional condition for this difficult issue. Wonderful old cabinet tone and good very fine / about extremely fine 7'500

From the Charles Gillet collection and from a Distinguished Swiss collection.

Ionia, Uncertain mint



- 324 Stater circa 625-600, EL 16.36 g. Floral pattern. Rev. Square incuse. Cf. White Gold, p. 416, group 14, 64. cf. Triton sale XII, 2009, 308. Apparently unique and unrecorded. A very important and fascinating issue, struck on a narrow flan, otherwise good very fine 15'000

This unique and attractive electrum stater belongs to the earliest period of coinage in Ionia. According to Herodotus, electrum coinage was first struck by the Lydians under King Alyattes in the late seventh century BC. From Lydia the production of coins quickly spread to the neighboring Greek cities of Ionia. Electrum—an alloy of gold and silver—was said to have been used originally due to finds of the unparted metal in the Pactolus River of Lydia. However, modern metallurgical analysis suggests that most electrum coinages had their gold and silver content closely controlled by the issuing authorities.

Through its use of the Phocaic standard, as well as its oblong shape, obverse rosette design and the single irregular incuse square punch on the reverse, the present stater seems to be closely related to similar pieces that appeared in Triton XII (lot 308) and Triton XXIII (lot 390). All of these coins are attributed to an uncertain mint in Ionia, but it seems possible that they may have been struck at Erythrai—an Ionian city that is known to have employed the Phocaic standard and featured floral and rosette designs on its electrum coins.

Heracleia ad Latmum



- 325 Tetradrachm circa 150-142, AR 16.75 g. Head of Athena r., wearing crested Attic helmet, the bowl decorated with Pegasus and the visor with forepart of horses. Rev. ΗΡΑΚΛΕΩΤΩΝ Club; below, owl standing r., between two monograms. All within wreath. SNG von Aulock 1977 (this obverse die). de Luynes 2614 (this obverse die). Lavva, Silberprägung, group I, 2 var. (V2/R –). A very attractive portrait of fine style. Lovely iridescent tone and good extremely fine 2'500

Ex Triton sale XVII, 2014, 294.

Miletus



- 326 Hemihecte circa 600-550, EL 1.16 g. Lion's head r. with paw. Rev. Punch containing five pellets connected by lines. Mitchiner, Early Coinage 199. Linzalone 1120. SNG Kayhan 447.
 Very rare. About extremely fine 1'500
 Ex Giessener Münzhandlung Dieter Gorny sale 82, 1997, 111.

Phocaea



- 327 Hecte circa 600-550, EL 2.59 g. Dolphin r. above dolphin l.; between, two pellets. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. Weidauer -, cf. 187 for a stater with three dolphins which possibly belongs to the same issue.
 Apparently unique and unrecorded. About extremely fine 1'500

From the collection of a Mentor.

- 328 Hecte circa 625-575, EL 2.57 g. Warrior's head l., wearing Corinthian helmet; behind, [seal]. Rev. Square incuse punch with irregular strokes. Bodenstedt 6 -/a.
 Extremely rare, only one other specimen cited by Bodenstedt.
 Struck on a narrow flan, otherwise extremely fine 3'500

Ex Tkalec 29 February 2000, 126 and NAC 91, 2016, 212 sales.



- 329 Hecte circa 625-575, EL 2.59 g. Forepart of bull r., head reverted; behind, [seal]. Rev. Square punch with irregular surfaces. SNG Lockett 2842 (this reverse die). SNG von Aulock 7946 (this reverse die). Bodenstedt 9 c/a.
 Extremely fine 1'250

Ex Tkalec 29 February 2000, 127 and NAC 91, 2016, 213 sales.

- 330 Hecte circa 625-575, EL 2.58 g. Ibex recumbent l.; above, seal. Rev. Rough incuse punch. Boston, MFA 1903 (these dies). Bodenstedt 19 a/a.
 Very rare. Minor mark on obverse field, otherwise extremely fine 2'500

Ex Tkalec sale 29 February 2000, 130.



- 331 Hecte circa 625-522, EL 2.58 g. Boar's head l.; below, seal l. Rev. Irregular incuse punch. BMC 30. Jameson 1509. Bodenstedt 14.
 Very rare. Extremely fine 2'500

Ex Roma Numismatics e-sale 30, 2016, 124.



332



333



- 332 Myshemihekte circa 625-522, EL 0.64 g. Griffin's head l., with open jaws and tongue protruding; behind, seal. Rev. Irregular bipartite incuse punch. Boston, MFA 1893. BMC 15. Bodenstedt 12.

Very rare. Good extremely fine 2'000
Ex Roma Numismatics e-sale 31, 2016, 122.

- 333 Hecte circa 625-522, EL 2.60 g. Head of seal l.; below, seal. Rev. Incuse punch. Bodenstedt 2. BMC 7. Boston, MFA 1894.

Very rare. About extremely fine 1'500
Ex Giessener Münzhandlung Dieter Gorny sale 62, 1993, 262.



334



334

- 334 Hecte circa 521-478, EL 2.55 g. Helmeted head l.; bowl decorated with palmette; below, seal. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. SNG von Aulock 1813. BMC 77 and pl. 5, 22. Bodenstedt 50.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, possibly the finest specimen known.
Perfectly struck and centred on a full flan. Good extremely fine 10'000

Ex Leu sale 15, 1976, 299.



335



335

- 335 Hecte circa 521-478, EL 2.61 g. Diademed female head l.; behind, seal downwards. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. SNG von Aulock 7943. SNG Kayahn 518. Bodenstedt 31.1 (this coin). Schefold MK, 402 (this coin). Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, undoubtedly among the finest specimens known. A superb portrait of fine style struck in high relief.

Light reddish tone and good extremely fine 12'500

Ex M&M sale 77, 1992, 115.

Like Cyzicus in Mysia, the city of Phocaea in Aeolis continued to strike an electrum coinage of hekta fractions long after electrum ceased to be used for coins by most cities of Greece and Asia Minor. In the fifth and fourth centuries BC this production was often coordinated with electrum issues struck at Mitylene, which seems to have provided fractions for use in the Black Sea trade while Cyzicus primarily provided staters. The present hekta features a beautifully executed and preserved female head with a braided hairstyle and wearing a stephane, beaded necklace and rosette earring. The wonderful Archaic style bears comparison with the so-called Kore statues that were widely popular in the Archaic period. Kore statues were usually erected as votive offerings in temple sanctuaries or served as grave markers and offerings to the dead. It is disputed whether the Kore statues were intended to represent specific deities or individuals or whether they represented the an Archaic ideal of female beauty. Considering the superb quality of the female head on this coin, one could easily imagine it to serve as a benchmark for ideal beauty. A seal appears behind the exquisite head as a punning badge of the city. The Greek word for seal is *phokia*, which is very close to Phokaia, the Greek name of the city. The seal frequently served as a mint mark of Phokaia in the Archaic and Classical periods and appears on the city's electrum hekta in a manner similar to that of the tunny fish on the electrum staters of Cyzicus.

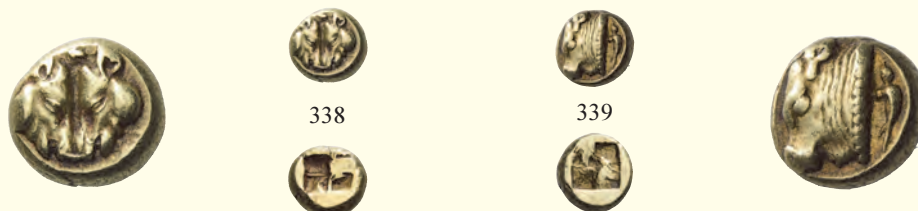


- 336 Hecte circa 521-478, EL 2.60 g. Three seals swimming clockwise around central pellet. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. *Traité II*, 2090. Bodenstedt 29.5 (this coin). SNG von Aulock 7940. Boston MFA 1895 (these dies). Jameson 2281 (this coin). Rare. Good very fine 2'500

Ex Hess 14 April 1954 and M&M 77, 1992, 114 sales. From the Erythrae hoard circa 1923 (IGCH 1184) and from the Jameson collection.

- 337 Hecte circa 521-478, EL 2.56 g. Helmeted head of Ares I.; below, seal. Rev. Incuse square punch, irregularly divided. Rosen 593. de Luynes 2643. Bodenstedt 44. Rare. A very interesting and attractive portrait struck in high relief. Extremely fine 2'000

Ex Triton XX, 2017, 272 and Heritage 3061, 2018, 29188 sales.



- 338 Hecte circa 521-478, EL 2.59 g. Two confronted boar's heads; above, [seal]. Rev. Quadripartite incuse punch. Jameson 2284 (this coin). Mitchiner 518. Bodenstedt 45.2 (this coin). Very rare and among the finest specimens known. Lovely reddish tone and extremely fine 5'000

Ex Hess sale 14 April 1954, 161; M&M 77, 1992, 117. From the Jameson collection and the Erythrae Hoard of 1923.

- 339 Hecte circa 521-478, EL 2.55 g. Bull's head l.; in r. field, seal. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. Bodenstedt 48a/ α . BMC 33 (These dies). SNG von Aulock 7728 (these dies). Light reddish tone and about extremely fine 1'000

Ex NAC sale 23, 2002, 1259.



- 340 Hecte circa 500, EL 2.58 g. Bull's head l. Rev. Quadripartite incuse punch. SNG Copenhagen 1023 (this reverse die?). Bodenstedt 10 a/ γ . Rare. Good extremely fine 1'250

Ex Numismatic & Ancient Art Gallery 7, 1991, 565; Tkalec 23 October 1992, 120 and NAC 88, 2015, 420 sales.

- 341 Myshemihecte circa 500, EL 0.67 g. Ram's head l.; below, seal l. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. Bodenstedt 20 a/ α . Extremely rare. Good extremely fine 1'000

Ex Tkalec sale 1992, 121.



- 342 Hecte circa 477-455, EL 2.55 g. Diademed female head l.; behind, seal. Rev. Irregular punch within incuse square. BMC 1. Bodenstedt 23.1 (this coin). Langlotz E., *Studien zur nordostgriechen Kunst*, 1974, pl. 3, 4 (this coin). Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, possibly the finest specimen in private hands. A spectacular portrait of great beauty, the work of a very skilled master engraver, perfectly struck in high relief. Good extremely fine 15'000

Ex NAC sale 6, 2993, 165. From the Athos and Dina Moretti collection.



- 343 Hecte circa 478-387, EL 2.56 g. Crested Attic helmet l., decorated with seal. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. Bodenstedt 60 a/- (unlisted reverse die). Boston, MFA -. Very rare. Extremely fine 3'000

Ex Roma Numismatics sale 10, 2015, 424.

- 344 Hecte circa 478-387, EL 2.55 g. Female head l., hair caught up in *sphendone*, wearing disk earring and dotted necklace; behind, seal downwards. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. Boston, MFA 1908 (these dies). SNG von Aulock 2120. Bodenstedt 62 a/b.

A very attractive and interesting portrait. An insignificant edge nick at nine o'clock on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine 2'000

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 236, 2016, 252.



- 345 Hecte circa 420, EL 2.54 g. Head of Hermes l., wearing *petasus*. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. Boston, MFA 1915. Bodenstedt 82.19 (this coin).

Of lovely style and well struck in high relief. Extremely fine 1'500

Ex Brüder Egger 41, 1912, 564; M&M 77, 1992, 118 and NAC 88, 2015, 422 sales.

- 346 Hecte circa 387-326, EL 2.53 g. Laureate female head l., hair in *sakkos*; below, inverted seal r. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. Bodenstedt 102. Boston MFA, 1920. Weber 6084.

A lovely portrait perfectly centred on a full flan. Extremely fine 1'500

Ex Tkalec sale 23 October 1992, 123.

Samos (?)

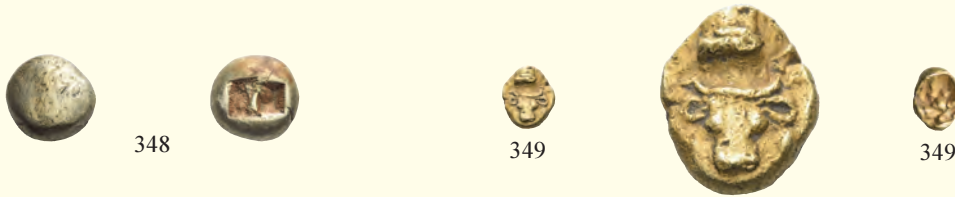


- 347 Hecte circa 575, EL 2.85 g. Side view of eagle flying r. Rev. Striated incuse square. *Traité* pl. 19, cf. 17 (hemihecte). SNG Kayhan 637. Linzalone LN 1113.

Extremely rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Unusually well struck and clear for the type, about extremely fine 2'500

Ex Tkalec 29 February 2000, 119 and NAC 88, 2015, 424 sales.

Asia Minor, Uncertain mint



- 348 Trite circa 650-600, EL 4.36 g. Plain globular surface. Rev. Two incuse squares. White Gold, p. 412, group 1,1. SNG Kayhan 673. SNG von Aulock 7762. Linzalone 1008. Rare. Good very fine 1'000
- 349 Tetartemorion circa 600, AV 0.60 g. Facing head of bull; above, astragalus. Rev. Irregular punch. cf. Rosen 385. Apparently unique and unrecorded. Surface somewhat porous, otherwise about extremely fine 1'000
- From the Collection of a Mentor.



- 350 Hecte circa 600-550, EL 2.33 g. Panther reclining l., head facing. Rev. Bipartite incuse square. cf. Aufhäuser sale 10, 1993, 167 (hemihecte). Apparently unrecorded. A very interesting and fascinating issue. Extremely fine 15'000

Ex Giessener Münzhandlung Dieter Gorny 76, 1996, 182 and Tkalec 29 February 2000, 102 sales.

Although the precise identity of the mint responsible for this beautiful and apparently unpublished electrum hecte is uncertain, it is tempting to suspect an Ionian mint, perhaps in the neighbourhood of Ephesus. The double incuse punch with irregular raised lines on the reverse is reminiscent of the reverse used for the slightly earlier electrum issues of Ephesus featuring a stag and naming Phanes. Also similar to the celebrated Phanes issues is the treatment of the spots on the panther's fur. As on the stag of Phanes, the panther's spots are represented here in the form of rings. The facing head of the animal invites comparison with the panther/lion mask that appears on early electrum issues from uncertain Ionian mints (e.g., Weidauer 158-165) sometimes associated with Miletos and Samos.



- 351 Hecte circa 600-550, EL 2.38 g. Lion's head facing (panther?). Rev. Incuse bipartite square. Weidauer 160. Boston 1778. Rosen 267 (this coin). SNG Kayhan 711. Rare. Struck on a narrow flan, otherwise about extremely fine 1'500
- Ex M&M 72, 1987, 30 and Sotheby's Zurich 25 October 1993, 648 sales.
- 352 Hemihecte circa 600-575, EL 1.12 g. Lion's head facing (panther?). Rev. Square punch incuse. Traité pl. I, 24. SNG von Aulock 1801. Weidauer 161 (this reverse die). SNG Kayhan 712. Linzalone LN 1153. Very rare. Exceptionally well-struck and centred. Extremely fine 1'500
- Ex Tkalec 29 February 2000, 99 and NAC 88, 2015, 412 sales.
- 353 Hemihecte before 522, EL 1.15 g. Bull's head r. Rev. Square incuse punch. Bodenstedt Series E (Mytilene) 1.2c and pl. 60, E 1.2c. SNG Kayhan 733. Very rare. Lovely reddish tone and extremely fine 1'000
- Ex Tkalec 29 February 2000, 104 and NAC 88, 2015, 413 sales.



- 354 Stater, uncertain mint in Ionia circa 500, EL 14.00 g. Lion's head r. with dotted collar; behind, two raised squares. Rev. Quadripartite punch with uneven surface. cf. NAC sale 84, 2015, 645. cf. CNG 42, 1997, 475. Ute Wartenberg, *White Gold*, 20 (these dies).

Of the highest rarity, apparently only seven specimens known. A very fascinating issue and a powerful representation of superb Archaic style.

Perfectly centred on a full flan and extremely fine 45'000

Ex Hirsch 182, 1994, 241; Hirsch 185, 1995, 262 and Hirsch 189, 1996, 214 sales.

The attribution of this stater is not certainly known, though its style also places it near the end of the Archaic period. Few parallels exist among early electrum staters for this style of punch, though one that is exceptionally close is illustrated in Martin Price's "A Field in Western Thrace" (*Coin Hoards II*, pl. 1, fig. 5). It bears a rather famous obverse type showing two lions standing upright, paws touching and heads reverted, with a floral ornament between them in the lower field. Because the fabric and punch-type are so compatible – and so distinct from almost all other known staters – one might suggest that they also were contemporary products of the same mint. The lion's head is engraved in an appealing style that has much in common with early electrum hectai of Lesbian Mytilene, most of which are attributed to the period c.521-478. The pelleted collar and the rough-hewn 'bricks' extending from the truncation of the neck find numerous parallels with lion heads at Mytilene, though, curiously, never in conjunction with or in the same mode of engraving – raised or incuse. Those with pelleted collars occur only as raised renderings on the obverse (Bodenstedt nos. 7 and 12-14), whereas those with the brick-like protrusions occur only as incuse renderings on the reverse (Bodenstedt nos. 1-2, 4-6, 8, 10-11, 15-16, 20 and 26). We may add that two hectai of Phocaea (Bodenstedt nos. 25 and 52) also have similar lion heads, in relief, with the pelleted collar.



- 355 Stater circa 500-480, EL 14.05 g. Lion lying down r.; above, lotus flower. Rev. A rectangular incuse with rough surface between two square incuses with rough surfaces. Linzalone 1174. Rosen cf. 245 (lion l.). Ute Wartenberg, *White Gold*, 10 (this coin).

Of the highest rarity, the finest of only five specimens known. A magnificent representation in powerful Archaic style perfectly centred on a full flan. Extremely fine

50'000

Privately purchased from Damastion on the 28 January 1992 and notarized as being in Switzerland prior to 2004.

This early electrum stater is a remarkable object to which no mint can be reliably assigned. Its style, fabric, method of production and Milesian weight standard all suggest a mint in Lydia or Ionia, yet the lotus flower that is so prominently displayed on this coin is a familiar feature of the early coins of Thrace and Macedon. Similar electrum staters have been found in the northerly regions of Greece, but find spots of large-denomination coins do not always speak to their origin, as they were habitually used in regional or international commerce. The lotus flower appears on at least two other early, electrum staters of the Milesian standard, both represented in the Jonathan Rosen collection (sylloge nos. 148-149). The first shows a bull kneeling with its head reverted; the other shows two rampant lions upright on their hind legs with heads reverted and paws extended. On these coins comparable flowers (shown above the bull and between the lions) are just as prominently displayed as on the present stater. In all three cases the lotus flower is an integral design element, and its presence is perhaps of greater import than the lions and the bull, which were equally familiar designs in Greece and Asia. The lotus flower appears on Archaic Thracian and Macedonian coins, including tetradrachms of Abdera, tetrobols and dodecadrachms of the Derrones and tetrobols of Olynthus. It is also a prominent and recurring design element on the tetrobols and tetradrachms of Acanthus and on coins usually attributed to Stageira or Methone. The method of production for this stater is also of interest. Instead of occurring as a single event, striking was performed in three stages, with the application of the large center punch being followed by two flanking impressions by a smaller punch. This three-step minting usually caused some unevenness in the obverse field. Many other staters were produced in this three-step manner, though in some cases the second and third strikings were performed with different punches. The obverses for staters produced in this manner are diverse and appear to cover the full evolution of early electrum, ranging from extremely early pieces with no discernible obverse design (Weidauer 1-3) to those with fully developed designs, including (at least) the present issue, ones portraying joined lion and bull protomes, joined lion protomes with a lotus flower, a human headed, a winged bull, the stag of Phanes, joined gorgon heads, joined facing lion heads, two ram heads, a kneeling ram, a lion forepart, confronted lion heads, the recumbent lion of Miletus, a charging bull, a seated pantheress(?), a lying horse and a horse protome.



241



245



258



242



270



283



275





290



374



375



377



379



394



398

Caria, Caunus



356



356

356 Stater circa 490-470, AR 11.77 g. Iris with curved wings and outstretched hands in a kneeling-running position r., head turned l.; wearing a long chiton and two scrolls curling up from the top of her head. Rev. Rough triangular shape in incuse square. SNG von Aulock 2344. SNG Keckman 810. BMC Cilicia 3 (these dies). *Historia Numorum Online* 217.

Very rare. Of superb Archaic style and with a lovely iridescent tone.

Obverse off-centre, otherwise good extremely fine

6'000

Ex Tkalec sale 23 October 1998, 58.



357



357

357 Stater circa 430-410, AR 11.56 g. Iris with curved wings and outstretched hands in a kneeling-running position l., head turned r., holding a *kerykeion* in r. hand and a wreath in l. Rev. Bunches of grapes on either side of a triangular baetyl; in upper l. field, Δ . All within incuse square. Troxell, 27. SNG Kayhan 792. SNG Keckman 825. Konuk 99.

Rare. Of excellent style and with a lovely dark tone. Extremely fine

5'000

Ex NAC sale 18, 2000, 228. From a Distinguished Swiss collection.

Islands off Caria, Carpathos



358



358

358 Stater circa 500-480, AR 13.90 g. Two dolphins leaping in opposite directions and a third smaller one swimming r. below; floral symbols in the corners. All within a dotted frame within a linear square. Rev. Incuse rectangle, with irregular surface, divided horizontally by a broad band. *Traité pl.* XIX, 10. Jameson 1542 var. (different orientation of dolphins). SNG von Aulock 2743 var. (different orientation of dolphins). Cahn, 'Poseidon on Karpathos?', *NC* 1957, pp. 11-12. Asyut 691.

Very rare. Struck on very fresh metal and with a light iridescent tone. Extremely fine

10'000

Ex Tkalec & Rauch 16 April 1987, 119; Leu 72, 1998, 273; New York 3, 2000, 156 sales and Freeman & Sear Fixed price list 8, 2003, 17.

The early silver staters traditionally attributed to the Aegean island of Karpathos represent an enigma of Archaic Greek coinage. They are given to the island based on the late issues in the series that feature the legend ΠΙΟΣ, which is believed to abbreviate the ethnic of Poseidion, one of the four cities on Karpathos. However, the attribution has been questioned due to the apparent use of the Milesian weight standard and the Attic form of the ethnic. According to Diodorus Siculus and Strabo, Karpathos and Poseidion were settled by Dorian Greeks. Therefore, the ethnic should be ΠΙΟΤ rather than ΠΙΟΣ and one might expect the use of the Aeginetan rather than the Milesian standard. Nevertheless, the distinctive parallel rectangular incuse punches used for the reverse strongly suggest a connection to the same coinage tradition of the Dorian cities of Ialysos, Kamiros and Lindos on the island of Rhodes. The present stater belongs to the early anepigraphic period of the Karpathian series and features leaping dolphins in a delightful Archaic style.

Cos



- 359 Tetradrachm, magistrate Nestoridas circa 350-345, AR 15.11 g. Head of Heracles l., wearing lion's skin headdress. Rev. ΚΩΙΟΝ Crab; beneath, ΝΕΣΤΟΡΙΔΑΣ and club r. Meadows, *Coin Hoard IX*, 20. SNG von Aulock 2748. Rare. Light iridescent tone and about extremely fine 3'500

Ex Ira & Larry Goldberg sale 96, 2017, 1737. Privately purchased from F. Kovacs in the 1990's. From the Hanbery collections.



- 360 Didrachm, magistrate Damoxenos circa 285-258, AR 6.72 g. Head of Heracles facing slightly r., wearing lion's skin headdress. Rev. ΚΩΙΟΝ Crab; below, club and ΔΑΜΟΞΕΝΟΣ. All within square pelleted border. BMC 71 and pl. XXXI, 13. Jameson 1548 (this coin). SNG Lockett 2925 var. (different magistrate). Weber 6639 var. (different magistrate).

An extremely rare variety of a rare type. Of lovely style and with a superb old cabinet tone, good very fine / about extremely fine 2'500

From the Jameson and Mentor collections.

Rhodes



- 361 Tetradrachm circa 380, AR 15.16 g. Head of Helios facing three-quarters r. Rev. ΠΟΔ - ΙΟΝ Rose with buds; in l. field, [A] and in r. field, Corinthian helmet. All within incuse square. Hecatomnus 70c. (this coin). Bérend, SNR 45 (this coin illustrated).

Rare. A very impressive portrait of fine style struck in high relief. Wonderful old cabinet tone. The obverse from a slightly rusty die, otherwise about extremely fine 7'500

From the collection of a Mentor and the Marmaris Hoard (IGCH 1209).

Kings of Lydia, Time of Croesus, 561-546 or later



362 Heavy stater, Sardes circa 561-546, AV 10.52 g. Confronting foreparts of lion, with open jaws and r. forepaw raised, and bull. Rev. Bipartite incuse rectangle with rough surface. McClean 8635 and pl. 302, 3. Mitchiner, Early Coinage 29. Boston, MFA 2068-2069. Gulbenkian 756. Rosen 660.

Very rare. Struck on a very broad flan and complete, minor area of weakness on obverse, otherwise extremely fine 20'000

Ex NAC sale 11, 1998, 99.

Lycian dynasts, uncertain ruler circa 520 – 480



363 Stater, uncertain mint circa 520-480, AR 9.04 g. Forepart of boar l., with dotted truncation. Rev. Incuse square, with indentations on three sides, divided by large X. SNG von Aulock 4049. Boston 2080. Vismara, Lycia II, 14-15.

Perfectly struck and centred on a full flan and with a lovely iridescent tone. Good extremely fine 4'500

Ex Leu 7, 1973, 247 and Leu 81, 2001, Abecassis, 298 sales.

Pamphylia, Side



364 Stater circa 460-430, AR 10.80 g. Pomegranate; to upper r. field, forepart of lion l. Rev. Head of Athena r., wearing crested Corinthian helmet, within incuse square. Atlan 24. BMC 8. SNG France 626 (this obverse die).

Struck on very fresh metal and with a light iridescent tone. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 4'500

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 107, 2001, 227.



365

365 Tetradrachm 2nd-1st century BC, AR 16.97 g. Head of Athena r., wearing crested Corinthian helmet. Rev. Nike striding l., holding wreath; in l. field, pomegranate and thunderbolt above monogram. SNG von Aulock 4783. BMC 37. SNG Lockett 3024 (this coin).

Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine 500

Ex Naville VII, 1924, Bement, 1601 and Glendining's 21-23 February 1961, Lockett part IV, 2491 sales. From a Distinguished Swiss collection.

Cilicia. Pharnabazus, 380-375



366

366

366 Stater, Tarsus circa 380-375, AR 10.38 g. *bltrz* in Aramaic characters Baaltars seated l., holding eagle-tipped sceptre in r. hand; in l. field, *ankh*. Rev. *frnbz - hlk* in Aramaic characters Bearded bust of warrior l. wearing crested helmet decorated with palmette on bowl. Moysey, Issue 2, 39-41. SNG von Aulock 5931. SNG Berry 1288. Rare. Surface somewhat porous, otherwise extremely fine 3'500

Datames, 378-372



367

367 Stater, Tarsus, circa 378-372, AR 10.77 g. Head of nymph, wearing earring and necklace with pendants, facing three-quarters l. Rev. *tdnm* in Aramaic characters Bearded head r., wearing helmet; in l. field, bunch of grapes. SNG France 271. SNG Copenhagen 287. SNG von Aulock 5941 (this coin).

Wonderful old cabinet tone, an almost invisible mark on eyebrow, otherwise good extremely fine

2'000

Ex Leu 15, 1977, 333; Leu 50, 1990, 188 and Leu 61, 1995, 163 sales. from the H. von Aulock collection.

Mazaios, 361-334



368

368 Stater circa 361-344, AR 10.89 g. *bltrz* in Aramaic characters Baaltars seated l., holding bunch of grapes, ear of grain and eagle in r. hand and sceptre in l.; in lower l. field, Aramaic characters. Rev. *mzdi* in Aramaic characters Lion l. attacking bull. SNG Levante –. SNG France 334-335 var. (monogram below the throne).
Wonderful iridescent tone. Virtually as struck and Fdc 1'000

Cyprus, Paphos



369

369 Onasi (–), circa 400. Siglos circa 400, AR 11.11 g. *ba si le* in Cypriot characters. Bull standing l.; *ba* on its flank, above, solar disk and in l. field, *ankh*. Rev. Eagle flying l.; below, *astragalos*. All within incuse square. BMC pl. XXII, 2 = SNG Fitzwilliam 9157 = SilCoinCy A1878 var. (different legend on obverse). Tziambazis –.
Rare. Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine 1'500

Ex Roma Numismatics sale XIX, 2020, 580.



370

370 Nicocles, circa 325 – 310/9. Tetradrachm in name and types of Alexander III circa 325-317, AR 17.04 g. Head of Heracles r., wearing lion's skin headdress; on lion's mane, ΝΙΚΟΚΛΕΟΥΣ. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ Zeus Seated l.; holding eagle in r. hand and sceptre in l.; in l. field, monogram, and below the throne, laurel sprig. Price 3123. May, Paphos 7, pl. 1, 9. Tziambazis 11.

Very rare. An absolutely spectacular portrait of superb style and a spectacular iridescent tone. Virtually as struck and Fdc

3'000

From a Distinguished Swiss collection.

Salamis, Nicocles 373 – 361.



- 371 1/12 Stater circa 373-361, AV 0.69 g. Draped bust of Aphrodite I., wearing decorated *calathos*. Rev. Head of Athena I., wearing Corinthian helmet decorated with wreath. BMC 63. SNG Copenhagen 51. Tziambazis 121. Markou, 318 (these dies).

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Perfectly centred on a very broad flan and extremely fine

3'500

From a Distinguished Swiss collection.

Kings of Cappadocia



- 372 Drachm, Eusebeia-Mazaca 132. AR 4.20 g. Diademed head r. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ - ΑΡΙΑΡΑΘΟΥ Athena standing l. with spear and shield, holding Nike crowning royal name; monograms to outer l., inner l., and outer r. In exergue, ΕΥΣΕΒΟΥΣ / ΑΛ (year 31). Simonetta 8a (Ariarathes IV, this obverse die).

Extremely rare. Old cabinet tone and about extremely fine

500

Ex NAC sale 106, 2018, 333. From the Harald Salvesen collection.

Kings of Armenia. Tigranes II, 95–56



- 373 Tetradrachm, Tigranocerta circa 80-68, AR 15.88 g. Draped bust of Tigranes II r., wearing five-pointed tiara decorated with comet star between two eagles. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕ[ΩΣ] – ΤΙΓΡΑΝ[ΟΥ] The Tyche seated r. on rock, holding long palm frond in her r. hand; below, river-god swimming r.; on rock and in r. field, monograms. All within wreath. Kovacs 71.1. CAA 20. M&D 29. AC 34.

A portrait of fine style and a light iridescent tone. Good extremely fine

1'000

Seleucid kings, Demetrius I Soter, 162 – 150



374

374 Tetradrachm, Soloi circa 155-154, AR 16.90 g. Diademed head r., all within laurel wreath. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ / ΔΗΜΗΤΡΙΟΥ Tyche seated l. on throne with winged tritones support, holding sceptre and cornucopia; in outer l. field, monogram over owl and in outer r. field, monogram. CSE 527. SC 1611.3.

An absolutely spectacular portrait struck in high relief on very fresh metal.

Light iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 3'000

Ex M&M Fixed Price List 580, 1994, 11.

Alexander I Balas, 152 – 145



375 Tetradrachm, Seleucia Pieria 147-146 (year 166), AR 17.01 g. Laureate head of Zeus r. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ – ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ Thunderbolt; above, CΞΠ / monogram and below, two monograms. All within elaborate laurel wreath with ties to r. CSE 409. Gulbenkian 1044. A. Houghton, A Tetradrachm of Seleucia Pieria at the Getty Museum, in J. Getty Museum Journal 10 (1982), A2/P4 and fig. F. SC 1798.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. A bold portrait of fine style struck on a very broad flan. Good extremely fine

15'000

Ex Roma Numismatics sale 13, 2017, 443.



376

376 Tetradrachm, Sidon 147-146, AR 14.26 g. Diademed head r. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ – ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ Eagle standing l., with closed wings and a palm branch behind r. shoulder; in field, ΣΕΡ – ΣΙΔΩΝ / *aphlaston*. SNG Spear 1520. Rouvier, JIAN V, 1232. SC 1830.5.

Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine

1'000

From a Distinguished Swiss collection.

Demetrius II first reign, 146 – 138



377

377 Tetradrachm, uncertain mint in eastern Cilicia circa 141-140 (year 172), AR 16.69 g. Diademed head r. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΔΗΜΗΤΡΙΟΥ ΘΕΟΥ ΦΙΛΑΔΕ – ΛΦΟΥ ΝΙΚΑΤΟΡΟ – Σ Apollo seated l. on *omphalos*, testing arrow in his r. hand, l. hand on bow set on ground to r.; in l. field, monogram and in r. field, [two monograms]. In exergue, [B]OP. CSE 411. SC 1899.2.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. A spectacular portrait struck in very high relief and a lovely old cabinet tone. An almost invisible metal flaw on the cheek bone, otherwise good extremely fine

8'000

Ex Tkalec sale 25 October 1996, 64.

Antiochus VI Epiphanes, 145-142



378

378 Tetradrachm, Antiochia ad Orontes mid 143-142, AR 16.39 g. Radiate and diademed head r., within bead and reel border. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ / ΑΝΤΙΟΧΟΥ – ΕΠΙΦΑΝΟΥΣ / ΔΙΟΝΥΣΟΥ The Dioscuri on prancing horses l.; below, ΘΡ and in r. field, ΤΡΥ / Φ / ΣΤΑ. All within barley wreath. SMA 244. SC 2003.3a.

Struck on a very broad flan and with a lovely light iridescent tone.

Minor traces of oxidation, otherwise extremely fine

3'000

Tryphon, 142 – 138



- 379 Tetradrachm, Antiochia 142-138, AR 16.93 g. Diademed head r. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ - ΤΡΥΦΩΝΟΣ / ΑΥΤΟΚΡΑΤΟΡΟΣ Macedonian helmet with spike, cheek pieces and ibex horn; below, two monograms. All within laurel wreath border. SMA –. SC 2031.3d. cf. Roma Numismatics sale XIX, 2020, 602 (these dies).
 Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. An attractive portrait of excellent style struck on sound metal and with a light iridescent tone. Extremely fine 25'000

Ex M&M 79, 1994, 404 and Gorny & Mosch 269, 2020, 531 sales. From the Dr. G.W. collection.

Phoenicia, Aradus



- 380 **Uncertain king.** Stater circa 380-350, AR 10.26 g. Head of marine deity r., wearing laurel wreath. Rev. *ma* in Aramaic characters Galley r.; below, waves. BMC 18. SNG Lockett 3206. Jameson 1767 (this coin). Betlyon 10 and pl. 6, 7. In unusually fine condition for the issue. Wonderful old cabinet tone and about extremely fine 2'000

From the Jameson collection and a Distinguished Swiss collection.

The Jewish War, 66 – 70



- 381 Shekel, Jerusalem year 3 (68/9), AR 14.22 g. *šql ysr'ī* (Shekel of Israel) in paleo-Hebrew characters Cup with pearly rim; above, ŠG (y[ear] 3). Rev. *yrvšlym hqdwšh* (Jerusalem [the] Holy) in paleo-Hebrew characters Sprig of three pomegranates. Kadman 20. Meshorer 202. AJC II 18. Hendin 1361.
 Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine 6'000

Ex Morton & Eden 57, 2012, 150 and Roma Numismatics e-59, 2019, 537 sales.

Arabia. Sabaea



- 382 Siglos, imitating Athens 'New Style' coinage I century BC - I century AD, AR 5.39 g. Male head r., wearing laurel wreath; all within wreath. Rev. Owl standing r., head facing, on amphora; in l. field, monogram and mark of value and in r. field, monogram and curved symbol. CAF 1.13i2, fig. 391-393. SNG ANS 1475. Hurth 283-286. Klein 740 (this coin). Wonderful old cabinet tone and good very fine 1'000

Ex Triton sale XXIV, 2021, 789. Ex CNG inventory 750387. From the Dieter Klein and a Northern Californian gentleman collections.

Sasanian kings, Khusru II, 590 – 628



- 383 Dinar, uncertain mint 611 (RY 21), AV 4.58 g. *Pahlavi legend* Bust of Khusru II r., wearing mural crown with frontal crescent and two wings surmounted by star-in-crescent; fillet over each shoulder, crescent over right shoulder, crown flanked by star and star-in-crescent. Rev. *Pahlavi legend* Facing bust of Anahit in flame nimbus. Malek 6-7. Göbl type III/4 and pl. 14, 217. Mochiri 916. Sunrise 986.

Rare. An almost invisible mark on obverse field, otherwise good extremely fine 4'000

From the Collection of a Mentor.

Kings of Parthia, Mithradates II, 121 – 91



384 Tetradrachm, Seleucia circa 120/19-109, AR 15.64 g. Diademed bust l. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ – ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ – ΑΡΣΕ – ΑΚΟΥΥ Archer (Arsakes I) seated r. on *omphalos*, holding bow; in outer r. field, palm branch. In exergue, [E]ΠΙΦΑΝΟΥ[Σ]. Sellwood 24.3. Shore 66. Sunrise 281.

Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine 2'500

Ex CNG mail bid sale 78, 2008, 1011.

Kings of Bactria, Antimachus I, circa 174 – 165.



385 Tetradrachm, Balkh circa 171-168, AR 16.95 g. Draped bust of Antimachus r., wearing *causia*. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΘΕΟΥ– ΑΝΤΙΜΑΧΟΥ Poseidon standing facing, holding trident and long palm with ribbon; in inner r. field, monogram. Mitchiner 124f. Boppearachchi série 1, 1.

A wonderful portrait of fine style struck in high relief. Good extremely fine 2'500

Eucratides I, circa 171 – 145



386 Tetradrachm, Balkh circa 171-145, AR 16.92 g. Draped bust of Eucratides r., wearing horned helmet; all within bead and reel border. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ Dioscuri galloping r., each holding spear and palm branch; in r. field, monogram and in exergue, ΕΥΚΡΑΤΙΔΟΥ. Mitchiner 177f. Boppearachchi série 6, W.40.

Lovely iridescent tone and good extremely fine 1'500

Zoilos I Dikaios, 150-130



- 387 Drachm circa 150-130, AR 2.44 g. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΔΙΚΑΙΟΥ ΖΩΙΛΟΥ Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. *Maharajas dhramikasa Jhoilasa* in Kharosthi characters Hercules standing facing, holding wreath, club and lion's skin; monogram to inner l. Boparachchi 3B. Mitchiner 256b. SNG ANS 968.
Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Lovely iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 1'000

Ex Sternberg XXVII, 1994, 38 and Tkalec 29 February 2000, 206 sales. From the Pierre Strauss collection.

Amyntas, circa 80-65



- 388 Drachm circa 80-65, AR 2.54 g. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΝΙΚΑΤΟΡΟΣ ΑΜΥΝΤΟΥ Helmeted heroic bust l., wearing *aegis* over shoulder, brandishing spear. Rev. *Maharajasa jayadharasa Amitasa* in Kharosthi characters Zeus Nikephoros seated l., holding statue of Athena, sceptre and palm; in l. field, monogram. Boparachchi Série 11A. SNG ANS 1247 and 1249 corr. (listed as unpublished monogram).
Wonderful iridescent tone. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 1'000

Ex NFA sale 27, 1991, 80.

Indo-Greek Kingdom, Huviska circa 151 – 190 AD



- 389 Dinar, Balkh (?) 151-190, AV 7.95 g. Diademed, helmeted, nimbate and draped half-bust l. on clouds, holding mace and sceptre. Rev. Pharro, nimbate and wearing winged helmet, standing facing, head r., holding staff and clasp sword; in l. field, *tamgha*. Göbl -. MK 207 (different dies, only one specimen listed). Donum Burns -. ANS Kushan 737 (these dies) Extremely rare. Extremely fine 2'000

Ex NAC sale 92, 2016, 231. From the Ploil collection.

Ptolemaic kings of Egypt, Ptolemy II Philadelphos, 285 – 246



390

- 390 **In the name of Arsinoe II.** Octodrachm, Alexandria circa 253/2-246, AV 27.78 g. Diademed and veiled head of the deified Arsinoe II r., behind, Θ. Rev. ΑΡΣΙΝΟΗΣ – ΦΙΛΑΔΕΛΦΟΥ Double cornucopiae filled with fruit and bound with fillets. Svoronos 460 and pl. XV, 12. SNG Copenhagen 134. CPE 388 (this obverse die).
About extremely fine 10'000

Ex Naville Numismatics sale 1, 2013, 57.

Ptolemy III Euergetes, 246 – 221



391

- 391 **In the name of Berenice.** Pentakaidekadrachm, Alexandria (?) circa 245, AR 51.00 g. Draped and veiled bust of Berenice r. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΙΣΣΗΣ – ΒΕΡΕΝΙΚΗΣ Cornucopia filled with fruit and bound with fillets between laureate caps of the dioscuri. Svoronos 988 and pl. XXXV, 2. Vagi, Ptolemaic, pp. 5-10. Hazard 1052 (12 drachms). CPE 734.

Very rare. Struck on a very large flan, minor areas of porosity and oxidation,
otherwise good very fine / about extremely fine 20'000

The large and complex series of coins issued by Ptolemy III (246-222 B.C.) for a certain Berenice has been intensively studied in recent years. The most distinctive issue is a large silver coin traditionally described as an Attic-weight dodekadrachm (12 drachms), and more recently as a Ptolemaic-weight pentakaidekadrachm (15 drachms). There is no question that weights of these coins favour their classification as pentakaidekadrachms, as they are perfect for 15 Ptolemaic drachms, yet they are roughly equal to 12.5 Attic drachms – a significant overage in weight that is hard to explain. Yet, concerns linger as to why the Ptolemaic weight standard would have been employed at this time in Alexandria (the presumed mint of this issue) since that standard had not been in use there since the reign of Ptolemy I (305-282 B.C.). The answer may lie in the innovative nature of the Berenice series, which appears to include coins struck both to the Ptolemaic and the Attic weight standards. Another question raised in recent years is which Berenice is honoured: Berenice II, the wife of Ptolemy III, or Berenice Syra, the king's sister? The traditional view is that the king's wife is honoured, but Hazard has suggested it may be his sister. He sees the coins as products of the Third Syrian War (Laodicean War), which began not long after the death of the Seleucid King Antiochus II in 246 under mysterious circumstances. His death caused a dynastic crisis, for Antiochus II had two wives, the Seleucid Laodice and the Ptolemaic Berenice Syra, both of whom had borne him children who were considered legitimate heirs to the Seleucid throne. However, when Berenice Syra and her son were murdered in 246, Ptolemaic claims to the Seleucid throne were eliminated and Ptolemy III responded by invading Seleucid territories. His campaign was successful, but ground to a halt when domestic crises forced him to return to Egypt. In 241, Ptolemy III made peace with Seleucus II, who in the meantime had become the new Seleucid king. As laudable as Hazard's suggestion may be, the case for Berenice II, a queen in her own right, is perhaps stronger. She had married Ptolemy III in about 246, the eventful year of Berenice Syra's death, and throughout the Third Syrian War she ruled Egypt in his absence. Perhaps more important, Berenice's portrait bears no symbols to suggest she was deceased. On the earlier coinage for the deceased Arsinoe II, the bust is adorned with the divine attributes of a ram's horn and a lotus sceptre. Neither is present on the Berenice coinage, and though Berenice II was alive throughout her husband's reign, Berenice Syra was deceased.

Ptolemy III Euergetes, 246 – 221



392

- 392 **In the name of Berenice.** Decadrachm, Alexandria circa 246-222, AV 42.77 g. Veiled and draped bust r., wearing necklace. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣΗΣ – ΒΕΡΕΝΙΚΗΣ Filleted cornucopia; in field, stars and below, E. Svoronos 972 and pl. 29, 1 (Ephesus). Boston, MFA 2277 (this obverse die). Mørkholm, EHC 307 (this obverse die). SNG Lockett 3416 (this obverse die). Pozzi 3236 (this coin). Jameson 1818 (this obverse die).

Extremely rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, undoubtedly one of the finest specimens known. An impressive portrait struck on a very broad flan. Good extremely fine

250'000

Ex Naville 1, 1921, Pozzi, 3236; Vinchon April 1985, Pflieger, 418 and Leu 54, 1992, 196 sales. From the E. Milas collection.

In 250 BC, Magas, the rogue Ptolemaic governor-turned-king of Cyrene died, leaving his daughter Berenice as queen. Although an agreement had been made previously between Magas and Ptolemy II that Berenice would marry Ptolemy III and thus reunite Cyrenaica to Egypt, this was not honoured and Berenice instead married Demetrius the Fair, a scion of the Macedonian Antigonid dynasty. This relationship ended abruptly after Berenice discovered Demetrius in bed with her mother and ordered his execution. She subsequently married Ptolemy III and became a Ptolemaic queen in 246 BC. Berenice and Ptolemy III are said to have enjoyed a happy marriage. When her husband was called to war against the Seleucid Empire in the Third Syrian War (246-241 BC), Berenice famously dedicated a lock of her hair to Aphrodite as a vow for his safe return. According to tradition, the hair mysteriously disappeared in the night after it was dedicated. The explanation for its disappearance was discovered by Conon of Samos, the Ptolemaic court astronomer, when he looked into the night sky and identified a constellation as the missing lock, claiming that Aphrodite had placed it there in acknowledgement of the queen's dedication. Ever since, the constellation has been known by the Latin name *Coma Berenices* ("the Lock of Berenice"). Its recognition was memorialized in a poem by the court poet Callimachus later translated into Latin by Catullus. This gold octadrachm was probably struck from plunder brought back to Egypt by Ptolemy III at the conclusion of the Third Syrian War. The iconography of the veiled queen's portrait and cornucopia reverse follows the model established for the previous octadrachms of Arsinoe II, thereby associating Berenice with the deified queen of Ptolemy II and her identification with both Aphrodite and Isis. The stars flanking the cornucopia on the reverse may refer to the miraculous establishment of the *Coma Berenices*.

Ptolemy IV Philopator, 221 – 205



393

- 393 **In the name of Ptolemy III.** Octadrachm, Alexandria circa 219-217, AV 27.77 g. Radiate and diademed bust of deified Ptolemy III r., wearing *aegis* with trident over l. shoulder. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ – ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ Radiate cornucopia bound with royal diadem; below, ΔΙ. Svoronos 1117. SNG Copenhagen 196. CPE 887. Extremely fine 10'000

Ptolemy V Epiphanos, 205 – 180



394

- 394 Octadrachm, Alexandria circa 205-180, AR 28.37 g. Diademed bust of Ptolemy r., with aegis. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ – ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ Eagle standing l. on thunderbolt; in l. field, star. Svoronos 1230 and pl. XL, 1. SNG Copenhagen –. Extremely rare and in exceptional condition for this impressive issue. Struck on a very large flan and about extremely fine 25'000

Ex Leu sale 18, 1977, 281 (expertly conserved since). From the Collection of a Mentor.

While Ptolemaic gold *mnaieia* (oktadrachms) are encountered relatively frequently, silver oktadrachms are comparatively rare, due in part to the lack of natural sources of silver in Egypt. Out of the small pool of Ptolemaic silver oktadrachms, the present coin of Ptolemy V represents one of the very rarest emissions. When Svoronos produced his seminal work on the coinage of the Ptolemaic Kingdom in 1904-1908, he was aware of exactly two specimens. The number has increased little since then.

The oktadrachm features the standard types for Ptolemaic silver: the diademed portrait of Ptolemy I Soter, the founder of the dynasty, on the obverse and an eagle standing on a thunderbolt on the reverse. According to dynastic tradition, as an infant Ptolemy I was saved from exposure by an eagle sent by Zeus. According to some, the ruler of the gods had been the true father of Ptolemy I in the same way that his rival, Seleucus I, was reportedly a son of Apollo.

Here, a star has been added to the eagle reverse type. It has been suggested that it might represent the star Canopus. The rising of this star in 282 BC coincided with the death of Ptolemy I and was used to calculate the date of the quadrennial Ptolemaieia festival in Alexandria. On the other hand, the star may perhaps link the oktadrachm to gold *mnaieia* struck in 199/8 BC that feature the portrait of Ptolemy V wearing a diadem with stars at the tie ends.



395

- 395 Octodrachm, uncertain military mint in Phoenicia circa 202-200, AV 27.73 g. Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ – ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ Eagle standing left on thunderbolt; in l. field, Θ and between legs, NI. Svoronos 1281 and pl. XLII, 14 (this obverse die and for Alexandria). Hunterian 19. SNG Lockett 3427 (this coin). Extremely rare, only four specimens listed by Svoronos. A very interesting and unusual portrait struck in high relief. Extremely fine / good extremely fine 100'000

Ex Glendining's 22 February 1961, Lockett, 2813 and M&M 25, 1962, 498 sales. From a Distinguished Swiss collection.

The extreme youth of Ptolemy V and the unpopularity of his ministers meant that, as soon as he came to the throne, the vultures began to circle. In 203 BC, the Seleucid king Antiochos III made an agreement with Philip V of Macedonia to carve up the Ptolemaic kingdom between them and leave nothing but Egypt for the boy king. The Ptolemaic territories of Phoenicia and Coele Syria had been desired and fought over by the Seleucid kings since the time of Antiochos I (280-261 BC) and Philip V longed to restore Antigonid power over the Greek islands and parts of Thrace and Asia Minor that remained under Ptolemaic influence. With this agreement in hand, Antiochos III embarked on the Fifth Syrian War (202-196 BC), which ultimately resulted in the Seleucid conquest of Phoenicia and Coele Syria. These territories would never return to the Ptolemaic political orbit. The present octadrachm was struck at an uncertain mint in Phoenicia to finance the losing struggle against Antiochos III. By the time of the Fifth Syrian War it had become standard practice for mints along the Phoenician coast to be activated for coin production at the first sign of Seleucid aggression or on occasions when Ptolemaic kings sought to invade Syria. The coin is especially notable because unlike most Ptolemaic coinage, which monotonously repeated the images of Ptolemy I, and to a lesser extent Arsinoe II, long after they were dead, here we have a true portrait of the young reigning Ptolemaic king, Ptolemy V. His diadem is ornamented with a grain ear, which is perhaps intended to associate Ptolemy V with Osiris and Serapis, Egyptian and Graeco-Egyptian gods of the underworld associated with the fertility of the land.

Ptolemy VI Philometor, 180-145 BC or Ptolemy VIII Euergetes, 145-116



396

396 **In the name of Arsinoe II.** Octodrachm, Alexandria circa 180-116, AV 27.84 g. Diademed and veiled head of the deified Arsinoe II r.; in field l., K. Rev. ΑΡΣΙΝΟΗΣ – ΦΙΛΑΔΕΛΦΟΥ Double cornucopiae filled with fruit and bound with fillets. Svoronos 1498. SNG Copenhagen 322. Boston, MFA 2293.

A portrait of excellent style struck in high relief. Almost invisible marks, otherwise good extremely fine

15'000

Ex Ars Classica sale VII, 1924, Bement, 1835.



397

397 **In the name of Arsinoe II.** Octodrachm, Alexandria circa 180-116, AV 27.60 g. Diademed and veiled head of the deified Arsinoe II r.; in field l., K. Rev. ΑΡΣΙΝΟΗΣ – ΦΙΛΑΔΕΛΦΟΥ Double cornucopiae filled with fruit and bound with fillets. Svoronos 1498. SNG Copenhagen 322. Boston, MFA 2293.

Edge marks, possible traces of mounting, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

20'000

Ex Leu 86, 2003, 462 and Heritage 3096, 2021, Paramount, 30043 sales.

Cyrenaica, Barce



398 Tetradrachm circa 465, AR 17.18 g. *Silphium* plant; in lower field, A – I. Rev. B – A – P – K Head of Zeus Ammon r., within dotted circle. All within incuse square. *Traité III*, 1947. BMC 8 (these dies).

Very rare and in exceptional condition, undoubtedly one of the finest tetradrachms of Barce in existence. A magnificent portrait of superb style struck on very fresh metal and with a light iridescent tone. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 60'000

Ex Roma Numismatics sale XIX, 2020, 589. Stated as having been privately purchased from M&M in 1971 and from Freeman & Sear in 2007.

About three or four generations after Cyrene was founded, a new settlement, Barce, was established in the 570s or 560s B.C. It was located about seventy-five miles westwards down the coast from Cyrene, and sixteen miles inland, in the midst of a large and fertile plain. The impetus for the new colony was a feud among the brothers of Cyrene's ruling Battiad family, then led by Arcesilaus II. Rarely does a family quarrel have such good consequences: Barce became one of the most prosperous Greek cities of North Africa, such that it rivaled the capital. Like Cyrene, it submitted to Persian rule late in the 6th Century B.C., yet the people of Barce still seem to have enjoyed a good degree of autonomy before a general revolt was staged. The Persian governor of Egypt, Aryandes, responded with great force, destroying the city and taking most of its people into captivity. Barce recovered with relative speed, no doubt because of its resources. By the time this tetradrachm was struck, the city had restored much of its commercial advantage. If the designs of coinage can be taken as evidence, it would seem that the main product of Barce at this time was the silphium plant. A veritable cure-all, it is said to have had hundreds of medicinal and cosmetic uses, in addition to being a source of food. It was indigenous to Cyrenaica and apparently resisted all attempts at mass cultivation. The value of silphium as a source of food for cattle and the popularity of its juice in regional and foreign markets contributed to its extinction by the 1st Century A.D. It often is shown in great detail on coinage, and Robinson, in his 1927 work that served as the final volume of 'A Catalogue of the Greek Coins' in the British Museum, was able to identify the three major variants of its depiction.

Cyrene



399

- 399 Stater circa 322-314, AV 8.51 g. KYPANAI – ΩΝ Slow quadriga driven r. by Nike, holding *kentron* and reins; above, sun. Rev. Zeus-Lykaios seated l., holding eagle in extended r. hand; in l. field, *thymiaterion*, and in r., XAIPIO retrograde. McClean 9941 and pl. 375, 8. Jameson 2529 (these dies). de Nanteuil 436 (these dies). Naville 83 (these dies). SNG Copenhagen 1209 (these dies).

Rare and in an exceptional state of preservation. Perfectly struck from fresh dies and of excellent style. Almost invisible edge marks, otherwise good extremely fine

30'000

From a Distinguished Swiss Collection and most probably privately purchased from Vinchon in the 1970s.

This beautifully preserved stater depicts a quadriga driving under the hot Libyan sun. The driver is commonly described as Nike, but close inspection of the detailed figure in the car shows that it lacks the signature wings of the goddess of victory and that the driver is actually a laureate male. One wonders whether this could be a depiction of Ophellas, the Ptolemaic governor of the Cyrenaica when the coin was struck. Ophellas had been a trierarch under Alexander the Great, but followed Ptolemy I to Egypt after the death of the Macedonian conqueror. In 322 BC, Ophellas conquered the Cyrenaica on behalf of Ptolemy I and became governor of the region. He may have been briefly overthrown by a revolt in Cyrene in 313 BC, but this was soon repressed. Ophellas was certainly back in power in 309/8 BC, when he agreed to a military alliance with Agathokles of Syracuse against the Carthaginians. Unfortunately, after he marshaled the forces of Cyrene, Agathokles decided that he did not wish to share the command and killed Ophellas. The reverse type depicts Zeus Lykaios enthroned and is clearly influenced by the figure of Zeus Aetophoros on the popular and widely circulating tetradrachms of Alexander the Great.



400

- 400 Tetrobol circa 308-305, AV 2.83 g. Rider on horseback prancing l.; above, star. Rev. KYPA *Silphium* plant, monogram in r. field. SNG Copenhagen 1232 (this obverse die). BMC 211 and pl. XX, 11 (these dies). Naville 160.

In exceptional condition for the issue. Struck on a very broad flan and extremely fine

3'000

From the Collection of a Mentor.

Celtic Coins

South Western Gaul. The Cadurci



401

401

- 401 Drachm circa 200-118, AR 3.58 g. Head l. of Armorican style with flamboyant hair. Rev. Cross with pellets in three quarters and axe in the fourth. BMC S110. DLT 3104. Depeyrot 98. Savès 271. Scheers Dan. 52. Lovely old cabinet tone and extremely fine 350

Ex Jean Elsen sale 51, 1997, 3.

Danubian Celts



402

- 402 Tetradrachm, Thasos type circa 2nd - 1st century BC, AR 16.57 g. Head of Dionysus r., wearing ivy wreath. Rev. ΗΡΑΚΛΕΟΥΣ / ΣΩΤΗΡΟΣ / ΘΑΣΙΩΝ Heracles standing facing, head l., holding club and lion's skin; in inner l. field, M. Le Rider, Thasos 52. Lukanc, Imitation pl. 84. Prokopov pl. 50, 658-678. Lanz 956. Superb old cabinet tone and extremely fine 500

The Roman Republic

The mint is Roma unless otherwise stated



403

- 403 Didrachm, Neapolis circa 310-300, AR 7.42 g. Helmeted head of bearded Mars l.; behind, oak-spray. Rev. Horse's head r. on base inscribed ROMANO; behind, corn-ear. Sydenham 1. RBW 3. Crawford 13/1. Historia Numorum Italy 266. Very rare and in unusually fine condition for this very difficult issue.

Wonderful old cabinet tone and about extremely fine 5'000



404

- 404 Quadrigatus circa 225-214, AR 6.66 g. Laureate Janiform head of the Dioscuri. Rev. Jupiter, holding sceptre and hurling thunderbolt, in fast quadriga driven r. by Victory; below, ROMA incuse on raised tablet. Sydenham 64. RBW 64. Crawford 28/3 and pl. II, 2. Historia Numorum Italy 334.

In an exceptional state of preservation. A portrait of excellent style struck on an extremely large flan. Light iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 4'000



405

- 405 Quadrigatus circa 225-214, AR 6.65 g. Laureate Janiform head of the Dioscuri. Rev. Jupiter, holding sceptre and hurling thunderbolt, in fast quadriga driven r. by Victory; below, ROMA incuse on raised tablet. Sydenham 64. RBW 64. Crawford 28/3 and pl. II, 3. Historia Numorum Italy 334.

Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine 1'500



406 Quadrigatus circa 225-214, AR 6.59 g. Laureate Janiform head of the Dioscuri. Rev. Jupiter, holding sceptre and hurling thunderbolt, in fast quadriga driven r. by Victory; below, ROMA incuse on raised tablet. Sydenham 64. RBW 64. Crawford 28/3 and pl. II, 6. Historia Numorum Italy 334.
Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine 1'500



407 Quadrigatus circa 225-214, AR 6.78 g. Laureate Janiform head of the Dioscuri. Rev. Jupiter, holding sceptre and hurling thunderbolt, in fast quadriga driven r. by Victory; below, ROMA incuse on raised tablet. Sydenham 64. RBW 64. Crawford 28/3 and pl. III, 7. Historia Numorum Italy 334.
Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine 1'500



408 Denarius circa 214-213, AR 4.39 g. Helmeted head of Roma r.; behind, X. Rev. The Dioscuri galloping r.; in exergue, ROMA partially incuse on raised tablet. Sydenham 167. RBW 166. Crawford 44/5 and pl. IX, 13.
Light iridescent tone and extremely fine 200

409 Denarius circa 214-213, AR 4.66 g. Helmeted head of Roma r.; behind, X. Rev. The Dioscuri galloping r.; in exergue, ROMA partially incuse on raised tablet. Sydenham 167. RBW -. Crawford 44/5 and pl. IX, 22.
Light iridescent tone and about extremely fine 200



410 Denarius after 211, AR 4.18 g. Helmeted head of Roma r.; behind, X. Rev. The Dioscuri galloping r.; below, ROMA in linear frame. Sydenham 229. RBW 194. Crawford 53/2 and pl. X, 18.
Light iridescent tone and extremely fine 300



411

411 Denarius, Sicily circa 209-208, AR 4.14 g. Helmeted head of Roma r., with loop beneath visor; behind head, branch and below chin, X. Rev. The Dioscuri galloping r.; below, ROMA in linear frame. Sydenham 201. RBW 322. Crawford 76/1a.

Rare. Lovely old cabinet tone, a hairline flan crack at two o'clock on obverse and minor marks, otherwise about extremely fine

250



412

412 Denarius, Sicily circa 209-208, AR 4.24 g. Helmeted head of Roma r.; behind, X. Rev. The Dioscuri galloping r.; below, staff and ROMA in linear frame. Sydenham 208. RBW 326. Crawford 78/1.

Scarce. Lovely iridescent tone and extremely fine

300



413

413 Denarius, Sicily (?) circa 209-208, AR 4.35 g. Helmeted head of Roma r.; behind, X. Rev. The Dioscuri galloping r.; below, dolphin to r. and ROMA in linear frame. Sydenham 214. RBW 328. Crawford 80/1a.

Scarce. In exceptional condition. Struck on a very broad flan, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

750



414

414 Denarius, Central Italy circa 209-208, AR 4.32 g. Helmeted head of Roma r.; behind, X. Rev. The Dioscuri galloping r.; below, ROMA in linear frame. Sydenham 155. RBW -. Crawford 107/1d.

Light iridescent tone and about extremely fine

250



415



416



415 *Q. Marcius Libo*. Denarius 148, AR 4.16 g. Helmeted head of Roma r., behind, [LIBO] and below chin, X. Rev. The Dioscuri galloping r.; below horses, Q·MARC and ROMA in partial tablet. Babelon Marcia 1. Sydenham 396. RBW 915. Crawford 215/1. Light iridescent tone and extremely fine 200

416 *M. Baebius Q.f. Tampilus*. Denarius 137, AR 3.91 g. Helmeted head of Roma l., wearing necklace of beads; below chin, X. Behind, TAMPIL. Rev. Apollo in prancing quadriga r., holding bow and arrow with reins in l. hand and branch in r.; below, ROMA. In exergue, [M]·BAEBI·Q·F. Babelon Baebia 12. Sydenham 489. RBW 977. Crawford 236/1c. Lovely iridescent tone and extremely fine 200

Ex NAC sale 106, 2018, 1232.



417



417 *L. Piso Frugi*. Denarius 90, AR 3.99 g. Laureate head of Apollo r.; below chin, * and behind, owl. Rev. Horseman galloping l., holding torch in upraised r. hand; above, female head and below, L·PISO FRVGI. Babelon Calpurnia 11. Sydenham 653. RBW -. Crawford 340/1.

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

750



418



418 *L. Piso Frugi*. Denarius 90, AR 3.95 g. Laureate head of Apollo r.; below chin, B and behind, *. Rev. Horseman galloping r., holding palm in upraised r. hand; above, * and below, L·PISO FRVGI / ROMA. Babelon Calpurnia 11. Sydenham 656. RBW -. Crawford 340/1.

Virtually as struck and Fdc

500



419



419 *L. Piso Frugi*. Denarius 90, AR 4.00 g. Laureate head of Apollo r.; below M. Rev. Horseman galloping r., holding torch in upraised r. hand; above, ram's head and below, L·PISO FRVGI / ROMA. Babelon Calpurnia 11. Sydenham 565a. RBW -. Crawford 340/1. A perfect Fdc 500



- 420 *The Bellum Sociale*. Denarius, Corfinium circa 89, AR 3.85 g. Laureate head of Italia r.; before, X. Rev. Italia seated l. on pile of shields, holding spear and *parazonium*, crowned by Victory standing behind her; in l. field, C and in exergue, ITALIA. Sydenham 624. Campana 106k (this coin). RBW 1216. Historia Numorum Italy 412b (these dies).

Very rare. Old cabinet tone, struck on an irregular flan, otherwise good very fine 2'000

Ex Kunst und Münzen sale 4, 1970, 25.



- 421 *The Bellum Sociale*. Denarius, Bovianum circa 89, AR 3.84 g. Laureate head of Italia l.; behind, *Vitellii* in Oscan characters. Rev. Soldier wearing helmet and cloak, standing facing, head r., holding reversed spear; his l. foot is placed on a Roman standard; by his side, on r., recumbent bull. In exergue, N retrograde. Sydenham 627. Campana 143. RBW —. Historia Numorum Italy 407.

Rare. Lovely old cabinet tone and about extremely fine 4'000

Ex New York sale 51, 2021, 68. From the William Oldknow collection.



- 422 *L. Iulius Bursio*. Denarius 85, AR 3.86 g. Male head r., with the attributes of Apollo, Mercury and Neptune; behind, owl. Rev. Victory in quadriga r., holding reins in l. hand and wreath in r.; in exergue, EX·A·P. Babelon Julia 6. Sydenham 729. RBW —. Crawford 352/1b.

Rare. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 400



423

- 423 *L. Cornelius Sulla*. Denarius, mint moving with Sulla 84-83, AR 3.49 g. Diademed head of Venus r.; in r. field, Cupid standing l., holding palm branch; below, L·SVLLA. Rev. IMPER Jug and lituus between two trophies; below, ITERVM. Babelon Cornelia 29. Sydenham 761. RBW 1364. Crawford 359/2.
Struck on a broad flan and about extremely fine 350



424

- 424 *P. Crepius*. Denarius 82, AR 3.97 g. Laureate head of Apollo r., sceptre over far shoulder. Behind head, B and below chin, lizard. Rev. Horseman r., brandishing spear; behind, CCVII. In exergue, P·CREPVSI. Babelon Crepusia 1. Sydenham 738a. RBW -. Crawford 361/1c.
Virtually as struck and Fdc 750



425

- 425 *L. Marcius Censorinus*. Denarius 82, AR 3.89 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. L·CENSOR Marsyas walking l. with r. arm raised and holding wine-skin over l. shoulder; behind, column bearing statue on top.
Babelon Marcia 24. Sydenham 737. RBW 1372. Crawford 363/1d.
Light iridescent tone and extremely fine 300



426

- 426 *A. Postumius Albinus*. Denarius serratus 81, AR 3.98 g. HISPAN Veiled head of Hispania r. Rev. A – POST·A·F – S·N – ALBIN Togate figure standing l., raising l. hand to legionary eagle and to r., fasces with axe. Babelon Postumia 8. Sydenham 746. RBW 1393. Crawford 372/2.
Old cabinet tone and extremely fine 300



427



- 427 *L. Papius*. Denarius serratus 79, AR 4.04 g. Head of Juno Sospita r.; behind, butterfly. Rev. Gryphon leaping r.; below, fly. In exergue, L·PAPI. Babelon Papia 1. Sydenham 773. RBW –. Crawford 384/1 and symbol 15. A coin of extraordinary quality. A perfect Fdc 750



428



428

- 428 *C. Egnatius Cn. f. Cn. n. Maxumus*. Denarius 75, AR 3.76 g. MAXSVMVS Laureate and diademed bust of Libertas r.; behind, *pileus*. Rev. [V] – CNN Roma and Venus standing facing and both holding staff, the former with her l. foot on wolf's head and the latter has Cupid alighting on her shoulder; on either side, rudders on prow. In exergue, C·EGNATIVS·CN·F. Babelon Egnatia 3. Sydenham 787. RBW –. Crawford 391/3. Scarce. Minor areas of weakness, otherwise extremely fine 250



429



- 429 *T. Vettius Sabinus*. Denarius serratus 70, AR 3.95 g. Bearded head of King Tattius r.; below chin, TA ligate and behind, SABINVS. In r. field, S·C. Rev. IVDEX Togate figure in slow biga l.; behind, corn-ear. In exergue, T·VETTIVS. Babelon Vettia 2. Sydenham 905. RBW 1446. Crawford 404/1.

Scarce. In exceptional condition for the issue. Struck on a very broad flan and perfectly centred. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

1'500

Ex Spink sale 19004, 2019, 217.



430



- 430 *P. Sulpicius Galba*. Denarius 69, AR 3.92 g. Veiled and diademed head of Vesta r.; behind, S·C. Rev. AED – CVR Knife, *culullus* and axe. In exergue, P·GALB. Babelon Sulpicia 6. Sydenham 839. RBW 1454. Crawford 406/1. A small edge nick at five o'clock on obverse, otherwise extremely fine 500



431

431 *C. Hosidius C.f. Geta*. Denarius 68, AR 3.92 g. III·VIR – GETA Diademed and draped bust of Diana r., with bow and quiver over shoulder. Rev. Boar r. attacked by hound; in exergue, C·HOSIDI C F. Babelon Hosidia 1 var. Sydenham 903. RBW 1457. Crawford 407/2 note.

An extremely rare variety (no arrow at the back of the boar).

Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine

2'500



432

432 *C. Calpurnius L.f. Frugi*. Denarius 67, AR 3.77 g. Laureate head of Apollo r.; behind, sequence mark. Rev. Horseman galloping r., holding palm branch; above, Ξ and below, C·PISO·L·F·FRVG. Babelon Calpurnia 24. Sydenham 850a. C. Hersh, NC 1976, 56. RBW 1468. Crawford 408/1b.

Struck in high relief and good extremely fine

500



433

433 *C. Calpurnius L.f. Frugi*. Denarius 67, AR 3.95 g. Head of Apollo l., hair bound with fillet; behind, S·. Rev. Horseman galloping r.; below, C·PISO·L·F·FRV / H. Babelon Calpurnia 24. Sydenham 853. C. Hersh, NC 1976, 432. RBW -. Crawford 408/1b.

A portrait of elegant style struck in high relief and a pleasant dark tone.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

750



434

434 *M. Plaetorius M.f. Caestianus*. Denarius 67, AR 3.90 g. Bust r. with the attributes of Isis, Minerva, Apollo, Diana and Victory; before, cornucopia and S C. Behind, CESTIANVS. Rev. Eagle on thunderbolt; around, M·PLAE – TORIVS·M·F·AED·CVR. Babelon Plaetoria 4. Sydenham 809. RBW 1482. Crawford 409/1.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

750



435



435 *Q. Pomponius Musa*. Denarius 66, AR 3.78 g. Laureate head of Apollo r.; behind, two flutes in saltire. Rev. Q·POMPONI – MVSA Eutherpes standing r., resting l. elbow on column and holding two flutes in r. hand. Babelon Pomponia 13. Sydenham 815. Crawford 410/5.

Lovely iridescent tone and good extremely fine

1'500

Ex NAC sale 5, 1992, 324.



436



436 *Q. Pomponius Musa*. Denarius 66, AR 3.89 g. Laureate head of Apollo r.; behind, star. Rev. Q·POMPONI – MVSA Urania standing l., holding rod which she points to globe resting on tripod. Babelon Pomponia 22. Sydenham 823. RBW 1488. Crawford 410/8.

Rare. Perfectly centred on a very large flan and with a lovely iridescent tone.

Good extremely fine

3'000

Ex Sternberg XXXII, 1996, 346 and Nomisma 63, 2021, 205 sales.



437



437 *Q. Pomponius Musa*. Denarius 66, AR 4.14 g. Laureate head of Apollo r.; behind, wreath. Rev. Q·POMPONI – MVSA Polyhymnia standing facing, wearing wreath. Babelon Pomponia 15. Sydenham 817. RBW –. Crawford 410/10a.

Struck on a very broad flan and with a lovely iridescent tone.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

3'000

Ex Aretusa 1, 1993, 214 and Nomisma 63, 2021, 206 sales.



438 *L. Roscius Fabatus*. Denarius serratus 64, AR 3.94 g. Head of Juno Sospita r, wearing goat's skin headdress, behind, wine jar and below neck truncation, [L ROSCI]. Rev. Girl standing r., facing serpent; in l. field, spade. In exergue, FAB[ATI]. Babelon Roscia 3. Sydenham 915. RBW –. Crawford 412/1 and symbols 204i. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 500



439 *L. Roscius Fabatus*. Denarius serratus 64, AR 3.67 g. Head of Juno Sospita r, wearing goat's skin headdress, behind, human foot and below neck truncation, L ROSCI. Rev. Girl standing r., facing serpent; in l. field, hand with surgical instrument. In exergue, FABATI. Babelon Roscia 3. Sydenham 915. RBW –. Crawford 412/1 and symbols 139. Wonderful old cabinet tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 500



440 *L. Cassius Longinus*. Denarius 63, AR 3.99 g. Diademed and veiled head of Vesta l.; below chin, L. In r. field, dish. Rev. LONGINVS III·V Voter standing l., dropping tablet inscribed V into cista. Babelon Cassia 10. Sydenham 935. RBW 1493. Crawford 413/1. In an exceptional state of preservation. Struck on an extremely large flan and complete. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 1'500



441 *L. Furius Cn. f. Brocchus*. Denarius 62, AR 3.95 g. PAVLLVS LEPIDVS – CONCORDIA Diademed and draped bust of Concordia r. Rev. Trophy; to r., togate figure (L. Aemilius Paullus) and to l., three captives (King Perseus of Macedon and his sons). Above, TER and in exergue, PAVLLVS. Babelon Aemilia 10. Sydenham 926. RBW 1497. Crawford 415/1. Perfectly struck and centred on a large flan. Virtually as struck and Fdc 1'000



442

442 *M. Aemilius Scaurus, P. Plautius Hypsaeus*. Denarius 58, AR 3.98 g. [M·SC]AVR / AED·CVR Kneeling figure r., holding olive branch and reins of camel standing beside him; on either side, EX – S·C. In exergue, REX ARETAS. Rev. [P·HV]PSAE / AED CVR Jupiter in quadriga l. holding reins in l. hand and hurling thunderbolt with r.; before, scorpion. Behind, CAPTV and below, C HVPSAE COS / PREIVE. Babelon Aemilia 9 and Plautia 10. Sydenham 912. RBW 1519. Crawford 422/1b.

Good extremely fine

350



443

443 *Faustus Cornelius Sulla*. Denarius 56, AR 3.93 g. FAVSTVS Diademed and draped bust of Diana r.; above, crescent and behind, lituus. Rev. FELIX Sulla seated l. between on l., Bocchus king of Mauretania presenting branch, and on r., Jugurta king of Numidia, both kneeling. Babelon Cornelia 59. Sydenham 879. RBW 1525. Crawford 426/1.

Rare. Struck on a very large flan and complete, a metal flaw on obverse and a minor area of weakness on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine

500



444

444 *Q. Cassius Longinus*. Denarius 55, AR 3.78 g. Head of Genius Populi Romani r.; sceptre over shoulder. Rev. Eagle on thunderbolt r.; in l. field, lituus and in r. field, jug. Below, Q·CASSIVS. Babelon Cassia 7. Sydenham 916. RBW 1535. Crawford 428/3.

Extremely fine

350



445

445 *C. Iulius Caesar*. Denarius, mint moving with Caesar 49-48, AR 3.94 g. Pontifical emblems: culullus, aspergillum, axe and apex. Rev. Elephant r., trampling dragon; in exergue, CAESAR. Babelon Julia 9. C 9. Sydenham 1006. Sear Imperators 9. RBW 1557. Crawford 443/1.

Struck on an irregular flan, otherwise good extremely fine / extremely fine

750



446

446 *Q. Sicinius and C. Coponius*. Denarius, mint moving with Pompeius 49, AR 3.91 g. [Q·S]ICINIVS – III·VIR Head of Apollo r., hair tied with band; below, star. Rev. C·COPON[IVS] – PR·S·C Club upright on which hangs lion's skin with head r.; in l. field, arrow and in r. field, bow. Babelon Sicinia 1 and Coponia 1. Sydenham 939. Sear Imperators 3. RBW 1558. Crawford 444/1a. Good extremely fine 350



447

447 *L. Cornelius Lentulus and C. Claudius Marcellus*. Denarius, Apollonia and Asia 49, AR 3.95 g. L·LENT·C·MARC Head of Apollo r.; behind, COS. Rev. Jupiter standing facing, head r., holding thunderbolt and eagle; in l. field, star and Q. In r. field, garlanded altar. Babelon Cornelia 65 and Claudia 10. Sydenham 1030. Sear Imperators 5. RBW 1563. Crawford 445/2.

Scarce. Wonderful iridescent tone, minor area of weakness on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine

1'000

Ex Aretusa 1, 1993, 214 and Nomisma 63, 2021, 192 sales.



448

448 *C. Vibius C.f. Cn. Pansa Caetronianus*. Denarius 48, AR 3.64 g. Mask of bearded Pan r.; below, PANS. Rev. C·VIBIVS·C·F·C·N – IOVIS AXVR Jupiter, laureate, seated l., holding patera and sceptre. Babelon Vibia 18. Sydenham 947. Sear Imperators 20. RBW 1571. Crawford 449/1a.

In exceptional condition, possibly the finest specimen known.

Perfectly centred, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

2'000



449

449 *C. Iulius Caesar*. Denarius, Illyria (Apollonia?) early to mid 48, AR 3.94 g. Female head r., wearing diadem and oak wreath; behind, TII. Rev. CAE – SAR Trophy with Gallic shield and *caryx*; on r., axe. Babelon Julia 26. Sydenham 1009. Sear Imperators 11. Woytek Arma et Nummi p. 558. RBW –. Crawford 452/2.

Wonderful old cabinet tone. An almost invisible mark on cheek, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

1'000



436



437



450



441



448



440



480



475



484





463



455



474



464



481



462



486





450

- 450 *L. Plautius Plancus*. Denarius 47, AR 4.05 g. Head of Medusa facing with dishevelled hair; below, L·PLAVTIVS. Rev. Victory facing, holding palm branch in l. hand and leading four horses; below, PLANCVS. Babelon Plautia 14. Sydenham 959b. Sear Imperators 29a. RBW 1586. Crawford 453/1c.

In exceptional condition, possibly the finest specimen known. A very appealing portrait, perfectly struck and centred on a very broad flan. Virtually as struck and Fdc

5'000



451



- 451 *C. Iulius Caesar*. Denarius, Asia 48-47, AR 3.86 g. Diademed head of Venus r. Rev. CAESAR Aeneas advancing l., carrying *palladium* in r. hand and Anchises on l. shoulder. Babelon Julia 10. C 12. Sydenham 1013. Sear Imperators 55. Woytek *Arma et Nummi*, p. 218 ff. RBW 1600. Crawford 458/1.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

1'500



452



- 452 *C. Iulius Caesar*. Denarius, Asia 48-47, AR 3.87 g. Diademed head of Venus r. Rev. CAESAR Aeneas advancing l., carrying *palladium* in r. hand and Anchises on l. shoulder. Babelon Julia 10. C 12. Sydenham 1013. Sear Imperators 55. Woytek *Arma et Nummi*, p. 218 ff. RBW 1600. Crawford 458/1.

Virtually as struck and Fdc

1'500



- 453 *C. Iulius Caesar*. Denarius, Asia 48-47, AR 3.71 g. Diademed head of Venus r. Rev. CAESAR Aeneas advancing l., carrying *palladium* in r. hand and Anchises on l. shoulder. Babelon Julia 10. C 12. Sydenham 1013. Sear Imperators 55. Woytek *Arma et Nummi*, p. 218 ff. RBW 1600. Crawford 458/1.
Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine 500



- 454 *T. Carisius*. Denarius 46, AR 3.94 g. Head of Sybil r. Rev. T-CARISIVS Sphynx r.; in exergue, III-VIR. Babelon Carisia 11. Sydenham 983a. Sear Imperators 49. RBW 1613. Crawford 464/1.
Struck on a very large flan and complete. Two small banker's marks on obverse, otherwise extremely fine 500



- 455 *C. Iulius Caesar and A. Hirtius*. Aureus 46, AV 8.20 g. C CAESAR – COS TER Veiled head of Vesta r. Rev. A·HIRTIVS·P·R *Lituus*, jug and axe. Babelon Julia 24 and Hirtia 2. C 2. Bahrfeldt 19. Sydenham 1017. Sear Imperators 56. RBW 1634. Crawford 466/1. Calicó 37b.
Struck on an exceptionally large flan and in an exceptional state of preservation. Good extremely fine 15'000

Ex Tkalec 8 September 2008, 268; Triton XVI, 2013, 899 and Roma Numismatics XIV, 2017, 543 sales. From the Goldman and the Paulo Leitao collections.

The early career of Iulius Caesar – certainly the most famous of all Romans – was far from remarkable. He followed the standard *cursus honorum* of a nobleman, and had he not been struck by great ambition in his 31st year, he may have been little more than a footnote in history. Caesar's moment of clarity seems to have occurred while serving as a quaestor in Spain: he gazed upon a statue of Alexander the Great, who by age 31 had already conquered Greece and the Persian Empire. Within a few years Caesar had joined Crassus in a populist movement against the nobility, and a decade later was consul. From there his career spiraled to ever-rising heights, including the pacification of Gaul, the defeat of Pompey Magnus at Pharsalus, and receiving the unprecedented title *dictator perpetuus* from the senate. However, shortly before he was to ask for the title of king in advance of his campaign against Parthia (for the Sibylline Books prophesied that only a king could conquer Parthia), Caesar was murdered by a group of senators led by Brutus and Cassius. So ended Caesar's life, but not his legacy, which was carried forth by Marc Antony and Octavian, and which survived in the form of the Julio-Claudians dynasty and the first six emperors of Rome.



456



456

- 456 *Cnaeus Pompeius Junior and M. Minatius Sabinus*. Denarius, Spain 46-45, AR 3.55 g. IMP – CN·MAGNVS Head of Cnaeus Pompeius Magnus r. Rev. PR·Q Personification of Corduba, turreted, standing r. amidst heap of arms, grasping with r. hand the hand of Pompeian soldier disembarking from ship; in exergue, M·MINAT / SABIN. Babelon Minatia 2 and Pompeia 11. C 5. Sydenham 1036b. T. V. Buttrey, ANSMN 9, 1960, p. 76, type A. Sear Imperators 49. RBW 1642. Crawford 470/1a.
Very rare. Light iridescent tone and good very fine 2'000



457



- 457 *L. Valerius Acisculus*. Denarius 45, AR 4.13 g. ACISCVLVS Head of Apollo r., hair tied with band; above, star and behind, *acisculus*. Rev. Europa seated on bull walking r.; in exergue, L·VALERIVS. Babelon Valeria 17. Sydenham 998. Sear Imperators 90. RBW 1656. Crawford 474/1a.
Struck on fresh metal and with a lovely iridescent tone. Minor banker's mark on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine 1'000

Ex Nomisma sale 62, 2020, 76.



458



- 458 *C. Iulius Caesar and L. Munatius Plancus*. Aureus 45, AV 8.01 g. C·CAES – DIC·TER Draped bust of Victory r. Rev. L·PLANC – PRAEF·VRB Jug. Babelon Julia 19 and Munatia 2. Bahrfdeldt 20. Sydenham 1019b. Sear Imperators 60. RBW 1663. Crawford 475/1a. Calicó 45.
Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, undoubtedly among the finest specimens known. Struck on a very broad flan and good extremely fine 12'500



459



459

- 459 *C. Iulius Caesar and P. Sepullius Macer*. Denarius 44, AR 3.76 g. CAESAR – DICT PERPETVO Wreathed head of Caesar r. Rev. P·SEPVLLIVS – MACER Venus standing l., holding Victory and sceptre resting on star. Babelon Julia 49 and Sepullia 4. C 40. Sydenham 1072. Sear Imperators 107b. RBW 1684. Crawford 480/11.
Perfectly centred on a large flan, minor areas of weakness, otherwise good extremely fine 3'500



460

- 460 *C. Iulius Caesar and P. Sepullius Macer*. Denarius 44, AR 3.69 g. CAESAR – DICT·PERPETVO Veiled and wreathed head of Caesar r. Rev. P·SEPVLLIVS – MACER Venus standing l., holding Victory and sceptre resting on shield. Babelon Julia 50 and Sepullia 5. C 38. Sydenham 1074. Sear Imperators 107d. RBW 1685. Crawford 480/13. Minor areas of weakness and reverse from a slightly rusty die, otherwise extremely fine 2'500



461

- 461 *P. Sepullius Macer*. Denarius 44, AR 3.77 g. CLEM – ENTIAE – CAESAREIS Tetrastyle temple. Rev. P·SEPVLLIVS – MACER *Desultor* galloping r., holding whip in r. hand and reins of second horse with l.; in l. field, wreath and palm branch. Babelon Sepullia 7 and Julia 52. Sydenham 1076. Sear Imperators 110. RBW –. Crawford 480/21. Very rare. Struck on a very broad flan and exceptionally complete for the issue. Minor area of weakness on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 3'500



462

- 462 *Iulius Caesar*. Aureus 44, AV 8.15 g. CAES DIC – QVAR Diademed bust of Venus r. Rev. COS·QVINC within laurel wreath. Babelon Julia 30. C 20. Bahrfeldt 23. Sydenham 1021. Sear Imperators 117. RBW 1694. Crawford 481/1. Calicó 42. Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, undoubtedly among the finest specimens known. Exceptionally well struck for the issue and extremely fine 10'000



463

463 *Octavian*. Aureus, Gallia Transalpina and Cisalpina 43, AV 8.16 g. C·CAESAR·COS·PONT·AVG Bare and bearded head of Octavian r. Rev. [C·CAESAR]·DICT·PERP·PONT·MAX Laureate head of Iulius Caesar r. Newman "A Dialogue of Power in the Coinage of Antony and Octavian," ANS AJN 2 (1990), 43.9. Babelon Julia 64. C 2. Bahrfeldt 28. Sydenham 1321. Sear Imperators 132. Kent-Hirmer pl. 30, 115. RBW 1714. Crawford 490/2. Calicó 52b (this coin illustrated)

Very rare. Two portraits of unusually fine style, the one of Julius Caesar possibly the finest for the issue. Areas of weakness on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine / extremely fine

125'000

Ex Münzhandlung Basel sale 6, 1936, 1521.

This aureus is a declaration of triumph by Octavian over military opponents and factions in the senate that wished to renew the independence of that body. Octavian had achieved much since he arrived in Rome in the summer of 44 B.C., but each accomplishment was backed with threats or the use of arms. For the meantime, though, Octavian had triumphed in Italy: Marc Antony was in Gaul, Brutus and Cassius were in the East, and Sextus Pompey was in command of a fleet. Gold from this issue was probably used to pay the eight legions Octavian brought to invade and take control of Rome in May, 43 B.C. after he did not receive satisfaction from the senate. Once in the capital with his army he was able to extort from the senate the consulship for himself and his uncle Q. Pedius, as the original consuls for the year, Hirtius and Pansa, had died while relieving Antony's siege of Decimus Brutus. With this in mind, hardly a more useful design could have been selected for this aureus, as most of Octavian's soldiers had served under Caesar. It was also good propaganda against Antony, for it reinforced the claim that Octavian – not Antony – was the rightful heir of Caesar. The inscriptions are of some interest, for Octavian cites his membership to the colleges of the augurs and pontifices and advertises his newly extorted consulship; that of Caesar bears his titles dictator perpetuus ('dictator for life') and pontifex maximus ('chief priest'). The first of these titles had expired upon Caesar's death and the second had been assumed by Lepidus, the man who was destined to join the second triumvirate that would be formed not long after this aureus was struck.



464 *L. Cestius and C. Norbanus*. Aureus circa 43 BC, AV 8.10 g. Draped bust of Africa r., wearing elephant-skin headdress. Rev. L·CESTIVS / EX·S·C – PR Curule chair; legs decorated with eagles, on top, two snakes facing each other; in exergue, C·NORBA. Babelon Cestia 2 and Norbana 4. Bahrfeldt 25. Sydenham 1154. Sear Imperators 195a. RBW 1718. Crawford 491/1b. Calicó 4.

An extremely rare variety in exceptional condition for the issue, undoubtedly among the finest specimens known. Struck on a very broad flan and good extremely fine 15'000

The circumstances under which this aureus, and its companion issue, were struck are not certainly known, but it almost certainly is an emergency issue of the senate. It was struck in the name of the praetors Lucius Cestius and Gaius Norbanus, presumably in the early part of 43 B.C., when the senate became allied with Octavian against Marc Antony, who had been declared a public enemy by the senate in February of this year following his 'war' against Decimus Brutus. The former right-hand-man of Julius Caesar, Antony, now realized just how formidable enemy he had in young Octavian. As perilous as the situation could have become (the production of these aurei indicates the senate was formulating plans for war), Antony and Octavian resolved their differences through negotiation. On November 11, 43 the Second Triumvirate was formed, which determined that Antony, Octavian and Lepidus would to work together rather than engage in a costly civil war.



465 *P. Clodius M. f. Turinus*. Denarius 42, AR 3.87 g. Laureate head of Apollo r.; behind, lyre. Rev. P·CLODIVS – M·F Diana standing facing, with bow and quiver over shoulder, holding lighted torch in each hand. Babelon Clodia 14. Sydenham 1117. Sear Imperators 184. RBW 1727. Crawford 494/23.

Good extremely fine 300

Ex NAC sale 106, 2018, 1306.



466 *L. Livineius Regulus*. Denarius 42, AR 3.79 g. Head of Livineius Regulus r. Rev. Combat of *bestiarii*; in exergue, L·REGVLVS. Babelon Livineia 12. Sydenham 1112. Sear Imperators 179. RBW 1735. Crawford 494/30.

Good extremely fine 500



- 467 *C. Vibius Varus*. Denarius 42, AR 3.83 g. Helmeted bust of Minerva r., wearing *aegis*. Rev. Hercules standing l., holding club and lion's-skin; in r. field, C VIBIVS; on l., VARVS. Babelon Vibia 26. Sydenham 1140. Sear Imperators 194. RBW 1741. Crawford 494/38.
Struck on very fresh metal and with a light iridescent tone. Good extremely fine 1'500



- 468 *Marcus Antonius*. Denarius, Castrensia moneta in Greece (?) 42, AR 3.97 g. [IMP] Head of M. Antonius r. with light beard; behind, *lituus*. Rev. M ANTONIVS III VIR R P C Radiate head of Sol r. Babelon Antonia 31. C 70. Sydenham 1169. Sear Imperators 129. RBW 1755. Crawford 496/3.
Very rare. Two portraits of unusually fine style for the issue. Struck on a very broad flan and with a lovely old cabinet tone. An almost invisible banker's mark on obverse, otherwise good very fine / about extremely fine 750

Ex Baldwin's sale 100, 2016, 544.



- 469 *C. Caesar Octavianus*. Denarius, mint moving with Octavian 42, AR 3.93 g. CAESAR·III·VIR – R·P·C Bare head of Octavian r. with light beard. Rev. Curule chair, on which lies wreath, inscribed CAESAR·DIC·PR; legs are decorated with sculptured eagles. Babelon Julia 89. C 55. Sydenham 1322. Sear Imperators 137. RBW –. Crawford 497/2c.
Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Struck on a very broad flan and with a light iridescent tone and good extremely fine 3'000

Ex Spink sale 19004, 2019, 263.



- 470 *C. Caesar Octavianus*. Denarius, mint moving with Octavian 42, AR 3.64 g. Helmeted and draped bust of Mars r., holding spear; behind, CAESAR; before, III VIR R P C. Rev. Aquila surmounted by trophy and flanked by two standards; in field, S – C. Babelon Julia 67. Sydenham –. C 248. Sear Imperators 138. RBW 1758. Crawford 497/3.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, undoubtedly among the finest specimens known. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 3'500



- 471 *C. Cassius and Lentulus Spint*. Denarius, mint moving with Brutus and Cassius 43-42, AR 3.81 g. C·CASSI – IMP Tripod with cortina, decorated with two laurel branches and fillets. Rev. Jug and *lituus*; below, LENTVLVS / SPINT. Babelon Cassia 14 and Cornelia 76. C 7. Sear Imperators 219. RBW 1761. Crawford 500/1. Rare. Light iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 2'500



- 472 *Q. Caepio Brutus and Lentulus Spint*. Denarius, mint moving with Brutus and Cassius 43-42, AR 3.91 g. BRVTVS Axe, *culullus* and knife Rev. Jug and *lituus*; below, LENTVLVS / SPINT. Babelon Junia 41 and Cornelia 71. C 6. Sydenham 1310. Sear Imperators 198. RBW 1766. Crawford 500/7.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 3'000



- 473 *Q. Caepio Brutus*. Denarius, mint moving with Brutus 43-42, AR 3.62 g. LEIBERTAS Head of Libertas r. Rev. CAEPIO·BRVTVS·PRO·COS *Plectrum*, lyre and laurel branch tied with fillet. Babelon Junia 34. C 5. Sydenham 1287. RBW 1767. Crawford 501/1.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, among the finest specimens known. Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine 2'000

Ex Spink sale 19004, 2019, 251.



474



- 474 *M. Junius Brutus with L. Plaetorius Caestianus*. Aureus, mint moving with Brutus in Northern Greece 43-42, AV 7.84 g. BRVT IMP – L·PLAET·CEST Bare head of M. Junius Brutus r. Rev. Pileus between two daggers; below, EID·MAR. Babelon –. Sydenham –. Sear Imperators 215. H. Cahn, Actes du Congrès International de Numismatique, Paris 1953, p. 213 (this coin) = H. Cahn, Q. Tic 18, 1989, 24a (this coin). Calicó 58 (this coin). RBW –. Crawford –. Biaggi 39 (this coin).

Of the highest rarity, only three specimens known, of which this is the only one with a documented provenance prior to World War II. A coin of tremendous fascination and one of the most important objects to have reached us from antiquity. A scratch on reverse field and carefully pierced at twelve o'clock, possibly to be worn by a supporter of Brutus, otherwise very fine

750'000

Ex NAC 27, 2004, 282 and NAC 45, Barry Feirstein, 42 sales. From the Biaggi collection (privately purchased from Cahn in February 1952). This coin has been publicly displayed at the British Museum in London from 2010 to 2021

Every collector of ancient coins knows that the silver EID MAR denarius struck by M. Junius Brutus to celebrate the assassination of Julius Caesar on the Ides of March is the king (or rather, king-slayer) of Roman Republican coins. Due to the history that drips from them like the blood of the murdered dictator, such coins are highly sought after and invite great competition by collectors. This gold EID MAR aureus, however, is on another level entirely. While the denarius is a rarity, the aureus is spectacularly rare, known from only three specimens. The present aureus has been known since at least 1932, when it was offered to the British Museum by Oscar Ravel, but the deleterious economic effects of the Great Depression and the recent end of the gold standard in Great Britain prevented its purchase by the museum at that time. This is well documented by a cast of the coin conserved at the museum. In 1953, Herbert Cahn discussed the coin in his presentation of "The Aureus of Brutus with EID MAR" at the Paris International Numismatic Congress. He also included it (Cahn 24a) in the corpus of 52 EID MAR coins published in *Quaderni ticinesi* in 1989 although Michael Crawford had questioned its authenticity in *Roman Republican Coinage* (1975). In the intervening years, any doubts have faded and even Michael Crawford confirmed its authenticity. The coin has been publicly displayed at the British Museum in the main gallery from 2010 to 2021. The long-term loan of the coin to the museum to some extent assuaged the wound of the missed opportunity in 1932 and the discovery that the only EID MAR aureus in the BM collection (donated by King George IV in 1825) is actually a forgery. Over the more than a decade that the present EID MAR aureus has spent under the care of the British Museum, it has also taken up an acting career. It appears in a filmed version of Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar* in which Brutus speaks his soliloquy through the coin. Alas, there is no category for "Best Coin" in the Academy Awards. Like the silver EID MAR denarius, the matching gold aureus is believed to have been struck by a mobile military mint travelling with Brutus and his army as he marched from Asia Minor into Macedonia in the autumn and early summer of 42 BC. Earlier in the year he had joined his fellow assassin L. Cassius Longinus at Smyrna and together set about campaigning and plundering in order to raise funds and attract soldiers for the imminent showdown with Octavian and Mark Antony, the heirs of Caesar. The coins were struck from the gold and silver looted from the cities and temples of Asia Minor in preparation for the coming Battle of Philippi (3 and 23 October 42 BC) that would settle the fate of the Republic once and for all and set the trajectory of European and wider Mediterranean history for centuries to come. While the silver denarius was the standard coin in which soldiers expected to be paid in the late Roman Republican period, the gold aureus was special. Under the Roman Republic gold was not struck to be used as regular coinage but was produced either to meet emergency (usually military) expenses or as a special gift or bonus given to military commanders. Under the Roman Empire the distribution of gold coins as *donativa* by the emperors became commonplace to affirm the loyalty of the army. The EID MAR aurei had a similar purpose and may have been distributed by Brutus himself to his commanders as both a reminder of what they were fighting for and as a means of cementing their loyalty. The hole pierced through the present EID MAR aureus just above the head of Brutus indicates that it was worn as a pendant and the British Museum in its press release suggested that it might have been given to a commander who survived the Liberators' defeat at Philippi, but continued to cherish the memory of Brutus and what he stood for even after the victory of the Triumvirate was complete. One can almost imagine the owner secretly wearing the coin on a necklace hidden under his tunic to remain mindful of Brutus and the ideals he stood for as the Republic continued its death throes and lurched ever closer to the tyranny of Empire. It is more than a little ironic that at the same time Brutus celebrates the murder of the dictator on the EID MAR coinage, he also features his own portrait on the obverse. Julius Caesar was in fact the first Roman leader to break the old



Republican custom of never depicting the image of a living person on the coinage. Ruler portraits on coins were previously deemed to be the stuff of kings and were anathema to republican principles. Thus, the reverse of the EID MAR coinage simultaneously recalls the killing blows that seemed to offer the salvation of the Republic from Caesar while the obverse portrait pressed its own dagger into the heart of Roman Republican tradition. Despite what Brutus and his fellow conspirators may have hoped, there really was no possibility of returning to the good old days. From an art historical perspective, the portrait on the EID MAR coinage is also important as it is one of the only securely identifiable images of the great liberator that we have. His only other certain portraits occur on the far less famous aurei struck by Servilius Casca and Pedanius Costa (Crawford 506/1 and 507/1). His image on the EID MAR coinage is notable for the light beard that Brutus wears—a feature absent from his portrait on the Casca and Costa issues. It has sometimes been suggested that this beard was a sign of mourning for the Republic, but this seems unlikely since until he believed himself defeated at the battle of Philippi, there is no indication in the ancient sources that he thought it was truly dead. More probable, the beard is the outward sign of a vow taken to defeat the heirs of Caesar and restore the Roman Republic. Unfortunately, Brutus did not live to fulfil the vow and take up his razor. The beautiful simplicity of the EID MAR reverse served to encapsulate and advertise the ultimate cause for which Brutus and the Liberators were fighting on the very eve of the Battle of Philippi. Presumably it was hoped that such iconography and the unambiguous legend would serve to rally the army before the fateful battle. A single pileus—the symbol of freedom from slavery worn by freedmen in Rome and the regular attribute of the goddess Libertas—stands in the centre of the type flanked by two daggers. The latter obviously refer to the murder of Caesar that made possible the liberty represented by the pileus, but the fact that there are two daggers had led to the suggestion that each weapon was intended to represent Brutus and Cassius. The daggers have also been thought to represent the restoration of the power of the traditional Roman consulship, which placed power in the hands of two men, in opposition to the monarchical dictatorship of Caesar. The crystal clarity of meaning of the EID MAR reverse type was very powerful and continued to exert its influence under the Roman Empire and down to modern times. The type was resurrected by Galba in Spain at the beginning of his revolt against Nero in the spring of 68 AD (RIC 24). In this case it did not advertise a *fait accompli* as had Brutus' original, but rather served as a call to arms against the debauched emperor and a promise of liberation from tyranny. Evidently Galba had glossed over the fate of Brutus after Caesar was dead. Following his defeat at Philippi, Brutus gave up hope of continuing the struggle against the Triumvirate and fell on his sword. Brutus' type was still known in the early third century AD, when the historian Cassius Dio described it for readers of his *Roman History*—one of the very few times when a specific coin is mentioned in ancient literature. He noted that, "Brutus stamped upon the coins which were being minted his own likeness and a cap and two daggers, indicating by this and by the inscription that he and Cassius had liberated the fatherland." (47.25.3). To provide such detail Dio must have seen one himself or had access to an earlier source written by someone who had seen one. Although the memory of Brutus' famous type may have faded with the fall of Rome and the coming of the Middle Ages, it was remembered again with the flowering of the Renaissance and the new interest in Roman coins that came with it. In the sixteenth century the EID MAR type was reused for bronze medallions struck to commemorate Lorenzo di Pierfrancesco (Attwood 891). In 1537, his grandson Lorenzino plotted the murder of his cousin, Duke Alessandro de' Medici of Florence, in the empty hope of restoring the Florentine Republic. Like Brutus centuries before, Lorenzino was forced to flee and was ultimately killed. Like Galba before him, he seems to have fallen under the spell of the coin type and the image of the Liberator that it evoked without paying close attention to the conclusion of Brutus' story. The EID MAR type was also invoked in the context of the French Revolution (1789-1799). An article discussing the *bonnet rouge* worn by the Revolutionaries in issue no. 141 of *Révolutions de Paris* (17-24 March 1792) directly connects the French liberty cap with the pileus of Brutus' type seen on a "superb gold coin" in the cabinet of the Bibliothèque Sainte-Geneviève. The aureus in question seems to have disappeared after the collection was nationalized and dispersed by the Revolutionary government in 1791. The purpose of the author seems to have been to associate the emblem of French freedom more closely with tyrannicide, although at the time of publication Louis XVI still lived and France maintained a tenuous constitutional monarchy. There was no French Brutus until 1793, when the National Convention convicted the king of treason and ordered his execution. In addition to his subtly radicalizing use of the EID MAR type in the pages of *Révolutions de Paris*, the author of the article also points out the extreme rarity of the EID MAR aureus by noting that even the personal collection of Louis XVI lacked such a coin. The power and influence of Brutus' EID MAR type, especially as found on the gold aureus, cannot be overestimated. It is a type for all time that has spoken, and continues to speak, to the hearts of many in ages when people have felt oppressed and longed for freedom. The coin is more than a physical memorial of the tumultuous act undertaken by Brutus and his colleagues on the Ides of March, 44 BC, and its doomed sequel at Philippi two years later. It encapsulates the dream of liberty that reverberates in modern times just as much as it did over 2,000 years ago. Is it any wonder that its original Roman owner desired to wear it close to his heart?



475

- 475 *C. Cassius with M. Servilius*. Denarius, mint moving with Brutus 43-42, AR 3.74 g. M·SERVILIIVS – LEG Laureate head of Libertas r. Rev. Q·CAEPIO. – BRVTVS·IMP· Trophy. Babelon Junia 48 and Servilia 39. C –, cf. 9 (aureus). Sydenham –, cf. 1314 (aureus). Sear Imperators 207. RBW 1776. Crawford 505/5.

Of the highest rarity, by far the finest of eight specimens known of which only three are in private hands. Exceptionally well struck and centred on a full flan.

Good extremely fine 50'000

This denarius was struck by a mobile military mint moving with Brutus and his army in the months leading up to the Battle of Philippi (October 42 BC). Sear has suggested that it may have been produced at Sardis on the occasion of the second meeting of Brutus with Cassius, his co-conspirator in the assassination of Julius Caesar on 15 March 44 BC. Although this meeting was marred by mutual suspicion, the two men ultimately agreed to join their forces and together march west against the Second Triumvirate. The obverse type features the laureate head of Libertas, the Roman personification of liberty and freedom. The type refers to the role of Brutus in the murder of Caesar and in freeing (for a short time) the Roman people from the threat of the return of hated monarchy to their city. Brutus and his associates frequently invoked Libertas on their coinages and habitually described themselves as the *Liberatores*. The trophy on the reverse serves to advertise the recent victories of Brutus, accompanied by his legate M. Servilius, while campaigning in Lycia. Brutus had demanded money and soldiers from the cities of the Lycian League to bolster his forces for the looming confrontation with the armies of the Second Triumvirate, but when they were not forthcoming he plundered the capital at Xanthus and other Lycian cities, reportedly making himself "tremendously rich." The silver used to strike this denarius may very well have been carried off from Lycia by Brutus' forces.



476

- 476 *Marcus Antonius*. Denarius, mint moving with M. Antonius 41, AR 3.94 g. ANT – AVG IMP – III V R P C Head of M. Antonius r. Rev. Fortuna standing l., holding rudder in r. hand and cornucopia in l.; at feet, stork; below, PIETAS·COS. Babelon Antonia 44. C 77. Sydenham 1174. Sear Imperators 241. RBW 1795. Crawford 516/2.

Rare. Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine

3'500



477

- 477 *Marcus Antonius and C. Caesar Octavianus with M. Barbatius*. Denarius, mint moving with M. Antonius 41, AR 3.93 g. M·ANT·IMP·AVG·[III·VIR·R·P·C·M] BARBAT ·Q·P Head of M. Antonius r. Rev. CAESAR IMP PONT·III·VIR·R·P·C Head of Octavian r. with slight beard. Babelon Antonia 51, Julia 96 and Barbatia 2. C 8. Sydenham 1181. Sear Imperators 243. RBW 1798. Crawford 517/2.

Two portraits of exceptionally fine style. Virtually as struck and almost fdc

2'000



478

478 *Marcus Antonius and C. Caesar Octavianus with M. Barbatius.* Denarius, mint moving with M. Antonius 41, AR 3.68 g. M·ANT·IMP·AVG·III·VIR·R·P·C·M·BARBAT·Q·P Head of M. Antonius r. Rev. CAESAR IMP PONT·III·VIR·R·P·C Head of Octavian r. with slight beard. Babelon Antonia 51, Julia 96 and Barbatia 2. C 8. Sydenham 1181. Sear Imperators 243. RBW 1798. Crawford 517/2.

Struck on a very broad flan, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 2'000



479

479 *Marcus Antonius, Lucius Antonius with L. Cocceius Nerva.* Denarius, mint moving with M. Antonius 41, AR 3.73 g. M·ANT·IMP·AVG·III·VIR·R·P·C·M·NERVA·PRO·Q·P Bare head of M. Antonius r. Rev. L·ANTONIVS·COS Bare head of Lucius Antonius r. Babelon Antonia 48 and Cocceia 2. C 2. Sydenham 1185. Sear Imperators 246. RBW 1799. Crawford 517/5a.

Very rare. Two lovely portraits of fine style perfectly centred on a large flan.

Superb iridescent tone and extremely fine 5'000



480

480 *Marcus Antonius, C. Caesar Octavianus and L. Gellius.* Denarius, mint moving with Marcus Antonius 41, AR 3.99 g. M·ANT·IMP·AVG·III·VIR·R·P·C·L·GELL·Q·P Head of M. Antonius r.; behind, jug. Rev. CAESAR·IMP·PONT·III·VIR·R·P·C Head of Octavian r.; behind, *lituus*. Babelon Antonia 54 and Gellia 8. C 10. Sydenham 1188. Sear Imperators 250. RBW 1800. Crawford 517/8.

Very rare. Two elegant portraits of fine style and a wonderful old cabinet tone.

Minor area of weakness on obverse, otherwise extremely fine 5'000

Ex Ex Leu-M&M 21-22 October 1966, Niggeler part II, 985; NAC sale 2, 1994, 494 and Nomisma 64, 2021, 38 sales.



481

- 481 *Cn. Domitius Ahenobarbus*. Aureus, mint moving with Ahenobarbus in 41 BC, AV 8.00 g. AHENOBAR Bare male head (Ahenobarbus?) r. Rev. CN·DOMITIVS·L·F IMP Tetrastyle temple; in upper field, NE – PT. Babelon Domitia 1. Bahrfeldt 68. Sydenham 1176. Kent-Hirmer pl. 27-28, 100 (this obverse die). Sear Imperators 338. Calicó 69 (these dies). RBW –. Crawford 519/1.

Exceedingly rare, the finest specimen of twelve known of which only five are in private hands. One of the rarest, most difficult and desirable issues of the entire series of

Roman aurei. A realistic portrait struck on a very broad flan. Extremely fine

400'000

Ex Sotheby's 10 November 1972, Metropolitan Museum, 4; Leu 50, 1990, 265 and NAC 83, 2015, 509 sales. From the J.H. Durkee Collection.

This aureus ranks high amongst the prizes of Roman numismatics. Its remarkable portrait has been the subject of much debate, especially since it is different from the one on denarii issued at the same time by Ahenobarbus, the man who unwittingly was the great-grandfather of the emperor Nero. Here we have a fleshy, indulgent, almost Vitellian portrait that is filled with character and individuality. On the denarii we have a portrait of a thin man that is stiff and noticeably stylised. The difference in the engraving quality may be due to the fact that a better artist worked on the aureus dies, but it is more likely that the denarius portrait was meant to represent an ancestor and that the aureus portrait is of the emperor himself. On both issues the name AHENOBAR appears alone on the obverse, and his title is relegated to the reverse. To many scholars this suggests that both portraits are of Ahenobarbus' ancestors, but that argument is not conclusive. Had Ahenobarbus placed his portrait on one of the issues, the aureus would have been a good choice since it circulated amongst the most influential members of his retinue. The temple of Neptune on the reverse may help narrow the portrait down to two men in the family who either built or restored such a temple. Most agree it is the Aedes Neptuni, the temple of Neptune on the Campus Martius, but some consider it to be one attributed to Domitius Ahenobarbus, who was consul in 192 B.C., and others favor the temple that the coin-issuing Ahenobarbus vowed between 42 and 38 B.C. (and seems to have realised in 32, when he was consul). Philip Hill considers the temple to have "...every appearance of being a 'blueprint' rather than representing a building which had been in existence for more than a century and a half." He notes that the actual temple was hexastyle – having six columns on its façade – rather than tetrastyle, as it is shown on the coin. If the temple is the one attributable to the coin- issuing Ahenobarbus, then we might rightly describe the portrait as that of the emperor himself.





482

- 482 *Cn. Domitius Ahenobarbus*. Denarius, mint moving with Ahenobarbus in 41, AR 3.95 g. AHENOBAR Male head r., slightly bearded. Rev. CN·DOMITIVS IMP Trophy with two spears and shield standing facing on prow r. Babelon Domitia 21. Sydenham 1177. Sear Imperators 339. RBW 1803. Crawford 519/2. Rare. Good extremely fine 5'000



483

- 483 *M. Antonius*. Denarius mint moving with M. Antonius in 40, AR 3.74 g. Bare head r.; behind, *lituus*. Rev. M·ANT·IMP Caduceus between two cornucopias set on globe; below, III·VIR·R·P·C. Babelon 35. Sydenham 1189. C 66. Sear Imperators 256. Crawford 520/1.

Extremely rare and in unusually fine condition for this difficult issue. Wonderful iridescent tone, a minor area of corrosion on the obverse above the head and a minor flan crack at one o'clock on obverse, otherwise good very fine

3'500

Credit de la Bourse 12 June 1997, 119 and Nomisma 64, 2021, 36 sales.



484

- 484 *Octavianus and Marcus Antonius*. Denarius, mint moving with Octavian 39, AR 4.09 g. M·ANTON·IMP·III·VIR·R·P·C Head of M. Antonius r. Rev. CAESAR·IMP·III·VIR·R·P·C. Head of Octavianus r., slightly bearded. Babelon Antonia 38. C 1 var. Sydenham 1193a. Sear Imperators 261a. RBW 1814. Crawford 528/2b.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, undoubtedly among the finest specimens known. Two wonderful portraits struck on very fresh metal.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

10'000



485

485 *Cleopatra and Marcus Antonius*. Tetradrachm, Antiochia ad Orontem Syriae secondary mint (?) circa 36, AR 14.50 g. ΒΑΣΙΛΙΚΚΑ ΚΛΕΟΠΑΤΡΑΣ ΘΕΑ ΝΕ[ΩΤΕΡΑ] Diademed bust of Cleopatra r. Rev. ΑΝΤΩΝΙΟC ΑΥΤΟΚΡΑΤΩΡ ΠΙΤΟΝ ΤΡΙΩΝ ΑΝΔΡΩΝ Bare head of M. Antonius r. C 2. BMC 53. RPC 4094. Prieur 27. Kraay-Hirmer pl. 220, 809. Butcher, *Coinage in Roman Syria* p. 57, fig. 8.1.

Rare. Two lovely portraits of fine style and a wonderful old cabinet tone. About extremely fine 25'000

As the struggle between Marcus Antonius and Octavian dragged on in the 30s B.C., the geographical and political lines became ever more defined. Antony had become entrenched in the Eastern Mediterranean, and in doing so had allied himself with Cleopatra VII, queen of Egypt, whose original supporter in Rome, Iulius Caesar, had been murdered years before. She had his son, Caesarion, at her side, but she needed an ally like Antonius if she hoped to preserve Egypt from the ever-widening grasp of Rome. Importantly, Antonius was easier to manipulate than Octavian, who had no sympathy for Cleopatra's motives. Although this woman of blinding intellect may have found her marriage to Antonius a degrading experience, personally, she was crafty enough to realise it was her only chance at survival. Hence, she was probably eager to issue dual-portrait coins, such as the tetradrachm offered here. The level of concession is clear, especially on this example: Cleopatra's portrait has taken on the facial features of Antonius in a very strong way, yet she retains for herself the position of dominance by placing her portrait on the obverse. Little more indication is necessary to recognise that Cleopatra had effectively dominated her husband, the Roman warlord Antonius. The date and mint of these coins is uncertain, as the coins themselves provide no substantial clue. They are typically described as having been struck at Antiochia, though there is good reason to believe that they were produced further south, in Cleopatra's Phoenician territory. The date c. 36 B.C. has been suggested, and is generally believed appropriate. If so, we might see this coinage as supporting Antony's invasion of Parthia – a colossal failure that cost the lives of many thousands of Roman soldiers.



486

486 *Marcus Antonius*. Aureus, mint moving with M. Antonius 32-31, AV 8.10 g. ANT·AVG Galley r. with sceptre tied with fillet on prow; below, III VIR·R P·C. Rev. Aquila between two standards; in field, LEG – XIX. Babelon Antonia 136. C 56. Bahrfeldt –. Sydenham –. Sear *Imperators* 377. Calicó 98. RBW –. Crawford 544/7.

Of the highest rarity, apparently only the third specimen known and only the second still in existence (the one in Paris was melted down in 1831). In unusually fine condition for a legionary aureus. An issue of tremendous fascination struck on a very large flan. Good very fine 75'000

Ex UBS sale 78, 2008, 1211. Privately purchased from Hubert Hertzfelder before World War II.

Marcus Antonius struck his "legionary" coinage in vast quantities as he and the Egyptian queen Cleopatra VII prepared for war with Octavian. In the end, their efforts proved futile: Antonius and Cleopatra fled the battle at Actium on September 2, 31 B.C. once they realized they would not win the day. Antonius fled back to Alexandria, where he subsequently committed suicide and Cleopatra narrowly escaped being the trophy of Octavian's triumph when she took her own life by the bite of a poisonous asp. Twenty-three legions are named in Antonius' "legionary" coinage, and though he struck untold millions of debased denarii, the same cannot be said of his high-purity aurei. Aurei are recorded for only seven of the numbered legions as well as for the named units of the cohortes speculatorum and the cohortes praetoriae. We might presume aurei were struck as companions to each denarius issue, but that a low survival rare has left us with an incomplete record.



487



487 *Marcus Antonius*. Denarius, mint moving with M. Antonius 32-31, AR 3.74 g. ANT AVG – III·VIR·R·P·C Galley r., with sceptre tied with fillet on prow. Rev. LEG – VI Aquila between two standards. Babelon Antonia 111. C 33. Sydenham 1223. Sear Imperators 356. RBW 1841. Crawford 544/19.
Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine 1'000



488



488 *Marcus Antonius*. Denarius, mint moving with M. Antonius 32-31, AR 3.90 g. ANT AVG – III·VIR·R·P·C Galley r., with sceptre tied with fillet on prow. Rev. LEG – VI Aquila between two standards. Babelon Antonia 111. C 33. Sydenham 1223. Sear Imperators 356. RBW 1841. Crawford 544/19.
Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine 1'000



489



489 *Marcus Antonius*. Denarius, mint moving with M. Antonius 32-31, AR 3.56 g. ANT AVG – III·VIR·R·P·C Galley r., with sceptre tied with fillet on prow. Rev. LEG – VII Aquila between two standards. Babelon Antonia 113. C 34. Sydenham 1224. Sear Imperators 357. RBW 1842. Crawford 544/20.
Light old cabinet tone and extremely fine 750



490 *Marcus Antonius*. Denarius, mint moving with M. Antonius 32-31, AR 3.65 g. ANT AVG – III·VIR·R·P·C Galley r., with sceptre tied with fillet on prow. Rev. LEG – XV Aquila between two standards. Babelon Antonia 125. C 47. Sydenham 1235. Sear Imperators 371. RBW 1845. Crawford 544/30.
Light iridescent tone. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 1'500



491 *Marcus Antonius*. Denarius, mint moving with M. Antonius 32-31, AR 3.40 g. ANT AVG – III·VIR·R·P·C Galley r., with sceptre tied with fillet on prow. Rev. LEG – XXIII Aquila between two standards. Babelon Antonia 138. C 60. Sydenham 1246. RBW -. Crawford 544/39.
Light iridescent tone and extremely fine 600



492 *Marcus Antonius and Cleopatra*. Bronze, Chalcis Syriae 32-31, Æ 8.66 g. ΒΑΣΙΛΙΚΗ ΚΑΙ ΚΛΕΟΠΑΤΡΑ Draped and diademed bust of Cleopatra r. Rev. ΕΤΟΥ ΚΑΙ ΤΟΥ ΚΑΙ Γ ΘΕΑΚ ΝΕΩΤΕΡΑΚ Head of Marcus Antonius r. SNG Copenhagen 382. RPC 4771.
Wonderful green patina and extremely fine 2'500

The Roman Empire

The mint is Roma unless otherwise stated

Octavian as Augustus, 27 BC – 14 AD



493

- 493 *M. Durmius*. Denarius circa 19-18 BC, AR 3.46 g. AVGVSTVS – CAESAR Bare head r. Rev. [M DV]RMIVS III VIR Victory flying r. crowning man-headed bull r. C 432. BMC 66. RIC 319. FFC 275 (this coin). CBN 219.

Very rare. Lovely iridescent tone, an almost invisible banker's mark on obverse and surface somewhat porous and chipped on edge, otherwise good very fine

2'000

Ex Lanz 88, 1988, Benz, 942 and Aureo & Calicó 339, 2019, Alba Longa, 1342 sales.



494

- 494 Aureus, Colonia Patricia circa 18-16 BC, AV 7.90 g. Bare head r. Rev. AVGVSTVS Capricorn r., holding globe attached to rudder, cornucopia above its back. C 20. BMC 62 note*. Bahrfeldt 114. RIC 125. CBN 1264. Calicó 164.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, undoubtedly among the finest specimens known. A bold portrait struck in high relief. About extremely fine

25'000

Ex NAC sale 33, 2006, 399.

The brilliantly executed portrait used for this aureus was created by a master engraver not long after Gaius Octavian - the adopted son of Julius Caesar and victor over Antony and Cleopatra - assumed the title of Augustus and became the first Roman Emperor. This idealized and classicizing portrait type was Augustus' preferred personal image for coins and statuary in the early years of his reign and influenced such iconic representations as the Prima Porta Augustus. The title DIVVS FILIVS ("son of the god [i.e. Julius Caesar]") had loomed large during Octavian's propaganda war against Caesar's assassins and later against Antony, but it disappeared from coin inscriptions after he became Augustus. Nevertheless, while the words may have vanished, the idealized beauty of the portrait still managed to convey the Emperor's transcendence and his quality as something greater than a mere man. The reverse type is the personal seal of Augustus, representing the zodiacal sign with which he was closely associated. It is often described as the sign of his birth on the morning of September 23, 63 B.C., but there remains some scholarly controversy over whether it actually represents his rising or moon sign, since his sun sign was actually Libra. According to Suetonius, the sign of Capricorn became important to the future Augustus already in 44 B.C., just after the murder of Caesar. At this time, he and his close lieutenant, Marcus Agrippa, had their horoscopes cast by a Greek astrologer. Agrippa went first and had amazing things predicted. Octavian feared that his future could not possibly be as impressive as Agrippa's and initially resisted having his horoscope cast, but when he relented the astrologer bowed and recognized him as the future master of the Mediterranean world. This recognition is indicated by the globe and rudder associated with Capricorn here as a sign that Augustus' star-sanctioned power extended over both land and sea. In addition to Suetonius' anecdote regarding Capricorn as the herald of Octavian's destiny to become Augustus, the first Roman Emperor, it has been suggested that Augustus had further propagandistic reasons for advertising this zodiacal sign. Capricorn had some association with stern moral authority, which tied into Octavian's attempts to contrast himself with Antony - usually characterized as debauched and corrupted by eastern luxury - and to his desire, as Augustus, to reform and cure the perceived moral ills of Roman society. Capricorn was also associated with the planet and god Saturn. According to Roman mythology, Saturn lived in Italy for a time after he was driven from heaven by Jupiter. His reign on earth, later celebrated in the revelries of the Saturnalia at the winter solstice, were considered a golden age of happiness for mankind. The reign of Augustus was cast in a similar golden Saturnian light by no less a figure than the poet Virgil.



495

- 495 *L. Mescinius Rufus*. Denarius circa 16 BC, AR 3.76 g. Laureate head r. Rev. L MESCINI – VS RVFVS Mars, helmeted and cloaked, holding spear and *parazonium*, standing l. on pedestal inscribed S P Q R / V PR RE / CAES. C 463. BMC 86. RIC 351. CBN 331.

Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine 3'000

Ex Hirsch XX, 1907, Hoskier, 515; Glendining & Co. 9 March 1931, 259; Leu 53, 1991, 194; Spink Numismatic Circular 8 April 1992 and Nomisma 63, 2021, 222 sales.



496

- 496 Aureus, Lugdunum 15-13 BC, AV 7.87 g. AVGVSTVS – DIVI F Bare head r. Rev. IMP X Apollo Citharoedus wearing long drapery, standing l., holding plectrum in r. hand and lyre in l.; in exergue, ACT. C 143. Bahrfeldt 204. BMC 459. RIC 170. CBN 1394. Calicó 215.

In unusually fine condition for this difficult issue. Struck on a very broad flan and extremely fine

15'000



497

- 497 Aureus, Lugdunum 15-13 BC, AV 7.86 g. AVGVSTVS – DIVI F Bare head r. Rev. Bull butting r.; in exergue, IMP X. C 136. Bahrfeldt 201. BMC 450. RIC 166a. CBN 1372. Calicó 212.

Struck in very high relief, almost invisible marks, otherwise good extremely fine

15'000

Ex NGSA 4, 2006, 151 and Chaponnière & Firmenich 8, 2017, 40 sales.



498



499



- 498 **Divus Augustus.** As circa 22-30, Æ 11.67 g. DIVVS AVGVSTVS PATER Radiate head l. Rev. S – C Altar; enclosure with double-panelled door; in exergue, PROVIDENT. C 228. BMC Tiberius 146. RIC Tiberius 81. CBN Tiberius 132. Lovely untouched green patina and good very fine 1'000
- 499 **Divus Augustus.** Sestertius circa 98, Æ 28.63 g. DIVVS AVGVSTVS Laureate head of Augustus r. Rev. IMP NERVA CAES AVGVSTVS REST around S C. C Augustus 570. BMC Nerva 149. RIC Nerva 136. CBN Nerva 141. A bold portrait and a lovely green patina. Minor encrutation on reverse, otherwise good very fine 3'500

Tiberius augustus, 14 – 37



500



- 500 **Aureus 15-16,** AV 7.77 g. TI CAESAR DIVI – AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. TR POT – XVII Tiberius standing in slow quadriga r., holding laurel branch and eagle-tipped sceptre. In exergue, IMP VII. C 47. BMC 2. RIC 3. CBN 4. Biaggi 172 (this coin). Calicó 308 (this coin illustrated). Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, possibly the finest specimen known. Struck on a very large flan and exceptionally complete. Almost invisible edge marks, otherwise good extremely fine 15'000

From the Biaggi collection (privately purchased in November 1952).

In the name of Germanicus, father of Gaius



501



501

- 501 **As 39-40,** Æ 10.04 g. GERMANICVS CAESAR TI AVGVSTVS Bare head l. Rev. C CAESAR [DIVI AV]G PRON AVGVSTVS P M TR P III P P around S C. C 4 var. (III). BMC Gaius 60. RIC Gaius 43 (obverse legend misdescribed). CBN Gaius 123. A portrait of fine style and a wonderful reddish tone. Reverse slightly off-centre, otherwise extremely fine 2'000

Ex NAC sale 92, 2016, 483.

In the name of Nero and Drusus caesares, sons of Germanicus



- 502 Sestertius circa 22-23, Æ 28.32 g. Confronted heads of two little boys on crossed cornucopias with winged caduceus between. Rev. DRVSVS CAESAR TI AVG F DIVI AVG N PONT TR POT II around S C. C 1. BMC Tiberius 95. RIC Tiberius 42. CBN Tiberius 73.
 Rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Two exquisite portraits perfectly centred and a pleasant dark brown patina. About extremely fine 10'000

Ex Bourgey sale 4 June 1991, 225.

The crossed-cornucopias design is familiar on ancient coinage, and here the cornucopias, grape clusters, grape leaves and pine cones seemingly allude to Bacchus or Liber in a reference to fecundity. In terms of dynastic appeal, the design boasts of the prosperity and fruitfulness of the Tiberian line, with the caduceus symbolizing Mercury as the messenger of the gods and the bringer of good fortune. Despite the hopefulness represented by this series of coins, tragedy struck on two fronts. The 'Tiberian dynasty' collapsed within months of its being announced when both Drusus and his son Germanicus Gemellus (the boy whose head is shown on the right cornucopia) died in 23. Poor fates awaited the remaining two members: Drusus' wife Livilla became increasingly associated with Tiberius' prefect Sejanus, and she died shamefully in the aftermath of his downfall in 31, and the second grandson, Tiberius Gemellus, survived long enough to be named co-heir of Tiberius with Caligula, but after Tiberius' death he was pushed into a subsidiary role and soon was executed by Caligula, who would not tolerate a second heir to the throne.

Gaius augustus, 37 – 41



- 503 Denarius, Lugdunum 37-38, AR 3.75 g. C CAESAR AVG GERM P M TR POT COS Bare head of Gaius r. Rev. Radiate head of Augustus or Tiberius r. between two stars. C 11. BMC 3. RIC 2. CBN 3.
 Rare. Two pleasant portraits and a light iridescent tone, a minor mark on obverse field, otherwise about extremely fine good very fine 5'000

Claudius augustus, 41 – 54



- 504 Aureus circa 46-47, AV 7.72 g. TI CLAVD CAESAR AVG P M TR P VI IMP XI Laureate head r. Rev. PACI – AVGVSTAE Pax-Nemesis advancing r., holding in l. hand caduceus pointing at snake and raising with r. hand fold of drapery below chin. C 57. BMC 39. Von Kaenel 623. RIC 38. CBN 49. Calicó 367.
A magnificent portrait of fine style struck in high relief on a very broad flan.
Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 35'000

Ex UBS sale 63, 2005, 284.

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



- 505 Aureus 46-47, AV 7.70 g. TI CLAVD CAESAR AVG P M TR P VI IMP XI Laureate head r. Rev. DE BRITANN on architrave of triumphal arch surmounted by equestrian statue l., between two trophies. C 17. BMC 32. Von Kaenel, type 27, 740. RIC 33. CBN 54 (Lugdunum). Calicó 349a.
Very rare. A pleasant specimen of this historically important issue.
Well centred on a full flan and good very fine / about extremely fine 10'000

From the Collection of a Mentor.

Nero augustus, 54 – 68



- 506 Aureus, Lugdunum 62-63, AV 7.72 g. NERO-CAESAR-AVG-IMP Bare head r. Rev. PONTIF MAX TR – P VIII COS IIII P P / EX – S C Virtus standing l., placing r. foot on pile of arms on ground before her, while she balances parazonium on her r. knee with r. hand and holds vertical spear with l. C 229. BMC 40. RIC 36. CBN 45. Calicó 435.

In an exceptional state of preservation and struck in very high relief.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

15'000

Ex Gemini X, 2013, 558 and NAC 94, 2016, Gasvoda, 117 sales.



- 507 Sestertius circa 64, Æ 27.69 g. NERO CLAVDIVS CAESAR AVG GER P M TR P IMP P P Laureate head r., with aegis. Rev. S – C Nero, bare-headed and in military attire, prancing r. on horseback, holding spear with r. hand; behind him, mounted soldier prancing r. with vexillum held over r. shoulder. In exergue, DECVRSIO. C 83. BMC 143. RIC 170. CBN 283.

A portrait of superb style struck on a very large flan and an enchanting enamel-like green patina. Extremely fine

7'500

Ex NAC sale 4, 1991, 325.



508

- 508 Aureus 64-65, AV 7.37 g. NERO – CAESAR Laureate and bearded head r. Rev. AVGVSTVS – GERMANICVS Nero, radiate, standing facing, holding branch and Victory on globe. C 44. BMC 56. RIC 46. CBN 202. Calicó 402.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. A bold portrait struck on an exceptionally large flan, almost invisible marks on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine 25'000

In July AD 64, large sections of Rome were destroyed in a great fire that Nero blamed on Christians living in the city. He made a great show of punishing the supposed arsonists and instituted a fire code in order to prevent or at least reduce the severity of future fires. At the same time, he bought up a great deal of the freshly cleared urban area to erect a vast palace complex known as the Domus Aurea ("Golden House"). In the vestibule of the new palace, Nero ordered the architect Zenodorus to erect a roughly 120-foot-tall statue of himself. This monument to the emperor's vanity was commonly known as the Colossus Neronis ("Colossus of Nero"). After the suicide of Nero in 68 and the Year of the Four Emperors that followed, Vespasian had the statue moved near the site of the Flavian Amphitheater that he and Titus were constructing from the spoils of the Jewish War. Due to the proximity of the statue to the amphitheater, the latter came to be known as the Colosseum. The reverse of the present aureus depicts the colossal statue of Nero at the time of its construction in the Domus Aurea. It represents the Emperor wearing a radiate crown—perhaps partially to draw comparison with the famous Colossus of Rhodes, which represented Helios, the Greek sun-god. This detail proves the claims of Suetonius to be false concerning the Colossus Neronis. He reported that Vespasian tried to mask the statue as an image of the disgraced Nero by adding a radiate crown and renaming it as the Colossus Solis ("Colossus of the Sun"), but the reverse type here makes it very clear that it was intended to depict Nero as Sol from the very beginning. The Colossus of Nero is often thought to have been toppled in an earthquake or destroyed during the Visigothic sack of Rome. However, the ambiguous evidence of a poem by the English monk Bede the Venerable (673-735) has been used to suggest that the statue still stood in the seventh century.



509

- 509 Denarius circa 64-65, AR 3.52 g. NERO CAESAR – AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. IVPPITER – CVSTOS Jupiter seated l., holding thunderbolt and sceptre. C 119. BMC 74. RIC 53. CBN 220.

Wonderful iridescent tone and good extremely fine 2'500

Ex Tkalec sale 1992, 238.



510



510

- 510 Denarius circa 65-66, AR 3.55 g. NERO CAESAR – AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. VESTA Domed hexastyle temple within which, statue of Vesta seated facing, holding patera and long sceptre. C 335. BMC 104. RIC 62. CBN 230. Light iridescent tone and extremely fine 2'000
Ex LHS sale 100, 2007, 470.



511



- 511 Denarius circa 65-66, AR 3.46 g. NERO CAESAR – AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. Salus seated l. holding patera in r. hand and resting l. elbow on arm of throne. In exergue, SALVS. C 314. BMC 90. RIC 60. CBN 228. A bold portrait and a finely engraved reverse die. Superb iridescent tone, a minor area of weakness on reverse, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc 4'000



512



512

- 512 Dupondius, Lugdunum circa 66, Æ 13.49 g. IMP NERO CAESAR AVG P MAX TR PPP Laureate head l. with globe at point of bust. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGVSTI Victory walking l. holding wreath in r. hand and palm branch in l. In field, S – C. C 344. BMC 356. RIC 523. CBN 146. Lovely brown-green patina and extremely fine 1'000



513



- 513 Aureus circa 67-68, AV 7.34 g. IMP NERO CAESAR – AVG P R Laureate head r. Rev. IVPPITER – CVSTOS Jupiter seated l., holding thunderbolt and sceptre. C 121. BMC 79. RIC –, RIC 1st edition, 47. CBN –. Calicó 414. An almost invisible metal flaw on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine 7'500

Octavia, wife of Nero



514

- 514 Bronze, Perinthus Thraciae 54-62, Æ 13.10 g. OKTAOYIA - ΣΕΒΑΣΤΗ Diademed and draped bust r.
Rev. ΗΡΑ ΠΙΕ - ΠΙΝΘΙΩΝ Statue of Hera of Samos I. RPC 1755. Schönert-Geiss 258.
Very rare. Dark green patina and good very fine 500

Galba, 68 – 69



515

515

- 515 Sestertius June-August 68, Æ 27.94 g. SER GALBA IMP CAES AVG TR P Laureate and draped bust r.
Rev. S P Q R / OB / CIV SER within wreath. C 295. BMC 113 (this coin). RIC 271 (this coin). ACG 263
(this coin). M. Grant, Roman Imperial Money, 1954, pl. 16, 5 (this coin). CBN 124.
A bold portrait struck on a very broad flan, superb enamel-like green patina very
gently smoothed, otherwise about extremely fine 7'500

Ex NFA XIV, 1984, 342 and NAC 5, 1992, 428 sales. From the duplicates of the British Museum and previously from the Duc de Blacas collection.



516

516

- 516 Sestertius circa December 68, Æ 28.02 g. SER SVLPI GALBA IMP CAESAR AVG TR P Laureate head r.
Rev. Galba, in military dress, standing r. on podium, accompanied by praetorian prefect behind him,
addressing two helmeted soldiers, each with shields and one with spear, a horse facing between them. Before
podium, two tunicate cursores, and in background, vexillum, signum and aquila, in exergue, ADLOCVTIO /
[S C]. C 2. BMC 249 (this coin cited). RIC 462 (this coin). CBN -. Mazzini 2 (this coin). ACG 369 (this
coin illustrated). Very rare. An impressive portrait struck in high relief and a finely detailed
reverse composition. Light brown tone, a flan crack at three o'clock
on obverse, otherwise very fine 4'000

Ex Hirsch XXXI, 1912, 1150 and Glendining's 16 November 1950, Hall, 1111 sales. From the Mazzini collection.

Galba's brief reign has long been recognised as one of the high points of Roman numismatic art, and this sestertius shows how imaginative and capable the Rome mint engravers could be when they were given the latitude to create a masterpiece. The reverse shows various figures and objects at contrasting angles and on different planes, thus providing the illusion of far greater depth than can literally exist on a piece of this scale. The result is spectacular – as if one is observing an actual congregation. All dimensions are fully realised and the scene creates the illusion of movement or agitation among those gathered to hear Galba speak. In a sense, this sestertius was a precursor to the multi-layered scenes that often occur on Rome mint medallions of the 2nd Century A.D. and beyond. This coin was produced in the seventh and final workshop identified by Kraay in his 1956 study of Galba's aes, the products of which he described as "...the most dramatic ever to be produced by the mint of Rome." Kraay's opinion was based not only upon the new array of elaborate reverse types from this workshop, but also on the imaginative artistry of its engravers. He considered this reverse to be an innovation on imperial coinage because it represented a departure from the "stiff and formal groupings" of the *adlocutio sestertii* of Caligula and Nero. He further notes: "Although only four men and a horse are shown below the rostrum, the impression of a larger crowd is effectively conveyed by the same device as was used on the panels of the Arch of Titus – the multiplication of fasces and standards, not all of which are connected to the figures shown."



517



517

- 517 Denarius circa July 68-January 69, AR 3.52 g. IMP SER GALBA CAESAR AVG Laureate head r. Rev. DIVA – AVGVSTA Livia, draped and diademed, standing l., holding patera in r. hand and long sceptre in l. C 55. BMC 8. RIC 186. CBN 84. Extremely fine 2'000

Ex Sternberg XI, 1981, 595; NFA XX, 1988, 127; and Tkalec 25th October 1996, 135 sales.

Otho, 15 January – mid April 69



518



518

- 518 Tetradrachm, Antiochia January-March 69, AR 13.04 g. AYTOKPATΩP•M•OΘΩN KAICAP CEBACTOC Laureate head r. Rev. Eagle standing l. with spread wings; below crescent and branch in its talons; below ETOYCA. RPC 4199. McAlee 316. Prieur 101.

A very attractive portrait. Dark tone and about extremely fine / good very fine 1'000



519

- 519 Aureus January-April 69, AV 7.38 g. IMP M OTHO CAESAR AVG TR P Bare head r. Rev. SECVRITAS P R Securitas standing l., holding wreath and sceptre. C 16. BMC 13. RIC 7. CBN 7. Calicó 529.

Very rare and in a superb state of preservation for this issue, the finest aureus of Otho to have been offered on the market in the last decade. A very elegant portrait well-struck on a full flan with a delicate reddish Boscoreale tone. Extremely fine

200'000

Ex Glendining's 23.11.1966, 68; Hess-Leu 45, 1970, 480; Sotheby's 5.7.1995, 105 and NAC 24, 2002, European Nobleman, 43 sales. Probably from the Boscoreale hoard of 1895.

In the emperor Otho, as in his successor Vitellius, one can find little to admire. As a youth Otho was a lush, and he achieved the high office of emperor only through bribery and treachery. Indeed, there had been many 'firsts' of late: Claudius achieved his office through open support of the praetorian, Galba was the first non-Julio-Claudian emperor and the first emperor hailed outside of Rome, and now Otho was the first to openly attain his office through the murder of his predecessor. (Even if we believe Caligula suffocated Tiberius, or Nero had a hand in Claudius' death, these were achieved behind closed doors.) Otho had been governor of Lusitania (Portugal) when the Spanish governor Galba was hailed Emperor, so it was natural that Otho - long since tired of his cultural isolation - would join Galba on his trek to Rome. From this Otho had two great hopes: to exact revenge on Nero (who sent him to Lusitania to keep him far from his former companion Poppaea) and to be adopted as son and successor of the 70-year-old Galba. When neither of these goals came to fruition, Otho went heavily into debt in order to bribe the praetorian guardsmen to murder Galba, under whom they were suffering. After Galba had been brutally murdered in public view, the terrified senate hailed Otho emperor. Few in Rome would have wanted to be emperor since the German governor Vitellius was leading his army toward Italy at a rapid pace. Otho's reign was as brief, chaotic and desperate as it was degrading. It culminated in a battle in the north of Italy in at which as many as 40,000 Roman soldiers died. Having lost the battle to Vitellius' army, and no doubt disheartened at the carnage, Otho committed suicide some two days later.

Vitellius, April –December 69



520

- 520 Aureus late April-December 69, AV 7.41 g. A VITELLIVS GERM IMP AVG TR P Laureate head r. Rev. L VITELLIVS COS III CENSOR Lucius Vitellius, togate, seated l. on curule chair, feet on stool, holding eagle-tipped sceptre in l. hand and palm branch in extended r. C 54. BMC 23. RIC 96. CBN 54. Calicó 565. Very rare. An interesting portrait struck in high relief, very minor edge marks, otherwise extremely fine 40'000

Ex UBS sale 78, 2008, 1540. Privately purchased from Münzhandlung Basel

Each of Rome's emperors (except Otho, whose lineage was not particularly distinguished) had celebrated their ancestors as a means of buoying their own legitimacy. Augustus made the most of his relationship with Julius Caesar, Tiberius did likewise with Augustus and Livia, Caligula and Claudius honored the many nobles from whom they were descended, and Nero initially trumpeted Agrippina and Claudius. Even Galba – the first non-Julio-Claudian emperor – trumpeted his close ties to the deified Livia. On this rare aureus, the newest emperor Vitellius acts likewise: he celebrates his illustrious father, Lucius Vitellius, who, as the reverse inscription indicates, was Censor and held the Consulship three times. Vitellius' father was undoubtedly the most important politician of his age. He was a shameless flatterer, pragmatic in his dealings with Tiberius: not only did he provide his son (the future emperor Vitellius) to Tiberius as one of his male prostitutes during his final years on Capri, but he was also skilful enough to survive the reign of Caligula, to later reach his height of influence under Claudius. After an illustrious, if not prideful, career, Lucius Vitellius probably died late in the reign of Claudius or early in the reign of Nero, long before the most famous of his four sons became emperor.



521

- 521 Denarius late April - December 69, AR 3.11 g. A VITELLIVS GERM IMP AVG TR P Laureate bust r. Rev. XV VIR – SACR FAC Dolphin on tripod; among its legs, raven. C 111. BMC 39. RIC 109. CBN 77. Lightly toned and about extremely fine 4'000

Ex NAC sale 25, 2003, 404.

Vespasian, 69 – 79



- 522 Denarius 70, AR 3.12 g. IMP CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. COS ITER – T R POT Aequitas standing l., holding scales and sceptre. C 94. BMC 17. RIC 21.
An extraordinary early portrait of fine style and a superb old cabinet tone.
Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 3'000



- 523 Aureus 70, AV 7.36 g. IMP CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. COS ITER – T R POT Pax seated l., holding branch and caduceus. C –. BMC 23. RIC 28. CBN 17. Calicó 607a.
Rare. A spectacular portrait struck in very high relief and a delightful reddish tone.
Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 35'000

Ex Stack's 2 December 1997, Lovejoy and Singer, 348; Stack's 2 December 1998, 12; Stack's 01 December 1999, Globus, and NGSA 4, 2006, 164 sales. Probably from the Boscoreale hoard of 1895.

Titus caesar, 69 – 79



- 524 As 72, Æ 10.88 g. T CAES VESPAS IMP P TR P COS II Laureate head r. Rev. AEQVITAS – AVGVST S – C Aequitas standing facing, head l., holding scales and sceptre. C 6 var. (VESPASIAN). BMC Vespasian 825 D. RIC Vespasian 414. CBN –.
Very rare. Lovely green patina and extremely fine 3'500

Ex Helios I, 2008, 442; NAC 84, 2015, 953 and Bertolami Fine Arts 67, 2019, 397 sales.



525



525 Aureus 77-78, AV 7.35 g. T CAESAR IMP VESPASIANVS Laureate head r. Rev. Roma seated r. on shields, l. foot on helmet, holding spear in l. hand; on either side, a bird. Before her, she-wolf with twins and in exergue, COS VI. C 64. BMC Vespasian 223. RIC Vespasian 954. CBN Vespasian 197. Calicó 738a.

A strong portrait of excellent style and a magnificent reddish tone. Almost invisible marks, otherwise good extremely fine

20'000

Domitian caesar, 69 - 81



526



526 Aureus 74-75, AV 7.39 g. CAES AVG F – DOMIT COS III Laureate head r. Rev. PRINCEPS – IVVENTVT Spes advancing l., holding flower and raising robe. C 374. BMC Vespasian 155. RIC Vespasian 233. CBN Vespasian 131. Calicó 912. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 20'000

Ex Leu 10, 1974, 118 and NAC 33, 2006, 462 sales.

As the youngest son of Vespasian, Domitian hardly benefited from his father's fame during his formative years, whereas his older brother, Titus, experienced quite the opposite. In both cases their childhoods and adolescences seem to have galvanised their personalities and their perspectives on the world. Titus grew up when his father was greatly favoured in the court of Claudius; indeed, Titus was a boyhood friend of Claudius' son Britannicus and very nearly died from the poison that killed him. When Vespasian fell out of favour for most of Nero's reign (as he was closely associated with the fallen Narcissus), Domitian was then in his formative years, and his life experience was one of relative poverty and isolation. Then, when Nero recalled Vespasian from obscurity to serve as proconsul in Africa, and later still to lead the war in Judaea, Titus was 27 years old and was able to join his father; Domitian was only 15 years old and remained in Rome. While Vespasian and Titus gained glory in Judaea and Alexandria, Domitian lived dangerously in war-torn Rome. Once again, as Titus benefited, Domitian suffered – this time as a potential target of Galba and Otho, and as a dangerously obvious target of Vitellius. Indeed, in the final days of Vitellius' regime, Domitian narrowly missed death by disguising himself as a devotee of Isis and escaping the burning Temple of Capitoline Jupiter in which his uncle, the prefect of Rome Flavius Sabinus, perished. Even when his father and brother returned to Rome, Domitian was not taken seriously. He received many superficial honours (see Suetonius, Domitian 1-2), but was entrusted with no real responsibility and played a distant second fiddle to his brother. Thus, it is no surprise that Domitian was rumoured to have murdered Titus, in whose shadow he had always lived enviously, nor is it any wonder that when Domitian finally assumed supreme power, he ruled in a more extravagant fashion than his father and brother.



- 527 Aureus 80-81, AV 7.37 g. CAESAR DIVI F DOMITIANVS COS VII Laureate head r. Rev. PRINCEPS IVVENTVTIS Garlanded altar. C -. BMC Titus 91. RIC Titus 265. CBN Titus 74. Calicó 918 (these dies).
A very interesting and unusual portrait struck in high relief.
Good extremely fine / extremely fine 15'000

Ex Bourgey 1 February 1995, Vermin, 16 and NAC 51, 2009, 242 sales.



- 528 Denarius 80-81, AR 3.53 g. CAESAR DIVI F DOMITIANVS COS VII Laureate and bearded head r. Rev. PRINCEPS – IVVENTVTIS Garlanded and lighted altar. C 215. BMC Titus 92. RIC Titus 266. CBN Titus 76.
Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine 1'000

Ex NAC sale 101, 2017, 223.



- 529 Denarius 80-81, AR 3.51 g. CAESAR DIVI F DOMITIANVS COS VII Laureate and bearded head r. Rev. PRINCEPS – IVVENTVTIS Goat standing l. within laurel wreath. C 390. BMC Titus 88. RIC Titus 267. CBN Titus 73.
Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine 1'000

Ex Rauch 20 September 2012, 890 and Künker 318, 2019, 1133 sales. From the Dr. Klaus Berthold collection.

Domitian augustus, 81 – 96



- 530 Aureus circa 81-83, AV 7.69 g. IMP CAES DOMITIANVS AVG P M Laureate head r. Rev. IVPPITER CONSERVATOR Eagle standing facing on thunderbolt. C 319. BMC 51. RIC 40. CBN 50. Calicó 895.
About extremely fine 7500

Ex Sotheby's 10 November 1972, Metropolitan, 282; Triton IV, 2000, 517 and NAC 31, 2005, 35 sales.

Nerva, 96 – 98



- 531 Aureus 96, AV 7.52 g. IMP NERVA CAES AVG – P M TR P COS II P P Laureate head r. Rev. CONCORDIA – EXERCITVVM Clasped hands holding legionary eagle set on prow l. C 24. BMC 7. RIC 3. CBN 5. Calicó 957.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. A very attractive portrait of excellent style struck in high relief. Good extremely fine 50'000

Ex Tkalec sale 22 April 2007, 212.

History is best understood in hindsight, and the Romans of the time could not have known how pivotal an event the murder of Domitian would prove to be. We have since recognised a clean break between the 'Twelve Caesars' and the 'Adoptive' emperors – something that would not have crossed the mind of a Roman living in the transition year of 96. Replacing Domitian was an elderly, childless senator named Marcus Cocceius Nerva, who was descended from a long line of successful lawyers. His reign was not remarkable, but it served as a buffer between the dynastic nature of the previous century and the 'adoptive' character of the era that followed. Nerva's reign was one of moderation and tolerance in comparison with that of his predecessor, and had he been a younger, more energetic man – perhaps with an heir – it is hard to predict how the fate of Rome might have been altered. Instead, it more or less continued along its militant and expansionist path throughout the reign of Trajan, only to be briefly curtailed under Hadrian, and restored out of necessity by later emperors.

Plotina, wife of Trajan



532

- 532 Aureus, 112-August 117, AV 7.46 g. PLOTINA AVGV IMP TRAIANI Diademed and draped bust r., hair in plait. Rev. CAES AVGV GERMA DAC COS VI P P Vesta seated l., holding *palladium* in extended r. hand and sceptre in l. C 5. BMC Trajan 525. Woytek 703. RIC Trajan 730. CBN 677. Calicó 1146.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. A portrait of excellent style struck in very high relief, an almost invisible mark on reverse field, otherwise good extremely fine

75'000

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

Hadrian augustus, 117 – 138



- 533 Aureus 117, AV 7.35 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 = RIC II.3, 50. Calicó 1293.

Rare. Two excellent portraits of fine style struck in high relief. Good extremely fine 25'000

Ex Rauch sale 79, 2006, 2362.

This simple yet stunningly beautiful aureus of Hadrian depicting the radiate bust of Sol on the reverse was struck at the very beginning of Hadrian's reign, in A.D. 117, and served to legitimize his claim as Trajan's heir. Although Hadrian was the logical choice to succeed Trajan – one might even say that he had been groomed for the succession – Trajan never formally adopted him until he was on his deathbed. The inscription which begins on the obverse and continues through onto the reverse honors both Hadrian's deified father, Trajan, and his grandfather, Nerva (both by adoption). Although the bust of Sol can be found on earlier issues of Trajan, those of Hadrian notably include the addition of the legend ORIENS below. Oriens in Latin refers to the rising sun, and here seems to symbolise both Hadrian's elevation, which presented a new beginning, and also the fact that he became emperor while in the East (at the time of Trajan's death in A.D. 117, Hadrian was serving as the de facto commander of the eastern army in Trajan's war with the Parthian Empire). Of numismatic interest is the fact that, while its use became common much later during the reign of the third century military emperor Aurelian, this aureus is the first instance where the legend ORIENS appears.



- 534 Aureus late 120-121, AV 7.26 g. IMP CAESAR TRAIAN HADRIANVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. P M TR P COS III Mars standing facing holding spear and shield. C 1071. BMC 109. RIC 65 = RIC II.3, 319. Calicó 1312.

A bold portrait and an interesting reverse type. Almost invisible marks, otherwise good extremely fine 10'000

Ex NAC 2, 1990, 636; UBS 82, 2009, 308; Triton XIV, 2001, 709 and Ira & Larry Goldberg 72, 2013, 4146 sales.

The reverse of this gold aureus features a facing statue of Mars, the Roman god of war and agriculture who was often compared to Greek Ares. It almost certainly represents a famous colossal marble statue of Mars Ultor ("the Avenger") that was discovered in the Forum of Nerva in the sixteenth century and which now resides in the Capitoline Museum. At the time of the statue's discovery it was mistakenly identified by contemporary antiquarians as a portrait of Pyrrhus of Epirus due to the use of elephants to decorate the armor. However, since the eighteenth century the statue has been recognized as Mars Ultor. It is currently dated to the early second century AD (i.e., the end of Trajan's reign or the beginning of Hadrian's) on the basis of style, although it is believed to be modeled on an image of the god from the Augustan period. Mars Ultor had been important to the propaganda program of Augustus. The statue represented on the coin wears the same Corinthian helmet with triple crest ornament, has the same bushy beard, rests its hand on the same grounded shield, carries the same drapery over his right arm, holds a spear, and stands in the same posture. All of this taken together raises the possibility that this aureus type, dated to AD 120-121 by Hadrian's titulature on the obverse, could be used to date the statue of Mars Ultor in the Capitoline Museum to the same period. Mars Ultor had been an important deity for Augustus, who erected a temple in the god's honor in 2 BC in fulfillment of a vow made before the Battle of Philippi. Since damage to this temple is known to have been repaired during the reign of Hadrian, one wonders whether the coin type and the statue should be associated with the restoration work. By expressing a care for Mars Ultor, Hadrian connected himself to the glory of the first Roman Emperor.



535

535 Aureus 121-123, AV 7.33 g. IMP CAESAR TRAIAN HADRIANVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. P M T – R P – COS III Jupiter seated l., holding thunderbolt in r. hand and sceptre in l. C 1060. BMC 107. RIC 64 = RIC II, 512. Calicó 1304b.

An attractive and unusual bust struck in high relief. Two almost invisible marks, otherwise good extremely fine 15'000

Ex Leu 72, 1998, 431 and NGSa 5, 2008, 227 sales.

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

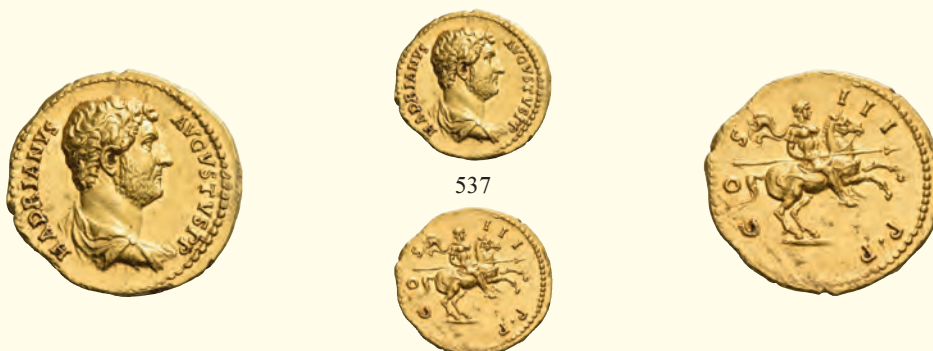


536

536 Drachm, Alexandria 127-128 (year 12), Æ 23.63 g. AYT KAI – TPAI AΔPIA ??B Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. L ΔWΔ?KA Nilus reclining on crocodile r., holding reed and cornucopia; above Ι?. Dattari 1805. Gesissen 991. Weber 8336 (this coin). RPC 5717.

Brown-green patina and about extremely fine 500

From the Weber and a Mentor collections.



537

537 Aureus 129-130, AV 7.31 g. HADRIANVS – AVGVSTVS P P Bare-headed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. CO – S – III – P P Hadrian on horse prancing r., holding spear. C 501. BMC –, RIC 385 = RIC II.3, 1055 (this coin listed). Calicó 1247 (these dies).

A portrait of enchanting beauty and a finely detailed reverse, the work of a talented master-engraver, absolutely insignificant marks, otherwise good extremely fine 30'000

Ex NAC sale 78, 2014, 943.



539



539

539 As circa 130-133, Æ 10.76 g. HADRIANVS – AVG COS III P P Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. NILVS Nilus reclining r., holding reed and cornucopia; hippopotamus at feet. In exergue, S C. C 996. BMC 1777. RIC II.3, 1702.

Rare. Dark tone with some very minor areas of corrosion, otherwise extremely fine 500

Ex Sally Rosenberg 72, 1932, 1138 and Hess 15 February 1934, 668 sales. From the Collection of a Mentor.



540



540 Aureus circa 133-135, AV 7.23 g. HADRIANVS – AVG COS III P P Bare-headed and draped bust r. Rev. LIBER – A – LITAS AVG Liberalitas standing l., holding tessera and cornucopia; in exergue, VI. C 934. BMC 664 note. RIC 253 = RIC II.3, 2017. Calicó 1285 (this coin illustrated). Biaggi 621 (this coin).

Very rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. A magnificent portrait of fine style, extremely fine / good extremely fine 35'000

Ex Ars Classica XIII, 1928, 1267; Santamaria 26-28 June 1950, Magnaguti, 462 and NAC 49, 2008, B.d.B, 225 sales.



541



541

541 Drachm, Alexandria 136-137 (year 21), Æ 23.49 g. [AYT] KAI? TPAIAN – [AΔPIANO? ??B] Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Harpocrates of Mendes riding ram l.; in l. field, L –K[A]. Geissen –. Dattari 1737. RPC 6176. Dark tone and good very fine / about extremely fine 500

Ex Münzhandlung Basel sale 1, 1934, 924. From the Collection of a Mentor.



542

- 542 Aureus 137-138, AV 7.24 g. HADR. ANTONINVS – AVG COS III P P Bare-headed bust r. with drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. SPES – P R Spes standing l., holding flower and raising skirt. C 1410 var. (without drapery). BMC 732 note. RIC 274 var. (without drapery) = RIC II.3, 2357. Calicó 1380 (these dies).

Very rare. Extremely fine 10'000

Ex Stack's 11 January 2013, Ebert, 5041 and MDC Monaco 5, 2019, 72 sales.

Sabina, wife of Hadrian



543

543

- 543 Denarius 128-129, AR 3.38 g. SABINA AVGVSTA HADR. ANTONINVS P P Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. Ven. Victrix standing, leaning on column, r., holding helmet and spear. C 89. BMC 920. RIC II Hadrian 412 = RIC II.3, Hadrian 2492.

A very elegant portrait of fine style and a lovely old cabinet tone. Extremely fine

1'000

Ex Tkalec sale 26 March 1991, 287.

Aelius caesar, 136 - 138



544

- 544 Quinarius circa 137, AV 3.69 g. L·AELIVS – CAESAR Bare bust r. Rev. TR·POT – COS·II Felicitas standing l., holding caduceus and cornucopia. C 51. BMC Hadrian 968 and pl. 66, 14 (these dies). Mazzini 51 (this coin). RIC II, Hadrian 430 = RIC II.3, Hadrian 2633. King 66c (this coin). Biaggi 693 (this coin).

Of the highest rarity, only three quinarii for Aelius are known of which this is the only one in private hands. A very elegant portrait, the work of a talented engraver, struck in high relief. Extremely fine

60'000

Ex NAC 21, 2001, 460 and NAC 24, 2002, 87 sales. From the Mazzini and Biaggi collections.

Aelius Caesar, formerly known as L. Ceionius Commodus (Aelius Spartianus recounts his life in Historia Augusta) was of Etruscan origin. He became consul in AD 136, having been adopted by Hadrian in the summer of that year. His appointment came as a general surprise: according to the gossip, Hadrian chose him for his beauty, or perhaps because he considered him a suitable caretaker who would make way for his own favourite, M. Annius Verus, just fifteen years old at the time. In the opinion of Carcopino, Aelius had been adopted because he was Hadrian's illegitimate child. A wan figure with delicate constitution, he suffered a heavy fall while making an address of thanks for Hadrian and died of haemorrhage. The Historia Augusta (Vita Ael 7) tells us that "Hadrian had gigantic statues raised to Aelius Verus in all regions of the empire, temples too in some cities, and desired that Aelius' son Verus, who had remained within the imperial family after his father's death, be adopted as his grandson, by Antoninus Oius together with Marcus."

Antoninus Pius caesar, 138



545

545 Aureus circa 138, AV 7.38 g. IMP T AEL CAES – ANTONINVS Bare head r. Rev. TRIB – POT – COS / PIE – TAS Pietas, veiled, standing r., holding box of incense and raising r. hand; in field r., altar. C 597. BMC 1017a. RIC Hadrian 454a = RIC II.3 Hadrian 2720. Calicó 1596.

Very rare and in excellent condition for this issue. A very elegant portrait of fine style. Extremely fine / good extremely fine

15'000

Ex NAC 31, 2005, 48 and Rauch 102, 2016, 72 sales.

Antoninus Pius augustus, 138 – 161



546

546 Aureus 140-143, AV 7.25 g. ANTONINVS AVG PI – VS P P TR P COS III Laureate head l. Rev. LIBERALITAS AVG II Emperor seated l. on curule bench set on platform, extending r. hand toward citizen standing r., who holds out fold of toga to receive distributions from Liberalitas standing l., pouring coins from cornucopia. C –. BMC 216 note. RIC 74d. Calicó 1561. Rare. Good Extremely fine 7'500



547

547 **Divus Antoninus.** Aureus after 161, AV 7.34 g. DIVVS – ANTONINVS Bare head r. Rev. CONSECRATIO Decorated and garlanded pyre of four tiers surmounted by quadriga. C 163. BMC M. Aurelius 55. RIC M. Aurelius 435. Calicó 1491 (these dies).

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Almost invisible minor marks, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

10'000

Ex Maison Palombo sale 13, 2014, 72.



494



500



504



508



519



523



520



525





526



531



532



551



533



550



544



540



537



Faustina I, wife of Antoninus Pius



548



548 Diva Faustina. Aureus after 141, AV 7.16 g. DIVA – FAVSTINA Draped bust r., hair waved and coiled on top of head. Rev. AVG – V – STA Ceres standing facing, head l., holding lit torch and short vertical sceptre. C 95. BMC A. Pius 395. RIC A. Pius 356a. Calicó 1763a.

A delightful portrait struck in high relief. Good extremely fine 10'000



549



549 Diva Faustina. Aureus after 141, AV 7.35 g. DIVA AVGVS–TA – FAVSTINA Draped bust r., hair waved and coiled on top of head. Rev. PIE – TAS AVG Pietas, veiled, standing l., dropping incense on altar and holding box. C 233. BMC A. Pius 310. RIC A. Pius 394a. Calicó 1799.

A very elegant portrait struck in high relief. Good extremely fine 7'500

Ex NAC sale 84, 2015, 1019.

Marcus Aurelius caesar, 139 – 161



550



550 Aureus 147-148, AV 7.35 g. AVRELIVS – CAESAR AVGV P II F Bare-headed, draped, and cuirassed bust r. Rev. TR POT II – COS II Fides, draped, standing r., holding two grain ears downwards in r. hand and basket of fruit on raised l. hand. C 610. BMC A. Pius 641. RIC A. Pius 440b. Jameson 127 (this coin). Calicó 1926a (these dies). An impressive portrait perfectly centred and struck in very high relief.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 20'000

Ex Hirsch sale XV, 1906, 1398. From the Jameson collection.

Marcus Aurelius augustus, 161 – 180



551



551 Aureus 161, AV 7.28 g. IMP CAES M AVREL ANTONINVS AVG Bare head r. Rev. CONCORDIAE AVGVSTOR TR P XV Marcus Aurelius and Lucius Verus standing facing and clasping hands; in exergue, COS III. C. 70. BMC 7. RIC 8. Calicó 1822a.

A realistic portrait and an interesting and finely detailed reverse composition.

Wonderful reddish tone, virtually as struck and Fdc

25'000

Ex Astarte IX, 2002, 397 and Rauch 102, 2016, 92 sales.



552



552 Aureus 163-164, AV 7.30 g. M ANTONINVS AVG IMP II Bare-headed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. TR P XVIII COS III Genius standing l., sacrificing out of patera over altar and holding corn-ears. C -. BMC -, cf. p. 422, note + (denarius). RIC -. Calicó -.

An apparently unrecorded type. About extremely fine

12'000



553



553 Aureus 168-169, AV 7.22 g. M ANTONINVS - AVG TR P XXIII Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. FELICITAS - AVG COS III Felicitas standing l., holding caduceus and sceptre. C 177. BMC 489. RIC 201. Biaggi 847. Calicó 1850 (this coin illustrated). Good extremely fine

10'000

Ex Ars Classica XVI, 1933, 1804 and Leu 83, 2002, 773 sales. From the Biaggi collection.



554

554 Sestertius 170-171, Æ 31.89 g. IMP M ANTONINVS AVG TR P XXV Laureate head r. Rev. PRIMI / DECEN / NALES / COS III / S C within wreath. C 497. BMC 1398. RIC 1006.

Rare and in an exceptional state of preservation. A magnificent enamel-like brown-green patina and good extremely fine

12'000



555

555

555 Sestertius 170-171, Æ 27.90 g. M ANTONINVS AVG TR P XXV Laureate head r. Rev. COS – I – II Mars walking r., holding spear with his r. hand and trophy with his l. In field, S – C. C 127. BMC 1385. RIC 992.

Wonderful enamel-like olive green patina. Struck on a narrow flan, otherwise good extremely fine

6'000

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



556

556 Aureus circa 145-161, AV 7.45 g. FAVSTINAE – AVG P II AVG FIL Draped bust r., with band of pearls round head. Rev. VE – NVS Venus standing l., holding apple in r. hand and rudder in l. RIC A. Pius 515a. BMC A. Pius 1063. C 260. Calicó 2094.

A delicate portrait of exquisite style struck in very high relief. Almost invisible marks on obverse, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

10'000



- 557 Aureus 147-152, AV 7.36 g. FAVSTINA AVG ANTO – NINI AVG PII FIL Draped bust r. Rev. CONC – ORDIA Concordia standing facing, head r., holding cornucopiae and raising skirt with r. hand. C 43. BMC A. Pius 1078 note. RIC A. Pius 500a var. (FAVSTINAE). Calicó 2043.

A very elegant portrait and a finely engraved reverse die. A perfect Fdc

20'000

Ex NGSA sale 12, 2019, 137.

Lucius Verus, 161 – 169



- 558 Aureus 163, AV 7.27 g. L VERVS AVG ARMENIACVS Draped, cuirassed and bare-headed bust r. Rev. TR P III-IMP II COS II Armenia seated l., l. hand resting on bow and quiver; behind, trophy; in exergue, ARMEN. C 5 var. (also laureate). BMC M. Aurelius 236. RIC M. Aurelius 499. Calicó 2103 (this coin illustrated).

In an exceptional state of preservation. A bold portrait and a very interesting reverse type. Virtually as struck and Fdc

25'000

Ex Vinchon sale 16 November 1991, 36.



- 559 Aureus December 163-164, AV 7.27 g. L VERVS AVG – ARMENIACVS Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. TR P IIII IMP II COS II Victory, half-draped, standing r., placing a shield inscribed VIC / AVG on to a palm tree. C 247 var. (no drapery). BMC M. Aurelius 296 note. RIC M. Aurelius 525. Calicó 2177 (these dies).

A perfect Fdc

12'000

Ex New York sale IV, 2002, 376.

Lucilla, wife of Lucius Verus



560

560 Aureus 164-169 or later, AV 7.24 g. LVCILLAE AVG ANTONINI AVG F Draped bust r. Rev. V – E – NVS Venus standing l., holding apple and sceptre. C 69. BMC M. Aurelius 320. RIC M. Aurelius 783. Calicó 2218 (these dies).

Almost invisible marks on reverse field, otherwise good extremely fine 7'500

Ex NGSA sale 6, 2010, 178.

Commodus caesar, 166 – 177



561

561 Aureus 175-176, AV 7.32 g. COMMODO CAES AVG FIL GERM SARM Bare headed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. DE GERMANIS Two captives seated back to back at foot of trophy. C 76 var. (not draped and cuirassed). BMC M. Aurelius 642 note. RIC M. Aurelius 605 var. (draped only). Calicó 2229 (these dies).

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, undoubtedly among the finest specimens known. An issue of great fascination and historical importance perfectly struck and centred on a full flan. Good extremely fine 35'000

Ex Leu 83, 2002, 779 and NAC 51, 2009, 326 sales.

This aureus celebrates Roman victory a series of wars on the empire's northern frontier known as the Bellum Germanicum et Sarmaticum. These annual confrontations demanded the presence of the emperor Marcus Aurelius while his young son, the Caesar Commodus, remained in Rome largely unaffected. When this aureus was struck, c. 175-176, Commodus held the rank of Caesar and had not personally witnessed the terrors of war on the Rhine and Danube; that would be reserved until 178, when the heir-apparent joined his father to help wage the second Marcomannic War. Though Commodus had not yet participated in warfare, he none the less shared in his father's hard-earned titles of Germanicus and Sarmaticus, both of which are included in his inscription on this aureus. These experiences at his father's side near the end of the old emperor's life may have convinced Commodus to later entrust such campaigns to his frontier generals while he remained in Rome to enjoy the comforts of his palace and the spectacles of the circus and the Colosseum. The title Germanicus ('conqueror of the Germans') apparently was awarded on October 15, 172, and the title Sarmaticus at the end of the campaign season of 175. By then Commodus was thirteen and had not yet assumed the toga virilis, the toga of manhood. The reverse of this aureus speaks of these campaigns with the inscription DE GERMANIS encompassing a military trophy flanked by two captives. The bound men would have come from the barbarian nations that occupied lands across the Rhine and Danube, for in recent years the Romans had won wars against Germans, the Quadi, the Jazyges and the Sarmatians. Many other types celebrated Roman victories in this theatre, and they became the centrepiece of coin propaganda of the era. Considering these wars were not only a source of great financial strain, but they annually cost the lives of many young men, it was essential for Marcus Aurelius to demonstrate success in the form of attractive coin types showing bound barbarians, trophies, and piles of captured shields, weapons and trumpets.

Commodus augustus, 177 - 193



562 Aureus circa 175-176, AV 7.20 g. IMP L AVREL COMM – ODVS AVG GERM SARM Laureate and draped bust r. Rev. TR P II COS P P Pile of arms; in exergue, DE GERM. C 89. BMC p. 498, †. RIC M. Aurelius 633. Calicó 2235 (this coin illustrated).

Rare. A pleasant specimen of this interesting issue. Minor marks, otherwise about extremely fine 10'000

Ex Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge 13 June 1911, Sandeman, 565; NAC 18, 2000, 573 and NAC 24, 2002, 116 sales. From the Finlay collection.



563 Aureus 185, AV 7.22 g. M COMM ANT AVG – P BRIT FEL Laureate and draped bust r. Rev. P M TR P – X – IMP VII – CO – S IIII P P / CONC MIL Commodus in military attire, standing l. between two pairs of soldiers; the inner soldiers clasp hands. C 60 var. (different obverse legend). BMC 198 var. (different obverse legend). RIC 127 (different obverse legend). Kent-Himer pl. 103, 356 (this reverse die). Calicó 2225a (this reverse die).

Of the highest rarity, possibly the second specimen known of this variety of an extremely rare type. A very interesting issue with a spectacular reverse perfectly centred on a large flan. About extremely fine / extremely fine 25'000

The reverse of this aureus features a remarkable scene in which Commodus—standing suitably taller than the other figures on a dais—personally oversees the shaking of hands by members of two different military units—indicated by the two standards. The scene is reminiscent of the conclusion of sporting events in which each team lines up to shake hands, even when bitter rivals. The difference here is that the two teams in question had the potential to kill each other and/or the Emperor, who appears here in the role of referee. The abbreviated exergue legend makes it clear that the type represents the concord of the soldiers, but the scene has a tense quality that any concord is not entirely the desire of the men shaking hands. Note that Commodus is not passively overseeing the hand shaking, but seems to be extending his arms behind the soldiers in order to bring them together in concord. The concord of the soldiers was a great concern for the administration of Commodus in 184-185, when this coin was struck. Due to the mismanagement of Britannia by the Praetorian prefect Sextus Tigidius Perennis, the legions stationed there mutinied in 184. The revolt was repressed, but Perennis then proceeded to remove the commanders from the offending legions, thereby earning himself the hatred of the men. In response, a large deputation from the British legions was dispatched to Rome in 185 to denounce Perennis before the Emperor. It was claimed that Perennis had plotted to overthrow Commodus and establish himself in the seat of imperial power. Commodus, who was already paranoid about assassination plots, found himself easily convinced and ordered the execution of Perennis. Thus did the son of Marcus Aurelius restore concord to the soldiers of Britannia.



564



564 Aureus 187-188, AV 7.28 g. M COMM ANT P – FEL AVG BRIT Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VIRTVT AVG P M TR P XII IMP VIII COS V P P Virtus standing l., holding Victory and resting l. hand on shield; spear against l. side. C –, cf. 966 (denarius). BMC –, cf. 227 (denarius). RIC –, cf. 160 (denarius). D.Sear, Roman Coins and Their Values -Vol II, London 2002, 5620 (this coin illustrated). Calicó 2366 (these dies).

Extremely rare. A bold portrait struck in high relief, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 25'000

Ex NFA XXVI, 1991, 262; LHS Numismatik 100, 2007, 520 and NAC 99, 2017, La Borde, 17 sales. From the inventory of Freeman & Sear.

When this aureus was struck, sometime after his fifth consulship in January 186, Commodus must have had a fresh and wary perspective on the hazards of being emperor. The previous year had begun well enough: on the heels of a swift victory in Britain, Commodus began to celebrate the vows for his decennialia, or tenth year of power; he even went so far as to describe the event as the dawn of a new golden age, which he inaugurated with the Primi Decenales games. However, the celebratory atmosphere was quickly tarnished with the revolt in that same year of his praetorian prefect Perennis, who intended to replace Commodus as emperor with his own son. It was a serious coup that shook his confidence, and that required him to pay a largess to the army (which he honoured with special coin types, including one depicting the emperor haranguing the troops). This fiasco was followed in 286 with a guerilla war in Spain and Gaul led by a deserter named Maternus, who in the following year came to Rome in disguise to murder Commodus, and who might have succeeded had he not been betrayed the day before he intended to strike.



565



565 Aureus 189, AV 7.18 g. M COMM ANT P – FEL AVG BRIT Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. FORTVNAE DVCI Fortuna standing l., holding in r. hand rudder on globe and cornucopia in l. C –, BMC –, RIC –, Calicó 2253 (these dies).

Extremely rare, apparently only five specimens known. A bold portrait of fine style and an interesting reverse type. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 35'000

Ex Leu 93, 2005, Perfectionist, 45 and NAC 105, 2018, La Borde, 52 sales.

Clodius Albinus augustus, 195 – 197



- 566 Denarius, Lugdunum 195-197, AR 3.09 g. IMP CAES D CLO – SEP ALB AVG Laureate head r. Rev. FIDES LEGI – ON [COS II] Clasped hands, holding legionary eagle. C 24. BMC S. Severus 284. RIC 20b. A very attractive portrait of fine style and a lovely old cabinet tone. Reverse slightly off-centre, otherwise good extremely fine 500

From the Collection of a Mentor.

Septimius Severus, 193 – 211



- 567 Aureus 194-195, AV 7.05 g. L SEPT SEV PERT – AVG IMP IIII Laureate head r. Rev. PART ARAB – PART ADIAB COS II P P Two bound captives, each wearing pointed cap, seated back to back, l. and r. of central trophy. C 364. BMC 86. RIC 55. Calicó 2488 (this obverse die). Extremely rare. A very interesting and historically important issue perfectly struck and centred on a very broad flan. Good extremely fine 25'000

In AD 194, Septimius Severus defeated Pescennius Niger, his Syrian rival for the imperial purple. Not being a particularly forgiving sort, in the next year Severus followed up this victory with a punitive campaign against the local kings of Osrhoene and Adiabene who had either openly supported Niger or had taken advantage of the upheaval in Syria for their own benefit. The campaign was a resounding success. Osrhoene was conquered and much of the kingdom was converted into a Roman province although its former king, Abgar, was permitted to retain possession of Edessa and its surrounding territory. Adiabene was also conquered, but seems to have been left largely in the hands of its king who is possibly to be identified with the Narseh mentioned in the Chronicle of Arbela. These victories prompted Severus to assume the honorific titles of Parthicus Arabicus and Parthicus Adiabenicus. While Parthicus Adiabenicus obviously refers to the conquest of the Parthian vassal kingdom of Adiabene, Parthicus Arabicus refers to the annexation of Osrhoene. The latter had a largely Aramean population that was ruled by the Arab Abgarid dynasty, hence the use of Arabicus. Severus' titles appear not only on the coinage struck in the aftermath of this early eastern campaign, but also on the Arch of Septimius Severus in Rome that was completed in 203. The present aureus celebrates Severus' campaigns against Osrhoene and Adiabene through its trophy type and explanatory reverse legend. It is unclear whether it might have been struck from plunder carried back to Rome by the victorious Roman army



568

568 Aureus, Emesa (?) circa 194-195, AV 7.28 g. IMP CAE L SEP SEV – PERT AVG COS II Laureate head r. Rev. VICT – O – R AVG Victory advancing r., holding wreath and palm. C –. BMC –. RIC –, cf. 423 (denarius). Calicó –. Biaggi 1105 (these dies).

Of the highest rarity, apparently only the second specimen known. A very interesting issue with an unusual portrait. Light reddish tone and good extremely fine

20'000



569

569 Aureus, Laodicea circa 198–202, AV 7.15 g. L SEPT SEV AVG IMP XI PART MAX Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. CONCOR – DIAE M – ILITVM Concordia facing, head l., holding standard in each hand. C 77. BMC 653 and pl. 44, 2 (this obverse die). RIC 502a and pl. 8, 18 (this obverse die). Biaggi 1066 (this coin). Calicó 2439 (this coin illustrated).

Very rare. A very interesting and unusual portrait perfectly centred on a very large flan. Good extremely fine

15'000

Ex Glendining's 16-21 November 1950, Platt Hall, 1675 and Tkalec & Rauch 14 April 1986 sales. From the Biaggi and a Mentor collections.



570

- 570 Aureus circa 200-201, AV 7.16 g. SEVERVS AVG – PART MAX Laureate bust r., wearing lion's skin. Rev. AETERNIT IMPERI Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust of Caracalla facing r. and bare-headed and draped bust of Geta facing l. C 1 var. (only laureate). BMC –, see p. 191, 184 note. RIC 155a. Calicó 2599 (these dies). Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, undoubtedly among the finest specimens known. Three superb portraits of excellent style and a spectacular reddish tone. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 60'000

EX M&M sale 93, 2003, Bally-Herzog, 209. Privately purchased from Egger in 1906 and probably from the Cologne-Gertrudenstrasse Hoard of 1909.

In AD 197, Septimius Severus went to war against Vologases V of Parthia after the latter attempted to dislodge Roman forces from Oshrhoene. Severus' vengeance was swift. Descending on Mesopotamia, the Emperor quickly rolled back the Parthians and marched his legions down the Euphrates River into Babylonia, where he captured the old city of Babylon and sacked the Parthian capital at Ctesiphon in 198. These impressive victories were followed up by somewhat less successful attacks on Hatra in 199 and 200. Nevertheless, the severe blows against the Parthian Empire inflicted by Severus permitted him to assume the title of Parthicus Maximus and celebrate a triumph in 202. The present gold aureus was struck in the context of the Parthian triumph, which also coincided with the decennalia (tenth anniversary) of Severus' reign. The obverse legend names the Emperor as Parthicus Maximus while the treatment of the portrait serves to compare the victories over the Parthians to Alexander the Great's conquest of the Persian Empire in 334-329 BC. Septimius Severus is shown wearing a large aegis in imitation of a famous portrait type of Alexander the Great known as the Alexander Aigiochos ("Aegis-bearer"). The reverse type builds on the triumphal message of the obverse with an advertisement of the sons of Severus, as if to say that the victories of the father would be continued by his heirs, Caracalla and Geta. While the message of the Emperor's personal victories over the Parthians was on target, the dynastic message was somewhat questionable. The aureus suggests that Severus presided over a stable household with two sons ready to succeed him and lead the Empire to future glories. Unfortunately, the truth was that Caracalla and Geta hated one another and could not work together without the influence of their father. Within a year after the death of Severus in 211, Caracalla had not only ordered the murder of Geta, but also the removal of his image from public monuments.



- 571 Aureus 202, AV 7.19 g. SEVER P AVG P M – TR P X COS III Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. A – DVENT AVGG Severus, Caracalla and Geta galloping r., raising their r. hand in salute. C 2 var. (not cuirassed). BMC 230 note*. RIC 177b (this coin). Biaggi 1059 (this coin). Calicó 2424 (this coin illustrated). Very rare and possibly the finest specimen known of this interesting issue.

A bold portrait and a finely detailed and symbolic reverse composition.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 30'000

Ex Canessa sale 28th June 1923, Enrico Caruso, 413; Tkalec 9 May 2005, 296 and NAC 100, 2017, 544 sales. From the Caruso and Biaggi collection.

The reverse of this beautiful aureus features the mounted figures of Severus in the center and his two sons, Caracalla and Geta, at his sides. They raise their arms in a gesture of greeting or salute. Presumably they are meant to be greeting the unseen people of Rome since this coin was struck in AD 202 to celebrate the triumphant return of the emperor and his family to Rome. During this important visit to the imperial capital, Severus assumed the consulship for the third time (the first time alongside Caracalla) and celebrated his decennalia (ten-year anniversary) of his reign. There is an important disconnection between the reverse legend and the type that underlies the deep animosity that we know existed between Severus' sons. While the type depicts both Geta and Caracalla with their father, the legend only mentions Severus and Caracalla - the two Augusti (AVGG). Severus' youngest son Geta, who only held the position of Caesar (i.e., junior emperor) at the time this coin was struck, is ignored. This disparity of power led to jealousy and discord between the brothers. In an attempt to alleviate the tension between the two, Severus at last elevated Geta to Augustus in A.D. 209, but this failed to solve the problem. Less than a year after Severus died in AD 211, the resentful Caracalla had arranged the murder of his younger brother. While the obverse portrait is well-executed with the wonderful deep drilling of the curls of hair typical of Severan sculptural art, the reverse is most impressive for the level of detail achieved on the small figures of the imperial family. Even at this small scale, Severus is clearly identified in the center by his beard. The pleats of the riders' cloaks and the manes of the horses are also fully engraved.



- 572 Aureus circa 205, AV 7.53 g. SEVERVS – PIVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. P M TR P XIII – COS III P P Severus on horse l., holding spear upright in r. hand and Victory on globe in l. RIC –. BMC –. C –. Calicó 2509 (this coin illustrated). Biaggi 1092 (this coin).

Of the highest rarity and by far the finest of only two specimens known. A very interesting reverse type with an exceptionally detailed and finely executed portrait of the Emperor. Good extremely fine

25'000

Ex NAC sale 25, 2003, 508. From the Biaggi collection (privately purchased in November 1952).



- 573 Aureus 207, AV 7.17 g. SEVERVS – PIVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. P M TR P XV – COS III P P Asclepius standing facing, between two snakes, in distyle temple, holding serpent-wreathed wand in r. hand. C 484 var. (SC on the end of reverse legend). BMC p. 262, note +. RIC 205. Calicó 2511 (these dies). Biaggi 1094 (these dies).
Exceedingly rare. A very fascinating and interesting reverse type. Good very fine 7'500

Julia Domna, wife of Septimius Severus



- 574 Denarius, Laodicea circa 198-202, AR 4.03 g. IVLIA – AVGVSTA Draped bust r. Rev. PVDI – CITIA Pudicitia seated l. on stool, r. hand on breast, and l. hand at side. C 168. BMC S. Severus and Caracalla 613. RIC S. Severus 644. Lovely iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 200



- 575 **Diva Julia Domna.** Denarius 218-222, AR 3.55 g. DIVA IVLIA – AVGVSTA Veiled and draped bust r. Rev. CONSECRATIO Peacock standing facing with tail in splendour. C 24. BMC Elagabalus 9. RIC Caracalla 396 and Severus Alexander 715.
Very rare. Light iridescent tone and extremely fine 1'000

Ex Bertolami Fine Arts sale 67, 2019, 458.

Caracalla augustus, 198 – 217



576

576 Aureus circa 199, AV 7.21 g. IMP CAES M AVR – ANTONINVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. PONTI – FE – X – TR P II Caracalla, in military attire, standing l., holding Victory on globe in r. hand and sceptre in l.; at his feet, captive seated l. C 405. BMC 152 and pl. 30, 15 (these dies). RIC 27b. Calicó 2773.

A delicate portrait of great beauty struck in high relief. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 25'000

Ex Triton II, 1998, 954 and NAC 24, 2002, European Nobleman, 141 sales.



577

577 Aureus 216, AV 7.30 g. ANTONINVS PIVS AVG GERM Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. P M TR P XVIII COS IIII P P Serapis standing facing, head l., raising r. arm and holding sceptre in l. hand. C 347. BMC p. 461 note 164 (these dies). RIC 280b. Calicó 2745 (these dies).

A strong portrait of excellent style struck on a very large flan. Two absolutely insignificant edge marks, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc 15'000

Ex Bourgey 18-19 November 1957, Castro Maya, 332 and Stack's 4 December 2001, 31 sales. From the collection of Thos. H. Law.

Plautilla, wife of Caracalla



578

- 578 Aureus 202-205 (?), AV 7.40 g. PLAVTILLA – AVGVSTA Draped bust r. Rev. VENVS – VICTRIX Venus standing l., holding apple and palm branch and resting l. elbow on shield; to her l., Cupid standing l., holding helmet. C 24. BMC Caracalla 427. RIC Caracalla 369. Jameson 195 (this coin). Calicó 2874 (these dies).
Extremely rare. A lovely portrait of fine style and a delightful light reddish tone. About extremely fine 35'000

Ex Rollin & Feuardent, 25 April 1887, Ponton d'Amécourt, 437; Bourgey 1958, Perret, 110 and Leu 93, 2005, Perfectionist, 71 sales. From the Jameson collection.

Plautilla's marriage in 202 to the 14-year-old emperor Caracalla was an act of political expedience rather than love; we are told she despised her husband so much that she would not even dine with him. Plautilla's father Plautianus had for five years been Caracalla's praetorian prefect, and by this marriage he sought to strengthen his ties to the Imperial family. He had prepared his daughter well, sparing no expense along the way. Dio, who attended the wedding, tells us that Plautianus had castrated one hundred Romans of good birth just so his daughter would have a suitable number of eunuchs to school her in the finer arts of life, and that the dowry he offered was fifty times the normal amount for a royal woman. Plautianus' wealth, power and ego grew immensely, and he even held the consulship in 203. This alone would have infuriated Caracalla, but the additional insult was that Geta, the brother who Caracalla hated perhaps even more than Plautianus, was his colleague in that consulship. The prefect had become virtual co-emperor with Septimius Severus, the senior emperor and Caracalla's father. But, as history has shown Caracalla was no shrinking violet, and as his own power and independence grew he became less tolerant of Plautianus and Plautilla. By early 205 he had assembled enough evidence to murder Plautianus and to banish his wife to Lipari, a volcanic island north of Sicily. Plautilla remained there for the better part of a decade until, upon becoming sole Augustus, Caracalla had her murdered.



557



545



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Geta caesar, 198 – 209



579 Aureus 200, AV 7.07 g. P SEPT GETA – CAES PONT Bare-headed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. SEVERI INVICTI AVG PII FIL Half-length and radiate bust (Caracalla?) l., draped and cuirassed wearing aegis; r. hand raised. C 1. BMC S. Severus 244 var. (bust seen from behind). RIC 21 var. (bust seen from behind, misdescribed legend). Calicó 2930 (2930b this obverse die).

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Two enchanting portraits of great style and beauty struck in high relief on a full flan, minor edge marks, otherwise good extremely fine

60'000

Ex NAC sale 84, 2015, 1080.

Hill places this dual-portrait aureus in the final issue of 200, thus predating by a few weeks the inauguration of the more familiar dynastic series of 201. The combination of an unusual inscription and an ambiguous type has solicited many opinions about the interpretation of this coin. Due to the saluting pose of the young man on the reverse, his radiate crown, and likely also the inclusion of INVICTI in the inscription, there is no reason to doubt that this imperial figure is being equated with Sol Invictus, the 'unconquered' or 'invincible' sun-god. The question remains, though, is it Caracalla or Geta? Alföldi, van Heesch, and Carson all consider it to be Geta, with Carson suggesting that it celebrates the appointment of Geta as Caesar and Caracalla as Augustus, which had occurred at Ctesiphon on January 28, 198. Mattingly, Hill, and Calicó all favour Caracalla, though when Mattingly and Sydenham penned the fourth volume of RIC, they made no firm decision.

Macrinus, 217 – 218



580 Denarius 217-218, AR 3.20 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 (also draped). BMC 28 note. RIC 91.

A very elegant portrait and a wonderful light iridescent tone. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

1'000

Elagabalus, 218 – 222



581 Denarius circa 218-222, AR 2.72 g. IMP ANTONINVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. IOVI CONSERVATORI Jupiter standing facing, head l., nude but for cloak across shoulders, holding thunderbolt and sceptre; in l. field, eagle standing l., head r.; in r. field, *signum*. C 68. BMC 141. RIC 91.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

200

Severus Alexander, 222 – 235



582

- 582 Aureus circa 222, AV 6.52 g. IMP C M AVR SEV ALEXAND AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. P M TR P – COS P P Jupiter, naked but for cloak, standing l., holding thunderbolt in r. hand and sceptre in l. C 203. BMC 12. RIC 4. Calicó 3080. Good extremely fine 7'500

Ex Tkalec sale 28 October 1994, 261.



583

- 583 Aureus 230, AV 5.97 g. IMP SEV ALE – XAND AVG Laureate bust r., with drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. P M TR P VIII – CO – S – III P P Romulus walking r., carrying spear and trophy. C –. BMC 620. RIC 103. Calicó 3121 (this reverse die). Virtually as struck and Fdc 10'000

Ex Triton VIII, 2005, 1169 and Chaponniere & Firmenich 8, 2017, 59 sales.

Maximus caesar, 235 – 238



584

- 584 Denarius 236-237, AR 3.67 g. MAXIMVS CAES GERM Draped bust r. Rev. PRINC IVVENTVTIS Maximus standing l. holding baton and sceptre; in r. field, two standards. C 10. BMC Maximinus 211. RIC 3. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 1'000

Ex Helios 5, 2010, 365 and NAC 98, 2016, 1335 sales.

Gordian I, 1st – 22nd April 238



585



585 Denarius 1st-22nd April 238, AR 3.19 g. IMP M ANT GORDIANVS AFR AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. P M T – R P COS P P Emperor standing l., holding up branch in r. hand and parazonium in l. C 2. BMC 1. RIC 1.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Superb light iridescent tone and good extremely fine 5'000

Ex Tkalec 18 February 2002, 218; Triton XII, 2009, 719; Ira & Larry Goldberg 80, 2014, 3221 and NAC 97, 2016, 201 sales.

Balbinus, 22nd April – 29th July 238



586



586

586 Sestertertius April-June 238, Æ 22.70 g. IMP CAES D CAEL BALBINVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. PROVIDENTIA DEORVM Providentia standing facing, head l., holding wand over globe and cornucopia; in field, S – C. C 24. BMC 34. RIC 19.

Rare. A delightful untouched green patina and about extremely fine 3'500

Gordian III augustus, 238 – 244



587



587

587 Sestertertius 238-239, Æ 19.35 g. IMP CAES M ANT GORDIANVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVG S – C Victory advancing l., holding wreath and palm branch. C 358. RIC 258a.

Wonderful untouched enamel-like blue green patina. Extremely fine 3'000



588



588 Aureus 240, AV 4.56 g. IMP GORDIANVS PIVS FEL AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. A – EQVITAS AVG Aequitas standing to front, head l., holding scales in r. hand and cornucopia in l. C 16. RIC 40. Calicó 3183. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 5'000



589



589 Aureus 241-243, AV 4.99 g. IMP GORDIANVS PIVS FEL AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. AETERNITATI AVG Sol, radiate, standing facing, head l., raising r. hand and holding globe in l. C 37 var. (only laureate). RIC 97. Calicó 3186a. In an exceptional state of preservation. A perfect Fdc 7'500

Ex Triton sale XVIII, 2015, 1199.



590



590 Aureus 241-243, AV 4.55 g. IMP GORDIANVS PIVS FEL AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. P – M TR P IIII COS II P P Apollo seated l., holding branch and resting l. elbow on lyre. C 249 var. (draped only). RIC 102. Calicó 3221a. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 6'000

Ex NAC sale 98, 2016, 1350.

Philip II caesar, 244 – 247



591 Aureus 245–246, AV 4.25 g. M IVL PHILIPPVS CAES Bare-headed and draped bust r. Rev. PRINCIPI I – VVENT Philip II, in military attire, standing l., holding globe in r. hand and spear in l. C 46. RIC 218a. Calicó 3275. Very rare. Extremely fine 20'000

Ex NAC sale 38, 2007, 149.

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

Trajan Decius augustus, 249 – 251



592 Double sestertius 249-251, Æ 42.38 g. IMP C M Q TRAIANVS DECIVS AVG Radiate, draped and cuirassed bust r.. Rev. FELICITAS SAECVLI S – C Felicitas standing l., holding caduceus and cornucopia. C 40. RIC 115a. Rare and in superb condition for the issue. A very attractive portrait and a beautiful dark green patina. Good extremely fine 20'000

Ex Tkalec sale 23 March 1991, 393.

For an emperor who came to the throne through rebellion and inherited the overwhelming political, economic and military chaos of the age, it is remarkable that Trajan Decius had any interest in reforming the aes coinage. The brevity of his reign and the instability that followed the massacre of Decius' army by the Goths, assured there was no easy path for his reform to take root. But even if Decius had ruled for a lengthy period, it likely would have failed, for the integrity of the coinage continued its precipitous slide. Indeed, by the reign of Decius the intrinsic value of the double-denarius had fallen enough for it to be practical to strike new double-denarii over Severan denarii without concern for a perceived reduction in value. Like his immediate predecessors, Decius continued to strike the sestertius in large quantities and the dupondius and as on a modest scale. However, he expanded the repertoire of aes coinage with a double-sestertius and a small copper piece, usually called a semis, but which may have been a reduced-weight aes. His other numismatic creation was a series of double-denarii portraying eleven of Rome's deified emperors, from Augustus though Severus Alexander, which presumably was meant to celebrate the state religion, which included emperor worship. The novelty of the series – unparalleled by anything other than the 'restored' coinage of his adopted namesake, Trajan – seems a frivolous luxury in this difficult era. Perhaps even more interesting is his selection of emperors since, for example, he omits Claudius yet includes Commodus. Both choices defy explanation from a modern point of view, yet they likely reflected common opinion at the time.

Herennia Etruscilla, wife of Trajan Decius



593

- 593 Aureus 249–251, AV 4.49 g. HER ETRVSCILLA AVG Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. PVDICITIA AVG Pudicitia, veiled, seated l., holding sceptre in l. hand and drawing veil with r. C 18. RIC 59a. Calicó 3308. Rare. A perfect Fdc 12'500

Ex NAC 25, 2003, 553; NAC 52, 2009, 550 and NAC 114, 2019, 798 sales.

Valerian I, 253 – 260



594

- 594 Aureus 253, AV 2.37 g. IMP C P LIC VALERIANVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. LAETITIA AVGG Laetitia standing l., holding wreath and anchor. C 100 var. (not draped and cuirassed). RIC 41. Calicó 3423.

Very rare and among the finest specimens known. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 20'000

Ex NAC 27, 2004, 472 and NAC 52, 2009, 557 sales.

Diva Mariniana, wife of Valerian I



595

- 595 Antoninianus 256-257, AR 3.85 g. DIVAE MARINIANAE Veiled and draped bust r. on crescent. Rev. CONSECRATIO Peacock in splendour standing facing and looking r. C 2. RIC 3.

Lovely iridescent tone and extremely fine 300



502



515



507



554



554



592



587



586



607



632



636



632



672



Gallienus, 253 – 268



596

596 Bronze, Iconium (Lykaonia) circa 253-268, Æ 18.61 g. IM C P LI – GALLIENVS Radiate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. I – CONIENSIVM CO – L She-wolf standing r., suckling twins; in exergue, SR. von Aulock, Münzen und Städte Lykaoniens, 374. Hunter 2152.

Extremely rare. Lovely green patina and extremely fine

500

Ex Auctiones 15, 1985, 332 and Aretusa 3, 1994, 376 sales.



597

597 Aureus, Siscia 266, AV 4.56 g. GALLIE – NVS AVG Head l., crowned with reeds. Rev. FID – ES – MIL Fides standing facing, head r., holding two standards. C 226 var. (head of Fides l.). RIC 18 var. (head of Fides l.). Göbl 1435b. Calicó 3494 (these dies).

Extremely rare. A magnificent portrait of superb style and a lovely light reddish tone. Minor edge marks, otherwise good extremely fine

20'000

Ex Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge, 13 July 1908, O'Hagan, 641 and M&M 93, 2003, Bally-Herzog, 253 sales.

This gold aureus of Gallienus was probably struck for distribution as part of a donative to the army at the Roman New Year celebrations in January 266. At New Year it was customary for the army and imperial officials to swear their allegiance to the Emperor and the Emperor undertook vows to the gods for the continued success of his reign. Gold coins such as the present piece went far to cement the loyalty of the army and its commanders. The reverse type here even goes so far as to advertise the fides mil(itum) ("faith of the soldiers") that it was used to ensure. In truth, throughout the reign of Gallienus, the faith of the army was in question much more frequently than it was something to be relied upon. While Gallienus was struggling to hold the Rhine frontier against Germanic invaders in 258, the Pannonian governor Ingenuus rebelled with the support of the troops under his command. In the following year, a dispute arising from spoils taken from the defeated Alemanni after the Battle of Mediolanum (Milan) became an excuse for the commander Postumus to claim the imperial title and establish his own breakaway Gallic Empire. A decade later, the cavalry commander Aureolus, who was tasked with preventing Postumus from seizing further territory, also turned his troops against Gallienus. The Emperor shut the forces of Aureolus up in Medolanum, but during the siege he made the mistake of leaving his tent without his usual bodyguard. He was then murdered by his own frustrated commanders. Fides militum, indeed.

Salonina, wife of Gallienus



598

598 Aureus circa 257-258, AV 2.85 g. SALONI – NA AVG Draped and diademed bust r. Rev. VENVS G[EN]ETRIX Venus standing l., holding apple and sceptre; at her feet l., child standing r. C 119. RIC 12. Göbl 235a = Mazzini 119 = Calicó 3681 (these dies).

Extremely rare. Struck on a narrow flan, otherwise good extremely fine

10'000

Tetricus I, 271 – 274



599

- 599 Aureus, Treviri 272, AV 4.07 g. IMP TETRVS – CVSPIVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust l. Rev. VIRTUS AVGVSTI Emperor standing l. in military dress, holding globe in his r. hand and *parazonium* in his l.; to his l., captive seated l. C 205. RIC 41. Schulte 35a (this coin). Calicó 3919 (this coin illustrated).

Extremely rare. A portrait of great elegance, the work of a very skilled engraver, struck on a full flan. Two unobtrusive scrapes, otherwise extremely fine 75'000

Ex Leu 53, 1991, 319; Leu 83, 2002, 823 and Tkalec 7 May 2006, 228 sales. From the duplicates of the collection of the Cabinet des Médailles in the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris (disposed of after the acquisition of the Côte piece in 1960), and of M.d'Ennery, auctioned in Paris in 1788.

C. Pius Esuvius Tetricus, the governor of Gallia Aquitania, succeeded Victorinus as Gallic Emperor following the murder of the latter in AD 271. Although the capital of the Gallic Empire had formerly been located at Colonia Claudia Ara Agrippinensium (Cologne), increasing invasions of Germanic peoples across the Rhine convinced Tetricus to relocate his court to Augusta Treverorum (Trier) in order to better defend the Rhine frontier. Although he enjoyed some early successes, in 272-273 his attention shifted to reconquering the parts of southern Gaul lost by Victorinus to the central Roman Empire once Aurelian became fully committed to the war against Zenobia and the Palmyrene Empire in the East. The present aureus probably celebrates one of his victories on the Rhine frontier as the captive seems a little inappropriate for the recapture of Gallic territory from Roman control. Having restored Roman authority in the East, Aurelian quickly marched West to deal with Tetricus I and his son, Tetricus II, who had been appointed Caesar in the meantime. In February or March AD 274, the armies of Tetricus I and Aurelian met near what is now Châlons. The Gallic Emperor was soundly defeated, but Tetricus I negotiated a surrender to Aurelian that would save the lives of both himself and his son. Once the agreement was made, Tetricus is reported to have quoted a line from Virgil's Aeneid (*eripe me his invicte malis*, "save me undefeated from these troubles") and promptly handed himself and his son over to the Roman Emperor. With the surrender of the Tetrici the breakaway Gallic Empire came to an end and its territories were restored to the central Roman Empire. Tetricus I and Tetricus II were brought to Rome to be paraded in Aurelian's great triumph, but did not suffer the indignity of wearing chains. Following the triumph, father and son were pardoned by Aurelian and Tetricus lived out the rest of his days as a governor in Italy.

Claudius II Gothicus, 268 – 270



600

600 Medallion of 8 aurei, Mediolanum circa 268, AV 38.75 g. IMP C M AVRL CLAVDIVS•P•F•AVG Laureate and cuirassed bust r., aegis on l. shoulder and toga palmata on r. Cuirass ornamented with Emperor on horse r., spearing fallen enemy. Rev. CONCORD – IA EX –ERCITVS Concordia standing facing, head r., holding standard surmounted by legionary eagle in each hand. RIC –, cf. 1 (medallion of six aurei). RIC Online 1 temp. Gnecci –, cf. p. 9, 1 and pl. 3, 8 (medallion of six aurei). J. Lafaurie, RN 1958, p. 101, 7-10 and pl. 8, 9 (these dies). Huvelin-Lafaurie, RN 1980, 13-21 (these dies).

A pleasant specimen of this impressive issue. Minor marks, otherwise good very fine 20'000

The final year of Gallienus' reign was not altogether different from any of the fourteen years before: a Gothic invasion and a rebellion within the army, both of which had to be addressed simultaneously. In this case the difference was in the magnitude of the events, for we are told that the Gothic invasion of late 267 or early 268 involved 2,000 vessels and 320,000 soldiers. After the Goths had pillaged Greece, Thrace, Macedon, and even parts of Asia Minor, they suffered a crushing defeat near Naossus where perhaps as many as 50,000 of them died in a single day. The victory is traditionally given to Claudius II 'Gothicus', but many scholars now attribute it to Gallienus. If the defeat was the work of Gallienus, then he was not afforded the opportunity to follow it up, because a rebellion at Milan by the commander Aureolus commanded his attention. This was a dangerous situation because Aureolus had taken control of Milan, one of the empire's most strategic cities, and had allied himself with the Gallic rebel Postumus. (We are certain of this because during his revolt Aureolus struck coins at Milan in Postumus' name.) By the time Gallienus arrived in northern Italy, the siege of Milan seems to have been initiated by the commander of the Dalmatian Cavalry, the future emperor Claudius II. Upon arriving in northern Italy, Gallienus assumed command of the siege. His reasons were certainly personal: Aureolus was a trusted commander whom Gallienus had already forgiven for an earlier revolt, perhaps in 262. Regardless, the takeover must have upset Claudius, who probably suspected Gallienus had arrived at the pivotal moment to capture the glory for himself. Claudius then conspired with other officers, including the future emperor Aurelian, to murder Gallienus. The deed was achieved as Gallienus emerged from his tent upon hearing a false alarm indicating a counter-offensive. After the promise of a liberal bribe, the soldiers hailed Claudius their new emperor, and he continued the siege until Aureolus had been ousted and executed. It is possible – even likely – that these large gold medallions were struck to help pay for the accession promises Claudius had made outside the walls of Milan shortly after he murdered Gallienus. One of the first measures taken by Claudius was to improve the purity and the weight of the aureus. They had been struck at the rate of 80 to 90 per pound for most of Gallienus' reign, and Claudius raised the standard to the 60 to 70 per pound range. These massive gold medallions probably were intended as eight-aureus pieces, and if so they were based upon a weight slightly heavier than the low end of Claudius' range. The weight increase achieved by Claudius is easy to recognize when his eight-aureus medallions are compared to the eight-aureus medallion of Gallienus, for there is about a 30 percent difference in their intrinsic value.



601

601 Aureus, Mediolanum 270, AV 5.07 g. IMP CLAV – DIVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. PAX – E – X – ERC Pax standing l., holding branch in r. hand and transverse sceptre in l. C 208. RIC 176. RIC Online 10 temp. Calicó 3948

Very rare. A very attractive portrait, an almost invisible metal flaw on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine / extremely fine

10'000

Ex Cabinet Numismatique Albuquerque sale 40, 1993, 269.

Aurelian, 270-275



602

- 602 Aureus, Mediolanum circa 270-275, AV 4.00 g. IMP C D AVRE – LIANVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. MARTI – P – A – CIFERO Mars standing l., holding branch in r. hand and transverse spear in l. C –. RIC –. RIC Online 1358 temp. (this coin listed). Göbl 12i. Huvelin-Lafaurie, RN 1980, 77 (this coin). Calicó 4014 (this coin illustrated). Estiot 21b (this coin).

Extremely rare. A minor flan crack at six o'clock on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 10'000

Ex Triton III, 2000, 1164; NAC 24, 2002, 209 and Leu 91, 2004, 651 sales.



603

- 603 Aureus, Siscia 270-275, AV 5.32 g. IMP C AVREL – IANVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. CONCO – RD – IA MILI Concordia seated l., holding standard in each hand. C 41. RIC 166. RIC temp. 1353. Göbl 47, p. 121. CBN 346-348. Calicó 3985.

A bold portrait of excellent style. Perfectly struck and centred on a full flan. Extremely fine 10'000

Ex Lanz 50, 1989, 783; Giessener Münzhandlung 55, 1991, 763; Kunst und Münzen fixed price list 66, 1991, 2 and Kunst und Münzen 28, 1992, 388 sales.



604

- 604 Aureus, Siscia 271, AV 4.44 g. IMP C D OM AVRE – LIANVS AVG Laureate and cuirassed bust r., with aegis on l. shoulder. Rev. CONCORDIA – MILI Two Concordiae standing facing each other, holding three military ensigns. C –. RIC –. RIC online 1357 temp. Göbl 18b (these dies). Calicó –.

Extremely rare. A very elegant portrait of fine style struck on very fresh metal. Good extremely fine 15'000

Probus, 276 – 282



605

- 605 Aureus 276-282, AV 6.89 g. IMP PROB – VS P – F AVG Laureate and cuirassed bust l. with aegis and spear over r. shoulder seen three-quarters from front. Rev. VIRT – V – S AVG Probus, in military attire seated l. on curule chair holding sceptre in l. hand and extending r. to receive globe from Virtus who stands r. before him; behind the emperor, in r. field, Victory standing l. to crown him. In background, soldier standing facing holding standard, to his l., one further standard. In exergue, wreath. C 837 (omits cuirass). RIC 146. Calicó 4241 (these dies). Biaggi 1633 (this coin).

Very rare. A wonderful representation of the emperor in military attire and an interesting reverse composition. Good extremely fine 35'000

Ex Hirsch XXVI, 1910, 803 and NAC 21, 2001, 542 sales. From the Biaggi collection (privately purchased in November 1952).

The Roman emperor Marcus Aurelius Probus came from obscure origins, born in A.D. 232 to Dalmatius, a Pannonian gardener from Sirmium, and a mother whose name is not known. He joined the legions around 250, and quickly rose to become a tribune during the reign of Valerian. Distinguishing himself further during the reigns of both Aurelian and Tacitus, by 276 when Tacitus died, Probus, now in his mid-40s, was in overall command of the legions of the East. Immediately upon hearing of the emperor's death, Probus' troops hailed him emperor, and he began a quick march towards Rome to secure the throne. He first defeated his rival emperor, Florian, Tacitus's half-brother, at Tarsus, after which the Senate in Rome recognized him as emperor. Then, after crossing into Europe in 277, he was further delayed from his initial route when he confronted the Goths who had invaded along the lower Danube. The following year saw Probus in Gaul, actively engaging the Alamanni and Longiones, both Germanic tribes that had invaded Roman territory from across the Rhine, and during 279-280 he was fighting the Vandals in Illyricum and Rhaetia. By 280-281 Probus still had yet to reach Rome, having first to suppress the revolts from the successive usurpers, Julius Saturninus, Proculus and Bonosus. Finally, at the end of 281, he reached Rome, where he celebrated a triumph for his military victories. The reverse of this lovely aureus celebrates the virtue of the emperor, and was struck during Probus' sojourn in Rome in 281. It was likely struck as part of an extensive donative related to his triumph. The obverse, which is finely detailed and wonderfully executed, depicts Probus in a military pose, holding a sceptre over his shoulder and wearing a cuirass upon which rests the aegis. The aegis was an animal skin originally possessed by Jupiter and his daughter, Minerva, often shown with a gorgoneion and tasseled hems. It was thought to be ageless and immortal; as the accoutrement of the emperor, it protected him during battle.

Carus, 282 – 283



- 606 Double antonianian, Siscia November 282, billon 3.92 g. DEO ET DOMINO CARO AVG Confronted busts of Sol on l., radiate and draped, and Carus on r., radiate and cuirassed. Rev. FELICITA – S REI – PVBLICAE Felicitas standing l., holding caduceus and sceptre and leaning on column. In exergue, ·X·I·. C 27. RIC 99. Very rare. An issue of great interest and fascination. Lovely green patina, minor marks on obverse field, otherwise good very fine 7500

The phenomenon of solar worship in the Roman world, which reached its peak in the late 3rd and early 4th Centuries A.D., served in many ways as a conduit for the rise of Christianity. The universal worship of Sol was encouraged by several emperors, especially from Aurelian onward, and was even promoted by the first Christian emperor, Constantine. Even if we are callous enough to assume their belief in Sol was a mere expedient, we must acknowledge, at least, that it was a wise choice for the times. With conditions on earth so horrendous and uncertain, the desire to focus prayer on a single, universal force with some hint of an afterlife must have been a compelling option to the polytheism that apparently had failed. Furthermore, during this period the station of the emperor in relation to other mortals was on the rise since the princeps was increasingly sheltered, isolated and venerated. As Roman government and society underwent the grand transformation from a principate to a dominate, the idea of worshipping one all-powerful god went hand-in-hand with the idea of loyalty to a single earthly authority. This coin speaks directly to the transformation of the age, showing the all-powerful emperor and the universal sun-god as a unified force to lead and defend Rome. The inscription DEO ET DOMINO CARO INVIC AVG identifies Carus as Deus et Dominus, "god and lord", who assumed the epithet invictus, "unconquerable". The double portrait and the formula XII (X ET I on some examples) indicate this is a double-denomination containing about ten percent silver. The normal aurelianianus of the age, which bore the mark XXI or KA, meaning 20:1, contained only about 5 percent silver. The double-aurelianianus had been introduced by Probus' predecessor, Tacitus, whose issues typically bore the value marks XI or IA, meaning 10:1. In some instances the double-denomination is shown by the emperor wearing a two-layered radiate crown, the equivalent of the two radiate crowns worn here, collectively, by Carus and Sol.

Numerian, 283 – 284



- 607 Medallion circa 283-284, Æ 23.09 g. IMP C M AVR NVMERIANVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. MONETA AVGG The three Monetae standing facing, the outer two with heads l., holding scales and cornucopiae; at their feet, heaps of coins. C 31. Pink 19.5 (this coin). Gnechi II, 8 and pl. 123, 7 (this coin illustrated).

Extremely rare and in an exceptional state of preservation, undoubtedly the finest bronze medallion of Numerian in existence. A magnificent portrait of fine style perfectly struck and centred on a very large flan. Large areas of the original silvering still intact. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

60'000

Ex Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge 19 November 1902, Bizot, 341; Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge 13 June 1906, Astronomer, 655; Hirsch XXX, 1911, Percy Barron, 1237; Schulman 5 March 1923, Evans and Vierordt, 2497; Leu-NFA 16 October 1984, Garrett, 908; Leu 48, 1989, 410; Sotheby's 5 July 1995, 164; NAC 10, 1997, 683 and NAC 18, 2000, 695 sales.

After the murder of Probus in September AD 282, Carus was proclaimed Augustus by the army and appointed his sons Carinus and Numerian as Caesars. To strengthen his position, Carus also arranged for the marriage of Numerian to a daughter of the Praetorian Prefect, L. Flavius Aper. After this, in AD 283, Carus, Numerian and Aper together embarked on a major campaign against the Sasanian Persian Empire while Carinus governed the western Empire. At first, the Persian war was a great success that resulted in the conquest of Mesopotamia and the sack of the Sasanian capital at Ctesiphon. To celebrate, Carus and Numerian jointly assumed the title of Persicus Maximus. Then, in the late summer of AD 283, Carus suddenly died. He was said to have been struck by lightning during a thunderstorm, but it was widely suspected that he had been murdered by Aper, who immediately proclaimed Numerian as Augustus. Unable to continue the war, Numerian made peace with the Persians and began the long march back to Rome. As if the beginning of Numerian's reign as Augustus was not suspicious enough, the events of the homeward march in AD 284 were downright bizarre. While passing through Emesa in Syria, Aper suddenly announced that Numerian was suffering from an inflammation of the eyes and would henceforth be carried in a closed litter. The soldiers began to suspect that something much worse was wrong with Numerian than an eye infection when after traveling for days a terrible odor began to issue from the litter. Finally tearing aside the curtains when they reached Bithynia, they discovered the horribly decomposing body of the Emperor. The important cavalry commander Valerius Diocles immediately accused Aper (the obvious choice) of murdering Numerian and exacted justice by striking down the Praetorian Prefect with his sword. With no one on hand to challenge him, Diocles was acclaimed Augustus by the army under the name of Diocletian. It has been suggested that bronze medallions depicting Moneta alone or the three Monetae were distributed as imperial largesse on the occasion of the Roman New Year. Traditionally, Moneta was an epithet of Juno, the Roman goddess whose temple on the Capitoline Hill of Rome housed the city's mint, but over time this name was given to the personification of the mint and its coinage. Usually Moneta appears alone on Roman coins of the late third century AD, but on the present medallion she appears in triplicate, repeating a popular medallion reverse type of Probus. The multiplication of Moneta here serves to simultaneously compare her to the Three Graces and to look back to the old custom of the Roman Republic in which the mint was operated by three magistrates known as the Tresviri Aere Argentio Auro Flando Feriundo ("Three Men for Striking and Casting Bronze, Silver, and Gold [Coin]").



608



608 Aureus 284, AV 5.16 g. IMP NVMERIANVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VENE – RI VICTRICI Venus standing facing, head l., holding Victory and apple. C 93 var. (not draped). RIC 405. Calicó 4321 (these dies).

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, undoubtedly among the finest specimens known. Struck on an exceptionally large flan and with a superb light reddish tone. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

40'000

Diocletian, 284 - 305



609



609 Aureus circa 284-294, AV 5.61 g. IMP C C VAL DIOCLETIANVS P F AVG Radiate and cuirassed bust r. Rev. IOVI CONSERVAT AVGG Jupiter standing l., holding thunderbolt and sceptre. C 217. RIC 137. Lukanc 8. Depyrot 2B/1. Biaggi 1708 (this coin). Calicó 4467 (this coin illustrated).

Extremely rare. A very unusual and interesting portrait struck on an exceptionally large flan. An almost invisible mark on the legend at one o'clock on obverse, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

25'000

Ex Leu 25, 1980, 418 and Tkalec 22 April 2007, 334 sales. From the Biaggi collection (privately purchased from Hubert Herzfelder in 1952).

In 286, the ongoing conflict with the British usurper Carausius prompted Diocletian to elevate his imperial colleague, Maximian, to the rank of Augustus in the Western Empire. Formerly, Maximian had served as a subordinate Caesar to Diocletian as Augustus, but the new status gave him the same powers as Diocletian in the hope that it would permit him to better prosecute the war against Carausius. This hope seems to have been baseless as victory over the British usurper was only achieved in 293, after the creation of the Tetrarchic system and the campaigns of Constantius Chlorus acting as Maximian's Caesar. Despite Maximian's elevation to full imperial power—indicated on the present coin by the use of the plural AVGG rather than singular AVG in the reverse legend—the old iconography established during his time as Diocletian's Caesar continued. Maximian was still Hercules and was frequently represented on the coinage, while Diocletian remained Jovius and was associated with Jupiter reverse types. Diocletian's retention of his original Jovian character is amply illustrated by this aureus reverse. The radiate portrait on the obverse serves to indicate that the coin is the rare binio (double aureus) denomination rather than an aureus. The use of the radiate crown as an indicator of double denominations goes back to the coinage reforms of Nero, when a radiate portrait was used to distinguish the dupondius from the as. The radiate crown was also used to distinguish the antoninianus denomination (tariffed at two denarii but initially containing the silver of only one and a half) from the denarius in the third century.



610



- 610 Aureus 286, AV 5.31 g. IMP C C VAL DIOCLETIANVS P F AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. IOVI CO – NSER – VAT AVGG Jupiter standing l., holding thunderbolt and sceptre. C 216. RIC 134. Lukanc Roma 5. Depeyrot 2c/1. Calicó 4463.

Struck on a very large flan, almost invisible nick under chin, otherwise good extremely fine 12'000

Ex NAC sale 46, 2008, 680.



611



- 611 Aureus, Cyzicus 286, AV 4.50 g. IMP C C VAL DIOCLETIANVS P F AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. IOVI C – ONSE – RVATORI Jupiter standing l., holding in r. hand Victory on globe and sceptre in l. C 248 var. (not cuirassed). RIC 295. Lukanc 10. Depeyrot 2/2. Calicó 4482.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 7'500

Ex NAC sale 106, 2018, 1038.



612



- 612 Aureus, Treviri 294, AV 5.48 g. DIOCLETIA – NVS P AVG Laureate head r. Rev. IOVI CON – SERVAT Jupiter seated facing, holding thunderbolt in his r. hand and long sceptre with his l.; in l. field, eagle standing l. with head turned r. In exergue, PT. C 187. Depeyrot 1B/3. Bastien, Donativa p. 65, c. Lukanc 6. RIC 17. Calicó 4455a.

Extremely rare and undoubtedly among the finest specimens known. A bold portrait and an interesting reverse type. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 20'000

Ex Leu 93, 2005, Perfectionist, 117 and NGSA 5, 2008, 290 sales. Privately purchased from Vinchon in July 1971.



- 613 Argenteus, Siscia 294-295, AR 4.07 g. DIOCLETI – ANVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. VIRTVS – MILITVM The four tetrarchs sacrificing over tripod before eight-turreted camp gate. C 516. RIC 43a.
Light iridescent tone, virtually as struck and Fdc 1'000
- 614 Argenteus, Nicomedia circa 295-296, AR 3.36 g. DIOCLETI – ANVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. VICTORIAE SARMATICAE Camp gate with four turrets, doors ajar; above entrance, star. In exergue, SMNT. C 492. RIC 25a.
A perfect Fdc 2'000

Maximianus Herculius augustus, first reign 286 – 305



- 615 Aureus 287, AV 5.05 g. MAXIMIA – NVS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. VIRT – VS AVGG Hercules standing r., kneeling on the Cerynean hind, which he seizes by its antlers; in l. field, club. In exergue, P R. C 595. RIC –. Depeyrot 6/10. Biaggi 1802 (this coin). Calicó 4736.
Very rare. An interesting and fascinating issue struck on a very broad flan and complete. Good extremely fine 15'000

Ex Hirsch 26 April 1954, 1321; NAC 40, 2007, 839 and NAC 88, 2015, 490 sales. From the Biaggi collection.

Soon after Diocletian assumed supreme power in mid-285, he appointed as co-ruler a comrade-in-arms named Maximian. He was initially invested with the rank of Caesar, but by April 1, 286, Diocletian had raised Maximian to the rank of Augustus. The two ruled jointly for seven years until they expanded their diarchy into a tetrarchy by each appointing a Caesar as their deputy. Each also chose a god to follow: Jove (Jupiter) for Diocletian and Hercules for Maximian. In Diocletian's new system the emperors were represented as having received their mandate to rule from the gods, and so they adopted the names Jovius and Herculius and, beginning in 287, celebrated divine birthdays – their geminis natalis – on July 21. All of this was important in Diocletian's new world order, for divine parentage made them incalculably more legitimate than any usurper who might claim the purple. On this aureus Maximian celebrates his membership in the Herculian house. His portrait appears on the obverse, and on the reverse his divine companion Hercules is engaged in his fourth labour, capturing the Cerynean hind. Hercules' twelve labors and many of his other adventures were common themes in art and literature and were as familiar to the Romans as the episodes of the Trojan War or the adventures of Odysseus were to the Greeks.



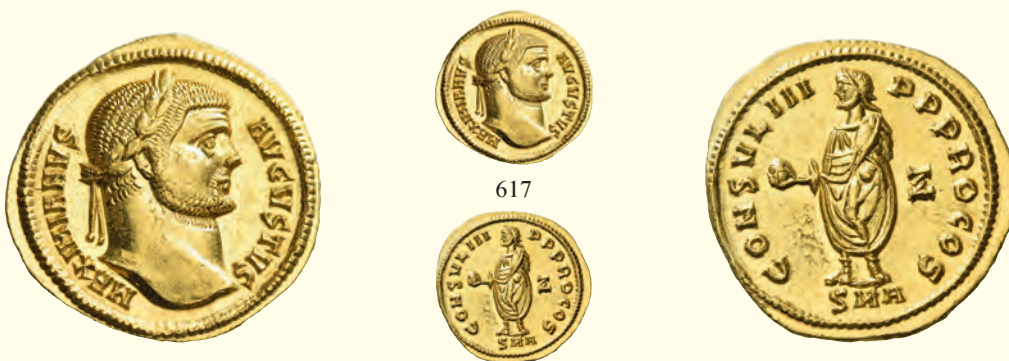
616

- 616 Aureus, Antiochia 290, AV 5.43 g. MAXIMIANVS AVG COS III P P Laureate and cuirassed bust l., wearing imperial mantle and holding eagle-tipped sceptre. Rev. HERCVLI VLTORI Hercules standing l., holding club and apples, lion's skin on l. arm; in l. field, Z and in exergue, SMA. C –. RIC –. Depeyrot 5/2. Calicó 4666a (these dies). Of the highest rarity, the finest of only three specimens known. A very interesting portrait struck in high relief on an extremely large flan.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 30'000

Ex Tkalec 25 October 1996, 265 and NGSA 4, 2006, 253 sales.

The impressive portrait of Maximian on the obverse of this gold aureus makes it abundantly clear that it was produced as a donative for distribution to the army at the New Year festival in January 290. He is shown wearing heavily decorated robes and carrying an eagle-tipped scepter—both insignia of a consul—and therefore the coin celebrates Maximian's assumption of the consulship. The surrounding legend informs us that it was his third time holding the consulship. It was also his second time sharing the consulship with Diocletian, his superior colleague in the imperial Dyarchy that lasted until 293. In that year, Diocletian divided the Empire and established the Tetrarchy with Maximian serving as Augustus in the West. The reverse features Hercules Ultor ("the Avenger") and refers to Maximian's role in the Dyarchy. When Diocletian first conceived of the Dyarchy as a means of restoring order in the Roman Empire, he understood himself in terms of Jupiter, the wise and powerful ruler of the gods, while he viewed Maximian as Hercules, the agent of Jupiter on earth endowed with the strength to enforce the dictates of his divine father. In short, Diocletian was the brains and Maximian was the brawn of the Dyarchy. This relationship became codified already in 286, when Diocletian appointed Maximian to serve as his Caesar. At the time, Diocletian assumed the name Jovius while Maximian became Herculus. Hercules subsequently became an emblem used by other individuals raised to the rank of Caesar in the Tetrarchic system of 293-305.



617

- 617 Aureus, Antioch circa 290, AV 5.34 g. MAXIMIANVS – AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. CONSVL III – P P PROCOS Maximianus, in consular robes, standing l., holding globe; in field r., Z. In exergue, SMH. C 73 var. (on reverse, Σ). RIC 609 var. (on reverse, Σ). Depeyrot 7/2. Calicó 4623 (these dies).

An extremely rare variety. A bold portrait, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 15'000

Ex Rauch sale 91, 2012, 734.



618



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

Extremely rare and a very interesting reverse type. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 12'500

Ex Leu 53, 1991, 330 and Tkalec 23 October 1992, 436 sales.



619



619 Aureus, Nicomedia circa 294, AV 5.36 g. MAXIMIA – NVS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. HERCVLI – VICTORI Hercules standing facing, head r., holding apples and lion's skin in l. hand and leaning on club; in exergue, SMN. C 294 var. (SMSD or SMNVI in exergue). RIC 3. Depeyrot 2/2. Calicó 4667a var. (Hercules does not hold apples).

Extremely rare. A bold portrait of excellent style. Minor edge marks, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc 15'000

Ex M&M 43, 1970, 443; Gemini II, 2006, 513 and NAC 105, 2018, 110 sales.



620



620

620 Follis, Nicomedia circa 294-295, billon 11.58 g. IMP C M A MAXIMIANVS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. GENIO POPV – LI ROMANI Genius standing l., holding patera and cornucopia; in exergue, SMN. C 184. RIC 27b. Virtually as struck and Fdc 300



621



621 Aureus, Aquileia circa 294-303, AV 5.34 g. MAXIMIA – NVS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. CONCORDIA AVGG ET CAESS NNNN Concordia seated l., holding patera and double cornucopiae. In exergue, A Q. C 48. RIC 2b. Depeyrot 1/3. Paolucci-Zub 24. Calicó 4611 (this obverse die).

Extremely rare. Extremely fine 7'500

From the Collection of a Mentor.

Constantius I caesar, 293 - 306



622



622 Aureus 294, AV 5.06 g. D N CONSTA – NTIO CAES Laureate head r. Rev. PRINCI – PI IV – VENTVTIS Constantius standing l., holding standard and sceptre; in exergue, P ROM. C 233. Depeyrot 9/10. Jameson 329 (this coin). Biaggi 1841 (this coin). RIC –. Calicó 4866 (this coin illustrated).

Very rare. Good extremely fine 15'000

Ex Rolin & Feuardent 26 May 1909, J.E., 310; NAC 27, 2004, 506 and NAC 40, 2007, 846 sales. From the Jameson and Biaggi collections.



623



623 Aureus, Ticinum circa 305, AV 4.88 g. CONSTANT – IVS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. FELICITAS AVGG NOSTR Felicitas seated l., holding caduceus and cornucopia. In exergue, SMT. C 38. RIC 51A. Depeyrot 8/4. Calicó 4823.

In an exceptional state of preservation. A bold portrait struck on a very broad flan. An almost invisible mark on reverse field, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

15'000

Ex CNG-NAC 40, 1996, 1745 and NAC 31, 2005, 133 sales.

Constantius Chlorus augustus, 305 – 306



624

- 624 Aureus, Treveri 305-306, AV 5.37 g. CONSTAN – TIVS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. HERCVLI CONSE – R AVGG ET CAESS NN Hercules standing to front, head l., leaning l. hand over club, holding bow, quiver and lion's skin over shoulders. In exergue, TR. C 16 var. RIC 620a. Depeyrot 11b/1. Calicó 4837. Very rare. A spectacular portrait; the work of a skilled engraver. Wonderful reddish tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 40'000

Ex Leu 91, 2004, 678 and NAC 84, 2015, 1184 sales. From the Beaurains/Arras hoard of 1922.

In AD 294, Diocletian is considered to have ended the Crisis of the Third Century by instituting a new form of imperial government known as the Tetrarchy. The third century had been a nightmare of constant usurpations by military commanders with a loss of dynastic stability and rule by individuals lacking in administrative training. Under the Tetrarchy, the Roman Empire was divided between two senior emperors, known as Augusti, who ruled, respectively, in the East and West. Each Augustus was assisted by a junior co-emperor, who held the title of Caesar. Together the Augusti and Caesars tackled the many problems that continued to assail the Empire in the late third and early fourth centuries with the assumption that the Augusti would ultimately retire and seamlessly pass on control to their Caesars. When the Tetrarchy was established Diocletian ruled as Augustus in the East and Maximian as Augustus in the West with Galerius and Constantius I Chlorus ("the Pale") serving as their respective Caesars. The present gold aureus celebrates Constantius' imperial relationship with Maximian, who had assumed the name of Herculus following his original appointment as Diocletian's Caesar in 285. The Hercules reverse here advertises Constantius as both the associate of and intended successor to Maximian in full compliance with the principles of the Tetrarchic system. In 305, those principles were put to the test when Diocletian and Maximian abdicated in favor of their Caesars. Constantius I fell ill and died a year later while campaigning in Britannia before he could fully exercise his authority as the Western Augustus.

Galerius Maximianus ceasar, 293 – 305



625

- 625 Aureus, Siscia 295-296, AV 5.59 g. MAXIMI – ANVS NOB C Laureate head r. Rev. PRINCIPI IV – V – ENTVTIS The Prince, in military attire, standing r., holding spear in r. hand and globe in l.; in exergue, *SIS. C 175. RIC 18b. Depeyrot 4/13. Calicó 4941. In an exceptional state of preservation with a portrait of excellent style. Virtually as struck and Fdc 20'000



626

- 626 Aureus, Antiochia 299-302, AV 5.22 g. MAXIMIANVS NOB CAES Laureate head r. Rev. IOVI CONS – CAES * Jupiter, nude but for cloak, standing facing, bearded and laureate head turned l., holding sceptre and thunderbolt; at his feet, eagle standing l. and in r. field, *. In exergue, SMAΣ. C –. RIC 25. Depeyrot 16/4. Calicó 4910.

Extremely rare and in an exceptional state of preservation.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 15'000

Ex Tkalec 28 October 1994, 337 and Lanz 82, 1997, 724 sales.

Galeria Valeria, wife of Galerius Maximianus



627

- 627 Aureus, Siscia 308–309, AV 5.38 g. GAL VALE – RIA AVG Diademed and draped bust r. on crescent. Rev. VENERI – VICTRICI Venus standing facing, head l., holding apple in upraised r. hand and raising drapery over l. shoulder; in exergue, SIS. C 4. RIC 196. Depeyrot 11/7. Kent pl. 154, 601 (this obverse die). Calicó 4969 (this coin illustrated).

Very rare. A lovely portrait, minor marks and an almost invisible nick at twelve o'clock on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine

15'000

Ex NFA XIV, 1984, 551 and NAC 38, 2007, 217 sales.

In AD 293, Valeria, the daughter of Diocletian and Prisca, was married to Galerius when her father appointed him Caesar, thereby making him a junior co-emperor in the Eastern Roman Empire. The marriage was intended to strengthen the relationship between Diocletian and Galerius, but proved to be childless. As a solution to this problem, Valeria adopted her husband's illegitimate son Candidianus as her own. In 308, Galerius was recognized as the sole legitimate Eastern Augustus at the Conference at Carnutum, which had been called to settle the tetrarchic conflicts that erupted following the abdication of Diocletian. At the same time, Valeria also received the title of Augusta and Mater Castrorum. Galerius honored her further by renaming the province of Pannonia Superior as Valeria. The present gold aureus was struck at Siscia, an important imperial mint city in Pannonia. After the death of Galerius in 311, both Valeria and Prisca were placed in the care of Licinius I, but, mistrustful of his intentions, the two women fled to the court of his rival, Maximinus Daza, whose daughter was betrothed to Candidianus. Unfortunately, Valeria was stripped of her property and placed under arrest after refusing a marriage proposal from Maximinus. The situation deteriorated further in 313, when Maximinus died and Licinius ordered the execution of both Valeria and Prisca. The two women went into hiding, but after a year of avoiding the authorities they were recognized in Thessalonica. Valeria and Prisca were both beheaded and their bodies cast into the sea.

Maxentius augustus, 307 – 312



- 629 Aureus 307, AV 5.44 g. IMP MAXEN – TIVS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. MARTI CON – SER – V AVGG ET CAES N Mars advancing r., holding shield in l. hand and transverse spear in r.; in exergue, P R. C –. RIC –. Drot 32/1 (this coin illustrated). Depeyrot 16//10. Calicó –.
Very rare. A wonderful portrait of fine style, several light scratches,
otherwise about extremely fine 6'000

Ex Busso Peus sale 271, 1969, 405. From the Collection of a Mentor.

When he raised the standards of revolt against Galerius and Severus II on October 28, 306, Maxentius did not proclaim himself Augustus, but rather styled himself first as Caesar, and soon thereafter as Princeps Invictus ('unconquered leader' or 'invincible leader'), which should not be confused with the honorary title Princeps Iuventutis ('leader of the youth') so commonly observed on earlier Roman coins. He retained these intermediary titles until February or April, 307, when the invasion of Italy by Severus II was imminent, at which point he and his father assumed the unlawful titles of Augustus.

Licinius I augustus, 308 – 324



- 630 Aureus, Antiochia 317-319, AV 5.33 g. LICIN – IVS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. IOVI CONS – LICINI AVG Jupiter seated l. on throne on platform, holding Victory on globe in r. hand and sceptre in l.; on l., eagle with wreath in its beak. In field r., star above crescent. The platform inscribed SIC X / SIC XX. In exergue, ANT. C 129 var. (seated facing). Alföldi 263a.. RIC 20. Depeyrot 35/1. Calicó 5101.
Very rare. A spectacular portrait of exceptional style. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 15'000

Ex Sotheby's Zurich 10 November 1972, Metropolitan, 228 and Leu 91, 2004, 682 sales. From the J.H. Durkee collection.

Licinius I was one of a number of Balkan soldiers in the Roman legions who after an illustrious career attained the throne. Born about A.D. 250 in Dacia Ripensis, he distinguished himself under Galerius during the latter's Persian expedition in A.D. 297. Thereafter he held a senior command on the Danube and was subsequently adopted by the emperor Diocletian. In A.D. 307 Galerius sent him as one of his envoys to parley with Maxentius, and although unsuccessful, in the following year he was made Augustus of the West with his domains being the Danubian and Balkan provinces of Thrace, Pannonia and Illyricum, as well as Maxentius' provinces of Italy, North Africa and Spain, which he never did gain. Both Maximinus II and Constantine I were against Licinius' elevation as it flouted their own claims to the throne, but by A.D. 310, in order to counter an alliance between Maximinus and Maxentius, Constantine had offered his sister Constantia's hand in marriage to Licinius.

After Galerius' death in A.D. 311, Maximinus quickly moved to take all of Asia Minor before Licinius could do so. They soon reached an agreement to demarcate their respective territories at the continental border, but by the winter of A.D. 312/3 Maximinus had broken the agreement when he invaded Licinius' territories. Hurrying from Mediolanum where he had consummated his marriage to Constantia, Licinius rushed east to counter the forces of Maximinus. After several initial reverses, Licinius succeeded in defeating his enemy, and pursued him all the way to southern Asia Minor where he died soon thereafter at Tarsus. Maximinus' death left Licinius and his brother-in-law Constantine, who meanwhile had defeated Maxentius, in joint control of the Roman Empire, with Constantine firmly established as the sole Augustus in the West and Licinius as the sole Augustus in the East.



631

- 631 Solidus, Antiochia 321-322, AV 5.32 g. LICINIVS AVGVSTVS PIVS FELIX OPTIMO MERITO Bare-headed, draped and cuirassed bust facing. Rev. IOVI CONS – LICINI AVGVSTVS PIVS FELIX OPTIMO MERITO Jupiter seated facing on throne set on platform, chlamys across l. shoulder, holding sceptre and Victory on globe; at feet, eagle with wreath in its beak. The platform is inscribed SIC X / SIC XX. In r. field, * and in exergue •SMAE. C 128. RIC 32. Alföldi 263. Kent-Hirmer pl. 159, 622. Depeyrot 37/4. Calicó 5097.

Very rare. A very impressive portrait of superb style perfectly struck in high relief.

Almost invisible marks, otherwise good extremely fine

40'000

Ex NAC 51, 2009, 425 and NAC 84, 2015, 1202 sales.

The facing portrait on Roman coins was an extremely rare occurrence until the reign of Constantius II, who eventually adopted the form as his standard obverse type at eastern mints. However, the form he used was simplistic in comparison to earlier attempts: the face of the emperor was small and inarticulate, with the true impact of the design being derived from the form and the ornamentation of the armoured, helmeted bust, which could be easily replicated on a large scale. By contrast, this aureus of Licinius represents an impressive attempt to capture the spirit of the emperor as an individual, not merely as a universal being. Four important issues of gold with facing busts were produced from c. 310 to c. 321. The first was by Maxentius on aurei of c. 310-312, and the second by Constantine on solidi of 316; the former was shown bare-headed and bearded, in the guise of a model Tetrarch, the latter was shown nimbate and clean-shaven, as a reflection of his unique brand of monotheism, which embraced solar worship and the Christian faith. Similarities in the style of the two issues make it possible that both were the work of the same artist, who initially worked for Maxentius, and who remained in Italy after Constantine's takeover and produced a facing-head for his new master. Following these two coinages are the solidi of c. 321 struck for Licinius I and Licinius II, and we should not doubt that they were inspired by one or both of the predecessor issues. The Licinian solidi mark a special event, the taking of imperial vows. The statue of Jupiter rests upon a monumental base inscribed SIC X SIC XX, a substitute for the usual votum, in which Licinius gives thanks for ten years of rulership and demonstrates a desire to reign for twenty. Based on this alone, the issue might be attributed to 317, when those vows were taken on the occasion of Licinius' decennialia, but a formula cleverly integrated into the obverse inscription, OB D V (ob diem quinquennialium), alludes to the quinquennialia (fifth anniversary) of his son Licinius II, for whom a companion issue of facing-head solidi was struck. Thus, we must date this aureus to c. 320/321. Equally worthy of comment is the reverse type, on which Jupiter makes one of his last appearances on Roman coinage. This can be seen as evidence of the simmering hostilities between Constantine and Licinius, who not only were co-emperors, but were brothers-in-law. Their rivalry increasingly took on a religious tone, with Constantine now favouring Christianity and Licinius embracing the supreme pagan god – partly because of his own beliefs, partly in opposition to Constantine. Licinius had initially adopted religious ambiguity in 313 as a token of good faith toward Constantine, who early in that year had issued the 'Edict of Milan' in both of their names. Here that position is rejected: the inscription describes Jupiter as the protector of Licinius, and the god is represented by an especially powerful and ancient image, seemingly derived from Phidias' famous gold and ivory statue in the Temple of Zeus at Olympia.

Constantine I, 307 – 337



- 632 Medallion, Sirmium 320-324, AR 4.88 g. CONSTANTINVS MAX AVG Head of Constantine r. Rev. CRISPVS ET CONSTANTINVS C C Busts of Crispus and Constantine II, facing one another. In exergue, SIRM. C 3. RIC 14. Bastien, Donativa p. 76, note 11. Gnecci p. 59, 1 and pl. 29, 8.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, possibly the finest specimen known.

Struck on unusually fresh metal for this issue. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 15'000

Ex Tkalec 25 October 1996, 284.

In 321 the Caesars Crispus and Constantine II jointly celebrated their fifth anniversary of power, their quinquennalia, for which this medallion was struck. At the time their father Constantine was nearing his fiftieth year, and for some time he had been residing in northern Italy and the Balkans on a wary watch against his co-emperor Licinius. In the meantime he had left the western provinces in the hands of the court that served his eldest son Crispus, who had been mired in seasonal warfare on the Rhine since 318. Thus, when Crispus left the German front to join his father and his brother Constantine II in the Balkans for a series of ceremonies, it was a cause for celebration. The first ceremony occurred on January 1, 321, when Crispus and Constantine II jointly assumed their second consulates at Serdica, the provincial capital that in recent times Constantine had declared his 'new Rome'. After winter broke the royal entourage moved to Sirmium, where on March 1 the boys celebrated their quinquennalia, and Crispus seems to have married Helena, a woman with the same name as his grandmother, who likely was a relative. Constantine's parading of his two eldest sons through the Balkans in 321 was no mere luxury, but a power play against Licinius, with whom Constantine was trying to escalate hostilities. He found different ways and occasions to provoke Licinius, including his unwillingness to share the consulship equally between the two ruling families. The insult had grown so unbearable that by 321 Licinius refused to recognize the consuls named by Constantine, and had elected himself and his own son, Licinius II, as consuls in the East. Thus, in this small medallion we find a clever provocation of a Licinius, who Constantine would soon enough draw into conflict and defeat so he could assume command of the whole Roman Empire.



- 633 Solidus, Nicomedia circa 324, AV 4.42 g. Diademed head r. Rev. CONSTANTINVS AVG Victoria seated l., holding Victory on r. hand and cornucopia in l.; in field r., shield. In exergue, SMN. C 102. Alföldi 46. RIC 70. Depeyrot 34/1.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 25'000

Ex NGSA sale 2, 2002, 135.



599



594



605



597



608



616



615



609



624





631



633



638



681



639



654



695





634

- 634 Solidus, Antiochia 335-336, AV 4.51 g. CONSTANTI – NVS MAX AVG Rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA CO – NSTANTINI AVG Victory advancing l., holding trophy with r. hand and palm frond with l.; in r. field, VOT/ XXX in two lines. In exergue, SMAN. C 604. Alföldi 572. RIC 96. Depeyrot 46/1. Good extremely fine 7/500

From the Collection of a Mentor.

Fausta, wife of Constantine I



635

635

- 635 Follis, Alexandria circa 325-326, Æ 3.28 g. FLAV MAX – FAVSTA AVG Draped bust r. Rev. SALVS REI – PVBLICAE Empress as Salus standing facing, head l., holding two children. In exergue, SMALB. C 7. RIC 39. Green patina and good extremely fine 300

Of all the women associated with Constantine the Great, his mother Helena was not only the most influential, but the most enduring, for she outlived even those who were significantly younger. Because the sources that mention her are fragmentary, biased or of Byzantine vintage, we can only speculate about just how strongly she influenced Constantine. However, we can be sure she was an imposing woman who cast a long shadow in her son's courts. Constantine probably was raised in rural Dardania by Helena at a time when his absentee father Constantius was among the most important men in the western provinces. Mother and son clearly forged a strong bond in those formative years, and we should presume that Helena joined Constantine at his court in Trier soon after his accession in 306. In doing so Helena went from a life of provincial obscurity, which she had known for more than half a century, to the highest office a woman could hold in the empire. However, Helena soon had a competitor, her son's new bride Fausta, a woman of whom the historical tradition reports few positive qualities. Together they remained the two most influential women in the court, each probably being accorded the title *nobilissima femina* immediately, and then the title of *Augusta* late in 324, after Constantine had defeated Licinius and brought the entire empire under his rule. Gold coins were struck for Helena only at Nicomedia, Thessalonica, Sirmium and Ticinum. This exceedingly rare solidus belongs to the earliest period when Helena held the title *Augusta*. No literary evidence describes when Helena was hailed *Augusta*, but it is generally assumed to have been on November 8, 324, as a part of the ceremonies at which Constantine traced the boundaries of his future capital on the site of old Byzantium. Other appointments were also made at this grand ceremony: Constantine's wife Fausta was raised to *Augusta*, his infant son Constantius II was named *Caesar*, his step-mother Theodora may have been given posthumous honours as *Augusta*, and his half-sister Constantia was downgraded from *Augusta* - a title she'd held as wife of his vanquished enemy Licinius - to *nobilissima femina*. On coinage Constantine distinguished the roles of his mother and his wife: Helena, who in the guise of *Securitas*, personified the "well-being of the State" whereas Fausta was shown as the mother of Constantine's children and filled the dual role of *Salus* and *Spes*, the "health of the State" and the "hope of the State". Helena's three surviving grandsons also struck small bronzes in her posthumous honour, on which she personified "public peace". This was a prudent message considering the bloody purge of their step-family soon after their father's death.

Constantine II caesar, 317 – 337



636

636 Medallion, Thessalonica circa 320, AR 6.44 g. CONSTANTINVS IVN NOB CAESAR Radiate, draped and cuirassed bust l., holding eagle-tipped sword and Victory on globe, crowning him. Rev. VOTA ORBIS ET V – RBIS SENET PR Cippus inscribed XX / XXX / MLV / FEL. In field, two stars and in exergue, pellet TS pellet Γ pellet. C –. RIC –. Toynbee –. Gnechi –.

Apparently unique and unrecorded. A spectacular medallion with an interesting and unusual portrait. Lovely old cabinet tone and extremely fine

40'000

Ex Tkalec sale 18 February 2002, 248 (obverse illustrated on the front cover page).

This unique silver piece belongs to a larger series of rare issues that are variously described as medallions or heavy miliarenses. The characterization as medallions is preferred here on the basis of the high level of artistry involved in the obverse portraits. Ten specimens in total are currently known from the mints of Aquilea, Siscia and Thessalonica featuring portraits of Licinius I, Constantine I and his sons Crispus and Constantine II. Such medallions were obviously struck to commemorate a special occasion in which the dynasty of Constantine I and his eastern colleague Licinius I were involved. It has been noted that the inscription on the cippus of the reverse (XX / XXX / MVL / FEC) would seem to suggest that the occasion was vicennalia (twentieth anniversary) of Constantine's reign in AD 325, but this is precluded by the involvement of Licinius I. He was deposed in 324 and executed in 325, making it highly unlikely that he would have been commemorated on a medallion issue of the same year. An association with Constantine's quindecennialia (fifteenth anniversary) in 320/1 has also been proposed since Constantine I is not known to have struck coinage involving Licinius I after 320 and on January 1, 321 Constantine II shared the consulship with Crispus for the first time. Nevertheless, it remains perplexing that the cippus seems to refer to the vicennalia (XX) rather than the quindecennialia (XV). Clearly more research into this remarkable series is needed. The impressive radiate portrait of Constantine II may tend to support the association of the medallion series with 320/1. Prior to 320, the usual portrait of the young Caesar represented him in the traditional manner, wearing a laurel wreath. The radiate crown was introduced as a distinctive feature of his portraits in 320. However, the regular coinage never reached the quality of execution that we find on this medallion and did not represent Constantine II holding Victory in his hand. The reverse type depicts an inscribed cippus or monument topped with a bowl-like shape surmounted by a jagged design. Although it is uncertain, it is tempting to suggest that the monument was topped by a cauldron in which a fire was lit so that it could serve as a beacon of imperial triumph and illuminate the night with the glory of the house of Constantine. The surrounding legend indicates that the medallion was produced as part of a vow (VOT) for Rome and the whole world (ORBIS ET VRBIS). The formulaic address to the city and the wider world had long been a feature of imperial proclamations and survives to this day in the introductions to solemn Papal blessings given at Christmas, Easter, and upon the proclamation of a new Pope.



637

- 637 Solidus, Siscia 326-327, AV 4.26 g. *CONSTANTINVS IVN NOB C* Laureate and cuirassed bust r. Rev. *PRINCIPI – IVVE – NTVTIS* Prince, in military attire and with cloak over l. shoulder, standing l., holding transverse spear and standard inscribed *VOT / XX*. In exergue, *SIS. C –*. RIC 209. Alföldi –. Depeyrot 22/2 var. (also draped). Faces of Power 628 (this coin). Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 5'000

Ex Leu 38, 1986, 359; Leu 87, 2003, 121 and NGSa 12, 2019, 152 sales. From the Adda collection.



638

- 638 Solidus, Heraclea circa 326-330, AV 4.54 g. *CONSTANTINVS IVN NOB CAES* Laureate, draped, and cuirassed bust r. Rev. *VICTORIA CAESAR NN* Victory advancing l., holding wreath and palm; in exergue, *SMH. C 204* var. (*VICTORIA CAESARVM*). Alföldi 555 var. (*VICTORIA CAESARVM*). Depeyrot 4/2. RIC 101. Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. An almost invisible mark on obverse field, otherwise virtually as struck and Fdc 6'000

Ex Triton sale VI, 2003, 1092. From the William H. Williams collection.

Constans and Delmatius caesars, 333 – 337



639

- 639 Solidus, Constantinople 335, AV 4.47 g. *FL CONSTANS NOB CAES* Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. *DELMATI – VS CAESAR* Victory advancing l., holding wreath in r. hand and palm branch in l.; in exergue, *CONS. C –*. RIC –. Bastien, *Les émissions dynastiques de Constantin*. Deux solidi inédits de Constantinople (335), in *Essays Carson and Jenkins*, pl. XLV, 7 (this coin illustrated). Depeyrot –.

Apparently unique. An issue of exceptional importance and historical interest.

Perfectly struck and centred on a full flan and good extremely fine 35'000

Ex NAC sale 111, 2018, 229. Privately purchased from M&M in 1988. From the Pierre Bastien collection.

This gold solidus was struck as part of the tricennalia donative distributed to the army in celebration of the 30th anniversary of Constantine the Great's reign as Augustus. It belongs to a larger series of coins struck with portraits of members of the imperial family intended to advertise the emperor's successors and the appearance of dynastic stability. The obverse of this extremely rare piece features the portrait of Constans, the youngest son of Constantine, who was

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

Constans augustus, 337 – 350



- 640 Solidus, Thessalonica 337-340, AV 4.50 g. FL IVL CON – STANS P F AVG Laureate and rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VIRTUS – EXERCITVM Emperor in military attire, standing l. holding trophy and shield; at his feet, two captives. In exergue, TES. C 191. Depeyrot 4/7. RIC 35. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 2'500



- 641 Solidus, Thessalonica circa 337-350, AV 4.45 g. FL IVL CON – STANS P F AVG Laureate and rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA – D D N N AVGG Victory advancing l., holding trophy and palm. In exergue, TES. C 153. Depeyrot 4/3. RIC 28. Good extremely fine 2'500



642



- 642 Solidus, Siscia 340-350, AV 4.54 g. FL IVL CONS – TANS P F AVG Rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. OB VICTORIAM TRIVMPHALEM Two Victories facing each other, holding between them wreath inscribed VOT / X / MVL / XV; in exergue, SIS*. C – cf. 89 (MVL XX). RIC 114a. Depeyrot 9/1. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 3'000



643



- 643 Solidus, Treveri 347-348, AV 4.36 g. CONSTANS AVGVSTVS Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIAE DD NN AVGG Two Victories facing each other, holding between them wreath inscribed VOT / X / MVL / XX; in exergue, TR. C 171. RIC 129. Depeyrot 6/3. Good extremely fine 2'000

Constantius II caesar, 324 – 337



644



- 644 Solidus, Cyzicus 324, AV 4.52 g. FL IVL CONSTANTIVS NOB C Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. PRINCIPI I – V – VENTVTIS Caesar standing l., in military attire and with head r., holding sceptre and standard with eagle with wreath in its beak; to his side, standard surmounted by hand. In exergue, SMKE. C 159 var. Alföldi 390. RIC 21. Depeyrot 16/2. Mazzini dopo 158 (this coin). Very rare and in an exceptional state of preservation. Extremely fine / good extremely fine 5'000

Ex NAC sale 38, 2007, 248. From the Mazzini collection.

Constantius II augustus, 337 – 361



645



645 Solidus, Thessalonica circa 340, AV 4.43 g. FL IVL CONSTAN – TIVS P F AVG Draped and cuirassed bust r., wearing rosette-diadem. Rev. VICTORIA – DD NN AVGG Victory advancing l., holding trophy in r. hand and palm-branch in l.; in exergue, TES. C 261. RIC 26. Depeyrot 2/5.

Good extremely fine 2'500

Ex Tkalec 28 October 1994, 361 and Tkalec 23 October 1998, 341 sales.



646



646 Solidus, Nicomedia 340-351, AV 4.48 g. FL IVL CONSTAN – TIVS PERP AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. GLORIA – REI – PVBLICAE Roma and Constantinopolis enthroned facing, holding between them a wreath inscribed VOT / XX / MVLT / XXX Constantinopolis holding sceptre in l. hand and resting r. foot on prow and Roma holding spear in l. hand. In exergue, SMNE. C 108. Depeyrot 6/4. RIC 29.

Good extremely fine 1'500



647



647 Solidus, Trier circa 347-348, AV 4.52 g. CONSTANTII – VS AVGVSTVS Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIAE DD NN AVGG Two Victories standing facing, holding between them a wreath inscribed VOT / XX / MVLT / XXX; in exergue, TR. C 280. Depeyrot 6/1. RIC 132.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 2'500

Ex NAC sale 75, 2013, 336.



- 648 Solidus, Antiochia 347-355, AV 4.47 g. FL IVL CONSTAN – TIVS PERP AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. GLORIA – REI – PVBLICAE Roma and Constantinopolis, enthroned facing, supporting between them a shield inscribed VOT / XX / MVLT / XXX; in exergue, SMANΘ. C 180. Depeyrot 6/3. RIC 81. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 2'500

Ex NAC 10, 1997, 708 and NAC 75, 2013, 337 sales.



- 649 Solidus, Nicomedia 351–355, AV 4.36 g. FL IVL CONSTAN – TIVS PERP AVG Helmeted, diademed, draped and cuirassed bust facing three quarters r., holding spear in r. hand and ornamented shield in l. Rev. GLORIA – REI – PVBLICAE Roma and Constantinopolis, enthroned facing, supporting a wreath between them inscribed VOT / XXX / MVLT / XXXX; in exergue, SMNBK (BK ligate). C 112. RIC 74. Depeyrot 5/2. Scarce. Graffito on obverse field, otherwise extremely fine /good extremely fine 1'000



- 650 Solidus, Sirmium 355-361, AV 4.34 g. FL IVL CONSTAN – TIVS PERP AVG Diademed, helmeted and cuirassed three-quarter facing bust, holding spear over r. shoulder and shield decorated with horseman riding l., spearing a fallen enemy. Rev. GLORIA REI – PVBLICAE Roma and Constantinopolis, enthroned facing, supporting between them a shield inscribed VOT / XXXV / MVLT / XXXX; in exergue; palm MSIR palm. C 124. Depeyrot 13/1. RIC 60. Good extremely fine 2'500

Ex Hirsch sale 205, 1999, 1054.



651



651 Solidus, Antiochia 355-361, AV 4.42 g. FL IVL CONSTAN – TIVS PERP AVG Helmeted, diademed, draped and cuirassed bust facing three quarters r., holding spear and shield ornamented with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. GLORIA – REI – PVBLICAE Roma and Constantinopolis, enthroned facing, supporting a wreath between them inscribed VOT / XXX / MVLT / XXXX; in exergue, SMANH. C 112. Depeyrot 10/1. RIC 165.

Obverse struck in exceptionally high relief. An almost invisible edge mark, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

3'000



652



652 Solidus, Antiochia 355–361, AV 4.38 g. FL IVL CONSTAN – TIVS PERP AVG Helmeted, diademed, draped and cuirassed bust facing three quarters r., holding spear and shield ornamented with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. GLORIA – REI – PVBLICAE Roma and Constantinopolis, enthroned facing, supporting a wreath between them inscribed VOT / XXX / MVLT / XXXX; in exergue, SMANH. C –. RIC 162. Depeyrot 9/1. Light reddish tone, graffito on obverse field, otherwise extremely fine

1'500

Ex NAC sale 114, 2019, 909.



653



653 Solidus, Antiochia 355-361, AV 4.43 g. FL IVL CONSTAN – TIVS PERP AVG Helmeted, diademed, draped and cuirassed bust facing, holding spear and shield ornamented with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. GLORIA – REI – PVBLICAE Roma and Constantinopolis, enthroned facing, supporting a wreath between them inscribed VOT / XXX / MVLT / XXXX; in exergue, •SMANΔ•. C –. Depeyrot 11/1. RIC 168. Minor mark on obverse field, otherwise extremely fine

1'000

Vetranio, 350



654

- 654 Solidus, Siscia March-December 350, AV 4.60 g. D N VETRA – NIO P F AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. SALVATOR – REI – PVBLICAE Emperor, in military attire, standing facing, head l, holding labarum inscribed with Christogram and transverse sceptre; behind him, Victory advancing l. to crown him. In exergue, SIS. C 7. Depeyrot 17/1. RIC 260.

Exceedingly rare and possibly the finest solidus of Vetranio in existence.

A bold portrait struck on a full flan, good extremely fine 100'000

Ex Tkalec 28 February 2007, Bolla, 111; NAC 62, 2011, Markoff, 2103 and NAC 100, 2017, 670 sales.

In January 350 the ruling family, descended from Constantine the Great, was reduced to just one emperor when Constans was murdered in southern Gaul. This put at risk both empire and dynasty, as the family had for decades relied upon two or more family members to rule the vast empire. The coup must have been a shock to the only remaining, legitimate emperor, Constantius II, who ruled the East and was embroiled in a protracted war with the Persians. In the West, power had been seized by Magnentius, the field commander of the senior palatine units of the western army. Constantius, who was preparing for a renewed campaign against the Sasanians, was powerless at that moment to oppose him. Magnentius established his regime by taking full control of the West and advancing into Italy, perhaps with the intention of marching further eastward to challenge Constantius himself. Upon arriving, however, Magnentius was unable to forge an alliance with Vetranio, the emperor's Master of the Infantry in Pannonia. Vetranio decided to support Constantius, the only surviving son of his old commander, Constantine the Great. Vetranio's decision was not easy, and he wavered before taking sides. Indeed, he might even have considered taking his own side, for his troops hailed him emperor at Mursa on March 1; this strategy, however, seems to have been formulated by the emperor's sister, Constantina, who herself had refused a marriage proposal from Magnentius. The crisis was complicated further when Magnentius lost Italy for a few weeks to the counter-revolution of Nepotian, a half-cousin of Constantius. During that reversal, it does not seem that Vetranio took action. In fact, during the ten months Vetranio held the title of Augustus he seems to have had no significant conflict with Magnentius, but merely contained the rebel until Constantius could arrive late in the fall of 350. Constantius and Vetranio met at Nassium on Christmas day, when Vetranio abdicated peacefully. The ceremony must have been laden with dynastic symbolism, for it was held in the city that reputedly was the birthplace of Constantine the Great. Thereafter Constantius waged war on Magnentius, defeating him in 353. Vetranio, who already was an elderly man, retired to an estate Constantius provided for him at Prusa in Bithynia, dying perhaps five years later. Vetranio struck coins only at Siscia and Thessalonica, both cities in his realm, where he issued a variety of coin types in own name and that of Constantius II. Some issues from Siscia depict on their reverse Victory crowning an emperor holding a labarum and sceptre (or spear); the billon coins are inscribed HOC SIGNO VICTOR ERIS ('by this sign you shall conquer') and solidi SALVATOR REIPUBLICAE ('saviour of the state'). It is impossible to know which emperor is being crowned by Victory – Vetranio, Constantius II or Constantine the Great. The unprecedented use of HOC SIGNO VICTOR ERIS suggests Constantine, for it is a reference to the vision he is said to have experienced prior to the Battle of the Milvian Bridge. That prospect is dampened, however, by the use of SALVATOR REIPUBLICAE with that same reverse type, for that probably refers to Vetranio or Constantius II as a saviour against the aggression of Magnentius. Alternatively, it could refer in a historical sense to Constantine as the saviour of the state by virtue of his support of Christianity, his unification of the empire and his foundation of the dynasty that still was in power at the time.

Constantius Gallus caesar, 351 – 354



655

655 Solidus, Antiochia 351–354, AV 4.36 g. DN CONSTANTINVS – VS NOB CAES Bare-headed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. GLORIA – REI – PVBLICAE Roma and Constantinopolis enthroned facing, the latter turned to l., supporting between them a shield inscribed VO / TIS / V; in exergue, SMANO. C 22. Depeyrot 7/4. RIC 90. Very rare. Good very fine 5'000

Ex NAC sale 67, 2012, Huntington, 379. HSA 30124.

Julian II caesar, 355 – 360



656

656 Solidus 355–357, AV 4.46 g. DN CL IVL – IANVS N C Bare-headed and cuirassed bust r. Rev. FELTEMP – RE – PARATIO Roma and Constantinopolis enthroned facing and supporting shield bearing an eight-pointed star; in exergue, RSMP *palm*. RIC 295. C 8. Kent-Hirmer pl. 175, 689. Depeyrot 14/3. A fabulous portrait of unusually fine style. Extremely fine 7'500

Jovian, 363 – 364



657

657 Solidus, Antiochia 363-364, AV 4.48 g. DN IOVIANVS – VS P F P AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. SECVRITA – S REI – PVBLICAE Roma and Constantinopolis enthroned facing and supporting shield inscribed VOT / V / MVL / X; in exergue, ANTA. C 8. Depeyrot 18/2. RIC 223. Good extremely fine 3'000

Valentinian I, 364 – 375



- 658 Solidus, Thessalonica 364-367, AV 4.43 g. D N VALENTINI – ANVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed bust l., wearing imperial mantle and holding mappa and short sceptre. Rev. SALVS – REIP Emperor standing facing, head r., holding *labarum* with Christogram and Victory on globe, spurning captive kneeling l., head reverted; in r. field, two stars. In exergue, SMTES. C 32. RIC 3a. Depeyrot 31/1.

Rare. An interesting portrait, minor marks, otherwise extremely fine / about extremely fine

1'500

Ex NAC sale 56, 2010, 476.



- 659 Solidus, Arelate circa 364-367, AV 4.43 g. D N VALENTINI – ANVS P F AVG Laureate and rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. RESTITVTOR – REIPVBLICAE Emperor standing facing, head r., holding *labarum* with *christogram* and Victory on globe. In exergue, KONSTA/. C 28. Depeyrot 13/1. RIC 1b.

Very rare for this mint. Good extremely fine

2'500



- 660 Solidus, Arelate circa 364-367, AV 4.49 g. D N VALENTINI – ANVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. RESTITVTOR – REIPVBLICAE Emperor standing facing, head r., holding *labarum* with *christogram* and Victory on globe. In exergue, KONSTA/. C 28. RIC 1a. Depeyrot 13/.

Very rare for this mint. An edge nick at twelve o'clock on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine

2'000



661

- 661 Solidus, Thessalonica circa 364-367, AV 4.49 g. D N VALENTINI – ANVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. RESTITVTOR – REIPVBLICAE Emperor standing facing, head r., holding *labarum* and *christogram* and Victory on globe. In exergue, SMTES. C 28. Depeyrot 24/1. RIC 2a. Good extremely fine 1'500



662

- 662 Solidus, Constantinopolis 364-367, AV 4.47 g. D N VALENTINI ANVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VIRTVS ROMANORVM Valentinian and Valens standing facing both holding sceptre in outer hand and globe surmounted by Victory between them. In exergue, CONSP. C 60. RIC 5a. Depeyrot 10/3. Extremely rare. Minor marks and a small scrape on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 2'500

Ex Roma sale 9, 2015, 848.



663

- 663 Solidus, Nicomedia 364-367, AV 4.45 g. D N VALENTINI – ANVS P F AVG Rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. RESTITVTOR – REIPVBLICAE Emperor standing facing, head r., holding *labarum* ornamented with *Christogram* in r. hand and Victory on globe in l.; in exergue, SMNS. C 28. RIC 2b. Depeyrot 10/1. A scratch on obverse field, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc 3'000
Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 75, 2013, 691.



664



- 664 Solidus, Siscia circa 364-367, AV 4.47 g. D N VALENTINI – ANVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTOR – IA AVGG Two emperors seated facing, holding globe; behind them, Victory facing with spread wings. In exergue, wreath - SISC -pellet. C 43. Depeyrot 24/1. RIC 2a var. (on reverse stars).
A very interesting adjusting flan mark on edge, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc 2'000

Valens, 364 - 378



665



- 665 Solidus, Cyzicus circa 364-367, AV 4.38 g. D N VALEN – S P F AVG Pearl and rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. RESTITVTOR – REI PVBLICAE Emperor standing facing, head r., holding *labarum* with Christogram and Victory on globe; in exergue, SMKB. C 32 var. (pearl diademed). Depeyrot 4/4. RIC 1d.
Minor marks, otherwise extremely fine 1'000



666



- 666 Solidus, Treveri circa 367-375, AV 4.47 g. D N VALENS – P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTOR – IA AVGG Two emperors seated facing, together holding globe; behind and between them, the upper part of Victory with outspread wings. Below on exergual line, palm-branch; in exergue, TROBC. C 53. RIC 17e. Depeyrot 45/1.
In an exceptional state of preservation. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 3'500

Ex NGSA sale 8, 2014, 168.



667

- 667 Solidus, Constantinopolis quinquennalia of 368, AV 4.48 g. D N VALENS – P F AVG Pearl-diademed bust l., wearing imperial mantle and holding mappa and short sceptre. Rev. VOTA – PV – BLICA Valentinian and Valens, nimbate, draped in imperial mantle, seated facing on throne, each raising mappa and holding sceptre. On either side, captive seated on ground; in exergue, *CONS wreath. C 82. RIC 29b. Depeyrot 22/2. Very rare and in superb condition for the issue. Two almost invisible edge marks, otherwise good extremely fine 5'000

Ex NAC sale 72, 2013, 785.

Gratian, 367 – 383



668

- 668 Solidus, Treveri 373-374, AV 4.45 g. D N GRATIANVS P F AVG Pearl and rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTOR – IA AVGG Two emperors seated facing, together holding globe; behind and between them, the upper part of Victory with outspread wings. Below on exergual line, palm branch; in exergue, TROBT. C 38. RIC 17g. Depeyrot 43/3. Good extremely fine 1'500

Gratian's rise to prominence began early in 366, when at age six or seven he was named one of the year's consuls. In the summer of 367 he was proclaimed co-emperor of the West by his father, whose health was then failing. This extraordinary event was intended to calm rough political waters amid the uncertainty of Valentinian's health, which had given rise to friction between the military leader Severus and the Gallic nobleman Rusticus Julianus.

Valentinian survived his health crisis and over the next eight years was able to school Gratian in the arts of war and politics, both in the courts of Trier and on the battlefield. Gratian's education began immediately in the campaign season of 368, when he joined his father on a dangerous offensive against the Alemanni. The Romans crossed the Rhine and defeated the enemy in a terrifying battle at Schwetzingen, at which Valentinian was nearly killed.

In the following year the Romans suffered a setback when the Alemanni destroyed a fort that Valentinian had begun to build north of the Rhine, near modern Heidelberg. In the midst of its construction the fort was attacked, with all of the Romans in attendance being killed. Valentinian's desire for an immediate response, however, was tempered by the need to deal with the Saxon raids of 370 into northern Gaul.

In addition to learning first hand about military campaigns, Gratian also gained an appreciation for political strategy as he observed how his father approached the Burgundians – Germanic enemies of the Alemanni – with an offer of alliance. The mere prospect of such an alliance caused the Alemanni to scatter, and it allowed a Roman raid through Rhaetia to succeed. A large number of prisoners were taken and re-settled in the Po River valley, where they became a productive part of the Roman world.

What few years that remained of Gratian's tutelage under his father were spent dealing with the complex military and political situations on the northern and western fronts: keeping the Alemannic chieftain Macrianus in check, managing threats in Britain, and opposing the aggressions of Frankish and Saxon pirates.

Toward the end of Valentinian's life further complications arose, including a serious uprising in North Africa and a devastating invasion of Illyricum by the Quadi and Sarmatians. The latter conflict was especially intense, causing Valentinian to die of a stroke in a moment of piqued anger before a deputation of the Quadi. Thus, in November of 375 authority over the Western Roman Empire passed to 16-year-old Gratian, who a few days later would raise his four-year-old half-brother Valentinian II to the rank of emperor to quell yet another power struggle among the military elite.



- 669 Solidus, Treveri circa 375-378, AV 4.50 g. D N GRATIA – NVS P F AVG Rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTOR – IA AVGG Two emperors seated facing holding globe between them; above, Victory facing with spread wings; below, a palm-branch. In exergue, TROBS. C 38. Depeyrot 43/4. RIC 39c. Minor marks, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine 1'500
Ex NAC sale 75, 2013, 354.



- 670 Solidus, Mediolanum 380-382, AV 4.46 g. D N GRATIA – NVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTOR – IA AVGG Two emperors nimbate, seated facing, together holding globe; behind and between them, the upper part of Victory with outspread wings. Below, on exergual line, palm-branch; in exergue, COM. C 38. RIC 5d. Depeyrot 1/1 (North Italian mint). Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 2'000
Ex Lanz 64, 1993, 886 and Rauch 99, 2015, 363 sales.

Valentinian II, 375-392



- 671 Solidus, Treviri 375-378, AV 4.46 g. D N VALENTINIANVS IVN P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTOR – IA AVGG Two emperors, seated facing, together holding globe; behind and between them, the upper part of Victory with outspread wings. Below, on exergual line, palm branch; in exergue, TROBS. C 36. RIC 39e. Depeyrot 45/3. An almost invisible nick on obverse field, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc 1'000



672

672 Medallion of 6 siliquae, Aquileia circa 385, AR 12.75 g. D N VALENTINI – ANVS P F AVG Pearl-diademmed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VOT/X/MVLT/XX within wreath; in exergue, AQPS. Gneocchi –. C –. Toynbee –. RIC –. cf. NAC sale 95, 2016, 354.

Of the highest rarity, only the third 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

75'000

Privately purchased from Freeman & Sear in December 2001 and notarized in Switzerland prior to 2004.

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 decennialia, 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.

Theodosius I, 369 – 375



- 673 Solidus, Mediolanum 379-383, AV 4.51 g. D N THEODO – SIVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTOR – IA AVGG Two emperors, nimbate, seated facing holding globe together; the one on r. holds a mappa in l. hand. Above and between them, Victory facing with spread wings. Below, a palm branch. In exergue, COM. C 37. RIC 5f. Depeyrot 9/2.
In exceptional condition for the issue. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 3'000

Ex Leu sale 33, 1983, 157.



- 674 Solidus, Treveri 383-387, AV 4.45 g. D N THEODO – SIVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTOR – IA AVGG Two emperors, nimbate, seated facing holding globe together between them; the one on r. holds a mappa in l. hand. In field above, Victory facing with spread wings. Below, a palm branch. At sides, T – R and in exergue, COM. C 44. RIC 90b. Depeyrot 53/2.
Rare. An almost invisible mark on obverse field, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc 2'500

Ex Aureo & Calicó 241, 2012, Imagines Imperatorum, 370 and Aureo 300, 2017, 216 sales.

Arcadius, 383 408



- 675 Solidus, Constantinopolis 383, AV 4.49 g. D N ARCADI – VS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. CONCORDI – A AVGGGS Constantinopolis, helmeted and with head r., seated facing on throne ornamented with lions' heads, holding sceptre and globe; r. foot on prow. In exergue, CONOB. LRC 1 (different officina). RIC 46f. Depeyrot 34/2.
In an exceptional state of preservation. Virtually as struck and Fdc 1'500

Aelia Eudoxia, wife of Arcadius



676

- 676 Solidus, Constantinopolis 402-403, AV 4.41 g. AEL EVDO – XIA AVG Pearl-diademed and draped bust r., wearing necklace and earrings, crowned by the hand of God. Rev. SALVS REI – PVBLICAE E Victory seated r. on cuirass, supporting on her l. knee a shield inscribed with single-lined Christogram to which she points. In exergue, CONOB. RIC Arcadius 28 var. (shield behind cuirass). LRC 273 var. (shield behind cuirass). Depyrot 36/1.

An exceedingly rare variety, apparently only the second specimen known,
of a very rare type. Light marks, otherwise about extremely fine 5'000

Ex NAC 56, 2010, 483 and NAC 31, 2006, 109 sales.

The daughter of Bauto the Frank, a general and consul under Valentinian I, Aelia Eudoxia was married to Arcadius with the help of the court eunuch Eutropius. Her position was one of great power, and she used it to dominate palace politics as well as her weak husband. A very pious woman who often argued with the Church's leadership, Eudoxia gave birth to five children, among them the future emperor Theodosius II, and the chaste empress Aelia Pulcheria, wife of the future emperor Marcian. After only a decade of marriage and deep involvement in court affairs, Eudoxia died in the midst of a miscarriage in October, 404.

Honorius, 393 – 423



677

- 677 Solidus, Mediolanum 395-402, AV 4.48 g. D N HONORI – VS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG Emperor standing r., l. foot on captive, holding standard and Victory on globe; in field, M – D. In exergue, COMOB. C 44. Ulrich-Bansa 61. LRC 712. RIC 1206. Depyrot 16/2.

A very unusual portrait, almost invisible die-break on neck,
otherwise virtually as struck and Fdc 1'000



678

- 678 Solidus, Ravenna after 408, AV 4.47 g. D N HONORI – VS P F AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG Emperor standing facing, crowned from above by *Manus Dei*, holding long staff surmounted by *Christogram* and placing l. hand on hilt of sword, r. foot resting on recumbent serpent-tailed lion. In field, R – V; in exergue, COB. C 43. RIC 1310. LRC 742. Depeyrot 3/1. Scarce. Extremely fine 2'500



679

- 679 Solidus, Mediolanum 395-402, AV 4.47 g. D N HONORI – VS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG Emperor standing r., l. foot on captive, holding standard and Victory on globe; in field, M – D. In exergue, COMOB. C 44. Ulrich- Bansa pl. 61, a. LRC 712. RIC 1206. Depeyrot 16/2. Hairline flan crack at seven o'clock on obverse, otherwise virtually as struck and Fdc 1'250



680

- 680 Solidus, Constantinopolis 397-402, AV 4.48 g. D N HONORI – VS P F AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. CONCORDI – A AVGG Γ Constantinopolis, helmeted, seated facing, head r., holding sceptre and Victory on globe, r. foot on prow; in exergue, CONOB. C 3. RIC Arcadius 8. Depeyrot 55/2. L RC 748. Virtually as struck and Fdc 1'500

Ex NAC sale 84, 2015, 1277.

Theodosius II, 402 – 450



681

- 681 Medallion of 2 solidi, Constantinople 402-403 and later, AV 8.93 g. D N THEODO – SIVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. GLORIA R – O – MANORVM Helmed figures of Roma and Constantinopolis seated facing. Roma on l., with head facing, holds Victory on globe in r. hand and spear in l.; Constantinopolis on r., head turned to l., r. foot on prow, holds Victory on globe in r. hand and long sceptre in l.; above cross. In field l., star. In exergue, CONOB. Gneecchi –. Toynbee –. RIC 216. LRC 377. MIRB 2. Depeyrot p. 296, 70.

Extremely rare. A magnificent portrait of excellent style struck on a very broad flan. Absolutely minor edge marks, otherwise extremely fine

60'000

Privately purchased from Freeman & Sear in June 2001 and notarized as being in Switzerland prior to 2004.



682

- 682 Solidus, Thessalonica 424-425, perhaps to 430, AV 4.29 g. D N THEODO – SIVS P F AVG Helmed, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. GLOR ORVI – S TERRAR Emperor, in military attire, standing facing holding labrum and globe surmounted by cross; in l. field, star and in exergue, TESOB. LRC 364. MIRB 58. RIC 361. Depeyrot 51/1. Traces of edge filing, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc 500



- 683 Solidus, Constantinopolis 415, AV 4.48 g. D N THEODO – SIVS P F AVG Half figure r., wearing cuirass and crested helmet decorated with pearl diadem, holding spear and shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. GLORIA – REI – PVBLICAE Roma and Constantinopolis enthroned facing, holding sceptres and supporting between them a shield inscribed VOT / XV / MVL / XX. In l. field, star and in exergue, CONOB. LRC 346. MIRB 5. RIC 207. Depyrot 66/1.
Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 5'000

Ex M&M 35, 1967, 193; Leu 77, 2000, 728; NGSA 5, 2008, 326 and NGSA 8, 2014, 194 sales.



- 684 Solidus, Constantinopolis 441-450, AV 4.48 g. D N THEODOSI – VS P F AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. IMP XXXXII COS – XVIIIP'P: Constantinopolis enthroned l., holding sceptre and globus cruciger, l. foot on prow, shield at her side. In l. field, star and in exergue, COMOB. LRC 414. RIC 293. Depyrot 84/1 var. (CONOB)
A perfect Fdc 1'000

Aelia Pulcheria, daughter of Arcadius and sister of Theodosius II



- 685 Solidus, Constantinopolis 414, AV 4.45 g. AEL PVLCH – ERIA AVG Pearl-diademed and draped bust r., crowned by the hand of God. Rev. SALVS REI – PVBLICAE Victory seated r. on cuirass, behind which shield, supporting on her l. knee a shield inscribed with Christogram; in exergue, CONOB. RIC 205. MIRB 14. LRC 436 var. (no shield behind cuirass). Depyrot 60/1.
Rare and in a superb state of preservation. Good extremely fine 5'000

Ex New York sale XL, 2017, 1256.

Johannes, 423 – 425



- 686 Solidus, Ravenna 423–425, AV 4.26 g. D N IOHAN – NES P F AVG Rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG Emperor standing r., holding standard and Victory on globe, spurning captive with his l. foot; in field, R – V and in exergue, COMOB. C 4. Depeyrot 12/1. LRC 819. RIC 1901 (this coin cited). Rare. Traces of edge filing, otherwise about extremely fine 6'000

Ex NAC sale 67, 2012, Huntington, 242. Ex HSA 22128.

The closest surviving male relative of the Western emperor Honorius when he died in August 423 was Valentinian III, the son of Galla Placidia. When alive Honorius had banished his half-sister, so at the time of his death both she and her son were living in Constantinople. Her absence afforded the primicerius notariorum (chief notary) Johannes the opportunity to seize power in Rome, which he did with support from Castinus and Aëtius, both barbarians in the service of the Western empire. However, Johannes' rule was short-lived. Theodosius II had sent a small armada to Italy under the command of the general Arbadurius to oust Johannes and then install Valentinian III on the throne. Although Johannes managed to capture Arbadurius, the crafty general convinced several of Johannes' officers to betray him. The rebel was captured and then taken to Aquileia where, before he was executed, he was mutilated and paraded before jeering crowds.

Valentinian III, 425 – 455



- 687 Solidus, Ravenna circa 430-445, AV 4.47 g. D N PLA VALENTI – NIANVS P F AVG Rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG Emperor standing facing., holding standard and Victory on globe, r. foot on man-headed serpent; in field, R – V and in exergue, COMOB. C 19. RIC 2010. LRC 842. Depeyrot 17/1. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 1'250



- 688 Solidus, Ravenna circa 430-445, AV 4.47 g. D N PLA VALENTI – NIANVS P F AVG Rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG Emperor standing facing., holding standard and Victory on globe, r. foot on man-headed serpent; in field, R – V and in exergue, COMOB. C 19. RIC 2011. LRC 842. Depeyrot 17/1. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 1'250

Justa Gratia Honoria, sister of Valentinian III



689

689 Solidus, Ravenna circa 430-449, AV 4.50 g. D N IVST GRAT HO – NORIA P F AVG Pearl-diademed and draped bust r., cross on shoulder, crowned above by the hand of God. Rev. BONO – REIPUBLICAE R – V Victory standing l., supporting long jewelled cross; in upper field, star. In exergue, COMOB. C 1. RIC 2022. LRC 866. Depeyrot 15/1. Ranieri 87.

Rare. Light graffito on obverse field, otherwise almost extremely fine 10'000

Ex Tkalec 9 May 2005, 399; CNG 72, 2006, 1928 and NAC 56, 2010, 500 sales. From the Marc Poncin collection.

Libius Severus, 461 – 465



690

690 Solidus, Ravenna 461-465, AV 4.32 g. D N LIBIVS SE – VERVS P F AVG Rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG Emperor standing facing, holding long cross and Victory on globe, foot on man-headed serpent; in field R – V. In exergue, COMOB. C 8. LRC 888. Depeyrot 24/1. Lacam 28 (this coin illustrated). RIC 2719.

Extremely rare for Ravenna and in exceptional condition for the mint, among the finest specimens known. An almost invisible pinch on obverse field, minor areas of weakness and edge filed, otherwise extremely fine 5'000

Ex Stack's sale 5 February 1984, Knobloch, 1549.



691

691 Tremissis 462, AV 1.45 g. D N LIB SEVE – RVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Cross within wreath; below, COMOB. C 19. LRC 897. Lacam 67. RIC 2709. Depeyrot 55/5.

Very rare. Good extremely fine 3'000

Leo I, 457 - 474



692

- 692 Solidus, Thessalonica 457-474, AV 4.43 g. D N LEO PE – RPET AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG Victory standing l., supporting long jewelled cross; in field r., star. In exergue, THSOB. LRC 554. RIC 617. Depeyrot 56/2. Virtually as struck and Fdc 1'250

Anthemius, 467 – 472



693

- 693 Solidus 468, AV 4.42 g. D N ANTHE – MIVS P F AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and draped bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear over r. shoulder. Rev. SALVS R – EI P – VB LICAE Two emperors, in military attire, standing facing, holding spears and supporting between them a globe surmounted by cross; in centre field, ROMA in monogram. In exergue, COMOB. C 6. LRC 925. Lacam 42. RIC 2831. In exceptional condition for the issue. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 10'000

Ex Sotheby's 2 November 1998, 38; Heritage 3032, 2014, Andre Constantine Dimitriadis, 23747 and Palombo 13, 2014, 138 sales.



694

- 694 Solidus, Ravenna 467-472, AV 4.37 g. D N PROC AN – THEMIVS P F AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. SALVS REI – PV – BLICAE Two Emperors nimbate facing, supporting a long cross between them with r. hand and holding globe in l.; in field, R – V. In exergue, COMOB. C 2. LRC 902. Lacam pl. 23, 5 (this obverse die). Depeyrot 28/1. RIC 2869. Very rare. Weakly struck on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine / extremely fine 5'000

Julius Nepos first reign, 24th June 474 – 28th August 475



695

- 695 Solidus, Ravenna 474-475, AV 4.49 g. D N IVL NE – POS P F AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r. facing, holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG: Victory standing l., supporting long jewelled cross; in field, R – V. In exergue, COMOB. C 6. Lacam 9. LRC 939. Depeyrot 41/1. RIC 3212.

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

An almost invisible mark on reverse field, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

30'000

Ex NAC sale 78, 2014, 1276.

The year 472 was of critical importance to the Western Roman Empire: not only had two emperors, Anthemius and Olybrius, perished, but the 'emperor-making' general Ricimer also had died. Ricimer was replaced by his nephew Gundobad, who, after a four-month hiatus, appointed Glycerius, a man of no particular distinction, to the vacant throne. The usurpation was not recognised by the emperor Leo I in Constantinople, as the right to rule, or to determine who would rule, had rightfully passed to Leo. To remedy the situation, Leo sent Julius Nepos, the magister militum of Dalmatia and a relation by marriage to Italy at the head of an army. Nepos captured Glycerius without a fight, and appointed him bishop of Salona (in his own land of Dalmatia), and thus spared his life. With Leo's death in 474 and the eruption of contest for power in the East, Nepos acted decisively and seized the western throne himself. The new emperor was immediately beset by many difficulties: the local population did not support him, and he had to cede Gaul and Spain to the Visigoths under their new and energetic king Euric. Furthermore, he appointed the former secretary to Attila the Hun, Orestes, as his magister militum, an unfortunate choice since Orestes soon rebelled. Nepos was forced to flee back to his native Dalmatia, and afterwards Orestes placed his own son Romulus Augustus on the throne. Though he had no real power in the West, Nepos was still the constitutional emperor, and at least initially was viewed as such by the new Eastern emperor Zeno. Nepos continued to rule Dalmatia autonomously as he had done before until in 480 he was murdered, seemingly at the instigation of Glycerius, the former emperor whose life he had mercifully spared.

Migration of the Germanic Tribes

The Ostrogoths. Theoderic, 493 – 526



- 696 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage.** In the name of Zeno, 474-491. Solidus, uncertain mint 493-526, AV 4.49 g. DN ZENO – PERP AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVCCC ☉ Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in r. field, star, and in exergue, CONOR. BMC Vandals –. Kraus –. Lacam pl. 54, 15 (Ticinum). MEC I, –. RIC –. Very rare. Good extremely fine 5'000



- 697 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage.** In the name of Anastasius I, 491 – 518. Tremissis Roma 491-518, AV 1.47 g. DN ANASTA – SIVS PF AVG Diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVCVSTORVM Victory advancing r. with bust three-quarters l., holding wreath in r. hand and globus cruciger in l.; in r. field, star, and in exergue, COMOB. Metlich 14. Demo 20. MIB I, 10. MEC I, 115.

Rare. A very nice portrait of fine style and in exceptional condition for the issue.

Good extremely fine 2'000



- 698 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage.** In the name of Anastasius I, 491 – 518. Tremissis Ravenna 497-498, AV 1.47 g. DN ANASTA – SIVS PF AVG Diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVCVSTORVM Victory advancing r. with bust three-quarters l., holding wreath in r. hand and globus cruciger in l.; in r. field, star, and in exergue, COMOB. Metlich 17¹. Demo –, cf. 47. MIB I, –, cf. 10 (Roma). MEC I, –.

Very rare. About extremely fine 1'250

Athalaric, 526 – 534



699 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage.** In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Decanummium, Roma 526-534, Æ 3.85 g. INVICT – A ROMA Helmeted and cuirassed bust of Roma r. Rev. DN ATAL – ARICVS King standing facing with head r., holding spear in r. hand and shield in l.; in field, S/X – C. BMC Vandals 65. Kraus 67. MIB 77. Demo 174. MEC I, 132. Metlich 85a.

Rare and in very good condition for the issue. Untouched light green patina about extremely fine / good very fine

800

Theodahad, 534-536



700 **Pseudo-Imperial Coinage.** In the name of Justinian I, 527-565. Follis (40 nummi), Roma 534-536, Æ 9.49 g. DN THEOD – AHATVS REX Helmeted and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA – PRNCIPVM Victory standing on prow r., holding in l. hand palm and wreath in r.: in field, S – C on sides. BMC Vandals 22. Kraus 32. MIB 81. MEC I, 142. Metlich 89b (D2-L5).

Rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Dark green patina and about extremely fine

3'500

The Lombards. Aripert II, 700-712



701 Tremissis 700-712, AV 1.50 g. DN AR – IPE RX (RX ligate) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in r. field, hand. Rev. SCSNI – HAIL St. Michael standing l., holding long cross and shield. Bernareggi 48. MIR 799. Arslan –. MEC I, –. Very rare. Extremely fine

2'000

Ex Gadoury sale 15 November 2019, 560.

Liutprand, 717-744



- 702 Tremissis 717-744, AV 1.22 g. (...) – PRIR Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in r. field, N and above star. Rev. SCS – HIHL St. Michael standing l., holding long cross and shield. BMC Vandals 1 var. (without N and star). Bernareggi 88 var. (no star). Arslan 51. MEC I, 322 var. (in r. field, L).
An extremely rare variety. Extremely fine 1'000

Ex NAC sale 93, 2016, 1309.



- 703 Tremissis 717-744, AV 1.50 g. DN LIV [...] Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in r. field, hand. Rev. SCS MI – MAHIL St. Michael standing l., holding long cross and shield. Bernareggi 67. Arslan – MIR 800. MEC I, –.
Very rare. Extremely fine 2'000

Ex Gadoury sale 6 December 2014, 310.



- 704 Tremissis 717-744, AV 1.50 g. DN LIV – PRDN RX (RX ligate) Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r.; in r. field, cross and on drapery, G. Rev. SCS M – MAHIL St. Michael standing l., holding long cross and shield. BMC Vandals 1 var. (letters in place of cross). Bernareggi 87 ff. var. (letters in place of cross). Arslan 47 ff. var. (letters in place of cross). MEC I, 322 var. (letter in place of cross). cf. NAC sale 93, 2016, 1304.
Extremely rare. In exceptional condition for the issue and good extremely fine 2'500

Ex Gadoury sale 15 November 2019, 563.

The Byzantine Empire

The mint is Constantinopolis unless otherwise stated.

Justinian I, 527 – 565



705

- 705 Follis, Nicomedia 538-539 (year 13), Æ 22.45 g. D N IVSTINI – ANVS P P AVG Helmeted, pearl-dia-demed and cuirassed bust facing, holding globus cruciger and shield with horseman and enemy motif; in r. field, cross. Rev. Large M; above, cross and in field, ANNO / XIII. Below, A and in exergue, NIK. DO 117a. MIBE 114. Sear 201. Brown-reddish patina and about extremely fine 250

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



706



706



- 706 Solidus. Carthage (?) circa 612-627, AV 4.42 g. D N N hCRACLIVS [ET hERA CONST P P] Crowned and draped facing busts of Heraclius and Heraclius Constantine, each wearing chlamys and crowned with cross; in field above, cross. Rev. VICTORIA AV ζ A Cross potent on three steps; in exergue, CONOB. cf. DO 204. cf. MIB 92a.1. cf. Sear 867. Of the highest rarity. Well struck on an exceptionally large flan and extremely fine 1'500

Ex Roma Numismatics sale XXI, 2021, 913.

Solidi for Heraclius from the mint of Carthage were usually struck on a very narrow globular flan. Solidi from this mint struck on a flan that resembles the one from the rest of the Empire are exceptionally rare and desirable.



707



707



- 707 Solidus 626-629, AV 4.19 g. dd NN hERACLIUS ET hERA CONST PP A Facing busts of Heraclius on l. and Heraclius Constantine on r., each wearing chlamys and crowned with cross; in field above, cross. Rev. VICTORIA – AVC ζ B Cross potent on base and three steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 20b. MIB 21. Sear 743. Good extremely fine 500



- 708 Solidus 639–641, AV 4.48 g. Heraclius, with long beard, standing between his two sons, all crowned and wearing chlamys and holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VICTORIA – AYΓΥ Δ Cross potent on base and three steps. In l. field, Heraclian monogram and in r. field, E; in exergue, CONOB. DO 44c. MIB 53. Sear 770. In exceptional condition for the issue. Insignificant area of weakness on reverse, otherwise a perfect Fdc 700

Ex Sternberg sale XXI, 1988, 565.

Constans II, 641 – 668 and associate rulers from 654



- 709 Solidus, Ravenna (?) circa 644-645, AV 4.37 g. dN CONIT AV – VINϥ PP AVI Crowned bust facing, wearing chlamys and holding *globus cruciger*. Rev. VICTORI – ΛΛVγϥ Δ Cross potent on base and three steps. In exergue, CONOB. DO –, MIB –, cf. 128a. Sear –. Of the highest rarity. A delicate portrait of fine style. In exceptional condition for the issue. Insignificant traces of double striking, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc 2'000

From the Collection of a Mentor.



- 710 Solidus, 651-654, AV 4.44 g. d N CONSTAN – TINYS PP AV Facing bust with long beard, wearing crown and chlamys and holding *globus cruciger*. Rev. VICTORIA – AVΓΥS Cross potent on base and three steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 19f. MIB 23. Sear 956. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 500



- 711 Solidus circa 661–663, AV 4.40 g. d N CONS – tANIϸ Facing bust of Constans II, with long beard, on l., wearing plumed helmet and chlamys, and Constantine IV, on r., wearing crown and chlamys; between them, cross. Rev. VICTORI – A – AVGϸ Δ Heraclius, on l., and Tiberius, on r., standing facing and both holding a long cross; between them, cross potent on globe. In exergue, CONOB. DO 28b. MIBE 29. Sear 962.
A perfect Fdc 700

Ex Sternberg sale XXIV, 1990, 374.

Constantine IV, Pogonatus 13 April 654 – 10 July 685



- 712 Solidus 681–685, AV 4.44 g. P O CNS – tAN – ϸS P P A Bust, facing three-quarters r., wearing helmet and cuirass, holding spear and shield decorated with horseman-enemy motif. Rev. VICTORA – A – VGϸ[.] Cross potent on base and three steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 12e (?). MIB 10. Sear 1157.
An insignificant area of weakness on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine 500

Justinian II, first reign 685 - 695



- 713 Solidus 692-695, AV 4.41 g. IϸS CRISTOS REX – REGNANTIY M Bust of Christ facing, cross behind head, r. hand raised in benediction and l. holding Book of Gospels. Rev. D IVStINI – AN – YS SERY ChRISTi Justinian standing facing, wearing loros and crown, holding cross potent on base and two steps and anexikakia; beneath, B Γ (retrograde). DO 7. MIB 8a. Sear 1248.
Unusually well centred and good extremely fine 2'000

Theophilus, 829 – 842, with colleagues from 830



714

- 714 Debased solidus, Neapolis (?) 831-842, AV 4.27 g. ΘEOFI – LOS bASILEO Bust of Theophilus facing, wearing crown and chlamys and holding globus cruciger and *akakia*. Rev. MIXAHLS C - ONStANTIN Bust of Michael II or Constantine facing, wearing crown and chlamys and holding cross potent and *akakia*. DO 33. Sear 1683. Extremely rare. Good very fine 4'000

Michael III "the Drunkard", 842 – 867 and associate rulers from 866



715

- 715 Solidus circa 843-856, AV 4.44 g. IHSX – RISTOS * Facing bust of Christ bearded, with cross behind head, wearing tunic and himation, raising r. hand in blessing and holding the book of Gospels in l. hand. Rev. +mIXAHLS ΘC – O – dORA Facing bust of Michael, beardless, on l., and Theodora, on r., both crowned; the emperor wears chlamys, his mother loros; between their heads, pellet and, above, cross. DO 2. Sear 1687. Very rare. An edge nick at 12 o'clock on obverse, otherwise extremely fine 3'500

From the Collection of a Mentor.

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



716

- 716 Solidus 868-879, AV 4.43 g. +IhS XPS REX – REGNANTIHM* Christ, nimbate, seated facing on lyre-backed throne, wearing tunic and *himation*, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l. hand. Rev. BASILIOS ET CONStAntAϚGGb' Facing busts of Basil on l., bearded, wearing crown and loros and Constantine on r., beardless, wearing crown and chlamys; both holding patriarchal cross between them. DO 2. Sear 1704. A perfect Fdc 1'000

Nicephorus II Phocas, 15 August 963 – 10 December 969, with Basil II and Constantine VIII



717

- 717 Histamenon 963-969, AV 4.42 g. +IHS XIS REX REGNANTIHM Facing bust of Christ with decorated nimbus, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l. Rev. +ΘΕΟΤΟC' b'HΘ' nICHF,dES' Facing bust of the Virgin, veiled and nimbate and Nicephorus, wearing crown and loros, holding between them patriarchal cross; at sides of Virgin, M – Θ. DO 4.1. Sear 1778.

Good extremely fine

1'500

Theodora, 11 January 1055 – 31 August 1056



718

- 718 Histamenon 1055-1056, AV 4.42 g. +IhS XIS DCX RCGNANTIhm Christ, nimbate, standing facing on footstool, wearing *pallium* and *colobium* and holding Book of Gospels. Rev. +ΘCΟΔωΡΑ – ΛVΓOVCt Λ Theodora, crowned, and the Virgin, nimbate, standing facing holding *labarum* between them; the Empress wears *saccos* and *loros*, the Virgin is clad in a *pallium* and *maphorion*. On either side of her shoulders, M – Θ. DO 1a. Sear 1837. Reverse struck from a slightly worn die, otherwise extremely fine

1'000

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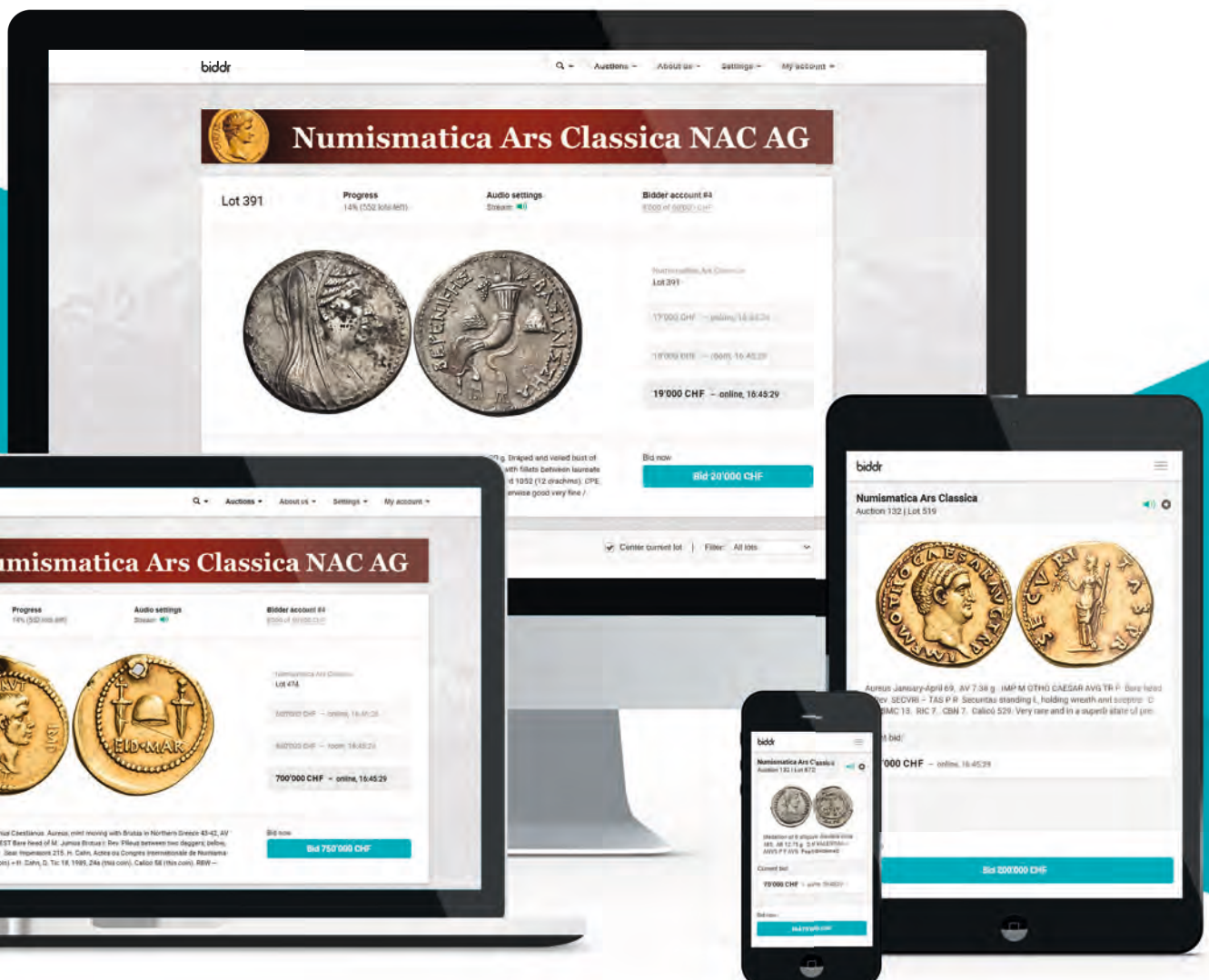
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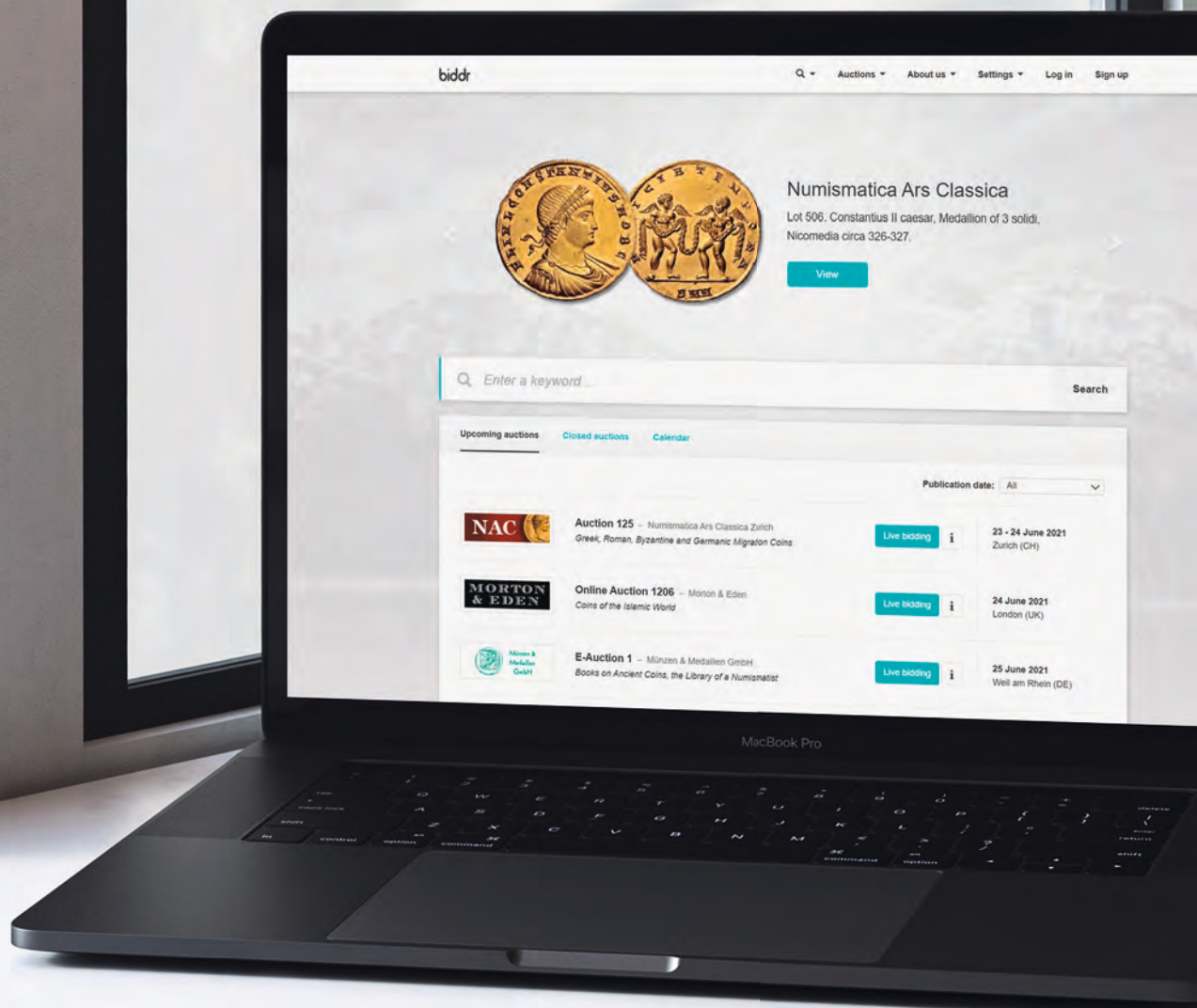
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