

AUCTION

154

19 MAY 2025

Greek, Roman  
and Byzantine  
Coins

NAC

Numismatica Ars Classica NAC AG



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154

19 MAY 2025

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

Greek, Roman  
and Byzantine  
Coins

NAC

Numismatica Ars Classica NAC AG

**NAC**

Numismatica Ars Classica NAC AG

## **NUMISMATICA ARS CLASSICA NAC AG**

[www.arsclassicacoins.com](http://www.arsclassicacoins.com)

Schipfe 2  
8001 Zurich  
Switzerland

*Phone +41 44 261 1703  
zurich@arsclassicacoins.com*

Suite 1, Claridge House  
32 Davies Street  
London, W1K 4ND  
United Kingdom

*Tel: +44 207 839 7270  
info@arsclassicacoins.com*

## **\*NAC USA LLC \***

[www.arsclassicausa.com](http://www.arsclassicausa.com)

8 South Michigan Avenue  
Suite 3600  
Chicago, IL 60603  
USA

*Tel. +1 312 883 8541  
usa@arsclassicacoins.com*

## 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 gegenüber telefonischen oder elektronischen Geboten. 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 zum Zeitpunkt des Beginns der elektronischen 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 dem Zuschlagspreis ist ein Aufgeld (Provision) von 22,5% zu entrichten. Internet Live Bieter entrichten ein zusätzliches Aufgeld von 1% auf den Zuschlagspreis. Die schweizerische Mehrwertsteuer von 8,1% 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 vor der Aushändigung des Objekts zu bezahlen, ausser es sei vor der Auktion eine andere schriftliche 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 ausdrücklich 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 Käufers (Ersteigerers). 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. Der Käufer verpflichtet sich, die erworbenen Waren nicht in Länder oder Gebiete zu exportieren, die wirtschaftlichen Sanktionen, Embargos oder anderen Handelsbeschränkungen unterliegen, die von der Schweizerischen Eidgenossenschaft verhängt wurden. Darüber hinaus verpflichtet sich der Käufer, die erworbenen Waren nicht an Personen oder Einrichtungen zu übertragen oder ihnen zur Verfügung zu stellen, die von Sanktionen der Schweizerischen Eidgenossenschaft betroffen sind, und alle aktuellen Schweizer Vorschriften bezüglich Export und Sanktionen einzuhalten.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. 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.
12. 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.
13. Die Auktion findet unter Mitwirkung des Stadtmannamtes Zürich 1 statt. Jede Haftung der mitwirkenden Behörde, des Stadtmanns, der Gemeinde oder des Staates für Handlungen des Auktionators entfällt. 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 over telephone and electronic bids. 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 until 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 22.5% will be levied on the hammer price - bidders using our Live Internet facilities pay an additional charge of 1%. The Swiss value added tax (VAT) of 8.1% 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 in writing 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 explicitly 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 (successful bidder'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. The Buyer undertakes not to export the purchased goods to countries or territories subject to economic sanctions, embargoes, or other trade restrictions imposed by the Swiss Confederation. Furthermore, the Buyer undertakes not to transfer or make available the purchased goods to individuals or entities that are subject to sanctions imposed by the Swiss Confederation, and to comply with all current Swiss regulations regarding export and sanctions.

9. 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.

10. 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.

11. 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.

12. 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.

13. The auction takes place under the supervision of officials of the city of Zurich (Stadtammannamt Zurich 1). Any liability of the cooperating authority, the municipality or the state for acts of the auctioneer is waived. 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 sur les offres téléphoniques ou électroniques. 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 22,5% est perçue sur le prix d'adjudication. Les acquéreurs qui souhaitent participer aux enchères en ligne avec nos facilités Live Internet paieront un frais supplémentaire de 1%. La taxe à la valeur ajoutée suisse d'un montant de 8,1 % sera perçue sur le prix définitif (prix d'adjudication plus supplément et sur tous les autres montants facturés à l'acquéreur par la salle des ventes). **Les pièces de monnaie en or (AV) sont dispensées de la TVA.**

En cas d'exportation de l'objet adjugé vers l'étranger, l'acquéreur se voit restituer la TVA lorsqu'il est en mesure de présenter une déclaration d'exportation réglementaire, en bonne et due forme, des autorités douanières suisses.

6. Le prix total en francs suisses est exigible immédiatement après adjudication et doit être acquitté avant la remise de l'objet adjugé sauf si un autre accord écrit a été conclu avant la vente aux enchères. 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 adjugé à l'acquéreur avant paiement. Une éventuelle livraison antérieure n'entraîne expressément aucun transfert de propriété et ne modifie en rien l'obligation de paiement de l'acheteur.

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'acquéreur (enchérisseur). 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. L'Acheteur s'engage à ne pas exporter les biens achetés vers des pays ou territoires soumis à des sanctions économiques, des embargos ou d'autres restrictions commerciales imposées par la Confédération suisse. En outre, l'Acheteur s'engage à ne pas transférer ou mettre à disposition les biens achetés à des individus ou entités faisant l'objet de sanctions imposées par la Confédération suisse, et à respecter toutes les réglementations suisses en vigueur en matière d'exportation et de sanctions.

9. 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.

10. 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.

11. 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 Internet

12. 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.

13. La vente se déroule sous la supervision des fonctionnaires de la ville de Zurich (Stadtammannamt Zurich 1). L'autorité coopérante, la municipalité et l'État sont exonérés de toute responsabilité pour les actes du commissaire-priseur. 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 sulle offerte telefoniche o elettroniche. 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 22,5%. Gli offerenti che parteciperanno all'asta 'live' attraverso internet pagheranno un costo supplementare dell'1%. L'imposta svizzera sul valore aggiunto, pari attualmente al 8,1%, 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 del prezzo totale è dovuto al momento dell'accettazione dell'offerta e deve essere effettuato prima della consegna dell'oggetto, se non diversamente concordato per iscritto prima dell'asta. I pagamenti in ritardo saranno soggetti a un interesse dell'1% al mese. La proprietà non passerà all'acquirente fino al completo pagamento. Di norma, la NAC non consegnerà l'oggetto d'asta all'acquirente prima del pagamento. Una consegna anticipata non comporta espressamente un trasferimento di proprietà e non modifica l'obbligo di pagamento dell'acquirente. 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 dell'acquirente. 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. L'Acquirente si impegna a non esportare i beni acquistati verso Paesi o territori soggetti a sanzioni economiche, embarghi o altre restrizioni commerciali imposte dalla Confederazione Svizzera. Inoltre, l'Acquirente si impegna a non trasferire o mettere a disposizione i beni acquistati a individui o entità che sono oggetto di sanzioni imposte dalla Confederazione Svizzera, e a rispettare tutte le normative vigenti in Svizzera in materia di esportazione e sanzioni.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. 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.
12. 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.
13. L'asta si svolge sotto la supervisione dei funzionari della città di Zurigo (Stadtammannamt Zurich 1). L'autorità cooperante, il comune e lo stato sono esonerati da qualsiasi responsabilità circa le azioni del banditore. 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, 19 May 2025

14:00 - 19:00

Lots 1001 - 1518

**EXHIBITIONS**  
**AUSSTELLUNG**  
**EXPOSITION**  
**ESPOSIZIONI**

**London – At our premises**  
**32 Davies Street, W1K 4ND London**

22 April 2025 – 2 May 2025  
Monday to Friday 9:30 – 17:30  
Saturday & Sunday by appointment only

**Zurich – At our premises**  
**Schipfe 2, 8001 Zurich**

14 May 2025 – 17 May 2025  
Monday to Friday 9:30 – 17:30  
Saturday & Sunday by appointment only

**Zurich – At the Hotel Baur au Lac**  
**Talstrasse 1, 8001 Zurich**

18 May 2025 - 19 May 2025  
10:00 - 18:00

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

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

Gradi di conservazione

Fdc Fior di conio  
Spl Splendido  
BB Bellissimo  
MB Molto bello

Grades of preservation

Fdc Uncirculated  
Extremely fine  
Very fine  
Fine

Erhaltungsgrad

Stempelglanz  
Vorzüglich  
Sehr schön  
Schön

Degrés de conservation

Fleur de coin (FDC)  
Superbe  
Très beau  
Beau

Grados de Conservación

FDC  
EBC  
MBC  
BC

**Several advantages are available for our US based clients through NAC USA, LLC – our partnership with Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc. based in Chicago.**

- Upon request, our American clients will be able to have their purchases shipped from Chicago. NAC USA LLC will import the coins into the US and will take care of all customs formalities.
- We also offer the possibility to pay directly to our US bank account in US dollars at a fixed exchange rate agreed after the sale.
- If you would like to take advantage of this new service after the auction, please contact us at [zurich@arsclassicacoins.com](mailto:zurich@arsclassicacoins.com) and we will make the necessary arrangements.
- US customers wishing to consign coins to either NAC or Naville can contact our Chicago office directly via email at [usa@arsclassicacoins.com](mailto:usa@arsclassicacoins.com) or via phone at +1 312 883 8541.

**Unfortunately, at the time of printing, the situation regarding the new import tariffs into the United States is continuously evolving and we are unable to confirm whether there will be an exemption for collectable coins or if they will be subject to the reciprocal tariff currently at 10%.**

**Hopefully, we will have some clarity by the time of the auction. Should you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact one of our offices.**

**All lots marked with an asterisk (\*) in this catalogue are most likely exempt from any US import tariffs, as they have been exported from the United States within the last 3 years and should be able to be returned under HTSUS subheading 9801.00.10. We have consulted a leading U.S. law firm specialised in International Trade who confirmed that in principle this is possible, but highlighting the lack of rulings in the specific context of ancient coins sold at auction. Again, we do hope to have more clarity before the auction.**

**We also offer our US clients the option of storing coins purchased at NAC auctions in our London office at no additional cost and without paying any import duties in the United Kingdom. Normal shipping fees will apply if the client chooses to relocate their purchases to another location, whether within the US or abroad.**

#### **Note on US Import Restrictions**

In accordance with US Customs and Border Protection regulations (19 CFR Part 12), we attest, to the best of our knowledge, that all restricted 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 restricted ancient coins, from mints that are now within the modern boundaries of Greece, were outside of Greece before 1 December 2011. In addition, all restricted 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 and in the case of Morocco before January 2021 and in the case of Turkey, before 16 June 2021. Numismatica Ars Classica NAC AG will provide appropriate documentation to assist with the importation of any purchased lots into the USA.



## Greek Coins

### Iberia, Carthago Nova



- 1001** Hispano-Carthaginian issues. Quarter shekel circa 221-206, AR 13 mm, 1.8 g. Laureate head (Melqart or Hannibal) l., with club over r. shoulder. Rev. Elephant r. De Navasques 461 (these dies). CNH 15 (these dies). Robinson, Essays Mattingly, 6(d). Villaronga-Benages 555 (these dies).

Rare. Wonderful old cabinet tone and good very fine

2'000

*Ex Vico sale 130, 2012, 82. From the Archer M. Huntington collection. (Ex HSA 23268) From the Apollo to Apollo collection.*

### Hispania, Turiaso



- 1002\*** Denarius circa 100-70, AR 18 mm, 4.09 g. ka / s / tu in Iberian Bearded male head r. Rev. turiasu in Iberian Warrior, holding spear, galloping on horse r. M. Gozalbes, Le ceca de Turiazu. Monedas celtibéricas en la Hispania republicana, 2009, 68b (this coin). ACIP 1720.

Wonderful old cabinet tone and good extremely fine

600

*Ex Vico 131, 2012, 447 and Triton XXIII, 2020, 2 sales. From the Archer M. Huntington collection. (Ex ANS 1001.1.12500).*

### Gaul, Massalia



- 1003** Tetrobol circa 130-121, AR 16 mm, 2.7 g. Laureate and draped bust of Artemis r., wearing pendant earring and pearl necklace, holding bow and quiver. Rev. ΜΑΣΣΑ / ΛΙΑΤΩΝ Lion prowling r.; between legs, Δ - T. Depeyrot, Marseille, 41/13. SNG Milan 28.

Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine

200

*Ex M&M Fixed Price List 552, 1992, 63 and Künker sale 182, 2011, 34. From the collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

**Etruria, Populonia**



1004



1004

**1004** Drachm early V century BC, AR 16 mm, 2.92 g. Head and neck of roaring lion l., tongue protruding. Rev. Blank. Vecchi Rasna I, 25.1 (this coin). EC 5.2 (this coin). Historia Numorum Italy 114.

Extremely rare, less than ten specimens listed. Old cabinet tone, surface somewhat porous, otherwise good very fine

1'000

*Ex Hess-Leu 24 March 1959, 4 and Glendining 13 December 1963, Foreign Amateur, 4 sales. From the collection of a Mentor.*



1005



1005

**1005\*** 20 Asses circa 300-250, AR 26 mm, 8.37 g. Diademed facing head of Metus; below, X X. Rev. Blank. EC 59.21 (this coin). Historia Numorum Italy 152. HGC 1, 109.

Wonderful light iridescent tone. Struck on an irregular flan, die-break on obverse and minor marks on reverse, otherwise extremely fine

2'000

*Ex Tkalec 26 March 1991, 16; NAC 7, 1994, 70; Triton XVIII, 2015, 308 and CNG 108, 2018, 1 sales. From the Athos and Dina Moretti and the Zurich Money Museum collections.*

**Campania, Allifae**



1006



**1006** Obol circa 325-375, AR 11 mm, 0.62 g. Laureate head of Apollo r., around three dolphins. Rev. AMIBANON Scylla swimming r., holding sepia and fish, below mussel. SNG ANS 165. Historia Numorum Italy 461. Nomos sale 26, 2023, Collection sans Pareille, 14 (these dies).

Very rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Lovely old cabinet tone and good very fine / about extremely fine

2'000

*From the Apollo to Apollo collection.*

**Hyria**



1007



1007

**1007\*** Didrachm circa 395-385, AR 21 mm, 7.22 g. Head of Hera Lakonia facing slightly r., wearing ornate stephanos. Rev. YDINA retrograde and in Oscan man-headed bull standing r. Rutter 126-129 var. (O47/R-, unlisted). Historia Numorum Italy 540. HGC 1, 436.

Rare. Struck on a large flan and complete and with a superb old cabinet tone. Several edge marks, possibly traces of mounting, and cleaning marks and smoothing on reverse, otherwise good very fine / very fine

1'000

*Ex Hess 254, 1983, 8; CNG 42, 1997, 9 and CNG e-452, 2019, 12 sales.*

**Calabria, Tarentum**



1008



1008

**1008** Nomos circa 510-450, AR 20 mm, 7.71 g. TARAS retrograde Dolphin rider r., raising l. hand and resting r. on dolphin's back; below, pecten. Rev. Four-spoked wheel. Vlasto 74. SNG Ashmolean 204. Boston, MFA 47. Fischer-Bossert 81. Historia Numorum Italy 833.

Rare. Struck on a very broad flan and with a light iridescent tone. Good very fine

750



1009

**1009\*** Stater circa 500-490, AR 20 mm, 8.03 g. TAPAS Dolphin rider r., holding an octopus in r. hand; cable border. Rev. TAPAS retrograde Hippocamp r.; below, shell. Vlasto 126 (this obverse die). Fischer Bossert 23.1 (this coin). Historia Numorum Italy 827. HGC 1, 754.

Rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. A finely engraved obverse die and a wonderful old cabinet tone. Minor metal flaw on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine / good very fine

5'000

*Ex Bourgey 14 June 1932, 1; Hess 254, 1983, 19; New York XXVII, 2012, Prospero, 13 and Nomos 16, 2018, 10 sales. Privately purchased from Spink in 1984. From the Ravenel collection (USA).*



1010

- 1010** Nomos circa 480-470, AR 18 mm, 7.82 g. TARAS retrograde Dolphin rider r., raising l. hand and resting r. on dolphin's back; below, pecten. Rev. Four-spoked wheel; in each quarter, dolphin leaping r. Vlasto 82. SNG France 1857. Fischer-Bossert 70. McClean 531. Historia Numorum Italy 833.

Very rare. Lovely iridescent tone and good very fine

1'500



1011

- 1011\*** Nomos circa 465-455, AR 20 mm, 7.88 g. TAPAΣ Dolphin rider l.; below, shell. Rev. Hippocamp l. H.A. Cahn, Early Tarentine Chronology in Essays in Greek Coinage Robinson, p. 65 (this coin). AMB 75 (this coin). Vlasto 133 (these dies). Fischer-Bossert 109v (this coin). SNG Lockett 124 (this coin). Historia Numorum Italy 827.

Rare. Of excellent Archaic style, perfectly centred on a full flan and with a light iridescent tone. Surface somewhat porous, otherwise good very fine

2'500

*Ex Hirsch XXI, 1908, 289; Glendining's 25 October 1955, Lockett, 105; NAC 13, 1998, formerly exhibited at the Antikenmuseum Basel, 75 and Leu Numismatik Winterthur 6, 2020, 31 sales. From the Athos and Dina Moretti collection.*

Under the leadership of the Parthenian Phalanthos, the Partheniae (Spartan children born to unmarried women because of the Spartan desperation to ensure the survival and continuation of their demographic during the bloody Messenian wars) and Perioeci (subjects, but not citizens of Sparta) founded Tarentum, the only Spartan colony ever established, in 706 BC. Legend has it that Phalanthos sought advice from the oracle at Delphi, who advised him to establish his new city "where rain fell from a clear sky. After much searching and desperation over the lack of a suitable city site, Phalanthos was comforted by his wife Aethra, who held his head in her lap. As her tears fell on his forehead, he realized that the oracle had been correct because his wife's name meant "clear sky." He decided to build their new home on the nearby harbor, naming it after Taras, the son of Poseidon and the nymph Satyrion. As it had been since its founding, Tarentum was a monarchy at the time this coinage was created. Even though we do not know much about Tarentum's early government, the monarchy was most likely based on the one that ruled Sparta. Herodotus (iii, 136) claims that around this time, the city was governed by a specific monarch named Aristophilides. There seems to have been a continuous series of conflicts between the Tarentines and the native Iapygian tribes (Messapians, Daunians, and Peucetii) that ruled the interior of the Apulian peninsula since the Greeks arrived in the area in the late eighth century BC. Due to these populations' opposition, Tarentine growth was thus restricted to the coast; this is reflected in their currency types, which are primarily marine in nature. With a combined army of about 8,000 men, including shield infantry, skirmishers, and their expert cavalry, the Messapians advanced against the Tarentines in 490 BC. Meanwhile, the Tarentines provided backup with 1,000 light infantry, 4,000 citizen hoplites, and a mix of cavalry with swords and light weapons. Although the Messapian cavalry was superior and the Tarentines were vastly outnumbered on foot, they survived the initial skirmishing and the Messapian charge outside the city walls. The Tarentines seem to have done a good job of representing their Spartan heritage in this battle, and they were able to claim victory and a brief reprieve from the Iapygian attacks. For almost two decades following this setback, the Iapygians would not again assault Tarentum; nevertheless, when they did, in 473, they would do so in great force.



1012

**1012** Nomos circa 425-415, AR 24 mm, 8.38 g. Dolphin rider l., extending r. hand and holding shield in l.; below, pecten. Rev. Oecist seated r., holding bird in his extended l. hand and spindle in his r. Vlasto 235. SNG Lloyd 140 (these dies). BMC 78 (these dies). Boston, MFA 59 (these dies). de Luynes 286 (these dies). Gulbenkian 24 (these dies). McClean 558 (these dies). Fischer-Bossert 270a (this coin)

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Of masterly Classical style and with a superb old cabinet tone, obverse slightly off-centre, otherwise extremely fine

15'000

*Ex Leu 20, 1978, L. Biaggi, 6 (but illustrated as lot 7); LHS 100, 2007, Roland Maly, 36 and Triton XIII, 2010, 14 sales. From the Henri de Nanteuil collection.*

The dolphin rider on the obverse of this coin was a standard type for nomoi and other denominations struck by Tarentum for most of its history as an independent city of Magna Graecia. It represents one of two (or perhaps both?) traditions regarding the foundation of the city. According to one, Taras, a son of Poseidon and the nymph Satyrion, found himself shipwrecked in a storm as he sailed on the Adriatic Sea. However, before Taras was fully consigned to a watery grave, his divine father heard his cries and sent a dolphin to save him from drowning. The animal carried him to southern Italy, where Taras founded Tarentum to celebrate his escape from death.

A second and somewhat more historically based tradition held that Tarentum was founded at the end of the eighth century BC by the Parthenians, a class of disenfranchised children of Spartan women. In order to improve their lot in Sparta, the Parthenians plotted revolution under the leadership of a man named Phalanthos. When the plot was uncovered prematurely, Phalanthos and his followers fled to southern Italy on the advice of the Delphic Oracle. On the way, Phalanthos was shipwrecked at sea, but his life was saved by the timely arrival of a dolphin who carried him to safety. Once in Italy, Phalanthos and the Parthenians settled a site called Satyrion until they discovered a better location, where they founded Tarentum.

Considering that the dolphin rider is frequently shown carrying a trident as one of his attributes on other nomoi (although here he carries an impressive Boeotian shield), it is perhaps somewhat more likely that he should be identified with Taras, the son of Poseidon, than with Phalanthos. However, it is not impossible that both the mythological and historical founders of Tarentum came to be merged in the hero cults at the city.

The heroically nude oikist depicted on the reverse of this nomos is also likely to be Taras serving as a personification of Tarentum. The spindle that he holds in his right hand refers to the important wool industry at the city. Still in the first century AD, Pliny the Elder could declare that Tarentum was known as a producer of some of the finest wool available thanks to a long tradition of selective sheep breeding. The export of this famous wool was a major source of the city's prosperity. The oikist and dolphin rider both appear on Tarentine coins holding a spindle beginning in the third quarter of the fifth century BC.



1013

**1013** Diobol circa 380-325, AR 13 mm, 1.23 g. Head of Athena r., wearing Attic helmet decorated with wreath. Rev. Heracles kneeling r., stragling the Nemean lion and holding club. Vlasto 1388 (these dies). Historia Numorum Italy –

Rare. Lovely old cabinet tone and about extremely fine

350

*Ex New York sale XXVII, 2012, Prospero, 22. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*



1014

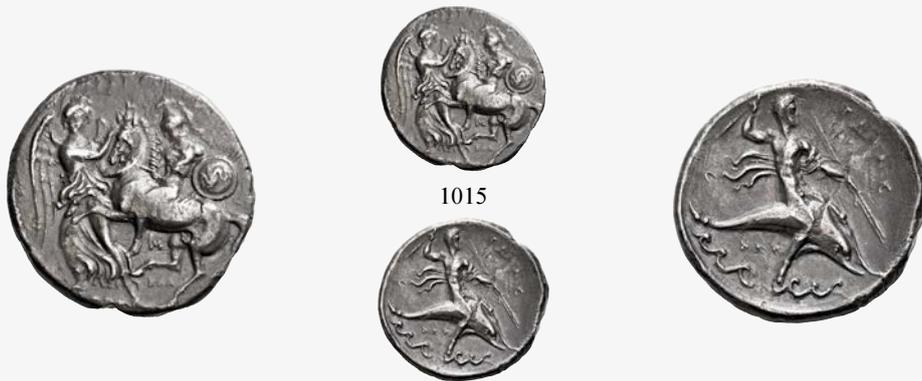
**1014\*** Half stater circa 333-331/0, AV 14 mm, 4.26 g. TAPANTINΩN Head of Hera r., wearing stephane, triple-pendant earring and necklace; in l. field, E. Rev. TAPAΣ Dolphin rider l., holding small dolphin on outstretched r. hand and trident in l.; below, T – K. Vlasto 5. de Luynes 247 These dies). Jameson 149 (these dies). AMB 90 (these dies). Fischer-Bossert G7h (this coin). Historia Numorum Italy 902. HGC 1, 767 (this coin illustrated).

Very rare and possibly the finest specimen in private hands. A portrait of exquisite style, work of a very talented master engraver, struck in high relief. Extremely fine

30'000

*Ex NAC 8, 1995, 127; Ira & Larry Goldberg 72, 2013, 4005 and NAC 114, 2019, 8 sales.*

In the late fourth century BC, Taras fell under increasing pressure from neighbouring Italic peoples, particularly the Lucanians and the related Brettians. As a means of defending themselves against the growing threat, the Tarentines took to hiring foreign mercenary commanders and their armies. These commanders were often important and powerful figures in mainland Greece. In 340 BC, the Tarentines hired Archidamos III, the Eurypontid Spartan king to wage war against their enemies. When the Lucanian menace was renewed in 334 BC, the Tarentines hired Alexander I of Epeiros, the Molossian king who was not only brother to Olympias and uncle to Alexander the Great, but also father of Pyrrhos, whose own Italian adventures are the subject of legends. Alexander the Molossian was very keen to take up the call for military aid both in an effort to parallel the glory enjoyed by his Macedonian nephew as he began the conquest of the Persian Empire and to cheat an oracle that linked the doom of Alexander I to the river Acheron and the city of Pandosia-both in Epeiros, he assumed. From 333 to 332 BC, Alexander the Molossian was extremely successful, inflicting numerous defeats on the Lucanians, Brettians, and Samnites, recapturing Greek cities, like Herakleia (a colony of Taras) and Metapontion, and even seizing several Brettian settlements. However, by 331 BC his relationship with the Tarentines had begun to fray due to the king's meddling in the civic politics of the region, and the Lucanians and Brettians were prepared to renew the conflict. Alexander I encamped with his army on three hills on the border between Lucania and Bruttium near a small city, but found himself besieged by the enemy during a heavy rainfall. He attempted to escape the battle by fording a nearby river, but was killed by a Lucanian spear. The name of the river turned out to be the Acheron and that of the nearby city, Pandosia. It was bad luck for Alexander the Molossian that Greek colonists in other lands often had a taste for naming cities and local geographical features after those in their homeland. This beautiful gold hemistater was struck at Taras as part of the financial support for the great army of Epeirote and Italiote Greek mercenaries that Alexander I led. Fending off barbarians was never cheap and one can only imagine how much more expensive it made things to have a king serving as mercenary commander. The obverse depicts Hera, a goddess often favoured by Dorian Greek peoples, like the Tarentines, while the reverse features a dolphin rider-a popular type at Taras. There is disagreement among numismatists as to whether this rider is correctly identified as Taras, the mythological eponymous founder of the city or as Phalanthos, the historical oecist responsible for the foundation of Taras. Both have stories attached to them of being saved by dolphins when they were at risk of drowning. In this particular case since the rider carries a trident, the weapon of Poseidon, and Taras was said to be the son of the same god it may be more likely that we are looking at Taras rather than Phalanthos here.



- 1015\*** Nomos circa 325-320, AR 21 mm, 7.41 g. Helmeted horseman with shield and spear on prancing horse restrained by Nike standing l. before it; in field l. and r., Φ – | - A. Below horse, M / ΚΑΛ. Rev. ΤΑΡΑΣ Dolphin rider r., with mantle floating, holding spears; below, ΚΑΛ and waves. Vlasto 530 (this coin). AMB 92 (this obverse die). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 108, 312 (these dies). SNG Lloyd 180 (these dies). Fischer-Bossert 792d (this coin). Historia Numorum Italy 893.

Rare. Of fine style and with a lovely old cabinet tone, minor marks on reverse, otherwise good very fine / about extremely fine

2'500

*Ex Platt 8 December 1913,4; M&M 68, 1986, 18; NAC A 1991, 1062; NAC D, 1994, 1094 and Gorny & Mosch 211, 2013, 31 sales. From the Vlasto and H.A. Cahn collection.*



- 1016** 3/4 obol circa 325-280, Æ 10 mm, 0.45 g. Horse's head r.; in r. field, Nike with wreath. Rev. Horse's head r.; in r. field, E. Vlasto -. SNG ANS -, cf. 1575. Historia Numorum Italy 981.

Very rare. Old cabinet tone and about extremely fine

350

*Ex New York sale XXVII, 2012, Prospero, 28. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*



- 1017** Half stater circa 280, AV 15 mm, 4.27 g. Head of Heracles r., wearing lion's skin headdress. Rev. ΤΑΡΑΝΤΙΝΩΝ Oecist driving fast biga r.; holding trident and reins; above, ΕΡ[ΙΙΟ] and in r. field, monogram. Vlasto 34. Fischer-Bossert G28. Historia Numorum Italy 985.

Very rare, Good very fine

5'000

*Ex Leu sale 86, 2003, 216.*



1018

- 1018\*** Nomos, magistrate Xenokrates circa 240-228, AR 21 mm, 6.48 g. Dioskuros on horseback l., head facing; below, ΞΕ – ΝΟΚΡΑ, above, monogram and pileus. Rev. [TA]ΡΑΣ Dolphin rider l., head turned r., brandishing trident; in r. field, monogram and cuttlefish, below, waves. Evans, Horseman type G.1. Vlasto 959-961. *Historia Numorum Italy* 1058. HGC 1, 904.

Struck on excellent metal and with a delightful old cabinet tone. Good extremely fine

1'500

*Ex Triton V, 2002, 1076 and Triton XXIII, 2020, 33 sales. From the Matthew Curtis and William N. Rudman collections.*



1019

- 1019\*** Punic occupation. Half shekel circa 212-209, AR 20 mm, 3.87 g. Warrior on horse advancing r., holding palm branch; below, ΣΩΚΑΝ – ΝΑ. Rev. ΤΑΡΑΣ Dolphin rider l., holding cantharus and trident; in r. field, eagle. Weber 690 (this coin). Vlasto 984-986. *Historia Numorum Italy* 1082. HGC 1, 934.

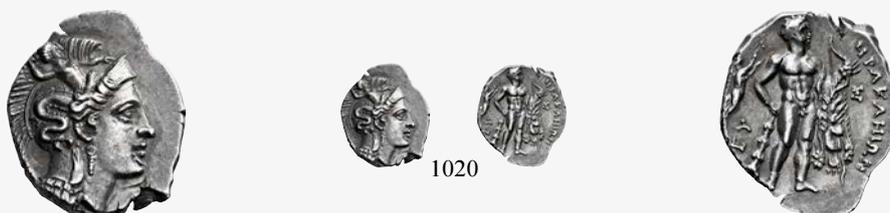
Struck on a very broad flan and with a lovely old cabinet tone.

Minor traces of overstriking on obverse, otherwise good very fine

1'000

*Ex Naville IV, 1922, 55; Hess-Leu 36, 1968, 20; Busso-Peus 384, 2005, 25; Heritage 3006, 2009, 20004 and CNG e-452, 2019, 29 sales. Privately purchased from Collector Galleries in 2010. From the Weber collection and purchased in Naples from "Gabielli" in 1887.*

### Lucania, Heraclea



1020

- 1020\*** Diobol circa 340-330, AR 14 mm, 1.17 g. Head of Athena r., wearing crested Attic helmet decorated with Scylla hurling a stone. Rev. ΗΡΑΚΛΗΙΩΝ Heracles standing r., head r., holding club, bow and lion skin: in l. field, Nike flying r. with wreath and ΕΥ, in r. field, Σ. van Keuren 78. *Historia Numorum Italy* 1381. HGC 1, 987.

In exceptional state of preservation and of excellent style. Wonderful old cabinet tone, minor double striking on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine

1'500

*Ex Busso Peus sale 427, 2020, 53. From the Graeculus collection.*



1021



- 1021** Nomos circa 330-320, AR 22 mm, 7.9 g. Head of Athena r., wearing helmet decorated with Scylla hurling stone and palmette on neck-guard; in r. field, K. Rev. ΗΡΑΚΛ[ΗΙΩΝ] Heracles standing facing, holding club, bow, arrows and lion's skin; in l. field, ΑΛ and Nike flying r. to crown him. van Keuren 80. Work 52. Historia Numorum Italy 1384.

Of lovely style and with a light iridescent tone. About extremely fine

1'500

*Ex Birkler & Waddell 1, 1979, 20; New York XXVII, 2012, Prospero, 37 and NAC 114, 2019, 13 sales.*



1022



- 1022** Nomos circa 276-250, AR 20 mm, 6.36 g. ΗΡΑΚΛΕΙΩΝ Head of Athena l., wearing Corinthian helmet, decorated with griffin; in r. field, ΙΦ. Rev. Heracles standing facing, head r., holding lion's skin and club; in l. field, thunderbolt. van Keuren 135. SNG ANS 98. Historia Numorum Italy 1432.

Very rare. Wonderful old cabinet tone and about extremely fine / good very fine

1'000

### Laos



1023



1023



- 1023** Nomos circa 510-500, AR 23 mm, 7.49 g. [ΛΑΨ] Man-headed bull (the river god Laos) r., head reverted. Exergual line of raised dots between two lines. Rev. [ΜΟΝ] 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).

Very rare. Light iridescent tone and about extremely fine

6'000

**Metapontum**



1024



1024

**1024** Nomos circa 540, AR 27 mm, 7.93 g. MET Eight-grained ear of barley. Rev. Same type incuse. Noe-Johnston 22. AMB 128.

In exceptional condition for an early nomos of Metapontum. Perfectly struck in high relief and with a magnificent old cabinet tone. Good extremely fine

10'000

*Ex Gemini sale VII, 2011, 31. The Rockefeller University/Dr. Alfred E. Mirsky collection.*



1025



1025

**1025** Nomos circa 540-520, AR 30 mm, 8.19 g. ME – TA retrograde Ear of barley. Raised and braided dotted border. Rev. Same type incuse. Notched border. Gorini 9, obverse enlarged on p. 133 and on the front page (this coin). AMB 129 (this coin). Noe-Johnston 94. Historia Numorum Italy 1470.

Perfectly struck and centred in exceptionally high relief, undoubtedly among the finest Archaic nomoi of Metapontum in existence. An insignificant area of weakness at twelve o'clock, otherwise Fdc

20'000

*Ex NAC 13, 1998, formerly exhibited at the Antikenmuseum Basel, 129 and NAC 48, 2008, 10 sales. From the Star, Athos and Dina Moretti collections.*

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.



1026



1026

**1026** Nomos circa 490-470, AR 28 mm, 8.12 g. METAI Ear of barley. Rev. The same type incuse. Noe-Johnston 139. SNG ANS 218. SNG Lloyd 305 (these dies). SNG ANS 218 (these dies). Historia Numorum Italy 1481.

Wonderful old cabinet tone and about extremely fine

2'000

*Ex Nomos sale 5, 2011, 106. From the PGB collection, acquired from Coin Galleries in the 1980s.*



1027



**1027** Triobol circa 470-440, AR 12 mm, 1.23 g. ME Barley of ear. Rev. Incuse ox head. Noe 270. Historia Numorum Italy 1487.

Wonderful old cabinet tone and good extremely fine

750

*From the Collection of Jacqueline Morineau Humphris.*



1028



**1028** Nomos circa 430-400, AR 23 mm, 7.92 g. Head of Demeter I., wearing pendant; her hair fastened at the back with a fillet ornamented with two stalks of barley, one of which projects above her forehead. Rev. META Ear of barley with a praying mantis on I. Noe 397. Jameson 274. Gillet 146 (this coin). SNG Lockett 383 (these dies). SNG ANS 314 (these dies). Historia Numorum Italy 1510.

A portrait of excellent style struck struck on a very large flan and with a wonderful old cabinet tone. Extremely fine

10'000

*Ex Leu sale 18, 1977, 28. From the Charles Gillet collection and the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*



- 1029** Nomos circa 400-340, AR 23 mm, 7.82 g. Head of Demeter r., hair in net; in l. field, [KPI]. Rev. META Ear of barley with leaf r., upon which, AY. Noe 496. SNG Lockett 400 (these dies). Historia Numorum Italy 1537.

Very rare. Lovely old cabinet tone and good very fine

1'500

*Ex NAC sale C, 1993, 1130. Privately purchased from Jean Vinchon Numismatique in January 2011. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*



- 1030\*** Stater circa 400-340, AR 22 mm, 7.54 g. Diademed head of Demeter r.; below chin, poppy head. Rev. META Ear of barley with leaf r.; in r. field, bird with wings spread. Noe-Johnston 408. Jameson 294 var. (this obverse die). Historia Numorum Italy 1515. HGC 1, 1041.

Rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Lovely iridescent tone, a minor flan crack at two o'clock on reverse, otherwise good very fine

1'500

*Ex Giessener Münzhandlung 55, 1991, 23 and Busso-Peus 427, 2020, 60 sales. From the Graeculus collection.*



- 1031** Nomos circa 340-330, AR 20 mm, 7.9 g. Bearded head of Leucippus r., wearing Corinthian helmet; in l. field, cross-torch. Rev. META Barley ear with leaf to r.; above, leaf, I-[H]. Johnston Class A, 5.5. SNG ANS 405 (this obverse die). SNG LLOYD 382 (this obverse die). SNG Copenhagen 125. Historia Numorum Italy 1555.

Wonderful old cabinet tone, minor traces of overstriking on obverse, otherwise extremely fine 1'000

*From the Collection of Jacqueline Morineau Humphris.*

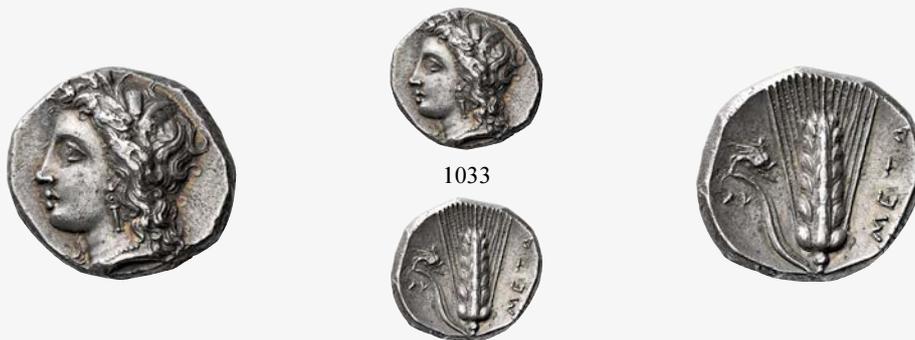


- 1032** Nomos circa 330-290, AR 22 mm, 7.62 g. Head of Demeter r., wearing wreath of grain ears, triple pendant earring and pearl necklace. Rev. META Barley ear with leaf r.; to lower l., ΛΥ; above leaf, Nike standing l., holding wreath with both hands. Pozzi 141 (this coin). Johnston, Class C, 9. Historia Numorum Italy 1591.

Lovely old cabinet tone, minor cleaning marks on obverse, otherwise good very fine / about extremely fine

500

*Ex Naville sale 1, 1921, Pozzi, 194.*



- 1033** Nomos circa 330-290, AR 19 mm, 7.86 g. Head of Demeter r. wearing wreath of grain. Rev. META Ear of barley with stalk and leaf l., upon which, griffin and below, ΛΥ. Johnston C 6. SNG ANS 491. Historia Numorum Italy 1589.

Wonderful light iridescent tone and about extremely fine / extremely fine

750

*Ex M&M Fixed Price List 521, 1989, 15; Sternberg XXXI, 1996, 162 and Hirsch 201, 1998, 31 sales. Privately purchased from Tradart at Tefaf in 2011. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*



- 1034** Tetrobol circa 280-279, AV 14 mm, 2.82 g. ΛΕΥΚΙΠΠΙΟ[Σ] Bearded head of Leucippus r., wearing crested Corinthian helmet, bowl decorated with Scylla hurling stone. Rev. M – E at sides of two barley ears each with a leaf outward; between them, ΣΙ. SNG Lockett 404 (these dies). Gulbenkian 72 (these dies). SNG ANS 396 (these dies). AMB 153 (these dies). Johnston G 5.1. Historia Numorum Italy 1630.

Rare. Light reddish tone and extremely fine

6'000

*Ex CNG 32, 1996, 68; Triton VII, 2004, 29 and Stack's 14 January, 2008, 2027 sales. From the James A. Ferrendelli and Lawrence R. Stack collections.*

Siris and Pyxus



1035

**1035** Stater circa 540-510, AR 30 mm, 8.25 g. ΣΙΡΙ / ΝΟΣ retrograde in archaic characters below and above the exergual line Bull walking l., looking backwards. Rev. PVX retrograde The same type r. in incuse. *Traité* 2083 (this coin cited, "autre"). Perret I (this coin). AMB 165 (this obverse die). Mangieri, RIN 1981, B7 (this coin). *Historia Numorum Italy* 1723.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, undoubtedly among the finest specimens known. Perfectly struck and centred on a full flan and with a superb iridescent tone. Good extremely fine

50'000

*Ex Bourgey, 1958, Perret, 1; NGSA 4, 2006, 16 (miscatalogued); NAC 54, 2010, 20; NGSA VI, 2010, 14 and Nomos 7, 2013, 5 sales. From the Mieza collection. From the duplicates of the Cabinet de Médailles de la Bibliothèque nationale de France. Traded in exchange by Cahn in 1939.*

This nomos bears witness to the alliance between "Sirinos" and "Pyx" (the two legends appear engraved in the centre of the obverse of the coin and in the lower quadrant on the reverse respectively). The word "Sirinos" was thought at one time to be the adjective relating to Siri, the city on the Ionian coast which was well known for its wealth and which was destroyed by the coalition of Sybaris, Metapontum and Croton in the years 570-560. Paola Zancani Montuoro, however, believes that the word in question is a noun and, for a variety of reasons, argues that a city called "Sirinos" (of the Sirini, a population from Lucania of which Pliny the Elder speaks in his *Naturalis historia* III 15, 97) existed and was situated about 30 km from Policastro. It has probably been identified in the ruins of a vast inhabited area on a rocky peak which stretches along the valley of Lauria near Rivello and which is still known as 'The City'. Policastro Bussentino is the modern name for "Pyx" (Pyxoēs), the ancient Lucanian city (on the eponymous bay of Tirreno, now known as the gulf of Policastro, in the province of Salerno). The alliance of the two cities, based on commerce, testifies to Pixunte's importance for Sybaris's commercial activity in the VI century (bear in mind that literary sources date its foundation by Micetus to 471). The bull looking backwards, and the coin's weight, are typical of Sybaritic coins.

**Sybaris**



1036

1036

**1036\*** Stater circa 530-510, AR 29 mm, 7.93 g. MV Bull standing l., head r.; dotted border between linear circles. Rev. The same type incuse. E. Spagnoli, *La prima moneta in Magna Grecia. Il caso di Sibari*, 2013, Phase B. *Historia Numorum Italy* 1729. HGC 1, 1231.

Struck on excellent metal and with a superb old cabinet tone.  
A minor scuff on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine

1'500

*Ex Argenor 17 April 2008, 1 and Thierry Parsy 19 March 2019, 5 sales. From the J. Massoulié collection.*



1037

1037

**1037\*** Drachm circa 530-510, AR 20 mm, 2.64 g. MV Bull standing l., head r. Dotted border between two linear circles. Rev. The same type incuse. E. Spagnoli, *La prima moneta in Magna Grecia. Il caso di Sibari*, 2013, Phase B. *Historia Numorum Italy* 1736. HGC 1, 123.

In unusually fine condition for the issue. Struck on excellent metal on an incredibly broad flan.  
Lovely iridescent tone and good extremely fine

1'500

*Ex M&M 81, 1995, 19 and Busso Peus 427, 2020, 73 sales. From the Graeculus collection.*

**Thurium**



1038

1038

**1038\*** Distater circa 350-300, AR 27 mm, 15.79 g. Head of Athena r., wearing Attic helmet decorated with Scylla hurling a stone. Rev. ΘΟΥΡΙΩΝ Bull butting r.; in exergue, H – cornucopia – PA. Noe, *ANSNM* 71, N14. *Historia Numorum Italy* 1860. HGC 1, 1257.

Struck in high relief on excellent metal and with a magnificent old cabinet tone.  
Almost invisible marks, otherwise extremely fine

3'000

*Ex Leu Numismatik Winterthur Web auction 4, 2018, 42. Privately purchased from Spink & Son in 1960s (inventory number 6286).*

**Velia**



1039



1039

- 1039** Drachm circa 535-465, AR 14 mm, 3.88 g. Forepart of lion r., tearing stag's leg. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. William 31 (this coin illustrated). *Historia Numorum Italy* 1259.

Wonderful old cabinet tone and good very fine

1'000

*Ex Naville 5, 1923, 588 and Ratto 25 January 1926, 582 sales. From the duplicates of the British Museum and a Swiss collection from Tessin assembled in the 1920s (sold with its original ticket).*



1040



- 1040\*** Nomos circa 435-400, AR 20 mm, 7.73 g. Head of Athena r., wearing crested Attic helmet, bowl decorated with griffin. Rev. [ΥΕΛΗΤ]ΩΝ Lion r., pulling down stag; below, dotted exergual line. SNG Lloyd 518 (this coin). SNG Ashmolean 420 (this coin). Williams 154o (this coin illustrated).

Very rare and among the finest specimens known. A very interesting reverse composition and a superb old cabinet tone. Extremely fine

7'500

*Ex M&M 8, 1949, 725; M&M-Leu 3 December 1965, Niggeler part I, 45; M&M 53, 1977, 12; NAC 92, 2016, 97 and Morton & Eden 96, 2018, 304 sales. From the Sir Arthur Evans and Lloyd collections and from the duplicates of the British Museum.*



1041



- 1041\*** Nomos circa 334-300, AR 21 mm, 7.36 g. Head of Athena l., wearing crested helmet decorated with sphinx; in r. field, monogram. Rev. ΥΕΛΗΤΩΝ Lion standing l., devouring its prey; below, A. Williams 359h (this coin). Weber 929 (this coin). *Historia Numorum Italy* 1296. HGC 1, 1314.

Wonderful iridescent tone and a finely engraved reverse die. An almost invisible scuff on reverse, otherwise good very fine

1'500

*Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge 23 May 1887, J. Mayer, 6 (part of); Baldwin's 44, 2006, 14 and CNG e-452, 2019, 46 sales. From the Weber collection.*



- 1042** Nomos circa 300-280, AR 21 mm, 7.3 g. Head of Athena r., wearing crested Attic helmet decorated with griffin on bowl; above, Δ and below, Φ. Rev. YEΛHTΩN Lion standing r.; above, Φ – pentagram – I. SNG Delepierre 421. SNG Ashmolean 1327. Jameson 392 (this coin). Williams 433d (this coin). Historia Numorum Italy 1306.

A portrait of excellent style and a superb old cabinet tone, almost invisible marks, otherwise extremely fine

6'000

*Ex Sambon-Canessa 7 May 1903, Maddalena, 6; Hess-Leu 12 April 1962, 43 and Nomos 21, 2020, 50 sales. From the Gillet and Jameson collections.*

### Bruttium, The Brettii



- 1043\*** Hemidrachm circa 216-214, AV 12 mm, 2.12 g. Head of bearded Heracles l., wearing lion's skin headdress; in r. field, club and Γ. Rev. BPETTIΩN Nike driving fast biga r.; below, coiled snake. Scheu, NC 1962, G8. Arslan 74-75 (for illustration). Historia Numorum Italy 1953. HGC 1954.

Very rare and among the finest specimens known. An excellent portrait of fine style and a light reddish tone. Extremely fine

15'000

*Ex Ars Classica X, 1925, 118 (jointly owned by Hirsch and Tom Virzi; purchased at the sale by Forrer of Spink's for CHF 1 000 on behalf of Ryan); Glendining's 24 November 1950, Ryan, 1463; Leu 33, 1983, 298; Tradart 8, 1995, 17 and Nomos 16, 2018, 23 sales. From the Ravenel collection (USA).*



- 1044\*** Drachm circa 216-214, AR 19 mm, 4.69 g. Winged bust of Nike r.; behind, trophy. Rev. BPETTIΩN River god standing facing, holding wreath and sceptre; in r. field, incense altar and Λ. Scheu, NC 1962, 5. Arslan 142, dies 48-66'. Historia Numorum Italy 1959. HGC 1, 1356.

Wonderful old cabinet tone and good extremely fine

2'500

*Ex J. Vinchon sale 5 June 2019, 23.*

**Caulonia**



1045



1045

**1045** Nomos circa 525-500, AR 30 mm, 8.29 g. KAVΛ Apollo, diademed, walking r., holding laurel branch in upraised r. hand and small running daimon, holding long branch on outstretched l. arm; in field r., stag r. on platform, with head reverted. Rev. The same type incuse l. without legend. *Historia Numorum Italy 2035. Kraay-Hirmer pl. 96, 270. Gorini 4 and enlarged p. 186-187 (this coin). AMB 190 (this coin). Noe 24.*

Rare and a superb specimen of this desirable issue. Exceptionally well-struck in high relief and with an appealing old cabinet tone, good extremely fine

20'000

*Ex NAC 13, 1998, formerly exhibited at the Antikenmuseum Basel, 190 and NAC 46, 2008, 172 sales. From the Athos and Dina Moretti collection.*



1046



**1046** Nomos circa 475-425, AR 21 mm, 7.96 g. KAVΛ retrograde Apollo, diademed, walking r., holding laurel branch in upraised r. hand and small running daimon, holding long branch on outstretched l. arm; in field r., stag r. with head reverted. Rev. KAVΛ retrograde Stag standing r.; in r. field, leaf upright. *SNG ANS 175. Noe, Caulonia F81. Historia Numorum Italy 2046.*

Light iridescent tone and extremely fine

750

*Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 195, 2011, 29. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

**Croton**



1047



1047

- 1047** Nomos circa 530-500, AR 28 mm, 7.8 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. Historia Numorum Italy 2075. Wonderful old cabinet tone and about extremely fine 1'250

*Ex Spink & Son Numismatic Circular 77, 1969, 9. From the Collection of Jacqueline Morineau Humphris.*



1048



1048

- 1048** Nomos circa 530-500, AR 27 mm, 8.01 g. [koppa] – P – O Tripod, legs terminating in lion's feet; in l. field, hieron. Rev. Same type incuse. SNG Ashmolean 1465. Gorini 9. McClean 1651. SNG ANS 252. Historia Numorum Italy 2082.

Perfectly struck and centred on an excellent metal. Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine

5'000

*Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 211, 2013, 38.*



1049



1049

- 1049** Nomos circa 350-340, AR 20 mm, 7.57 g. Head of Hera Lacinia facing, wearing decorated stephane. Rev. KPΘ – TΩNI – ATAN Young Heracles seated l. on lion's skin, holding jug in outstretched r. hand and club resting on ground in l.; in lower r. field, bow. SNG Lloyd 616 (these dies). SNG ANS 371 (this obverse die). Dewing 511 (these dies). Historia Numorum Italy 2167.

Rare. Of beautiful late Classical style, unusually well-centred and complete with a light old cabinet tone. Good very fine

2'500

*Ex Leu Numismatik Winterthur sale 4, 2019, 169.*



1050

**1050\*** Octobol (?) circa 300-250, AR 17 mm, 3.12 g. Head of young Heracles r., wearing taenia; below, K – P – O. Rev. KPO Owl standing l., head facing; to l., at its feet, ear of barley with stalk and leaves. Attianese, Kroton 152 (this coin). SNG ANS 421. Historia Numorum Italy 2195. Demeester 15 (this coin). HGC 1, 1500.

Very rare. Wonderful tone and about extremely fine / extremely fine

2'000

*Ex New York III, 2000, 79; NAC 82, 2015, M.L., 82; Triton XXII, 2019, 101 sales and CNG Classical Numismatic Review XLIV.2, 2019, 494568. From the Gasvoda collection.*

### Rhegium



1051

**1051\*** Tetradrachm circa 435-425, AR 27 mm, 17.45 g. Lion's mask facing. Rev. RECINOS Apollo Iocastus seated l., himation over lower limbs; r. hand holding long staff and l. hand resting on hip. Below chair, dog; all within olive wreath. de Luynes 788 (these dies). Herzfelder 41. Historia Numorum Italy 2488. HGC 1, 1635.

Rare. Struck on a broad flan and of excellent style, lovely old cabinet tone and extremely fine / about extremely fine

7'500

*Ex NAC 10, 1997, 81; NAC 25, 2003, 45; NAC 52, 2009, 52 and NAC 110, 2018, 1 sales. From the Athos and Dlna Moretti collections.*

The earliest coinage of Rhegium, a colony at the end of the 'toe' of Italy, was modelled after the coinage of Sicily, as this city's contacts were much stronger with the island across the strait than with its Italian neighbours. This magnificent tetradrachm is a perfect example: its denomination and weight standard were ideal for trade in Sicily, and even its thick fabric and its designs on both sides in relief would have made it more acceptable in its intended market. Enough praise cannot be showered upon this particular coin, which is a pristine example from the first pair of dies used to strike coins at Rhegium. Though the charm of the series endured, none of the Archaic period dies quite match the quality of this first set, which was the prototype for all that followed. The lion's scalp is a tour de force because of its sublime simplicity; the reverse is both forceful and elegant, and possesses all of the best qualities of late Archaic Greek art. In the late 19th Century Percy Gardner expressed interest in the "...remarkable series of seated male figures, which are artistically of the greatest interest." This included the symbolical bearded figure from the Rhegium tetradrachms, sitting in the attitude of Zeus, and a similar figure on the early coins of Tarentum. He described each of these figures as a Demos of the city, but current studies tend to adopt the view that J. P. Six expressed in the Numismatic Chronicle of 1898, that the figure is Iocastus, the traditional founder of Rhegium. Not only would he be an appropriate subject, but on some examples (Hertzfelder 59-60) a serpent is shown beneath the chair, and the legend holds that Iocastus died from a snake bite.



1052

**1052** Bronze circa 350-270, Æ 12 mm, 1.52 g. Lion's head facing. Rev. [PHΓINON] Head of Apollo r. SNG ANS 698. *Historia Numorum Italy* 2536.

An enchanting blue-green patina and good very fine

300

*Ex Leo Hamburger 98, 1933, 98 and M&M 76, 1991, 97 sales. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

### The Serdaioi



1053

**1053\*** Triobol circa 500-475, AR 11 mm, 1.23 g. ΣΕΡ Head of Dionysus r. with pointed beard. Rev. Bunch of grapes. de Luynes 1139 (these dies). *Historia Numorum Italy* 1718 (Lucania). AMB 164. L. Brousseau, RN 2010, 3c and p. 263, fig. 7c (this coin).

Extremely rare, only six specimens known. A very intriguing issue with a portrait of fine Archaic style, lovely iridescent tone and extremely fine

7'500

*Ex Sternberg XVIII, 1986, 21; Morton & Eden 51, 2010, Exceptional Ancient Greek coins, 12 and NAC 116, 2018, 38 sales.*

The location of this mysterious mint has been debated over the years and has been ascribed not only to South Italy, but to Sicily and Sardinia as well. The coin type is reminiscent of the issues of Naxos and this is probably the reason why some scholars have identified Sicily as the origin of this coinage. Hoard evidence, the Achaean weight standard and the ethnics surely point to a South Italian location. Moreover, the publication by Cahn of a fraction with legend MEPD, confirms identification with the Serdaioi who made a treaty with the Sybarites which survives on a bronze tablet from Olympia.



1009



1025



1012



1035



1028



1040



1045



1051



1051



1056



1058



1056



1060



1061



1062



1068



1065



1065

Sicily, Agrigentum



1054

- 1054\*** Didrachm circa 510-500, AR 23 mm, 8.82 g. AKPAΓ – ANTΘΣ Eagle standing l. Rev. Crab. Kappeli-Berger, *Kunstwerke der antike*, 1963, 19 (this coin). Jenkins, *Gela Group Ia*, pl. 37, 2. Westermark, *Akragas 12.1* (this coin). HGC 2, 89.

Rare and in unusually fine condition for this difficult very early issue. Struck on a large flan with a light iridescent tone, minor traces of overstriking, otherwise extremely fine / about extremely fine

2'500

*Ex Münzhandlung Basel 10, 1938, 83; Hess-leu 45, 1970, 36 and Künker 312, 2018, 2100 sales. From the Käppeli collection.*



1055

- 1055** Didrachm circa 480-470, AR 21 mm, 8.64 g. AK – RA Eagle standing r., with folded wings. Rev. Crab. SNG Copenhagen 29 (these dies). Westermark, *Akragas*, 251.3 (this coin).

Superb iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

2'000

*Ex Leu sale 2, 1972, 65. From the Collection of Jacqueline Morineau Humphris.*



1056

**1056** Tetradrachm circa 470-420, AR 25 mm, 17.44 g. ΑΚΡΑC-ΑΝΤΟC Eagle standing l. Rev. Crab; below, dolphin. SNG ANS 985. SNG Lloyd 809. Westermark, Akragas 393.

An extremely rare variety and in exceptional condition for the issue, possibly the finest specimen known. Perfectly struck in high relief on a very fresh metal, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

25'000

*Ex Roma sale 7, 2014, 85.*



1057

**1057** Plated drachm circa 420, AR 27 mm, 2.43 g. Two eagles perched l. on carcass of hare; further eagle, wings half open, leaning forward to peck; the nearer, with closed wings, throwing back head to screech. Rev. ΑΚΡ - ΑΓΑΝ Crab seen from above, the carapace turned into human face; beneath, crayfish. On l. and r., barley grain and locust. BMC 62 (these dies). SNG Lloyd 824 (these dies). Westermark, Akragas 604.13 (this coin).

Very rare and an extremely interesting plated coin. Light old cabinet tone, minor encrustations on obverse, otherwise good very fine

5'000

*Ex Spink Numismatic Circular December 1971, 11274 and Myers sale 6, 1973, 46. From the collection of a Mentor.*



1058

**1058** Silver tetradrachm, signed on the reverse by the artist Polyai[nos] circa 413-406, AR 27 mm, 17.13 g. Fast quadriga r. wreath-bearing Nike flying l. above horses, crab in exergue. Rev. AKPATI—ANTINON. Two eagles perched l. on dead hare, the near bird with closed wings and head thrown back, the far bird with spread wings and head lowered, engraver's signature ΠΟΛΥΑΙ on wing of nearer bird. AMB 260 (this coin). Rizzo pl. ii, 2 (these dies). SNG Lloyd 819 (these dies). Kraay-Hirmer 177 (these dies). Westermark 587.2 (this coin illustrated).

Of the highest rarity, by far the finest of only three specimens known. An issue of tremendous beauty from the same master engraver of the decadrachm and, in our opinion, the best "double eagle" representation at Agrigentum. Struck on very fresh metal and with a light old cabinet tone.

Obverse, as usual for this issue, slightly off-centre, otherwise extremely fine

300'000

*Ex Hess-Leu 31, 1966, 94 and NAC 13, 1998, formerly exhibited at the Antikenmuseum Basel, 260 sales. From the Athos and Dina Moretti collection.*

This beautiful tetradrachm of Agrigentum belongs to the period of great artistic flowering in Sicily known as the age of the signing artists. This period was stimulated by a flood of silver into western Sicily taken as plunder by the Syracusans from their defeated Athenian besiegers in 413 BC. Much of this silver was coined as Syracusan tetradrachms, and skilled artists experimented to inject new dynamism into their types. Taking pride in their work, these artists frequently signed their dies so that the mint and users of the finished coins would know who had engraved them. The more easterly city of Agrigentum closely followed the artistic developments at Syracuse, despite the fact that the two cities had a rocky relationship that broke out into open warfare in 461 BC and prevented Agrigentum from aiding Syracuse during the Athenian siege. Here the unidentified Agrigantine engraver of the obverse die has given his own interpretation of the quadriga obverse type that came into use after the dies of Eukleidas at Syracuse. The fact that the quadriga faces left on the Agrigentine piece but to the right on Syracusan tetradrachms while the heads of the horses are arranged in the same manner suggests that the engraver at Agrigentum may have based his quadriga on a Syracusan tetradrachm in hand. However, in place of the grain ear normally found in the exergue of the Syracusan issues, a crab—a frequent emblem on the coinage of Agrigentum—appears on the Agrigentine tetradrachm. The dramatic reverse depicting two eagles triumphing over the body of their prey served as a badge for the city and is a brilliant study of nature executed with great artistic skill. It is not at all surprising that Polyai[nos], the engraver responsible, desired immortality for his work and signed his name on one of the wing feathers of the nearest eagle. While the tetradrachm is a great example of the high numismatic art of Sicily in the last decade of the fifth century BC, the impetus for its production is also a potent reminder of the petty rivalries and dangers that consumed the island's Greek cities in the same period. Due to ethnic hatreds, when the neighbouring city of Silenous was defeated by the Carthaginians in 410 BC, the Agrigentines did not lift a finger to aid the Selenuntines in their defence. However, they did accept refugees when the Carthaginians sacked Silenous in the following year. Only too late, with the destruction of Silenous, did the Agrigentines realise that their city would be next on the Punic hit list and that little support would come to them from elsewhere. Faced with this prospect, attempts were made to repair the fortifications of Agrigentum and to hire mercenaries for defence—both of which required money like the present tetradrachm. When the Carthaginians returned in 406 BC, Agrigentum weathered a terrible siege of eight long months before the city finally fell. Many Agrigentines tried to flee to the cities of Gela and Leontini, but were captured and put to the sword by the victorious Punic army. The Carthaginians remained at Agrigentum over the winter of 406/5 BC and then destroyed the city before taking ship back to their homes in north Africa.



**Camarina**

1060

**1060\*** Tetradrachm circa 425-405, AR 26 mm, 16.82 g. Fast quadriga driven r. by helmeted Athena, holding reins and kentron; above the horses Nike flying l. to crown her. In exergue, barley grain. Rev. KAMAPINAI – ON Head of young Heracles l., wearing lion skin; below chin, olive sprig with fruit. Rizzo pl. 5, 13 and 6, 9 (this coin illustrated). Boston 261 (these dies). SNG München 402 (these dies). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 53, 149 (this coin). Westermarck-Jenkins 146.11 (this coin) and pl. 15 (this reverse illustrated).

Very rare and possibly the finest specimen known of this magnificent issue.

A portrait of enchanting beauty, and the work of a very talented master engraver. Superb old cabinet tone and good extremely fine

175'000

*Ex New York III, 2000, 86 and NAC 114, 2019, 35 sales. From the Pierre Strauss collection.*

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 dependants 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 shock waves 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



1061

**1061** Tetradrachm work of the “Maestro della Foglia”, circa 415-410, AR 27 mm, 17.2 g. Slow quadriga r. driven by charioteer, wearing long chiton and holding reins with both hands; above, Nike flying l. to crown him. Rev. KATANAIOΣ Laureate head of Apollo r., with short hair; behind, plane leaf. Mirone 45 (this obverse die). Giesecke, Sicilia Numismatica, pl. 4, 8 (these dies). Rizzo pl. 11, 15 and pl. 12, 10 (these dies). Rizzo, Intermezzo, p. 16, 8c (this obverse die) and p. 18, 6 (reverse of this coin). Boston, MFA 263 (these dies). AMB 331 (these dies).

Very rare and among the finest specimens known. Struck on a large flan and with a delightful portrait of Apollo, a splendid example of craftsmanship of the celebrated “Maestro della Foglia”. The obverse from a slightly rusty die and with a die-break on reverse, otherwise extremely fine

35'000

*Ex Leu 33, 1983, 224 and Nomos 8, 2013, 39 sales. From the B.d.B. collection.*

This beautiful tetradrachm is the work of the “Maestro della foglia”, dubbed thus for his habit of “signing” his work with a special type of leaf, instead of the usual initials or name: on the left side of the reverse of this coin we find an apion leaf next to the neatly designed head of Apollo, wearing a laurel crown in his hair. Apart from guaranteeing the authenticity (sphragis) of the master engraver, the apion leaf motif (an apion crown was also first prize for winners of the games of Nemea in Argolis), is coherent with the image of Apollo as discoverer of the healing effects of plants, a quality which the god shared with Esculapius, according to the great Pythagoras, as Pliny the Elder informs us (Naturalis Historia XXV, 13). On other coins with greater mythological coherence, the Maestro’s signature is represented by a laurel leaf. Cf. Plin., Nat. hist. XII 3: “Some species of trees are particularly protected as each of them is dedicated to one divinity such as the Mediterranean oak to Jupiter, the laurel to Apollo, the olive to Minerva, the myrtle to Venus and the poplar to Hercules”.



1062

**1062\*** Tetradrachm signed by Heracleidas circa 405-402, AR 25 mm, 17.29 g. Laureate head of Apollo, facing three-quarters l., his hair falling in loose curls around his face; in field r., ΗΡΑΚΛΕΙΔΑΣ. Rev. Fast quadriga driven l. by charioteer holding reins with both hands; in field above, Nike flying r., holding taenia and wreath to crown the charioteer. In exergue, ΚΑΤΑΝΑΙΩΝ / fish l. Kraay-Hirmer pl. 15, 43. Rizzo pl. XIV, 10. Gulbenkian 190 (these dies). C.C. 62 (these dies). Holloway, Art and Coinage in Magna Graecia, p. 112 (these dies). Schefold, MW 47 (this coin). Kunstwerke der Antike F 45 (this coin). AMB 337 (these dies).

Very rare and undoubtedly among the finest specimens known. A superb specimen of this desirable issue, the work of a very talented master engraver. Struck in high relief and with an enchanting old cabinet tone, reverse slightly off-centre, otherwise extremely fine

150'000

*Ex Leu sale 76, 1991, Exceptional private collection, 34. From the collection of Robert Käppeli and from the Cabinet of the Dukes of Gotha.*

Katane was founded near Mount Aetna by colonists from Sicilian Naxos in c. 729 BC. The city was famous in antiquity both for its laws and the piety of its inhabitants. In the late sixth century BC, the lawgiver Charondas (a pupil of Pythagoras) composed a set of laws for the city, written entirely in verse, that were said to have been so just that they were widely adopted by many of the other Chalkidian colonies of Sicily. Alas, Charondas was unable to personally compose law codes specific to these other cities because he committed suicide after he realised that he had accidentally broken one of his own laws: He had entered the public assembly while wearing a sword. The upright character of the inhabitants of Kantane is also expressed in the legend of Amphinomos and Anapios – often known simply as "the Katanaian Brothers" – who took no heed for their personal possessions and property when Mount Aetna erupted (perhaps in 427 BC) and instead carried their elderly parents to safety on their shoulders. These brothers became instant symbols of filial piety and served as an archetype for later Roman representations of the hero Aeneas carrying his father Anchises. Unfortunately, the evident moral superiority of the Katanaians did little to aid them in their long history of conflict with Syracuse and its frequently amoral tyrants. In 476 BC, Hieron I of Syracuse ejected the Chalkidian Greek Katanaians from their city in order to use it to settle 10,000 Dorian Greeks from the territory of Syracuse and the Peloponnesos. However, once the tyrant was safely dead, in 461 BC, the Katanaians returned to expel the interlopers and reclaim their city. Continued animosity towards Syracuse led the Katane to join Leontinoi in seeking aid from the Athenians and in supporting the ultimately disastrous Athenian expedition against Syracuse in 413-413 BC. The city also opposed the expansionist policies of the Syracusan tyrant Dionysios I (405-367 BC), which devolved into open warfare in 403/2 BC. The Katanaians prepared to stand firm against the tyrant and weather a siege, but they were betrayed to Dionysios I by Arkesilos, one of their own generals. Thus, Katane fell into the hands of the tyrant, who immediately ordered the plunder of the city and the enslavement of the entire population. He subsequently walked in the footsteps of Hieron I and populated the empty city with Campanian mercenaries in his employ. The present tetradrachm was struck in the period of conflict between Katane and Dionysios I of Syracuse. It is a little ironic that this coinage, struck to finance the defence of the city against the Syracusan tyrant, should be so strongly influenced by the contemporary coinage of Syracuse. The racing quadriga type is closely modelled on the Syracusan chariot type of the engraver Kimon while the wonderful facing head of Apollo is a local adaptation of the facing head of Arethusa also engraved by Kimon for tetradrachms of Syracuse under Dionysios I. Also like at contemporary Syracuse, the obverse die used to strike this Katanaian tetradrachm has been signed by its engraver – Heracleidas – although his signature is off-flan here. Despite serious political opposition from cities like Katane, this coin illustrates the ultimate inability of the Sicilian enemies of Syracuse to resist its cultural and economic influence.

Gela



1063

**1063** Didrachm circa 490/85-480/75, AR 19 mm, 8.51 g. Horseman riding r., preparing to cast javelin. Rev. CE[ΛΑΣ] Forepart of man-headed bull r. within circular incuse. McClean 983 (these dies). SNG ANS 2 (these dies). Gillet 408 (this coin). Jenkins, Gela, 3.

An extremely rare early didrachm of Gela. Of superb Archaic style and with a lovely light iridescent tone, good extremely fine

10'000

*Ex M&M 54, 1978, 86; M&M 72, 1987, 504 and Auctiones 22, 1992, 76 sales. From the Gillet collection.*



1064

1064

**1064** Didrachm circa 490/85-480/75, AR 23 mm, 8.63 g. Horseman riding l., preparing to cast javelin. Rev. [C]EΛΑΣ Forepart of man-headed bull r. within circular incuse. SNG Lockett 761 (this obverse die). Jenkins, Gela, 52.

A very rare variety. Lovely iridescent tone, obverse as usual from a worn die, otherwise good very fine / extremely fine

2'500

*Ex Hess-Leu sale 31, 1966, 98. From the Collection of Jacqueline Morineau Humphris.*



1065

**1065\*** Tetradrachm circa 475-465, AR 25 mm, 17.34 g. Naked, bearded rider wearing conical helmet, on horse prancing r., spear in r. hand, l. holding reins. Rev. Bearded, man-faced bull (the river-god Gelas) kneeling to r.; beneath, CEΛΑΣ. A.J. Evans, *Contribution to Sicilian Numismatics*, NC 1894, 207, 8 and pl. 7, 6 (this coin). *Traité I*, 2315 and pl. 77, 22 (this coin). Jameson 579 (this coin). Rizzo pl. XVII, 1 (this coin). Jenkins 103.1 (this coin illustrated).

Of the highest rarity, only three specimens known. An issue of tremendous importance and fascination. Light iridescent tone, minor traces of overstriking on reverse, otherwise about extremely fine

100'000

*Ex NAC 13, 1998, formerly exhibited at the Antikenmuseum Basel, 281 and NAC 106, 2018, 173 sales. From the Evans, Jameson, Athos and Dina Moretti and Harald Salvesen collections and the Villabate hoard of 1893 (IGCH 2082).*

Founded by colonists from Rhodes and Crete in 689 B.C., Gela grew to become the most influential city of Greek Sicily in the early fifth century B.C. In 505 B.C., the oligarchic constitution of the city was subverted by a certain Kleander, who set himself up as the first tyrant of Gela. He was assassinated in 498 B.C. in the hope that a democratic constitution would be established, but instead, Kleander's son, Hippokrates, succeeded in the tyranny. Under Hippokrates, Gela expanded its territory and power, conquering neighboring cities like Kallipolis, Leontini, Naxos, and Zankle, and forcing Syracuse to cede the former territory of Kamarina. Much of this success was thanks to Gelon, Hippokrates' skilled cavalry commander. When Hippokrates was killed fighting against the native Sicels in 491 B.C., Gelon posed as the defender of his sons against a populace desirous of returning to constitutional government, but then used the support of the army to install himself as tyrant. He went on to capture Syracuse and establish his tyranny there, making the city his new capital in 485 B.C. These rare coins represent the very first tetradrachms struck by Gela, probably at the beginning of Gelon's tyranny. Unlike all subsequent tetradrachm issues of the city, the obverse does not feature a victorious charioteer, but rather an armed horseman on the charge. This militaristic type may perhaps reflect Gelon's origins as a cavalry commander. The later replacement of the horseman with a charioteer seems to be a conscious attempt to move away from an image underlining Gelon's use of force to seize power in favour of a popular type emphasizing aristocratic ideals and the intense spirit of competition that was always at work between cities and between tyrants in fifth-century Sicily. The reverse type depicts a playfully leaping man-faced bull who represents the local river Gelas. These early tetradrachms represent the first time that this important patron of the city was depicted on coins and one of the only times that he appears as a full figure. With the exception of these early coins and a tetradrachm issue struck ca. 415-405 B.C. (Jenkins, group IX, 485), only the forepart of Gelas is ever depicted on coins of Gela.



1066



1066

**1066\*** Tetrachm circa 425, AR 28 mm, 16.89 g. Slow quadriga driven r. by Nike, holding reins and kentron with both hands; in field above, laurel-wreath. In exergue, ΓΕΛΩΙΟΝ Rev. Youthful head of the river-god Gelas, short hair bound with diadem; three fishes swimming clockwise around. Rizzo pl. 18, 6 (these dies). AMB 286 (these dies). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 58, 164 (these dies). Jenkins, Gela 456. HGC 2, 349.

Extremely rare. A nice specimen of one of the most difficult and desirable Sicilian issues, work of a very talented master-engraver. Struck on a full flan, light iridescent tone, obverse surface somewhat porous, otherwise good very fine

15'000

*Ex M&M 61, 1982, 38; M&M New York 1997, 25; New York 4, 2002, 51; NAC 72, 2013, 310 and Künker 326, 2019, 594 sales.*



1067

**1067\*** Didrachm circa 420-415, AR 20 mm, 8.78 g. Rider galloping r., wearing Phrygian helmet, short chiton and chlamys, hurling javelin from upraised r. hand. Rev. ΓΕΛΑΣ Forepart of man-headed bull (the river-god Gelas) l. Giacosa pl. 26 obv (this coin). Rizzo pl. 18, 10 (these dies). SNG Copenhagen 271. AMB 289 (this coin). Jameson 191 (this obverse die). SNG Ashmolean 1740 (this obverse die). SNG Lockett 777 (this obverse die). Jenkins, Gela 479.12 (this coin).

Very rare, according to Jenkins only five specimens of this issue in private hands. Lovely old cabinet tone and good very fine

7'500

*Ex NAC 13, 1998, formerly exhibited at the Antikenmuseum Basel, 289 and NAC 114, 2019, 43 sales. From the Athos and Dina Moretti and Harald Salvesen collections.*



1068

**1068\*** Tetradrachm circa 415-405, AR 27 mm, 16.48 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 man-headed bull (the 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. HGC 2, 358 var. (different reverse).

Of the highest rarity, the finest of only two specimens known. A spectacular reverse composition, undoubtedly one of the most interesting of the mint of Gela. Perfectly struck on a full flan. Old cabinet tone and about extremely fine

75'000

*Ex SBV Zürich 1, 1977, 52; NAC 9, 1996, 155 and NAC 144, 2019, 44 sales. From the Athos and Dina Moretti and Harald Salvesen collections.*

In 689/8 BC, Gela was jointly founded by colonists from the Rhodian city of Lindos and a group of Cretans. Despite conflicts with the native Sicanian peoples, Gela prospered and by the early sixth century BC the city was extending its influence into western Sicily by founding Acragas. By the end of the century, however, political discord in the city had permitted Cleander, the son of Pantares, to overthrow the traditional oligarchic government and establish himself as tyrant in 505 BC. Although Cleander was later assassinated by the city's democratic faction, this did not prevent his son, Hippocrates, from becoming the new tyrant of Gela in 498 BC. Under Hippocrates the power of Gela expanded immensely as his mercenary armies conquered the Greek cities of Callipolis, Leontini, Naxos, and Zankle. Victory over Syracuse also resulted in the addition of Camarina to Hippocrates' Geloan empire. Although the Geloans still desired a return to constitutional government, after the death of Hippocrates in 491 BC, the tyranny was assumed by Gelon, a former bodyguard of Hippocrates. Gelon not only preserved previous gains but even captured Syracuse, where he became the founder of the city's Deinomenid dynasty of tyrants. Syracuse became Gelon's new capital and Gela was left to be administered by his brother, Hieron. When Gelon died in 485 BC, Hieron succeeded to the tyranny at Syracuse and Gela was ruled in turn by his brother, Polyzelos. However, by the mid-fifth century BC the tyranny was abolished and the old oligarchic government was restored at Gela. In the late fifth century BC, Gela was notable as one of the first Sicilian Greek cities to contribute military aid to Syracuse when it became the primary target of the Athenian Sicilian Expedition in 415–413 BC. When the Carthaginians besieged Gela's old colony, Acragas, in 406 BC, the Geloans also dispatched reinforcements and, after the city fell, provided refuge to the homeless Acragantines. The Geloans faced the same tidal wave of Carthaginian arms in 405 BC, but received little aid from Syracuse and its tyrant, Dionysios I. The city was overwhelmed and destroyed, but the Carthaginians permitted those who had fled to return on the condition that they would not rebuild the fortification walls and pay tribute to Carthage – cold comfort for a people who had once been the pre-eminent power in Sicily. The present tetradrachm, which is the better of just two known, was struck in the period between the Sicilian Expedition and the Carthaginian conquest probably to finance the numerous military campaigns in which Gela was engaged. The types of quadriga and man-faced bull are traditional at Gela, going back to the early fifth century BC and the age of the great tyrants; however, here they have been updated to keep pace with the artistic developments of Syracusan coinage. Whereas the old quadriga was of the slow variety and driven by a human charioteer crowned by Nike, here Nike drives the chariot herself at what seems to be breakneck speed. Likewise, while the man-faced bull reverse, representing the local river-god, Gela, was a commonplace image on previous Geloan coins, here he is placed in context. The man-faced bull advances out of his comfortable riverbed surrounded by reeds and bulrushes in the company of an ibis to receive the sacrifice made at a nearby altar. This type is remarkable not only for its artistry but also for the way it illustrates the depth of Greek belief in nature deities like river-gods. Gela was considered a real divine presence that, if a worshipper was fortunate, might actually come forth to accept the gifts offered to him.

**Herbessos**



**1069** Dilitra or litra circa 340-335, Æ 29 mm, 19.24 g. ΗΕΡΒΕ[ΣΣΙΝΩΝ] Head of Sicily r., wearing wreath of olive leaves. Rev. Forepart of a man-headed bull r. Rizzo 18. Jameson 602 (this coin). Virzi 1020 (this coin). Calciati 5 OS/3 (this coin). Campana 5 var. b (this coin listed).

Extremely rare and one of the very few genuine specimens to have been offered over the last ten years. Of excellent Hellenistic style and with a lovely dark green-brown patina. An area of porosity on obverse, otherwise good very fine

2'500

*Ex Leu sale 6, 1973, 109. From the Jameson and Virzi collections.*

**Himera**



**1070\*** Drachm circa 530-520/15, AR 20 mm, 5.46 g. LV retrograde Rooster standing l.; dotted border. Rev. Incuse square with mail-sail pattern. Kraay 105. HGC 2, 421.

Struck in high relief and well centred, old cabinet tone and extremely fine

2'000

*Ex CNG sale 111, 2019, 58.*



**1071** Litra circa 460-440, AR 10 mm, 0.6 g. Bearded male head r., hair bound with ribbon. Rev. HIM – EPA – N Corinthian helmet r. with ornamented bowl. Jameson 611. de Luynes 381. Rizzo pl. XXI, 13. SNG Copenhagen 312. SNG München 355.

Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine

300

*Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 196, 2011, 1160. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*



- 1072** Didrachm circa 440-430/25, AR 22 mm, 8.68 g.  $\text{IMEPAION}$  retrograde Nude youth, preparing to dismount a horse galloping l., holding the horse's mane with his r. hand and a goad with his l. Rev.  $\text{\Sigma OTEP}$  retrograde The nymph Himera, wearing a long chiton and himation, standing facing, turned slightly l., holding phiale in her r. hand and raising her l.; at her feet to l., flaming altar; above l., barley grain; at her feet to r., kerykeion entwined with a taenia. AMB 303 (these dies). Gutmann/Schwabacher 3. Jameson 610 (these dies).

Very rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Of excellent style and with a lovely old cabinet tone, good very fine

7'500

*Ex Schweizerischer Bankverein 2, 1977, 69; Leu 65, 1996, 73 and Nomos 21, 2020, 69 sales. From the Aletheia collection.*

### Messana as Zankle



- 1073** Drachm circa 500, AR 25 mm, 4.99 g.  $\text{DANKLE}$  Dolphin leaping l., within sickle-shaped harbour of Messana. Rev. Dolphin and harbour incuse. Rizzo pl. XXV, 2. Gielow pl. I, 3 (these dies). SNG Lloyd 1073 (this obverse die).

Extremely rare. Wonderful old cabinet tone, surface somewhat porous, otherwise good very fine

5'000

*Ex M&M 75, 1989, 148 and New York XXVII, 2012, Prospero, 141 sales. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

This attractive and extremely rare drachm is a numismatic monument to the tragic history of Zankle, a city founded on the northern tip of Sicily by colonists from either Sicilian Naxos or from Cumae and Euboea around 735 BC. The city derived its name from its crescent-shaped harbour in which the dolphin is shown cavorting on the coin—zanklion was the word for "sickle" in the language of the native Sicels in the city's hinterland. In the centuries of prosperity that followed the foundation of Zankle, the city expanded its influence in southern Italy and Sicily by establishing its own colonies at Rhegium, Mylae, and Himera. When the Zancians decided to found a new colony at Kale Akte around 488 BC, they made the serious mistake of seeking help from Ionian settlers seeking freedom from Persian domination. Their request for participation in the new colony was answered by a contingent of Samians led by the individuals who had raised Samos against the Persians in the disastrous Ionian Revolt and were now seeking to escape punishment. Unfortunately for the Zancians, the Samians stopped at Locri Epizephyrii on the way to Sicily. There, they learned from Anaxilus, the tyrant of Rhegium, that the Zancians were away campaigning against the Sicels and that the city of Zankle would be easy to capture if they so desired. Since everyone knows that an already extant city is much more comfortable after a long sea voyage than one that still requires founding and constructing, the Samians took the easy way out and seized Zankle. When the Zancians returned to discover their homes and property taken by the Samians they asked for military aid from Hippocrates, the tyrant of Gela. Like a good friend, Hippocrates arrived before the walls of Zankle with his army, but just as the Zancians seemed on the verge of regaining control of their city, the tyrant then began negotiating the division of Zancian territory with the Samians! Once the business was settled between Hippocrates and the Samians, the tyrant further increased his profit from the campaign by enslaving the Zancians he had originally come to aid. The Samian occupation of Zankle only lasted for six years before Anaxilus crossed the strait between Italy and Sicily in 480 BC and drove them out. He had, in fact, always wanted possession of the city for himself so he could control shipping through the straits. He subsequently abandoned the name of Zankle and refounded the city as Messana in honour of his original Peloponnesian homeland.

**Leontini**



1074

- 1074** Tetradrachm circa 450-440, AR 27 mm, 17.15 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. ΛΕ – Ο – ΝΤ – ΙΝ – ΟΝ  
Head of a lion with open jaws r., around, four barley grains. Boehringner, Leontinoi 35 (these dies).  
Rizzo pl. XXIII, 2 (this obverse die). SNG ANS 221 (this obverse die).

A portrait of fine style struck in high relief on a very fresh metal and with a delicate old cabinet tone.  
Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 25'000

*Ex Vinchon sale 1985, Trampitsch, 66.*

Leontini was a Chalkidian Greek colony established by Sicilian Naxos in the late eighth century BC. It gained notoriety in c. 608 BC as the first city in Sicily to have its constitution subverted by a tyrant-in this case by a local strong man named Panaitios. The great success enjoyed by Panaitios of Naxos inspired other Sicilian Greeks to establish tyrannies in their own cities, setting a pattern for governance on the island that lasted into the third century BC. Leontinoi suffered the ill-effects of tyrannies through most of the fifth and fourth centuries BC. In c. 496/5 BC, the city was conquered by Hippokrates, the tyrant of Gela. A few decades later, it was subject to Hieron I, the tyrant of Syracuse, and compelled to accept the populations of Katane and Naxos after he expelled them in 476 BC. Only after his death in 466 BC were the Leontines able to restore the Katanaians and Naxians to their homes and recover their own freedom. This wonderfully preserved tetradrachm of Leontini is struck in very high relief and may very well be the finest example in private hands. It was produced in a period of relative peace between the overthrow of the Deinomenid dynasty of tyrants at Syracuse (465 BC) and the assumption of the Syracusan tyranny by Dionysios I in 405 BC. The obverse features a head of the god Apollo that is so beautiful and delicate that it approaches the feminine. If one did not know that the deity in question was Apollo (his identity is given away by the large laurel wreath on his head), the patron of both Chalkidians and colonial foundations, one might almost mistake the head for that of a water nymph with hair falling in what look like wet strands down the side of the head and neck. The reverse type features a dramatic lions head as a punning badge of the city. The Greek word for lion was leon. The four barleycorns that surround the head allude to the richness of Leontinis agricultural territory, but their arrangement reflects the influence of contemporary tetradrachms of Syracuse which depict the head of Aretusa encircled by four dolphins.



1075



- 1075** Litra circa 450-430, AR 11 mm, 0.76 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. ΛΕ – ΟΝ retrograde Barley grain. Rizzo pl. XXIII, 11. SNG Lockett 809. SNG ANS 263. Boehringer, Studies Price, pl. 11, 43. Lovely iridescent tone and extremely fine

500

*Ex Leu sale 13, 1975, 50. From the Collection of Jacqueline Morineau Humphris.*



1076



- 1076** Tetradrachm circa 440-430, AR 25 mm, 17.1 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. ΛΕ – ΟΝΤΙ – ΝΟ – Ν Lion's head r. with open jaws and protruding tongue; around four barley grains. Rizzo pl. XXIII, 2. SNG Lloyd 1053 (these dies). SNG ANS 227. Boehringer, Studies Price, pl. 11, 39 (these dies).

Superb old cabinet tone and extremely fine

5'000

*Ex NGSA V, 2008, 29 and Triton XIX, 2016, 36 sales.*



1077



- 1077\*** Tetradrachm circa 440-435, AR 27 mm, 17.03 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. ΛΕ – Ο – Ν – Τ – ΙΝ – ΟΝ Lion's head r., with jaws open and tongue protruding; around, four barley grains. Rizzo pl. XXIII, 16 (these dies). SNG Ashmolean 1793. Boehringer, Studies Price, pl. 12, 47 (this obverse die). SNG ANS 244 (this obverse die). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 8, 23 (these dies).

Very rare. Old cabinet tone and good very fine

4'000

*Ex NAC sale 114, 2019, 52.*

Messana



- 1078\*** Tetradrachm circa 480-478, AR 24 mm, 17.14 g. Charioteer driving slow biga of mules r. Rev. MESSE – N – ION Hare springing r. Caccamo-Caltabiano 30. HGC 2, 779.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Struck on a very fresh metal and with a lovely iridescent tone. Good extremely fine

7'500

*Ex Tkalec sale 28 October 1994, 41. Privately purchased from Edward J. Waddell in 2018.*



- 1079\*** Drachm circa 445-439, AR 18 mm, 4.23 g. Charioteer driving walking biga r., holding reins; above, Nike flying r. crowning horse. In exergue, leaf with fruit. Rev. ΜΕΣΣΑ – ΝΙΟΝ partially retrograde Hare springing r.; all within laurel wreath. Rizzo pl. XXV, 11 (this coin illustrated). Caccamo-Caltabiano 388.13 and 15 (listed separately, but both this coin). Jameson 651 (these dies). SNG Lockett 820 (these dies). SNG Lloyd 1111 (these dies). HGC 2, 807.

A very rare variety of a rare issue, probably the finest of only five specimens in private hands. Wonderful old cabinet tone and good very fine

4'000

*Ex Hess-Leu 45, 1970, 48 and NAC Spring 2020, 138 sales.*

Every book has a few mistakes and Caltabiano is no exception. This specimen is indeed 388.15 (the one illustrated in Rizzo), nevertheless it is also listed as 13. Unfortunately, the provenances listed for 13 refer to a different coin – the one listed as number 8. To cut a long story short, the coin listed as number 13 should be deleted from the list, thus the specimens known of this die couple are 15 and not 16, and the coins in private hands are only 5 and not 6. It is important to note that of the specimens of the whole issue (four different die couplings) in private hands there are only 7, and the coin presented here is probably the finest.



1080



1081



- 1080\*** Tetradrachm circa 438-434, AR 29 mm, 17.13 g. Charioteer driving slow biga of mules r.; above, Nike flying l. to crown the driver and in exergue, olive sprig. Rev. ΜΕΣΣΑ – Ν – Ι – Ο – Ν retrograde Hare springing r.; above, head of bearded head of Pan. Rizzo pl. XXV, 13 (these dies). Caccamo-Caltabiano 423. SNG Copenhagen 397 (these dies).

Very rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Struck on a very broad flan and with a light iridescent tone. Good very fine / about extremely fine

3'500

*Ex Sotheby's 26 October 1993, Athena Fund I, 220; Triton III, 1999, 224 and Nomos 17, 2018, 39 sales. From the Vineyard and Marian A. Sinton collections.*

- 1081** Tetradrachm circa 425-421, AR 26 mm, 17.39 g. ΜΕΣΣΑ – ΝΑ Biga of mules driven r.; above Nike flying r. to crown mules. In exergue, two dolphins snout to snout. Rev. ΜΕΣ – Σ – Α – ΝΙ – Ο – Ν Hare leaping r.; below, dolphin r. SNG Manchester 424 (this obverse die). SNG Lockett 826. SNG Copenhagen 400. Caccamo-Caltabiano 525.

Light iridescent tone and about extremely fine

3'500

## Naxos



1082



1082

- 1082\*** Drachm circa 510-490, AR 19 mm, 4.12 g. Bearded head of Dionysus I., wearing ivy wreath. Rev. ΝΑΧ – ΙΟΝ Bunch of grapes on vine with two leaves; at centre, A. Cahn 49. HGC 2, 966 corr. (symbol not noted).

Very rare. A portrait of excellent Archaic style struck in high relief. Dark tone, unobtrusive area of corrosion on obverse and an area of weakness on reverse, otherwise extremely fine

15'000

*Ex Leu 20, 1978, 35 and M&M GmbH 49, 2020, 71 sales.*



1083



- 1083** Drachm circa 460, AR 18 mm, 4.29 g. Bearded head of Dionysus r., wearing ivy-wreath, hair tied up with a knot on the nape of his neck. 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. toward kantharus in his raised r. hand, while the l. rests on his l. knee, the tail showing behind his l. leg. Rizzo pl. 28, 13 (these dies). AMB 385 (these dies). SNG Lloyd 1151 (these dies). SNG Lockett 841 (these dies). de Luynes 1063 (these dies). McClean 2467 (these dies). Cahn 55.

Very rare and among the finest specimens known. A magnificent issue of superb style struck on a very broad flan and complete. Light old cabinet tone and extremely fine / good extremely fine

50'000

*Ex Triton XVII, 2014, 55.*

The dies created c. 460 B.C. for tetradrachms and drachms at Sicilian Naxos were used to strike some of the most admired examples of Greek coin art. The engraver of these dies was clearly inspired by the vase paintings of Attica rather than by the contemporary art of Sicily, and similar work can be observed on tetradrachms struck about this time at Catana and Aetna. Collectively, these issues from the formative years of the classical period represent an artistic microcosm that flourished briefly in eastern Sicily. At Naxos only one pair of accomplished dies is known each for the tetradrachm and the drachm; in the years following three obverse and three reverse dies were engraved by lesser artists imitating the work of the originator of the design. Thus, we are fortunate that this drachm was struck from the important pair of dies (Kahn's obverse 40 and reverse 46), which many scholars, including Kraay, consider to have been cut by the artist responsible for the tetradrachm. Though the artist did not sign his dies, the similarity of his work to that of the celebrated tetradrachm of Aetna has convinced many scholars that the artists are one and the same, the so-called "Aetna Master". The dating of the Aetna Master issues of Naxos is rather firmly established at c. 460 B.C., coinciding with the return of the Naxians to their city in c. 461. In 476 they had been forcibly moved to Leontini by the tyrant Hieron of Syracuse, and some fifteen years later, after the Syracusan tyranny had collapsed, they were able to return. There is every reason to believe this issue celebrates that triumphant event. The diagnostics of archaic art have mostly vanished on this coin, leaving us with an early classical masterpiece that retains some archaic elements within a classical framework. Gone is the frontal eye so strongly associated with archaic art, but retained is an arching eyebrow, a faint 'archaic smile,' and a general rigidity of design. Most importantly, the proportions are fairly naturalistic, which helps to distinguish it from products of the archaic period.



1084



- 1084\*** Hemidrachm circa 420-403, AR 15 mm, 2.09 g. Ivy-wreathed head of river-god l. Rev. NΑΞΙΩΝ Silenus squatting l., holding cantharus in r. hand and branch in l. SNG Hunterian 12 (these dies). Cahn 124. HGC 2, 993 (this coin illustrated).

Extremely rare and possibly the finest specimen in private hands. Of excellent style and with a superb iridescent tone, minor area of porosity, otherwise extremely fine

12'500

*Ex NAC 33, 2006, 81; Nomos 1, 2009, 26; Nomos 3, 2011, 24 and Nomos 10, 2015, 8 sales. Privately purchased from CNG. From the Athos and Dina Moretti and Spina collections.*



1085

- 1085** Tetradrachm circa 415, AR 27 mm, 17.43 g. Bearded head of Dionysus r., hair bound with stephane adorned with ivy-wreath. Rev. NAΞION 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, possibly the finest specimen in private hands. A magnificent portrait of superb early Classical style struck in high relief. Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine

200'000

*From a Swiss Private collection and notarised in Switzerland prior to 2005.*

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 Dionysus is more naturalistic and human, whereas his visage on earlier issues tended to include elements familiar from the masks of Greek tragedy. The squatting Silenus, however, is a skilfully executed masterpiece of Greek numismatic art.



1074



1074



1082



1091



1083



1091



1083



1085



1085



1090



1092



1095



1096



1097



1106



1101



1098



1111

**Segesta**



1086



1086

**1086\*** Didrachm circa 475-450, AR 21 mm, 8.44 g. Hound standing r., with head lowered. Rev. ΣΕΓΕΣΤΑΖΙ – Β Head of nymph Segesta r. Hurter 45a (this coin). Hill, Greek coins and their parents cities, 221 (this coin). HGC 2, 1113.

Very rare. Struck on a large flan and perfectly centred. Lovely old cabinet tone, hairline flan-crack at eleven o'clock on obverse, otherwise good very fine

5'000

*Ex Sotheby's 4 April 1973, Metropolitan, 181; NAC 6, 1993, 78; Roma Numismatics XI, 2016, 102 and Morton & Eden 96, 2018, 313 sales. From the J. P. Morgan, John Ward and dr. Murray Gell-Mann collections.*

**Selinus**



1087



**1087\*** Didrachm circa 500-480, AR 24 mm, 8.3 g. Selinon leaf. Rev. Σ – Ε / [Ι] – Λ Selinon leaf in incuse square. Rizzo pl. 31, 6. SNG Lloyd 1213 (these dies). SNG ANS 685 (these dies). C. Arnold-Biucchi, Studia Westermarck, 12. HGC 2, 1216.

An extremely rare variety of a rare type. Old cabinet tone, minor traces of cleaning on reverse, otherwise extremely fine

2'000

*Ex Leu 2, 1977, 101; Morton & Eden 51, A Collection of Exceptional Ancient Greek Coins, 2011, 46 and NAC 106, 2018, 188 sales.*



1088



1088

**1088\*** Hemidrachm circa 410-400, AR 17 mm, 1.88 g. Facing head of youthful Heracles, slightly turned l., wearing lion skin headdress. Rev. ΣΕΛΙΝΟΝΤΙΟΝ Charioteer driving fast quadriga l.; above, celery leaf. Rizzo pl. XXXIII, 7. HGC 2, 1228.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, among the finest specimens in private hands. Of lovely style and with a superb iridescent tone, Good very fine

2'000

*Ex Leu 22, 1979, 30; Hirsch 170, 1991, 200; Hirsch 275, 2011, 3258; Gorny & Mosch 211, 2013, 75 and Hess-Divo 334, 2018, 18 sales. From the Osaka collection.*

Syracuse



1089

- 1089** Tetradrachm circa 510-490, AR 25 mm, 17.22 g. SVRAKO / ΣION Slow quadriga driven r. by clean-shaven charioteer, wearing long chiton and holding reins in each hand. Rev. Head of nymph Arethusa l., hair curling back from forehead with dotted parallel lines, within circle sunk at centre of a swastika developed from the quartering of an incuse square. Rizzo pl. XXXIV, 4. SNG ANS 2. Weber 1549 (these dies). AMB 421 (this obverse die). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 23, 72. Boehringer 9.  
Very rare. Well struck and centred on a full flan with a delightful old cabinet tone.  
Extremely fine

20'000

*Ex M&M 37, 1968, 90; Leu 79, 2000, 406; NAC 27, 2004, 112; Ira & Larry Goldberg 26 May 2008, Millennia collection, 11; NAC 54, 2010, 49 and NAC 114, 2019, 67 sales.*



1090

1090

- 1090** Tetradrachm circa 490-485, AR 27 mm, 16.28 g. Slow quadriga driven r. by charioteer, holding reins and kentron; above, Nike alighting r., holding wreath in r. hand. Rev. ΣΥ - RA(koppa) - ΟΣΙ - ΟΝ Diademed head of Arethusa r., wearing necklace; dotted neck truncation. Around, four dolphins swimming clockwise. Boston, MFA 331 (these dies). Jameson 378 (these dies). SNG ANS 10 (these dies). Boehringer 46.

Extremely rare. A magnificent portrait of Arethusa in the finest Archaic style, work of the celebrated "Master of the large head". Struck on a very broad flan with minor areas of porosity, otherwise extremely fine

40'000

*Ex NAC sale 59, 2011, 527*



1091



**1091\*** Didrachm circa 485-480, AR 22 mm, 8.55 g. Horseman riding r. Rev. ΣΥΡΑΦ[ΟΣΙΟ]Ν Head of nymph Arethusa r.; around, dolphins. All within incuse circle. Boehringer 50. HGC 2, 1351.

Very rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. A portrait of superb Archaic style and a wonderful light cabinet tone. Almost invisible metal flaws on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine

20'000

*Ex Edward J. Waddell e-sale 54, 2002, 21. Privately purchased from Edward J. Waddell in 2018.*



1092



**1092** Tetradrachm circa 466-460, AR 27 mm, 17.41 g. Charioteer, holding kentron in r. hand, reins in both, driving slow quadriga r. above, Nike flying r. crowning horses with open wreath held in both hands; in exergue, ketos r. Rev. ΣΥΡ - Α - ΚΟ - ΣΙΟΝ Head of nymph Arethusa r. wearing pearl tainia, single-pendant earring, and necklace. Around, four dolphins. Boehringer 410. SNG ANS 408. SNG Fitzwilliam 1208 (this reverse die). SNG Lloyd 1308 (this obverse die). BMC 71 (this reverse die). Boston, MFA 359 (this obverse die).

A wonderful portrait of Arethusa of fine late Archaic fine style struck on a very fresh metal and with a light iridescent tone. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

40'000

*Ex NFA sale XVII, 1987, 47.*



1093



1093

- 1093\*** Tetradrachm circa 460-450, AR 26 mm, 17.28 g. Charioteer driving slow quadriga r.; above, flying Nike r., holding wreath. In exergue, ketos r. Rev. ΣΥΡΑΚΟ – Σ – Ι – ΟΝ Pearl-diademed head of nymph Arethusa r., wearing earring and necklace. Around, four dolphins. SNG ANS 145 (this obverse die). Gulbenkian 261 (these dies). Dewing 788. Boehringer 471.

In exceptional condition for the issue. Struck on very fresh metal and with a light iridescent tone, almost invisible marks on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine

7'500

*Ex Roma Numismatics 5, 2013, 117 and Heritage 3037, 2015, 30870 sales. From the California collection.*



1094



1094

- 1094** Tetradrachm circa 450, AR 24 mm, 17.27 g. Charioteer driving slow quadriga r.; above, Nike flying r., crowning horses. Below, ketos. Rev. ΣΥΡΑΚΟΣΙ – Ο – Ν Diademed head of nymph Arethusa r.; around, four dolphins. Boehringer 508.2 (this coin). Jameson 764 (this coin). SNG ANS 161 (these dies).

Struck on sound metal and with a wonderful old cabinet tone. Good Extremely fine

6'000

*Ex NAC 8, 1995, 156 and Roma Numismatics II, 2011, 101 (erroneously reported as from the Athos and Dina Moretti collection) sales. From the Jameson and a Man in Love with Art collections.*



1095



1095

- 1095** Tetradrachm circa 430-420, AR 25 mm, 17.37 g. Slow quadriga r. driven by charioteer, holding kentron and reins; above, Nike flying r. and crowning horses. Rev. ΣΥΡΑΚΟΣΙΟΝ Head of nymph Arethusa r., wearing ampyx and sakkos decorated with meander pattern, surrounded by four dolphins. SNG ANS 207 (these dies). Boston, MFA 389 (these dies). Boehringer 642.

In exceptional condition for the issue, possibly the finest specimen in private hands. An elegant portrait of fine style struck on very fresh metal and with magnificent iridescent tone. Good extremely fine

25'000

*Ex NFA XVI, 1985, 72 and NFA XXII, 1989, 207 sales.*



1096



1096

- 1096\*** Tetradrachm circa 420-415, AR 28 mm, 16.9 g. Charioteer driving slow quadriga r., holding reins in his l.; above, Nike flying r. to crown the horses; in exergue, locust r. Rev. ΣΥΡΑΚΟΣΙ – ΟΝ Head of nymph Arethusa r., wearing sphendone and hairnet; around, four dolphins. Jameson 782 (this coin). SNG Copenhagen 1296 (these dies). Boehringer 726.

Very rare. A superb portrait of fine style struck on a very broad flan and exceptionally complete for the issue. Lovely iridescent tone and very fine / good very fine

12'500

*Ex Hess Leu 16 April 1957, Jacob Hirsch, 104; NAC-CNG 40, 1996, 862 sales. From the Jameson and Athos & Dina Moretti collections.*



1097



1097

- 1097\*** Tetradrachm circa 420-415, AR 28 mm, 17.27 g. Slow quadriga driven r. by charioteer, holding reins and kentron; in exergue, grasshopper. Rev. [ΣΥ – ΠΑ] – Κ ΟΣΙΟΝ Head of nymph Arethusa l., wearing hook-earring and necklace; hair bound with cord and wound five times around the head; on either side, two dolphins snout to snout. Rizzo pl. XL, 18 (these dies) and reverse enlarged on pl. XLI, 8. Boston, MFA 349 (these dies). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 31, 96 (this reverse die). AMB 453 (these dies). Jameson 787 (these dies). Kunstfreund 113 (these dies). Tudeer p. 99, 1 (these dies). Boehringer 728.

Very rare and among the finest specimens known. The finest representation of Arethusa of this period and a superb example of early Classical style. Light iridescent tone, the obverse as usual for this issue from a worn and slightly rusty die, otherwise about extremely fine / extremely fine

60'000

*Ex M&M 68, 1986, 150 (illustrated on the cover page of the catalogue) and M&M 89, 2000, Suter, 73 sales.*

The Archaic vigour that had defined Syracusan coinage prior to the 460s is here supplanted by soft contours and naturalistic, balanced features. Of no lesser interest was the apparent fixation at Syracuse with Arethusa's coiffure. An impressive range of hair styles are showcased on the Syracusan tetradrachms of the post-Demareteion era, most of them being elaborate and structurally intriguing. These impressive hair styles were achieved with the aid of accoutrements, including a saccus, a diadem, broad ribbons, bands and cords. This alone was a noteworthy departure from the previous era in which the hair of Arethusa was rendered in a simple, consistent style and was adorned with just a beaded diadem.



- 1098** Tetradrachm circa 415-405, AR 28 mm, 16.41 g. Prancing quadriga driven l. by charioteer, holding reins and kentron; above, Nike flying r. to crown him; in exergue, cockle shell. Rev. ΣΥΡΑΚΟΣΙΟΝ Head of Arethusa l., hair bound by ribbon and floating above; around, four dolphins. Rizzo pl. XLII, 6 (this obverse die) and 5 (this reverse die). SNG Lloyd 11 (these dies). Tudeer 11. Coins, Artists, and Tyrants 11. Very rare and among the finest specimens known. A very interesting and unusual portrait struck in high relief and an enchanting old cabinet tone. An absolutely unobtrusive area of oxidation on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine 25'000

*Ex NFA XII, 1983, 25; Christie's 12 June 1993, McLendon, 21; NAC 82, 2015, 61 and NAC 114, 2019, 76 sales.*

In an attempt to break the deadlock in the ongoing Peloponnesian War (431-404 BC), in 415 BC, the Athenians mounted a naval expedition against Syracuse in the hope that by defeating the greatest Dorian Greek city in Sicily they could strangle the Peloponnesian grain supply and thereby force Sparta and its Peloponnesian allies into submission. Late in the year, the Syracusans were defeated in a pitched battle before the walls of their city, but over the winter, the Syracusan general Hermocrates made a strong case for replacing the city's traditional board of 15 generals with a board of three to make decisions faster in the face of the Athenian threat. He also advocated for the erection of walls to connect Syracuse to its various outlying forts and the sea in an effort to prevent the Athenians from cutting the city off from reinforcements as they built their own circumvallation wall, known as "the Circle." Unfortunately, by the spring of 414 BC, Syracusan efforts to stop the completion of "the Circle" had failed, and the city faced a full blockade by the Athenians under the command of Nicias.

Syracuse's situation began to improve later in the year when Spartan reinforcements led by the general Gylippus arrived in Sicily. Despite an initial military setback, Gylippus was able to defeat an Athenian force and complete a new counter-wall that rendered the Athenian circumvallation wall useless. Thinking that it would now be impossible to take Syracuse by siege, Nicias wrote back to Athens, hoping that the expedition would be recalled, but he was instead sent reinforcements. Their arrival meant there was little room for manoeuvre within the Athenian-controlled harbour of Syracuse. The situation became dangerous for the Athenians when additional Peloponnesian naval forces also reached Syracuse and in August of 413 BC, Nicias made plans to depart with the fleet. However, the bad omen of a lunar eclipse caused him to delay his departure until September. By this time, the Syracusans were able to trap the Athenian ships in the harbour. A furious battle was fought from 3 to 13 September 413 BC, which destroyed almost half of the Syracusan and Athenian fleets and forced 40,000 Athenians to escape onto the Sicilian mainland. Amid their disorganisation, they were massacred by Gylippus and a Syracusan force that had been lying in wait for them. The siege of Syracuse was over, and the defenders now profited from the sale of some 7,000 Athenian prisoners into slavery and the booty taken from the Athenian ships captured in the harbour. The Syracusan victory had major consequences for both the victors and the vanquished. The loss of so many men and ships hobbled Athenian naval power in the Aegean Sea and provided opportunity for revolts against Athenian domination and for the development of a Peloponnesian navy, both of which ultimately led to the final defeat of Athens in the Peloponnesian War. At the same time, the great influx of silver to Syracuse from the sale of plunder resulted in the production of a vast series of tetradrachms. The new coinage, to which this tetradrachm belongs, involved many artists, some of whom are considered to represent the high point of the Classical engraver's art, and a great deal of experimentation with the traditional Syracusan types of a quadriga victorious in the games and Arethusa, the nymph of the city. Some of this experimentation is visible in the reverse of this tetradrachm, where the artist has depicted Arethusa with her curly hair in wild disarray as if she were submerged under water, her natural element.



1099

**1099** Tetradrachm, obverse die signed by Phrygillos circa 415-409, AR 28 mm, 17.19 g. ΣΥΡΑΚΟΣΙΩΝ Head of nymph Arethusa I., hair in ampyx, inscribed ΦΡΥ, and sphenone, wearing single-pendant earring. Around, four dolphins. Rev. Charioteer, holding flaming torch in r. hand and reins in l., driving fast quadriga l.; above, Nike flying r., crowning charioteer with open wreath held in her extended hands; in exergue, grain ear l. BMC 160 (these dies). Rizzo pl. XLIII, 13 (these dies). de Luynes 1216 (these dies). SNG Fitzwilliam 1246 (these dies). Tudeer 51. Coins, Artists and Tyrants 51.

Extremely rare, possibly the finest specimen in private hands of very few known.  
Struck on a very large flan and with a light tone. Good very fine

6'000

*Ex NAC P, 2005, 1261 and Roma Numismatics II, 2011, 113 sales. Privately purchased in May 1966. and From the Athos and Dina Moretti and a Man in Love with Art collections.*



1100

**1100** Tetradrachm attributed to Parme- circa 413-399, AR 27 mm, 16.95 g. Fast quadriga driven l. by charioteer, holding kentron and reins; in field above, Nike flying r. to crown the driver. Beneath horses' hooves, wheel and in exergue, ear of barley. Rev. [Σ -YP - A - ΚΟΣ -ΙΟ - Ν] Head of the nymph Arethusa I., wearing double-hook earring and necklace with six pearl-shaped pendants; hair bound by ampyx in front and sphenone. Around, two pairs of dolphins swimming downwards. Gillet 636 (these dies). AMB 470 (this obverse die). SNG Lockett 975 (this reverse die). Tudeer 68. Coins, Artists and Tyrants 68.

Extremely rare. Struck on excellent metal and with a lovely old cabinet tone.  
Good very fine / very fine

4'000

*Ex Seaby Coin and Medal Bulletin sale October 1959, A912.*



1101

**1101\*** Tetradrachm signed by Im... (or Mi...), circa 413-399, AR 28 mm, 16.78 g. Fast quadriga with prancing horses driven l. by charioteer, drawing back the reins with l. hand and extending the r. with kentron; the rein of the farthest horse hangs loose; above, Nike flying r. to crown charioteer. In exergue, lion pulling down bull to l. and biting its neck. Rev. [ΣΥ]ΡΑΚΟΣΙΩΝ retrograde Large head of nymph Arethusa r., wearing necklace with acorn-shaped pendant; hair bound with ampyx visible only above forehead and falling in loose curls over nape of neck. In lower field, three dolphins close to head, behind head the signature IM to l. Rizzo pl. XLVIII, 2 (these dies). Franke-Hirmer 115 (these dies). Tudeer 67 (these dies). AMB 469 (this coin). Coins, Artists and Tyrants 67 (this coin). HGC 2, 1341.

Extremely rare, apparently the finest specimen in private hands of only four specimens known. A portrait of excellent style, work of a very skilled master engraver, struck in high relief on a full flan. Wonderful old cabinet tone and about very fine

25'000

*Ex Leu 2, 1972, 110; NAC 13, 1998, formerly exhibited at the Antikenmuseum Basel, 469 and NAC 25, 2003, 111 sales. From the Athos and Dina Moretti collection.*



1102

**1102** Tetradrachm circa 413-399, AR 25 mm, 17.41 g. Prancing quadriga driven l. by charioteer holding reins and kentron; above, Nike flying r. to crown him. In exergue, ear of barley. Rev. ΣΥΡΑΚΟΣΙΩΝ – N Head of Arethusa l., wearing sphenodone, triple-pendant earring and necklace. Around, four dolphins, the lower one of them emerging from the sphenodone. SNG Lloyd 1395 (these dies). Tudeer 84. Coins, Artists, and Tyrants 84 (O31/R56).

Rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Lovely iridescent tone and about extremely fine

6'000

*Ex NAC sale 114, 2019, 82. Privately purchased from the web shop of CNG (inventory number 823322).*



1103



- 1103** Didrachm or 10 litrae circa 406, AV 10 mm, 0.66 g. ΣΥΡΑ Head of Athena l., wearing crested Attic helmet. Rev. Aegis with gorgoneion and border of serpents. Rizzo pl. XL, 6. SNG München 1087. SNG ANS 316. SNG Lloyd 1418. Jameson 817. Dewing 863. Boehringer, Essays Thompson p. 16 and pl. 38, 9. Rare. Struck on a very broad flan and good extremely fine 5'000

*Ex NAC 9, 1996, 217; Hess-Divo 307, 2007, 1078 and Stack's 14 January 2008, 2284 sales. From the Athos and Dina Moretti collection and privately purchased from Leo Mildenberg, Bank Leu, in April 1968.*



1104



- 1104** Double decadrachm or 100 litrae, unsigned dies in style of Kimon circa 405-400, AV 15 mm, 5.78 g. ΣΥΡΑΚΟ[ΣΙΩΝ] Head of the nymph Arethusa l., wearing necklace, bar and triple-pendant earring; hair elaborately waved and caught up behind in saccos ornamented with stars. Behind head, A. Rev. Naked young Heracles kneeling r. on rocky ground, head to front, strangling Nemean lion with both arms. Rizzo pl. LIII, 12 (these dies). Gulbenkian 324 (these dies). SNG ANS 332 (these dies). Bérend, Denys I, 30.

Rare. A superb portrait of fine style struck in high relief, a minor edge nick at seven o'clock on reverse and usual rusty die on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine

25'000

*Ex Vinchon sale 29 June 2022, 24.*



1105



1105

- 1105** Drachm unsigned work by Eukleidas circa 405-400, AR 17 mm, 4.18 g. [ΣΥ - Ρ - Α - Κ - ΟΣΙ - ΩΝ] Head of Athena facing three-quarters l., wearing double-hook earring and necklace of acorn pendants with central medallion and triple-crested Attic helmet. On either side, a couple of dolphins snout to snout. Rev. ΣΥΡΑ[ΚΟΣΙ - ΩΝ] Naked Leukaspis advancing r., wearing crested helmet and holding spear in r. hand and oval shield in l.; sword suspended by strap over r. shoulder. In background l., square altar ornamented with garland, and to r., forepart of slain ram on its back. In exergue, ΛΕΥΚΑ[ΣΠΙΣ]. Rizzo pl. XLVII, 1 (these dies). Jameson 810 (these dies). SNG ANS 308 (these dies). Boehringer, Essays Thompson pl. 38, 6.

Very rare. Lovely old cabinet tone, minor marks on reverse, otherwise good very fine / very fine

1'500

*Ex Naville sale V, 1923, Duplicates of British Museum, 1133. From the collection of a Mentor.*



1106

**1106\*** Decadrachm, unsigned work by Euainetos circa 400, AR 36 mm, 43.33 g. Fast quadriga driven l. by charioteer, holding reins and kentron; in field above, Nike flying r. to crown him. In exergue, display of military harness set on two steps and below l., [AΘΛA]. Rev. ΣΥ - Π - Α - Κ - ΟΣΙΩΝ Head of nymph Arethusa (Kore-Persephone) l., wearing barley-wreath, triple pendant earring and beaded necklace; around three dolphins, while a fourth makes dorsal contact with neck truncation. Below chin, pellet. Rizzo pl. LIII, 18 (these dies). SNG Lloyd 472 (this obverse die). Dewing 923 (this obverse die). Gallatin J.V/R.XXII, 4 (this coin). HGC 2, 1299.

A spectacular specimen of this prestigious and important issue. A wonderful portrait struck in high relief on exceptionally fresh metal with a delicate old cabinet tone.

Good extremely fine

75'000

*Ex Rollin & Feuardent sale 10 May 1910, Duruflé, 214; Leu 54, 1992, 42; Gemini IX, 2012, 5; Roma Numismatics sale 5, 2013, 132 and NAC 96, 2016, 1026 sales. Privately purchased from NAC in 2018. From the Ed Milas collection.*

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 was eventually 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, 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 Α ΛΑ, which indicates 'prizes,' or 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. The dies used to strike this particular decadrachm almost certainly were the work of Euainetos himself, for they are each the third in the series.



1107

- 1107** Corinthian stater circa 344-337, AR 22 mm, 8.57 g. Pegasus flying l. Rev. ΣΥΡΑΚΟΣΙΩΝ Head of Athena r., wearing Corinthian helmet; below, pellet. SNG Lloyd 1443. SNG Ashmolean 2032 var. (without pellet). SNG ANS 494 var. (without pellet). Pierre-Olivier Hochard, *Le monnayage d'or et d'argent de Syracuse sous Timoléon et la „Troisième Démocratie“*, in RN 179, 11. Calciati Pegasi II, 3.  
Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine 1'000

*Ex M&M sale 37, 1968, 143.*



1108

- 1108** Decadrachm or 50 litrae circa 317-310, AV 16 mm, 4.31 g. Laureate head of Apollo l. Rev. ΣΥΡΑ – Κ – ΟΣΙΩΝ Prancing biga driven r. by charioteer holding reins and kentron; below, triskeles. SNG ANS 549. SNG Lloyd 1472. SNG Copenhagen 1745. Gulbenkian 328 (these dies). Weber 1665. Bérend, *Studies Price*, pl. 9, 1 var. (triskeles counter clockwise).  
Extremely fine 5'000

*Ex NFA XXIX, 1992, 39 and Triton VII, 2004, 101 sales. From the James A. Ferrendelli collection.*



1109

- 1109\*** Decadrachm or 50 litrae circa 317-310, AV 16 mm, 4.3 g. Laureate head of Apollo l.; behind, cantharus. Rev. ΣΥΡ – ΑΚ – Ο – ΣΙΩΝ Charioteer driving biga r.; below, triskeles. Bérend 1 var. (without cantharus). HGC 2., 1276 corr. (cantharus not noted).  
Minor edge marks, otherwise good extremely fine 5'000

*Ex Gemini III, 2007, 77 and Hermitage Fine Art 25, 2019, 13 sales.*



1110



- 1110** 50 litrae circa 317-310, EL 28 mm, 3.61 g. Laureate head of Apollo I.; behind, omphalos. Rev. ΣΥΡΑΚ – ΟΣΙΩΝ Tripod with legs ending in lion's feet. SNG München 1201. Jenkins, Essay Robinson O5/R4. Lovely reddish tone and good very fine

1'250

*From the Collection of Jacqueline Morineau Humphris.*



1111



- 1111\*** Tetradrachm circa 317-310, AR 27 mm, 17.15 g. Head of nymph Arethus I., wreathed with grain; below, NK. Around, three dolphins. Rev. ΣΥΡΑΚΟΣΙΩΝ Fast quadriga I.; above, triskeles and in exergue, AI. All within linear circle. Ierardi 8. Caroccio issue 2. HGC 1348.

Struck in high relief and perfectly centred with a magnificent old cabinet tone. Extremely fine / good extremely fine

10'000

*Ex Hess-Leu 36, 1968, 101; Hirsch 313, 2015, 2012 and Triton XXII, 2019, 154 sales. From the Gasvoda collection.*



1112



- 1112** Tetradrachm circa 317-310, AR 27 mm, 17.19 g. Head of Kore-Persephone I., wearing wreath of barley ears, triple-pendant earring, and pearl necklace; around, three dolphins. Below neck truncation, NI. Rev. Fast quadriga driven I. by charioteer holding kentron and reins; above, counter clockwise triskeles. In exergue, ΣΥΡΑΚΟΣΙΩΝ and monogram. de Luynes 1317 (this obverse die). SNG Lloyd 1479 (these dies). SNG ANS 638 (this obverse die). Ierardi 34.

Wonderful old cabinet tone and about extremely fine

5'000



1113



- 1113** Decadrachm circa 288-278, AV 17 mm, 4.28 g. ΣΥΡΑΚΟΣΙΩΝ Head of Kore-Persephone I., wearing barley-wreath, earring and beaded necklace; behind, torch. Rev. Prancing biga driven r. by Nike, holding kentron and reins; above, star. Below horses, ear of barley and in exergue, ΕΠΙ ΙΚΕΤΑΣ. Giesecke pl. 22, 6. SNG ANS 776 var. (this obverse die). Buttrey Morgantina, NC 1973, pl. 2, 3/F. From slightly rusty dies, otherwise about extremely fine / good very fine 4'000

*Ex Aste del Titano February 1999, 23 and NAC 64, 2012, 744 sales.*



1114



- 1114** Octobol struck under Pyrrhus circa 278-275, AR 20 mm, 5.72 g. Head of Persephone r., wearing grain-ear wreath; in l. field, wing. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΠΥΡΡΟΥ Athena advancing l., brandishing shield and spear. In field, thunderbolt and cornucopiae. BMC 10 var. (different symbol on obverse). SNG ANS 832 var. (different symbol on obverse).

Very rare. Light old cabinet tone, good very fine and about extremely fine

750

*From the collection of a Mentor.*



1115



- 1115** Decadrachm circa 275-269, AV 15 mm, 4.29 g. Head of Kore-Persephone I., wearing barley-wreath, earring and necklace; behind, racing torch. Rev. Prancing biga driven r. by Nike, holding kentron and reins. In exergue, ΣΥΡΑΚΟΣΙΩΝ. de Luynes 1352. Carroccio 2.

Of the highest rarity, only the fourth specimen known and the only one in private hands. Almost invisible scuff on chariot, otherwise about extremely fine

6'000

*Ex CNG-NAC 40, 1996, 911 and NAC 64, 2012, 747 sales. From the Athos and Dina Moretti collection.*



1116



- 1116** Decadrachm circa 269-263, AV 15 mm, 4.3 g. Head of Kore-Persephone l., wearing barley wreath; behind, poppy. Rev. Prancing biga driven r. by charioteer, holding reins and kentron; below, ΙΕΡΩΝΟΣ. SNG Ashmolean 2105. SNG München 1346 var. (different symbol on obverse but this reverse die). Carroccio 51.

Almost invisible traces of double striking, otherwise good extremely fine

7'500

*Ex Roma Numismatics sale 5, 2013, 149.*



1117



- 1117\*** 12 Litrae circa 214-212, AR 24 mm, 10.14 g. Head of Athena l., wearing Corinthian helmet decorated with snake. Rev. ΣΥΡΑΚΟΣΙΩΝ Artemis standing l., shooting her bow; at her feet, hound leaping l.: in l. field, ΕΑ. Burnett, Enna Hoard, 20. Carroccio 84. HGC 2, 1412.

Light iridescent tone and about extremely fine

750

*Ex Stack's 9 December 1989, 3084 and Bertolami Fine Arts 52, 2018, 60 sales. From the Deyo collection.*

### The Carthaginians in Italy, Sicily, Sardinia and North Africa



1118



- 1118\*** Tetradrachm, Thermae Himerensis circa 370-350, AR 26 mm, 16.51 g. [ΘΕΡ]MITAN ; [ΚΛΗ] Charioteer driving fast quadriga l.; above, flying Nike r. Rev. Wreathed head of Kore-Tanit r., wearing sakkos, earring and necklace. Around, three dolphins. Jenkins, Punic part I, 6. HGC 2, 1612.

Extremely rare and among the finest specimens known.  
Lovely iridescent tone and about extremely fine

7'500

*Ex NAC R, 2007, 1070 and Noble 123, 2020, 2973 sales.*



- 1119** Tetradrachm, uncertain mint in Sicily circa 350-340, AR 26 mm, 17.26 g. Wreathed head of Tanit-Persephone I.; wearing earring and necklace; in r. field, dolphin. Rev. Horse standing r.; in background palm-tree and above, crescent. Jenkins, Punic Sicily III, 120. SNG Lockett 1046 (these dies).

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Struck on an exceptionally fresh metal and with a lovely iridescent tone. Virtually as struck and Fdc

5'000



- 1120\*** Stater, Carthago (?) circa 350-320, AV 19 mm, 9.32 g. Head of Tanit-Persephone I., wearing barley-wreath, bar and triple pendant earring and necklace with pendants. Rev. Unbridled horse standing r. Jenkins-Lewis group IIIh.

A portrait of excellent style struck in high relief on a very broad flan. Minor marks and slightly double struck on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine

5'000

*Ex Sternberg XX, 1988, 503; Leu 52, 1991, 33; Rauch 51, 1993, 124 and Tkalec 23 October 1993, 48 sales.*



- 1121\*** Tetradrachm, "mint of the Camp" circa 320, AR 27 mm, 17.19 g. Head of Tanit-Persephone I., wearing barley-wreath, bar and triple pendant earring and dotted necklace; around, four dolphins. Rev. Head of horse l.; behind, palm tree. Below neck truncation, 'mmhnt in Punic characters. Boston, MFA 496. SNG Fitzwilliam 1484. Jenkins SNR 56, 1977, 186.

Struck on a very broad flan and with a superb old cabinet tone. Good extremely fine

15'000

*Ex Leu 86, 2003, 302; Triton IX, 2006, 715 and Bertolami Fine Arts 12, 2014, 252 sales.*



- 1122** Tetradrachm, uncertain mint in Sicily circa 320, AR 26 mm, 17.04 g. Head of Tanit-Persephone I., wearing barley-wreath, triple-pendant earring and necklace; around, four dolphins. Rev. Horse head l.; behind, palm tree and below neck truncation, 'MMHNT (People of the Camp) in Punic characters. SNG Lloyd 1630 (these dies). Jenkins SNR 56, 1977, pl. 10, 143.

Light iridescent tone and about extremely fine

4'000

*Ex Sotheby's 21-22 June 1990, Hunt part II, 303; NAC 66, 2012, 18 and NAC 134, 2022, 206 sales.*



- 1123\*** Tetradrachm, Entella circa 300-289, AR 25 mm, 16.94 g. Head of Heracles r., wearing lion-skin headdress. Rev. mhsbm in Punic Head of horse l.; behind, palm tree and in l. field, astragalus. Jenkins, Punic Sicily IV, 366 (this coin). HGC 2, 295.

Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine

4'000

*Ex NGSA 2, 2002, 27 and Heritage 3096, 2021, Paramount, 30014 sales. From the Athos and Dina Moretti collection and privately purchased from Leu Mildenberg at Bank Leu in December 1955.*



- 1124** Half-shekel, Carthago (?) circa 290-280, EL 15 mm, 3.59 g. Head of Tanit-Persephone I., wearing wreath of barley and reeds. Rev. Horse standing r.; behind, palm tree. Jameson 919 (these dies). Jenkins-Lewis 341.

An exceedingly rare denomination, only six specimens cited by Jenkins-Lewis.  
Good very fine

2'500

*Ex NAC sale 64, 2012, 771.*



1125

**1125\*** Decadrachm, Carthage circa 260, AR 40 mm, 37.96 g. Head of Tanit (Kore-Persephone) I., wearing barley wreath and earring. Rev. Pegasus flying r.; below, b'rst (in the land) in Punic characters. Kraay-Hirmer 211. SNG Fitzwilliam 1512. SNG Lloyd 1665. SNG Lockett 1064. Jenkins, Punic Sicily IV, series 6, 433.

Rare and in superb condition for the issue, undoubtedly among the finest specimens known. Struck on exceptionally fresh metal for the issue and perfectly centred. Wonderful old cabinet tone, an unobtrusive mark on cheek, otherwise good extremely fine

100'000

*Ex Leu sale 33, 1983, 258.*

This wonderful decadrachm allows us to appreciate the skill of the engraver and his unusual idea when he prepared the dies. While he was engraving the dies, he decided to use the border of dots as a necklace for the goddess. The engraver's artistry and ability are clear because the flan of this specimen is so large and complete, with the border of dots surrounding the goddess seamlessly becoming her necklace. It is difficult to notice both the necklace and the full border of dots because it is extremely rare to find specimens so complete where we see the whole neck, as in this case, and provides a subtle show of ingenuity in the finest of details. Struck in the earliest phase of the First Punic War (264-241 B.C.), this issue represents a strict departure from earlier Punic coinages in Sicily. The bulk of the earlier types were struck to the Greek Attic weight standard, whereas this coin employs the Punic weight standard, being five of its shekels. Their style and fabric are markedly different from that of earlier types. The Pegasus must have been derived from Corinthian-type staters of the Syracusan King Agathocles (317-289 B.C.), yet the head of the goddess is inarguably Tanit, rather than a modified Artemis-Arethusa. Most importantly, the designs are engraved in a somewhat abstract style that is uniquely Carthaginian. Jenkins translates the Punic legend 'b'rst' as meaning 'in the land' or 'in the territories', noting that it might suggest an effort by Carthage to stake its claim as a rightful occupant of Sicily over the Romans, who were newcomers. He also suggests that these coins were minted in Sicily on the basis of hoard evidence, the inscription, and, perhaps most persuasively, the die axes, which are irregular on these five-shekel pieces and their related issues. By comparison, the much larger and more enduring series of coins assigned to Carthage are struck with the upright die alignment of a 'medal turn'. 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 coexisted 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 had recently 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.).





1119



1118



1125



1121



1121



1123



1123



1130



1158



1130



1160



1131



1131



1165



1161



1161



1126



- 1126\*** Half shekel, uncertain mint in Bruttium circa 216-211, AR 20 mm, 3.8 g. Wreathed head of Tanit I. Rev. Horse standing r.; above, solar disk with uraei. Robinson NC 1964, 3-4. Jenkins-Lewis pl. 28, 3. Historia Numorum Italy 2016. HGC 1, 1384.

Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine

750

*Ex Triton I, 1997, 649 and Triton XXIII, 2020, 66 sales. From the Matthew Curtis collection.*

### Macedonia, Acanthus



1127



1127

- 1127\*** Tetradrachm circa 525-470, AR 25 mm, 17.26 g. Lion l., attacking bull crouching r.; in exergue, flower. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. Desneux 14. HGC 3.1, 381.

Struck in high relief on a full flan and with a light iridescent tone. About extremely fine

3'500

*Ex NAC 21, 2001, 1168; NAC 33, 2006, 113; Manhattan III, 2012, 107; Heritage 3026, 25, 23049 and Heritage 3081, 2020, 32007 sales. From a private Japanese collection.*



1128



1128

- 1128\*** Tetradrachm circa 525-475, AR 27 mm, 17.32 g. Lioness r., attacking bull falling l., head reverted; in exergue, flower. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. Desneux –, cf. 85.

Extremely rare. Struck in high relief and with a light iridescent tone, Extremely fine

6'000

*Ex Rauch sale 111, 2020, 462. Privately purchased from Shanna Schmidt in 2020.*



1129

1129

**1129\*** Tetradrachm circa 470, AR 30 mm, 17.19 g. AKA Lion r., attacking bull crouching l., biting into its hindquarter; in exergue, fish. Rev. AKA – N – 010 – N within shallow incuse square around quadripartite square in relief. Desneux 92 var. (without ethnic on reverse). HGC 3.1, 385 var. (obverse legend not noted).

Struck in high relief and perfectly centred on a very broad flan with a lovely iridescent tone. Almost invisible die-shift on obverse, otherwise extremely fine

4'000

*Ex Triton sale XXIII, 2020, 186.*

### Thrace, Aenus



1130

**1130** Tetradrachm circa 455, AR 25 mm, 16.6 g. Head of Hermes r., wearing brimmed causia. Rev. AINI Goat standing r.; in field r., cult image of Hermes Perpheraius standing r. on wreathed pedestal; before, caduceus. The whole within incuse square. Weber 861 (this reverse die). Jameson 1047 (this reverse die). May, Ainos 74g (this coin).

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

A portrait of masterly style struck in high relief and with a superb old cabinet tone. Good extremely fine

40'000

*Ex Rollin & Feuardent 9 May 1910, Duruflé, 275 and Lanz 16 May 2001, 129 sales.*



1131

**1131\*** Tetradrachm circa 359-356, AR 30 mm, 14.79 g. Head of Hermes facing slightly l., wearing petasus. Rev. AINION Goat standing r. AMNG II, 318. von Fritze pl. II, 2 (this obverse die). May 434-5 var. (unlisted reverse die). HGC 3.2, 1278.

Rare. An impressive portrait perfectly struck and centred on a very large flan.  
Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine / good extremely fine

25'000

*Ex Triton VI, 213, Ira & Larry Goldberg 46, 2008, Millennia, 22; Gemini VII, 2011, 205 and Triton XXI, 2018, 374 sales.*

### Macedonia. Argilos



1132

1132

**1132** Tetrobol circa 510-480, AR 16 mm, 2.43 g. Forepart of Pegasus r. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. cf. Liampi, Argilos 16. SNG ANS -. SNG Copenhagen -.

An apparently unrecorded variety on extremely rare type. Good very fine

500

*Ex Roma Numismatics sale II, 2011, 223. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

**Mende**



1133



1133

**1133\*** Tetradrachm circa 460-423, AR 26 mm, 17.85 g. Dionysos reclining on a donkey walking r.; holding cantharus. Rev. MEN – ΔΑ – Ι – ΟΝ Vine with grape bunches. All within incuse square. Noe 90. AMNG II/2, 20. HGC 3.1, 547.

Rare. A lovely specimen of this desirable issue struck on excellent metal and with a lovely old cabinet tone. Extremely fine

20'000

*Ex Schulman 200, 1937, 166; Leu 7, 1973, 126; Sotheby's 19-20 June 1991, Hunt part IV, 198; Stack's 9 December 1991, Price, 36 and Triton XXI, 2018, 390 sales. From the Paul Matthey and America collections. From the Kalliandra 1913 (IGCH 358).*



1134



**1134\*** Tetradrachm circa 405-348, AR 26 mm, 12.76 g. Head of Dionysos I., wearing ivy wreath. Rev. MENΔ – ΑΙΩΝ Ithyphallic ass standing l.; on its rump, jay standing r., pecking at tail. AMNG III.2, 27. Noe, ANSNNM 27, pl. X, F. SNG ANS 380. HGC 3.1, 570 (these dies). SNG Alpha Bank Macedonia 77.

Very rare. Struck in high relief with a lovely old cabinet tone. Slightly off-centre, otherwise good extremely fine

7'500

*Ex Elsen 105, 1988, 18 and Triton XXI, 29018, 391 sales. From the Belgica collection.*

**Olynthus**



1135

**1135\*** Chalcidian league. Tetradrachm, magistrate Aristonos circa 353, AR 25 mm, 14.33 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. X – A – Λ – ΚΙΔ – ΕΩΝ Kithara; below, ΕΠΙ ΑΡΙΣΤΟΝΟΣ. Robinson-Clement 130. AMNG III, 8. HGC 3.1, 500.

A lovely portrait struck in high relief with a lovely tone. Extremely fine

5'000

*Ex Tradart 18 December 2014, 82 and CNG 108, 2018, 49 sales. Privately purchased from Crédit de la Bourse in 1990. From the René Baron collection.*

**Kingdom of Macedonia, Archelaus, 413 – 400/399**



1136

**1136** Stater, Aigai circa 413-399, AR 24 mm, 10.4 g. Horseman, wearing kausia and chlamys, galloping l. and holding two spears. Rev. A – P – X – E – Λ – A – O Forepart of goat r., head turned l; all within a linear border in an incuse square. BMC 1 (these dies). Westermark, Essay Carson-Jenkins, p. 23, 2 (this coin).

Very rare. Wonderful old cabinet tone and good very fine

2'500

*Ex Leu 22, 1979, 70 and Morton & Eden 51, 2011, 94 sales. From the Ptolemais hoard of 1969 (IGCH 365). From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

**Pausanias, 394 – 393**



1137



1137

- 1137** Stater, Aegae or Pella circa 394-393, AR 23 mm, 10.71 g. Head of Apollo r., with short hair, wearing tainia. Rev. ΠΑΥΣ – Α – ΝΙ – [Α] Horse advancing r., trailing rein; all in linear square within incuse square. Westermark, Remarks, pl. LXIX, 24. AMNG III/2, 1, pl. XXIX, 31. SNG ANS 85. SNG Alpha Bank 182.

Very rare and in fine condition for the issue. Wonderful old cabinet tone and good very fine / about extremely fine

5'000

*Ex Hess-Leu sale 45, 1970, 139. From the collection of a Mentor.*

**Kings of Macedon. Philip II, 359 – 336 and posthumous issues**



1138



- 1138\*** Tetradrachm, Pella circa 359-355, AR 27 mm, 14.41 g. Laureate head of Zeus l. Rev. ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ Horse rider, wearing kausia, chlamys, tunic, and boots, riding l., raising r. hand and holding rein in l.; below, barley corn and monogram. Le Rider 35-37. HGC 3.1, 858.

Wonderful iridescent tone, slightly double-struck on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine

3'500

*Ex NFA XVI, 1985, 68 and Gorny & Mosch 249, 2017, 186 sales.*



1139



- 1139** Stater, Pella circa 345-340, AV 17 mm, 8.61 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ Prancing biga driven r. by charioteer holding kentron and reins; above horses, wreath. Le Rider 3. SNG ANS 123.

An extremely rare variety. Good very fine

5'000

Alexander III, 336 – 323 and posthumous issues



1140

- 1140\*** 1/4 stater, Pella 340-328 or 336-328, AV 11 mm, 2.15 g. Head of Heracles r., wearing lion's skin headdress. Rev. ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ; above, bow and club to r.; below, trident to r. SNG ANS 225. Le Rider 77. In exceptional condition for the issue. A minor edge nick at one o'clock on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine 3'000

*Ex M&M I, 1997, 69; New York VII, 2005, 35 and Stack's 14 January 2008, 2149 sales. From the Lawrence R. Stack collection.*



1141

- 1141\*** Tetradrachm, Pella circa 342-336, AR 27 mm, 14.48 g. Laureate head of Zeus r. Rev. ΦΙΛΙΠ - ΠΟΥ Horseman at pace r., holding palm branch and bridles; below, horizontal thunderbolt and, in exergue, N. SNG ANS 385 ff. Le Rider 233. HGC 3.1, 864.

A portrait of excellent style and a wonderful iridescent tone. Extremely fine

3'000

*Ex Leu 15, 1976, 193; LHS 103, 2009, 70 and NAC 100, 2017, 118 and CNG 108, 2018, 53 sales. From the Richard Arnold van Every collection.*



1142

- 1142** Stater, Lampsacus circa 323-316, AV 19 mm, 8.61 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ Prancing biga driven r. by charioteer holding kentron and reins; below horses, coiled snake. Thompson, ANSNS 19, 33. SNG ANS 286. Le Rider p. 283 and pl. 90, 6 var. (with monogram).

Rare. A bold portrait of fine style and good extremely fine

7'500



1143

**1143\*** Distater, Amphipolis circa 330-320, AV 23 mm, 17.22 g. Head of Athena r., wearing triple-crested Corinthian helmet; bowl decorated with coiled snake. Rev. ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ Nike alighting l., holding wreath and stylus; in outer l. field, trident head. Troxell, ANS NS 21, 543 (these dies). Paeonian Hoard 140 (these dies). Price –.

An apparently unrecorded variety of an excessively rare type. A portrait of superb style struck in high relief on a full flan. Good extremely fine

150'000

*Ex NAC 39, 2007, Barry Feirstein, 25 and Heritage 3066, 2018, 30018 sales. Privately purchased from Harlan J Berk.*

Gold disasters like the present piece, marked with a downward trident symbol shared with the coinage of Philip II and struck during the lifetime of Alexander the Great or in the years between his death in 323 BC and the fall of Perdiccas as regent for his heirs in 320 BC, were attributed to an 'Amphipolis' mint by Martin Price although the trident symbol actually occurs on issues of Philip II attributed to the mint of Pella by Georges Le Rider. Whatever the case, it is clear that this issue was struck at a Macedonian mint and not at Tarsus as E. T. Newell originally thought.

The predominance of gold distater production in Macedon after c. 330 BC suggests that much of the gold plundered from treasuries captured by Alexander and his army as they made their way eastwards, conquering the Persian Empire, was actually sent back to Macedon for coining. As the Persian Great Kings regularly stored their precious metals as ingots and only coined them as the need arose, it would not have been overly difficult from a logistical perspective for Alexander to ship the captured gold to Macedon. However, much of the silver, which was more urgent for use as pay for the army was coined as necessary at cities as the campaign continued. Distaters were an exceptionally large denomination for the fourth century BC and could only have been struck with a plentiful supply of gold. This was provided to Alexander in 330 BC, when he captured the Persian capital at Susa and discovered that its treasury contained some 40,000 talents of gold in addition to 50,000 talents of silver. The staggering value of the metal can be visualized by the fact that one silver talent was equivalent to 6,000 drachms, which was itself equal to sixteen years' pay for a skilled workman. At the beginning of his reign in 336 BC, Alexander the Great was considered to be deeply in debt because the Macedonian treasury owed some 500 talents of silver. One can almost imagine the collective jaw-dropping that must have taken place when Alexander and his commanders broke open the seals of the treasury at Susa and saw what was inside. When the captured Persian gold reached its destination in Macedon, it was coined into Attic-weight distaters and staters featuring the head of Athena on the obverse and Nike on the reverse. Athena may have been chosen due to the crusade-like character that Alexander gave to his invasion of the Persian Empire. In Greece he liked to give the impression that his conquest was not merely undertaken so that he could become the greatest ruler that the Mediterranean world and the Near East had ever seen, but because he was avenging the Persian invasion of Greece under Xerxes I in 480 BC. As the Persians had plundered Athens and destroyed the temple of Athena on the Acropolis during the invasion, Athena must surely have gloated that under Alexander her image was struck on gold taken from the destroyers of her temple. Likewise, the Nike on the reverse is shown carrying a ship's stylis, which would seem to indicate a naval victory. Since the campaigns of Alexander did not involve many sea battles, it has been suggested that Nike here was intended to be shown passing on the victory won by the Greeks over the Persians at the Battle of Salamis (480 BC) to the Macedonian king.



1144



1144

- 1144** Distater, Amphipolis circa 336-323, AV 24 mm, 17.14 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. Troxell, ANSNS 21, group A. Price 171.

Struck on a very broad flan, several edge marks, possibly traces of mounting, otherwise good very fine

7'500



1145



- 1145** Distater, Amphipolis circa 330-320, AV 21 mm, 17.19 g. Head of Athena r., wearing Corinthian helmet decorated with snake. Rev. ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ Nike standing to l., holding stylis in l. hand and wreath in r.; in l. field, cantharus. Price 167.

Rare. Struck in high relief and extremely fine

30'000



1146



- 1146** Stater, Amphipolis circa 330-320, AV 18 mm, 8.6 g. Head of Athena r., wearing Corinthian helmet decorated with snake. Rev. ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ Nike standing to l., holding stylis in l. hand and wreath in r.; in l. field, thunderbolt. Price 164.

Extremely fine

3'000



1147

- 1147** Tetradrachm, Aradus circa 324-320, AR 27 mm, 17.15 g. Head of Heracles facing r., wearing lion-skin headdress. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ – ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ Zeus seated l., holding eagle and sceptre; in l. field, caduceus and below the throne, monogram. Price 3332.

A portrait of excellent style, lovely iridescent tone and good extremely fine

1'000

*Ex Lanz 70, 1994, Leu, 60 and NGSA 6, 2010, 51 sales. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*



1148

1148

- 1148** Tetradrachm, Susa circa 322-320, AR 26 mm, 17.07 g. Head of Heracles r., wearing lion-skin headdress. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ – ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ Zeus seated l., holding eagle and sceptre; in l. field, monogram and below the throne, ΛΑ. Price 3846.

Very rare. A portrait of excellent style struck in high relief with a wonderful iridescent tone. Good extremely fine

4'500

*Ex Leu Numismatik Winterthur 2, 2018, 86; Roma Numismatic XVI, 2018, 229 and Roma Numismatics XX, 2020, 381 sales.*



1149

- 1149** Stater, Amphipolis circa 307-300, AV 20 mm, 8.59 g. Helmeted head of Athena r. Rev. ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ Nike standing l., holding wreath and stylis; in l. field, trident head downward and below; monogram. Price 180 (this reverse die). Troxell, Ants, Issue 4. Dewing 1116 (this reverse die).

Extremely fine

3'500

*Ex Sotheby's 27 October 1993, Athena Fund, 401; Triton V, 2002, 1288 and CNG 112, 2019, 141 sales.*

**Philip III, 323 – 317**



1150

- 1150\*** Stater, Babylon circa 323-317, AV 20 mm, 8.6 g. Head of Athena r., wearing crested Corinthian helmet, bowl decorated with coiled snake. Rev. B – ΑΣΙΑΕΩΣ ΦΙΛΙΠΠΙΟΥ Nike standing l., holding wreath and stylis; below in l. field, ΛΥ and below in r. field, Μ. Price P178 var.

A portrait of lovely style struck in high relief. Extremely fine

3'500

*Ex Obolos sale 6, 2016, 331.*



1151

- 1151\*** Stater, Abydos circa 323-317, AV 18 mm, 8.61 g. Head of Athena r., wearing Corinthian helmet decorated with snake. Rev. ΦΙΛΙΠΠΙΟΥ Nike standing l., holding stylis and wreath. Price P30. HGC 3.1, 968b.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

5'000

*Ex Stack's 10 June 1970, 136 and Morton & Eden 100, 2019, 262 sales.*

**Demetrius Poliorcetes, 306 – 283**



1152

- 1152\*** Tetradrachm, Amphipolis circa 294-293, AR 26 mm, 17.17 g. Nike standing l. on prow, blowing a trumpet and holding a stylis. Rev. ΒΑ-ΣΙΑΕ-ΩΣ / ΔΗΜΗΤΡΙΟΥ Poseidon advancing l., brandishing trident; in l. field, tripod and in r. field, Z above monogram. Newell 94 (unlisted reverse die). HGC 3.1, 1012f.

Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine

3'500

*Ex Meister & Sonntag 3, 2005, 20 and Leu Numismatik Winterthur 3, 2018, 68 sales. From the Argyros collection.*

**Antigonus III Doson, 229 – 221**



1153



1153

**1153\*** Tetradrachm, Amphipolis circa 227-225, AR 33 mm, 17.09 g. Head of Poseidon r., wreathed with seaweed. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ / ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΟΥ Apollo seated l. on prow l., testing arrow; below, monogram. K. Panagopoulou, *The early Antigonids: Coinage, money and the economy*, ANSNS 37, 2019, 174-184. I. Touratsoglou, *Disjecta membra : two new Hellenistic hoards from Greece*, 1995, 52-53. HGC 3.1, 1051.

A lovely portrait of fine style struck on a large flan with a delicate iridescent tone.

Extremely fine

5'000

*Ex NAC 8, 1995, 229; Leu 86, 2003, 367 and Triton XXII, 2019, 200 sales.*

**Philip V, 220 – 179**



1154



1154

**1154\*** Tetradrachm, Amphipolis 188-183, AR 33 mm, 16.74 g. Head of young Perseus l., 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, club and below, two monograms. SNG Alpha Bank 1052. Mammoth –. HGC 3.1, 1058.

Rare and possibly the finest specimen known. A magnificent portrait of enchanting beauty, work of a very talented engraver. Perfectly struck and centred on a full flan and with a lovely light iridescent tone. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

35'000

*Ex Tkalec 28 October 1994, 83; Leu 83, 2002, 207 and NAC 114, 2019, 136 sales.*

**Macedonia, under the Romans**



1155

**1155\*** Tetradrachm circa 148-147, AR 31 mm, 16.76 g. Diademed and draped bust of Artemis Tauropolos r., bow and quiver over shoulder; all in centre of a Macedonian shield. Rev. LEG / MAKEΔONΩN Club; above, hand holding olive branch and below, monogram, all within wreath of oak branches. In l. field, thunderbolt. Mackay, ANSMN, 17. HGC 3.1, 1105.

Perfectly struck and centred on a very broad flan. Good extremely fine

4'000

*Ex CGB 18, 2003, 60; Heritage 3061, 2018, 32024 sales. Privately purchased from Freeman & Sear in 2004. From a Paris private collection and from a Northern California collection.*

**Kings of Paeonia. Patraus, 335 – 315**



1156

**1156** Tetradrachm, Damastaion circa 335-315, AR 25 mm, 12.55 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. Π - ΟΑ - Π - ΤΑΥ Warrior on horseback r., spearing fallen enemy. Paeonian Hoard, 497 (these dies). SNG Copenhagen 1390.

Good extremely fine

1'500

*Ex iNumis sale 14, 2011, 48. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

### Thraco-Macedonian tribes, The Bisaltai



1157

1157

- 1157\*** Octodrachm circa 475-465, AR 32 mm, 27.91 g. Cavalryman wearing kausia, standing r., holding two spears and leading horse advancing r. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. Tzamalis, group A.1, 23 (this coin). Peykov A3060 (second illustration). Hellénisme primitif pl. XI, 6 var. (orientation legend). HGC 3.2, 274.

Rare. A lovely representation in unusually pleasant style for the issue.  
Struck on a large flan with a light old cabinet tone. About extremely fine

15'000

*Ex Giessener Münzhandlung 73, 1995, 447; Ira & Larry Goldberg 21, 2003, 1493 (as Alexander I); Ira & Larry Goldberg 23, 2004, 2081 (as Alexander I); Triton X, 2007, 126; UBS 72, 2007, 203 and CNG 109, 2018, 75 sales.*

### The Krestonians or Mygdonians



1158

1158

- 1158** Stater circa 485-480, AR 22 mm, 9.16 g. Goat kneeling r., head reverted; above, dotted  $\theta$ . Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. Svoronos, Hellénisme Primitif pl. I, 3. (Derroniens). AMNG III/2, 4 (Aegae). Asyut 150 (Aegae). Rosen 88 (Aegae). de Luynes 1530. Gulbenkian 390. Lorber, Pour Denyse issue 4 and pl. 14, 4.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, undoubtedly among the finest specimens known.  
Of excellent style and struck in high relief on excellent metal with a lovely iridescent tone.  
Good extremely fine

15'000

*Ex NFA XXX, 1992, 45, Sotheby's 26 October 1993, Athena Fund, 27; Leu 71, 1997, 122; LHS 102, 2008, Star, 119 and Triton XVIII, 2015, 428 sales.*

This very rare stater is related to a larger Macedonian silver series featuring goat types struck by an uncertain Macedonian mint in the late sixth and early fifth century BC. Due to the use of the goat as the obverse type, in the past such coins were frequently attributed to Aegae. This city was founded in response to the Delphic oracle, which supposedly advised the Argive exiles Perdikkas and his brothers to found a city in Macedonia where they came across a herd of white nanny goats (aiges in Greek). They found the herd grazing on a hill in the Emathian district of Macedonia and there founded Aegae to be the seat of the Argead dynasty of Macedonian kings. Unfortunately, while the type of this coin might seem appropriate for a punning reference to Aegae on the surface, it is very clear from this coin that the animal depicted is really a billy goat (tragos in Greek). With Aegae ruled out as a potential mint, unidentified mints have been suggested among such Thraco-Macedonian tribal entities as the Bisaltai, Crestones, or Mygdones.

### The Orrescii



1159

1159

- 1159\*** Stater, uncertain mint circa 525-500, AR 22 mm, 9.37 g. ΛΕΤΑ – [ΙΩΝ] Centaur r., abducting menad. Rev. Corinthian helmet within incuse square. Tzamalis 190 (this coin). *Hellénisme primitif* 4 and pl. VI, 2. Very rare. Of excellent Archaic style and with a light old cabinet tone. A scuff on reverse, otherwise about extremely fine 4'000

*Ex M&M GmbH 22, 2007, 1217; M&M GmbH 40, 2014, 133 and M&M GmbH 48, 2019, 1112 sales.*

The Orrescii were an obscure Thracian people bordering the Bisalti and Edoneans who had access to the rich silver mines of Mount Pangaion. In the early fifth century BC they struck several coinages from the ore taken from the mountain. The types and weight standard of the present stater reflect the economic influence of neighbouring Greek and Thracio-Macedonian peoples. The weight of the coin indicates that it was struck to circulate alongside the coinage of Thasos – an important Greek trading power in southern Thrace – as does the obverse type. The representation of a centaur carrying off a nymph is modelled on the standard Thasian stater type of a satyr carrying off a nymph. On the other hand, the Corinthian helmet within an incuse square on the reverse may perhaps indicate the influence of the Derrones, a contemporary Thracio-Macedonian people who frequently featured a Corinthian helmet as a symbol or type on their coins.

### Siris or Lete



1160

1160

- 1160** Stater circa 540-520, AR 21 mm, 10.06 g. Nude ithyphallic satyr grasping r. arm of nymph, trying to move away from him; in field l. and r. and above, three pellets. Rev. Rough incuse square. *Traité I*, 1566. *AMNG III*, 18 (Lete). *Svoronos*, *L'Hellénisme Primitif*, pl. VII, 27 (this obverse die). *SNG ANS 956* (Lete). *Smith Group 5* (Lete). cf. *NAC sale 48, 2008, 58* (this obverse die).

Very rare. A superb example of this desirable issue in superb Archaic style, well struck in high relief with an attractive light iridescent tone. Good extremely fine 35'000

*Ex Triton sale XIII, 2010, 96.*

For a coinage that clearly was important in its time, and which today is known in a considerable variety of styles, it is remarkable that the mint identification is still a matter of debate. Even if we do not know where in the Thracio-Macedonian region these coins were struck, in some cases we know where they ended up since they have been found in documented hoards from Thrace, Rhodes, Syria, Jordan, Bactria, Egypt and Southern Italy (where 18 were amongst the coins of the 1911 Taranto hoard; *ICGH 1874*). On the rare occasions that inscriptions are present on these coins, they seem to be retrograde and are faintly engraved, and thus are difficult to read. An apparent misreading in the 19th Century as 'Letaion' led to an enduring attribution to Lete, a Macedonian city about 15 miles north of Thessalonica. That tentative identification has been used by generations of scholars. However, more recently some authorities have come to accept *Svoronos'* reading as 'Sirinon', the ethnic of Siris, a town in the region of Mt. Pangaeus. *Kraay* agreed with *Svoronos'* reading, and thus associated these coins with the *Satrai*, a tribe also in the Pangaion region.

**Thraco-Macedonian, Uncertain tribes or Ionia**



1161

**1161\*** Tetradrachm circa 520-480, AR 24 mm, 17.16 g. Lion crouching l., devouring its prey; above, lotus and below, circular ornament. Rev. Forepart of a winged boar r., within a dotted square border within an incuse square. Svoronos, *Hellenism Primitif* 8a (this coin) and pl. XVII, 20 (for obverse) and 18 (for reverse). *Traité* 1857 and pl. LIX, 14 (these dies). Gillet 856 var. (boar l.). Weber 8555 (this coin). Jameson 2028 (this coin). Boston, MFA suppl. 70 var. (boar l.).

Extremely rare and among the finest of only a few specimens known. A fascinating and intriguing issue, superb old cabinet tone and about extremely fine

30'000

*Ex Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge 1 March 1889, General Moore, 363; Leu/M&M 5 December 1965, Niggeler, 224; Leu 48, 1989, 142; Leu 76, 1999, 88; Nomos 8, 2013, 76 and NAC 116. 2019, 82 sales. From the Jameson, Weber, general W. Yorke and General C.R. Fox collections.*

This extremely rare and very well pedigreed tetradrachm still remains somewhat of a mystery. It is tentatively treated as a possible Thraco-Macedonian tribal issue, largely on the basis of the lion type, which has some similarity to early electrum issues that seem to have been produced in Thrace, and the placement of the lotus ornament, which may echo issues of Akanthos. On the other hand, the winged boar might seem to hint of an origin in Asia Minor, where it was an important type for the coinage of Klazomenai. Far less likely is an origin in Cyrene, as was originally suggested when the coin was first published by B. V. Head in 1891.

**Thrace, Abdera**



1162

1162

**1162\*** Octodrachm, magistrate Anti(...) circa 500-475, AR 29 mm, 29.6 g. Griffin, seated, r.; on decorated line; at sides, two large pellets and in l. field, ANTI. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. May -, cf. 52. HGC 3.2, 1126.

Very rare. Lovely old cabinet tone, surface somewhat porous and minor marks on reverse, otherwise good very fine

10'000

*Ex Giessener Münzhandlung 38, 1987, 96; Giessener Münzhandlung 42, 1988, 125; New York XXVII, 2012, Prospero, 218; Künker 262, 2015, 7085; Künker 277, 2016, 33; Hess-Divo 331, 2016, 17 and Künker 326, 2019, 676 sales.*



1163



1163

- 1163** Tetradrachm circa 363, AR 22 mm, 12.77 g. Griffin seated l. with forepaws raised; above, patera. Rev. AΘHN – AΙΙΣ Athena standing facing, wearing triple crested helmet and aegis, brandishing spear and holding shield decorated with a gorgon; all within incuse square. May, Abdera, Period VI, cf. 452-457 (for this magistrate). C-N p. 123. cf. Triton IV, 2000, 188 (these dies).

Extremely rare. Wonderful old cabinet tone and good very fine / very fine

4'000

*Ex New York sale XXVII, 2012, Prospero, 231. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*



1164



1164

- 1164\*** Stater, magistrate Telemachos circa 359, AR 22 mm, 11.48 g. ΑΒΔΗ Griffin crouching l. Rev. ΕΠΙ ΤΗ[Λ] – ΕΜΑΞΟ Heracles standing l., holding club and bow; in l. field, shell and in r. field, dolphin. All within incuse square. May, Abdera 401. C-N, p. 127, period VII. HGC 3.2, 1203 (this coin illustrated).

Very rare. Struck in high relief on very fresh metal and with a lovely light iridescent tone.

Obverse slightly off-centre, otherwise good extremely fine / extremely fine

4'000

*Ex Giessener Münzhandlung Dieter Gorny 62, 1993, 67; Giessener Münzhandlung Dieter Gorny 73, 1995, 69; Giessener Münzhandlung Dieter Gorny 81, 1997, 5170; Busso Peus 407, 2012, 308 and NAC 114, 2019, 150 sales.*



1165



- 1165\*** Stater circa 355-354, AR 22 mm, 11.41 g. ΑΒΔΗ Griffin standing l., forelegs outstretched. Rev. Hermes advancing r., wearing petasus and chlamys; in l. field, ΕΠΙ ΖΗΝΩΝΟΣ and in r. field, cantharus. May, Abdera 447. C-N p. 127, period VII and pl. 8, 8. HGC 3.2, 1206.

Very rare. Of excellent late Classical style, struck on a very fresh metal and with a light iridescent tone. Good extremely fine

15'000

*Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 138, 2005, 36; Triton XII, 2009, 127; Gemini VII, 2011, 290 and Roma Numismatics sale XX, 2020, 144 sales. From the Dr. Patrick H.C. Tan and Long Valley River collections.*

**Maroneia**



1166



1166

- 1166\*** Tetradrachm circa 386/5-348/7, AR 23 mm, 11.21 g. ΜΑΡΩ. Bridled horse springing l., with trailing rein. Rev. ΕΠΙ – ΙΚΕ – ΣΙΟ. Vine with four grape bunches within linear square; in l. field, kerykeion. All within shallow incuse square. Schönner-Geiss 425. West 92. HGC 3.2, 1533.

Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine

3'500

*Ex Antiqua Fixed Price List 10, 2001, 15; Triton VIII, 2005, 253; LHS 102, 2008, 110 and Nomos 15, 2017, 44 sales.*

**Islands off Thrace, Thasos**



1167



- 1167** Trihemionbol circa 404-340, AR 11 mm, 0.83 g. Satyr running l., holding cantharus. Rev. ΘΑΣ – ΙΩΝ Amphora. Le Rider, Thasiennes pl. II, 27. SNG Ashmolean 3672. Dewing 1331.

Wonderful old cabinet tone and good very fine

350

*Ex Gemini sale VII, 2011, 301. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*



1168



- 1168\*** Drachm circa 390-340, AR 20 mm, 3.85 g. Head of Dionysus l., wearing ivy wreath. Rev. ΘΑΣ – ΙΩΝ Heracles kneeling r., shooting his bow; at centre, cicada. All within incuse square. Picard, Guide de Thasos, 271. HGC 6, 343.

A portrait of fine style and a wonderful old cabinet tone. Traces of double striking on reverse, otherwise good very fine

1'500

*Ex Hirsch XXV, 1909, Philippsen, Hess-Leu 45, 1970, 106; Auctiones 6, 1976, 84; J. Vinchon 26 April 1999, 119 and Nomos 17, 2018, 84. From the Vineyard collection.*

**Kings of Thrace, Lysimachus, 323 – 281 and posthumous issues**



1169

**1169\*** Stater, Uncertain mint circa 305-281, AV 20 mm, 8.49 g. Diademed head of Alexander r., wearing horn of Zeus-Ammon. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ – ΛΥΣΙΜΑΧΟΥ Athena seated l., holding Nike in her r. hand, a spear in her l., and with her l. elbow resting on a shield ornamented with an aegis. Boutin, Pozzi 2622. Thompson, Essays Robinson 182 and pl. 16, 22. HGC 3.2, 1743 var. (with control marks).

A very unusual and interesting portrait of fine style. Almost invisible marks, otherwise good extremely fine

6'000

*Ex CNG 67, 2004, 502; Ira & Larry Goldberg 60, 2010, 2312 and Nomos 15, 2017, 50 sales.*



1170

**1170\*** Tetradrachm, Pergamum circa 287-282, AR 30 mm, 17.08 g. Diademed head of deified Alexander III r., with horns of Ammon, below, K. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ / ΛΥΣΙΜΑΧΟΥ Athena seated l., holding Nike with wreath, and resting arm on shield; in outer l. field, herm and in inner l. field, cult image. In exergue, monogram. C. Arnold-Biucchi, Studies Price 61. Thompson, Essays Robinson 224.

A portrait of superb style struck in high relief with a light iridescent tone. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

10'000

*Ex Heritage sale 3075, 2019, 32017.*

**Tauric Chersonesus, Panticapaeum**



1171



1171

**1171** Triobol circa 480-470, AR 17 mm, 2.97 g. Facing lion's head. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. Frolova Type I. Anokhin 957. MacDonald 1/5.

Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine

350

*Ex Tom Cederlin Fixed Price Lists 158, 2011, 49. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

**Thessaly, Gonnos**



1172



**1172** Trichalkon circa 350, Æ 19 mm, 6.85 g. Laureate head of Zeus r. Rev. ΓΟΝ – ΝΕΩΝ Ram standing r.; below, elaborate monogram. Rogers 225. SNG Copenhagen 53. BCD Thessaly I, 1046 (this coin).

Dark brown tone and extremely fine

500

*Ex Nomos sale 4, 2011, BCD, 1046. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

**Lamia**



1173



1173

**1173** Drachm circa 300, AR 20 mm, 5.67 g. Head of the nymph Lamia r., wearing hair band and pendant earring. Rev. ΛΑΜΙ – ΕΩΝ Youthful Philoktetes, nude and bare-headed, seated on rocks covered by his cloak; he holds his bow and quiver with his r. hand and rests it on his r. knee; his l. hand rests on the rock behind him. BMC 9 and pl. IV, 2 = Georgiou 2, 19 (these dies). Traité IV, 463. BCD Thessaly I, 1094 (this coin).

Extremely rare. An excellent Hellenistic portrait of fine style struck on fresh metal, reverse slightly double struck and a minor edge flaw at one o'clock on obverse, otherwise extremely fine

5'000

*Ex Nomos sale 4, 2011, BCD, 1094. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

**Larissa**



1174

**1174** Drachm circa 500-479, AR 17 mm, 5.51 g. Horse grazing l.; above, cicada. Rev. ΛAPI – SAI0 – N Sandal of Jason l.; above, double-axe. All within shallow incuse square. BMC 1. Traité I, 1411 and pl. XLIII, 2. Herrmann Group I and pl. I, 2 and 3 (this reverse die). Jameson 2467 (this reverse die). Gillet 143 (this reverse die). BCD Thessaly I, 1095 (this reverse die). BCD Thessaly II, 129.

Extremely rare and possibly the finest specimen in private hands. Perfectly struck and centred on a full flan and with a lovely old cabinet tone. An unobtrusive scratch on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine

15'000

*Ex Triton sale XVI, 2013, 327.*

The coin designs of Larissa underwent a gradual transformation from the first issues, which probably commenced in about 479 B.C., to the last civic issues, comprised of bronzes of the 2nd and 1st Centuries B.C. This remarkable drachm belongs to the earliest series, the design of which on reverse honored the Greek hero Jason (of Argonaut fame) for the sandal he lost in the River Anaurus. This mythological episode must have been quite important to the people of Larissa in the early 5th Century, yet it hardly was recalled on later issues.

Also appearing on the coins of this first issue are the nymph Larissa and a horse, two subjects that in later times would dominate the designs of Larissan coinage. A grazing horse is shown on the obverse of the largest denomination of this early series, the drachm, as in this case, and the nymph is portrayed on the obverse of obols; in both instances the reverse type is the sandal of Jason.

Another important design subject, the bull, appears on early silver fractions. On obols the head and neck of a bull are paired with the reverse type of a horse head set within an incuse square. Also, bull's hooves appear on hemiobols, being paired with a variety of reverse types.

During the period c. 450-400 B.C. the designs on Larissan coinage shifted focus from Jason and his sandal to bulls, horses and the nymph Larissa, who on trihemioobols and obols is shown engaged in a wide range of activities. Also honored on these small denominations is the healing-god Asclepius.

By the early 4th Century the silver coinage of Larissa entered a new phase in which drachms and hemidrachms began to be struck in large quantities. Horses and bulls (often attended to by men) and the nymph are now the exclusive design types, except for an enigmatic and rare drachm with the facing head of Aleuas and an eagle standing on a thunderbolt, which is known from a single die-pair.

For what remained of the 4th Century the drachms of Larissa abandoned the bull in favor of a singular type that pairs the facing head of the nymph with a horse. The animal typically is shown grazing or preparing to roll, but sometimes is shown prancing, appears startled, or is accompanied by a man or a foal. The nymph head on these familiar issues was inspired by the facing-head masterpiece of Kimon that appeared on tetradrachms of Syracuse late in the 5th Century. Its perfect composition was influential at mints throughout the Greek world, notably in Macedon, Thessaly and southern Asia Minor.



1175

**1175** Hemiobol circa 462-460, AR 7 mm, 0.41 g. Hoof of steer. Rev. Λ – A Head and neck of horse l.; all within incuse square. Liampi, Corpus, group II, I.G.2 (V2/R1). Herrmann – Pozzi (Boutin) 2752 (these dies).

Extremely rare, only five examples recorded by Liampi. Perfectly centred and with a light tone, granular surface, otherwise extremely fine

750

*Ex Triton sale XIX, 2011, 103. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*



1176

**1176\*** Didrachm circa 356-342, AR 24 mm, 12.03 g. Head of nymph Larissa facing three-quarters l., wearing ampyx, earring and necklace. Rev. ΛΑΡΙΣΣΑ / ΑΙΩΝ Horse crouching r., preparing to roll. Herrmann pl. V, 3. Lorber-Shahar type I, series A, dies O1/R1a. Boston 896. BCD Thessaly I, 1158 (this coin).

Of the highest rarity, the finest of two specimens known, and the only one in private hands of this interesting type with the horse crouching. An impressive portrait perfectly centred and with a light iridescent tone. Unobtrusive areas of porosity on reverse, otherwise about extremely fine

50'000

*Ex Nomos 4, 2011, BCD, 1158 and NAC 116, 2019, A Man in Love with Art part I, 104 sales.*

The present didrachm is an extremely rare variety in the classic facing head series of Larissan silver coinage struck in the fourth century BC. It features what appear to be two unpublished dies and is notable as only the second and finest example of a Larissan didrachm depicting a horse preparing to roll on the reverse. The didrachms of Larissa usually feature a prancing horse on the reverse. The obverse here can arguably be seen as the perfection of the facing nymph type that came to dominate the coinage of Larissa in the fourth century BC. The development of this extremely popular type appears to have been influenced by the slightly earlier evolution of the celebrated facing Arethusa type of Syracuse – a type that travelled eastwards and had an impact on coinages struck as far away from Sicily as Cilicia and Samaria. This particular piece belongs to the so-called "late facing head" period and was probably struck late in the Third Sacred War (356-346 BC) to finance the Thessalian League's involvement (with Philip II of Macedon as tagos) in the struggle between the Amphictyonic League of Delphi and the Phocians. This conflict was a turning point in Greek history. In its aftermath, Philip II was able to use his influence over the Thessalian League and newly acquired votes on the Amphictyonic Council as a springboard for his conquest of Central Greece.



1177

**1177** Drachm mid to late 4th century BC, AR 21 mm, 6.17 g. Head of nymph Larissa facing three-quarters l. Rev. ΛΑΡΙΣΣΑ / ΑΙΩΝ Horse grazing r. Hermann pl. V, 5. Lorber, SNR 79, phase L-I. BCD Thessaly Triton 320.

Wonderful iridescent tone and good extremely fine

2'000

*From the Collection of Jacqueline Morineau Humphris.*

Skotussa



- 1178** Trichalkon circa 352-344, Æ 22 mm, 8.14 g. Head of nymph facing, turned slightly to r., her hair bound with a ribbon. Rev. ΣΚΟΤΟΥΣΣΑΙ / Ω – Ν Vine branch supporting bunch of grapes between two leaves. Rogers 543. SNG Copenhagen 256. Traité IV, 633 and pl. CCXCV, 13-14. BCD Thessaly I, 1340 (this coin). Wonderful green patina and about extremely fine 350  
*Ex Nomos sale 4, 2011, BCD, 1340. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*



- 1179** Tetrachalkon circa late III-II century BC, Æ 21 mm, 6.95 g. Head of bearded Heracles r., wearing lion skin headdress. Rev. ΣΚΟΤΟΥ / ΣΑΙΩΝ Club. Rogers 549. BCD Thessaly I, 1342 (this coin). Rare. Dark tone and very fine 500  
*Ex Nomos sale 4, 2011, BCD, 1342. From the collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

Illyria, Damastaion



- 1180\*** Tetradrachm, magistrate Kephi- circa 365/60-350/45, AR 27 mm, 13.54 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. ΔΑΜΣ – ΤΙΝΩΝ / ΚΗΦΙ Tripod. May, Damastaion 57b (this coin). HGC 3.1, 86. Struck in high relief and with a lovely light iridescent tone. Reverse slightly off-centre, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc 3'500  
*Ex Künker sale 295, 2017, 227. Privately purchased from Dr. May in 1975 and from Edward J. Waddell in 2018.*

**Epirus, Ambracia**



1181



1181

**1181\*** Stater circa 480-456, AR 19 mm, 8.31 g. Pegasus flying r.; below, Λ. Rev. Head of Athena l., wearing Corinthian helmet and pearl necklace; behind, ivy-leaves. All within partially incuse square. SNG Lockett 2227 (this coin). Kraay, Ambracia, Q. Tic. VI, 1977, 6a (this coin). Calciati 2/1 (these dies). Ravel, Colts 8. HGC 3.1, 195.

Of superb late Archaic style and with a lovely old cabinet tone. Obverse slightly double struck and off-centre, otherwise about extremely fine

6'000

*Ex Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge 8 May 1916, Headlam 377; Naville VI, 1924, Bement 962; Glendining's 27 May 1953, Lockett 1853; G. Hirsch XXIX, 1961, 435; Leu 79, 2000, 552 and NAC 106, 2018, 217 sales. From the Harald Salvesen collection.*



1182



1182

**1182\*** Stater circa 404-360, AR 22 mm, 8.45 g. Pegasus flying l.; on the side, A. Rev. Head of Athena r., wearing Corinthian helmet decorated with wreath and A; in l. field, Eros (?). Calciati, Pegasi 78. Ravel, Colts -, but cf. A54/P82, unlisted die combination.

Rare. A portrait of excellent style and a lovely old cabinet tone. Struck on an irregular flan, otherwise good very fine

2'500

*Ex Leu 54, 1992, 99 and Leu Numismatik Winterthur 6, 2020, 134 sales. From the Kleinkunst collection.*

**Acarmania, Leucas**



1183



1183

**1183\*** Stater circa 330, AR 22 mm, 8.63 g. Pegasus flying l.; below, Λ. Rev. Head of Athena l., wearing Corinthian helmet; behind, API and anchor. BMC 103. SNG Lockett 2291. Calciati, Pegasi 146. BCD Akarnanien und Aetolien 270 (this obverse die). HGC 4, 825.

Perfectly struck and with a superb iridescent tone. Good extremely fine

2'000

*Ex M&M 75, 1989, 237 and NAC 114, 2019, 180 sales. From the Harald Salvesen collection.*

**Aetolia, Aetolian League**



1184

**1184** Tetradrachm circa 238-228, AR 29 mm, 16.87 g. Head of Heracles r., wearing lion skin headdress. Rev. ΑΙΤΩΛΩΝ Aitolos holding spear and sword, seated r. on Macedonian shield which rests on three Gallic shields and a carynx; in r. field, monogram and ΖΗ. Tsangari 464. de Nanteuil 879 (these dies). Boston, MFA supplement 90 (these dies). McClean 5401, pl. 197, 2 (this obverse die). Scheu, F., *Coinage Systems of Aetolia*, NC 1960, monogram 1. HGC 4, 954

Very rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue.  
Wonderful old cabinet tone and good extremely fine

20'000

*Ex Ars Classica XVI, July 1933, 1136 and purchased privately from a European collection, originally acquired from Maison Platt in June 1939.*

**Locris, Locri Opuntii**



1185

**1185\*** Stater circa 370-360, AR 23 mm, 12.33 g. Head of Persephone l., wearing wreath of grain ears, triple-pendant earring, and pearl necklace. Rev. ΟΠΙΟΝ – ΤΙΩΝ Ajax, nude but for crested Corinthian helmet, holding sword and shield decorated with coiled serpent, advancing r. on rocks; below, spearhead. BCD Lokris-Phokis 17 (this coin). Corpus 76b (this coin). U. Wartenberg, *The Alexander-Eagle Hoard: Thessaly 1992*, NC 1997, 3-4 var. (spearhead r.). HGC 4, 989.

Struck in high relief and with a wonderful iridescent tone. Good extremely fine

6'000

*Ex NAC 55, 2010, BCD, 17; Triton XVII, 2014, 201; Triton XXI, 2018, 412 sales. From the J.L. Gomer collection.*



1186



1187

- 1186\*** Hemidrachm circa 360-340, AR 2.73 mm, 15 g. Head of Demeter l., wearing wreath of grain. Rev. ΟΠΙΟΝΤΙΩ Ajax advancing r., holding sword and shield decorated with prancing lion; behind, spear on ground. Corpus 144j (this coin). Catherine C. Lorber, *Treasures of Ancient Coinage From the Private Collections of ANS Members*, 1996, 26 (this coin). BCD Lokris-Phokis –.

In unusually fine condition for the issue. Wonderful old cabinet tone and good extremely fine 1'500

*Ex Münzhandlung Basel 4, 1935, 694 and SKB 38, 1995, 152 sales. Privately purchased from Edward J. Waddell in 2018.*

- 1187\*** Stater circa 350-340, AR 25 mm, 12.05 g. Wreathed head of Demeter r. Rev. ΟΠΙΟΝΤΙΩΝ Ajax, nude but for crested helmet, advancing r., holding sword and shield ornamented with griffin; behind, spear on ground. Corpus 150d (this coin). BCD Lokris-Phokis 70. HGC 4, 991.

Of excellent style. Lovely old cabinet tone and good very fine

3'500

*Ex Giessener Münzhandlung sale 55, 1991, 271. Privately purchased from CNG in 2020.*

### Phocis, Delphi



1188

- 1188\*** Stater circa 336 – 335, AR 25 mm, 12.28 g. Veiled head of Demeter l., wearing a wreath with ears of wheat and reeds. Rev. ΑΜΦΙ – ΚΤΙΟ Apollo Pythios, laureate and wearing chiton, seated l. on omphalos draped with himation; his r. elbow rests on lyre and his r. hand supports his chin; a long laurel branch rests diagonally across him. In l. field, tripod and, in exergue, ΝΩΝ. BMC 22. Svoronos, *Delphi* 32. P. Kinns, 'The Amphictyonic Coinage Reconsidered', NC 1983, 19. Gulbenkian 487. Boston, MFA 977. BCD Lokris-Phokis 388 (this coin).

Very rare and among the finest specimens known. An elegant portrait of excellent style struck in high relief on very fresh metal. Lovely light iridescent tone, almost invisible traces of double striking on reverse, otherwise about extremely fine

60'000

*Ex Giessener Münzhandlung 44, 1989, 306 and NAC 55, 2010, Lokris-Phokis, 388 sales.*

This silver stater is a magnificent example of the coinage produced by the Amphictyonic League of Delphi from older Delphic coinage in 336-335 BC. The decision to undertake the recoinage at this time may have been influenced by the death of Philip II of Macedon in 336 and the accession of Alexander the Great. Philip had exerted great influence over the League through his defence of Delphi during the Third Sacred War (356-346 BC), but there seems to have been little immediate desire to accept his heir. Thus, the Amphictyonic recoinage may have been undertaken out of concern for a potential conflict. The Amphictyonic coinage is remarkable not only for its beautiful design and skilful execution, but also because the temple accounts related to its production actually survive in a stone inscription from Delphi. These accounts combined with die studies of the known specimens provide precious information about the quantities of coins that could be produced from ancient dies. The obverse type features the veiled head of Demeter and is thought to refer to the sanctuary of that goddess at Anthelia which was also administered by the Delphic Amphictyony. The reverse type depicts Apollo of Delphi in his role as Apollo Pythios, seated on the omphalos, a sacred stone believed by the Greeks to mark the centre of the world.

**Boeotia, Thebes**



- 1189** Stater circa 480-460, AR 17 mm, 12.32 g. Boeotian shield. Rev. Square incuse with anti-clockwise mill-sail pattern; + in centre. Head, Boeotia, p. 16, vii and pl. I, 7. Myron Hoard pl. A, 16. Rosen 178. SNG Fitzwilliam 2905. Dewing 1502. BCD Boiotia 350.  
Struck in high relief on a narrow flan and with a superb old cabinet tone.  
About extremely fine 1'000  
*From the Collection of Jacqueline Morineau Humphris.*
- 1190\*** Stater circa 425-400, AR 25 mm, 11.96 g. Boeotian shield. Rev. θ – E Amphora within incuse square. BCD Boiotia, 388. HGC 4, 1325.  
Lovely old cabinet tone and good very fine 750  
*Ex CNG 75, 2007, 229 and CNG 112, 2019, 167 sales. From the Matthew Curtis collection and from the duplicates of the BCD collection.*
- 1191** Stater, Kalli- magistrate circa 378-335, AR 22 mm, 12.23 g. Boeotian shield. Rev. Amphora; KA – ΛΛ[Ι] across field; all within incuse concave circle. BCD Boiotia 555. BMC 151. SNG Copenhagen 340.  
Lovely iridescent tone, slightly off-centre on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 500  
*Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 195, 2011, 166. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

**Euboea, Eretria**



- 1192\*** Didrachm circa 480-450, AR 26 mm, 8.37 g. Cow standing l., head reverted, hind leg scratching muzzle; below, E retrograde. Rev. Octopus in shallow incuse square. Jameson 1172 (this coin). BCD Euboea 307 (this reverse die). HGC 4, 1504.  
Very rare. Wonderful old cabinet tone, minor marks and an area of weakness on reverse, otherwise good very fine 5'000  
*Ex Christie's 11 December 1992, Washburn, 694; M&M 94, 2003, 424 and M&M GmbH 46, 2018, 130 sales. From the Jameson, Paul Matthey, Bryn Mawr College and BCD collections.*

Attica, Athens



1193



1193

**1193** Wappenmünzen type. Drachm circa 515-510, AR 25 mm, 4.17 g. Wheel with four spokes. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square, divided diagonally. Seltman pl. IV,  $\delta$ . Asyut 259. Kroll 3.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, undoubtedly among the finest specimens known. Struck on excellent metal and with a light old cabinet tone. Extremely fine

7'500

*Ex Busso Peus sale 393, 2007, 190.*



1194

**1194\*** Tetradrachm circa 500/490-482, AR 23 mm, 17.22 g. Helmeted head of Athena r., wearing circular earring. Rev. A $\theta$ E Owl standing r., head facing; in l. field, olive-branch; all within incuse square. Traité II/1, 1127. BMC Attica 2, 14, pl. I, 8. Seltman 259ss and pl. XII. Svoronos pl. 5, 1ss. Starr group I. M.-M. Bendenoun, *Coins of the Ancient World, A Portrait of the JDL Collection*, Tradart, Genève, 2009, 19 (this coin). HGC 4, 1590.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. A spectacular portrait of fine Archaic style struck in high relief with a light iridescent tone. Extremely fine.

15'000

*Ex Jean Vinchon Numismatique, 28-29 April 1997, 23 and NAC 74, 2013, JDL, 287 sales.*

Silver may have been a popular medium of exchange in Athens since the time of Solon, who became Archon in 594/3 B.C. Though Aristotle and Plutarch describe the use of drachms during Solon's reign, these references are no longer thought to indicate coins, but perhaps silver bullion described in terms of drachm weight. Alternatively, Melville Jones suggests these references may have been falsified in the early and mid-4th Century to provide a Solon-era context for reforms then being considered. The earliest coins of Athens were silver didrachms of the heraldic "wappenmünzen" series, believed to have been struck from about 545 to 525/15. A major evolution in the wappenmünzen series occurred when the didrachm was abandoned in favour of tetradrachms and fractions, and a true reverse type was used. These may be the first coins of the Aegean world to bear a reverse design rather than a utilitarian punch. They are believed to have been struck for a very brief period, perhaps

five years. Next came the familiar 'owl' tetradrachms, which in one form or another would be struck for nearly five centuries. In recent decades, scholars have settled on a date between c.525 and c.510 for the introduction of the 'owl' tetradrachms, with van Alfen offering a date of about 515 as the most current view. Any of these options indicates that Hippias, tyrant of Athens from 527 to 510, introduced the most important of all Greek silver coins. The style of the Archaic 'owls' varies considerably, and includes both sublime works of art and pieces that fall just short of barbarous. In his 1924 corpus on Athenian coinage, Seltman divides the Archaic 'owls' into seven groups based on stylistic and technical features. Though the definitions for his groups have not been seriously challenged, they have been reordered according to Kraay's analysis, published in 1956.



1195



- 1195** Tetradrachm circa 465, AR 25 mm, 17.17 g. Head of Athena r., wearing crested Attic helmet decorated with spiral palmette and three olive leaves. Rev. AΘE Owl standing r., with closed wings, head facing; behind, olive sprig with one berry and crescent. All within incuse square. Svoronos pl. 9, 10. SNG Berry 644. Starr, Group IV.  
About extremely fine 2'000



1196



- 1196** Tetradrachm after 449 BC, AR 26 mm, 17.21 g. Head of Athena r., wearing Attic helmet decorated with olive leaves and palmette. Rev. AΘE Owl standing r.; in l. field, olive sprig and crescent. All within incuse square. Svoronos pl. XIV. Dewing 1591. SNG Copenhagen 36.  
Lovely iridescent tone and extremely fine 1'500



1197



1197

- 1197\*** Tetradrachm, magistrate Menedemos, Epigenes, Philoth., circa 135-134, AR 31 mm, 15.19 g. Head of Athena r., wearing crested Attic helmet decorated with griffin. Rev. A – ΘE / ME – NEΔ / EΠI / ΓENO / ΦIΛOΘ / ΓA Owl standing r. on amphora, head facing; in l. field, Asclepius standing l., holding serpent-entwined staff. All within wreath. Thompson, ANSNS 10, 349e. HGC 4, 1602.  
Light iridescent tone and extremely fine / good extremely fine 1'250  
*Ex Heritage sale 3046, 2016, 29083.*



1198



1198

- 1198\*** Tetradrachm, magistrates Dionysios and Kallis 118-117, AR 28 mm, 16.73 g. Head of Athena r., wearing Attic helmet decorated with Pegasus. Rev. A – ΘΕ / ΔΙΟΝ – ΥΣΙ / ΔΙΟΝ / ΥΣΙ / ΚΑΛ / ΛΙΣ Owl standing r., head facing, on amphora decorated with E; in r. field, Helios in quadriga and in exergue, ΣΦ. All within laurel wreath. Thompson ANSNS 10, 567a. HGC 4, 1602.

Wonderful old cabinet tone and about extremely fine

1'000

*Ex Sotheby's 21 June 1990, Hunt part III, 428 and Bertolami Fine Arts 67, 2019, 229 sales.*



1199



- 1199\*** Tetradrachm, under Sulla circa 86-84, AR 28 mm, 16.72 g. Head of Athena r., wearing Attic crested helmet decorated with Pegasus flying. Rev. Owl standing r. on amphora, decorated with A, head facing; at sides, two monograms. All within wreath. Thompson, ANSNS 10, 1277 (this obverse die). Svoronos pl. 78, 11 (this obverse die). HGC 4, 1477.

Rare. Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine

4'000

*Ex Stack's 9 November 1946, 197 and Heritage 3056, 2017, 30058 sales. Privately purchased from CNG in 2018.*

### Aegina, Aegina



1200



1200

- 1200\*** Stater circa 550-530/25, AR 21 mm, 12.09 g. "Proto-tortoise" with shell divided into thirteen segments. Rev. Incuse square. Holloway, ANSMN 17, Group C O7/R- (unlisted reverse die). Greek Coinage in the Persian Empire: The Malayer 1934 Hoard (IGCH 1790), Forthcoming, Group Ib. Milbank ANSNM 24, pl. I, 6. HGC 6, -.

Very rare. Wonderful old cabinet tone and very fine

3'000

*Ex Triton sale XXIII, 2020, 268. From the Matthew Curtis collection.*



1154



1155



1170



1265



1184



1184



1300



1229



1229



1176



1176



1206



1188



1188



1246



1205



1252



1278



1201



1201

- 1201\*** Stater circa 550-500, AR 21 mm, 12.15 g. Sea-turtle seen from above, with thin collar and dots running down its back. Rev. Incuse square divided into eight triangles, some of which are filled. *Traité* II/1, 1012, pl. XXIX, 7. SNG Delepierre 1501-1503. R. Milbank, ANSNNM 24, 1925, pl. 1, 2. Selinus Hoard 46-51. M.M. Bendenoun, *Coins of the Ancient World, A Portrait of the JDL Collection*, 20 (this coin).

Very rare and in unusually fine condition for this difficult issue. Struck in high relief, old cabinet tone and extremely fine

7'500

*Ex Emile Bourgey, June 1959, lot 353; Alain Weil October 2004, 92; NAC-Tradart 74, 2013, JDL part I, 288; NAC 100, 2017, 135 and NAC 114, 2018, 188 sales. From the Chandon de Briailles collection.*



1202



1202

- 1202** Stater circa 456-431, AR 20 mm, 12.5 g. Land tortoise with segmented shell. Rev. Large square incuse with heavy skew pattern. Meadows, *Aegina, Group IIIb*. Milbank *Period IV*, pl. II, 12. HGC 6, 437. SNG Copenhagen 517. SNG Lockett 1983. Boston, MFA 116. Dewing 1683.

Light old cabinet tone and about extremely fine

2'500

*Ex New York sale XXVII, 2012, Prospero, 379. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*



1203



1203

- 1203\*** Stater circa 350-338, AR 25 mm, 12.17 g. Tortoise seen from above. Rev. A – II'1 Quadripartite incuse square with one square divided and dolphin. Milbank ANSNNM 24, pl. III, 1. SNG Lockett 2002 (these dies). HGC 6, 439.

Struck on a very large flan and with a lovely iridescent tone. Obverse from a slightly rusty die, otherwise extremely fine

2'000

*Ex LHS 95, 2005, 620 and Hess-Divo 334, 2018, 61 sales.*

Corinthia, Corinth



1204

**1204\*** Drachm circa 550-500, AR 16 mm, 2.83 g. Pegasus flying l.; below, koppa. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square with projections in each quarter. BMC 29. Rosen 1707. BCD Korinth 7 (this reverse die). HGC 4, 1856.

Very rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Wonderful old cabinet tone and good very fine / about extremely fine

2'000

*Ex Hess-Leu 28, 1965, 192; CNG Review Volume XV n. 1, 1990, 3 and NAC 106, 2018, 228 sales. From the Harald Salvesen collection.*



1205

**1205\*** Stater circa 500-450, AR 20 mm, 8.58 g. Pegasus flying r.; below, koppa. Rev. Head of Athena r., wearing Corinthian helmet and pearl necklace; behind, koppa. All within partially incuse square. SNG locket cf. 2034. Calciati 82/1 (this coin, wrong reference to Ravel). BCD Korinth 23. Ravel P156/T227-230. HGC 4, 1825.

A magnificent portrait of superb style perfectly centred on a full flan. Lovely iridescent tone, minor marks on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine / extremely fine

12'500

*Ex J. Schulman 243, Graham 1966, 203; Leu 76, 1999, 125 and NAC 106, 2018, 231 sales. From the Harald Salvesen collection.*



1206

**1206\*** Stater circa 460–450, AR 20 mm, 8.52 g. Pegasus flying r.; below, [koppa]. Rev. Head of Athena I., wearing Corinthian helmet. All within partially incuse square. *Traité III*, pl. CCVIII, 11 (these dies). *Ravel 304*. *Calciati –*. *BCD Corinth –*. *Kray-Hirmer pl. 153, 483*.

A portrait of enchanting beauty, undoubtedly the finest of the entire Corinthian series, work of an exceptionally talented master engraver. Old cabinet tone and extremely fine 50'000

*Ex NAC sale 114, 2019, 196. Privately purchased from M&M on 29th April 1992. From the Harald Salvesen collection.*

Corinth, a city traditionally settled by Phoenician traders but probably not founded as a Greek polis until c. 900 BC, was strategically located to control the isthmus connecting central Greece to the Peloponnesos. Although the surrounding territory was not especially good for agriculture, the city grew rich in the Archaic period through domination of maritime trade along the western coast of mainland Greece and with the Greek cities of Sicily. Indeed, in order to maintain a firm control of this western trading empire, the Corinthians established colonies at Syracuse and Corcyra. They were also said to have been the first Greeks to build a standing fleet of triremes. In the late seventh and early sixth centuries BC, Corinth was notorious for its Kypselid dynasty of tyrants, some of whom lived up to the modern understanding of the tyrant as an evil despotic ruler. The Greek term *tyrannos* did not always have such negative connotations attached to it, but merely denoted an extra-constitutional ruler. Although Corinth continued to prosper under the tyrants and established new colonies at Apollonia and Empidamnos, the last Kypselid was overthrown in c. 584 BC and replaced by an oligarchic government with the assistance of Sparta. Corinth seems to have been on friendly terms with Athens in the sixth century BC and was respected as one of the greatest contributors of men and ships to the allied Greek cause during Xerxes' failed invasion of Greece (480–479 BC). After the war the relationship between Corinth and Athens quickly soured. The development of the Athenian fleet necessitated by the conflict and Athens' leadership role in the Delian League became competition for the Corinthian fleet and the city's maritime trading empire. The situation came to a head when Megara, a city traditionally dominated by Corinth, joined the Delian League. In 457 BC, the Corinthians challenged the Athenians in battle at Megara. Although the fighting proved indecisive, the Athenians erected a trophy on the battlefield after the Corinthians had returned home. Shamed by this development, the Corinthians returned two weeks later in order to raise their own trophy. Unfortunately, they were attacked by the Athenians while they were raising it and this time there was a clear victor. The Corinthians were routed with many slain by the Athenians while fleeing the battlefield. Thucydides identifies the dispute over Megara as the first major grievance that Corinth had against Athens, fuelling the jealousy and hatred that ultimately led the Corinthians to petition Sparta and the Peloponnesian League to begin the Peloponnesian War in 431 BC. The present Corinthian stater was struck in the pivotal period of the Megarian crisis. It may perhaps have financed this early conflict with Athens, although the wide use of Corinthian silver as a trade coinage in the Peloponnesos,

north-western Greece and in Sicily makes it difficult to tie the issue to specific needs. The types of Athena and Pegasus were traditional to the city. Indeed, the Pegasus type was such an iconic badge that Corinthian coins were regularly referred to in common parlance simply as *pegasoi*, or even as "Corinthian colts." Pegasus was associated with Corinth through the myth of Bellerophon, a Corinthian hero who tamed the winged horse while he drank at a well on the Acrocorinth. Mounted on Pegasus, Bellerophon undertook a quest to slay the three-bodied Chimera, a terrible monster that terrorised Lycia. Alas, having successfully killed the beast, Bellerophon thought himself an equal to the gods and tried to fly to the top of Mount Olympus on the back of Pegasus. Angered by his hubris, Zeus sent a gadfly to bite the winged horse and cause him to throw Bellerophon to his death.



1207



**1207\*** Stater circa 405-335, AR 24 mm, 8.51 g. Pegasus flying l.; below, [koppa]. Rev. Head of Athena r., wearing Corinthian helmet; in r. field, EYO and in l. field, double-bodied owl. Pegasi 147. Ravel 602. Pozzi 1680 (this coin).

Wonderful old cabinet tone and good very fine

1'000

*Ex Naville sale 1, 1921, Pozzi, 1680.*



1208



**1208\*** Stater circa 375-300, AR 21 mm, 8.53 g. Pegasus flying l.; below, koppa. Rev. Head of Athena l., wearing Corinthian helmet; in r. field, E and torch. Calciati, Pegasi 372. Ravel 992. HGC 4, 1848.

*Ex CNG e-sale 444, 2019, 119. Privately purchased from Ponterio in January 2004. From the Richard Sarf collection.*



1209



**1209** Stater circa 345-307, AR 22 mm, 8.51 g. Pegasus flying l.; below, koppa. Rev. Helmeted head of Athena l., behind, thyrsus with fillet. Ravel 1027. Calciati 417.

About extremely fine

750

*Ex Numismatik Naumann sale 77, 2019, 103.*

**Sicyonia, Sicyon**



1210

**1210** Drachm late 330s, AR 19 mm, 5.78 g. ΣΕ Chimera advancing l., r. paw raised. Rev. Dove flying l.; below it neck, l. All within wreath. BMC 68. BCD Peloponnesus 227-230

Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine

2'500

*From the Collection of Jacqueline Morineau Humphris.*

**Elis, Olympia**



1211

**1211\*** Stater signed by DA..., circa 408 BC, the 93rd Olympiad, AR 24 mm, 11.91 g. Head of eagle l., beneath, white poplar leaf inscribed [ΔΑ]. Rev. F – A Winged thunderbolt; all within wreath. Traité III, pl. CCXXXI, 1-3. Jameson 1231 (this obverse die). Kraay-Hirmer 500. Seltman Olympia, 153. BCD Olympia 77. SNG Delepierre 2111 (this obverse die).

Very rare and among the finest specimens known. Struck on a very broad flan and with a lovely old cabinet tone. Good very fine

10'000

*Ex Leu 36, 1985, 134 and New York XXVII, 2012, Prospero, 390 sales.*



1212

1212

**1212\*** Stater 96th Olympiad circa 396, AR 23 mm, 11.39 g. Eagle standing l., grasping coiled snake with his talons and tearing at its neck with his beak; all on round shield with raised rim. Rev. F – A (A recut in the die and partially incuse) Thunderbolt, with volutes above and flames below; on either side of the volutes, two olive leaves. C.T. Seltman, The Katoche hoard of Elean coins, NC 1951, p. 45, 164, pl. VI (this coin). BCD Olympia 89 (these dies). Seltman 164. HGC 5, 354.

Rare. Old cabinet tone and good very fine

6'000

*Ex Hess-Leu 11, 1954, 216; Sternberg XVII, 1986, 123; New York XXVII, 2012, Prospero, 391 and Nomos 16, 2018, 110 sales. From the Ravenel collection (USA). From the Katoché hoard, 1948 (IGCH 48).*



1213



- 1213** Drachm, Hera mint 105th Olympiad circa 360, AR 20 mm, 5.78 g. Head of nymph Olympia facing, turned slightly l., wearing pearl necklace, ribbon across the top of her forehead and with her hair flowing loose. Rev. F – A Eagle, with closed wings, standing r. on Ionic column capital; in l. field, kerykeion. All within olive wreath. BCD Olympia –. Seltman, Temple pl. XII, 13 (these dies). *Traité III*, 1131 and pl. CCXXXIII, 13 (these dies).

Of the highest rarity, by far the finest of three specimens known and the only one in private hands. Light iridescent tone and good very fine / very fine

7'500

*Ex Nomos 1, 2009, 72 and Gemini VIII, 2011, 58 sales. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*



1214



- 1214** Hemidrachm, Zeus mint 107th-108th Olympiad circa 352-348, AR 16 mm, 2.61 g. Laureate head of Zeus r. Rev. F – A Eagle standing r. on Ionic capital; in r. field, olive leaf. BCD Olympia 143. HGC 5, 441. Of excellent style and with a lovely old cabinet tone. Good very fine

1'000

*Privately purchased from Tradart at Tefaf in 2011. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*



1215



- 1215\*** Stater circa 326, AR 26 mm, 12.1 g. Head of Hera r., wearing stephane, on which, FAΛEIQN. In l. field, F. Rev. Eagle standing l. on rock, wings spread, head reverted; all within olive wreath. Seltman –, for obverse, cf. 339-340 and for reverse cf., 341-345. BCD Olympia 160.

Very rare. A pleasant portrait of fine style struck in high relief on sound metal. Light tone and a good very fine

7'500

*Ex NGSA 4, 2006, 82; NAC 52, 2009, 150; Heritage-Gemini 3011, 2011, 62; Heritage 3030, 2014, 23763 and Heritage 3081, 2020, 32016 sales. From a private Japanese collection.*

### Messenia, Messene



- 1216\*** Hemidrachm circa 146-90, AR 15 mm, 2.48 g. Diademed and bearded head of Zeus l. Rev. ME – Σ Tripod surrounded by wreath. BCD Pelopponesos 729 (this coin). C. Grandjean, *Les Messéniens de 370/369 au 1er siècle de notre ère: monnayages et histoire.*, BCH Suppl. 44, École française d'Athènes, 2003, 120. HGC 5, 566 (this coin illustrated).  
Wonderful iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 750  
*Ex LHS 96, 2006, BCD 729; Nomos 2, 2010, 88 and Künker 341, 2020, 5514 sales.*
- 1217\*** Hemidrachm circa 70-40, AR 16 mm, 2.33 g. Diademed and bearded head of Zeus r. Rev. ME – Σ; Tripod; in field, ΞΕ – ΝΟ/ΧΑ – ΠΗΣ. All within wreath. C. Grandjean, *Les Messéniens de 370/369 au 1er siècle de notre ère: monnayages et histoire.*, BCH Suppl. 44, École française d'Athènes, 2003, 185a (this coin). HGC 5, 570 (this coin but wrongly illustrated under 568).  
Wonderful old cabinet tone and good extremely fine 600  
*Ex Busso-Peus 288, 1975, 210; Triton XI, 2008, 180; Künker Fixed Price List 2008, 9 and Künker 341, 2020, 5520 sales. From the duplicates of the BCD collection.*

### Argolis, Epidaurus



- 1218\*** Drachm circa 250-240, AR 20 mm, 4.64 g. Laureate head of Apollo Maleatas r. Rev. Asclepius seated l., holding long sceptre and extending r. hand over serpent that coils to l. before him; in r. field, E and beneath throne, ΘΕ. Below throne, hound lying r. Requier, *Le monnayage d'Épidaure à la lumière d'un nouveau trésor*, SNR 72, 1993, 65 (this coin). BCD Pelopponesos 1240. HGC 5, 728.  
Very rare. A portrait of excellent struck on fresh metal and with a lovely old cabinet tone.  
Minor marks on reverse, otherwise about extremely fine / good very fine 7'500  
*Ex Heritage sale 3061, 2018, 32033. From a hoard in Epidaurus, 1979-1980 (CH VII, 69).*  
*Epidaurus was a small independent city in the Argolis that was famous as a major cult center of the healing god Asclepius. According to mythological tradition, he was a son of Apollo and the Thessalian princess Coronis. Unfortunately, when already pregnant with Asclepius, Coronis was unfaithful to the god with a mortal man. When Apollo discovered what had happened, he killed her lover while his sister Artemis struck down Coronis. However, Apollo saved their baby by taking it from the body of Coronis as she lay on her funeral pyre. As a youth, Asclepius learned the art of healing from the wise centaur Chiron and became its greatest practitioner. Indeed, he was so skilled that on occasion he could even raise the dead, much to the consternation of Zeus. His great skill was attributed to the secrets of medicine revealed to him by snakes—creatures considered by the Greeks to have connections to the hidden wisdom of the underworld. For this reason, Asclepius was often depicted in Greek art feeding a serpent from a phiale or holding a staff entwined by serpents. This staff still serves as an emblem of medical practitioners in many parts of the world to this day. Asclepius was worshipped at Epidaurus as early as the sixth century BC. By the fourth century BC a major sanctuary devoted to the god boasting a theatre and a stadium for use in festival games grew up in the city's hinterland that. Most important, however, were the temple and associated buildings, where the ill came to offer sacrifice and seek the god's aid in providing a cure. Normally those seeking cures were invited to sleep in the enkoimeteria, a large sleeping hall, while the priests passed snakes sacred to Asclepius over them. It was believed that the god would then come to the supplicant in a dream and advise on a cure. While it is difficult for modern people to imagine that this system had a very high success rate, the large number of votive gifts depicting healed body parts deposited at the temple shows that the ancients strongly believed that the god had helped them. This rare third-century*

drachm breaks with the usual custom of depicting Asclepius standing and holding his staff in order to tap into the popularity and wide acceptability of the seated Zeus reverse type originally popularized by Alexander the Great. Here, Asclepius is shown seated on a throne and holding a scepter in a pose that makes him almost indistinguishable from the Alexandrine Zeus type. He is only recognizable as the god of healing rather than as the master of Olympus because his outstretched right hand holds a phiale instead of an eagle, and a coiled serpent appears below to drink its contents. The Heracles obverse type normally paired with Alexander's Zeus reverse has been replaced on the Epidaurian drachm by the head of Apollo, the father of Asclepius. This arrangement inverts that of the Alexandrine coinage in which Zeus, the divine father, appears on the reverse and his heroic son Heracles is depicted on the obverse.

### Arcadia, Alea



1219



1219

**1219\*** Obol circa 390-370, AR 12 mm, 0.88 g. Head of Artemis r. Rev. AA Bow. BCD Peloponnesos I, 1346 (this reverse die). BCD Peloponnesos II, 573 (this coin). HGC 5, 808.

Very rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. A very elegant portrait of fine style and a light iridescent tone, minor marks, otherwise about extremely fine

1'000

Ex CNG 81, 2009, BCD, 573 and CNG 103, 2016, 184 sales. Privately purchased from Shanna Schmidt in 2018.

### Heraia



1220



1220

**1220\*** Hemidrachm circa 500-495, AR 14 mm, 2.98 g. Veiled head of Hera to l., wearing stephane and beaded necklace. Rev. EP all within a shallow incuse square. Weber 4279 (this coin). Jameson 2109 (this coin). BMC 1 (these dies). BCD Acarnania 1350. Williams Period I, 2 (O2/R2). HGC 5, 818 (this coin illustrated)

Extremely rare. A fascinating issue with a portrait of excellent Archaic style and a light old cabinet tone. Minor area of porosity on reverse, otherwise extremely fine

25'000

Ex Sotheby's Wilkinson and Hodge 1879, Stratford Canning, Viscount Stratford de Redcliffe, 18; Triton XIII, 2010, 163; Nomos 5, 2011, 169; Roma Numismatics 7, 2014, 229 and NAC 114, 2019, 166 sales. From the Weber, Jameson, BCD and Gutekunst collections.

Heraia was founded at some point in the eighth or seventh century BC by nine smaller Arcadian towns. In the early fifth century BC the city seems to have belonged to an alliance, sometimes described as the first Arcadian League, led by Cleitor. Heraia fell under the influence of Sparta and joined the Peloponnesian League in 425 BC. As a league-member, Heraia was staunchly loyal. During the Peloponnesian War (431-404 BC) the Heraians fought against fellow Arcadians, most of whom had sided with Athens in order to gain independence from Sparta. Even after Spartan hegemony was ended by Boiotian Thebes at the Battle of Leuctra in 371 BC, Heraia still remained loyal to Sparta and finally paid a heavy price for it. The other Arcadian cities, which had been reorganised as a Theban-led Arcadian League, together devastated the territory of Heraia and forced the city to give up its support of Sparta and join the new league. This extremely rare early hemidrachm belongs to the period of Heraia's history when the city was in the political orbit of Cleitor and the difficulties of the Spartan alliance still remained in the future. The obverse features a wonderfully archaic head of Hera, the city's patron deity, that almost borders on the grotesque, while the reverse gives the first two letters of the city's name. The coin would be desirable enough on its own to the collector of archaic Greek coins, but it is rendered even more attractive by its storied past as part of notable collections. Not only has it belonged to BCD in recent times, but previously this piece has been part of collections formed by Robert Jameson and Sir Hermann Weber. Before them it belonged to Stratford Canning, the first British ambassador to the new state of Greece (1828-1833). That Canning possessed the coin gives it a special place in numismatics, bridging the long divide between the greatness of ancient Greece and the creation of the modern Greek state.

**Tegea**



1221



1221

- 1221\*** Arcadian league. Hemidrachm circa 460-450, AR 14 mm, 3.01 g. Zeus Lykaios seated r., eagle alighting r. from his hand. Rev. ΑΡΚΑ / ΔΙ[ΚΟ] retrograde Head of Kallisto, wearing taenia, three-quarters facing r.; all within incuse square. Williams, ANSNNM 155, 203. BCD Peloponnesos 1715 var. (different arrangement legend). HGC 5, 1036.

Rare. A very interesting portrait of fine style. Surface slightly porous, otherwise good very fine 3'000

*Ex CNG sale 109, 2018, 132. From the duplicates of the BCD collection.*

**Crete, Cnossus**



1222



1222

- 1222** Stater circa 360-330, AR 27 mm, 9.88 g. Wreathed head of Demeter I. Rev. ΚΝΩΣΙΟΝ Zeus enthroned l., holding sceptre. All within meander pattern. Le Rider, Crete –. Svoronos, Numismatique Add. pl. 11, 15.

Of the highest rarity. Struck on an irregular flan and reverse, surface somewhat corroded, otherwise good very fine / very fine

2'000

*Ex Helios sale 6, 2011, 529. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

Whereas the vast majority of Cnossian coins promote Cnossos' connection to the myth of the Minotaur and the labyrinth of King Minos, the types of this stater advertise sites of cultic significance in the environs of the city. The obverse depiction of Demeter refers to a sanctuary of the grain goddess that was located on the Gypsadhes Hill south of the Minoan palace complex of Cnossos. The sanctuary is not mentioned in ancient literary descriptions of the city, but occasional finds led archaeologists to suspect its existence by 1927. The certainty of the sanctuary of Demeter was proven by a series of excavations that began in 1957 and were published in 1973.

The representation of Zeus within a circular meander border on the reverse seems to refer to the Dictean Cave. Cretan tradition held Zeus was born to the goddess Rhea in this cave. After his birth, Rhea hid him there with his nurse Amalthea in order to protect him from his father Cronus, who had developed a disturbing taste for his own children. Thanks to the cave (and to a baby-sized rock that Rhea fed to her not-too-bright Titan of a husband instead) Zeus escaped from being devoured and instead grew strong until he could finally overthrow his father and force him to disgorge his siblings. It was also sometimes claimed that Zeus later died on Crete and that his tomb could be seen on the island.

At least, this was how the Cretans liked to tell it. Of course, there is no way to know now how much of this is actually true. After all, other places, like Mount Ida in Asia Minor, also claimed to be the location of Zeus' birth and hiding place, and, as Epimenides, a notable citizen of Cnossus in the sixth century BC, once paradoxically pointed out, "Cretans are always liars."



1223



1223

**1223\*** Stater circa 330-300, AR 26 mm, 10.94 g. Wreathed head of Demeter (?) r. Rev. Labyrinth in form of swastika with four pellets in centre. Le Rider, Crete 3 (this coin).

Rare. Struck on an unusually fresh metal and with a lovely old cabinet tone. Areas of weakness, otherwise about extremely fine

5'000

*Ex M&M 66, 1984, 150; Hess-Divo 307, 2007, 1186 and Künker 326, 2019, 794 sales. From the Phaistos hoard, 1957 (IGCH 0152).*

## Cydonia



1224



1224

**1224\*** Hemidrachm circa 450-330, AR 14 mm, 2.88 g. Land tortoise; in r. field, A. Rev. Incuse square with skew patten; in one segment, crescent. Robinson, Pseudaeginetica, 1928, 8. Svoronos, Crete –.

In exceptional condition for the issue, possibly the finest specimen in private hands. Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine

5'000

*Ex Triton XXIII, 2020, 280. From the Matthew Curtis collection.*

The Cretan city of Cydonia had been an important center of Minoan culture in the Bronze Age, as evidenced by the remains of a palace and surrounding town uncovered in excavations. This settlement was largely abandoned during the collapse of Minoan civilization brought on by the effects of the volcanic eruption of Thera and Mycenaean invasion in the late fifteenth and fourteenth centuries BC. However, it was still remembered in Homer's *Odyssey*, where Cydonia was named as one of the places to which the ships of Menelaus were scattered during the return voyage from the Trojan War. According to Herodotus, a group of Samian exiles who had opposed the establishment of Polycrates as tyrant in their island city, eventually made their way to Crete and built a new settlement at Cydonia around 531 BC. The Samian city of Cydonia was known for its several sanctuaries, including one dedicated to the Cretan hunting goddess, Dictynna. Unfortunately, after living at Cydonia for five years, in the sixth year, 525 BC, the Samians were expelled from the city by a force of Aeginetans and Cretans who settled there themselves. The land tortoise and skew pattern types of this hemidrachm closely mimic the contemporary types of Aegina in the second half of the fifth and early fourth centuries BC. Only the Aeginetan ethnic abbreviated to a single letter A and the addition of a crescent symbol reveal that it is not an official Aeginetan issue. The imitation of these types at may have been intended to advertise the Aeginetan ancestry of the Cydonians. However, it is also possible that the Aeginetan types were copied because this they were popular in the Peloponnesus where many Cretans served as mercenaries providing light-armed troops to protect the flanks of the phalanx. Cydonia was especially known for the quality of its archers. During the Peloponnesian War (431-404 BC), the period when this coin may have been struck, Cydonia maintained a pro-Spartan policy and thus suffered attack by the Athenians in 429 BC. Although the Athenians plundered the city's agricultural hinterland, they did not capture Cydonia. In 343 BC, also possibly in the period when this coin was in circulation, the city also weathered a siege by Phalaecus, a Phocian mercenary commander operating in Crete on behalf of the city of Cnossus. The siege came to an end when Phalaecus was killed by a lightning strike that hit his siege engines and set them on fire.

**Gortyna**



1225



1225

- 1225** Stater circa 300, AR 27 mm, 11.95 g. Europa, naked to waist and wearing a peplos over her lower limbs, seated three-quarters l. in plane tree, resting head on r. hand. Rev. Bull standing right, head reverted. Svoronos, Crète 62. Le Rider, Monnaies Crètoises pl. XII, 16.  
Extremely rare. Light tone and very fine 4'500  
*Ex Busso-Peus sale 401, 2010, 226*

**Itanos**



1226



- 1226** Drachm circa 370-360, AR 17 mm, 5.32 g. Helmeted head of Athena l. Rev. ITANIΩN Eagle standing left, head r.; in r. field, Triton upward, holding trident; all within incuse square. Svoronos, Numismatique 36. SNG Copenhagen 475. BMC 6.  
Rare. Superb old cabinet tone, a minor scratch on obverse field, otherwise good very fine 1'500  
*Ex Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge 8 May 1916, Rev. A.C. Headlam D.D., 387; Hess 253, 1983, 209 and The Bru 3, 2011, 39 sales. From the Collection on a Man in Love with Art.*

**The Cyclades, Paros**



1227



1227

- 1227\*** Drachm circa 490-485, AR 17 mm, 6.18 g. Goat kneeling r. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. Sheedy 128a (this coin). HGC 6, 656.  
Rare. Lovely old cabinet tone and extremely fine 4'000  
*Hess-Leu 11, 1959, 236; Leu 7, 1973, 189; Leu 65, 1996, 180 and Künker 333, 2020, 770 sales.*

Tenos



1228

- 1228\*** Tetradrachm circa 260-240, AR 27 mm, 13.1 g. Laureate head of Apollo Carneios r. Rev. ΘΗΝΙΩΝ Poseidon on throne l., holding dolphin on outstretched r. hand and trident in l.; in l. field, bunch of grapes. Gillet 1042 (this coin). F. Imhoof Blumer, *Griechischen Münzen*, NC 1895, pl. 10, 9 var. (monogram below the throne). É&A-G 102. HGC 6, 727.

Of the highest rarity, possibly the finest specimen in private hands of only five recorded. Pleasant old cabinet tone and about extremely fine 25'000

*Ex Ars Classica XVI, 1933, Spencer-Churchill, 1315; M&M 76, 1981, Boutin, 801; Auctiones 24, 1994, 273; M&M 85, 1997, 103; M&M 95, 2004, 41; Nomos 3, 2011, 105 and NAC 116, 2019, 158 sales. From the Carystus hoard of 1930 (IGCH 210) and the Charles Gillet collection.*

Although it is struck to a much lower weight standard than the Attic, this tetradrachm derives its types from two of the most widely recognised Attic-weight coinages of the third century BC. The reverse type depicts Poseidon holding a dolphin and trident, but his enthroned figure is clearly 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 sceptre with a trident. Likewise, while the laurel wreath worn by the youthful horned head on the obverse signals a representation of Apollo Karneios, 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 Karneios. 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 tetradrachm of Tenos is actually one of the rarest in coinage struck by cities of the Cyclades.

**Kings of Pontus. Pharnaces I, before 196/5-circa 155 BC**



1229

**1229\*** Tetradrachm, Sinope circa 196-155, AR 32 mm, 16.81 g. Diademed and bearded head r. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ - ΦΑΡΝΑΚΟΥ Pantheistic male deity standing facing, wearing flat hat topped with a thunderbolt, holding cornucopiae and kerykeion with his l. hand and feeding fawn standing r. with a vine branch held in his r.; in inner l. field, star-in-crescent (Pontic royal badge); in inner r. field, monogram. RG 4. SNG BM Black Sea – cf. Ira & Larry Goldberg sale 96, 2017, 1686 (this monogram). Berk, *One Hundred Greatest Ancient Coins*, 79 (this coin).

Very rare and in excellent condition for this important and fascinating issue.  
An impressive portrait of fine style struck in high relief. About extremely fine

35'000

*Privately purchased from Harlan J. Berk and published in his book "One Hundred Greatest Ancient Coins,".*

Although the early years of his reign are very obscure, Pharnaces I made a dramatic entry into the annals of Anatolian history with his successful siege of Sinope on the Pontic coast. The Pontic kings had long desired to control this wealthy Greek trading city, which served as an important node in the rich Black Sea grain trade, and in 183 BC, Pharnaces I made it a reality.

The conquest of Sinope sent shockwaves through the eastern Mediterranean world. The Rhodians, who had deep-seated interests in the grain trade, sent an embassy to Rome to protest, but this had little result, and Pharnaces I continued to enjoy his new port on the Black Sea. However, the fall of Sinope caused such great concern to other regional players in the grain trade that an alliance composed of Eumenes II of Pergamum, Prusias II of Bithynia, and Ariarathes IV of Cappadocia, Artaxias I of Armenia, and the Greek cities of Heraclea Pontica, Mesembria, Chersonesus, and Cyzicus began to form against him.

While the allies waited for a response to new embassies sent to Rome, Pharnaces I made a preemptive strike in the spring of 181 BC by invading Galatia with a large army and attacking the kingdoms of Eumenes II and Ariarathes IV. The so-called Pontic War (181-179 BC) that ensued was briefly paused in early 180 BC after Roman commissioners arrived at Pergamum to discover the causes of the conflict and broker a solution. Negotiations began but soon fell apart after Pharnaces I insisted that he be permitted to retain his conquests in Galatia and Paphlagonia. When the Roman delegation declared these demands to be unreasonable, the Pontic king returned to pressing his demands by force.

The renewed Pontic War was fought on and off into 179 BC, by which time Pharnaces I realised that he could not withstand the combined forces of the allies ranged against him. Rather than risk the total loss of his kingdom, he accepted peace terms that forced him to renounce Galatia and Paphlagonia but still permitted him to retain Sinope.

Little is heard of Pharnaces I in the aftermath of his expansionist debacle, but he seems to have survived on the throne of Pontus for some years further. His death is normally placed in 155 BC, the year before the first mention of his brother, Mithridates IV, as king.

**Mithradates VI, 120 – 63**



1230

1230

**1230** Tetradrachm, Pergamum 74 (year 224), AR 32 mm, 16.84 g. Diademed head of Mithradates VI r. with windswept hair. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ / ΜΥΘΡΑΔΑΤΟΥ / ΕΥΠΙΑΤΟΡΟΣ Deer grazing l.; at sides, star over crescent / monogram and two monograms; in exergue, Γ. All within ivy-wreath. SNG Copenhagen 236. SNG Delepierre 2476. de Callatay, Guerre D61/R-.

Light old cabinet tone and about extremely fine

3'000

**Kings of Bithynia, Prusias II, 182 – 149**



1231

**1231\*** Tetradrachm, Nicomedia circa 182-149, AR 35 mm, 16.99 g. Diademed head r. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ / ΠΡΟΥΣΙΟΥ Zeus standing l., holding wreath and sceptre: in inner l. field, eagle on thunderbolt. Recueil Général 10b.

A bold portrait struck on a very large flan, light iridescent tone and good very fine

1'500

*Ex Nomos 14, 2017, 131 (written on the ticket, "von Münzhandlung Dr. Jul. Cahn Frank/t a/M") and Künker 326, 2019, 805 sales. From the Dr Walter Stoecklin collection.*

**Mysia, Cyzicus**



1232

1232

**1232** 1/12 stater circa 600-550, EL 7 mm, 1.02 g. Two tunny heads l., one above the other; pellet above and below; behind, tunny upward. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. von Fritze 10. SNG France 168.

Extremely rare. Reddish tone and very fine

500

*Privately purchased from CNG in 2011. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*



1233



1233

- 1233** Stater circa 500-450, EL 21 mm, 16.11 g. Youthful male figure, wearing tainia with frontal spike, kneeling r., holding knife and tunny. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. von Fritze 113. SNG France 245.

Rare. Obverse slightly off-centre, otherwise about extremely fine

5'000

*Ex Roma Numismatics sale 3, 2012, 266.*



1234



1234

- 1234** Stater circa 500-450, EL 18 mm, 16.12 g. Griffin crouching l., right forepaw raised; below, tunny-fish l. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. von Fritze 99. Boston, MFA 1455. SNG France 240.

Light reddish tone and good very fine

3'500

*Privately purchased from Vinchon 2010. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*



1235



1235

- 1235** Stater circa 450-400, EL 19 mm, 15.89 g. Youthful head of Kabeiros l., wearing laureate pileus. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. von Fritze I, 139. Boston, MFA –.

Extremely rare. An interesting portrait struck in high relief. Good very fine

12'500



1236



1236

- 1236** Stater circa 450-400, EL 15 mm, 16.02 g. Head of Attis r., wearing Phrygian cap; below in field, tunny r. Rev. Quadripartite incuse punch. von Fritze 142. SNG France 291. SNG von Aulock –. Boston, MFA 1521. Gulbenkian 644.

Rare. Very fine

5'000

*Ex New York sale XXVIII, 2012, Prospero, 447. Privately purchased from Bank Leu on 10th September 1990. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*



1237



1237

- 1237** Stater circa 450-400, EL 19 mm, 15.9 g. Head of Heracles r., wearing lion's skin headdress; below, tunny fish r. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square with rough surfaces. Greenwell 62 and pl. III, 13. von Fritze 140 and pl. IV, 26. Boston, MFA 1526. SNG France 289.

Good very fine

4'000

*Ex Sotheby's 12 November 1990, 24 and Stack's 12 January 2009, The Golden Horn, 2012 sales. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*



1238



1238

- 1238** Stater circa 450-400, EL 16 mm, 15.94 g. A young Heracles and Iphicles kneeling respectively l. and r., wrestling serpents; below, tunny-fish l. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. von Fritze 208. Boston, MFA 1531. SNG France 641.

Very rare. An interesting and fascinating issue of fine style. A minor scrape on obverse, otherwise good very fine

3'000

*Ex Gemini sale VIII, 2011, 67. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

Although the earliest Greek coinages were struck in electrum—an alloy of gold and silver that may have been first found naturally in the Pactolus River of Lydia—by the late sixth century BC, most cities had discontinued the production of electrum coinage in favour of parted silver and gold. Nevertheless, cities like Cyzicus, Mytilene, and Phocaea continued to strike electrum staters and fractions down to the fourth century BC because electrum remained the preferred metallic alloy for trade along the coasts of the Black Sea. The importance of Cyzicene electrum staters is illustrated by a fourth-century BC inscription from Olbia in which the exchange rate was fixed to convert them into Olbian silver drachms.

Cyzicene staters are famous and much loved by modern collectors for the variety of types used. These included animal types, divine and mythological types, and the badges of various cities. This particular stater depicts two nude youths struggling with serpents, a type representing the infant Heracles with his younger (by one night) and mortal half-brother Iphicles facing the snakes sent by Hera to kill Heracles. According to Greek mythology, the serpents slithered into the nursery shared by the brothers at night while they were sleeping. Iphicles woke up and screamed in terror at the attacking serpents. Alerted by his fearful half-brother, Heracles awoke and strangled the snakes before they could harm them. This depiction seems to prefigure later types featuring Heracles alone killing the serpents, which became popular in Asia Minor around 405 BC as an emblem of Spartan triumph over the Athenian empire in the last years of the Peloponnesian War (431-404 BC).



1239



1239

- 1239** Hecte circa 450-400, EL 11 mm, 2.69 g. Head of eagle l.; below, head of tunny fish r. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. cf. S. Hurter and J. Liewald, SNR 81 (2002), p. 33, no. 39, pl. 3, 37a (hemihecte).

Of the highest rarity, apparently unpublished as a hecte. The finest of very few specimens known. Obverse slightly off-centre, otherwise good very fine

1'500

*Ex Gemini sale VII, 2011, 457. From the collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

**Cilicia**



**1240\*** Pharnabazos, Satrap, 413-373. Tetradrachm circa 398, AR 25 mm, 14.52 g. ΦΑΡ – Ν – ΑΒΑ Diademed head of Pharnabazos r., wearing satrapal cap. Rev. Prow l., decorated with griffin; at sides, dolphins and below, tunny-fish. F. Maffre, *Le monnayage de Pharnabaze frappé dans l'atelier de Cyzique*, NC 164, 2004, 1a (D1/R1) (this coin). J. Bodzek, *Pharnabazos in Kyzikos : Der Seesieg in Kunst und Numismatik zu Beginn des 4. Jhs. v. Chr.*, in *Proceedings of the 12th International Numismatic Congress, Berlin 1997, 1997, 2* (this coin). A. Winzer, *Antike Portraitmünzen der Perser und Griechen aus vor-hellenistischer Zeit (Zeitraum ca. 510-322 v.Chr.) : die frühesten Portraits lebender Menschen von Dareios I. bis Alexander III*, Kronberg, 2005, 9.3 (this coin). SNG von Aulock 1216 (this coin). M. Alam, *Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften (Wien)*, 1986, 325 (this coin illustrated). W. Weiser, *Die Eulen von Kyros dem Jüngeren. Zu den ersten Münzporträts lebender Menschen*, ZPE 76, 1989, pl. XX, 31 (this coin). H.-H. Nieswandt, in *Das Diadem der Hellenistischen Herrscher*, 2012, Typus 1 a (this coin cited).

Very rare, only very few specimens in private hands, of this important and interesting issue. A superb portrait of fine style and a lovely old cabinet tone. Good very fine

25'000

*Ex Leu 45, 1988, 199; Giessener Münzhandlung 46, 1989, 266 and Künker 304, 2018, 437 sales. From the von Aulock collection.*

During this time of Spartan-Persian conflict, this remarkable Kyzikos coinage was minted. The problem began in 398 BC when Pharnabazos was given command of the Achaemenid navy and ended in 396 BC when the mint was temporarily shut down because of the Spartan presence in the region. According to Maffre's die analysis, the coinage was enormous even if there are not many specimens produced by it left. Maffre dismisses the inclination of previous numismatists to link the coinage to a special emission honouring a particular naval victory, echoing the prior views of G. Le Rider and O. Casabonne. Rather, the magnitude of the emission indicates that the issue was probably used to fund Pharnabazos' navy as a whole, including the building and upkeep of hundreds of ships as well as the labour of thousands of troops. The coinage was crucial to Pharnabazos' naval triumph that resulted in the Battle of Knidos, even though it did not honour a specific naval victory.



**1241\*** Tetradrachm circa 410-390, AR 25 mm, 14.79 g. Head of Kore I., wreathed with grain; above, ΣΩΤΕΙΡΑ. Rev. KY – ΖΙ Lion's head l., with open jaws and protruding tongue: in r. field, pileus and below, tunny-fish. von Fritze 23 and pl. V, 27. Meadows, Pixodarus –.

An elegant portrait of fine style struck in high relief with a delightful iridescent tone. Minor porosity, otherwise about extremely fine

3'500

*Ex NFA XIV, 1984, 136; Gorny & Mosch 207, 2012, 274 and Leu Numismatik Winterthur 3, 2018, 86 sales. From the Argyros collection.*



**1242\*** Didrachm circa 170-150, AR 22 mm, 7.12 g. Head of Kore Soteira r., wearing oak wreath. Rev. KY – ZI Thunderbolt; all within oak wreath. von Fritze 34. SNG von AUlock 1233 (this obverse die).

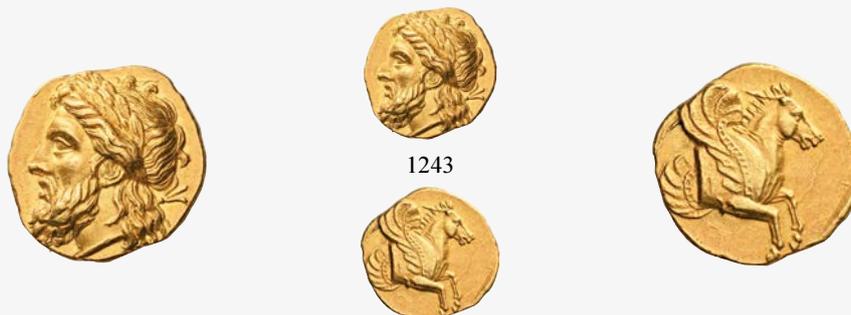
Exceedingly rare, possibly the finest in private hands of very few specimens known of this denomination. Struck on a very broad flan and with a lovely old cabinet tone.

Good extremely fine

8'000

*Ex CNG 94, 2013, 456 and Triton XXI, 2018, 455 sales. From the Roger Liles collection.*

### Lampsacus



**1243** Stater circa 350, AV 17 mm, 8.42 g. Laureate head of Zeus l., with lotus-tipped sceptre on far shoulder. Rev. Forepart of Pegasus r.; all within shallow and partially incuse square. Baldwin, *Lampsakos* 29 and pl. II, 33. Boston, MFA 1595. SNG France 1137 (these dies). Kraay-Hirmer pl. 202, 729.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, possibly the finest specimen known. A wonderful portrait of the finest Classical style struck in high relief with an enchanting reddish tone.

Good extremely fine

60'000

*Ex Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge 1910, Well Known Amateur, 51; Leu 36, 1968, 256 and NAC 33, 2006, 153 sales.*

The staters of Lampsacus are among the most appealing of all ancient gold coinages; not only is their artistry of a very high standard, but there is a considerable variety in obverse types, all of which are paired with the standard reverse depicting the forepart of a winged horse. This particular coin, struck at the end of the Classical period, bears the head of Zeus, the supreme deity of the Greeks. In her masterful study of 1924, Brett documents 41 issues of staters for a period of 50 or 60 years, leading us to conclude that the gold coinage of Lampsacus was as exciting in ancient times as it is today. We may generalise by saying that Greek gold coins fall into two broad categories: imperial and civic. The former, when well managed, was struck consistently and in large quantities. The civic coinages tended to be struck only periodically in response to crises, and this is the case even at some of the most prolific mints, such as Syracuse and Tarentum. However, Lampsacus seems to have issued a regular gold coinage, just as it had done in earlier times using electrum. Comparisons between Lampsacus, Cyzicus, Mytilene and Phocaea can readily be made except that the latter three mints continued to issue electrum long after the Archaic age had closed.



1244



1244

**1244** Stater circa 350, AV 16 mm, 8.4 g. Head of Satyr l., wearing ivy wreath, earrings and necklace. Rev. Forepart of Pegasus r. Baldwin 18. SNG France 2521. Weber 5100.

Extremely rare. A wonderful portrait of excellent style struck in high relief on a full flan. About extremely fine

25'000

*Ex Stack's sale 14 January 2008, 2230. From the Lawrence Stack collection.*

Lampsacus was originally a native Mysian settlement known as Bebrykia, but it was reportedly obtained by the Greeks of Phokaia in a peace settlement following a conflict with the Mysians. It was refounded as the Greek colony of Lampsakos in 654/3 BC and seems to have prospered under both the Lydian Empire of Croesus and the Persian Empire that followed. Indeed, the city is famous for having been granted to Themistokles by Artaxerxes I "for his wine". This, of course, should not be taken to mean that the exiled Athenian statesman was either an extremely heavy drinker or had a taste for extremely expensive vintages, although both may have been true. Instead, he was granted the revenues of the city, which had a reputation as a cult centre for the worship of the wine-god Dionysos and his lewd companion Priapos. Among the Greek cities of western Asia Minor Lampsacus could be counted very fortunate in that it possessed gold mines within the borders of its territories. Although the city had produced some rare electrum issues earlier in the fifth century BC, pure gold coin production seems to have begun in c. 404 BC under the influence of Spartan hegemony. The initial coinage was probably struck to finance the development of the Spartan navy following the crushing defeat of the Athenian fleet at Aigospotamoi. From this point Lampsakos continued to strike Persic-weight gold staters, possibly for trade or, more likely, to support the designs of the Persian satraps of Mysia and Hellespontine Phrygia, until the conquest of western Asia Minor by Alexander the Great in 334 BC. Lampsakos subsequently ceased production of its traditional civic gold and became an important Macedonian imperial mint for Alexander's Attic-weight gold staters. As with the electrum of Cyzicus, Lampsakene gold was regularly anepigraphic and frequently changed its obverse types. The Pegasus civic badge on the reverse, however, was fixed as a clear indicator of the issuing city. The obverse type of the present issue is especially remarkable and rare due to its depiction of what appears to be a female satyr. The satyrs were goat-legged, pointy-eared, and often ithyphallic associates of Dionysos frequently found carrying off nymphs for unspecified purposes. Here, while the pointed ear seems to clearly signal a satyr, the facial features and especially the beaded necklace seem to indicate a female. As a female satyr is unheard of in Greek iconography and incompatible with the mythology in which male satyrs regularly coupled with female nymphs one wonders whether the type might represent a maenad (the usual female follower of Dionysos) who has been conflated with a satyr, either accidentally or by design. Both maenads and the usual male satyrs appear on other issues of gold at Lampsacus.

### Troas, Alexandria



1245



**1245\*** Tetradrachm circa 150, AR 38 mm, 16.68 g. Laureate head of Apollo Smintheus l. Rev. ΑΠΟΛΛΩΝΟΣ / ΣΜΙΘΕΩΣ / ΑΛΕΞΑΝ Apollo Smintheus standing r., holding bow and patera; below, two monograms. Bellinger, Troy -, but cf. A133-137.

Very rare. Struck on an exceptionally large flan and with a light iridescent tone. Minor marks and small areas of oxidation, otherwise about extremely fine

3'000

*Ex Leu 28, 1981, 138; M&M GmbH 40, 2014, 221 and Rauch 107, 2018, 139 sales.*

**Islands off Troas, Tenedos**



1246

**1246** Didrachm circa 490-480, AR 19 mm, 8.94 g. Janiform head: on the l., a bearded male face l.; on the r., a female face r.; both wearing necklace, stephane, and both share a disc earring with a rosette pattern and a double-curved pendant. Rev. TEN – E (retrograde) Bearded male head l., wearing a Corinthian helmet and a pearl necklace; all within incuse square. BMC 8 = *Traité I*, 630, pl. XIV, 9 var. (left Janiform head without beard).

An apparently unique variety of an exceedingly rare type. A janiform portrait of enchanting beauty, work of a very talented engraver, in the finest style of the period. A lovely light old cabinet tone. Extremely rare / about extremely fine

150'000

*Ex Nomos I, 2009, 95 and Triton XV, 2012, 1002 sales.*

The jugate male and female head on the obverse of the coins of Tenedos has always been rather enigmatic but has often been considered to be a combined representation of Zeus and Hera. After all, the male head is always bearded, and on later issues, is usually shown wearing a laurel wreath. If the male head is Zeus, then by default the female head, distinguished only by a stephane and earring—both somewhat generic female attributes—is assumed to be Hera as the wife of Zeus.

While most issues of Tenedos feature a double-bladed axe on the reverse, this early didrachm features a helmeted and bearded male head in connection with the abbreviated city ethnic. It seems very likely that this helmeted head was intended to represent Tenes, the eponymous hero of Tenedos. According to the foundation myth of Tenedos, Tenes was a son of King Cygnus of Coloniae and his first wife, Proclia, a daughter or granddaughter of the Trojan king Laomedon. After Proclia died, Cygnus took a new wife named Philonome, who, in stereotypical evil stepmotherly fashion, conceived a hatred of her stepchildren. She falsely accused Tenes of rape and convinced Cygnus to condemn him and his supportive sister, Hemithea, to death. Brother and sister were imprisoned in a chest and cast into the Aegean Sea with the expectation that they would be carried away from Coloniae and drowned. However, instead of drifting to their doom, Tenes and Hemithea were brought to safety on the shore of an island known as Leucophrye. It was renamed Tenedos after the local inhabitants accepted Tenes as their king.

Cygnus later uncovered his wife's terrible crime and ordered Philomene to be buried alive in punishment before setting sail to reconcile with his children. Unfortunately, Tenes was not in a forgiving mood. When Cygnus' ship landed at Tenedos, Tenes is said to have quickly snatched up an axe and cut the moorings to set his father adrift.

It was believed that Tenes met his end while defending Hemithea against the unwanted advances of the Achaean hero Achilles. Although Thetis had warned Achilles to spare the life of Tenes lest he suffer punishment from Apollo, the great hero disregarded his mother and plunged his sword into Tenes' heart, killing him instantly. At that moment, Achilles sealed his doom to die in the Trojan War.



1247



1247

- 1247\*** Tetradrachm circa 100-70, AR 31 mm, 16.18 g. Janiform head of a laureate male and diademed female. Rev TENEΔΙΩΝ Labrys; below, monogram and bunch of grapes – star over crescent. All within laurel wreath. BMC 31. De Callataÿ, Studies Price, 35a (this coin).

A magnificent double portrait of excellent late Hellenistic style perfectly struck in high relief on fresh metal. Superb iridescent tone and good extremely fine

1'500

*Ex NFA XXI, 1988, 717 and NAC 106, 2018, 261 sales. From the Harald Salvesen collection.*

### Aeolis, Aegae



1248



- 1248\*** Tetradrachm circa 151-143, AR 36 mm, 16.84 g. Wreathed head of Apollo Smintheos r., bow and quiver over shoulder. Rev. ΑΙΓΑΙΕΩΝ Zeus standing l., holding eagle and sceptre; in l. field, monogram. All within oak wreath. A. Meadows, Arthur A. Houghton, "The Gaziantep Hoard, 1994" in CH X, , 2010, 227 (this coin).

A lovely portrait struck on a exceedingly large flan, light iridescent tone, almost invisible banker's mark on obverse, otherwise good very fine

1'500

*Ex Giessener Münzhandlung 71, 1995, 283 and CNG 114, 2020, 244 sales. From the Gaziantep hoard (CH IX, 527 and CH X, 308).*

### Cyme



1249



- 1249\*** Tetradrachm, magistrate Herakleides circa 165-140, AR 34 mm, 16.76 g. Diademed head of nymph Cyme r. Rev. ΚΥΜΑΙΩΝ Bridled horse standing r., with l. foreleg raised; below, vase and eagle on thunderbolt. In exergue, ΗΡΑΚΛΕΙΔΗΣ. All within olive wreath. Oakley, ANSMN 27, 65c (this coin).

Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine

1'500

*Ex Superior Galleries 17 June 1974, 243; Superior Galleries 2-3 June 1998, 6420 and Nomos 17, 2018, 162 sales. From the Vineyard and the Ruby collections.*



1250

**1250\*** Tetradrachm, magistrate Demetrios circa 165-140, AR 34 mm, 16.88 g. Diademed head of nymph Cyme r. Rev. KYMAIΩN Bridled horse standing r., with l. foreleg raised; below, vase and, in exergue, ΔΗΜΗΤΡΙΟΥΣ. All within wreath. McClean 7901 (this obverse die). SNG von Aulock 1640 (this obverse die). Price, NC 1969, pl. 4, 91 (this obverse die). Oakley ANSMN 27, 63 (this obverse die).

A superb portrait of fine style perfectly struck and centred on a very large flan.  
Superb light iridescent tone and good extremely fine

2'500

*Ex Giessener Münzhandlung 52, 1990, 284 and NAC 106, 2018, 264 sales. From the Harald Salvesen collection.*

### Myrina



1251

**1251\*** Tetradrachm circa 159-139, AR 33 mm, 16.74 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. ΜΥΡΙΝΑΙΩΝ Apollo Grynios standing r., holding laurel branch and phiale; at feet, omphalos and amphora; : in l. field, monograms. All within laurel wreath. Sacks ANSMN 30, issue 32 (these dies).

Lovely iridescent tone. Minor area of porosity, otherwise extremely fine

750

### Ionian, Clazomenae



1252



**1252\*** Drachm circa 370-360, AR 17 mm, 4.03 g. Laureate head of Apollo facing, turned slightly l. Rev. ΠΥΘΕΟΣ / ΚΛ – A Swan standing l. with open wings: above, monogram. Traité II, 1999 and pl. CLV, 27. Waddington 1452.

Very rare. A very powerful portrait of superb style struck in high relief and with a lovely iridescent tone. Obverse slightly off-centre, otherwise about extremely fine

5'000

*Ex Nomos sale 15, 2017, 149. From the Molard collection.*

### Colophon



- 1253\*** Drachm, magistrate Moiros circa 310-294, AR 16 mm, 3.05 g. Laureate head of Apollo l. Rev. ΚΟΛΟΦΩΝ Cythara; in l. field, ΜΟΙΡΑΣ. Milne, ANSNNM 96, -.  
An extremely rare variety. Wonderful iridescent tone, minor marks, otherwise about extremely fine

750

*Ex CNG 55, 2000, 502 and CNG 111, 2019, 236 sales. From the Ealing collection.*

### Heraclea ad Latmon



- 1254\*** Tetradrachm circa 140-135, AR 29 mm, 16.77 g. Head of Athena r., wearing crested attic helmet decorated with Pegasus flying r. above the foreparts of five galloping horses. Rev. ΗΡΑΚΛΕΩΤΩΝ Club; below, monograms and Nike with wreath. All within oak wreath. Lawa, Group II, B. SNG Lockett 2828.  
Superb old cabinet tone. An almost invisible mark on obverse field, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

1'500

*Privately purchased from Sovereign Rarities in 2018.*

### Miletus



- 1255** Tetradrachm, magistrate Stratides circa 352-325, AR 24 mm, 15.22 g. Laureate head of Apollo l. Rev. Lion standing l., looking backwards; in l. field, MI ligate and above, star. In exergue, ΣΤΡΑΤΙΔΗΣ.  
Pixodaros 27. Boston, MFA 1887. Deppert-Lippitz 87  
About extremely fine

3'000

**Phocaea**



1256



1257



1258



- 1256** Hecte circa 600-560, EL 10 mm, 2.6 g. Female head l., wearing earring. Rev. Irregular incuse punch. Bodenstedt -. cf. Leu sale 45, 198, 218. cf. Leu sale 50, 1990, 166. Extremely rare. Of excellent Archaic style, obverse slightly off-centre and minor marks, otherwise about extremely fine 1'000

*Ex Gemini VI, 2010, 199 and Lanz 151, 2011, 475 sales. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

- 1257** Hecte circa 477-388, EL 10 mm, 2.55 g. Head of Athena l., wearing Attic helmet with bowl decorated with griffin; below, seal. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. SNG Copenhagen 1028. Boston, MFA 1914. SNG von Aulock 7955. Bodenstedt 91. About extremely fine 750

- 1258** Hecte circa 477-388, EL 10 mm, 2.55 g. Female head l., hair caught up in saccos; behind, seal. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. Boston, MFA 1921. SNG Copenhagen 1207. Bodenstedt 93. Good very fine 500

*Ex Hirsch 190, 1006, 332 and Gorny & Mosch 195, 2011, 238 sales. From the collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

**Smyrna**



1259



1259

- 1259\*** Tetradrachm, magistrate Menekrates (?) circa 150-143, AR 34 mm, 16.71 g. Turreted head of Tyche r. Rev. ΣΜΥΡ/ΝΑΙΩΝ and monogram. All within laurel wreath. Milne, NC, 141. Light iridescent tone and extremely fine 2'500

*Ex Giessener Münzhandlung 71, 1995, 329; Hirsch 275, 2011, 3828 and Künker 333, 2020, 259 sales. From the Dr. W.R. collection.*

**Islands off Ionia, Chios**



1260



1260

**1260** Tetradrachm, magistrate Krates circa 380-350, AR 22 mm, 15.27 g. Sphinx seated l.; to l. amphora surmounted by bunch of grapes. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square with striated borders; on horizontal band, KRATHΣ. Ashton, Pixodarus 23.

Rare. A fascinating representation of fine style struck in high relief on fresh good metal and with a lovely light iridescent tone. Extremely fine

12'500

**Islands off Ionia, Samos**



1261



**1261\*** Tetradrachm circa 485-477, AR 26 mm, 13.07 g. Lion scalp facing. Rev. ΣΑ Head of ox r., within incuse square. Barron 13. HGC 6, 1185.

Very rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue, which is one of the earliest to be produced at Samos. Lovely old cabinet tone and good very fine

3'500

*Ex CNG sale III, 2019, 275.*



1262



1262

**1262** Tetradrachm, magistrate NIKIAS circa 400-365, AR 23 mm, 15.16 g. Lion's scalp facing. Rev. ΝΙΚΙΑΣ / ΣΑ Forepart of an ox r., wearing an ornamental collar and with dotted truncation; in l. field, olive branch. Barron –.

An apparently unrecorded variety of a rare type. Struck on fresh metal and good very fine

12'500

**Ionia, Uncertain mint**



**1263\*** Trite-third stater circa 625-600, EL 14 mm, 4.6 g. Plain bulge. Rev. Two patterned incuse punch. Linzalone 1007 var. (one patterned punch). For reverse, cf. SNG Kayahn 673.

Apparently unpublished in the standard references. Good extremely fine

7'500

*Ex CNG e-sale 445, 2019, 175.*

Coinage was born in Asia Minor around 600 BC. At the time it was composed of small, standard-sized lumps of electrum—a natural alloy of gold and silver—which merely needed to be counted out, rather than weighed, during a transaction, because the imprint of the state seal guaranteed its metallic value, which is what distinguished it from its ancestors. Indeed, the "grains" and pieces of silver or copper ingots, or rings of silver, and so on, that had served as methods of payment among trading peoples in the Near East for millennia had to be weighed with every transaction.

Two ancient Greek authors from Anatolia, the historian Herodotus and the philosopher Xenophanes, attributed the invention of coins to the Lydians, whose kingdom dominated Asia Minor in the seventh and early sixth century BCE. Several crucial discoveries seem to confirm their assertions.

The Artemision, or temple of Artemis in Ephesus on the west coast of what is now Turkey, was considered in Antiquity to be one of the Seven Wonders of the World. It was rediscovered around 1870 thanks to excavations led by J. T. Wood. Croesus, the extremely rich king of Lydia (560–546 BC) had had the Artemision rebuilt around 560 BC on the ruins of earlier temples.

Excavations of the underlying foundations carried out in 1904–05 and pursued in 1985–86 therefore turned up some archaeological finds of great interest, in particularly roughly one hundred electrum coins, considered to be the oldest in existence. The archaeological context in which they were unearthed, along with scholarly studies of the coins themselves, have dated the time of their minting—hence the birth of coinage itself—between 600 and 560 BCE. Some of them were issued by Greek city-states along the coast or on the Ionian Islands, while others were issued by the Lydian king, Alyattes, the father of Croesus.

**Teos**



1264

1264

**1264\*** Stater circa 500-450, AR 21 mm, 11.79 g. Griffin seated r. raising foreleg; M – E below. Rev. Quadripartite incuse square. Balcer Group IV, 12 corr. (M not noted). SNG Copenhagen –. Traité I, 500.

Light old cabinet tone and about extremely fine

2'000

*Ex Triton XX, 2017, 284 and Leu Numismatik Winterthur 14, 2023, 108 sales.*

Teos (?)



1265

**1265\*** Tetradrachm, artist of Dionysus, II century BC, AR 38 mm, 16.86 g. Head of Dionysus r., wearing mitre and ivy-wreath. Rev. ΤΩΝ ΠΕΡΙ ΤΩΝ / ΔΙΟΝΥΣΙΩΝ / ΤΕΧΝΙΤΩΝ Filleated thyrsus; all within ivy-wreath. Lorber-Hoover, NC 163, pp. 59-68, pl. 15, 1-2 (this coin illustrated).

Apparently unique and an issue of tremendous importance and fascination. A portrait of enchanting beauty in the finest Hellenistic style, the work of a skilled master engraver, struck on a very large flan. Unobtrusive traces of overstriking on reverse field, otherwise extremely fine 100'000

*Ex Gemini IV, 2008, 177; Manhattan II, 2011, Peter Guber, 62 and NAC 116, 2019, man in love with art, 182 sales.*

Modern times have shown that it is very much possible for entertainers and actors to rise to the supreme political offices in the land, however this unique and historically important tetradrachm shows that in the Hellenistic period dramatists could actually organise themselves after the manner of a microstate with its own coinage. Although dramatic festivals were an old facet of Greek religion and culture, going back at least to the sixth century BC, by the Hellenistic Period individual and small groups of actors and playwrights – the *technitai*, or artists of Dionysos – had become organised into large guilds. These hired out their professional personnel for major festivals hosted by cities and kings. Three major independent guild organisations are known for the artists of Dionysos. Two served the needs of mainland Greece and were located in Athens and the Peloponnesos, respectively. The third served western Asia Minor as well. This organisation was known as the Association of the Artists Dionysos of the Hellespont and Ionia and maintained its base in Teos after 207 BC, when it received a tax-free land grant from the city. In 188 BC, Teos passed under the influence of the Attalid kingdom of Pergamon as did the Artists of Dionysos of the Hellespont and Ionia. The Teian-based independent guild was merged with the royal Attalid Association of the Artists of Dionysos *Kathegemon* and became the somewhat unimaginatively named, Association of the Artists of Dionysos of the Hellespont and Ionia and of Dionysos *Kathegemon*. The distinctive wreath border used on the reverse of this coin connects it to other wreathed reverse tetradrachms struck by cities like Cyme, Myrina, Heraclea, Lebedus, Magnesia on the Meander, and Smyrna in the mid-second century BC and makes it clear that the merged organisation was responsible for the tetradrachm. Like the other wreathed-reverse tetradrachms of western Asia Minor as well as a variety of rare festival coinages of the same period, they may have served as contributions towards Attalid financing of the Seleukid pretender Alexander I Balas (150-145 BC). Although the coin includes no control marks or other symbols to identify the mint of issue, it is attributed to the mint of Teos based on the presence of the Association of the Artists of Dionysos of the Hellespont and Ionia and of Dionysos *Kathegemon* in that city. Further support for the mint attribution seems to be provided by a new Teian civic tetradrachm (Roma XVII, lot 141) featuring a similar image of Dionysos, although the present coin of the Dionysiac Artists lacks the trailing lock of hair down the neck and the waving mitra-ends of the new Teian piece.

**Caria, Cnidus**



1266

- 1266\*** Drachm circa 449-411, AR 17 mm, 6.19 g. Lion's head r. with jaws open and tongue protruding. Rev. Head of Aphrodite r., hair tied with taenia. Cahn, Cnidus 86A and pl. 7, 86A. Demeester 129 (this coin). A lion's head of magnificent style struck in high relief. Wonderful old cabinet tone, obverse slightly off-centre, otherwise extremely fine 4'000

*Ex M&M 77, 1992, 121 and NAC 82, J. Falm, 194 sales. Privately purchased from NAC in 2018.*

The city of Cnidus was well known in antiquity for its attachment to the goddess Aphrodite. It possessed no less than three important sanctuaries dedicated to the goddess. One was erected to honor Aphrodite Doritis ("the Bountiful"), a second to Aphrodite Akraia ("of the Akra"), and a third to Aphrodite Euploia ("of Fair Sailing"). Of these, the Temple of Aphrodite Euploia enjoyed the widest fame for the cult statue of the goddess that it obtained from the great Athenian sculptor Praxiteles in 365 BC. According to one tradition, Praxiteles had produced two statues of Aphrodite—one draped and another completely nude. The first was purchased by the people of Kos because they felt the nude statue to be indecent, but the Knidians were happy to possess it for their temple. This statue was renowned for its beauty and for the first time established a canon of proportions for the female nude in Greek sculpture. The Knidians were so proud of the statue that they placed it in the center of a circular sanctuary thereby permitting it to be viewed from all angles. Although Praxiteles original statue is now lost, while it still existed it was a great tourist attraction and spawned numerous extant Roman copies. It is unclear whether the head of Aphrodite depicted on this drachm represents the image of Aphrodite Euploia before the introduction of Praxiteles' famous statue or if it was intended to depict one of the other forms of the goddess worshipped at Knidos.



1267

- 1267** Tetradrachm, magistrate Kalliphon circa 350-320, AR 25 mm, 14.63 g. Head of Artemis r.; behind neck, monogram. Rev. KAΛΛΙΦΩΝ Forepart of lion r.; below, KNI. Ashton, Late 10. SNG Fitzwilliam 4703.

Extremely rare. A portrait of excellent Hellenistic style and a powerful reverse composition. About extremely fine

10'000



1268



1268

**1268\*** Tetradrachm circa 200-150, AR 32 mm, 16.62 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. KNIΔION partially retrograde Artemis Hyakinthotrophos standing facing, head l., holding laurel branch in extended r. hand, her l. elbow resting on the statue of an archaic statue of herself with a sheathed body and wearing a polos; to lower l., forepart of stag standing l. and looking up. Georges Le Rider, Un tétradrachme hellénistique de Cnide, in *Essays in honour of Margaret Thompson*, 1979, pl. 18, 1.

Extremely rare, possibly the finest specimen in private hands of very few known. A lovely portrait of fine Hellenistic style struck on a very large flan and with a lovely iridescent tone. Extremely fine

10'000

*Ex Lanz 158, 2014, 335; Triton XIX, 2016, 245; Roma Numismatics XIII, 2017, 335 and Triton XXIII, 2020, 431 sales. From the Jonathan P. Rosen collection.*

**Caria, Uncertain mint**



1269



1269

**1269\*** Stater circa 450, AR 23 mm, 11.39 g. Head of lion r, with open jaws and tongue protruding. Rev. Laureate male head l.; behind, monogram. Troxell, *Essays Thompson* p. 263, 45 (these dies). Thompson, *ANSMN 12*, pl. I, 12 (these dies).

Extremely rare. Somewhat corroded on obverse, otherwise very fine / good very fine

2'500

*Ex Triton III, 1999, 552; NAC 46, 2008, 877 and Triton XXIII, 2020, 433 sales.*

**Satrap of Caria, Hecatomnos, 392 – 377**



1270



1270

**1270** Tetrobol circa 392-377, AR 17 mm, 3.71 g. EKA Head of lion facing l., mouth open. Rev. Star-like floral pattern. SNG Lockett 2834. SNG Keckman 275. SNG Kayhan 862. H. Troxell, *The Norman Davis Collection*, ANS 1969, 223 (this coin).

Perfectly centred on a broad flan and with a superb old cabinet tone. Extremely fine

1'250

*Ex Gemini sale VII, 2011, 532. From the Norman Davis and a Man in Love with Art collections.*

**Maussolus, 377 – 353**



1271

**1271\*** Tetradrachm, Halicarnassus circa 370-360, AR 27 mm, 15.04 g. Head of Apollo facing slightly r., wearing laurel wreath, drapery around neck. Rev. MAYΣΣΩΛΛΟ Zeus Labraundos standing r.; in l. field, ME monogram. Konuk, *Identities* 21 var. (without monogram). *Traité* II, 95. SNG von Aulock 2358. Jameson 1567. Kraay-Hirmer pl. 187, 638. SNG Kayhan 873.

An elegant portrait of excellent style, possibly the finest of the entire series, struck in high relief on a very large flan with a superb old cabinet tone. Good extremely fine 25'000

*Ex NFA VIII, 1980, 287 (illustrated on the front and back cover pages); NFA XX, 1988, 735 and Triton II, 1998, 439 sales. From the Phoenix Art Museum and from the Orme Lewis Sr. collection;*

Maussolus is easily the most famous of the dynasts of Mylasa who ruled Caria as satraps of the Persian Great Kings in the fourth century BC, thanks to his monumental tomb at Halicarnassus, which was so impressive to behold that it was frequently included in ancient lists of the Seven Wonders of the World. His Carian name is believed to mean "Much Blessed" and his career as satrap does largely seem to have been so. He succeeded his father, Hecatomnus, as satrap in 377/6 BC and ruled Caria apparently without incident until Asia Minor was caught up in a series of satrapal rebellions known collectively as the Great Satraps' Revolt against Artaxerxes II in the period 370-362/1 BC. Greek authors sometimes identify Maussolus as one of the rebel satraps, but he appears to have taken no direct military action against the Great King. Once order was restored to the Persian Empire, he was even rewarded with the addition of Lycia to his satrapy. During the Social War (357-355 BC), fought by Greek cities and islands of western Asia Minor seeking to be free from the Second Athenian Naval League, Maussolus threw his support behind the rebels to undermine the revived power of Athens in the region and expand his influence over neighboring Greek cities. By the end of the conflict, Maussolus had extended his control over the nearby islands of Rhodes, Cos, and Chios. He also controlled parts of Ionia, including the important city of Miletus, at various times during his rule as satrap. It is unclear whether this was connected with the Social War. Despite the blessings of a much-expanded territory that accrued to Maussolus, he was also cursed by a reputation for injustice and despotism, which is reflected in numerous stories of raising funds from his subjects or capturing cities through trickery. As a result, several plots against his life were formed in the 360s, but all came to naught. He died at Labraunda in 353/2 BC, shortly after another plot against him was thwarted. His sister-wife, Artemisia, held a lavish funeral, including athletic games, for the dead satrap before his body was interred in the great Mausoleum of Halicarnassus. There, it is thought that Maussolus was worshipped as a semi-divine hero still in the second century BC.

**Hidrieus, circa 351-333**



1272



1272

**1272** Tetradrachm, Halicarnassus circa 351-343, AR 25 mm, 15.14 g. Laureate head of Apollo facing slightly r. Rev. ΙΔΡΙΕΩΣ Zeus Labraundos standing r., holding long sceptre in his l. hand and double-axe in his r.; in l. field, l. Boston, MFA 2000. HN Online 2208. Pixodaros, pl. 33, 45.

Struck in high relief and good very fine

3'000

**Pixodarus, 341 - 336**



1273



**1273\*** Tetradrachm, Halicarnassus circa 341-340, AR 25 mm, 15.22 g. Laureate head of Apollo facing, turned slightly r. Rev. ΠΙΞΟΔΑΡΟΥ Zeus Labraundos standing r., holding labrys and sceptre; below, E. Pixodarus 9. Konuk, Coinage and identities under the Hekatomnids, in 4th century Karia. Defining a Karian identity under the Hekatomnids, *Varia Anatolica* XXVIII, 2013, 29.

Struck in high relief and with a lovely iridescent tone. Minor marks, otherwise extremely fine

4'000

*Ex NFA VIII, 1980, 289 and Rauch 107, 2018, 154 sales.*

Islands off Caria, Cos



1274

**1274** Tetradrachm, magistrate Alkimaxos circa 355-335, AR 24 mm, 15.1 g. Head of Heracles l., wearing lion's skin headdress. Rev. ΚΩΙΟΝ Crab; beneath, ΑΛΚΙΜΑΧΟΣ and club r. BMC 12 (this obverse of die). Meadows, IGCH IX, p. 231, 29.

Rare. A bold portrait of fine style and a light iridescent tone. About extremely fine

7'500



1275

**1275** Didrachm, magistrate Philo- circa 345-340, AR 20 mm, 6.85 g. Bearded head of Heracles r., wearing lion skin headdress. Rev. ΚΩΙΟΝ Veiled head of Demeter l., in r. field, ΙΦ. HGC 6, 1305. Pixodarus p. 235, 19a (A2/P10 - this coin).

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Two superb portraits struck on fresh metal with a lovely iridescent tone. Extremely fine

5'000

*Ex NFA VIII, 1980, 294; NFA XX, 1988, 737 and Roma Numismatics XIV, 2017, 253 sales. From the Pixodarus Hoard (CH IX, 421), 1978.*

Rhodes



1276

1276

**1276** Tetradrachm circa 405, AR 25 mm, 17.1 g. Head of Helios facing slightly r. Rev. ΡΟΔΙΟΝ Rose in profile, with bud to l.; in l. field, Φ and in r. field, patera. All within incuse square. SNG von Aulock 2788. Pozzi 2682. Gulbenkian 769. HGC 6, 1419.

An extremely rare variety. An elegant facing portrait of fine style struck in high relief. Superb old cabinet tone, minor marks, otherwise about extremely fine

12'500



1277



1277

- 1277** Tetradrachm circa 385-360, AR 24 mm, 15 g. Head of Helios facing slightly r. Rev. ΡΟΔΙΟΝ Rose in profile, with bud to l.; in l. field, Z and in r. field, trident. All within incuse square. Hecatomnus 175. Ashton 68. SNG Keckman 382. SNG Copenhagen 726. HGC 6, 1419.

Very rare. Struck in very high relief and with a superb old cabinet tone. Extremely fine

10'000

*Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 164, 2008, 225.*



1278



- 1278\*** Didrachm circa 305-275, AR 19 mm, 6.93 g. Head of Helios three-quarters facing r. Rev. ΡΟΔΙΟΝ Rose with bud r.; in l. field, thunderbolt above Δ. Ashton 168. SNG von Aulock 2792.

A portrait of enchanting beauty, work of a very skilled master engraver, struck in high relief and with a superb old cabinet tone. Good extremely fine

7'500

*Ex M&M 61, 1982, 151 and Leu Numismatik Winterthur 3, 2018, 104 sales.*

### Lycia, Phaselis



1279



1279

- 1279** Double-siglos circa 250-221, AR 22 mm, 10.32 g. Prow of galley r. decorated with club; below, shrimp r. Rev. ΑΡΙΣΤΑΡΧΟΣ / ΦΑΣΗΛΙΣ Stern of galley l.; above, star. Heipp-Taimer 129 (this coin).

Struck on excellent metal and with a lovely iridescent tone. Extremely fine

2'000

*Ex Aufhäuser 2, 1985, 124 and Hirsch 275, 2011, 3922 sales. From the Beckenbauer and a Man in Love with Art collections.*

**Dynasts of Lycia. Kuprilli circa 470-435**



1280



1280

- 1280** Stater circa 470-440, AR 22 mm, 9.7 g. Goat kneeling l.; above, Corinthian helmet and in l. field, triskeles. Rev. Triskeles within dotted border. *Traité* –. *BMC* –. *Mørholm/Zahle* –, cf. 14. *Vismara II*, 74. Very rare. Old cabinet tone and good very fine 350

*Ex Künker 54, 2000, 2055 and Gorny & Mosch 196, 2011, 1804 sales. From the Marowsky and a Man in Love with Art collections*

**Kings of Lydia. Time of Croesus, 561 – 546 or later**



1281



1281

- 1281** Light stater, Sardes circa 561-546 or later, AV 17 mm, 8.04 g. Confronting foreparts of lion, with open jaws and r. forepaw raised, and bull. Rev. Bipartite incuse rectangle with rough surface. *Traité I*, 401. *SNG von Aulock* 2875. *SNG Lockett* 2983. *BMC* 31. *Boston, MFA* 2073. *Gulbenkian* 757. Good very fine 6'000



1282



1282

- 1282\*** Stater, Sardes circa 560-546, AR 20 mm, 10.64 g. Confronted foreparts of lion and bull. Rev. Two incuse squares. *H.J. Berk, The Coinage of Croesus in 100 Greatest Ancient Coins*, 20. *Traité II/1*, 407. *SNG von Aulock* 2874. *Rosen* 662.

A superb specimen of this desirable issue. Struck on a very broad flan and complete, lovely old cabinet tone and extremely fine 7'500

*Ex Nomos II, 2015, 118. Privately purchased from NAC in 2019.*



1293



1271



1273



1294



1304



1274



1306



1319



1319



1043



1043



1014



1169



1235



1143



1243



1243



1314



1244



1314

**Dynasts of Lycia. Khinakha, circa 470 – 440**



1283



1283

**1283\*** Stater circa 440/30-400, AR 22 mm, 9.86 g. Pegasus flying r.; below, monogram. Rev. Triskeles; below, conjoined monograms and diskeles. Müseler 84. SNG von Aulock 409.

Lovely tone and good very fine

1'000

*Ex Thierry Parsy sale 19 March 2019, 62. From the J. Massoulié collection.*

**Kherei, circa 430 – 410**



1284



**1284\*** Stater, Pinara circa 430-410, AR 21 mm, 8.45 g. Helmeted head of Athena r., decorated with three olive leaves and vine scroll. Rev. kherei in Lycian Head of Kherei r. in incuse circle and dotted border. A. Winzer, *Antike Portraitmünzen der Perser und Griechen aus vor-hellenistischer Zeit (Zeitraum ca. 510-322 v.Chr.) : die frühesten Portraits lebender Menschen von Dareios I. bis Alexander III, Kronberg, 2005, 23.1 (this coin). Müseler 49 (this coin).*

Two superb portraits of excellent style struck in high relief and with a lovely iridescent tone. Extremely fine

3'500

*Ex Giessener Münzhandlung 71, 1995, 363; Busso-Peus 360, 1999, 78 and Künker 304, 2018, 558 sales. From the collection of a History Friend.*

**Mithrapata, circa 380 – 375**



1285



1285

**1285\*** Stater circa 380-375, AR 25 mm, 9.77 g. Forepart of a roaring lion r. Rev. ME-)(PA-IIATA Head of the dynast I; in r. field, triskeles. All within incuse square. Olcay-Mørkholm, NC 1971, 51-56. ACGC 989. Boston, MFA suppl. 228. SNG von Aulock 4237.

Rare. Lovely old cabinet tone, minor areas of weakness, otherwise about extremely fine

2'500

*Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 195, 2011, 268. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

**Pamphylia, Aspendus**



1286

**1286\*** Stater circa 330/25-300/200, AR 24 mm, 10.4 g. Two wrestlers, standing and grappling with each other; between them, Ε. Rev. ΕΣΤΡΑΙΩΝ Slinger standing r.; below, Ο and in r. field, triskeles and club. Tekin series 5. SNG von Aulock 4576 (these dies). SNG France 122.

Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine

1'500

*Ex M&M 61, 1982, 157; M&M 68, 1986, 305 and Leu Numismatik Winterthur 6, 2020, 235 sales. From the Kleinkunst collection.*

**Side**



1287

**1287\*** Stater circa 480-460, AR 20 mm, 11.08 g. Pomegranate with a linear outline. Rev. Aramaic legend Dolphin leaping r. out of waves. All within incuse square. SNG France –.

Apparently unpublished in standard references. A very interesting and fascinating issue.

A test cut on obverse, otherwise good very fine

1'500

*Ex Heritage sale 3076, 2019, 30173.*

According to Pseudo-Scylax, the city of Side in coastal Pamphylia was founded by Aeolian Greek colonists from Cyme, probably in the seventh century BC, but archaeological finds have shown that the city had a long-pre-Greek history extending back at least to the Neo-Hittite period (12th-8th centuries BC). Side grew wealthy as an important regional trading center thanks to a good harbor for small ships, and its prosperity may be reflected in the production of silver coins beginning in the early fifth century BC. On these early coins, a pomegranate appears as the standard obverse type. It is thought that this fruit was depicted because it was called *side* in the indigenous Sidetic language and therefore served as a punning badge of the city. It continued in use as a symbol of the city on coins into the Roman period. The reverse type of the leaping dolphin used on this extremely rare stater is an obvious allusion to the sea and to the wealth that accrued to Side from its maritime trade. When it first appeared, the legend on this coin was described as being written in Aramaic without a proposed translation, but the letters do not clearly belong to this script. Considering that the coin was struck in Side, it seems more likely that the legend is written in Sidetic, an enigmatic script used to express the indigenous language of Side. Sidetic legends are known from other coins of Side struck in the first half of the fifth century as well as on Sidetan issues of the fourth century BC. Scholars were first introduced to Sidetic script when coins with such legends were discovered in the nineteenth century. Still, it was not until two bilingual Greek and Sidetic inscriptions were uncovered that it became possible to decipher the latter script in the mid-twentieth century. However, while the 25-letter alphabet, read left to right, is now fully recognized, the precise meaning of about a third of the characters still remains open to dispute by linguists. All of this suggests that while Side may have received Greek settlers in the seventh century BC, it was still dominated by the culture and language of its indigenous non-Greek population long after its colonization.



1288



1288

**1288** Stater circa 430-400, AR 22 mm, 10.74 g. Pomegranate within guilloche border. Rev. Head of Athena r., wearing Corinthian helmet; in r. field, branch. All within incuse square. *Atlas 43 SNG France 628. SNG Copenhagen 369.*

Struck on excellent metal and with a lovely old cabinet tone. Good extremely fine

1'500

*Privately purchased from NAC in 2011. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

### Cilicia, Issos (?)



1289



**1289\*** Stater circa 425-390, AR 24 mm, 10.35 g. Ichthyomorphic marine deity (Triton ?) l., holding trident and wreath. Rev. 'z in Phoenician (?) Lion at bay r. on rocky ground. *O. Casabonne, Conquête perse et phénomène monétaire: l'exemple cilicien, in Mécanismes et innovations monétaires dans l'Anatolie Achéménide. Numismatique et histoire, p. 21-91, Varia Anatolica XII, 2000, p. 26, Type 1; pl. VI, 15. SNG France 421 (these dies).*

Very rare and in unusual condition for this difficult issue. Areas of oxidation on obverse, otherwise good very fine

2'500

*Ex Leu Numismatik Winterthur sale 5, 2019, 167.*

Although its mint attribution remains uncertain, this extremely rare coin has often been associated with the city of Issos in southeastern Cilicia near the border with Syria. Issos, which has been identified as the Kinet Höyük mound in Hatay Province of modern Türkiye, was a settlement located on the Pinarus River in the coastal plain below the difficult Taurus mountain range. Due to the city's strategic location, it was often the site of ancient battles. The most famous of these is almost certainly the one that took place between the forces of Alexander the Great and Darius III in 333 BC. Alexander's victory on this occasion left him free to enter Syria and continue his conquests down the Levantine coast and into Egypt. Later, in AD 194, Issos was the scene of a pivotal battle in the Year of the Five Emperors, in which P. Cornelius Anullinus, a commander supporting the cause of Septimius Severus, defeated the forces of Severus' Syrian rival, Pescennius Niger. In AD 622, the plan before Issos was the location of the victory of the Byzantine Emperor Heraclius over the invading Sasanian Persian usurper Shahbaraz. The obverse type of this early coin is sometimes described as a depiction of Triton, a Greek marine god said to be the son of Poseidon and Amphitrite. His half-man half-fish form distinguished him from most other Hellenic deities who were fully anthropomorphic and he was known for blowing a conch shell that could calm or raise the waves of the sea. Nevertheless, the unusual headdress worn by the god here, the Aramaic legend, and production at a Cilician mint all strongly suggests that the apparent Triton here was intended to represent a local Ba'al rather than the Greek god. The Ba'al of Aradus off the Syrian coast further to the south was also frequently given a Triton-like appearance on that city's coinage in the fifth century BC. The lion depicted on the reverse of the Cilician issue was a widely popular emblem of royal power in the ancient Near East.

**Soloi**



1290

**1290** Stater circa 380-350, AR 21 mm, 10.61 g. Bearded head of Heracles facing r., wearing a lion's skin tied around his neck. Rev. ΣΟΛΕΩΝ (retrograde) Head of satrap facing r., wearing a Persian headdress. SNG France 159 var. SNG Levante 50 var. SNG von Aulock 5862 var.

A very rare variety. Two attractive portraits struck on fresh metal and with a light iridescent tone. Good very fine

2'500

*Ex Superior 9-10 December 1989, Heifetz part II, 2722; Leu 52, 1991, 105 and New York XXVII, 2012, Prospero, 595 sales. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

**Tarsus**



1291

**1291** Balacros as satrap, circa 333-323. Stater circa 333-323, AR 24 mm, 10.96 g. Baaltars seated l. sceptre surmounted by lotus in r. hand; vertical grain ear and grape bunch to l., B above ivy leaf behind, T below strut. Rev. Draped bust of Athena facing, wearing triple-crested helmet and necklace. SNG Levante Supp. 21. SNG France 367-369. SNG von Aulock 5964.

Wonderful iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

2'500

*Ex NFA sale XII, 1983, 78.*

**Ura**



1292

1292

**1292\*** Stater circa 460-450, AR 18 mm, 10.65 g. Goat kneeling r., his head reverted to smell a flower on a branch curling behind him; dotted border. Rev. 'rh in Aramaic City-wall with two towers; below, partially incuse circular symbol. All within a border of dots in a shallow incuse square. Casabonne -, but cf. Pl. I, 13 for a similar obverse.

Very rare. Slightly double struck on obverse, otherwise good very fine

750

*Ex Obolos sale 16, 2020, 889.*

**Cyprus, Citium**



1293



1293

**1293\*** Baalmelek I, 479-449. Stater circa 479-449, AR 23 mm, 10.99 g. Heracles advancing r., wearing lion's skin and holding club and bow. Rev. l B'l mlk in Aramaic characters. Lion seated r.; in r. field, ram's head. All within incuse and dotted square. *Traité II* 1197, pl. CXXX, 2. BMC 2 and pl. II, 8. Kraay, Moorey, RN X, 1968, 67, pl. XXI. (this coin). Tziambazis 14. SNG Copenhagen 5 (these dies). Weber 7688. Dewing 517. SNG Lockett 3064. McClean 9144 pl. 331.2. SNG Delepierre 2905. Jameson 1624. Walcher de Molthein 2642.

Extremely rare and possibly the finest specimen in private hands. As often weakly struck on obverse, yet with a reverse of superb style and finely detailed.  
Old cabinet tone and about very fine / extremely fine

10'000

*Ex Hesperia Art Fixed Price List January 1969, 278 and NAC sale 106, 2018, 285.*

Although the site of Citium had been inhabited since the Bronze Age, by the tenth century B.C. it seems to have been colonised by Greeks and Phoenician traders who sought to exploit the copper mines of the island. Judging from the city's participation in Onesilos of Salamis' revolt against Persian authority in 499-494 B.C, it has been suggested that the city was ruled by Greek kings at the time. However, once the revolt was quashed and Onesilos killed, the Persians sought to increase their influence on the island by supporting friendly Phoenician dynasts. The earliest of these kings known by name at Citium was Baalmelek I, the issuer of this stater. Unfortunately, we know little about his reign beyond that he fathered Azbaal, the future king of both Citium and Idalion (ca. 449-425 B.C.), and struck silver coins. The types of the stater, however, do give some insight into Baalmelek I's background. While the obverse is very Greek in its depiction of an Archaic-style Herakles wielding his club and bow, Herakles here should be understood as the interpretatio graeca of the Phoenician god Ba'al Melqart ("Lord of the City"), the patron deity of Tyre. Herodotos reports that Herakles was long associated with Melqart at Tyre and the image of the Greek hero standing in for the Phoenician god frequently occurs on coins struck by Tyre in the Hellenistic and Roman periods. The prominence of Herakles on Baalmelek I's stater strongly suggests that the king and his Phoenician dynasty had Tyrian origins. The lion of the reverse is an animal closely linked to Herakles through the hero's famous exploits in Nemea, but here probably serves as a generic symbol of royal power. This probability is reinforced by the presence of an extremely well preserved Phoenician inscription identifying the stater as a "[coin] of Baalmelek." Depictions of lions and lion hunts are a commonplace of ancient Near Eastern royal art. Indeed, the face and mane of the lion on the stater bear comparison to the lions depicted in the reliefs of Achaemenid Persepolis.



1294



**1294\*** Melakiathon, 392 – 361. Siglos circa 392 – 361, AR 24 mm, 10.34 g. Heracles advancing r., wearing lion's skin and holding in r. hand club and bow in l. Rev. Lion advancing r., with head facing. *Traité II* –. BMC –. Tziambazis –. SNG Copenhagen –. E.T. Newell, Some unpublished coins of eastern dynasts, NNM 30, 1926, 1 (these dies). *SilCoinCy* –.

Of the highest rarity, apparently only the second specimen known.  
Old cabinet tone and about extremely fine / good very fine

20'000

*Ex Leu 20, 1978, 148 and NAC 114, 2019, 276 sales. From a Discerning collector.*

Milkyaton-more commonly rendered in the Greek form Melekiathon-was a Phoenician king of Citium in eastern Cyprus in the fourth century BC. His reign was long thought to have been interrupted by that of Demonikos, a Greek king supposedly imposed on Citium by Evagoras I of Salamis and the Athenian general, Chabrias, in 388/7 BC, but recent scholarship now makes Demonikos a member of the dynasty of Lapethus. Little else is known about the reign of Milkyaton beyond the brief usurpation of Demonikos, which now appears never to have happened. Nevertheless, Milkyaton has an important place in the modern study of ancient Cyprus. Thanks to a bilingual inscription in Phoenician and Cypriot syllabic script erected in the thirteenth year of his reign it was possible for the English Assyriologist George Smith to decipher the Cypriot syllabary. The critical component for the decipherment was the king's name. This extremely rare siglos (shekel to Milkyaton and his Phoenician subjects) features Herakles and a lion, types that were traditional for the Phoenician dynasty of Citium. In a Phoenician context, Heracles here may represent the Tyrian god Melqart ("King of the City") who was already identified with Greek Heracles in the fifth century BC. The animal on the reverse may be the Nemean lion slain by Heracles in Greek myth, but perhaps more likely it serves as an ancient emblem of kingship that was common throughout the Near East.

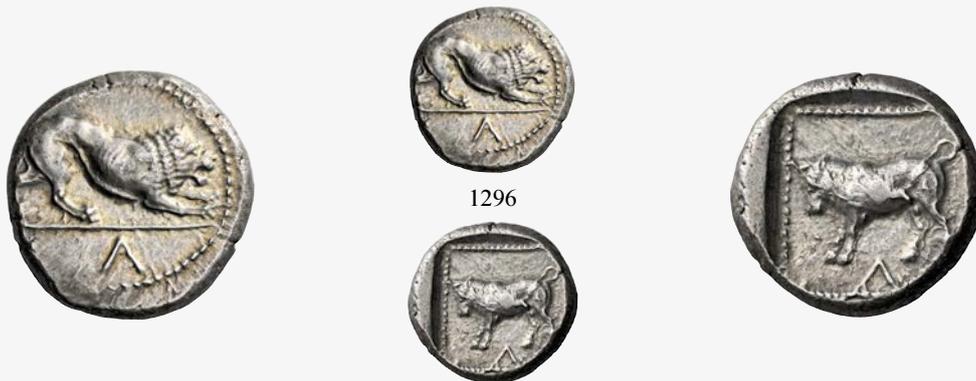
### Marion



1295

- 1295** Stasioikios II, circa 330-312. Triobol circa 330-312, AV 10 mm, 2.02 g. Laureate head of Zeus l. Rev. M[A] Diademed head of Aphrodite r. BMC 10. Markou, L'or 189 (this coin illustrated).  
Extremely rare. Two lovely portraits of fine style, minor marks, otherwise very fine 3'000  
*Ex Stack's sale 14 January 2008, 2256. From the Lawrence R. Stack collection.*

### Cyprus, Uncertain mint



1296

- 1296** Siglos circa 480, AR 22 mm, 10.97 g. Lion crouching r.; in exergue, go or ko in Cypriot characters. Rev. Bull standing l.; below, go or ko in Cypriot characters, within incuse square. Traité II 1355 and pl. CXXXVI, 8 (Golgi). BMC p. xlv and pl. XXV, 9 (Golgi) and p. 69, 2, pl. XIII, 6 (uncertain mint). Weber 7740 (these dies). Jameson 2331 (this obverse die). Tziambazis -. SNG Copenhagen 65 (Soli or Golgi). Boston, MFA 2145 (these dies). SilCoinCy A1900.  
Very rare and in unusually fine condition for this difficult and fascinating issue.  
Lovely iridescent tone and about extremely fine 2'500

*Ex Harlan J. Berk Buy or Bid sale 172, 2011, 173. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

**Bactria, Uncertain mint**



1297

- 1297\*** Drachm circa 295-293, AR 15 mm, 3.9 g. Helmeted head of Athena r.; in l. field, monogram. Rev. AΘE Owl standing r., head facing; in l. field, olive sprig and crescent. Boperachchi, Sophytes -. HGC 12, -. Apparently unique. Struck on excellent metal and with a superb old cabinet tone. Overstruck on another imitation drachm, otherwise extremely fine 3'500

*Ex Ars Classica X, 1925, 575 (attributed to Athens) and Triton XXII, 2019, 444 sales. From the G.M.R.H. collection.*

**Kings of Bactria, Diodotos I and II, circa 250 – 230**



1298

1298

- 1298** Stater in the name of Antiochos II, mint A (near Ai Khanoum) circa 250-230, AV 20 mm, 8.3 g. Diademed head of Diodotos r. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ – ANTIOXOY Zeus advancing l., aegis draped over his arm, brandishing thunderbolt; at his feet, eagle standing l.; in l. field, wreath. SNG ANS 75. Boppearachchi 5A. SNG ANS 75, SC 630. An almost invisible test cut on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine 2'500

*Ex CNG Mail Bid sale 66, 2004, 941.*



1299

1299

- 1299** Stater in the name of Antiochos II, mint A (near Ai Khanoum) circa 250-230, AV 18 mm, 8.26 g. Diademed head of Diodotos r. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ – ANTIOXOY Zeus advancing l., aegis draped over his arm, brandishing thunderbolt; at his feet, eagle standing l.; in l. field, N. SNG ANS -. Boppearachchi -. cf. Holt, series A, group 7 (tetradrachm). SC 629.1. Rare. Test cut on obverse, otherwise extremely fine 2'000

*Ex CNG Mail Bid sale 66, 2004, 931.*

**Seleucid Kings, Antiochus III 'the Great', 222-187**



1300

**1300\*** Tetradrachm, uncertain mint 56 in western Asia Minor (Sardes ?) circa 203-197, AR 28 mm, 16.6 g. Diademed head r. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ[Σ] ΑΝΤΙΟΧΟΥ Elephant advancing r.; in l. field, monogram and in r. field, M. SC 985.2. Houghton, Elephants 7 (A1/P4). ESM 630 (these dies). HGC 9, 451a.

Extremely rare. A superb portrait and an interesting reverse composition struck on fresh metal and with a light iridescent tone. About extremely fine

20'000

*Ex CNG sale 117, 2021, 277.*

Between 212/11 and 204 BC, Antiochos III embarked upon the reconquest of the Upper Satrapies, many of which seceded from the Seleucid Empire during the chaotic reign of Seleucus II. He restored Seleucid authority in Armenia and Parthia, formed an alliance with Euthydemos I of Baktria, and renewed former Seleucid treaties with the Mauryan Empire of India. The latter allowed him to increase the number of his war elephants such as the one depicted on the reverse of the present coin. Indeed, the animal on this coin may refer precisely to the additional elephants obtained by the king since it was struck in the period following the return of Antiochus III to the West. Upon his return, he put his soldiers and elephants to good use reconquering former Seleucid territories in Asia Minor and successfully wresting Phoenicia and Koile Syria from Ptolemaic control in 201 BC. Alas, as the power of the Seleucid king grew, he came into conflict with the Romans and their Greek allies. In 192 BC, Antiochos III mounted an invasion of mainland Greece in support of the Aitolian League and hoped to drive the Romans back to Italy. Unfortunately, he was defeated at Thermopylae and forced to withdraw to Asia Minor, where he was again defeated at the Battle of Magnesia (190/89 BC). In the following year, the king was forced to accept the humiliating Peace of Apamea, which denied Asia Minor north of the Taurus to the Seleucid Empire and limited the number of ships and elephants in the Seleucid arsenal.

**Antiochus IV Theos Epiphanes, 175-164**



1301

**1301** Tetradrachm circa 175-145, AE 34 mm, 40.57 g. Laureate head of Zeus r. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ / ΑΝΤΙΟΧΟΥ / [ΘΕΟΥ]Υ / [ΕΠΙΦ]ΑΝΟΥ Eagle standing r. on thunderbolt. SC 1413. Newell, SMA 59. SNG Spaer 979. CSE 119.

A bold portrait of excellent style and a pleasant dark tone. About extremely fine

500

*Ex Helios sale 6, 2011, 72. From the collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

**Phoenicia, Aradus**



1302



1303



- 1302** Uncertain king. Stater circa 380-350, AR 21 mm, 10.21 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. Betlyon 10 and pl. 6, 7.

Lovely old cabinet tone and good very fine

2'500

*Ex Spink sale 20, 1986, 370.*

- 1303** Drachm 154-153, AR 17 mm, 4.14 g. Bee; IIC monogram (date) and monogram in upper fields. Rev. Stag standing r.; palm tree in background. Dyrat 2933-2942.

Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine

1'000

*From the Michel Edde collection (1929-2019).*

**Byblus**



1304



1304

- 1304\*** Shekel circa 450-425, AR 31 mm, 13.83 g. Galley l., carrying three hoplites; below, hippocamp l. Rev. Vulture standing l. on body of ram in incuse. Betlyon 5. HGC 10, 126.

Extremely rare. A very interesting and fascinating reverse type struck on an irregular flan with a light iridescent tone. Good very fine

7'500

*Ex Triton III, 1999, 619 and Gorny & Mosch 269, 2020, 541 sales. From the Dr. G. W. [Dr. Günther Wiedner] collection.*

Byblus was the Greek name for the ancient city of Gebal—meaning “the Mountain of the God”—in northern Phoenicia. It is thought to have acquired its Greek name due to the city’s important role as an exporter of papyrus (byblos in Greek) from Egypt, a country with which Byblus had a trade relationship extending back to the mid-third millennium BC. In addition to the papyrus trade, Byblus was also involved in exporting ship timber thanks to the city’s access to the famous cedars of Lebanon. The city was such a prominent supplier of timber to the fleet of the pharaohs that the earliest known Egyptian term for a sea-going ship was “Byblos-boat.” In the fifth century BC, when this attractive shekel was struck, the glory days of the great pharaohs and the bustling Egyptian trade had faded into the distant past. The kings of Byblus had become subject to the Great Kings of the Persian Empire while neighboring Tyre and especially Sidon, also under Persian domination, were eclipsing the former greatness of their city. However, as the obverse type shows, the kings of Byblus still used their access to Lebanon’s cedars to maintain their powerful war fleet. When required, the Byblian fleet was combined with other Phoenician and Cypriot fleets to provide a great eastern Mediterranean navy at the command of the Great Kings. Nevertheless, despite the change in the fortunes of Byblus between the Middle Bronze Age and the later Iron Age, the impact of the glorious past on Byblian culture can still be detected in the reverse type of this coin, which depicts the vulture in a very Egyptianizing style. At the same time, features of the obverse type also look to the Greek-dominated future that would eventually succeed the Persian Empire. The warriors in the galley carry large round shields that look suspiciously like the hoplon carried by hoplites—the standard Greek heavy infantryman of the phalanx formation—raising the question of whether they should be interpreted as Greek mercenaries. The hippocamp may also reflect Greek artistic influence, but it is a mythical creature that was clearly popular in Phoenicia. The god Melqart also appears riding a hippocamp on slightly later shekels and fractions struck by the city-kings of Tyre.

## Sidon



1305



- 1305\*** Half shekel circa 43-44, AR 22 mm, 6.55 g. Veiled, draped and turreted bust of Tyche r. Rev. ΣΙΔΩ[ΝΙΩΝ ΤΗΣ Ι]ΕΡ – ΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΑΣΥΛΟΥ Eagle standing l. on ship's ram, palm branch over shoulder; in field, Λ ΔΝΡ (date) / Β ΕΞ. B.E. Levy, *The autonomous silver of Sidon (107/106 BC - AD 43/44)* in Proceedings of the 12th International Numismatic Congress (Berlin), 2000, p. 332 (this coin cited). Prieur 1352 (this coin). Rouvier 1328. RPC 4561. HGC 10, 278.

Rare. Light iridescent tone and good very fine

1'000

*Ex Spink 71, 1989, 108 and Triton XXII, 2019, 345 sales. From the Michael Prieur collection.*

## Tyre



1306



1306

- 1306** Shekel circa 116-115, AR 29 mm, 14.25 g. Laureate head of Heracles-Melqart r. Rev. ΤΥΡΟΥ ΙΕΡΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΑΣΥΛΟΥ Eagle standing l. on galley prow, palm branch over shoulder; across field, ΑΙ – ΣΑ and in in l. field, club. Rouvier –, cf. 1980 (for same date). HGC 10, 357.

Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine

2'000

*Ex Stack's Ponterio 173, 2013, 257; Gorny & Mosch 236, 2016, 292 and Gorny & Mosch 276, 2021, 239 sales. From the E.E. Clain-Stefanelli collection.*

## Arabia, Uncertain mint



1307



- 1307** Tetradrachm imitating Athens circa II century, AR 24 mm, 16.98 g. Head of Athena r., wearing Attic helmet decorated with wreath and palmettae. Rev. ΑΘΕ blundered Owl standing l., closed wings; in r. field, twig. De Morgan p. 269. Svoronos pl. III, 9 (these dies).

Extremely rare. Lovely old cabinet tone, double striking on obverse, otherwise very fine

1'000

*From Apollo to Apollo collection.*

**Kings of Characene, Theonesios I, circa 25-19/18**



1308

- 1308\*** Tetradrachm, Charax-Spasinu circa 25-18, Billon 27 mm, 11.63 g. Diademed head r. Rev. [B]ΑΣΙΛΕ[ΩΣ] / [Θ]ΙΟΝΗΣΙΟΣ / ΣΩΤΗΡΟΣ / [ΚΑΙ Ε]ΥΕΡΓΕ[ΤΟΥ] Heracles seated l., holding club on knee; above, monogram and in exergue, ΗΙΤΣ. Hélène Nicolet-Pierre, Thionèsis, roi de Characène, RN 1978, p. 54, pl. IV, 19.

Very rare. Minor areas of weakness, otherwise good very fine

500

*Ex NFA Fixed Price List 36, 1989, 39; Auctiones 18, 1989, 860; Künker 262, 2015, 7283 and Künker 312, 2018, 2560 sales.*

**Persia, Achaemenid Empire**



1309

- 1309** temp. of Artaxerxes II to Artaxerxes III, circa 400-341. Tetradrachm, Uncertain mint in Caria circa 400-341, AR 25 mm, 15.1 g. Warrior, wearing kyrbasia, on horseback r., hurling spear; in l. field, head of Heracles r., wearing lion skin. Rev. Persian king, wearing kidaris and kandys, in kneeling-running stance r., drawing bow. Konuk, *Influences*, Group 5, 4 and pl. XXX, 17. Meadows, *Administration* 327 var. (BA on obverse). Mildenberg, *Münzwesen* pp. 26-7, and pl. XIV, 122-3 var. (letters on obverse). Sunrise 73-4 var. (controls on reverse).

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Struck on a very broad flan, obverse from a worn die, otherwise about extremely fine

7'500

**Ptolemaic Kings of Egypt, Ptolemy I as satrap, 323 – 305 or King, 305 – 282**



1311

- 1311** Tetradrachm struck in the name of Alexander III, Alexandria circa 306-300, AR 29 mm, 15.69 g. Diademed head of Alexander r., wearing elephant skin headdress. Rev. ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ Athena Promachos advancing r., brandishing spear and holding shield; in r. field, monogram and eagle. Svoronos 162. SNG Copenhagen 28. CPE 69.

Wonderful iridescent tone, a graffito on reverse field, otherwise good extremely fine

2'500

*Ex Münzhandlung Basel IV, 1935, Prince W. 938 and Sotheby's 20 November 1968, 119 sales. From the Collection of Jacqueline Morineau Humphris.*



1312

- 1312** Tetradrachm, Alexandria circa 294-285, AR 28 mm, 14.25 g. Diademed head r., with aegis around neck; behind ear, small Δ. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ – ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ Eagle, with closed wings, standing l. on thunderbolt; in l. field, P on monogram. Svoronos 256. SNG Copenhagen –. CPE 154.

Wonderful old cabinet tone, a graffito on reverse field, otherwise good very fine

500

*Ex Hirsch 55, 1967, 2271 and Busso-Peus 294, 1978, 410 sales.*

**Ptolemy II Philadelphos, 285 – 246**



1313

- 1313** Octodrachm, Alexandria after 265, AV 20 mm, 13.85 g. ΑΔΕΛΦΩΝ Jugate busts r. of Ptolemy II, draped and diademed and, Arsinoe II, diademed and veiled. Rev. ΘΕΩΝ Jugate busts r. of Ptolemy I, draped and diademed and, Berenice I, diademed and veiled; in field l., shield. Svoronos 603. Boston, MFA 2274. SNG Copenhagen 132. Dewing 2752. CPE 313.

Good very fine / about extremely fine

3'000



1314

**1314\*** In the name of Arsinoe II. Octodrachm, Salamis circa 261-252, AV 29 mm, 27.54 g. Diademed and veiled head of Arsinoe II r. Rev. ΑΡΣΙΝΟΗΣ ΦΙΛΑΔΕΛΦΟΝ Cornucopiae; below, monogram and caduceus. Troxell p. 63, 10 (this coin). Svoronos -. CPE 484 (this coin).

Apparently unique. A wonderful portrait of fine style struck in high relief, several edge marks, otherwise extremely fine

15'000

*Ex Leu 25, 1980, 199 (as Ptolemy V) and Morton & Eden 100, 2019, 312 sales.*

The gold octodrachms of Ptolemy II and later Ptolemaic kings were commonly known in Greek as mnaieia because their face value in gold was equivalent to a mina of silver (25 tetradrachms). These impressive coins were produced much more easily in a country like Egypt, which was exceptionally rich in gold, unlike many other parts of the Greek world. The types pairing the head of Arsinoe II, the wife of Ptolemy II, and a filleted double cornucopia were introduced after her death in 270 or 268 BC to celebrate her ascent to divinity. Ptolemy II proclaimed her to be a goddess with aspects of Egyptian Isis and Greek Aphrodite and established temples to serve the rites of her cult at both Mendes and near the harbor of Alexandria. The cult of Arsinoe II appears to have been genuinely popular with both Greeks and Egyptians, and an annual religious procession in her honor seems to have taken place in Alexandria from the time of Ptolemy II down to the late second century BC. Similarly, the image of Arsinoe II continued to be used as the standard type for the Ptolemaic gold octodrachm until they ceased production in the second century BC. There was little indication early in her life that Arsinoe II was destined for divinity and immortalization on coins that are still greatly admired today. In 300 BC, when she was 15 years old, she was given in marriage by her father, Ptolemy I Soter, to Lysimachus, the 50-year-old Macedonian king of Thrace, to seal a political alliance. Her manipulation of her husband caused Lysimachus to execute his oldest and most popular son by a previous marriage to make room for her own in the line of succession in 284 BC. This triggered a war in Lysimachus' territories in Asia Minor that ended with the death of the king at the Battle of Corupedium and the conquest of his Anatolian territories by Seleucus I Nicator in 281 BC. Soon after, Seleucus I was assassinated by Ptolemy Ceraunus, an exiled son of Ptolemy I and half-brother of Arsinoe II, who had been living at the Seleucid court. After using troops from Seleucus' army to seize the Macedonian territories formerly belonging to Lysimachus, Ceraunus negotiated a marriage to Arsinoe II to lend an air of legitimacy to his claims of kingship. Arsinoe II, who had fled to Ephesus after the death of Lysimachus, agreed to return to Macedon and accepted the proposal with the proviso that her children by Lysimachus would be first to succeed to the kingship after Ceraunus. All seemed well and it appeared that Arsinoe II would again be queen until the wedding night, when Ceraunus ordered the murder of her youngest children. Not surprisingly, the horror of this unwanted prompted Arsinoe II to immediately flee, first to Samothrace and then back to the Ptolemaic court in Egypt in the early 270s BC. Once back in Egypt, Arsinoe II quickly returned to her old manipulative ways. She engineered the exile of her sister-in-law, Arsinoe I, by accusing her of plotting the death of her brother, the reigning king, Ptolemy II. With Arsinoe I out of the way, Arsinoe II quickly moved to fill the void, and by 274/3 BC she had married Ptolemy II, thus becoming the new Ptolemaic queen of Egypt with the title of Philadelphos ("Sibling-loving"). Their incestuous union was scandalous for many Greeks, but court apologists argued for its acceptability on the grounds that Zeus had married to his own sister, Hera. Such persuasion was unnecessary for the native Egyptians, for whom brother-sister marriage was an old custom within pharaonic dynasties. As Ptolemaic queen, Arsinoe II was an influential figure who participated in public rituals alongside her husband and shared his titles while serving as a patron of temples and literary works in her own right.

**Ptolemy III Euergetes, 246 – 222**



- 1315** Trihemiobol, Corinth circa 243-222,  $\text{AE}$  29 mm, 19.11 g. Laureate and draped bust r. Rev.  $\text{BA}\Sigma\text{I}\Lambda\text{E}\Omega\Sigma - \text{I}\text{I}\text{T}\text{O}\Lambda\text{E}\text{M}\text{A}\text{I}\text{O}\Upsilon$  Eagle standing l. on thunderbolt. Svoronos 997. CPE B404.

Extremely rare, only few specimens known. Dark tone and about extremely fine

3'500

*Ex M&M 86, 1998, 49; Künker 133, 2007, 7791 and Hess-Divo 317, 2010, 368 sales. From the collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

When Ptolemy III Euergetes succeeded his father, Ptolemy II Philadelphos, in 246 he was immediately embroiled in a violent dispute over the Seleucid succession between the adult Seleucus II and the infant son of the dead Antiochos II and Berenice Syra, the sister of Ptolemy III. Ptolemy III invaded Syria to support Berenice but did not arrive in time to save her life or that of her son. He subsequently embarked on Third Syrian War (246-241 BC) in which he quickly managed to seize a great deal of Seleucid territory, including the Syrian city of Seleucia in Pieria and many coastal cities of Asia Minor. An impressive inland march even brought him brief control of Babylon, after which he added "King of Asia" to his traditional Greek royal and Egyptian pharaonic titles. There is no telling how much of the Seleucid Empire Ptolemy III might have taken from the hapless Seleucus II if a native Egyptian revolt had not broken out in his own kingdom, forcing him to cease direct hostilities. Despite the formal peace made between Ptolemy III and Seleucus II in 241 BC, the Ptolemaic king continued to support the enemies of Seleucus II. Initially, this meant Antiochus Hierax, a brother of Seleucus II, who claimed the western parts of the Seleucid Empire for himself and forced Seleucus II to remain in the East. However, once Hierax was expelled from Asia Minor by Attalus I of Pergamum, in 227 BC, Ptolemy III allied himself with Attalus to protect his possessions in the region and prevent the return of Seleucid power. This only succeeded until 223 BC, when Achaeus, the general of Antiochus III, reentered Asia Minor to reclaim it for his king. While Ptolemy III was meddling in the affairs of the Seleucid Empire, he was also heavily invested in mainland Greece, where he used the wealth of his kingdom as a means of destabilizing the Macedonian kingdom. While the Seleucids posed a constant threat to the security of Ptolemaic Phoenicia and Coele Syria, the Antigonid kings of Macedon were an endless menace to Ptolemaic Island possessions in the Aegean Sea. Ptolemy III personally financed the Achaean and Aetolian Leagues in their struggles against Macedonian domination 240s and 230s BC. However, when the Achaean League formed an alliance with Antigonos III Doseon against the revolutionary Spartan king, Cleomenes III, Ptolemy III threw his support behind Cleomenes. Unfortunately, Ptolemy's provision of his own troops and money to Cleomenes III was not enough to win the so-called Cleomenic War (229-222 BC). Defeated at the Battle of Sellasia in 222 BC, Cleomenes III fled to Alexandria, where Ptolemy III pledged to support his return to power. The Ptolemaic king died shortly after his arrival and never made good on his promise. Bronze coins like the present piece are closely connected to the involvement of Ptolemy III in Greece. They have often been found in the Peloponnese, which initially prompted the suggestion that they were struck in Alexandria and shipped as a subvention to the Achaean League or Cleomenes III. However, it is now believed that they were actually struck in Greece, either to pay the food ration allowance for Ptolemaic troops provided to Cleomenes III or for a Ptolemaic garrison that held Corinth—one of the infamous "Fetters of Greece"—against recapture by Antigonid forces in the years after it was taken by the Achaean League in 243. The coinage is remarkable in the Ptolemaic series as one of the very few in which the portrait of the king appears on bronze rather than gold or silver. Perhaps Ptolemy III wanted the recipients of these coins to be very clear on who was providing them.



1316



**1316\*** In the name of Berenice II. 2 ½ drachms, Alexandria after 241, AV 22 mm, 10.69 g. Diademed and veiled bust of Berenice II r. Rev. ΒΕΡΕΝΙΚΗΣ – ΒΑΣΙΛΙΣΣΗΣ Cornucopiae filled with fruit and bound with fillets; on either side, star. Svoronos 979. BMC 3. Boston, MFA 2279. McClean 9790 (this obverse die). CPE 738.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, among the finest specimens known.  
Two unobtrusive marks on obverse, otherwise extremely fine

15'000

*Ex Schulman 4 February 1957, 1251; Spink 21 October 1988, 74; Triton XIX, 2016, 2106 and NAC 110, 2018, 99 sales. From the Dr. Lawrence A. Adams collection.*

**Ptolemy IV Philopator, 221 – 205**



1317



1317

**1317\*** Octodrachm in the name of Ptolemy III, Alexandria circa 219-217, AV 27 mm, 27.76 g. Radiate and diademed bust of deified Ptolemy III r., wearing aegis and trident over l. shoulder. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ – ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ Radiate cornucopia bound with royal diadem; below, ΔΙ. Svoronos 1117. SNG Copenhagen 196. CPE 888.

Extremely fine

10'000



1318



1318

**1318\*** Octodrachm in the name of Ptolemy III, Alexandria circa 219-217, AV 27 mm, 27.73 g. Radiate and diademed bust of deified Ptolemy III r., wearing aegis and trident over l. shoulder. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ – ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ Radiate cornucopia bound with royal diadem; below, ΔΙ. Svoronos 1117. SNG Copenhagen 196. CPE 887.

About extremely fine

7'500

*From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

**Ptolemy V Epiphanos, 205 – 180**



**1319** Octadrachm, Alexandria circa 205-180, AR 33 mm, 28.52 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 the issue, undoubtedly among the finest specimens known. A bold portrait struck on fresh metal and with a light iridescent tone. Extremely fine 60'000

*Ex Leu sale 30, 1982, 228.*

While Ptolemaic gold mnaieia (octadrachms) are encountered relatively frequently, silver octadrachms are comparatively rare, due in part to the lack of natural sources of silver in Egypt. Out of the small pool of Ptolemaic silver octadrachms, 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 octadrachm to gold mnaieia struck in 199/8 BC that feature the portrait of Ptolemy V wearing a diadem with stars at the tie ends.

**Ptolemy VI Philometor, 180 – 145 or Ptolemy VIII Euergetes, 145 – 116**



1320

- 1320** In the name of Arsinoe II. Octodrachm, Alexandria circa 180-116, AV 28 mm, 27.72 g. Diademed and veiled head of the deified Arsinoe II r.; in field I., K. Rev. ΑΡΣΙΝΟΗΣ – ΦΙΛΑΔΕΛΦΟΥ Double cornucopiae filled with fruit and bound with fillets. Svoronos 1498. SNG Copenhagen 322. Boston, MFA 2293. Minor marks in field and on edge, possibly traces of mounting, otherwise good extremely fine 7'000

**Ptolemy VI Philometor, 163 – 145**



1321

- 1321\*** Didrachm, Salamis circa 162-161, AR 21 mm, 6.88 g. Diademed head of Ptolemy I r., with aegis around neck. Rev. ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ Eagle standing l. on thunderbolt; below, PA. Svoronos 1209. Catherine C. Lorber, *The Ptolemaic Era Coinage Revisited*, NC 167, (attribution to an uncertain mint in Cyprus). SNG Copenhagen 550. Rare. Lovely iridescent tone and good extremely fine 750

*Ex Busso-Peus 376, 2003, 806 and Busso-Peus 428, 2021, 519 sales. From the Graeculus collection.*

**Ptolemy XII Neos Dionysos (Auletes), 55 – 51**



1322

- 1322** Tetradrachm, Alexandria 55-54, AR 25 mm, 13.22 g. Diademed head of Ptolemy I r., wearing aegis around neck. Rev. ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ Eagle with closed wings standing l. on thunderbolt, holding, palm frond over shoulder; in field, Λ Κ Ζ - Π Α and in lower l. field, headdress of Isis. SNG Copenhagen 394. Svoronos 1836.

Light tone and about extremely fine

500

*Ex M&M 54, 1978, 407 and New York XXV, 2011, 125 sales. From the F. Chiesa and a Man in Love with Art collections.*

**Cyrenaica, Cyrene**



1323

- 1323** Stater, governor Ophellas and magistrate Polyantes circa 322-314, AV 18 mm, 8.61 g. Slow quadriga driven r. by Nike, holding kentron and reins; above, ΚΥΡΑΝΑΙΩΝ. Rev. Zeus-Ammon standing facing, head l., holding staff and sacrificing out of patera over thymaterion; in r. field, ΠΟΛΙΑΝΘΕΥΣ. Boston, MFA 1325 (these dies). SNG Copenhagen 1210 (these dies). Jameson 1353 (these dies). Naville 87.

Rare. Several edge marks, possibly traces of mounting, otherwise very fine

3'000

*Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 207, 2012, 470.*

**Zeugitania, Libyan Revolt**



1324

- 1324** Dishekel circa 241-238, AE 30 mm, 16.24 g. Head of Heracles l., wearing lion's skin headdress. Rev. Bull butting r.; above, Punic m and below, [ΛΙΒΥΩΝ]. MAA 66. SNG Copenhagen 244. Carradice and La Niece, NC 1988, 141-157.

Very rare and exceptional condition for the issue. Overstruck on Head of Isis/Three grain ears type (cf. SNG Copenhagen 226-31). Dark tone and very fine

500

*Ex CNG sale 87, 2011, 243. From the collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

## Celtic Coins

### Middle Gaul, Arverni



1325



1325

- 1325** Stater, Lapte type circa II century BC, AV 17 mm, 7.57 g. Celticized head l. Rev. Stylized charioteer driving horse r.; below, lyre below. DT 3374. BN 5278.

Rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Good very fine

1'000

*Ex The Bru sale 6, 2011, 13. Privately purchased from Münzzentrum, Solingen. From the Dr. Meyer-Coloniensis and a Man in Love with Art collections.*

### Central Europe, Vindelici



1326



- 1326** 1/24 stater, Janus Type I circa late III-II century BC, AV 8 mm, 0.29 g. Janiform head with long hair ending in a triangle with a pellet in each corner; small pellet above. Rev. Horse galloping r.; triangle with pellet in each corner above. Kellner, Manching pl. 3, 62. Steffgen/Ziegeus pl. 1, 2. Lanz 13.

Extremely fine

500

*Ex Lanz sale 153, 2011, 3. From the collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

### Armorica, Veneti



1327



- 1327** Stater III century BC, AV 20 mm, 7.58 g. Celticized head r., with boar in hair and surmounted by strings ending with human heads. Rev. Charioteer driving biga led by androcephalic horse r.; below, winged figure flying r. de la Tour 6826. D&T 2099.

Very rare. Minor area of weakness, otherwise extremely fine

2'500

*Ex The Bru Gallery 3, 2011, 21 and NAC 126, 2021, 290 sales. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

## The Roman Republic

The mint is Rome unless otherwise stated.



1328

1328

Stater circa 218-216, AV 20 mm, 6.83 g. Laureate Janiform head of the Dioscuri. Rev. Oath taking scene with two warriors, one Roman and the other representing the Italian allies, standing facing each other, holding spears and touching with their swords a pig held by a figure kneeling between them. In exergue, ROMA. Babelon 27. Bahrfeldt 1 and pl I, 5 (these dies). Sydenham 69. Kent-Hirmer pl. 7, 14. Historia Numorum Italy 332. RBW 61. Crawford 28/1.

Extremely rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, undoubtedly among the finest specimens in private hands. An issue of tremendous fascination and symbolism. A portrait of fine style struck in high relief, minor marks, otherwise extremely fine

175'000

*From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art and from a Scandinavian collection.*

The Second Punic War was one of the defining events in the history of Rome, a city-state on the verge of becoming an imperial power. It lasted nearly a generation and tested the government, the military and the system of alliances that Rome had painstakingly built in Italy and beyond. It also caused economic devastation: to pay for the war, the Roman state resorted to credit for the first time in its history, soliciting loans from leading citizens and their ally Hieron II, king of Syracuse. The strain is reflected in Rome's coinage: not only was gold coinage required for the first time in Rome's history, but the course of events forced a monumental change by which the Roman monetary system came to be based on the silver denarius rather than the bronze as, which had lost 80 percent of its weight in the first six years of the war. That the Romans prevailed is remarkable, for the news at the outset was terrifying. Despite Hannibal losing an eye while crossing the Apennines, his skills were in peak form: in the ambush at Lake Trasimene in 217 he killed 15,000 men and took 10,000 prisoners; and at Cannae the number of Romans and allies he killed or captured perhaps reached 50,000. The devastation of individual communities throughout Italy must have been incomprehensible, and the Romans responded with a gold coinage meant to support their war effort both in a financial and a political sense. The janiform head of the Dioscuri (Castor and Pollux) on the obverse no doubt was meant to recall the miraculous intervention of the saviour twins so long ago at the Battle of Lake Regillus. The reverse of the stater offered here, struck early in the struggle against Hannibal, c. 218-216 B.C., shows an oath-taking scene in which two soldiers touch the tips of their swords to a pig held by an attendant. The man on the right, un-bearded, youthful and armoured, is a Roman, and the man on the left, bearded and without armour, represents one of his Italian allies. The meaning of this scene is clear: Rome demonstrates to her allies that the war against Carthage is a co-operative effort. This was critically important because not only did Rome need this system of alliances to survive Hannibal's invasion, but also it has often been suggested that Hannibal's true goal in invading Italy was not to capture the city of Rome, but to dismantle its alliances. As such, these gold coins should be regarded as historical documents of Rome's counterpoint to Hannibal's effort to undermine its emerging empire.



1329



- 1329** The Bellum Sociale. Denarius, Bovianum (?) circa 89 (?), AR 18 mm, 3.75 g. Laureate head of Italia l.; behind, viteliú retrograde in Oscan characters. Rev. Soldier in 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. Sydenham 627. Campana 122. Historia Numorum Italy 407. RBW 1218.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Struck on exceptionally fresh metal and with a superb old cabinet tone. An unobtrusive die-break on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine 5'000

*Ex Roma Numismatics sale XXVII, 2023, 541.*



1330



- 1330** C. Calpurnius L.f. Frugi. Denarius 67, AR 18 mm, 4.09 g. Laureate head of Apollo r.; behind, lizard. Rev. Horseman galloping r., holding whip; above, L and below, C·PISO·L·FRV. Babelon Calpurnia 24. Sydenham 840a. RBW -. Crawford 408/1a. Hersh, NC 1976, 74.

An elegant portrait of fine style struck in high relief and with a wonderful old cabinet tone. An insignificant edge nick at one o'clock on reverse, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc.

1'000

*Ex Busso Peus sale 401, 2010, 434.*



1331



- 1331** C. Memmius C.f. Denarius, Roma 56, AR 18 mm, 3.88 g. C·MEMMI·C·F Head of Ceres r., wearing barley-wreath. Rev. C·MEMMIVS – IMPERATOR Trophy; in the foreground, kneeling captive with hands tied behind his back. Babelon Memmia 10. Sydenham 920. RBW 1531. Crawford 427/1.

A portrait of fine style struck on a large flan and with a lovely old cabinet tone.

Two minor marks on obverse and a graffito on reverse, otherwise about extremely fine

400

*Ex Cahn-Hess 17th July 1933, Haeberlin, 2474.*



1332

**1332** Q. Pompeius Rufus. Denarius 54, AR 18 mm, 4.01 g. SVLLA·COS Head of Sulla r. Rev. Q·POM·RVFI Head of Q. Pompeius Rufus r.; behind, RVFVS·COS. Babelon Cornelia 48 and Pompeia 4. Sydenham 908. RBW 1544. Crawford 434/1.

Rare. Two impressive portraits struck on excellent metal. About extremely fine

750

*Ex Roma Numismatics sale XXVII, 2023, 584.*



1333

**1333** C. Coelius Caldus. Denarius 51, AR 19 mm, 3.54 g. C·COEL·CALD[VS] Head of C. Coelius Caldus r.; below, COS and, behind, tablet inscribed L·D. Rev. CALDVS·IIIVIR Head of Sol r.; behind, S / oval shield decorated with thunderbolt; before, Macedonian shield. Babelon Coelia 4. Sydenham 892. RBW -. Crawford 437/1b.

Rare. Two lovely portraits of fine style, minor areas of weakness, otherwise about extremely fine

350



1334

**1334\*** C. Iulius Caesar. Denarius, mint moving with Caesar 49-48, AR 19 mm, 3.95 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.

Perfectly centred on a full flan and with a lovely iridescent tone. Good extremely fine

2'000

*Ex NAC 27, 2004, 266 and Leu Winterthur 14, 2023, 154 sales. From the collection of Prof. Dr. D. Mannsperger.*



1335

**1335\*** C. Iulius Caesar. Denarius, mint moving with Caesar 49-48, AR 18 mm, 3.14 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.

Lovely iridescent tone. Obverse from a worn die, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine

1'000

*Ex Nomos sale 30, 2024, 1399. From the collection of Ried Redlich, acquired on 10 December 1994 from Harlan J. Berk at The New York International Numismatic Convention.*



**1336** C. Vibius C.f. Cn. Pansa Caetronianus. Denarius 48, AR 18 mm, 4.08 g. Mask of bearded Pan r.; below, PANSA. 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.

Wonderful iridescent tone and extremely fine

300

*From the collection of a Mentor.*



**1337** T. Carisius. Denarius 46, AR 18 mm, 3.69 g. Draped bust of Victory r.; behind, S-C. Rev. Victory in prancing quadriga r., holding reins and wreath; in exergue, T-CARISI. Babelon Carisia 3. Sydenham 985. Sear Imperators 73. RBW 1618. Crawford 464/5.

Minor areas of weakness, otherwise good extremely fine

250



**1338\*** C. Iulius Caesar. Denarius, Sicily (?) 46, AR 20 mm, 4 g. COS-TERT – DICT-ITER Head of Ceres r., wearing wreath of barley. Rev. AVGVR Culullus, aspergillum, jug and lituus. In outer r. field, D and below, PONT-MAX. Babelon Julia 16. C 4. Sydenham 1023. Sear Imperators 57. Woytek Arma et Nummi p. 558. RBW 1637. Crawford 467/1a.

Light iridescent tone and about extremely fine / extremely fine

600

*Ex Leu Winterthur e-sale 27, 2023, 1531*



**1339** C. Iulius Caesar and C. Cossutius Maridianus. Denarius 44, AR 22 mm, 3.61 g. CAESAR – PARENS-PATRIAE Veiled and wreathed head of Caesar r.; behind, apex and before, lituus. Rev. C-COSSVTIVS and MARIDIANVS arranged in form of cross; in angles, A – A – A – FF. Babelon Julia 43 and Cossutia 2. C 18. Sydenham 1069. Sear Imperators 112. RBW 1687. Crawford 480/19.

Rare. Struck on an exceptionally large flan and unusually well struck for the issue.

Minor areas of porosity on obverse, otherwise extremely fine

3'500



1340

- 1340\*** Octavian. Aureus, Gallia Transalpina and Cisalpina 43, AV 20 mm, 7.85 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.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Two magnificent portraits of fine style unusually well struck, absolutely unobtrusive areas of weakness, otherwise extremely fine 125'000

*Ex Dorotheum 975, 1995, Apostolo Zeno (1668-1750), 294; Gorny & Mosch 203, 2012, 312 and NAC 97, 2016, America collection, 39 sales. Purchased from Münzhandel Ludwig Grabow in Berlin.*

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.



1341

1341

- 1341\*** C. Cassius and Lentulus Spint. Denarius, mint moving with Brutus and Cassius 43-42, AR 17 mm, 3.89 g. C·CASSI·IMP – LEIBERTAS Diademed head of Libertas r. Rev. Jug and lituus; below, LENTVLVS / SPINT. Babelon Cassia 16 and Cornelia 75. C 4. Sydenham 1307. Sear Imperators 221. RBW 1762. Crawford 500/3.

About extremely fine

500

*Ex Leu Winterthur e-sale 27, 2023, 1546*



1342



- 1342** Marcus Junius Brutus and L. Plaetorius Caestianus. Denarius, Northern Greece 43-42, AR 20 mm, 2.9 g. BRVT IMP L·PLAET·CEST Bare head of Brutus r. Rev. EID·MAR Pileus between two daggers. Babelon Junia 52 and Plaetoria 13. C 15. Sydenham 1301. Sear Imperators 216. Kent-Hirmer pl. 27, 98. Cahn, *EIDibus MARTiis*, Q. Tic. 18, 1989, 20. Campana, *Eidibus Martiis*, O4/R19. RBW -. Crawford 508/3.

Very rare and an issue of great historical importance and fascination.

A pleasant old cabinet tone, a banker's mark on obverse, otherwise very fine

50'000



1343



- 1343** Sextus Pompeius. Aureus, Sicily 37-36, AV 20 mm, 8.07 g. MAG·PIVS· – IMP·ITER. Bearded and bare head of Sextus Pompeius r.; all within oak-wreath. Rev. PRAEF Heads of Cn. Pompeius Magnus, on l., and Cn. Pompeius Junior, on r., facing each other; at sides, lituus and tripod. Below, CLAS·ET·ORAE / MARIT·EX·S·C. C 1. Bahrfeldt 87. Babelon Pompeia 24. Sear Imperators 332. Woytek *Arma et Nummi* p. 559. Calicó 71a. Crawford 511/1.

Very rare. A pleasant specimen of this important and fascinating issue with three superb portraits of masterly style. Several edge marks, possibly traces of mounting, otherwise good very fine / about extremely fine

25'000

*Ex Burgan sale 26 January 2024, 379.*

Sextus Pompey was the first Roman to use dynastic imagery on coinage. This crucial step was taken in an age when the senate and traditions were losing ground to the cult of personality. The careers of the recent warlords Marius, Sulla, Crassus, Caesar, and Sextus' own father, Pompey Magnus, had benefited disproportionately from the strength of their charisma. In 42 B.C., when aurei of portrait type originally were struck, Antony, Octavian, Lepidus, Brutus, Cassius, and Sextus Pompey all were fighting for supremacy. Thus, this issue sets an enormously important precedent with Sextus honouring his family in so complete a manner. He and his brother Cnaeus earlier had initiated that practice by portraying their deceased father on denarii as early as 45-44 B.C., but here Sextus takes it a step further by portraying himself with his deceased brother and father. The issue amounts to an exhibition of his pedigree, as well as a nostalgic call to arm for all who had thus far served the Pompeian cause. Both Antony and Octavian made use of the coinage to advertise their relationship with the murdered Julius Caesar, a publicity war that was won by Caesar's nephew and heir, Octavian. But Antony took the practice to a level even beyond Sextus Pompey by representing living relatives on his coinage. Lacking a pedigree that was comparable with Octavian or Sextus Pompey, Antony pursued the next best option by promoting his active dynasty, for the coins bore portraits of his brother, his son, and perhaps three of his four wives. On this aureus we find the only coin portrait of Sextus Pompey; it is shown within an oak wreath, traditionally an award for those who had saved the life of a Roman citizen, which must relate to the many lives he saved by taking in political refugees who escaped the Caesarean proscriptions. On the reverse the portraits of Pompey Magnus and Cnaeus Pompey are flanked by priestly objects, a lituus and a tripod, which represent the priesthoods to which they had been appointed.



1344



**1344\*** Sextus Pompeius. Denarius, Sicily 37-36, AR 18 mm, 3.88 g. MAG·PIVS·IMP·ITER Head of Cn. Pompeius Magnus r.; behind, jug and before, lituus. Rev. PRÆF Neptune standing l., foot on prow, between the brothers Anapias and Amphinomus, with their parents on their shoulders; in exergue, CLAS·E·T·ORÆ / MARIT·EX·S·C. Babelon Pompeia 27. C 17. Sydenham 1344. Sear Imperators 334. Woytek, Arma et Nummi p. 558. RBW 1785. Crawford 511/3a.

Light iridescent tone and extremely fine

3'000

Ex Leu Winterthur sale 13, 2023, 207.



1345



**1345\*** Marcus Antonius and C. Caesar Octavianus with M. Barbatius. Denarius, mint moving with M. Antonius 41, AR 20 mm, 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 excellent portraits struck on fresh metal. Extremely fine

1'000

Ex Leu Winterthur e-sale 25, 2023, 1991.



1346



**1346\*** Cn. Domitius Ahenobarbus. Denarius, mint moving with Ahenobarbus in 41, AR 18 mm, 3.93 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. Struck on fresh metal and with a lovely iridescent tone.

A minor mark on obverse, otherwise extremely fine

2'500

Ex Leu Winterthur sale 13, 2023, 195.



1347



- 1347** Marcus Antonius and Cn. Domitius Ahenobarbus. Denarius, mint moving with M. Antonius 40, AR 20 mm, 3.87 g. ANT·IMP·AVG III VIR·R·P·C Head of M. Antonius r.; behind, lituus. Rev. CN·DOMIT·AHENOBARBUS·IMP Prow r.; above, star. Babelon Antonia 56 and Domitia 23. C 10. Sydenham 1179. Sear Imperators 258. RBW 1805. Crawford 521/2.

Very rare. A bold portrait and a lovely iridescent tone, minor marks, otherwise about extremely fine

5'000

*Ex Leu Winterthur e-sale 25, 2023, 1999.*



1348



1348

- 1348** Octavianus and M. Vipsanius Agrippa. Denarius, mint moving with Octavian 38, AR 18 mm, 3.68 g. DIVOS IVLIVS – DIVI·F Confronted heads of Julius Caesar, wreathed r., and Octavian, bareheaded l. Rev. M·AGRIPPA·COS / DESIG. Babelon Julia 129 and Vipsania 2. C 5. Sydenham 1330. Sear Imperators 306. RBW -. Crawford 534/2.

Very rare. Two superb portraits perfectly centred on a full flan. Lovely old cabinet tone, a banker's mark on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine / good very fine

7'500

*Ex NAC sale 106, 2018, 522.*



1349



- 1349\*** M. Antonius. Denarius, mint moving with M. Antonius 37, AR 20 mm, 3.82 g. M·ANT·AVGV·R·P·C Head of M. Antonius r. Rev. IMP – TER Trophy with curved sword attached to r. arm and figure-of-eight shield attached to l., a further sword hanging from its waist; at its base, two spears and two round shields. Babelon Antonia 76. C 16. Sydenham 1203. Sear Imperators 269. RBW -. Crawford 536/1.

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

2'000

*Ex Leu Winterthur sale 14, 2023, 168.*



1350

- 1350\*** Cleopatra with Marcus Antonius. Denarius, mint moving with M. Antonius 32, AR 20 mm, 3.79 g. CLEOPATRAE – REGINAE·REGVM·FILIORVM·REGVM Draped and diademed bust of Cleopatra r. Rev. ANTONI· ARMENIA·DEVICTA Head of M. Antonius r.; behind, Armenian tiara. Babelon Antonia 95. C 1. Sydenham 1210. Sear Imperators 345. RBW 1832. Crawford 543/1.

Lovely iridescent tone and a superb portrait of M. Antonius. Minor marks on obverse and a hairline metal flaw on reverse, otherwise good very fine

4'000

*Ex CNG sale 46, 1998, 703. From the Peter Bowe collection.*



1351

- 1351\*** Marcus Antonius. Denarius, mint moving with M. Antonius 32-31, AR 17 mm, 3.57 g. ANT AVG – III·VIR·R·P·C Galley r., with sceptre tied with fillet on prow. Rev. LEG – II Aquila between two standards. Babelon Antonia 105. C 27. Sydenham 1216. Sear Imperators 349. RBW 1838. Crawford 544/14.

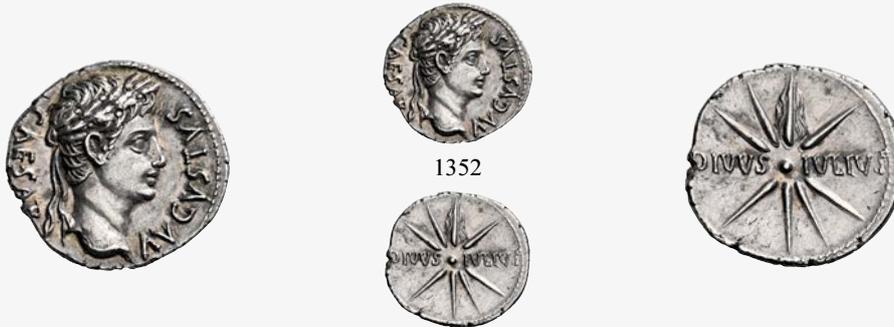
Perfectly struck and centred on a full flan and with a wonderful old cabinet tone. Extremely fine

1'500

## The Roman Empire

The mint is Rome unless otherwise stated.

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



- 1352** Denarius, Caesaraugusta circa 19–18 BC, AR 20 mm, 3.86 g. CAESAR – AVGVSTVS Oak-wreathed head r. Rev. DIVVS – IVLIVS Eight-rayed comet with tail upwards. C 98 var. (laureate). BMC 323. RIC 37a. CBN 1297.

In exceptional condition for the issue. Struck in high relief and with a wonderful old cabinet tone, two almost invisible marks on reverse field, otherwise good extremely fine 7'500

*Ex M&M 86, 1998, 134; Stack's 08 June 1999, dr. A.R. Globus, 104; Coin Galleries 8, 2000, 252; Helios 4, 2009, A. Lynn, 213 and NGSa sale 6, 20101, 153. From a Scandinavian collection.*

This denarius is thought to be another issue struck at the colonial mint of Caesar Augusta in Spain. On the obverse, the emperor is depicted wearing the corona civica on the obverse and named in the legend as Caesar Augustus. The reverse, however is a spectacular type that celebrates the original source of the emperor's power, while he was still known as Octavian and before the settlement of 27 BC made him Augustus. The large star with a clear tail depicted on the reverse represents the famous sidus Iulium (literally the "star of Julius")-a great comet that appeared in the sky for seven days in July 44 BC as Octavian was celebrating the ludi Victoriae Caesaris, games instituted at Rome to celebrate the many victories of Julius Caesar. Although Caesar had been assassinated several months earlier, on the Ides of March, as his adoptive heir Octavian held the games as an act of filial piety and as a means of galvanising support against the Liberators. The timing of the comet could not have been better. Octavian immediately seized upon the celestial event and declared it to be the spirit of the dead Caesar ascending to the heavens. Thus, Caesar had clearly risen to the ranks of the gods, as indicated by the legend of this coin, which identifies the star as the Divine Julius. Thenceforth, Octavian bolstered his political position by not only presenting himself as the son of Caesar, the great man, but as the son of Caesar the god. This transition of Julius Caesar from murdered dynast to god was celebrated by the disgraced Augustan poet Ovid, who included the sidus Iulium in his *Metamorphoses*. In his account "... kindly Venus, although seen by none, stood in the middle of the Senate-house, and caught from the dying limbs and trunk of her own Caesar his departing soul. She did not give it time so that it could dissolve in air, but bore it quickly up, toward all the stars of heaven; and on the way, she saw it gleam and blaze and set it free. Above the moon it mounted into heaven, leaving behind a long and fiery trail, and as a star it glittered in the sky."



- 1353\*** Denarius, Colonia Patricia circa 19-18, AR 18 mm, 3.9 g. CAESAR – AVGVSTVS Bare head r. Rev. OB / CIVIS / SERVATOS within oak wreath. C 208. BMC 378. RIC 77a. CBN 1154.

Lovely old cabinet tone and good very fine

750

*Ex Leu Winterthur e-16, 2021, 3341 and CNG 123, 2023, 587 sales.*

**Tiberius augustus, 14 – 38**



- 1354** Tiberius augustus, 14 – 37. Aureus, Lugdunum 14-16, AV 18 mm, 7.31 g. TI CAESAR DIVI – AVG F AVGVSTVS Laureate head of Tiberius r. Rev. DIVOS AVGVS – DIVI F Laureate head of Augustus r., six-pointed star above. C 3. BMC 29. RIC 24. C BN 1. Calicó 311.

Very rare and exceptionally well-centred and complete for the issue. Two portraits of excellent style struck in high relief, minor marks in field and on edge, otherwise extremely fine 20'000

*Ex Schulman sale 24 May 1937, 552.*

This aureus testifies to the definitive adoption and the ensuing appointment of Tiberius as Augustus' heir. It is worth mentioning how the minting of this extremely rare issue occurred so shortly before the death of the emperor, of whose demise various leading inferences have been made. We indeed know from sources that Augustus retired to Nola and, suspicious of his entourage, would eat only figs from his gardens. All the same, this cautious diet did not save him from a possible death by poisoning. Some have suggested the involvement of Livia, a powerful and controversial personality who may have been the shadowy orchestrator behind at least some of the inexplicable deaths of many heirs previously appointed by Augustus. The first to succumb to a sudden and questionable disease, in 23 BC, was his nephew Marcellus, son of the emperor's sister Octavia and most loved potential heir. Next in line for succession was now Agrippa, but he also was not to outlive the Emperor, for an untimely albeit natural death took him in 12 BC. Then it was the turn of Agrippa's sons Lucius Caesar, who died of a suspicious illness in Gaul in 2 AD, his brother Gaius having died two years previously of a fatal wound while at war in the East. Agrippa Postumus, younger brother of Gaius and Lucius, thus became the last male descendant of the Emperor who, if the truth be told, despised him for his intractability and madness, to the point of promoting a "senatus consultum" to have him transferred to an island, in perpetual isolation and surrounded by a body of soldiers (Suet., Augusti Vita, 65). However, after Augustus' death the position of Agrippa, next of blood, as legitimate heir – madness notwithstanding – could not be challenged and so he was immediately disposed of by one of his guardians. Tiberius' path to the throne was finally clear.



- 1355** Aureus, Lugdunum circa 14-37, AV 19 mm, 7.76 g. TI CAESAR DIVI – AVG F AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. PONTIF – MAXIM Draped female figure (Livia as Pax) seated r. on chair with ornamented legs, holding long vertical sceptre and branch. C 15. BMC 39 var. RIC 29. CBN 26. Calicó 305b.

Extremely fine

6'000



1356



1356

- 1356\*** Denarius, Lugdunum circa 14-37, AR 17 mm, 3.67 g. TI CAESAR DIVI AVG F AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. PONTIF MAXIM Livia (as Pax) seated r. on a chair with ornate legs set on low base, holding inverted spear in her r. hand and olive branch in her l. C 16. BMC 45. RIC 30 var. (sceptre instead of spear).

Good extremely fine

500

*Ex Leu Winterthur e-sale 30, 2024, 1880.*

### In the name of Agrippina Senior, mother of Gaius



1357



1357

- 1357** Sestertius circa 37-41, Æ 35 mm, 28.38 g. AGRIPPINA·M·F·MAT·C·CAESARIS·AVGVSTI Draped bust r., hair falling in long plait at the back. Rev. S·P·Q·R / MEMORIAE / AGRIPPINAE Carpentum drawn l. by two mules; the cover supported by standing figures at the corners with ornamented side. C 1. BMC Gaius 85. RIC Gaius 55. CBN Gaius 128.

Very rare. A very elegant portrait struck in high relief and a finely detailed reverse composition.  
Dark brown patina and extremely fine

15'000

*Ex NAC 23, 2002, 1485; NAC 78, 2014, 838; NAC 86, 2015, 108 and Künker 295, 2017, 683 sales. From a Scandinavian collection.*

Agrippina Senior was among the most deserving, yet least fortunate of the Julio-Claudian women. After her marriage in A.D. 5 to Augustus' preferred heir, Germanicus, she was poised to achieve a status on par with the empress Livia. However, with the death of Augustus and the accession of Tiberius, power within the dynasty shifted decisively from the Julians to the Claudians. Even though Agrippina's marriage offered a union of the two bloodlines, her prospects did not survive under Tiberius. When Germanicus died at Antioch late in A.D. 19 under suspicious circumstances, Agrippina devoted herself to opposing Tiberius and his prefect Sejanus. Finally, in 29, Tiberius deprived her of freedom, and in 33 she died in exile. Three issues of sestertii were struck for Agrippina Senior, all posthumously. The first, produced by her son Caligula, shows on its reverse a carpentum; the second, issued by her brother Claudius, has on its reverse a large SC surrounded by a Claudian inscription; the third is a restoration of the Claudian type by the emperor Titus (79-81), whose inscriptions are substituted for those of Claudius. The obverse inscription on Caligula's issue, AGRIPPINA M F MAT C CAESARIS AVGVSTI, describes Agrippina as the daughter of Marcus (Agrippa) and the mother of Gaius (Caligula). Claudius' inscription also identifies her as Agrippa's daughter, but ends GERMANICI CAESARIS, thus shifting the focus from her being the mother of Caligula to being the widow of Claudius' deceased brother Germanicus. Distinctions in the portraits follow the same lines as the inscriptions: on the issue of Caligula, Agrippina has a slender profile like that of her son, whereas on Claudius' her face is broader and fuller, in keeping with his appearance.

Gaius, 37 – 41



1358

Aureus 37-38, AV 18 mm, 7.68 g. C·CAESAR·AVG·GERM·P·M·TR·POT Laureate head of Gaius r. Rev. GERMANICVS·CAES·P·C·CAES·AVG·GERM Bare head of Germanicus r. C 1. BMC 18. RIC 17. CBN –. Calicó 321.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, possibly the finest specimen known. Two superb portraits of high style perfectly struck and centred on a full flan, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

200'000

*Ex NAC sale 78, 2014, 843.*

This aureus of the Rome mint from Caligula's first year as emperor must have been well-received for what it represented in a moment of jubilant change. Here we have a fresh coinage bearing the portrait of a young emperor who in this inaugural year brought hope to a nation that had grown to dislike Tiberius, especially in his last few years. The fact that Caligula would soon disappoint on a scale even greater even than Tiberius was not yet known, and could not have taken away from the joy of the moment. At the time of Tiberius' death, Caligula was the only living male whose bloodline led directly back to the divine Augustus. Only one other with that qualification would follow, the future emperor Nero. However, at the time of Caligula's accession Nero was not yet born. Indeed, his birth on December 15 of 37 indicates that Nero likely was conceived within a few days of Tiberius' death – a curiosity that was not missed by Suetonius (Nero 6.1). From the start Caligula worked from his sole point of strength: his pedigree. He represented a return to the bloodline of Augustus after the grim dynastic detour by the Claudian Tiberius. Hopes for a cheerful succession had been dashed numerous times in the past with the deaths of Marcellus, Nero Claudius Drusus, Gaius Caesar, Lucius Caesar, Agrippa Posthumous, Germanicus, Nero Caesar, and Drusus Caesar, all of whom died young and under mysterious or degrading circumstances. Thus, the mere survival of Caligula as a great-grandson of Augustus and a son of Germanicus, was enough to overcome his significant lack of experience and mental instability.

Caligula first issued coins honouring the divine Augustus and, dutifully, his predecessor Tiberius. He followed with coins honouring his mother and father, both of whom perished during the reign of Tiberius. It is in this light we should see this aureus honoring his martyred father, the hero of the Rhine legions and a vigorous ambassador in Rome's Eastern provinces. Caligula's relationship to his father is made clear in the reverse inscription with the abbreviations P C CAES (Pater Caii Caesaris).

Germanicus was extensively honoured on coinage by his relatives. During his lifetime, provincial coins were struck in his name by his uncle Tiberius, and after his death he was honoured by his son Caligula and his brother Claudius with a full range of imperial gold, silver and base metal coins, as well as silver and base metal coins from the provinces.



1359



- 1359** Aureus, Lugdunum 37-38, AV 18 mm, 7.79 g. C CAESAR AVG [GERM P] M TR POT Bare head of Gaius r. Rev. DIVVS [AVG] PATER PATRIAE Radiate head of Augustus r. C -, cf. 3 (denarius). BMC 10 note. RIC 9. CBN 17. Giard Lyon 159. Calicó 331.

Very rare. Two lovely portraits of fine style and a lovely reddish tone, minor marks in field and on edge marks, otherwise good very fine

30'000

*Ex Spink 7, 1982, 6 and Bruun Rasmussen 913, 2023, 1004 sales. From the Boscoreale hoard of 1895.*



1360



- 1360** Denarius 40, AR 18 mm, 3.69 g. C CAESAR AVG PON M TR POT III COS III Laureate head of Gaius r. Rev. GERMANICVS CAES P C CAES AVG GERM Bare head of Germanicus r. C 5. BMC 28. RIC 26. CBN 34 (Lugdunum).

Very rare. Two magnificent portraits in the finest style of the period struck on exceptionally fresh metal.

Lovely iridescent tone, unobtrusive marks, otherwise good extremely fine

7'500

*Ex Giessener Münzhandlung Dieter Gorny 96, 1999, 446; Gorny & Mosch 107, 2001, 353 and NAC 101, 2017, 118 sales. From a Scandinavian collection.*

### Claudius, 41 – 54



1361



- 1361** Aureus 41-42, AV 20 mm, 7.77 g. TI CLAVD CAESAR AVG GERM P M TR P Laureate head r. Rev. CONSTANTIAE – AVGVSTI Constantia seated l. on curule chair, raising r. hand; her feet on stool. C 5. BMC 11. RIC 13. CBN 27. Calicó 338.

About extremely fine

12'500

*Ex NAC sale 33, 2006, 426.*



1362

- 1362\*** Aureus circa 50-54, AV 20 mm, 7.68 g. TI CLAVD CAESAR AVG GERM P M TRIB POT P P Laureate head of Claudius r. Rev. NERO CLAVD CAES DRVSVS GERM PRINC IVVENT Bare-headed and draped bust of Nero l. C 4. BMC 79. RIC 82. CBN 85 (Lugdunum). Calicó 391.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Two magnificent portraits well struck in high relief and perfectly centred on a full flan. Good extremely fine

35'000

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

### Nero caesar, 50 – 54



1363

- 1363** Aureus 50-54, AV 20 mm, 7.7 g. NERONI CLAVDIO DRVSO GERM COS DESIGN Bare headed and draped bust r. Rev. EQVESTER / OR – DO / PRINCIPI / IVVENT on shield set on vertical spear behind. C 96. BMC Claudius 92. von Kaenel type 53. RIC Claudius 78. CBN Claudius 95. Calicó 407.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Struck in very high relief, minor marks, otherwise good extremely fine

15'000

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

**Nero augustus, 54 – 68**



1364



1364

**1364** Aureus 55, AV 19 mm, 7.6 g. NERO CLAVD DIVI F CAES AVG GERM IMP TR P COS Conjoined bust of Nero, bare-headed, and Agrippina Minor, draped, r. Rev. AGRIPP AVG DIVI CLAVD NERONIS CAES MATER Quadriga of elephants l., bearing two chairs holding Divus Claudius, radiate r., eagle-tipped sceptre in hand and Divus Augustus, radiate r., holding patera and sceptre; in l. field, EX S C. C 3. BMC 7. RIC 6. CBN 10. Calicó 397.

Rare. A very attractive jugate bust struck in high relief. Two scratches on obverse and a mark on reverse, otherwise extremely fine

6'000

*From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*



1365



1365

**1365** Denarius 55, AR 20 mm, 3.66 g. NERO CLAVD DIVI F CAES AVG GERM IMP TR P COS Jugate busts r. of Nero, bare-headed and with drapery at back of neck, and of Agrippina II, bare-headed and draped. Rev. AGRIPP AVG DIVI CLAVD NERONIS CAES MATER Quadriga of elephants l., bearing two chairs holding Divus Claudius, radiate r., eagle-tipped sceptre in hand and Divus Augustus, radiate r., holding patera and sceptre; in field l., EX S C. C 4. BMC 8. RIC 7. CBN 13.

Very rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Two delicate portraits and a light iridescent tone, an unobtrusive area of porosity on reverse, otherwise extremely fine

3'500

*Ex Tkalec & Rauch 25 April 1989, 265; Leu 57, 1993, 246; NAC & Spink Taisei 16 November 1994, Gilbert Steinberg, 237 and NAC 101, 2017, 132 sales. From the Bob Levy and a Scandinavian collections.*



1366



1366

**1366\*** Denarius circa 65-66, AR 16 mm, 3.32 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.

Extremely fine

1'500

*Ex Leu Winterthur e-sale 27, 2023, 1655.*



1367

**1367** Aureus circa 66-67, AV 18 mm, 7.34 g. NERO CAESAR – AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. Salus seated l. on throne, holding patera in r. hand and resting l. at her side; in exergue, SALVS. C 313. BMC 87. RIC 59. CBN 225. Calicó 443a.

A portrait of lovely style and a very elegant reverse die. Wonderful light reddish tone, several minor edge marks, otherwise about extremely fine

6'000

### Clodius Macer, April (?) – October (?) 68



1368

**1368** Denarius, Carthago (?) April-October (?) 68, AR 18 mm, 3.8 g. L CLODIVS·MACER Bare head of Clodius Macer r.; at sides, C – S. Rev. PRO PRA – E / AFRICAE Galley r., with five oarsmen. C –, cf. 13 (S C below neck). Hewitt –, cf. 48 (this reverse die). RIC –, cf. 42 (S C below neck). CBN –, cf. 8 (S C below neck). cf. CNG 46, 1998, lot 1186 (this obverse die).

Extremely rare and among the finest specimens known. Struck on unusually good metal and with a delightful iridescent tone, minor areas of encrustation, otherwise about extremely fine / extremely fine

40'000

*Ex Freeman & Sear Manhattan III, 2012, 173 and NAC 86, 2015, 141 sales. From a Scandinavian collection.*

The rebellion of Clodius Macer in North Africa was sparked at a time when the last thing Nero desired was more bad news. He had just overcome the uprising of Vindex in Gaul only to learn of the more formidable insurrection of Galba in Spain. The revolts showed that Nero's dismissive and callous treatment of his governors and administrators in the provinces would not pass without consequences. Of all the coinages from this civil war, those of Clodius Macer are the most inventive. It is remarkable that he uses the formulaic abbreviation S C (senatus consulto) on his denarii, for this abbreviation otherwise had not appeared on Roman silver coins since about 40 B.C. We may take this and his decision to portray himself without a laurel wreath or a diadem as evidence that he wished to portray his revolt as being against Nero, not the senate. Most coins of his contemporaries cling to the predictable themes of loyalty, unity, recovery and victory, but Macer's are restorative, recalling an event of precisely a century before: the battle of Actium in 31 B.C. Macer must have thought it no mere coincidence – but rather an omen – that Rome's new revolutionary war was being waged in the centenary year of Actium, the battle that for all intensive purposes had ended Rome's previous civil war. The reverse of this denarius is copied from the obverse of Marc Antony's famous legionary coinage, of which the denarii were still to be commonly seen in circulation. Furthermore, another of Macer's coins replicates the reverse of Antony's legionary coinage by depicting a legionary eagle between two standards. He was careful in his reproductions, for he even followed the arrangement of the inscriptions on Antony's originals: the obverse, with the war galley, had borne Antony's personal inscriptions, and the reverse, with the standards, had borne the names of various legions and specialised units. With Macer's versions the galley design bears his personal inscription (identifying himself as the legatus Augusti propraetor of Africa), and the eagle-and-standards type bears the names of two legions under his control, the Legion I Macriana and the Legion III Augusta. MSG.

Galba, 68 – 69



1369



1369

- 1369** Sestertius circa December 68, Æ 36 mm, 26.64 g. SER SVLP 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. RIC 462. CBN –.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, among the finest specimens known. A magnificent portrait of excellent style struck in high relief and a finely detailed reverse composition. About extremely fine

15'000

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."



1370



1370

- 1370\*** Denarius 68-69, AR 17 mm, 3.51 g. IMP SER GALBA CAESAR AVG P M Laureate head r. Rev. SALVS GEN HVMANI Female figure (Fortuna?), draped, standing l., r. foot on globe, sacrificing out of patera in r. hand over lighted and garlanded altar to l. and cradling upright rudder upright in l. arm. C 240. BMC 45. RIC 232. CBN 104.

Light iridescent tone and good very fine

1'500

*Ex CNG Numismatic Review 22, 1997, 35; CNG 114, 2020, 770 and Triton XXVIII, 2025, 673 sales. Privately purchased from CNG in 1997. From the John L. Cowan collection.*

Otho, 69



**1371\*** Denarius 69, AR 18 mm, 3.33 g. IMP M OTHO CAESAR AVG TR P Bare head r. Rev. VICTORIA – OTHONIS Draped Victory alighting l., holding wreath in r. hand and palm branch in l. C 24. BMC 24. RIC 16. CBN 21.

A portrait of excellent style and a lovely iridescent tone. Good very fine

4'000

*Ex New York III, 2000, 628; Hess-Divo 333, 2017, Galba, 156 and CNG 126, 2024, 692 sales. From the Wild Rose collection.*

Vespasian augustus, 69 – 79



**1372\*** Denarius, uncertain Spanish mint (possibly Tarraco) circa 69-70, AR 20 mm, 3.23 g. IMP CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG Laureate head l. Rev. LIBERTAS – PVBLICA Libertas standing l., holding pileus and rod. C 259 var. (...AV). BMC 360. RIC 1339b. CBN –.

Very rare. An unusual and interesting portrait struck on excellent metal and a large flan. Lovely light iridescent tone and extremely fine

2'500

*Ex NAC sale 125, 2021, 493. Privately purchased from Freeman & Sear on the 26th of November 2002.*



**1373\*** Denarius 70, AR 18 mm, 3.38 g. IMP CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. CAESAR AVG F COS CAESAR AVG F PR Confronted bare heads of Titus, on r., and of Domitian on l. C 5. BMC 3. RIC 16. CBN 1.

Rare. Light iridescent tone and good very fine

1'500

*Ex Phidias 29, 2022, 190 and Roma Numismatics XXX, 2024, 427 sales.*



1328



1340



1340



1354



1358



1354



1362



1362



1357



1357



1375



1369



1383



1418



1434



1374

**1374** Denarius, Ephesus 70, AR 18 mm, 3.28 g. IMP CAESAR VESPAS AVG COS II TR P P P Laureate head r. Rev. CONCORDIA AVG Ceres, veiled, seated l. on throne and holding corn ears, poppy and cornucopiae; in exergue, Φ. C 66. BMC 442. RIC 1409. CBN -. RPC 818.

Very rare. Wonderful iridescent tone and good extremely fine

750

*Ex Helios 4, 2009, 289 and NAC 125, 2021, 539 sales.*



1375

**1375** Sestertius 71, Æ 35 mm, 27.3 g. IMP CAES VESPASIAN AVG P M TR P P P COS III Laureate head r. Rev. IVDAEA – CAPTA Jewess seated r. on cuirass under palm tree in attitude of mourning; behind palm, Jew standing r., hands tied behind his back; in l. field, shields. In exergue, S C. C 232. BMC 532. RIC 159. CBN 489. Hendin 773.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. A bold portrait and an incredibly detailed reverse composition. Superb dark brown tone, a flan crack at eleven o'clock on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine

15'000

Vespasian's greatest military triumph was the war he and his son Titus waged in Judaea at the end of Nero's reign. The campaign was so difficult that the Flavians celebrated its conclusion with triumphal processions, games, a triumphal arch and an uncommonly extensive series of coins. This sestertius is one of the most remarkable examples to have survived, with even the smallest details perfectly preserved. Most impressive is the miniature portrait of Vespasian on the reverse, the engraving of which would have tested the skills of even the most gifted artist. With dual sympathies the chronicler Josephus wrote an in-depth narrative of the Roman campaign in Judaea. We are told of great suffering by both Jews and Romans, though in the final analysis the Jews bore the lion's share of the consequences. The Roman dead numbered in the tens of thousands, and Josephus counts the number of Jewish dead in the millions, with most having succumbed to famine or pestilence. Josephus describes what the Romans encountered when they breached the walls of Jerusalem and began to search the subterranean portion of the city: "So horrible was the stench from the bodies which met the intruders, that many instantly withdrew, but others penetrated further through avarice, trampling over heaps of corpses; for many precious objects were found in these passages" In the aftermath, Josephus reports that the Romans "selected the tallest and most handsome of the youth and reserved each of them for the triumph; of the rest, those over seventeen years of age he sent in chains to the mines in Egypt, while multitudes were presented to Titus in the various provinces, to be destroyed in the theatres by the sword or by wild beasts; those under seventeen were sold."



1376



1376

Aureus 73, AV 20 mm, 7.24 g. IMP CAES VESP – AVG CENS Laureate head r. Rev. VES – TA Vesta standing r. in tetrastyle temple, holding long sceptre in l. hand and extending r.; on either side, statues. The one on l., holding vertical sceptre in r. hand and resting l. on hip; the one on r., naked, holding long sceptre in l. hand. C 578. BMC 109. RIC 549. CBN –. Calicó 691.

Rare. A bold portrait and a finely detailed and perfectly centred reverse composition. Minor edge marks, otherwise good extremely fine

10'000



1377



1377

1377

Aureus 75, AV 20 mm, 7.38 g. IMP CAESAR – VESPASIANVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. PAX – AVGVST Pax seated l., holding branch in r. hand and sceptre in l. C 319. BMC 280. RIC 770. CBN 251. Calicó 662.

Rare. A bold portrait struck on a very broad flan. Light reddish tone and about extremely fine

4'000

*Ex NAC Spring sale 2020, 941. Privately purchased from Sabine Bourgey. From the collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

**Titus caesar, 69 – 79**



1378



1378

Aureus 77-78, AV 20 mm, 7.34 g. T CAESAR VESPASIANVS Laureate head r. Rev. ANNONA – AVG Annona seated l., holding cornucopia. C 16. BMC Vespasian 316. RIC Vespasian 971. CBN Vespasian 278. Calicó 726.

A portrait of fine style struck in high relief on a very large flan. Extremely fine

7'500

*Privately purchased from Sabine Bourgey in 2012 and from the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*

**Titus augustus, 79 – 81**



1379

**1379** Denarius 1st January-30th June 80, AR 18 mm, 3.42 g. IMP TITVS CAES VESPASIAN AVG P M Laureate head r. Rev. TR P IX IMP XV COS VIII P P Draped seat surmounted by triangular frame decorated with palmettes. C 313. BMC 62 var. RIC 124c. CBN 50 var.

Wonderful iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

1'500

*Ex Bruun Rasmussen sale 852, 2014, 5361. From a Scandinavian collection.*



1380

**1380\*** Denarius 79, AR 17 mm, 3.48 g. IMP TITVS CAES VESPASIAN AVG P M Laureate head with slight beard r. Rev. TR P VIII IMP XV – COS VII P P Trophy; below, captive kneeling r. C 295. BMC 31. RIC 49. CBN 28.

Light iridescent tone, an insignificant die break on obverse, otherwise extremely fine

750

*Ex Naville Numismatics 73, 2022, 459 and Roma Numismatics XXX, 2024, 431 sales.*

**Julia Titi, daughter of Titus**



1381

**1381\*** Denarius circa 80-81, AR 18 mm, 3.47 g. IVLIA AVGVSTA TITI AVGVSTI F Draped and diademed bust r. Rev. VENVS – AVGVST Venus standing r., naked to waist, leaning on cippus, holding helmet in r.hand and sceptre in l. C 14. BMC Titus 141. RIC Titus 388. CBN Titus 106.

Struck on excellent metal and with a lovely iridescent tone. Extremely fine

3'000

*Ex CNG e-sale 556, 2024, 489.*

Nerva augustus, 96 – 98



1383

**1383** Sestertius 96, Æ 35 mm, 25.72 g. IMP NERVA CAES AVG P M TR P COS II P P Laureate head r. Rev. FISCIVDAICI – CALVMNIA SVBLATA Palm tree with cluster of dates; in field, S C. C 54. BMC 88. RIC 58. CBN 71. Hendin 6634. CNG Mail Bid sale 84, 2010, 1012 (these dies).

Very rare and in unusually fine condition for this important and fascinating issue, despite the defects, one of the finest specimens in private hands. A bold portrait and a reverse of great historical importance. Brown-green patina somewhat tooled and minor areas of porosity in the fields, otherwise extremely fine

10'000

This remarkable issue has long attracted collectors, and has given rise to various explanations of its meaning. The design and inscription assure us that it reflects a contemporary perspective on the collection of the *fisci iudaici* – the tax that the Romans collected annually from each male Jew for nearly three centuries, beginning under Vespasian and ending with Julian II ‘the Apostate’. Originally this was the Temple Tax that Jews paid to their priesthood, which amounted to two Roman denarii (a didrachm). A famous passage in Suetonius confirms that this tax was collected aggressively under Domitian, with men sometimes being examined in public to determine whether they were circumcised, by which their subscription to the Judaic faith was determined. There can be little doubt that this type was created in response to abuses of the legal process by which Jews were identified, and that it celebrates one of Nerva’s reversals of the harsh policies of his predecessor. However, modern scholars have taken this scenario too far when they presume the type reflects Nerva’s sympathy to the plight of the Jews, or that the coin represents an apology to the Jews. If this were true, this would be the only Roman coin that bore an apology to a vanquished people – a prospect that is impossible. This wishful, revisionist view disintegrates when this coin is seen from the perspective of its issuers, rather than from the Jews. Romans did not use their coinage to admit error of judgment or to assuage the bruised feelings of non-Romans. If anything, their coinage expressed the opposite: their own actions are presented as infallible, and non-Romans are depicted as conquered, inferior or docile. In other words, so hopeful an explanation can only be conceived in the modern mind. Nerva’s regime was ever on the brink of collapse, and none of his other coin types demonstrate a willingness to offend his fellow Romans. This coin, if intended as an apology to the Jews, would have been dangerous and provocative; one can only imagine the offense that would be taken by the already hostile soldiers, many of whose fathers and grandfathers had served, and perhaps died, in the costly war that Vespasian and Titus had waged in Judaea. The solution, in fact, lies in how we perceive the removal of the *calumnia* associated with the collection of the Jewish Tax. First, we must presume that the type celebrated a reform that benefited the Romans, not Jews. Next, we must consider the immense experience Nerva had in government and law prior to becoming emperor: he had twice served as consul and was a prominent lawyer (as had been his father and grandfather). Thus, he must have been using the term *calumnia* in its legal sense, in which it describes a false or malicious accusation. During the oppressive regime of Domitian we may be sure that the degrading inspections permitted to identify Jews who were unwilling to profess their faith in order to avoid the Jewish Tax were used to harass Romans who were out of favour. In this light we could see the coin type as marking the abolition of a system of false accusation by which non-Jewish Romans could be victimized through the inappropriate use of a measure intended only for Jews.

**Nerva augustus, 96 – 98**



1384

- 1384** Aureus 96, AV 19 mm, 7.49 g. IMP NERVA CAES AVG – P M TR P COS II P P Laureate head r. Rev. LIBERTAS – PVBLICA Libertas standing l., holding pileus in r. hand and sceptre in l. C 105. BMC 16. RIC 7.

Very rare. About extremely fine

8'000



1385

- 1385\*** Denarius 97, AR 17 mm, 3.54 g. IMP NERVA CAES AVG – P M TR P COS III P P Laureate head r. Rev. LIBERTAS – PVBLICA Libertas standing l., holding pileus and sceptre. C 113. BMC 46. RIC 19. CBN 32.

Wonderful iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

1'500

**Trajan augustus, 98 – 117**



1386

- 1386** Aureus 98-99, AV 21 mm, 7.36 g. IMP CAES NERVA TRAIANI AVG GERM Laureate head r. Rev. P M T R P COS II P P Roma seated l. on cuirass, holding Victory in r. hand and parazonium in l. C 204 var. (Roma seated on helmet). BMC p. 314, †. RIC 8. CBN 49. Woytek 59a1. Calicó 1041a.

About extremely fine

6'000



1387



1387

**1387** Aureus 99, AV 20 mm, 7.39 g. IMP CAES NERVA TRAIAN AVG GERM Laureate head r. Rev. P M TR P COS II P P Fortuna standing l., holding rudder with her r. hand and cornucopia with her l. C 205. BMC 31. RIC 4. Woytek 53b. Calicò 1042.

Extremely fine / about extremely fine

7'000



1388



1388

**1388\*** Aureus circa 112-114, AV 20 mm, 7.14 g. IMP TRAIANVS AVG GER DAC P M TR P COS VI P P Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Façade of Trajan's Forum, formed by six columns; a central entrance, four niches containing statues; on top of the roof a facing quadriga between three statues on each side. In exergue, FORVM TRAIAN. C 168 var. (not cuirassed). BMC 509. RIC 257. CBN 658. Woytek 409f. Calicò 1031.

Very rare. Minor marks in field and on edge, otherwise very fine / good very fine

4'000

*Ex J. Vinchon 23 April 1976, 226 and CNG 105, 2017, 865 sales. From the Peter Bowe collection.*



1389



**1389** Aureus 114-116, AV 21 mm, 7.18 g. IMP CAES NER TRAIANO OPTIMO AVG GER DAC Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. P M TR P COS VI P P P.S.P.Q.R Jupiter standing l., holding a long sceptre in l. hand and a thunderbolt in r. over a smaller figure of Trajan, togate, standing l. holding a branch in r. hand and a small sceptre in l. C 268 var. (no cuirass). BMC 533. RIC 336 var. (no cuirass). CBN 814. Woytek 512f. Calicò 1065.

A wonderful portrait struck on a very large flan. Good extremely fine

15'000

*Ex NAC sale 78, 2014, 928.*



1390



**1390** Aureus 116-117, AV 19 mm, 7.98 g. IMP CAES NER TRAIAN OPTIM AVG GERM DAC Laureate, draped, and cuirassed bust r. Rev. PARTHICO P M TR P COS VI P P SPQR Radiate, draped bust of Sol r. C 187. BMC 621. RIC 329. Calicó 1038

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Two wonderful portraits struck in high relief, an absolutely insignificant edge nick at five o'clock on reverse, otherwise extremely fine

20'000

Ex NAC sale 78, 2014, 930.



1391



**1391\*** Denarius 116-117, AR 19 mm, 3.15 g. IMP CAES NER TRAIANO OPTIM AVG GER DAC Laureate and draped bust r. Rev. PARTHICO P – M – TR P COS VI P P S P Q R Felicitas standing l., holding caduceus and cornucopiae. C 150 BMC 634 RIC II 315. Woytek 579v.

Good extremely fine

350

Ex CNG e-sale 531, 2023, 1076.

**Hadrian augustus, 117 – 138**



1392



**1392** Aureus 121-123, AV 19 mm, 7.34 g. IMP CAESAR TRAIAN – HADRIANVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. P M TR – P COS III Roma helmeted seated l. on cuirass, holding Victory in r. hand and spear in l.; behind, shield and quiver. C 1104 var. (not draped and cuirassed). BMC 133. RIC 538. Calicó 1334.

A lovely portrait struck in high relief, light reddish tone and extremely fine

10'000

Ex NAC sale 84, 2015, 988.



**1393** Dupondius 128-129, Æ 27 mm, 12.09 g. HADRIANVS – AVGVSTVS P P Radiate head r. Rev. HILARITAS P R / S - C // COS III Hilaritas standing facing, head l., holding palm in her r. hand and cornucopiae in her l.; at sides, male and female child grasping palm and dress, respectively. C 820. BMC 1375. RIC 990  
Wonderful enamel-like green patina and extremely fine 1'000

**1394\*** Denarius, uncertain mint in the East circa 128-130, AR 19 mm, 2.85 g. HADRIANVS AVGVSTVS P P Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust l. Rev. COS III Modius with five grain-ears. C –. BMC –. RIC –.  
Apparently unrecorded. Light iridescent tone and very fine 750  
*Ex Leu Winterthur e-sale 25, 2023, 2217.*



**1395** Aureus 132-134, AV 20 mm, 7.15 g. HADRIANVS – AVGVSTVS Bare youthful head r., aegis on l. shoulder. Rev. COS – III P P Hadrian standing l., raising r. hand and holding spear; two standards on l. and one on r. C 485. BMC 530 (these dies). RIC 204b (these dies). Calicó 1239 (these dies).  
Very rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue, among the finest specimens known. An unusual and pleasant juvenile portrait of fine style. An almost invisible abrasion on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine 20'000

*Ex NFA XIV, 1984, 396; Stack's 174, 2013, Ebert, 5029 and NAC 105, 2018, La Borde, 29 sales. From the Bruce Hausman collection.*

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



1396



**1396** Denarius 134-138, AR 18 mm, 3.18 g. HADRIANVS – AVG COS III P P Laureate head r. Rev. NILVS Nilus reclining r., holding cornucopiae and reed; in front, hippopotamus. Below, crocodile. C 989. BMC 857. RIC 1543.

Extremely fine

1'250

*Ex NAC sale 84, 2015, 998. From a Scandinavian collection.*



1397



**1397\*** Denarius circa 130-133, AR 17 mm, 3.42 g. HADRIANVS – AVG COS III P P Laureate and draped bust r. Rev. AEGYPTOS Aegyptus reclining l., holding sistrum and resting l. arm on basket; to her l., ibis on low column. C 100. BMC 805. RIC 1481.

Old cabinet tone and extremely fine

750

*Ex Leu Winterthur e-sale 25, 2023, 2213.*

### Sabina, wife of Hadrian



1398



**1398\*** Denarius circa 128-129, AR 20 mm, 3.22 g. SABINA AVGVSTA HADRIANI AVG P P Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. Vesta seated l., holding Palladium in her r. hand and long sceptre in her l. C 85. BMC Hadrian 924. RIC Hadrian 2486.

A portrait of fine style and a lovely iridescent tone, Extremely fine

1'500

*Ex Nomos 16, 2018, 186, Leu Winterthur 10, 2021, 2311 and Leu Winterthur 13, 2023, 322 sales.*

**Antoninus Pius augustus, 138 – 161**



1399

**1399\*** Aureus 145-161, AV 20 mm, 7.91 g. ANTONINVS – AVG PIVS P P Bare-headed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. TR POT – COS IIII Roma seated l., holding palladium and spear; at side, shield. C 936 var. (not draped). BMC 555. RIC 147b. Calicó 1654.

In exceptional state of preservation. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

10'000



1400

**1400\*** Denarius 145-161, AR 17 mm, 3.25 g. ANTONINVS – AVG PIVS P P Laureate head r. Rev. COS – IIII Thunderbolt on draped throne. C 345. BMC 536. RIC 137.

Wonderful iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

350

*Ex Leu Winterthur e-sale 25, 2023, 2223.*



1401

**1401\*** Denarius 145-147, AR 18 mm, 3.39 g. ANTONINVS – AVG PIVS P P Laureate head r. Rev. COS – IIII Clasped hands, holding caduceus and corn ears. C 344. BMC 530. RIC 136.

Extremely fine

300

*Ex Leu Winterthur e-sale 24, 2022, 2837.*



1402



- 1402** Aureus 148-149, AV 20 mm, 7.28 g. ANTONINVS AVG – PIVS P P TR P XII Laureate head r. Rev. COS – IIII Aequitas standing l., holding scales and cornucopiae. C 239. BMC 649. RIC 177. Calicó 1502. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 7'500

*Ex NAC 15, 1999, 364; NAC 24, 2002, European Nobleman, 94 and NAC 78, 2014, 975 sales.*



1403



- 1403** Aureus 152-153, AV 20 mm, 7.26 g. ANTONINVS AVG – PIVS P P TR P XVI Laureate head r. Rev. COS – IIII The Emperor, togate, standing l., holding globe on extended r. hand and scroll in l. C 309. BMC 796. RIC 226c. Calicó 1521. Good extremely fine 6'000

### Faustina I, wife of Antoninus Pius



1404



- 1404\*** Diva Faustina I. Aureus after 141, AV 19 mm, 7.91 g. DIVA – FAVSTINA Draped and diademed bust r. Rev. AVGV – STA Venus standing l., holding apple in r. hand and shield in l. C 72. BMC A. Pius 432 note. RIC A. Pius 366. Calicó 1756.

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

10'000



1405



1406



- 1405\*** Diva Faustina. Denarius after 147, AR 18 mm, 3.52 g. DIVA – FAVSTINA Draped bust r. Rev. AETE – R – NITAS Juno (?) standing l., raising r. hand and holding sceptre. C 26. BMC A. Pius 345. RIC A. Pius 344.

Lovely iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

350

*Ex Leu Winterthur e-sale 20, 2022, 2470.*

- 1406\*** Diva Faustina. Denarius after 141-161, AR 17 mm, 3.65 g. DIVA – FAVSTINA Draped bust r., hair waved and coiled on top of head. Rev. AVG – VSTA Ceres, veiled, standing l., holding torch and with l. hand raising fold of skirt. C 104 var. (Ceres not veiled). BMC A. Pius 421. RIC A. Pius 362.

Lovely iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

300

*Ex Leu Winterthur e-sale, 26, 2023, 4475.*

### Marcus Aurelius augustus, 161 – 180



1407



1407

- 1407\*** Denarius 165, AR 19 mm, 3.35 g. M ANTONINVS AVG ARMENIACVS Laureate head r. Rev. P M TR P XIX IMP III COS III Annona standing l., holding grain ears over modius and cornucopia; prow to r. C 484. BMC 371. RIC 142.

Lovely iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

250

*Ex Naumann sale 8, 2022, 697.*



1408



1408

- 1408** Aureus 167-168, AV 21 mm, 7.29 g. M ANTONINVS AVG – ARM PARTH MAX Laureate head r. Rev. TR P XXII IMP V COS III Aequitas seated l. holding scales and cornucopiae. C 898. BMC 465. RIC 189. S.M. Hurter, "Kaiser Roms im Münzporträt. 55 Aurei der Sammlung Götz Grabert" Stuttgart 2003, 16. (this coin illustrated). Calicó 2005 (these dies).

Struck on a very broad flan and good extremely fine / extremely fine

7'000

*Ex Leu 2, 1972, 397; CNG 61; 2002, 1816; Gorny & Mosch 169, 2008, 305; Harlan J. Berk 175, 2011, 63; Gemini IX, 2012, 493 and NAC 99, 2017, La Borde, 14 sales. From the William H. Williams collection.*



1409



**1409** Aureus 168-169, AV 18 mm, 7.26 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. Calicó 1850.

Extremely fine

7'000

*Ex Busso-Peus 332, 1991, 499; Künker 71, 2002, 941 and Nomos 13, 2016, 275 sales.*



1410



**1410** Sestertius 172-173, AE 32 mm, 24.41 g. M ANTONINVS – AVG TR P XXVII Laureate head r. Rev. VICT GERMA IMP VI COS III S C within wreath. C 995. BMC 1453. RIC 1090.

An enchanting enamel-like turquoise patina. About extremely fine

2'500



1411



**1411** Aureus 174-175, AV 20 mm, 7.21 g. M ANTONINVS AVG – GERM TR P XXIX Laureate and draped bust r. Rev. LIBERAL AVG VI IMP VII COS III Liberalitas standing l., holding abacus in r. hand and cornucopiae in l. C 416. BMC 619. RIC 318. Calicó 1880.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

9'000

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



1412

**1412** Aureus 161-176, AV 20 mm, 7.22 g. FAVSTINA – AVGVSTA Draped bust r. Rev. HIL – A – R – ITAS Hilaritas standing l., holding long palm branch in r. hand and cornucopia in l. C 110. BMC M. Aurelius 98. RIC M. Aurelius 684. Calicó 2057.

An almost invisible metal flaw on reverse, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

7'000



1413

**1413\*** Diva Faustina II. Denarius after 176, AR 18 mm, 2.36 g. DIVA FAVSTINA PIA Draped bust r. Rev. CONSECRATIO Altar, square in shape, with horns l. and r. and with door in front. C 75. BMC 725. RIC 746.

Light iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

250

*Ex Leu Winterthur e-sale 30, 2024, 2193. From the Rev. Dr. Stephen Knapp Collection of Roman Empresses, formed since 1982.*

**Lucius Verus augustus, 161 – 169**



1414

**1414\*** Aureus December 163-164, AV 18 mm, 7.21 g. L VERVS AVG – ARMENIACVS Bare head r. Rev. TR P IIII – IMP II COS II Victory, half-draped, standing r., placing a shield inscribed VIC / AVG on a palm tree. C 248. BMC 294. RIC M. Aurelius 522. Calicó 2174 (these dies).

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

10'000

*Ex Leu 71, 1997, 416 and Triton XX, 2017, 765 sales. From the Continental collection.*



1415



- 1415** Sestertius 164, Æ 32 mm, 19.89 g. L AVREL VERVS – AVG ARMENIACVS Bare-headed and draped bust r. Rev. TR P IIII – IMP II COS II S – C Hercules standing facing, holding branch in r. hand and club and lion-skin in l. C 239 var. (also cuirassed). BMC 1107. RIC 1391 var. (also cuirassed).

An extremely rare variety of a very rare type. Green patina and good very fine / about extremely fine

2'500

### Commodus augustus, 177 – 192



1416

- 1416\*** Denarius 177-178, AR 18 mm, 3.27 g. L COMMO – DVS AVG Laureate and draped bust r. Rev. COS – P P Salus seated l., feeding serpent, rising from altar, out of patera with her r. hand and leaning with her l. elbow on throne. C 66 var. (also cuirassed). BMC 766. RIC 654 var. (also cuirassed).

Lovely iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

250

*Ex Leu Numismatik Winterthur e-sale 25, 2023, 2251.*



1417



- 1417** Sestertius 183-184, Æ 32 mm, 24.77 g. M COMMODVS AN – TONINVS AVG PIVS Laureate head r. Rev. P M TR P VIII[?] IMP VI COS IIII P P S – C Hercules standing r., with lion's skin over l. shoulder, holding bow and resting r. hand on club set over ground. C 433. BMC 526. RIC 399a.

Very rare. Lovely green patina and about extremely fine

2'500

Few Roman coins excite as much commentary as those of Commodus which show him possessed of Hercules. Not only do they present an extraordinary image, but they offer incontrovertible support to the literary record. The reports of Commodus' megalomania and infatuation with Hercules are so alarming and fanciful that if the numismatic record was not there to confirm, modern historians would almost certainly regard the literary record as an absurd version of affairs, much in the way reports of Tiberius' depraved behaviour on Capri are considered to be callous exaggerations. Faced with such rich and diverse evidence, there can be no question that late in his life Commodus believed Hercules was his divine patron. Indeed, he worshipped the demigod so intensely that he renamed the month of September after him, and he eventually came to believe himself an incarnation of the mythological hero.



1418

- 1418** Sestertius 184, Æ 33 mm, 26.29 g. M COMMODVS AN – TONINVS AVG PIVS Laureate head r. Rev. ANN AVG TR P VIII IMP VI COS IIII P P Annona standing facing, head l., holding small figure of Concordia (?) in her r. hand and cornucopiae in her l.; in field, S – C, below, modius and ship's stern with two oarsmen. C 15. BMC 523. RIC 407.

A bold portrait and a superb green patina, an area of weakness on reverse, otherwise extremely fine

3'500

### Crispina, wife of Commodus



1419

- 1419** Aureus 180-183 or later, AV 20 mm, 7.18 g. CRISPINA – AVGVSTA Draped bust r., hair in coil at back. Rev. VENVS · F – ELIX Venus seated l., holding Victory and sceptre; below seat, dove standing l. C 39. BMC 48. RIC Commodus 287. Calicó 2377e (this obverse die).

Rare. About extremely fine

8'000

*Ex CNG sale 102, 2016, 1013.*



1420

- 1420\*** Denarius circa 180-183, AR 19 mm, 3.82 g. CRISPINA – AVGVSTA Draped bust r. Rev. V – E – NVS Venus standing l., holding apple in r. hand and drawing up fold of drapery on l. shoulder. C 35. BMC Commodus 44. RIC Commodus 286a.

Lovely iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

250

*Ex Leu Numismatik Winterthur e-sale 29, 2024, 2129.*

**Pertinax, 193**



1421

**1421\*** Aureus 1 January-28 March 193, AV 22 mm, 7.17 g. IMP CAES P HELV – PERTIN AVG Laureate head r. Rev. PROVID – DEOR COS II Providentia standing l., raising r. hand toward star in upper l. field, and resting l on breast. C 42. BMC 11 var. (large star). RIC 11a. Woodward NC 1957, pl. 10, 11. Lempereus Type 10, 146. Calicó 2389.

Rare and among the finest specimens known. A coin of extraordinary quality with a fantastic portrait of excellent style. Virtually as struck and Fdc

40'000

*Ex CNG Classical Numismatic Review XLVII.1, 2022, 595027.*

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

**Didius Julianus, 28th March – 1st June 193**



1422

**1422** Aureus 193, AV 20 mm, 6.5 g. IMP CAES M DID – IVLIAN AVG Laureate head r. Rev. P M TR – P COS Fortuna standing l., holding rudder on globe and cornucopiae. C 8. BMC 4 (this obverse die). RIC 2a. A.M. Woodward, NC 1961, pl. 6, 5 (unlisted reverse die). Calicó 2395.

Very rare. A pleasant specimen of this desirable and difficult issue with a portrait of fine style. Good very fine

25'000

*Ex Triton sale XXI, 2018, 781.*

In the confusion that followed the assassination of Pertinax, the praetorian guard held a scandalous spectacle: an auction for the emperorship. There was spirited bidding between Flavius Sulpicianus, the father-in-law of the murdered Pertinax, and the senator Didius Julianus, one of the wealthiest men in Rome. When Julianus pledged an accession bonus of 25,000 sesterii per guard, it was a bid that Sulpicianus could not top. The praetorians led Julianus before the terrified Senate, which had no choice but to ratify the coup d'état. The people of Rome, however, were disgusted by this shameful turn of events and sent messengers to seek help from the commanders of the legions in the provinces. Three generals responded and marched on Rome. Septimius Severus, being the closest to Rome, had the upper hand. The praetorians were no match for the battle hardened soldiers from the frontier, and they quickly decided in favour of Severus. Didius Julianus was not so fortunate, as he was captured at the beginning of June and beheaded in the manner of a common criminal.

**Pescennius Niger, 193-194**



1423

**1423\*** Denarius, Caesarea 193-194, AR 18 mm, 3 g. IMP CAES C PESC NIGER IVST AVG Laureate head r. Rev. VICTORIAE AG Victory standing facing, head l., holding wreath in her r. hand and palm frond in her l. C –. BMC –. RIC –. cf. CNG e-sale 130, 2006, 370 (this obverse die).

A very rare variety. Struck on a very large flan and exceptionally well centred and complete. Lovely old cabinet tone and extremely fine

4'000

*Ex Leu Numismatik Winterthur sale 13, 2023, 327.*

## Clodius Albinus, 195-197



1424

- 1424\*** Aureus 194 or later, AV 20 mm, 7.33 g. D-CLOD-SEPT-AL – BIN-CAES Bare bust r., with drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. SAECVLO FRVG – IF – ERO COS II African divinity wearing radiate crown and himation standing l. holding winged caduceus in r. hand and trident in l. C 70 var. (without drapery). BMC p. 38, note\*. RIC 9b. V. Zedelius, *Untersuchungen zur Münzprägung von Pertinax bis Clodius Albinus*, pl. 6, 2 var. (no drapery on l. shoulder). Calicó 2423 (these dies).

Of the highest rarity, apparently less of ten specimens known. Undoubtedly one of the finest if not the best aureus of Clodius Albinus in private hands. An absolutely spectacular portrait in the finest style of the period perfectly struck and centred on a full flan and a very interesting reverse type. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

450'000

### *From a Scandinavian collection.*

This splendid aureus of Clodius Albinus, struck while he was Caesar under Septimius Severus, honours his hometown of Hadrumentum in Africa. The reverse depicts the African god Aion Karpophoros, or in Latin translation, Saeculo Frugifero ("to the fruitful age"), which symbolises a hope for peace and prosperity. Ironically, for Clodius Albinus at least, he was not to experience the tranquil existence the type calls for. Albinus had a long and distinguished career, joining the legions while still quite young and serving with distinction, eventually rising to command under Marcus Aurelius. He was instrumental in putting down the revolt of Avidius Cassius in A.D. 175 while governor of Bithynia, served as consul in 187, became governor of Germania Inferior in 189, and then of Britain in 191. When first Commodus, followed shortly after by Pertinax, were assassinated in 193, the Praetorian Guard auctioned off the imperial title to the wealthy senator, Didius Julianus. Clodius Albinus and two of his military colleagues, Septimius Severus and Pescennius Niger, all answered the call to remove the blemish of the disgraceful episode of Didius Julianus' "elevation" and to avenge the murder of Pertinax. Severus, being the governor of Pannonia Superior, was the closest to Rome, and hurriedly marched on the capital. The Senate condemned Didius Julianus, who was executed, and Severus occupied the city unopposed. After executing the murderers of Pertinax, he dismissed the Praetorian Guard, refilling it with troops from his own legions, and forced the Senate to acknowledge his accession. He also made Clodius Albinus his Caesar, which implied a claim to succession, and struck coins in his name such as this wonderful aureus. With his rear secured, Severus then moved against Pescennius Niger in the East, whom he dealt with decisively in 194. By 195, however, Severus had decided upon establishing a dynasty. He named his sons, Caracalla and Geta, as his successors, and had the Senate declare Albinus a public enemy. Shortly thereafter at Lugdunum, Albinus was hailed emperor by his own troops. While Severus remained for a while in Rome, Albinus used his time preparing for war, consolidating his troops and stockpiling resources. Battle finally came on February 19, 197, when the two sides clashed near Lugdunum in Gaul. While initially Albinus saw some successes, he was eventually defeated and committed suicide. According to the *Historia Augusta*, Septimius had his corpse decapitated, throwing his body as well as those of his wife and son into a river and keeping his head to be displayed in Rome as a warning to other possible aspirants to the throne.





1425

- 1425\*** Denarius, Lugdunum 196-197, AR 19 mm, 3.7 g. IMP CAES D CLO SEP ALB AVG Laureate head r. Rev. FIDES LEGION COS II Clasped r. hands holding aquila. C 24. BMC 284. RIC 20b.

Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine

1'000

*Ex Leu Numismatik Winterthur 12, 2022, 1233 and Nomos 28, 2023, 1300 sales. From the collection of Dipl.-Ing. Adrian Lang.*

### Septimius Severus, 193 – 211



1426

- 1426** Aureus 201, AV 20 mm, 7.38 g. SEVERVS AVG – PART MAX Laureate head r. Rev. FVNDATA – T – OR-PACIS Septimius Severus veiled, standing l., holding in r. hand branch and roll in l. C 202. BMC 189. RIC 160. Calicó 2459 (this obverse die).

Rare. An exquisite portrait in the finest style of the period and an interesting reverse composition. Light reddish tone and good extremely fine

10'000

*Ex Leu 91, 2004, 594 and NAC 101, 2017, 284 sales.*



1427

- 1427** Aureus 201-210, AV 22 mm, 7.45 g. SEVERVS – PIVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. RESTITVTOR – VRBIS Roma seated l. on shield, holding palladium and spear. C 605. BMC 358. RIC 288. Calicó 2529.

A very attractive portrait. Minor marks in field and on edge, otherwise extremely fine

6'000

*Ex NAC sale 100, 2017, 1928.*



1428

- 1428\*** Aureus 202-210, AV 21 mm, 7.27 g. SEVERVS – PIVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. VOTA SVSCEPT – A XX S. Severus, veiled, standing r., sacrificing out of patera over altar, facing him Caracalla facing l. holding staff (?); between them, flute player. C 793. BMC 376. RIC 309. Calicó 2584.

Very rare. An attractive portrait and a very interesting reverse composition struck in high relief on a very large flan. Good extremely fine

15'000



1429

**1429** Sestertius 204, Æ 32 mm, 23.79 g. SEVERVS PIVS – AVG P M TR P XII Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. COS III LVD – SAEC FEC S C Septimius Severus, veiled, togate, standing r. at centre, sacrificing out of patera in r. hand over altar; Hercules, standing l., holding club and lion-skin; behind altar, victimarius with pig, flute-players, and Bacchus, holding cup in r. hand and thyrsus in l. hand; in front, Tellus (?) reclining r., leaning on basket and holding corn-ears in l. hand. C 105. BMC p. 341 \*. RIC 761.

Extremely rare. A decent specimen of this interesting and fascinating issue with a finely detailed reverse composition. Brown-reddish patina very gently smoothed, flan crack appears to be at seven o'clock on obverse, otherwise very fine / about very fine

1'500

Major revolts erupted in the Roman provinces in AD 193 when Pertinax was murdered, and the imperial title was sold by the praetorian guard to Didius Julianus. Amid a storm of public outrage, Septimius Severus, the governor of Pannonia Superior, was proclaimed emperor by the forces under his command, as were Clodius Albinus in Britannia and Pescennius Niger in Syria.

Due to the close proximity of Pannonia to Italy, and the predictable murder of Julianus, Severus easily took control of Rome before his rivals could get there. Once ensconced in the capital, Severus negotiated a settlement with Albinus, offering him the position of Caesar (junior co-emperor) in return for his support against Niger. Safe from attack by Albinus, Severus then marched into Syria with the full might of the western Roman legions to defeat Niger at the Battle of Issus in 194.

In the aftermath of this victorious conclusion to the troubled Year of the Five Emperors, Septimius Severus almost immediately embarked upon a new war against the Parthian Empire in 195. After punishing the Parthians for their interference in the Roman client-kingdoms of Mesopotamia he returned to Rome triumphant.

Unfortunately, soon after his return, he was forced to deal with Albinus, who had proclaimed himself as a rival Augustus. Albinus committed suicide, however, after Severus defeated his forces in battle near Lugdunum in 197. Having now become the sole master of the Roman world, Severus returned to the East for another Parthian campaign, this time with his sons Caracalla and Geta serving as co-emperors (the former as Augustus and the latter as Caesar). By the conclusion of this conflict, he had captured the Parthian capital at Ctesiphon and established a trade relationship with the Arab caravan kingdom of Hatra. At last, in late 199, at the conclusion of the war, Severus and his family returned to Rome via Syria and Egypt. After celebrating his decennalia (the 10th anniversary of his reign) and settling affairs in his native province of Africa, in 204 Septimius Severus took on the responsibility of celebrating the Ludi Saeculares—games and religious observances in Rome held once every 110 years in the Imperial period to inaugurate the beginning of a new age (saeculum). Between 31 May and 3 June in years of the Ludi Saeculares, special daytime and nighttime sacrifices were made at the temples of the major Roman and Greek gods in the city, while the following days in June were reserved for theatrical performances, chariot races, wild animal hunts, and gladiatorial shows. It was truly a once-in-a-lifetime event. This very rare sestertius advertises Severus' involvement in the Ludi Saeculares. On the reverse, he is shown making a sacrifice before an altar while a tibicen (ritual flute player) plays in the background. The sacrifice, a sow, is brought in by an attendant on the right while its divine recipient, the goddess Tellus or Terra Mater ("Mother Earth") reclines on the left. Her presence tells us both the day and location of the sacrifice depicted. During the Ludi Saeculares, the sacrifice to Terra Mater, which consisted of a pregnant sow, was prescribed to take place at nighttime in the Campus Martius on 2 June. Liber Pater and Hercules were not among the gods especially worshipped at the traditional Ludi Saeculares, but here, they accompany Septimius Severus as an allusion to his origins in the African city of Leptis Magna. Hercules was the Roman name of the local god Milk'astart, while Liber Pater was that of Shadraba. As the African emperor presiding over a quintessentially Roman celebration, Severus had become the very definition of the "provincial boy done good." Unfortunately, at the same time that the emperor was celebrating the beginning of a (presumed) prosperous new age in Rome, the Caledonians were invading Roman Britannia. Their depredations became so severe that in 208, Septimius Severus embarked on a campaign against them in the company of his sons. Together, they pushed back the Caledonians and reoccupied the Antonine Wall, which, in addition to the earlier gains in the East, brought the Roman Empire to its greatest territorial extent. In the end, Severus had little opportunity to enjoy the fruits of his conquests. He fell ill at Eboracum (York) in 210 and died early in the following year.



1390



1390



1421



1404



1422



1424



1430



1430



1432



1432



1438



1442



1439



1449



1430



**1430** Aureus 210-211, AV 21 mm, 7.03 g. SEVERVS – PIVS AVG BRIT Laureate head r. Rev. VICTO – RIAE BRIT Victory advancing r., holding trophy on l. shoulder and carrying captive. C 706. BMC 372A note var. (without BRIT). RIC 302 var. (without BRIT). Calicó 2563a.

Of the high rarity, apparently only the third specimen known of this variety and the fourth of this type. An issue of tremendous historical importance with a superb portrait of fine style. An almost invisible edge nick at seven o'clock on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine 25'000

Of all the Severan types commemorating victory in Britain, this aureus of Septimius Severus is among the rarest and most attractive. Though Mattingly, Sydenham, Carson and Hill all describe Victory as dragging a captive, the tenor of the scene seems less oppressive: rather than Victory dragging an unwilling or dejected captive, she appears to be leading a willing, immature figure. Since the Romans had gone to war against Caledonians, a people who lived beyond the frontier who the Romans considered culturally juvenile, this type probably was meant to symbolize Rome's introduction of a backward people into the light of civilization.

Coins referencing the war were struck in the names of all three Severan men, though the campaign was led by Septimius and Caracalla, and when Septimius fell ill in the course of events, Caracalla took supreme command. Severus' exclusion of Geta from a senior command probably was a practical decision based upon his performance in the early engagements of the war.

While Caracalla continued to fight at his father's side, Geta remained with his mother at the base camp at York. One can only imagine how this must have intensified the already bitter rivalry between the brothers. When Septimius died early in 211, Caracalla made an unfavorable peace with the Caledonians that required the Romans to withdraw to Hadrian's Wall, which would serve as the border. Even though it had not been a great success, this 'victory' was celebrated on coinage with a wide variety of types in all metals.

### Julia Domna, wife of Septimius Severus



1431



**1431** Aureus 193-196, AV 20 mm, 7.11 g. IVLIA DO – MNA AVG Draped bust r. Rev. VENE RI V ICTR Venus standing r., leaning l. elbow on column and holding apple in r. hand and palm in l. C 193. BMC S. Severus 47. RIC S. Severus 536. Calicó 2641.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

12'500

*Ex Gorny & Mosch 107, 2001, 481 and NAC 78, 2014, 1036 sales.*

Caracalla augustus, 193 – 217



1432

**1432\*** Aureus 203, AV 20 mm, 7.12 g. ANTONINVS – PIVS AVG Laureate bust r., with aegis. Rev. PONT TR P VI COS Caracalla standing l., holding Victory and sceptre, crowned by Virtus standing l., holding spear. C 500. BMC p. 240, note. RIC 70a. Faces of Power 422 (this coin). Calicó 2795 (this coin illustrated).

Very rare. A gentle portrait of excellent style struck in high relief.  
Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

15'000

*Ex Christie's 9 October 1985, Property of a Lady, 148. From the Victor Adda collection.*



1433

**1433** Tetradrachm, Tyre 209-212, AR 27 mm, 14.54 g. AVT KAI ANTΩNINOC CE Laureate, draped, and cuirassed bust r. Rev. ΔΗΜΑΡΧ ΕΞ ΠΙΑΤ Γ' Laureate bust of Melkart-Hercules r., with lion's skin tied around neck. Prieur 1530 (this coin). Bellinger 299.

Very rare. Two portraits of fine style struck on a large flan with a magnificent iridescent tone.  
Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

5'000

*Ex NFA XIV, 1984, 489; Sotheby's, 8 July 1996, 142; Triton XXII, 2019, 721 and Roma Numismatic XIX, 2020, 668 sales. From the Michel Prieur collection.*



1434



1434

**1434** Sestertius 213, Æ 32 mm, 22.89 g. M AVREL ANTONINVS PIVS AVG BRIT Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. P M TR P XVI IMP II View of the Circus Maximus with its arches, the obelisk, the spina, chariots; in the background, a temple and a colonnade. In exergue, COS IIII P P / S C. C 236. BMC 251. RIC 500a.

Very rare and a pleasant specimen of this interesting and fascinating issue. A bold portrait and a finely detailed reverse composition. Brown-green patina, minor area of weakness on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine

15'000

*Ex NAC 1, 1989, 915; Harlan J. Berk Buy or Bid 64, 1990, 432; NFA XXX, 1992, 277 and NAC 114, 2019, 767 sales. From George C. Hopkins collection and Scandinavian collection.*

The skeletal outline of the Circus Maximus in Rome today is only a faint indication of the grand structure that once was the focal point for entertainment in capital. This hippodrome is said to have been Rome's oldest stadium. It evolved from a simple racetrack between the Aventine and Palatine hills with no formal structure, to one incorporating wooden, and then stone benches, and finally a massive superstructure as seen on this sestertius. Over time the area was decorated with monuments, statues, trophies, shrines, arcades, towers, porticoes, triumphal gates and arches. Gilded metae at each end of the spine (spina) of the sand racetrack glistened in the sun, and a tall obelisk of Ramesses II that Augustus had shipped to Rome in 10 B.C. served as the center piece of the spina. Pliny the Elder describes the circus as able to accommodate 250,000 people, but this figure no doubt includes those viewing from the slopes of the flanking hills. However, at its peak in the mid-4th Century A.D. it is believed to have been able to seat more than 200,000 spectators. The circus was damaged on many occasions, including by fire during the reigns of Augustus and Nero. Restorations to the structure, it seems, are celebrated on coinage. For this reason, Trajan issued sestertii depicting the hippodrome, which probably served as the prototype for Caracalla's issue since both show the structure from the same elevated perspective with simultaneous exterior and interior views. A variety of events were held there, including parades, theatrical events, foot races, boxing and wrestling matches and equestrian contests. Bloody spectacles were also hosted, such as gladiatorial combats (ludi gladiatorii) and exotic animal hunts (venationes). Chariot racing (ludi circenses), however, was the most popular event held in the circus. In Trajan's time two dozen races would have been held in a single day, with eight teams competing in each event. A race consisted of seven laps that could be completed in less than ten minutes. The chariots were usually drawn by teams of two, three or four horses. Occasionally there were teams of six horses, which certainly was more of a crowd-pleasing novelty than a practical event.



1435



**1435** As 213, Æ 27 mm, 12.34 g. ANTONINVS – PIVS AVG BRIT Laureate head r. Rev. P M TR XVI IMP II COS IIII P P S C Caracalla, holding eagle-tipped sceptre in l. hand, in triumphal quadriga r.; before, Victory crowning him. C 234. BMC 259. RIC 506.

Rare. Dark green patina and about extremely fine

500



1436



1436

**1436\*** Tetradrachm, Hierapolis 215-217, AR 25 mm, 10.58 g. [AVT] K M A ANTΩNEINOC CEB Laureate, draped, and cuirassed bust r. Rev. [ΔH]MAPX ΕΞ V-ΠΙΑΤOC TO Δ Cult figures of Haddad, seated on bulls, and Atargatis, seated on lions, between which is a semeion surmounted by a pigeon; all supported by eagle standing facing, head r. with wings spread; between eagle's legs, lion advancing r. Prieur 925 (this coin illustrated in the text and on the cover back page). Bellinger p. 42, fig. 2.

Very rare and in unusually fine condition for this interesting issue.

Good very fine / extremely fine

5'000

*Ex Hirsch 154, 1987, 556 and Triton XXII, 2019, 540 sales. From the Michel Prieur and Peter Bowe collections.*

Caracalla, the eldest son of Septimius Severus and Julia Domna, was actually named L. Septimius Bassianus when he was born on 4 April 188, before the rise of his father to imperial power. However, after Severus' defeat of his competitors in the Year of the Six Emperors (AD 193) and his assumption of power as Augustus, he began to establish his own imperial dynasty. He worked to establish it as a continuation of the happy days of the Antonine emperors. To this end, in 196, he elevated Bassianus to the rank of Caesar and renamed him M. Aurelius Antoninus. Caracalla was the popular nickname that the Caesar acquired from a type of hooded Gallic cloak that he habitually wore on campaign. In 198, Severus elevated Caracalla still further with the full imperial title of Augustus. At the same time, he appointed his younger son, Geta, to the lesser position of Caesar, although he was born only a year after Caracalla. This division of power sowed the seeds of discontent and jealousy between the two brothers that grew into a bitter hatred. It was not mitigated by the elevation of Geta as Augustus in 209, nor by a British campaign in which Severus, Caracalla, and Geta all took part. The hatred between Caracalla and Geta continued to seethe even after their father died on 4 February 211 and they became joint rulers of the Roman Empire. This arrangement could not last, and on 26 December 211 Caracalla had his brother murdered after luring him to his apartments with the suggestion that they make peace. As sole emperor, Caracalla primarily paid attention to the demands of the army, following his father's advice. Caracalla made great distributions of donatives and raised the regular pay of the legionaries, but these developments created a financial crisis that he attempted to solve through dubious means. In 212, Caracalla enacted the *constitutio Antoniniana*, which granted Roman citizenship to all free males in the empire and allowed him to drastically expand the number of subjects liable to the inheritance tax—a tax paid only by Roman citizens. This he also doubled. In addition, Caracalla debased the currency by creating the *antoninianus* denomination—a coin with a face value of two denarii but with an intrinsic value of only 1.5 denarii.

Caracalla spent much of 213–214 campaigning against the Germanic Alemanni and Carpi on the Rhine frontier before a personal obsession with Alexander the Great took hold of him, and he began to plan a major eastern expedition. Thinking himself to be a sort of Roman Alexander, Caracalla trained his army in the ancient Macedonian style—to the mockery of many contemporaries—and marched against the Parthian Empire in 216. Despite some initial successes in Mesopotamia, the anger of a soldier passed over for promotion proved to be the emperor's downfall. On 8 April 217, Caracalla separated himself from the rest of the army to relieve himself by the side of the road. While in this vulnerable position, a soldier named Justin Martialis struck him down in revenge for refusing to grant him the rank of centurion. This extremely rare and impressive tetradrachm belongs to a much larger series of so-called Syrian tetradrachms struck in large numbers by cities in Syria, Phoenicia, and the southern Levant to support Caracalla's disastrous Parthian campaign. From the time of Nero, the standard typology of the Syrian tetradrachm had been the imperial portrait on the obverse and an eagle on the reverse. The latter served as a symbol that could be understood on the imperial level as the emblem of Rome and on the local or regional levels. Antioch, a major producer of Syrian tetradrachms and the provincial capital of Syria had a foundation myth in which an eagle revealed the site at which the city was to be built. Likewise, the eagle was the standard reverse type used for Tyrian civic tetradrachms. It served as a regional coinage in the southern Levant before the city's mint closed and provincial Syrian tetradrachms replaced its issues. However, despite the prevalence of the eagle as the reverse type of choice for the Syrian tetradrachm, over time the issuing cities found ways to advertise themselves as well. Here, the eagle has been reduced to half size and is made to support a remarkable depiction of the local deities of Hierapolis, the city in northern Syria where it was struck. On the left, the native Syrian storm-god Hadad, whom the Greeks equated with Zeus and the Romans with Jupiter, appears seated on two bulls, his sacred animals. Meanwhile, his consort, Atargatis, who was most commonly known to the Greeks and Romans simply as "the Syrian goddess," sits on two lions on the right. She was a native fertility goddess who was sometimes equated with Hera and Aphrodite, but for the most part could not be easily syncretized within Graeco-Roman religion. Between them stands the *semeion* (literally "symbol" in Greek), a type of sacred standard with a history in the ancient Near East extending back at least to the 10th century BC and the age of the Neo-Assyrian Empire. According to Lucian of Samosata, in *De Dea Syria* (31–33), his famous work describing the cult of Atargatis, the *semeion* was variously treated as a manifestation of Dionysus, Deucalion (a survivor of the great flood), or Semiramis (a legendary Assyrian queen), but these are obviously Greek interpretations that probably have little to do with the understanding of the sacred object by native Syrians. The arrangement of the deities and the *semeion* on the coin seems to replicate the positioning of the cult images inside the main temple at Hierapolis, as recounted by Lucian (31–33). They also appear this way in sculptural representations known from archaeological finds at Dura Europus and Palmyra.

**Geta caesar, 198 – 2009**



**1437\*** Denarius 200-202, AR 19 mm, 3.42 g. P SEPT GETA – CAES PONT Bareheaded, draped bust r. Rev. PRI – NC IV – VENTV – TIS Geta standing l., holding branch and spear; behind, trophy. C 157. BMC S. Severus 236. RIC 18.

Virtually as struck and Fdc

250

*Ex Leu Numismatik Winterthur e-sale 24, 2022, 545.*

**Geta augustus, 209 – 211**



**1438** Aureus 210-211, AV 20 mm, 7.4 g. P SEPT GETA – PIVS AVG BRIT Laureate head r. Rev. LIB AVGG V ET V Caracalla and Geta seated l. on platform; in front, Liberalitas standing l., holding abacus and cornucopiae; on platform, citizen. C 70 var. (no drapery). BMC 64 var. (no drapery). RIC 87 var. (no drapery and misdescribed). Calicó 2889 (these dies).

Very rare and in exceptional state of preservation. A bold portrait of excellent style and a finely detailed reverse composition. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

40'000

*Privately purchased from World Numismatics in 2019.*

When this aureus was struck the fate of the empire was in the balance, for the brothers Caracalla and Geta were bitterly at odds. The congiarium (imperial bounty) celebrated on this coin took place upon the brothers' return to Rome after concluding a war against the Caledonians with their father, who died of natural causes at York early in February, 211. The inscription names the distribution as the sixth of Caracalla and the fifth of Geta, thus demonstrating there was no concord between the emperors. By now their relationship had been reduced to a bitter contest in which the elder Caracalla would prove victorious by murdering Geta before the year 211 had closed. The brothers are accompanied on the platform by Liberalitas, who personifies the distribution. She holds a cornucopia – a symbol of bounty – and a board with a handle that is perpetually mis-described as an abacus (a counting device). In fact, it is a flat board with circular depressions, each designed to accommodate a single coin. This made the distribution of the correct number of coins more efficient. In practice, these distributions would have been tightly controlled affairs, with many soldiers and bureaucrats on hand to assure they were handled properly. For evidence we need only examine a large frieze on the north face of the Arch of Constantine, on which a line of citizens with outstretched hands await the distribution of coins. In two windows above there is a repeated scene of togate officials and their assistants removing coins from a strongbox for placement in the depressions in the tray, which represented each citizen's allotment. Meanwhile, a secretary records each distribution on a scroll. Once filled, the trays are passed to a senior official at the emperor's side, at which point the coins are distributed.

**Macrinus, 217 – 218**



1439

- 1439** Aureus 217-28, AV 22 mm, 7.22 g. IMP C M OPEL SEV MACRINVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. IOVI CONSER – VATORI Jupiter standing l., holding thunderbolt in r. hand and sceptre in l. C –. BMC –. RIC 74. Faces of Power 440 (this coin). Calicó 2944 (this coin illustrated).  
Extremely rare. A bold portrait struck on a very large flan, edge marks and an edge nick at seven o'clock on reverse, otherwise extremely fine

35'000

*Ex Christie's sale 9 October 1985, Property of a Lady, 152 From the Victor Adda collection.*



1440

- 1440\*** Denarius 217-218, AR 19 mm, 3.27 g. IMP C M OPEL SEV MACRINVS AVG Laureate and cuirassed bust r. Rev. FELICITAS TEMPORVM Felicitas standing l. holding caduceus in r. hand and cornucopia in l. C –. BMC p. 496, †. RIC 59.  
Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

1'000

*Ex Nomos sale 30, 20223, 1448. From the collection of Ried Redlich, acquired on 17 September 1990 from Edward J. Waddell.*



1441

- 1441\*** Denarius April-December 217-218, AR 20 mm, 2.89 g. IMP C M OPEL SEV MACRINVS AVG Laureate and cuirassed bust r. Rev. PONTIF MAX TR P COS P P Jupiter standing l., holding thunderbolt and sceptre. C –. BMC 31. RIC 15.  
Good extremely fine

500

**Diadumenian caesar, 217 – 218**



1442



**1442** Aureus late 217, AV 20 mm, 7.36 g. M OPEL ANT DIADV MENIAN CAES Bare-headed and draped bust r. Rev. PRINC IVVENTVTIS Diadumenian standing facing, head r., holding in r. hand standard and in l. sceptre; behind, legionary eagle and standard. C 2. BMC p. 509 note †. RIC Macrinus 101 var. (draped and cuirassed). Faces of Power 445 (this coin). Calicó 2982.

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

A superb portrait of masterly style struck in high relief on a full flan. A perfect Fdc 150'000

*Ex Canessa 28 June 1923, Caruso, 463; Leu 38, 1986, 318; Dix Noonan Webb 29 September 2008, Gerald Hoberman, 6044 sales. From the Adda collection.*

During his grand campaign against the Parthian Empire that was intended to immortalise him as a Roman Alexander the Great, on 8 April AD 217, Caracalla paused for a moment at Carrhae in order to relieve himself. Unfortunately, while he was least able to defend himself he was struck down by the swords of unidentified assassins. Three days later, M. Opellius Macrinus, Caracalla's praetorian prefect who may or may not have had a hand in his death, was proclaimed Augustus by the army. Macrinus knew that he would be regarded as a usurper and face opposition from the surviving members of the Severan family and therefore took immediate steps to present himself as the head of a stable dynasty with a supernatural mandate for his seizure of power. To this end, in May AD 217, Macrinus appointed his nine-year-old son, Diadumenian, to serve as Caesar (junior co-emperor and designated heir). Diadumenian received his name because he was born with a caul, but Macrinus presented it as an omen of legitimacy—the diadem had been the emblem of personal kingship worn by Alexander the Great and his successors in the Hellenistic period. It was a good start at propaganda, but not really enough to gloss over the humiliating peace treaty that Macrinus had to make with the Parthians in order to withdraw from Caracalla's war. When the Syrian legions revolted against him in support of Caracalla's cousin Elagabalus on 16 May 218, Macrinus (somewhat preposterously) elevated Diadumenian a second Augustus and marched on Antioch. He was soundly defeated and fled north into Asia Minor while he charged loyal servants with carrying Diadumenian to safety within the borders of the Parthian Empire. Unfortunately, Macrinus was hunted down and killed just as he was crossing the Bosphorus into Europe and Diadumenian was arrested at Zeugma in Mesopotamia. The boy was duly executed as a usurper and his head retained as a trophy by the triumphant Elagabalus. This aureus was struck before Diadumenian was granted the dubious rank of Augustus. He is named as Caesar in the legend and his bare portrait underlines his status as less than that of his father. The reverse type advertises his status as designated heir through the use of a reverse type that became standard for this purpose in the third century. The reverse names him as princeps iuventutis ("Prince of the Youth"), a title traditionally given to the imperial heir since the time of Augustus. The role of the army in the elevation of Macrinus and Diadumenian is indicated by the three standards that surround the figure of Diadumenian on the reverse.





1443

**1443** Sestertius 217-218, Æ 33 mm, 24.51 g. M OPEL ANTONINVS DIADV MENIANVS CAES Draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. PRINC – IVVENTVTIS Diadumenian standing facing, head r., holding standard and sceptre; on r., standard and legionary eagle. C 7. BMC 154 var. (legionary eagle and standard). RIC 211.

Rare. Green patina, surface somewhat rough, otherwise good very fine

1'500

**Elagabalus, 218 – 222**



1444



**1444** Aureus 218-222, AV 21 mm, 6.59 g. IMP CAES ANTONINVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. FIDES EXERCITVS Fides seated l., holding eagle on extended r. hand and standard in l.; before her, another standard. C 29. BMC 105. RIC 66. Calicó 2991.

Rare. An attractive portrait struck on a very broad flan, almost invisible marks on cheek, otherwise good extremely fine

15'000

*Ex NAC sale 78, 2014, 1066.*



1445



**1445** Aureus 219, AV 21 mm, 6.42 g. IMP ANTONINVS PIVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. P M TR P II COS II P P / LIB AVG II Elagabalus, togate and holding parazonium, seated l. on platform; before him l., Liberalitas standing l., holding abacus in her r. hand and cornucopia in her l.; in l. field, citizen mounting stairs of the platform. C 74 var. (not cuirassed). BMC p. 564, note and pl. 87, 3. C 9d. Calicó 2998.

Extremely rare. A bold portrait struck on a very broad flan with a light reddish tone. About extremely fine

12'500

*Ex Hess sale 18 December 1933, 767.*



1446



1446

- 1446\*** Denarius 220-221, AR 18 mm, 3.53 g. IMP ANTONINVS PIVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. ABVNDAN – TIA AVG Abundantia standing facing, head l., emptying cornucopiae held with both hands; in r. field, eight-pointed star. C 1. BMC 192. RIC 56.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

250

*Ex Leu Numismatik Winterthur e-sale 24, 2022, 2468.*

### Severus Alexander, 222 – 235



1447



1447

- 1447\*** Denarius 224, AR 20 mm, 2.55 g. IMP C M AVR SEV – ALEXAND AVG Laureate and draped bust r. Rev. IOVI VLTORI Hexastyle temple. C 101 (laureate head). BMC 207. RIC 146 var. (laureate head).

Extremely rare, only very few specimens known of this very interesting issue. Extremely fine 10'000

*Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 244, 2017, 568. From the Peter Bowe collection,*

When the emperor Elagabalus was killed by the Praetorian Guard at the behest of his grandmother in AD 222, his popular 13-year-old cousin Severus Alexander immediately succeeded him. In a conscious attempt to distance Severus Alexander from the excesses of Elagabalus, the young emperor was surrounded by able advisors like the famous jurist Ulpian and the senatorial historian Cassius Dio. Such men assisted him in reorganizing the municipal administration of the capital and in legal reforms, many of which were aimed at improving public morals and reducing displays of excessive luxury.

In a very public act to illustrate that his reign would completely break with the excesses of Elagabalus and restore traditional Roman religion and custom, Severus Alexander remodeled and rededicated the temple of Elagabal that his cousin had ordered to be built in the heart of Rome. This temple housed the Black Stone of Emesa, a sacred baetyl (probably a meteorite) believed to be inhabited by the solar deity Elagabal and brought by Elagabalus from his Syrian homeland to Rome, where he established the god as a new supreme deity in the Roman pantheon. It was also the site of the debauched and orgiastic rites of Elagabal that had deeply offended Roman morals during the reign of Elagabalus.

Severus Alexander ordered the removal of the Black Stone from the temple of Elagabal and returned the sacred objects of other Roman deities that Elagabalus had transferred there. He then rededicated the temple to Jupiter, the head of the traditional Roman pantheon. This very rare denarius advertises the reconstruction and rededication, which appears to have been completed by 224. The reverse type features a representation of the former temple of Elagabal, which was previously depicted on a bronze issue of Elagabalus (RIC IV.2, 339) with a legend indicating its rededication to Jupiter Ultor ("the Avenger"). The decision to give the sanctuary of Elagabal to Ultor, rather than to one of the other known cult aspects of Jupiter was no accident. Through Jupiter, Severus Alexander wanted to clearly indicate that he was avenging Rome and its religious customs in his removal of Elagabalus' foreign cult. Unfortunately, despite Severus Alexander's active concern to undo the damage of his cousin and efforts to improve the Roman state, he faced a number of serious military problems. He was unable to fully overcome Ardashir I, the first shahanshah ("King of Kings") of the Sasanian Persian Empire during an eastern campaign in 231-233, although he celebrated a triumph upon his return and compared himself to Alexander the Great. At the same time, the Germanic Alemanni were overrunning and destroying the Roman limes (frontier fortifications) near the Black Forest, threatening invasion deeper into Roman territory. The great Severus Alexander marched to the Rhine frontier to halt their advance, but once there, he tried to end their onslaught through diplomacy and bribery. Losses in the war against Ardashir I had been high, and he hoped to preserve his military strength. This soft approach to the Germanic tribes rankled with the legionaries, who thought such negotiation dishonorable and began to doubt Severus Alexander's fitness to rule. They also may have considered themselves to be deserving of bribes from the imperial coffers rather than the Alemanni. After all, many of the frontier troops had lost homes and possessions in the Germanic invasion. Whatever the case, on 19 March 235, members of Legio II Parthica and Legio XXII Primigenia mutinied and killed both Severus Alexander and his mother at Mogontiacum (Mainz). In an ironic twist, the Roman army had taken its revenge on the emperor who had begun his reign posing as the avenger of Rome and its gods.



1448



**1448\*** Denarius 225, AR 19 mm, 3 g. IMP C M AVR SEV ALEXAND AVG Laureate and draped bust r. Rev. VICTO – RIA – AVG Victory advancing l., holding wreath in her r. hand and palm frond over her l. shoulder. C 564. BMC 271. RIC 180.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

200



1449



**1449\*** Aureus 231, AV 20 mm, 7.98 g. IMP SEV ALE – XAND AVG Laureate bust r., with drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. VICTO – R – IA AVG Victory standing l., holding wreath in r. hand and palm in l. C –. BMC 699. RIC 211b. Calicó 3138.

Rare and in exceptional state of preservation. A perfect Fdc

10'000

*Ex Triton sale XX, 2017, 815.*

**Julia Mamaea, mother of Severus Alexander**



1450



**1450\*** Denarius 230, AR 19 mm, 4.01 g. IVLIA MA – MAEA AVG Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. FELICI – TA – S PVBLICA Felicitas seated l., holding caduceus in r. hand and cornucopiae in l. C 24. BMC S. Alexander 658. RIC S. Alexander 338.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

250

*Ex Numismatik Naumann 18, 2014, 742 and Leu Numismatik Winterthur e-24, 2022, 3012 sales.*

**Maximinus I, 235 – 238**



1451



- 1451\*** Denarius 235, AR 20 mm, 2.88 g. IMP MAXIMINVS PIVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. FIDE – S MI – LITVM Fides standing facing, head l., holding military standard in each hand. C 7. BMC 1. RIC 7a.

Virtually as struck and Fdc

350

*Ex Leu Numismatik Winterthur 10, 2021, 2330 and Leu Numismatik Winterthur 13, 2023, 335 sales.*

**Paulina, wife of Maximinus I**



1452



- 1452** Diva Paulina. Denarius, 235-238, AR 20 mm, 3.12 g. DIVA PAVLINA Veiled and draped bust r. Rev. CONSECRATIO Peacock in splendour standing facing, head l. C 1. BMC Maximinus 135. RIC Maximinus 1.

Old cabinet tone and good very fine

500

*Ex Hirsch sale 24, 1909, Weber, 2076.*



1453



- 1453\*** Diva Paulina. Denarius 235-238, AR 19 mm, 3.3 g. DIVA PAVLINA Veiled and draped bust r. Rev. CONSECRATIO Paulina, holding sceptre, seated l. on peacock flying r. C 2. BMC Maximinus 127. RIC Maximinus 2.

Rare. Extremely fine

750

*Ex Leu Numismatik Winterthur e-sale 29, 2024, 2238.*

**Balbinus, 22nd April – 29th July 238**



1454

**1454\*** Antoninianus 22 April-29 June 238, AR 23 mm, 4.66 g. IMP CAES D CAEL BALBINVS AVG Radiate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. FIDES MVTVAVGG Clasped hands. C 6. BMC 71. RIC 11.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

600

*Ex Leu Numismatik Winterthur sale 13, 2023, 338.*

**Pupienus, 22 April – 29 July 238**



1455

**1455\*** Denarius 238, AR 22 mm, 2.6 g. IMP C M CLOD PVPIENVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. CONCORDIA AVGG Concordia seated l., holding patera and cornucopia. C 6. BMC 42. RIC 1.

Struck on an exceptionally large flan. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

1'000

*Ex Leu Numismatik Winterthur 10, 2021, 2340 and Leu Numismatik Winterthur 15, 2024, 294 sales.*

**Gordian III, 241 – 243**



1456

**1456** Aureus 239, AR 20 mm, 5.03 g. IMP CAES M AN T GORDIANVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. P M TR P II COS P P Providentia standing facing, head l., holding globe and sceptre. C 195 var. (not draped and cuirassed). RIC 23. Calicó 3213.

Graffiti on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine

3'000

*Ex Ira & Larry Goldberg sale 62, 2011, 3208. From the Collection of a Man in Love with Art.*



1457



**1457** Aureus 240, AV 20 mm, 4.6 g. IMP GORDIANVS PIVS FEL AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. P M TR P III COS P P Gordian III on horseback l., raising his r. hand in salute and holding sceptre in his l. C 233. RIC 80. Calicó 3220.

Rare. Two almost invisible scratches on obverse field, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

4'000



1458



**1458** Aureus 243-244, AV 21 mm, 4.49 g. IMP GORDIANVS PIVS FEL AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AETER Victory standing l., leaning on shield and holding palm branch in l. hand; beneath shield, captive. C -. RIC 165. Calicó 3236.

Very rare. Good extremely fine

4'000

**Philip I, 244 - 249**



1459



**1459** Aureus 244-247, AV 21 mm, 4.64 g. IMP M IVL PHILIPPVS AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. ANNONA AVGG Annona standing l., holding corn ears over modius and cornucopiae. C 23 var. (laureate only). RIC 28. Calicó 3246.

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

20'000



1460



- 1460\*** Antoninianus, Antiochia 244-249, AR 22 mm, 3.71 g. IMP M IVL PHILIPPVS AVG Radiate, draped and cuirassed bust l. Rev. AEQVITAS AVG Aequitas standing l., holding scales in r. hand and cornucopiae in l. C 8. RIC 82 var. (AVG).

Good extremely fine / extremely fine

200

*Ex Heritage 3015, 2011, 23369 and NAC 106, 2018, 766 sales. From The BVH Collection.*



1461



- 1461** Aureus 245, AV 21 mm, 4.46 g. IMP M IVL PHILIPPVS AVG Laureate, draped, and cuirassed bust r. Rev. LIBERALITAS AVGG II Liberalitas standing facing, head l., holding abacus and cornucopia. C 86. RIC 38a. Calicó 3252

Very rare. A bold portrait of fine style, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

20'000

Despite his menacing portrait and vicious rise to power, Philip I – the son of a Romanised Arab sheikh – was one of the least effective of Rome's emperors. After the murder of the praetorian prefect Timesitheus and the coup-style murder of Gordian III on the Persian front, Philip stepped into the vacant role of emperor. Instead of capitalising on Gordian's recent military gains against the Sasanians, Philip patched up a hasty and humiliating treaty with Shapur I. We cannot be sure why Philip acted in this manner - either the campaign had begun to turn against the Romans or Philip was more concerned with being confirmed by the senate than continuing to prosecute the war. Philip proceeded to Rome to gain confirmation from the senate; the timetable for this is quite uncertain, as one inscription may suggest his arrival in July, 244, but the numismatic evidence calls for 245, as that is when his adventus types seem to have been struck. If the latter is correct, we must presume Philip stayed in Asia Minor either to oversee the Persian front or to attend to duties his brother Priscus eventually would assume. Once in Rome there was little time for rest. Philip spent much of 245 to 247 (the period during which this aureus was probably struck) on the Danube repelling invasions by the Carpi, and possibly Germans, but managed to return to Rome for the much-anticipated millennial celebrations held throughout 248. His glory in the capital suffered by several rebellions within the provincial armies. With so many catastrophes in one year, Philip was doomed. In the fall of 249 he was challenged and defeated by Trajan Decius, the commander who recently had restored order in Moesia and Pannonia.

Otacia Severa, wife of Philip I



1462



**1462** Aureus 246-248, AV 21 mm, 4.03 g. OTACIL SEVERA AVG Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. CONCORDIA AVGG Concordia seated l., holding patera and double cornucopiae. C 2 var (different obverse legend). RIC Philip I 125 var. (different obverse legend). Calicó 3264 var. (different obverse legend).

An extremely rare variety of a very rare issue. A superb portrait struck on a very large flan, almost invisible marks, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

25'000

Philip II caesar, 244 – 247



1463



**1463** Aureus 245-246, AV 21 mm, 4.2 g. M IVL PHILIPPVS CAES Bare-headed and draped bust r. Rev. PIETAS AVGVSTOR Sacrifice implements: sprinkler, simpulum, jug, knife and lituus. C 30. RIC Philip I 215 note. Calicó 3274.

Of the highest rarity, apparently only the second specimen known. A gentle portrait of fine style struck on a very large flan, almost invisible marks, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

25'000

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

**Philip II augustus, 247 – 249**



1464



**1464** Aureus 247, AV 20 mm, 4.1 g. IMP PHILIPPVS AVG Laureate and draped bust r. Rev. LIBERALITAS AVGG III Philip I and II seated l. on curule chairs, extending r. hand and the elder in foreground holding sceptre. C –. RIC –, cf. 230 (antoninianus). Calicó –. cf. NAC sale 111, 2018, 198 (this obverse die)  
Of the highest rarity, apparently only the second specimen known.  
Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

20'000

**Trajan Decius, 249 – 251**



1465



**1465** Aureus 249-251, AV 20 mm, 4.75 g. IMP C M Q TRAIANVS DECIVS AVG Laureate and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICT – ORIA AVG Victory advancing l., holding wreath and palm branch. C 107. RIC 7a var. (also draped). Calicó 3300 (these dies).  
Rare. Minor marks, otherwise extremely fine  
Ex CNG sale 106, 2017, 797.

4'000

**Hostilian, 251**



1466



**1466** Dupondius 251, Æ 27 mm, 8.29 g. IMP CAE C VAL HOS MES QVINTVS AVG Radiate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. PROVIDENTIA AVG / S - C Providentia standing l., holding a globe in her outstretched r. hand and transverse sceptre with her l. C –, cf. 42 (sestertius). RIC –, cf. 221 (sestertius and as).

Apparently unrecorded denomination for Hostilian. Lovely green patina and good very fine

1'500

Ex Nomos sale 32, 2024, 580 and Eid Mar 7, 2025, 244 sales.

**Uranus Antoninus, 253 – 254**



1467

**1467** Aureus, Emesa 253-254, AV 20 mm, 6.17 g. L IVL AVR SVLP VRA ANTONINVS Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. FE – CVND – ITAS AVG Fortuna standing l., holding rudder and cornucopia. C 3. RIC 3a. Baldus, Uranus Antoninus, 66. R. Delbrueck, Uranus at Emesa, NC 1948, p. 17, 8-9 (these dies). Calicó 3385 (these dies).

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

A very interesting portrait perfectly struck in high relief. An almost invisible mark on reverse field, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc 60'000

*Ex MDC sale 4, 2018, 127. From a Scandinavian Collection.*

Uranus Antoninus, the hereditary priest of Aphrodite and the sun-god El-Gabal in Emesa, was hailed emperor in the midst of a Sasanian invasion of Roman territories. His extraordinary coinage includes imperial-style aurei (and very rare denarii struck from aureus dies) and three types of provincial-style coinage, and can be dated to 253/4 due to the fortunate use of a Seleucid Era date on a provincial bronze. All of his aurei bear Latin inscriptions, and since they do not display any imperial titles they are able to record (in abbreviated form) his full name, Lucius Julius Aurelius Sulpicius Uranus Antoninus. By contrast, his provincial coins have Greek inscriptions that bear the Greek versions of the titles imperator and Augustus, and generally provide him only with the name Sulpicius Antoninus. His aurei were struck at a heavy standard for the period – something between 55 and 60 per Roman pound. His contemporaries lagged far behind: Trebonianus Gallus (251-253) struck aurei at 1/90th of a pound, and even in their accession year of 253/254, when aurei of Valerian and Gallienus were struck at the heaviest standard of their reigns, they were only 1/70th of a pound. Since Uranus Antoninus' silver 'tetradrachms' are about 90 percent pure and weigh about eight grams they likely were valued at ten per aureus. The aurei bear an interesting array of reverse types, some distinctive and others which are borrowed from imperial coins that would have been found in circulation. Others, instead, refer to local religion and reflect the close link between Principi Sacerdotes of Emesa and the great local god Elagabal, or the Baal of Emesa.

**Gallienus, 253 – 268**



1468

**1468** Aureus 260-268, AV 20 mm, 2.4 g. GALLIENVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. VICTORIA AVG Victory advancing l., holding wreath in r. hand and palm in l. C 1092. Göbl 1402 var. (also draped). RIC 79. Calicó 3611 var. (also draped).

Very rare. A superb portrait of fine style, reverse double struck, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

2'500

**Macrianus, 260 – 261**



1469

**1469\*** Antoninianus, Samosata 260-261, Billon 22 mm, 4.68 g. IMP C FVL MACRIANVS P F AVG Radiate and cuirassed bust r. Rev. IOVI CONSERVATORI Jupiter seated l. holding patera and sceptre; eagle at feet and, in l. field, star. C 8. RIC 9 (Antiochia).

Light iridescent tone and extremely fine

350

*Ex Leu Numismatik Winterthur e-sale 21, 2022, 4955. From the collection of Dipl.-Ing. Adrian Lang.*

**Victorinus, 269 – 271**



**1470** Aureus, Cologne late 269, AV 20 mm, 5.33 g. IMP CAES VICTORINVS AVG Laureate bust r., with drapery on l. shoulder. Rev. COME – S AVG Victory standing l., holding wreath and palm branch. C 16. RIC 94. Schulte 5a and plate 17 (this coin). Jameson II 461 (this coin). Elmer 685. Calicó 3811 (this coin). Kent- Hirmer pl. 134, 517.

Very rare. Light edge smoothing, few minor marks and a small pin prick in reverse field, otherwise good very fine

35'000

*Ex Rollin & Feuardent 1887, Ponton d'Amécourt 548; Naville III, 1922, Sir A.J. Evans 132; M&M 12, 1953, 848; NFA XXVI, 1991, 293; Sotheby's 5.7.1995, 159; NAC 24, 2002, European Nobleman 203; NAC 51, 2009, 394 and Triton XXI, 2018, 836 sales. From the Jameson collection.*

M. Piavonius Victorinus was the penultimate usurper in Gallia during the period of military anarchy. He was born to a noble family and had a brilliant military career, culminating in his becoming Postumus' tribune and colleague on the IV consulate. After Postumus' death during the siege of Mogontiacum, Victorinus was declared emperor of the independent realm of the north-west. The *Storia Augusta*, which lists him as one of the 'thirty tyrants' (or rather thirty usurpers or anti-emperors), records this brief political parable: "When Lollianus was eventually killed, Victorinus found himself the only figure in power, but this was not to last. He wasted his time chasing and molesting the wives of both soldiers and officers until one day, in the vicinity of Agrippina (Colonia) he was assassinated as the result of a plot organised by a clerk whose wife he had raped."

**Tetricus, 271 – 274**



**1471** Aureus, Cologne 271-274, AV 18 mm, 3.8 g. IMP C C P ESV TETRICVS AVG Laureate and cuirassed bust r. Rev. SPES – PVBLICA Spes advancing l., holding flower and raising robe with l. hand. C 167. RIC 25. Schulte 4a (this coin illustrated). Jameson 279 (this coin). Calicó 3898 (these dies).

Extremely rare. A superb portrait of fine style, minor marks, otherwise good extremely fine

75'000

*Ex Hirsch sale XIV, 1905, 1432. From the Jameson collection.*



1462



1461



1467



1463



1463



1470



1464



1464



1471



1483



1475



1480



1485



1481



1481



1490



1484



1484



1493

**Numerian augustus, 283 – 284**



1473

**1473** Aureus 284, AV 21 mm, 5.5 g. IMP NVMERIANVS AVG Laureate and draped bust r. Rev. VENE – RI VICTRICI Venus standing l., holding Victory in r. hand and apple in l. C 94. RIC 406. Calicó 4318 (these dies).

Very rare. A wonderful portrait of exceptional style. Minor flan crack at two o'clock, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

12'500

*Ex Triton VI, 2003, 1070; NAC 59, 2011, 1143 and NAC 105, 2018, La Borde, 96 sales. From the William H. Williams collection.*

**Nigrinian, son of Carinus**



1474

**1474\*** Divo Nigriniano. Antoninianus 283-284, Billon 22 mm, 4.28 g. DIVO NIGRINIANO Radiate head r. Rev. CONSECRATIO Eagle standing facing with spread wings, head l. In exergue, KAA. C 2. RIC Carus 472.

Dark green patina and about extremely fine

1'250

*Ex NFA XXVII, 1991, 178; Baldwin's 57, 2008, 201 and Triton XXVIII, 2025, 747 sales. Privately purchased from Ian Roper Coins and Antiquities on 26th June 2009.*

## Julian I of Pannonia, October – December 284



1475

- 1475** Aureus, Siscia circa 284, AV 19 mm, 4.24 g. IMP C IVLIA-NVS P F AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. LIBERTAS PVBLICA Libertas standing l., holding pileus in r. hand and cornucopiae in l.; in r. field, large star. C 3. RIC 1, pl. XX, 17 (this obverse die). Calicó 4413 (this obverse die).

Extremely rare. An attractive specimen of this difficult issue, an unobtrusive graffito on obverse field and a minor edge mark at one o'clock on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine 50'000

*Ex Hirsch XXIV, 1909, Weber, 446; Hess 25 March 1929, Vogel, 946; Ars Classica XVII, 1934, Evans, 1811; Schulman 243, 1966, Graham, 2193; LHS 97, 2006, European Scholar, 82; Gemini V, 2009, 832 and NAC 102, 2017, 563 sales.*

In 284 the Empire was in crisis: the 'dynasty' founded by Carus and his two sons in 282 had virtually collapsed, for not only had Carus died in 283 while campaigning against the Persians, but his youngest son, Numerian, who was leading the army back from the Persian front, died in the fall of 284. Remaining in power legitimately was the older brother, Carinus, who in the meantime had been ruling in the West. Following Numerian's murder, another commander, Diocles (the future emperor Diocletian), was hailed emperor in his place, and in opposition to Carinus in the West. Caught between these two rivals was a third commander, Julian of Pannonia, who then was governing the province of Venetia and determined to stake his claim. While keeping a wary eye on the approach of Diocletian, Carinus quickly dealt with the nearest usurper, Julian, whom he defeated early in 285. All of Julian's coins – billon aureliani and gold aurei (of which perhaps thirty are known) – were struck at Siscia, the only mint-city under his control.

## Diocletian, 284 – 305



1476

1476

- 1476** Medallion circa 284-286, Æ 37 mm, 29.72 g. IMP C C VAL DIOCLETIANVS P F AVG Laureate, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. MONETA AVGG The three Monetae standing facing, heads l., holding scales and cornucopiae; at their feet, heaps of coins. C 326. Gnechchi II, 15 and pl. 125, 1. Toynebee –. Mazzini 326 (this coin).

Very rare. An excellent portrait of magnificent style struck in high relief and a lovely brown tone, extremely fine / good extremely fine 15'000

*Ex M&M 76, 1991, 911 and NAC 114, 2019, 835 sales. From the Mazzini and the Pierre Bastien collections.*



1477

**1477** Aureus, Antiochia 287-290, AV 21 mm, 5.51 g. DIOCLETIANVS – AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. COS – III Emperor on horseback r., raising r. arm. C 54. RIC 310 (these dies). Lukanc 4 and p. 153, 4 (this coin illustrated). Depeyrot 7/2 (Cyzicus). Calicó 4445.

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

12'500

Ex NAC 71, 2013, Archer M. Huntington part II, 266 and NAC 117, 2019, 344 sales. Ex HSA 22091.



1478

**1478** Argenteus, Thessalonica circa 302, AR 20 mm, 3.25 g. DIOCLETI – ANVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. VIRTU – S MI – LITVM Four-turreted camp gate, with open door, above entrance, star; in exergue, TS-A. C 521. RIC 11a.

Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine

500



1479

**1479** Argenteus, Siscia 294-295, AR 18 mm, 2.91 g. DIOCLETI – ANVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. VIRTVS – MILITVM The four tetrarchs sacrificing over tripod before eight-turreted camp gate. C 516. Sisak pl. I, 4. RIC 43a.

Lovely iridescent tone, flan crack at four o'clock on obverse, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

400

Ex M&M Fixed Price List 202, 1960, 29. From the collection of a Mentor.

**Carausius, 286/7 – 293****1480**

Aureus, Rotomagus (?) 289-293, AV 19 mm, 5.1 g. IMP C CARAVSIVS AVG Laureate and cuirassed bust r. Rev. OPES I – VI AVG Abundantia standing l., holding bunch of grapes and cornucopia. C –. RIC –. Sutherland, NC 1944, vol. IV, p. 19, 175 and pl. III, 14 (these dies, misdescribed). Shiel, RN 1973, p.166, 8. Shiel p. 149, 9 and pl. B, 9 (these dies). Calicó 4778 (these dies).

Of the highest rarity, apparently only the second specimen known and the only one in private hands. A very interesting portrait struck on a full flan, minor marks on edge, otherwise extremely fine / about extremely fine

100'000

*Ex NAC 72, 2013, 758 and NAC 125, 2021, 774 sales. From a Scandinavian collection*

The aurei of Carausius include very rare pieces of unusual style that bear no mintmark and often have reverse inscriptions that run over into the exergue. Most specimens are tightly die linked, suggesting the issue was small and episodic. They usually are attributed to a mint on the continent. Boulogne was an early suggestion, but it was based upon an incorrect recording of a find site. It is now almost universally believed that these aurei were struck in Rotomagus (Rouen) since base metal radiates of this issue are found in various parts of Northern France. One particularly important hoard of radiates in this style was unearthed at Rouen in 1846. This aureus was first sold at auction by Sotheby's in November, 1881 as part of the collection formed by Reverend Dr. William Chadwick Neligan, the well-known Rector of St. Mary Shandon & St. Catherine in Cork. Since it became part of the Trau collection (sold in May, 1935), the aureus was missed by Percy Webb when he was composing RIC vol. V, pt. II, which went to press in 1933. The coin was then described in the 1944 Numismatic Chronicle and was the main subject of an article by Norman Shiel, "The Opes Legend on Coins of Carausius," in the 1973 *Revue numismatique*. The reverse type, inscribed OPES IVI AVG, depicts a standing female divinity, who must be Abundantia for she holds a cornucopia and a cluster of grapes. Shiel considers IVI to be a simplification of the epithet invictus ('unconquered' or 'invincible'). This aureus is unique among the issues of Rotomagus in that its reverse inscription does not run over into the exergue and it is not die-linked with any other piece known to Shiel at the time of his work. The style of the Rotomagus issues is simplistic, and the die execution crude. This suggests they were made by a team with little or no experience in die sinking and coin production, but which likely had adopted skills from related fields, such as blacksmithing and intaglio engraving. The inscriptions on these coins often are blundered and sometimes incomplete, indicating that the engravers were probably illiterate. Though crude production standards are no guarantee that these aurei were an emergency military issue, the likelihood is strong. Perhaps the strongest prospect is that they were produced as a donative upon the establishment of Carausius' foothold on the continent in late 286 or early 287. Alternatively, they could have been an emergency issue in the spring of 289, when Maximian sent his failed expedition against Carausius, or an issue of early 293 anticipating the campaign of Constantius Chlorus, which was successful and cost the rebel his continental strongholds.

**Maximianus Herculius, 286 – 305****1481**

Aureus 287, AV 20 mm, 5.38 g. MAXIMI – ANVS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. HERCVL – I – P – ACIFERO Hercules, nude, standing facing, head l., holding club and lion's skin in l. hand and branch in r. C 271. Beurains 158-159. Depeyrot 6/1. RIC –. Calicó 4666.

An impressive portrait struck in high relief and good extremely fine

15'000

*Ex Leu 71, 1997, 527; LHS 97, 2006, 89 and NAC 80, 2014, 236 sales.*



1482



**1482** Argenteus, Serdica circa 305-306, AR 21 mm, 3.09 g. D N MAXIMI – ANO B S AVG Half figure r., laureate, wearing Imperial mantle and holding olive branch and mappa. Rev. PROVIDENTIA DEORVM QVIES AVGG Providentia standing r., extending r. hand to Quies, standing l., holding branch in r. hand and leaning on sceptre; at sides, S – F and between them, A. In exergue, ·SM·SD·. C –. RIC –. cf. Numismatik Naumann sale 138, 2024, 7999.

An exceedingly rare variety of an extremely rare type. Old cabinet tone and extremely fine / about extremely fine

4'000

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



1483



**1483\*** Aureus, Antiochia circa 293, AV 29 mm, 5.37 g. CONSTANTIVS – NOB CAES Laureate head r. Rev. HERCVLI – CONS CAES Hercules standing facing, head l., holding apples and lion's skin and leaning on club. In exergue, SMAΣ \*. C 145. RIC 8. Depeyrot 9/4. Calicó 4833.

A coin in exceptional state of preservation with a portrait of enchanting beauty. Virtually as struck and Fdc

25'000

*Ex Leu 93, 2005, Perfectionist, 125 and Ira & Larry Goldberg 53, 2009, Millennia, 140 sales.*



1484



**1484** Aureus, Carthago 297-298, AV 18 mm, 5.5 g. CONSTAN TIVS CAES Laureate head r. Rev. FELIX AD V ENT AVGG NN Africa, wearing long drapery, wearing elephant-skin headdress, standing facing, head l., holding signum in r. hand and elephant tusk in l.; at feet to l., lion with captured bull. In exergue, PK. RIC 2a (these dies). Depeyrot 1/2. Calicó 4825.

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

15'000

*Ex Triton sale XXVI, 2024, 844.*



1485



- 1485** Aureus, Treveri 302, AV 20 mm, 5.27 g. CONST – ANTIVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. MARTI PRO – PVGNATORI Mars advancing r., holding spear and shield; in exergue, TR. C 168. RIC 64. Depeyrot 7B/1. Calicó 4855.

A portrait of masterly style and a wonderful reddish tone. Extremely fine

20'000

*Ex Leu 91, 2004. Perfectionist, 677 and NCSA 4, 2006, 255 sales. From the Beaurains hoard.*

### Galerius caesar, 293 – 305



1486



- 1486** Aureus, Siscia circa 308-309, AV 19 mm, 5.28 g. MAXIMIA – NVS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. IOVICO – N – SERVAT Jupiter standing l., holding thunderbolt and sceptre; in exergue, IAS (for SIS). C –. RIC 189 var. (eagle at Jupiter's feet). Depeyrot 11/1 var. (eagle at Jupiter's feet). Calicó 4685 (as Maximian).

Very rare. A beautiful portrait, hole expertly filled at twelve o'clock on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine

3'500

*Ex NAC sale 71, 2013, Huntington, 278. Ex HSA 10638.*

### Galeria Valeria, wife of Galerius Maximianus



1487



- 1487** Aureus, Serdica circa 308, AV 21 mm, 5.24 g. GAL VAL ERIA AVG Diademed and draped bust r. on crescent. Rev. VENERI V – ICTRICI Venus standing facing, head l., holding apple in upraised r. hand and raising drapery over l. shoulder; in field r., S. In exergue, -SM-SD-C. 1. RIC 33. Depeyrot 6/2. Calicó 4966.

Very rare. An impressive portrait struck on a very large flan. Several edge marks, otherwise good extremely fine

40'000

*Ex Dorotheum 18 May 2016, 676 (from a private collection assembled in the 30's) and NCSA 13, 2021, 94 sales.*

Severus II caesar, 305 – 306



1488

- 1488** Argenteus, Serdica circa 305-306, AR 19 mm, 3.17 g. Argenteus, Serdica circa 305-306, AR 19 mm, 3.17 g. SEVERV – S NOB C Laureate head r. Rev. VIRTVS – MILITVM Camp gate with three turrets, with open doors; below, ·SM·SDA. C –. RIC –, cf. 11. Gautier 24 var. (different officina).

Extremely rare. Light iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

7'500



1489

- 1489** Follis, Ticinum 306, Æ 27 mm, 9.91 g. SEVRVS NOB CAESAR Laureate head r. Rev. VIRTVS AVGG ET CAESS NN Mars advancing r., holding spaer and carrying trophy on the shoulder; in exergue, TT. C 70. RIC 60a.

Dark green patina and good extremely fine

400

Maximinus II Daia caesar, 305 – 309



1490

- 1490** Aureus, Antiochia 305-308, AV 20 mm, 5.34 g. MAXIMI – NVS NOB CAES Laureate head r. Rev. IOVI CON – S CAES Jupiter standing facing, head l., holding thunderbolt and sceptre; at feet, eagle and in exergue, crescent - SMAZ\*. C 107. RIC 68. Depeyrot 20/4. Calicó 5013

Very rare. A portrait of superb style struck in high relief, minor edge marks, otherwise good extremely fine

20'000

*Ex Leu sale 93, 2005, Perfectionist, 127. Privately purchased from Bourgey in 1962.*

**Maxentius augustus, 307 – 312**



1491



1491

**1491** Medallion of 4 aurei 308, AV 35 mm, 21.06 g. IMP C M VAL MAXENTIVS P F AVG Bare head l. Rev. PRINCIPI IM – PERII ROMANI Virtus advancing r., cloak billowing behind, holding trophy over l. shoulder, shield in l. hand and transverse spear in r. hand, in exergue, PR. RIC 172. Gnechi –. C –. Depeyrot p. 153. Carson, *The Greatest Discovery of Roman Gold Pieces Since the Great Find at Arras*, p. 650, fig. 1. Carson, *A Treasure of Aurei and Multiples from the Mediterranean*, 108 (this coin). Bastien, Donativa, p. 71, 6.

Of the highest rarity, only three specimens known. An impressive medallion with a portrait of great beauty, work of a skilled master engraver. Restored on obverse (scuff expertly removed on the top of the head and scratch smoothed on neck) and reverse double struck, otherwise about extremely fine

40'000

*Ex Sotheby's 26 October 1993; Triton I, 1997, 1679; NAC 24, 2002, European Nobleman, 265 and NAC 41, 2007, 141 sales.*

The portraiture of Maxentius, generally minimalist in appearance, seems in keeping with his grassroots appeal to the patriotic instincts of his fellow Romans. It perhaps is no coincidence that his portrait, though in line with the conventions of his age, has an almost indescribably anachronistic quality, as if it was unearthed from the ashes of the Republic itself. On medallions such as this, where Maxentius does not don the laurel wreath, the antique quality of his image is only magnified. The reverse of this four-aureus medallion pays homage to Mars, the god of war, and describes him as preserver of the two emperors and the one Caesar. We must presume that the two emperors are Maxentius and his father Maximian, and the Caesar is none other than Constantine the Great, for whom he also struck medallions

**Licinius I augustus, 308 – 324**



1492



**1492** Aureus, Treviri circa 310-313, AV 18 mm, 4.4 g. LICINI – VS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. IOVI CONSERV – ATORI AVGG Jupiter seated l. on throne, holding thunderbolt in r. hand and sceptre in l.; in exergue, PTR. C 102. RIC 813. Alföldi 242. Depeyrot 17/8. Calicó –.

Extremely rare, only four specimens listed by Depeyrot. A portrait of superb style, minor marks, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

20'000

**Constantine I augustus, 307 – 337**



1493

- 1493** Aureus, Alexandria circa 313-314, AV 20 mm, 5.22 g. CONSTAN – TINVS P F AVG Laureate head r. Rev. IOVI CON – SERVATORI Jupiter standing l., holding Victory on globe in r. hand and sceptre in l.; at his feet on l., eagle. In exergue, ALE. C –. RIC –. Depeyrot 13/1. Calicó 5171.

Extremely rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. A superb portrait of excellent style struck on a full flan, almost invisible marks, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

30'000

*Ex Tradart sale 18 November 1993, 300.*



1494

- 1494** Solidus, Nicomedia 335, AV 21 mm, 4.38 g. Rosette-diademed head, looking upwards. Rev. VICTORIA CONSTANTINI AVG Victory seated r. on cuirass and shield, inscribing VOT / XXX on shield supported by small genius; in exergue, SMNP. C –, cf. 617 (VOT XX). Alföldi 616. RIC 176. Depeyrot 44/1.

Extremely fine

10'000

**Crispus caesar, 317 – 326**



1495

- 1495** Solidus, Nicomedia 325-326, AV 20 mm, 4.45 g. Diademed head r. Rev. CRISPVS – CAESAR Victory striding l., holding wreath and palm branch. In exergue, N. C 59. RIC 110. Alföldi 91. Depeyrot 38/3.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. A magnificent portrait, an absolutely unobtrusive metal flaw on reverse field, otherwise good extremely fine

30'000

*Ex NAC 23, 2002, 1685 and NAC 54, 2010, 619 sales.*

**Hanniballianus, 335 – 337**



1496

**1496\*** Follis, Constantinople 336-337, Æ 15 mm, 1.41 g. FL ANNIBALIANO REGI Bare-headed, draped, and cuirassed bust r. Rev. SE – CVRITAS PVBLICA Euphrates reclining r., leaning on sceptre, urn at side; reed in background. In exergue, CONS. RIC 145. LRBC 1035 note.

An extremely rare variety of a rare type. Dark green patina and about extremely fine

500

*Ex CNG e-sale 549, 2023, 694. From the Kings collection.*

**Constantius II augustus, 337 – 361**



1497

**1497** Medallion of four nummi argentei or three "light miliarenses", Thessalonica circa 340-350, AR 39 mm, 13.09 g. FL IVL CONSTANTII – IVS PIVS FELIX AVG. Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. TRIVMFATOR – GENTIVM BARBARVM Emperor standing l., in military attire, holding vexillum and shield. In exergue, TES. C194. Gnechi 50. RIC 79.

Very rare and light iridescent tone. Cleaning marks in the fields and a light scratch on obverse; insignificant areas of weakness, otherwise good very fine

6'000

*Ex NAC 75, 2013, 335 and NAC 92, 2016, 2471 sales.*



1498

1498

**1498** Solidus, Treviri 353, AV 22 mm, 4.77 g. D N CONSTAN – TIVS P F AVG Laurel, rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA – AVG NOSTRI Emperor, in military attire, standing facing, head l., holding globe in r. hand and spear in l.; in l. field, Victory advancing l., head r., holding wreath in r. hand and palm in l. In exergue, TR. C 207. RIC 331. Depeyrot 14/2.

Extremely rare. Lovely reddish tone and about extremely fine

3'500

*Ex NAC sale 59, 2011, 2140.*

## Vetranio, 250



1499

- 1499\*** Solidus, Siscia March-December 350, AV 22 mm, 4.53 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. A bold portrait struck on a full flan. Unobtrusive traces of double striking, otherwise in exceptional condition for the issue, virtually as struck and Fdc

50'000

*Ex Aureo & Calicó 241, 2012, Imagines Imperatorum, 353 and Aureo & Calicó 300, 2017, 207 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.

**Julian II augustus, 360 – 363**



- 1500** Siliqua, Lugdunum circa 360-361, AR 18 mm, 2.27 g. FL C L IVLIA – NVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VOTIS V MVLTVS X within wreath. Below, LVG. C 154. RIC 219.  
Lovely old cabinet tone and about extremely fine 350  
*Ex Busso-Peus 250, 1954, Lejeune, 1883; Hess-Leu 45, 1970, 665 and Busso-Peus 337, 1993, Busso, 561 sales.*
- 1501** Solidus, Antiochia 361-363, AV 22 mm, 4.46 g. FL CL IVLIA – NVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r., with long beard. Rev. VIRTVS EXERCI – TVS ROMANORVM Soldier standing r., head l., holding trophy over l. shoulder and placing r. hand on head of kneeling captive; in exergue, ANTA. C –. RIC 197. Depeyrot 15/2.  
An interesting portrait and a light reddish tone. A graffito on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 4'000  
*Ex NAC sale 100, 2017, 679.*



**Valentinian I, 364-375**

- 1502** Solidus, Thessalonica 364, AV 22 mm, 4.47 g. D N VALENTINI – ANVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTOR – IA AVGG Two emperors, crowned, seated facing on double-throne, holding a globe together; behind, Victory standing facing with wings spread; below, star. In exergue, \*TES\*. C 43. RIC 4a.2. Depeyrot 28/1.  
Rare. Minor marks, otherwise extremely fine 500  
*Ex Rauch sale 20 September 2012, 1588.*

**Theodosius I, 379 – 385**

- 1503** Solidus, Mediolanum 383-387, AV 21 mm, 4.36 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, Victory facing with spread wings between them and below, a palm branch. In exergue, COM. C 38. RIC 8b. Depeyrot 1/3.  
Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 1'500  
*Ex Triton sale XX, 2017, 894.*

**Arcadius, 383 – 408**



1504



1504

- 1504** Solidus, Mediolanum 394-395, AV 21 mm, 4.45 g. D N ARCADI – VS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORI – A AVG GG Emperor, in military attire, holding labarum and Victory on globe, spurning captive at his feet. In field, M – D and in exergue, COMOB. Ulrich Bansa 60. LRC 265. RIC IX, 35b. RIC X, 1205d. Depeyrot 16/1.

Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

1'000

*Ex Triton sale XX, 2017, 898.*



1505



- 1505** Solidus, Constantinopolis circa 397-402, AV 20 mm, 4.29 g. D N ARCADI – VS P F AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield decorated with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. CONCORDI – A AVGGH Constantinopolis, helmeted, seated facing, head r., holding sceptre and Victory on globe; r. foot on prow. In exergue, CONOB. LRC 216. RIC 7. Depeyrot 55/1.

A graffito on reverse, otherwise extremely fine

400

*Ex CNG sale 94, 2013, 534. From a Man in Love with Art.*

**Constantine III, 407 – 411**



1506



- 1506** Solidus, Lugdunum 407-408, AV 22 mm, 4.48 g. D N CONSTAN – TINVS P F AVG Rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA – AA AVGGGG Emperor standing r., holding standard in r. hand and Victory on globe in l., spurning captive with his l. foot; in field, L – D and in exergue, COM. C 5. Bastien Lyon 241. LRC –. RIC 1510. Lafaurie 3b1. Depeyrot 21/2.

Very rare. Good extremely fine

7'500

*Ex Künker sale 273, 2016, 988.*

**Constans, son of Constantine III, 410 – 411**



**1507** Solidus, Caesaragusta end 408-beginning 409, AV 21 mm, 4.06 g. D N CONSTA – NS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA – A AVCCC Emperor standing r., foot on captive, holding standard and Victory on globe; in field, C – S. In exergue, COMOB. C –. RIC –. LRC –. Holland, *Bulletin de la Société Française de Numismatique* 76, January 2001, Un solidus inédit de Constans, fils de Constantine III (407-411) témoin d'un donativum frappé à Caesaraugusta en 409, p. 16 (this coin illustrated).

Apparently unique. An extraordinary numismatic discovery, the only solidus of Constans in existence. An issue of tremendous importance and fascination. Flan chipped at twelve o'clock on obverse, otherwise very fine 35'000

*Ex Hermes of London 1, 2020, 210 and NAC 125, 2021, 795 sales.*

As the son of Constantine III, a soldier who was hailed emperor by his comrades in Britain, it was natural that Constans II would serve in his father's regime. Times were difficult in the West, and desperate measures were required to preserve the order. The soldiers abandoned hope that Honorius would defend the western provinces, as he was occupied with trying to keep the Visigoths out of Italy. So they hailed their own emperor three times in rapid succession – Marcus, Gratian and Constantine III. The first two were killed quickly and issued no coins, but the last survived approximately four years before he was captured and executed. Though Britain had just been ravaged by the Picts, Constantine III crossed the Channel into Gaul to fend off Honorius' general Sarus and to try to expel the Burgundians, Vandals, Alans, Alemanni, Franks and Suevi who had crossed the frozen Rhine into Germany and Gaul. Constantine III found success and eventually enlarged his domain to include Britain, northern Spain, Germany, Gaul and seemingly also Rhaetia. His victories were significant, but his gains were temporary, as rebellions soon arose in Britain and in Spain. Constans II apparently was a monk before he was hailed Caesar. Even his younger brother Julian seems to have been given the title *nobilissimus* at the time Constans II was hailed Caesar, but nothing else is known of him. Presumably in 408 Constans II was sent to Spain with his father's *magister militum* Gerontius to secure the peninsula. Their work was only partially successful and Constans II returned to Gaul with two ringleaders of the pro-Honorius resistance, Verenianus and Didymus, both of whom were executed at Arles. By 409 Constans' father had raised him from Caesar to Augustus. Until this specimen, the only coins known for Constans II are siliquae from Arles and Trier, the inscriptions of which confirm he held the rank of Augustus. This unique solidus, instead, was struck at Caesaraugusta, the only city, outside of Gaul, where we know, according to historical sources, that Constans stayed for a short period. This solidus was recently published by the scholar Dominique Hollard in the *Bulletin de la Société Française de Numismatique* where he hypothesizes that this coin is a donativum struck by Constans when he was raised to the status of Augustus. Before this recent article, we already had a new theory about the mint of Caesaraugusta. In 2016, when David Berthoud, published an unrecorded siliqua from Trier, he attributed the mint mark SM CS, known on very few Constans siliquae, to Caesaraugusta, comparing them with the contemporary specimens minted by Maximus at Barcelona, bearing the mintmark SM BA as officina. This attribution appears to be correct because we know that during Roman Empire, the officinas used to indicate the mint names by using their first two consonants such as: TR for Treverorum, MD for Medionalum, RV for Ravenna, etc. It is therefore plausible that CS indicates Caesaraugusta. If Berthoud's attribution is correct, we could not agree on his chronology since the he inserts, chronologically, first the siliqua of Maximus' minted at Barcelona and later those of Constans. Holland explains why this dating is problematic: in September or October 409, the Vandals and other Germanic tribes crossed the Pyrenees and Maximus was in Tarraco, preparing his army. It therefore seems unlikely that Constans would have been at Caesaraugusta during that period. Furthermore, his campaign in Spain was very short-lived, considering his rapid retreat chased by Gerontius. For this reason, Holland theorises that both this issue and, most likely the solidus, could have been a donativum minted by Constans for his generals and his guards in Caesaraugusta when he received the title of Augustus. However, this raises another question: when did he receive that title? Bastien suggested the end 409 or the beginning of 410, but, as we wrote, Holland is of the opinion that this is too late. At the beginning of 409, Honorius recognised Constans' father, Constantine III, as Augustus after Athalaric's threat in Italy. So, it is possible that Constantine gave to his son, already Caesar, the title of Augustus and consequently, for this reason, Constans minted a gold issue to celebrate this event, before moving from Caesaraugusta to Arles in Gaul. Following this theory, we believe it would be correct to bring forward the dating of the Constans issues bearing the mint-mark CS, to the Autumn of 408 and the Spring 409, when he was at Caesaraugusta and he celebrated his rise to Augustus, minting donativa for his most important officers and magistrates.

**Priscus Attalus, 409 – 410**



1508

**1508** Solidus 409-410, AV 21 mm, 4.45 g. PRISC ATTA – LVS PF AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. INVICTA RO – MA AETERNA Roma seated facing on throne, holding Victory on globe and reversed spear; in field, R – M and in exergue COMOB. C 3. RIC 1404. LRC 812. Depeyrot 39/1.

Exceedingly rare and among the finest specimens known.

Well struck on a full flan and extremely fine

80'000

*Ex Rauch 82, 2008, 662 (illustrated on the cover page) and NAC 56, 2010, 487 sales.*

The Roman world was at risk of extinction in 409 when Visigoths under king Alaric occupied Italy, captured Rome's granaries and laid siege to the great, walled capital. Faced with eventual starvation, the senate cooperated by electing one of their own members, Priscus Attalus, as emperor in opposition to Honorius, whose court was based in Ravenna. Attalus, a senator of Ionian Greek extraction, was known to Alaric, for in the previous year he had been the senate's representative in negotiations with the king. Since he was a pagan, Attalus had to be baptized before he could be crowned.

In the following year, 410, Alaric led part of his army north to challenge Honorius in Ravenna, but his venture failed and the Vandal king returned to Rome. In June he deposed Attalus (who was pardoned by Honorius), and late in August he led his armies into Rome, sacking the great city for three days, August 24 through 26. Every portable item of value, including hostages such as Priscus Attalus and the emperor's half-sister Galla Placidia, was taken.

Attalus remained a prisoner of the Visigoths until he was again hailed emperor against Honorius in 415 by Alaric's successor Athaulf. His second reign was based in Gaul, not Rome, and it was equally brief. Attalus' career as puppet emperor of the Goths ended in the spring of 416 when he was captured by Honorius' soldiers and taken to Rome to be paraded through the streets. He was then banished to the Lipari islands where he lived out the rest of his days, having been relieved of his right thumb and forefinger in a symbolic gesture against any future revolt.

Jovinus, 411 – 413



1509

- 1509** Solidus, Treveri 411-413, AV 20 mm, 4.49 g. D N IOVIN – VS P F AVG Pearl and rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. RESTITV – TOR REIP Emperor standing r., holding standard and Victory on globe, spurning captive with his l. foot; in field, T – R and in exergue, COMOB. C 1. LRC –, p. 220. Depeyrot 59/1. RIC 1704.

Extremely rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, among the finest solidi of Jovinus known. Perfectly struck and centred on a full flan, good extremely fine 60'000

*Ex Bruder Egger XXXIX (1912), 1460; Naville III, 1922, Arthur Evans, 250; Glendining & Co. 16 November 1950, Platt Hall, 2091; Ira & Larry Goldberg 53, 2009, 1937 and NAC 100, 2017, 721 sales. From the Evans collection.*

When the Gallic nobleman Jovinus was proclaimed emperor in Germania Secunda in 411, his timing was ideal; the luckless Honorius had only just emerged from the horrors of 407-411, during which many crises had struck the Western empire, including the sack of Rome by the Visigoths. Jovinus already had agreements with kings of the Alans and Burgundians, and he immediately set about making alliances with other barbarian leaders, including Athaulf, king of the Visigoths. All was proceeding according to plan until Jovinus courted the Gothic dissident Sarus, and hailed his own brother Sebastianus co-emperor, for both of these actions alienated Athaulf, who instead began to co-operate with Honorius. The alliance of Athaulf and Honorius was effective, and the rebels Sebastianus and Jovinus were, in turn, captured and executed.



1492



1492



1499



1495



1495



1506



1508



1508



1509



1507



1507



1510



1510



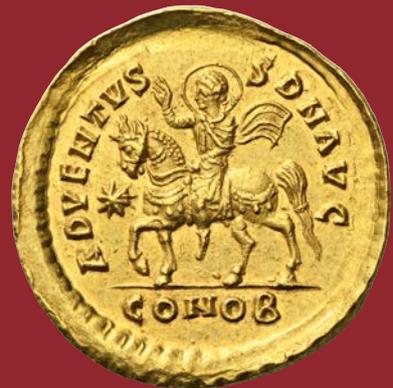
1513



1511



1512



1511



1517



1518



1516

**Constantius III, 8th February – 2nd September 421**



1510

- 1510** Solidus, Ravenna 421, AV 22 mm, 4.46 g. D N CONSTAN – TIVS P F AVG Rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG Emperor standing facing, head r., holding standard and Victory on globe, spurning captive with his l. foot; in field, R – V. In exergue, COMOB. C 1. RIC 1325. Depeyrot 7/4. Ranieri 48.

Very rare. In exceptionally condition for the issue, undoubtedly among the finest specimen known. A minor areas of weakness on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 50'000

The Danubian commander Constantius III had enjoyed a stellar career by the time he undertook a naval blockade of Spain and Gaul in 415, which caused the murder of the Visigothic king Athaulf. Not to be confused with Constantine III, the usurper in Britain of AD 407, Constantius III served as a general under Honorius, rising to prominence as magister militum by 411. He was dispatched to put down the revolt of Constantine III, who he compelled to surrender, imprisoned and beheaded during his return to Ravenna. Constantius further initiated a campaign against the Visigoths in Northern Hispania, and starving them into submission accepted the surrender of their king Wallia, in the process securing the return of the emperor's half-sister Galla Placidia, who had been captured by Alaric around the time of the sack of Rome years earlier, and forced into marriage with Athaulf, successor to Alaric. In recognition Honorius bestowed many honours on him, appointing him consul three times and arranging for him to marry his rescued sister Galla Placidia: riding the tide of his triumph, Constantius pressed for a royal marriage with the rescued empress, which occurred on January 1, 417, when he also assumed his second consulship. Slightly more than four years passed before Constantius gained enough prestige at court that Honorius reluctantly declared him co-emperor. This elevation was well-received in the West, where the soldiers were relieved to have a proven soldier sharing the throne, but it was not acknowledged by the Eastern emperor Theodosius II. The spectre of civil war loomed for seven months until the stalemate was finally resolved by Constantius' death, seemingly of natural causes, on September 2, 421. Due in part to the brevity of his reign, only gold solidi and tremisses from Ravenna were struck in Constantius' name. Beyond coinage, his other lasting legacy was his son Valentinian III, by Galla Placidia, who eventually ruled the Western Roman Empire, albeit impotently, for thirty years.

**Theodosius II, 408 – 450**

1511

**1511** Medallion of 1 1/2 solidi, Constantinople 437, AV 25 mm, 6.61 g. DN THEODO – SIVS P F AVG Bearded, diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. ADVENTVS – S DN AVG Emperor on horseback riding l., raising his r. hand; in l. field, star. C –. RIC –, cf. 501 (Marcian). Gnecci –. Depeyrot –. cf. Tkalek sale 18 February 2002, 271 (these dies).

Of the highest rarity, apparently the second specimen known. A portrait of excellent style and a finely detailed reverse die perfectly struck and centred. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 90'000  
*Ex MDC 11, 2023, 414 sales.*

Theodosius II became the youngest person ever to bear the imperial title when his father, Arcadius, proclaimed him Augustus in AD 402. He had only been born a year before. In 408, Arcadius died, thereby making Theodosius II the sole ruler of the Eastern Roman Empire at the age of seven. Since he was too young to rule in his own right, much authority was given to Anthemius, the Praetorian Prefect, and Theodosius' elder sister, Pulcheria, who served as regent until her brother came of age in 416.

In 421, Theodosius II embarked on a war against the Sasanian Persian Empire under the leadership of Shahanshah Vararanes V, who had been his borders and persecuting the Christian population. Theodosius' generals quickly inflicted a major defeat on the Persians, but they could not press their advantage due to the imminent threat of a Hunnic attack on Constantinople.

In order to prevent attack and the possible plunder of the opulent capital of the Eastern Roman Empire, Theodosius II adopted the policy of regularly buying the Huns off with gold. Annual payments of 350 pounds of gold protection money were made to Rugila, the king of the Huns, in the early 430s, but after his death in 434, his nephews Attila and Bleda increased the yearly tribute to 700 pounds of gold. About a decade later, in 443, Attila further increased the annual gold tribute to a staggering 2,100 pounds on top of an indemnity of 6,000 pounds in 443 after an imperial army tried but failed to defeat the Huns on the Danube frontier. The fact that Theodosius II could keep up with such payments is a testament to the great wealth of the Eastern Empire, but by the time of his death in 450 the imperial coffers were all but empty.

This extremely rare solidus multiple was struck in 437, only a few years after Attila and Bleda made their initial increase in the rate for protection from what it had been under Rugila. Although it ultimately may have been spent on Theodosius' Hunnic problem, the reverse type indicates that it was originally struck as a military donative to celebrate the emperor's arrival in Constantinople. It features a standard late Roman adventus type depicting the emperor on horseback and raising his hand in a gesture of greeting. The nimbus around his head emphasizes the sacred character of the emperor.

In 437, the primary reason for Theodosius' return to Constantinople was the marriage of his daughter Licinia Eudoxia to her cousin, the Western Emperor Valentinian III, whom Theodosius II had placed on the throne at the age of six in 423. The marriage, which took place in Constantinople amid incredible splendor, was a great political coup for Theodosius II, as it established a new dynastic relationship between the rulers of the Eastern and Western Roman Empire, with the Eastern Emperor as the obviously senior partner. Alas, the family ties between East and West were not destined to last. After working together on several abortive attempts to push back the Huns and the Vandals, in 450 Theodosius II died from injuries sustained by a fall from his horse. He was succeeded by Marcian, a domesticus elevated to the throne by Aspar, the influential Alan magister militum. Valentinian III only survived for five more years before being assassinated and replaced by the senator, Petronius Maximus.

**Glycerius, 473 – 474**



1512

- 1512** Temissis, Roma or Ravenna circa 473-474, AV 13 mm, 1.44 g. D N CLYCERI VS F P AVG Pearl-diademed, draped, and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Latin cross pattée within wreath; above, large central jewel and below, COMOB. RIC 3109 (Rome [?]; (this coin illustrated). Depeyrot 38/2 (Ravenna; this coin referenced). Lacam, pl. CXL, 1 = Mazzini 7 (this coin).

Extremely rare. Minor marks, otherwise good very fine / about extremely fine

25'000

*Ex M&M 44, 1971, 205; Sternberg I, 1973, 498; NGSa 8, 2014, 210; Triton XIX, 2016, 686 sales. From the Mazzini collection.*

In 472 the West descended into a state of crisis, for two emperors and the emperor-making general Ricimer all died. Ricimer was seamlessly replaced by his nephew Gundobad, who kept the throne vacant for four months, until he appointed as emperor Glycerius, a man of no particular distinction who had been the last emperor's comes domesticorum. The Eastern emperor Leo I was enraged by this and sent an army to Italy to remove Glycerius, who had been appointed illegally. The expedition was led by Julius Nepos, the magister militum of Dalmatia, who captured Glycerius without a fight on June 19, 474. However, Nepos made the fatal error of sparing Glycerius' life and appointing him bishop of Salona, within his own family's fiefdom. During the course of Nepos' expedition Leo I died, and a struggle for power erupted in the East. Lacking any direction from Constantinople, Nepos claimed the western throne for himself, only to be overthrown about fourteen months later by his magister militum Orestes, who then hailed his own son Romulus Augustus emperor. Nepos fled to Dalmatia, where he continued to rule autonomously until 480, when he was murdered, seemingly at the instigation of Glycerius, who apparently had no gratitude for having been spared six years before. The coinage of Glycerius is quite rare: virtually none of his silver coins survive, and his gold coins seldom come to market. He struck solidi at Ravenna and Milan, and tremisses – the most popular denomination of gold in the West – at Rome, Ravenna, Milan. All of his solidi seem to have been struck in his own name, whereas he appears to have struck tremisses not only in his own name, but also in the name of the eastern emperor Leo.

**Romulus Augustus, 31st October 475 – 4th September 476**



1513

**1513**

Solidus, Mediolanum 475-476, AV 20 mm, 4.42 g. DN ROMVLVS A – GVSTVS P F AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust three-quarters r. facing. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG: Victory standing l., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. In exergue, COMOB. C 5. Lacam 19. LRC 949 var. (AVG ligate). Depeyrot (Roma), 80/1. RIC 3414.

Extremely rare and an attractive specimen of this difficult issue. Minor areas of weakness, otherwise about extremely fine

50'000

*Ex NAC 75, 2013, 400 and NAC 92, 2016, 889 sales*

The later fifth century was a time of nightmare for the Western Roman Empire and indeed for the emperors who had the unenviable task of ruling it in the face of constant barbarian incursions, corrupt administrators, and frequent (often successful) attempts at usurpation. In AD 475, the western emperor Julius Nepos elevated a Pannonian military commander named Orestes to the office of magister militum (master of the soldiers)-the highest military command in the Empire. While he should have been grateful to the emperor for this boon, Orestes instead almost immediately began plotting to overthrow him. On 31 October 475, he proclaimed his teenaged son Romulus as a rival for the throne and seized the imperial capital at Ravenna, forcing Nepos to flee to Dalmatia. Nevertheless, the new emperor, known as Romulus Augustus, was habitually derided by his detractors as Romulus Augustulus ("Little Emperor") due to his youth and his inability to govern. Romulus was really his father's puppet, allowing Orestes to rule in all but name in the Western Empire, which by this time consisted of little more than Italy and parts of Gaul. It was at risk of shrinking still further in 476, when Germanic mercenaries in Roman employ demanded a third of Italy as compensation for their services. Not surprisingly, Orestes refused this demand. He was promptly killed by Odoacer, the leader of the mercenaries and after a battle beneath the walls of Ravenna, Romulus Augustus was captured. Odoacer is said to have taken pity on the hapless youth and spared his life. He instead sent him into exile at an estate in Campania with an annual pension of 6,000 gold solidi. Although Julius Nepos still lived on in Dalmatia, hopelessly plotting his return to power, the removal of Romulus Augustus is usually considered the end of the Western Roman Empire. Following his deposition, his imperial robes were returned to the Eastern Emperor Zeno and the Roman Senate asked that he not appoint a new western emperor, arguing that "one monarch sufficed for the world." Shortly thereafter Odoacer proclaimed himself the first King of Italy.

**Migration of the Germanic Tribes. The Merovingians**



1514



1514

- 1514** Saint-Maurice-d'Agaume. Tremissis, moneyer Romanus, circa 600-620, AV 15 mm, 1.72 g. ΛCAVNO FIT Male head r. Rev. ROMANS MO around wreath enclosing cross on stand, V-II across field. cf. H.-U. Geiger, Die merovingische Münzen in der Schweiz, SNR 58, 1979, 36. cf. Depeyrot II, Type 10-A1, 1. cf. Belfort 20. cf. Prou 1298. cf. HMZ 1-93. cf. Roma Numismatics sale XX, 2020, 720.  
Very rare. Lovely reddish tone and extremely fine 5'000

**The Visigoths**



1515



- 1515** Pseudo-Imperial coinage. In the name of Libius Severus, 461-465. Solidus, uncertain mint in Gaul 461-circa 470, AV 21 mm, 4.17 g. D N IIBIVS SEVE – RVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORI – A AVG,G,G, Emperor standing facing, holding long cross in r. hand and Victory on globe in l.; r. foot on man-headed serpent; in field, R – A and in exergue, COMOB. MEC 1, 174. RIC 3754. cf. NAC sale 138, 2023, 895 (this obverse die)  
Very rare. Minor edge marks, otherwise good very fine 3'500

**The Burgundians. Sigismund, 516-524**



1516



- 1516** Pseudo-Imperial Coinage. In the name of Justin I, 518-527. Solidus, 518-527, AV 20 mm, 4.44 g. DN IVSTI – NVS PP AVC Pearl-diademed, helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, three-quarters r., holding spear and decorated shield with horseman and fallen enemy motif. Rev. VICTOR – I – Λ AVCCIS Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in l. field, star, and in exergue, CONOB. Belfort 5154 (these dies). MEC I, 340 (these dies). Hunter 2 (these dies). cf. NAC sale 106, 2018, 1115 (these dies).  
Extremely rare. Good extremely fine 7'500

**The Byzantine Empire. Mezezius, 668 – 669**



1517

**1517\*** Solidus, Syracuse 668-669, AV 18 mm, 4.5 g. d n MEZEZI-VS PP AVCH (second Z retrograde) Bust facing with short beard and long mustache, wearing cuirass and plumed helmet with frontal cross, holding in r. hand globus cruciger and in l., shield decorated with horseman motif. Rev. VICTORIA – AVCH € Cross potent with base set on three steps; below, CONOB. BMC 54 and pl. XXXVII, 12 (Constantine IV, Carthage). MIB 9 (Constantine IV, Constantinople). DO 71 (Constantine IV, uncertain Balkan mint). Sear 1146.

Extremely rare, apparently only eight specimens known and undoubtedly one of the rarest and most iconic issues of the entire Byzantine series. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 80'000

*Mezezius was an Armenian nobleman of patrician rank in the court of Constans II (641-668) who held the high position of comes obsequium ("Count of the Imperial Retinue") in the emperor's field army. As such, Mezezius accompanied Constans II on his doomed campaign to recapture Italy and Sicily for the Byzantine Empire in 668. After mixed results fighting against the Lombards, alienating Pope Vitalian, and infuriating the Italians with his exactions, while staying in Syracuse, Constans II was murdered in his bath by his chamberlain, who reportedly used a bucket to strike the killing blow.*

*Although Constans' son, Constantine IV, immediately succeeded as emperor in Constantinople, the sudden death of his father left the army without a leader in the West. The gap was filled by Mezezius, apparently at the instigation of the Sicilian bishops, who had opposed Constans' adherence to Monothelism—the view that Christ had only a single will rather than dual human and divine wills, which was later officially condemned by the Eastern and Western Church at the Third Council of Constantinople in 680-681—and who may have had some involvement in the death of Constans II. Whatever the case, Mezezius assumed the imperial title against his will and reigned in Sicily as a rebel emperor for seven months before he was defeated.*

*The end of Mezezius is variously reported in the Greek and Latin chronicles. According to Theophanes the Confessor, Constantine IV personally mounted an invasion of Italy to crush the usurper and avenge his father's death. However, the Liber pontificalis claims that loyalist forces from the exarchates of Ravenna and Africa overthrew and captured Mezezius. He was subsequently executed, and his head was sent to Constantine IV in Constantinople as proof that the Sicilian rebellion was over.*

**Constantine IV, Pogonatus, 668 – 685, and associate rulers Heraclius and Tiberius, Augusti until 681**



1,5:1



1517



1,5:1

- 1518** Solidus, Syracuse 668-673, AV 20 mm, 4.35 g. d N COST – g4 PP A Draped and cuirassed bust facing, wearing crown surmounted by cross and holding globus cruciger. Rev. VICTORA – AVg 4Γ. Cross potent on four steps between the facing figures of Heraclius, on l., and Tiberius, on r., each wearing crown and chlamys, and holding globus cruciger. In exergue, CONOB:.. DO 56a. MIB 31. Sear 1202. Very rare. Minor marks on edge and light marks on reverse, otherwise about extremely fine 2'500





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