

# A U C T I O N

56

8th October 2010

NUMISMATICA ARS CLASSICA NAC AG  
ZÜRICH - LONDON

# **AUCTION 56**

8th October 2010

3:30 PM

## **Late Roman, Byzantine and Medieval Coins**

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**NUMISMATICA ARS CLASSICA NAC AG**

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## Auktionsbedingungen

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1. Die Versteigerung erfolgt in Schweizerfranken. Der Zuschlag erfolgt nach dreimaligem Aufruf an den Höchstbietenden, dessen Gebot vom Auktionator anerkannt wurde und verpflichtet zur Annahme. Der Ausruf erfolgt in der Regel bei 80%, sofern nicht höhere Angebote vorliegen. Schriftliche Gebote haben Vorrang. Jeder Ersteigerer verpflichtet sich persönlich für die durch ihn getätigten Käufe. Er kann nicht geltend machen, für Rechnung Dritter gehandelt zu haben.
2. Telefonische oder schriftliche Bietaufträge (auch auf elektronischem Weg) von nichtanwesenden Interessenten werden bis 24 Stunden vor Auktionsbeginn entgegengenommen. Telefonische Bieter sind damit einverstanden, dass das Gespräch aufgezeichnet werden kann. Das Auktionshaus übernimmt keinerlei Haftung für schriftliche 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 vereinen, zu trennen, ausserhalb der Reihenfolge anzubieten oder wegzulassen bzw. von der Auktion zurückzuziehen.
5. Auf dem Zuschlagpreis ist ein Aufgeld von 17,5% zu entrichten. Die schweizerische Mehrwertsteuer von derzeit 7,6% (ab 1.1.2011 8%) wird auf den Endpreis (Zuschlagspreis plus Aufgeld und auf allen andern vom Auktionshaus dem Käufer in Rechnung gestellten Beträgen) 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 mit Originalstempel des schweizerischen Zolls beibringt.
6. Der Gesamtpreis ist nach erfolgtem Zuschlag fällig und bei der Aushändigung des ersteigerten Objekts in Schweizerwährung zu bezahlen. Für verspätete Zahlungen wird ein Verzugszins von 1% pro Monat in Rechnung gestellt.
7. Versand- und Versicherungskosten erfolgen auf Kosten und Risiko des Empfängers. Im Ausland verrechnete Gebühren und Steuern gehen zulasten des Käufers (Ersteigerers). Diesem obliegt es, sich über ausländische Zoll- und Devisenvorschriften zu informieren. Das Auktionshaus übernimmt keine Haftung für allfällige Zuwiderhandlungen gegen solche Vorschriften.
8. **Das Auktionshaus garantiert vorbehaltlos und zeitlich unbeschränkt für die Echtheit der Münzen.** Alle Angaben im Katalog sind nach bestem Wissen und Gewissen zusammengestellt.
9. Die zur Versteigerung gelangenden Objekte werden für Rechnung Dritter versteigert oder sind Eigentum des Auktionshauses. Der Käufer (Ersteigerer) hat keinen Anspruch auf Bekanntgabe des Einlieferers und ist damit einverstanden, dass das Auktionshaus auch von diesem eine Provision erhält.
10. Die vorstehenden Bedingungen sind Bestandteil eines jeden einzelnen an der Auktion geschlossenen Kaufvertrags. Abänderungen sind nur schriftlich gültig. Sofern Teile dieser Auktionsbedingungen der geltenden Rechtslage nicht mehr oder nicht vollständig entsprechen sollten, bleiben die übrigen Teile in ihrem Inhalt und ihrer Gültigkeit unberührt. Massgebend ist die deutsche Fassung dieser Auktionsbedingungen.
11. Das Vertragsverhältnis zwischen den Parteien untersteht in allen Teilen dem schweizerischen Recht. Erfüllungsort ist am Sitz des Auktionshauses in 8001 Zürich, und ausschliesslicher Gerichtsstand ist Zürich.

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## Conditions of Sale

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

1. Auction bidding is conducted in Swiss Francs. The highest bidder who has been acknowledged by the auctioneer when the hammer falls after the third call has legally bought the lot. Bidding usually begins at 80% of the estimate, provided no higher offers have been submitted. Written bids have priority. The successful bidder has committed himself personally to the purchases made. He cannot claim to have acted on behalf of a third party.
2. Absentee bidders can bid up to 24 hours before the start of the auction by writing, telephone or electronically. Telephone bidders must agree that calls may be recorded. The auction house does not accept liability for bidding mandates made by telephone or in writing.
3. Bidders must show proof of identification before the auction, and subsequently be registered. The Auction House may require a bank reference and/or guarantee. The Auction House reserves the right to deny a person from participating in the auction.
4. The auctioneer may raise or reject a bid without giving a reason, and furthermore reserves the right to combine or split up catalogue lots, or to offer them out of sequence or omit or withdraw them from the auction.
5. A commission of 17.5% will be levied on the hammer price. The Swiss value added tax (VAT) of, at present, 7.6% (8% as of 1.1.2011) is payable on the final price (hammer price, plus buyer's commission and any other amounts chargeable by the Auction House to the buyer). **Gold coins (AV) are exempt from VAT.**  
If the purchases are exported, then the VAT will be refunded on production of a legally valid original export declaration stamped by the Swiss Customs.
6. Payment is in Swiss Francs and is immediately due upon adjudication of the lot. Late payments will incur a monthly default interest of 1%.
7. Shipping and insurance are at the buyer's cost and risk. Any fees and charges payable abroad are borne by the buyer (successful bidder) who is responsible for acquiring the necessary information about any applicable customs and foreign exchange regulations. The Auction House accepts no liability for any contraventions of such regulations.
8. **The Auction House offers an unconditional and unlimited guarantee for the authenticity of coins.** All identifications and descriptions of the items sold in this catalogue are statements of opinion and were made in good faith.
9. The objects which come under the hammer are auctioned on behalf of a third party or are the property of the Auction House. The buyer (successful bidder) has no entitlement to have the identity of the consignor disclosed to them and acknowledges that the Auction House might receive a commission from the consignor for the sale.
10. The above conditions are a component of each individual contract of sale concluded at the auction. Alterations must be made in writing in order to be valid. If any parts of these Terms and Conditions should be no longer or not fully in conformity with the valid legal situation, this shall not affect the content and validity of the remaining parts. The above-mentioned conditions are written in German, French, Italian and English; the only valid text is the German one.
11. The contractual relationship between parties is subject in all facets to Swiss law. Place of performance is the registered office of the Auction House in 8001 Zurich, and the exclusive court of jurisdiction is Zurich.

## Conditions de la vente aux enchères

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

1. Les enchères sont effectuées en Francs Suisses. L'adjudication est réalisée après trois appels consécutifs du plus offrant dont l'offre a été acceptée par le commissaire priseur et qui constitue une obligation. La mise à prix est effectuée en règle générale à 80 %, dans la mesure où il n'y a pas d'offres disponibles et plus élevées. Les offres formulées par écrit sont prioritaires. Chaque enchérisseur s'engage personnellement en ce qui concerne les acquisitions réalisées par ses soins. Il ne peut pas faire valoir le fait d'avoir agi pour le compte d'une tierce personne.
2. Les demandes d'enchères par téléphone ou par écrit (également par moyen électronique) pour les personnes intéressées et non présentes sont réceptionnées jusqu'à 24 heures avant le début de la vente aux enchères. Les enchérisseurs par téléphone acceptent que la communication téléphonique puisse être enregistrée. La salle des ventes n'assume aucune responsabilité quant aux enchères effectuées par téléphone 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. Un supplément de 17,5 % au prix d'adjudication. La taxe à la valeur ajoutée suisse actuellement d'un montant de 7,6 % (et de 8 % à compter du 1er janvier 2011) sera perçue sur le prix définitif (prix d'adjudication plus supplément et sur tous les autres montants facturés à l'acquéreur par la salle des ventes). **Les pièces de monnaie en or (AV) sont dispensées de la TVA.**  
En cas d'exportation de l'objet adjugé vers l'étranger, l'acquéreur se voit restituer la TVA lorsqu'il est en mesure de présenter une déclaration d'exportation réglementaire, en bonne et due forme, revêtu du cachet original des autorités douanières suisses.
6. Le prix total est exigible après application du supplément et doit être acquitté en devises suisses lors de la remise de l'objet adjugé. Pour les paiements effectués ultérieurement, une pénalité de retard de 1 % par mois sera facturée.
7. Les frais d'envoi et d'assurance sont à charge et au risque de l'acheteur. Les taxes ou les impôts facturés à l'étranger sont à la charge de l'acquéreur (enchérisseur). Il lui incombe de s'informer au sujet des directives étrangères en matière de douane et de devises. La salle des ventes décline toute responsabilité pour les éventuelles infractions à l'encontre de ces directives.
8. **La salle des ventes garantit l'authenticité des monnaies sans réserve et sans limitation dans le temps.** Toutes les indications mentionnées dans le catalogue sont rassemblées en toute conscience et en toute bonne foi.
9. Les objets mis aux enchères le sont pour le compte de tierces personnes ou bien sont la propriété de la salle des ventes. L'acquéreur (enchérisseur) n'a aucun droit d'obtenir communication du nom de la personne qui met en vente et se déclare en accord avec le fait que la salle des ventes perçoive une provision de cette dernière.
10. Les présentes conditions font partie intégrante de tout contrat de vente conclu dans le cadre de la vente aux enchères. Les modifications ne sont valables que par écrit. Le fait que des parties des présentes conditions de vente aux enchères venaient à ne plus correspondre, ou du moins plus intégralement, à la situation juridique en vigueur, n'affecte en rien les autres parties, ni dans leur contenu, ni dans leur validité. La version en langue allemande constitue la référence des présentes conditions de vente aux enchères.
11. La relation contractuelle entre les parties en cause est soumise, dans toutes ses composantes, au droit Suisse. La compétence juridique est fixée au siège de la salle des ventes à 8001 Zurich, et le for juridique exclusif est Zurich.

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## Condizioni di vendita

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

1. La valuta in cui viene condotta l'asta è il Franco Svizzero. L'aggiudicazione al miglior offerente, individuato dal banditore, avviene dopo la terza chiamata e comporta per l'aggiudicatario l'acquisto con tutti i relativi obblighi di legge. Le offerte partono generalmente dall'80% del prezzo di stima a meno che una o più offerte d'importo maggiore siano state presentate. Le offerte scritte hanno la precedenza. Il partecipante all'asta è personalmente responsabile per l'acquisto effettuato e non può pretendere di avere agito per conto di terzi.
2. I partecipanti all'asta non presenti in sala possono presentare offerte telefonicamente, in forma scritta o per via elettronica fino a 24 ore dell'inizio dell'asta. Chi trasmette la propria offerta telefonicamente presta il proprio consenso all'eventuale registrazione della telefonata. La casa d'asta non assume alcun tipo di responsabilità per le offerte trasmesse in forma scritta o telefonica.
3. I partecipanti, per concorrere all'asta, dovranno esibire un documento d'identità. La casa d'asta si riserva il diritto di richiedere referenze bancarie o un deposito cauzionale per permettere la partecipazione all'asta. La casa d'asta si riserva inoltre il diritto di non permettere a un soggetto la partecipazione all'asta.
4. Il banditore d'asta ha facoltà di aumentare o rifiutare un'offerta secondo la propria discrezionalità e senza necessità di fornire una motivazione. Il banditore si riserva inoltre il diritto di unire, separare, cambiare la sequenza prevista o di eliminare e/o ritirare dall'asta determinati lotti.
5. Al prezzo d'aggiudicazione va aggiunta una commissione del 17,5%. L'imposta svizzera sul valore aggiunto, pari attualmente al 7,6% (ed all'8% a partire dall'1/1/2011), viene applicata sul prezzo finale (prezzo d'aggiudicazione più commissione ed ogni altro importo imputabile al compratore dalla casa d'aste). **Le monete in oro (AV) sono esonerate dal pagamento dell'IVA.**  
In caso d'esportazione dell'oggetto acquistato all'asta verso un paese estero, il compratore ha diritto al rimborso dell'IVA dietro consegna di una valida dichiarazione d'esportazione e corredata da timbro originale dell'ufficio doganale della Confederazione Elvetica.
6. Il pagamento è immediatamente dovuto in franchi svizzeri. In caso di ritardato pagamento, il tasso d'interesse moratorio applicabile è pari all'1% mensile.
7. I costi ed il rischio della spedizione sono a carico del destinatario. Qualunque imposta e contributo legalmente dovuto nel paese d'esportazione è a carico dell'acquirente (compratore in sede d'asta) su cui ricade la responsabilità per la conoscenza delle norme vigenti in materia doganale e di valuta. La casa d'aste non assume alcuna responsabilità per l'eventuale violazione di tali prescrizioni.
8. **La casa d'asta offre una garanzia incondizionata e senza riserva di tempo sull'autenticità delle monete.** Le indicazioni e descrizioni contenute nel catalogo sono opinioni soggettive e sono espresse in buona fede.
9. Gli oggetti offerti vengono messi all'asta per conto di terzi o sono di proprietà della casa d'asta. L'acquirente (compratore in sede d'asta) non ha il diritto di conoscere l'identità del consegnatario dell'oggetto e prende atto che alla casa d'asta potrebbe venire corrisposta dal consegnatario una commissione per la vendita.
10. Le condizioni sopra menzionate costituiscono parte integrante di ciascun contratto individuale di vendita concluso nell'asta. Eventuali modifiche saranno ritenute valide solo se fatte in forma scritta. Nel caso in cui una parte delle presenti Condizioni di Vendita dovesse essere non più totalmente conforme alla vigenti disposizioni di legge, cioè non avrà effetto sulla validità delle parti restanti. L'unica versione di queste Condizioni di Vendita che ha valore legale è quella in lingua tedesca.
11. Il rapporto contrattuale fra le parti è regolato in tutti i suoi aspetti dal diritto della Confederazione Elvetica. Il luogo d'adempimento è la sede della casa d'aste a Zurigo (8001). Il foro competente è esclusivamente quello di Zurigo.

**TIME TABLE ZEITTADEL ORDRE DE VENTE ORDINE DI VENDITA**

**Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> October 2010 15.00 – 18.30 hrs 476 – 1030**

**EXHIBITIONS AUSSTELLUNG EXPOSITION ESPOSIZIONI**

**London**

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**30<sup>th</sup> August – 24<sup>th</sup> September**

**from Monday to Friday 9.30 – 17.30 hrs  
and Saturday - Sunday by appointment only**

**At our premises**

**Zurich**

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**7<sup>th</sup> October**

**9.30 – 18.30**

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

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

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

<b>Gradi di conservazione</b>	<b>Grades of preservation</b>	<b>Erhaltungsgrad</b>	<b>Degrés de conservation</b>	<b>Grados de Conservación</b>
Fdc Fior di conio	Fdc Uncirculated	Stempelglanz	Fleur de coin (FDC)	FDC
Sp1 Splendido	Extremely fine	Vorzüglich	Superbe	EBC
BB Bellissimo	Very fine	Sehr schön	Très beau	MBC
MB Molto bello	Fine	Schön	Beau	BC



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PdA	F. Poey d'Avant. Monnaies Féodales de France. 3 Vols. Paris 1858.
Pohl	A. Pohl. Ungarische Goldgulden des Mittelalters (1325-1540). Graz 1974.
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SBCB	Seaby Standard Catalogue of British Coins. London. Annually.
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## Late Roman Empire

The mint is Rome unless otherwise stated

### Valentinian I, 364 – 375



476



476

- 476 Solidus, Thessalonica 364-367, AV 4.43 g. D N VALENTINI – ANVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed bust l., wearing Imperial mantle and holding *mappa* and short sceptre. Rev. SALVS REIP Emperor standing facing, head r., holding *labarum* with Christogram and Victory on globe, spurning captive kneeling l., head reverted; in r. field, two stars. In exergue, SMTES. C 32. RIC 3a. Depeyrot 31/1.

Rare. An interesting portrait, minor marks, otherwise extremely fine / about extremely fine 3'000

### Valens, 364 – 378



477



477

- 477 Solidus, Constantinopolis 367-375, AV 4.45 g. D N VALENS – P F AVG Rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. RESTITVTOR – REIPVBLICAE Emperor standing facing, head r., holding *labarum* with cross in r. hand and Victory on globe in l.; in exergue, \*CONS wreath. C 34. RIC 25b. Depeyrot 21/2.

Light marks on obverse and graffiti on reverse, otherwise about extremely fine / good very fine 600

### Valentinian II, 375 – 392



478



478

- 478 Solidus, Treveri August 388-May 392, AV 4.46 g. D N VALENTINI – ANVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTOR – IA AVGG Two emperors seated facing, holding globe together between them; above, Victory facing with spread wings. In lower central field, below, palm branch. At sides, T – R and in exergue, COM. C 37. RIC 90a. Depeyrot 53/1.

Good extremely fine 2'000

Theodosius I, 379 – 395



- 479 Solidus, Mediolanum 383-387, AV 4.46 g. DN THEODO – SIVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTOR – IA AVGG Two emperors, nimbate, seated facing holding globe together between them; the one on r. holds a *mappa* in l. hand. In field above, Victory facing with spread wings. Below, a palm branch surmounted by a star. At sides, M – D and in exergue, COM.  
An apparently unrecorded variety (palm branch surmounted by star).  
Minor marks, otherwise extremely fine 1'500

Aelia Flaccilla, wife of Theodosius I



- 480 Solidus, Constantinopolis 383-388, AV 4.50 g. AEL FLAC – CILLA AVG Draped bust r., with elaborate headdress, necklace and mantle. Rev. SALVS REI – PVBLICAE H Victory seated r. on throne, inscribing Christogram on shield set on small column; in exergue, CONOB. C 1 var. RIC 72. Depeyrot 40/1.  
Extremely rare. Almost invisible graffito on obverse field, otherwise extremely fine 30'000

Ex Sternberg XV, 1985, 792, Spink 13 April 2000, Dreesman, 265 and NAC 27, 2004, 524 sales.

Like her husband, the emperor Theodosius, Aelia Flaccilla was born to a good family in Spain, and when she married in about 376 it may never have occurred to her that Theodosius' career would draw her far from her homeland. After a year or less of marriage Flaccilla gave birth to her first son, Arcadius, and about six years later (long after she had moved to Constantinople and been hailed Augusta) to her second son, Honorius. Throughout her life – even as an empress – she bore a reputation for her piety and her generosity to the poor. Her coins were the first struck for an empress since the 330s and they reinstated the practice, which soon took an especially firm hold in the East. On her coins it is easy to see the iconographic connection to earlier issues of Fausta, Helena and Theodora, and to observe how they influenced future empress coinages. Additionally, her name Aelia, which is abbreviated AEL on her coin inscriptions, apparently was assumed to have been part of her title, for it was adopted as a title by later Augustae

### Magnus Maximus, 383 – 388



481



481

- 481 Solidus, Treveri 383-388, AV 4.43 g. D N MAG MA – XIMVS P F AVG Rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. RESTITVTOR – REI PVBLICAE Emperor standing facing, head r., holding *labarum* with Christogram and Victory on globe; in l. field, star. In exergue, SMTR. C 4. RIC 76. Depeyrot 50/1.

Very rare. A light scuff on obverse and several minor marks, otherwise about extremely fine

4'000

### Arcadius, 383 – 408



482



482

- 482 Solidus, Constantinopolis 19 January-10 October 383, AV 4.53 g. D N ARCADI – VS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed childlike bust r. Rev. CONCORDI – A AVGGGG Z Constantinopolis seated facing, head r., holding long sceptre in r. hand and globe in l.; r. foot on globe. In exergue, CONOB. RIC 47c var. (this officina unrecorded). Depeyrot 38/6. LRC – . Very rare. Extremely fine 2'500

Ex Leu-NAC sale 26 May 1993, 1.

### Aelia Eudoxia, wife of Arcadius



483



483

- 483 Solidus, Constantinopolis 402-403, AV 4.41 g. AEL EVDO – XIA AVG Pearl-diademed and draped bust r., wearing necklace and earrings, crowned by the hand of God. Rev. SALVS REI – PVBLICAE E Victory seated r. on cuirass, supporting on her l. knee a shield inscribed with single-lined Christogram to which she points. In exergue, CONOB. RIC Arcadius 28 var. (shield behind cuirass). LRC 273 var. (shield behind cuirass). Depeyrot 36/1. NAC sale 31, 2006, 109.

An exceedingly rare variety, apparently only the second specimen known, of a very rare type.

Light marks, otherwise about extremely fine

7'000

The daughter of Bauto the Frank, a general and consul under Valentinian I, Aelia Eudoxia was married to Arcadius with the help of the court eunuch Eutropius. Her position was one of great power, and she used it to dominate palace politics as well as her weak husband. A very pious woman who often argued with the Church's leadership, Eudoxia gave birth to five children, among them the future emperor Theodosius II, and the chaste empress Aelia Pulcheria, wife of the future emperor Marcian. After only a decade of marriage and deep involvement in court affairs, Eudoxia died in the midst of a miscarriage in October, 404.

Eugenius, 392 – 394



- 484 Solidus, Lugdunum 392–394, AV 4.46 g. D N EVGENI – VS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTOR – IA AVGG Two emperors, nimbate, seated facing on throne; the emperor on r. holding *mappa* and the two together holding globe. Above, Victory facing with spread wings; below, palm branch. In outer field I. and r., L – D; in exergue, COM. C 6. RIC 45. Depeyrot 18/1. Bastien 229.  
Extremely rare. A very attractive portrait, minor edge marks, otherwise about extremely fine 25'000

History records little of Eugenius, a professor of Latin and rhetoric who gave up teaching to occupy the throne of the Western Roman Empire for two years and a few days. The very fact that he was not qualified to be emperor made him the perfect candidate, for the Frankish general Arbogast wanted him as a puppet. It was a perfect follow-up to his murder of Valentinian II – the young Western emperor whom Theodosius had entrusted to Arbogast's regency. Afterwards the throne remained vacant for three months as Arbogast sought a replacement. Although only Theodosius I, the senior reigning emperor in the East, had the constitutional right to appoint the next emperor in the west, this did not deter Arbogast, who was firmly in control of the West. The elevation of Eugenius was of value to Arbogast on some level, for the old professor was not prone to religious fanaticism, and (as his bearded effigy attests) he was tolerant of pagans. When the army backing Eugenius seized Italy in 393, Theodosius responded with a campaign of his own, and routed them in September, 394. In the aftermath Eugenius was executed and the former Master of Infantry, Arbogast, was driven to flight and soon took his own life. During the six months between the defeat of Eugenius and Theodosius' natural death in January of 395, he remained in Milan and from there ruled over a united empire. Unity occurred on only two occasions after the empire had been divided by Valentinian I and Valens in 364, both of which were equally as brief and transient. With the death of Theodosius the temporary unity of east and west ceased, and the empires entered a period of great unrest under his two incompetent sons, Arcadius and Honorius, who promptly divided the empire between themselves.



- 485 Tremissis, Mediolanum spring 393-6 September 394, AV 1.45 g. D N EVGENI – VS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGVSTORVM Victory advancing l., holding wreath and palm; in field, M – D and in exergue, COM. C 10. RIC 4. Depeyrot 11/2. Ulrich-Bansa pl. V, 44.  
Extremely rare. A magnificent portrait of fine style, about extremely fine 12'000

### Constantine III, 407 – 411



486



486

- 486 Solidus, Treveri 408-411, AV 4.46 g. D N CONSTAN – TINVS P F AVG Rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORI – AA AVGGG Emperor standing r., holding standard in r. hand and Victory on globe in l., spurning captive with his l. foot; in exergue, TROBS. C 5. RIC 1515. LRC 796. Depyrot 57/2.

Very rare and in unusually fine condition for this difficult issue. Minor edge marks,  
otherwise extremely fine / about extremely fine 8'000

Constantine III, a general of obscure origins but considerable talent, was proclaimed emperor in Britain in 407 by his soldiers following the assassinations of the usurpers Marcus and Gratianus (neither of whom issued coins). He led his troops across the Channel into Gaul, where his authority was swiftly accepted locally, but was opposed by the reigning Western emperor Honorius, who sent his general Sarus from Italy to harass his defences. After initial setbacks, Constantine gained the upper hand and occupied all of Gaul up to the Alps, establishing his base at Arles. At its greatest extent, the territories controlled by Constantine included all of Western Europe, from Britain in the North and Spain in the South. Soon, however, his grip began to loosen. First Britain rose in revolt, and then Gerontius, Constantine's own *magister militum*, whom he had sent to Spain to quell another revolt, ended up turning against him. His fate was sealed in 411 when Honorius sent a general by the name of Constantius (the future emperor Constantius III) to defeat him. Although he had taken refuge in a church and was ordained before surrendering, the former rebel was murdered in captivity and his head sent to Ravenna where it was exhibited for some time.

### Priscus Attalus, 409 – 410



487



- 487 Solidus 409-410. AV 4.46 g. IMP PRIS AT – TALVS P F 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. Depyrot 39/1.

Exceedingly rare and among the finest specimens known.

Well struck on a full flan and extremely fine 100'000

Ex Rauch sale 82, 2008, 662 (illustrated on the cover page).

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 baptised before he could be crowned.

In the following year, 410, Alaric led part of his army north to challenge Honorius in Ravenna, however 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 to 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**



- 488 Solidus, Treveri 411-413, AV 4.49 g. D N IOVIN – V S 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. In exergue, COMOB. C 1. RIC 1708. LRC –. Depeyrot 59/1. Extremely rare and in fine condition for this difficult issue. An insignificant edge mark at ten o'clock on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine 60'000

Ex Hirsch 24, 1909, Consul Weber, 2815; M&M 93, 2003, Bally-Herzog, 305 and Helios 1, 2008, 623 sales.

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.

**Theodosius II, 402 – 450**



- 489 Solidus, Thessalonica circa 402-403, AV 4.43 g. D N THEODO – SIVS P F AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. CONCORDI – A AVGGG Constantinopolis, helmeted, enthroned facing, with head r., holding sceptre and Victory on globe, r. foot on prow. In exergue, COMOB. RIC Arcadius 41. LRC 298. Depeyrot 45/3. Rare. Extremely fine 1'500
- 490 Solidus, Constantinopolis 408-420, AV 4.47 g. D N THEODO – SIVS P F AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. CONCORDI – A AVGG Z Constantinopolis, helmeted, seated facing, head r., on throne, holding sceptre and Victory on globe, r. foot on prow. In exergue, CONOB. RIC 202. MIRB 12b. LRC 313 (this officina unlisted). Depeyrot 57/2. Insignificant die break at 12 o'clock on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine / extremely fine 600



491



491



- 491 Solidus, Constantinopolis 441-450, AV 4.46 g. D N THEODOSI – VS P F AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. IMP XXXXII COS – XVII P P Constantinopolis, helmeted, seated l. on throne, holding *globus cruciger*, l. foot on prow and shield at side of seat. In l. field, star. RIC 323. MIRB 33aa. LRC 410. Depeyrot 84/1. Ex Lanz sale 125, 2005, 1183. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 900

### Aelia Eudocia, wife of Theodosius II



492



493



- 492 Tremissis, Constantinopolis 423-442, AV 1.45 g. AEL EVDO – CIA AVG Pearl-diademed and draped bust r., wearing pearl necklace. Rev. Cross within wreath; in exergue, CONOB \*. RIC 253fn (these dies). MIRB Theodosius II, 50. LRC 461. Depeyrot 72/2. Extremely fine 1'200
- 493 Tremissis, Constantinopolis 423-442, AV 1.43 g. AEL EVDO – CIA AVG Pearl-diademed and draped bust r., wearing pearl necklace. Rev. Cross within wreath; in exergue, CONOB \*. RIC 253. MIRB Theodosius II 50. LRC 462. Depeyrot 72/2. About extremely fine 1'000

### Galla Placidia, mother of Valentinian III



494



- 494 Solidus, 425-426, AV 4.29 g. D N GALLA PLA – CIDIA P F AVG Pearl-diademed and draped bust r., wearing necklace and crowned above by the hand of God; Christogram on shoulder. Rev. VOT XX – MVLT XXX R – M Victory standing l., supporting long jewelled cross; in upper field, star. In exergue, COMOB. C 16. RIC Valentinian III 2007. LRC 826. Depeyrot 49/2. Almost invisible pinhole at shoulder on obverse field, otherwise about extremely fine 4'500

EX CNG sale 72, 2006, 1909. From the Marc Poncin collection.



495



495

- 495 Solidus, Ravenna 426-430, AV 4.43 g. D N GALLA PLA – CIDIA P F AVG Pearl-diademed and draped bust r., wearing necklace and crowned above by the hand of God; Christogram on shoulder. Rev. VOT XX – MVLT XXX R – V Victory standing l., supporting long jewelled cross; in upper field, star. In exergue, COMOB. C 13. RIC Valentinian 2012. LRC 826. Depeyrot 13/2. Ranieri 73. Extremely fine 6'000

Valentinian III, 425 – 455



496



496

- 496 Solidus, Ravenna circa 430-445, AV 4.33 g. D N PLA VALENTI – NIANVS P F AVG R Rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG Emperor standing facing, holding long cross and Victory on globe, foot on man-headed serpent; in field, R – V. In exergue, COMOB. C 19. RIC 2018. LRC 841. Depeyrot 17/1. Ranieri 98. Extremely fine 900



497



497

- 497 Solidus, Mediolanum circa 430-455, AV 4.42 g. D N PLA VALENTI – NIANVS P F AVG R Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG Emperor standing facing, holding long cross and Victory on globe, foot on man-headed serpent; in field, M – D. In exergue, COMOB. C 19. RIC 2026. Depeyrot 20/1. LRC –. Ulrich Bansa 91. A very rare variety. Extremely fine 1'000



498



498

- 498 Tremissis, Mediolanum circa 430-455, AV 1.42 g. D N PLA VALENTINIANVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Cross within wreath; in exergue, COMOB. C 49. RIC 2029. LRC 845 (Ravenna). Depeyrot 21/1. Ulrich-Bansa pl. 10, 94. Very rare. Flan crack at two o'clock on obverse, otherwise extremely fine 900

Ex Münzhandlung Basel 6, 1936, Prinz Waldeck, 2097 and Lanz 141, 2008, 857 sales.



499



499

- 499 Solidus 435, AV 4.46 g. D N PLA VALENTI – NIANVS P F AVG Rosette and pearl-diademed bust l., holding *mappa* and long cross. Rev. VOT X – MVLT XX Emperor in consular robes, seated on throne, holding *mappa* and cross sceptre; in field, R – M. In exergue, CONOB. C 41. RIC 2034. LRC 856. Depeyrot 42/1. Very rare. Area of weakness on reverse, otherwise about extremely fine / good very fine 4'000

Ex Triton sale XI, 2008, 1042

**Justa Gratia Honoria, sister of Valentinian III**



500



500

500 Solidus, Ravenna circa 430-449, AV 4.50 g. D N IVST GRATHO – NORIA P F AVG Pearl-diademed and draped bust r., cross on shoulder, crowned above by the hand of God. Rev. BONO – REIPUBLICAE R – V Victory standing l., supporting long jewelled cross; in upper field, star. In exergue, COMOB. C 1. RIC 2022. LRC 866. Depeyrot 15/1. Ranieri 87.

Rare. Light graffito in obverse field, otherwise almost extremely fine 12'500

Ex Tkalec 9 May 2005, 399 and CNG 72, 2006, 1928 sales.

**Marcian, 450 – 457**



501



501

501 Solidus, Constantinopolis 450 or 450-457, AV 4.49 g. D N MARCIA – NVS P F AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGGΘ Victory standing l., supporting long jewelled cross; in r. field, star. In exergue, CONOB. RIC 510. MIRB 5b. LRC 477 (this officina unlisted). Depeyrot 87/1.

An unobtrusive mark on cheek, otherwise extremely fine 750



502



502 Tremissis, Constantinopolis 450-457, AV 1.40 g. D N MARCIA – NVS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVGVSTORVM Victory advancing r., looking back, holding wreath and *globus cruciger*; in r. field, star and in exergue, CONOB. RIC 520. MIRB 13. LRC 487. Depeyrot 87/5.

Rare in this superb state of preservation. Good extremely fine 1'200

Leo I, 457 – 474



503



503

- 503 Solidus, Constantinopolis circa 462 or 466, AV 4.50 g. D N LEO PE – RPET AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGΓ Victory standing l., supporting long jewelled cross; in r. field, star and in exergue, CONOB. RIC 605. MIRB 3b. Depeyrot 93/1. LRC 518.

Some roughness on chin, otherwise good extremely fine

900



504



- 504 Solidus, Constantinopolis circa 462 or 466, AV 4.42 g. D N LEO PE – RPET AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGH Victory standing l., supporting long jewelled cross; in r. field, star and in exergue, CONOB. RIC 605. MIRB 3b. Depeyrot 93/1. LRC 518. Good extremely fine

600



505



505

- 505 Tremissis, Constantinopolis circa 462 or 466, AV 1.48 g. D N LEO PE – RPET AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVGVSTORV – I Victory advancing r., looking back, holding wreath and *globus cruciger*; in r. field, star and in exergue, CONOB. RIC 611. MIRB 7. Depeyrot 93/3. LRC 544.

Extremely fine

500



506



506

- 506 Tremissis, Constantinopolis circa 462 or 466, AV 1.48 g. D N LEO PE – RPET AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVGVSTORVM Victory advancing r., looking back, holding wreath and *globus cruciger*; in r. field, star and in exergue, CONOB. RIC 611. MIRB 7. Depeyrot 93/3. LRC 540.

Extremely fine

450

**Ricimer magister militum, 457 - 472**



- 507 Solidus circa 461-467, AV 4.39 g. D N LEO PERPE – TVVS AVG ] Rosette and pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rv. VICTORI – A AVGGG Emperor standing facing, holding long cross and Victory on globe, foot on man-headed serpent; in field, R – M and in exergue, COMOB. RIC 2518. Depeyrot 52/2. LRC 587. Lacam 5 (this reverse die).  
Extremely rare. Minor area of weakness on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine 8'000

Ex Triton sale XI, 2008, 1049.

After the fall of the Valentinian Dynasty in 455, the reigns of emperors in the Western Roman Empire were fragile, with none lasting more than five years. One feature that did not change, however, was the towering influence of the *magistri militum*, who were the true power behind the throne. Their names – Gundobad, Arbogast, Ricimer, Orestes and Stilicho – reveal their 'barbarian' origins. Fearsome and effective, they were a double-edged sword for the emperor: defender of the empire and rival.

Most remarkable of these men was Ricimer, the part Suevian, part Visigothic master of soldiers who 'ruled' the West from 456 to 472. Not only did he wield power behind the scene in the usual ways, but he overtly interfered with imperial politics by appointing and deposing emperors.

The 17-to-20-month period between the death of Libius Severus in the fall of 465 and the arrival of Anthemius to Italy in April, 467 was the most brazen time of Ricimer's life, for he prevented the appointment of any emperor in the West. Indeed, he only conceded to Anthemius, the candidate backed by the Eastern emperor Leo I, when he arrived at the head of an army and offered his daughter's hand in marriage as a concession.

Kent attributes to that interregnum this solidus of Rome (along with other gold and silver coins from Rome, Ravenna and Milan), yet not all authorities accept his precision. Depeyrot attributes them to the reign of Libius Severus (461-465) and Grierson and Mays prefer a broader period, 457-467, noting that the close resemblance of the bust of Leo to that of Libius Severus suggests that most belong to his reign.

Lacam distributes these solidi between Libius Severus' reign and the interregnum that followed. This solidus shares the reverse die of the example Lacam illustrates (pl.22, R5, no. 5) for the interregnum, yet that same reverse die was used to strike a solidus that he places under Libius Severus (pl. 20, R4, no. 96). The portrait die, with its wide-staring eye fits either of Lacam's groupings, though the decoration of the bust clearly favours the solidi he places under Libius Severus.

Whether struck under Libius Severus or during the subsequent interregnum, this solidus is essentially a product of Ricimer, for during his puppet reign, Severus was scarcely in command. Conclusive evidence of Ricimer's involvement in the coinage is found in a group of *nummi minimi* (AE4s) with the monogram of Ricimer, which most authorities agree belong to the interregnum period, though they perhaps started under Libius Severus.

**Aelia Verina, wife of Leo I**



- 508 Tremissis, Constantinopolis 462 or 466, AV 1.49 g. AEL YERI – NA AVG Pearl-diademed and draped bust r. Rev. Cross within wreath; in exergue, CONOB\*. RIC 614. MIRB 10. LRC 595. Depeyrot 96/1.  
Extremely rare and in exceptional condition for this difficult issue. Extremely fine 6'000



509



509

- 509 Solidus, Constantinopolis 471 or 473, AV 4.46 g. AEL VERI – NA AVG Pearl-diademed and draped bust r., wearing necklace and earrings, crowned by the hand of God. Rev. VICTOR – IA AVGGG Victory standing l., supporting long jewelled cross; in r. field, star. In exergue, CONOB. RIC 632. MIRB 4a. LRC 593 var. Depeyrot 93/2. Very rare. A very attractive portrait, light traces of edge filing, otherwise extremely fine / about extremely fine 25'000

Ex Ars Classica XI, 1915, 1928 and Leu 77, 2000, 766 sales. From the Victor Adda and H.C. Levis collections.

As the wife of Leo I and the mother-in-law of his successor Zeno, Aelia Verina held the title of Augusta for nearly the last three decades of her life. We have relatively detailed accounts of her machinations from 474 onward, and considering all of the power plays being made at court during Leo's reign, we might presume she was deeply involved in the intrigues.

When her husband Leo I was ailing in 473, Verina helped arrange his adoption of their six-year-old grandson, Leo II, as successor rather than their son-in-law Zeno, a healthy man in his mid-30s with significant military experience. Despite his ideal qualifications, Zeno was not well liked, a feeling that Leo and Verina must have shared. The child Leo II was first raised to Caesar in October, 473, and finally to Augustus in January, 474, less than a month before his grandfather died.

The saga continued when the already fragile health of Leo II began to fail and it was necessary on February 9, 474, to have the boy proclaim his own father, Zeno, his co-emperor. When Leo II died in November, the cause of his demise must have been the fodder of palace gossip. Zeno was now sole emperor, and this displeased his mother-in-law Verina so much that she caused a false rumour to be spread of an impending palace coup, upon which she recommended that Zeno and Ariadne flee Constantinople for their own safety.

Verina now hoped to get her lover, the magister officorum Patricius, installed as emperor, but she met unexpected resistance in the senate which instead hailed emperor her brother Basiliscus. Thus, after her initial plot against her son-in-law, Verina now plotted against her brother, who responded by executing her lover Patricius. Once again, Roman history proves truth is stranger than fiction.

The old empress was forced into hiding as she worked for the return of Zeno as the lesser of two evils. Once Zeno recovered his throne from Basiliscus, Verina still devoted the rest of her life to undermining Zeno, which resulted in her exile to a fortress in the wilds of Isauria. Two of her counter-revolutionary efforts included backing a coup in 479 in the name of her other son-in-law, an ambitious young nobleman named Marcian, and her support of the rebellion of Leontius in 484.

Verina's coins are rare today, but they must have been issued in some quantity at the time. Her solidi, tremisses and Æ2s all bear her profile portrait, and she is also portrayed on some of Leo's smallest bronzes as a standing figure flanked by the letters bE, representing the Greek version of her name, Berina.

### Majorian, 457 – 461



510



- 510 Solidus, Arelate "Comitatesian mint" 457-461, AV 4.46 g. D N IVLIVS MAIORI – ANVS P F AVG' Helmeted, diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r., holding spear pointing forward and shield bearing Christogram on l. arm. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG Emperor standing facing, holding long cross in r. hand and Victory on globe in l.; resting l. foot on man-headed serpent. In field, A – R and in exergue, COMOB. C I. RIC 2632. LRC 884. Depeyrot 25/1. Lacam 26.

Very rare and among the finest specimens known. Unusually well struck on both obverse and reverse, good extremely fine

18'000

Ex H.D. Rauch sale 82, 2008, 667 (illustrated on the cover page).

**Libius Severus, 461 – 465**



511



511

- 511 Tremissis 462, AV 1.48 g. D N LIB SEVE – RVSP F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Cross within wreath; below, COMOB. C 19. RIC 2709. LRC 897. Lacam pl. 18, 67. Depeyrot 55/5. Very rare. Lovely reddish tone, minor area of weakness on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 6'500

Ex NAC sale 42, 2007, Feirstein part II, 257.

**Anthemius, 467 – 472**



512



- 512 Solidus, "Court style" 468, AV 4.34 g. D N ANTHE – MIVS P F AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. SALVS R – EI P – VB LICAE Two emperors, in military attire, standing facing, holding spears and supporting a globe surmounted by a cross between them; in centre field, Christogram with dot above. In exergue, CORMOB. C 7. RIC 2823fn. LRC 917 var. (no dot). Lacam p. 461, var. 1 and pl. CXIX var. 1 (this coin). Depeyrot 61/1 var. (no dot).

An extremely rare variety of a rare type. Well struck and centred on a large flan, good extremely fine

7'500

Ex Lanz sale 141, 2008, 862. From the Ulrich Bansa collection.

**Leo I and Leo II, 473 – 474**



513



- 513 Solidus, Constantinopolis 473-474, AV 4.47 g. D N LEO PE – RPET AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. SALVS REI – RVBLICAE (*sic!*) C Leo I and Leo II, both nimbate and seated facing on throne; between them cross and above, star. In exergue, CONOB. RIC 637. MIRB 12a. LRC 533. Depeyrot 92/1. Very rare. Well struck and centred on a large flan, good extremely fine 9'000

Ex NFA XVIII, 1987, Lacam 613; Leu 13, 1975, 555 and Stack's 12 January 2009, MIRB 3037 sales.

**Julius Nepos first reign, 474 – 475**



514



514

- 514 Tremissis, Mediolanum 474-475, AV 1.40 g. D N IVL NE – POS P F AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Cross within wreath; in exergue, CONOB. C 18. RIC 3221. LRC 955. Depeyrot 43/1. Lacam 85. Ulrich-Bansa 169.

Rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Reddish tone, minor mark on obverse field, otherwise about extremely fine 4'500

Ex Schulman 1938, 528; M&M 38, 1968, Voirol, 657 and Sternberg 1, 1973, 499 sales.

**Romulus Augustus, 475 – 476**



515



515

- 515 Solidus, Mediolanum 475-476, AV 4.41 g. DN ROMVLVS A – GVSTVS P F AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG: Victory standing l., supporting long jewelled cross; in r. field, star. In exergue, COMOB. C 5. RIC 3416. Lacam 17. LRC 949 var. Depeyrot (Roma) 80/1.

Very rare. Struck on a very broad flan and complete, very fine 30'000

Ex M&M 44, 1971, 209 and Sternberg 1, 1973, 500 sales.

The last legitimate ruler of the Western Roman Empire was Julius Nepos, who remained the constitutional emperor in absentia from his base in Dalmatia. However, traditionally that honour has been incorrectly given to Romulus Augustus (sometimes surnamed Augustulus, "the little emperor"), who, after Nepos fled Italy, was hailed emperor as a figurehead of his father's army. His reign lasted just ten months before Germans under Odovacar withdrew their support and deposed both the young emperor and his father. The Germans allowed the former boy-emperor to live, and provided him with an ample pension so he could engage in an early retirement to an estate on the Gulf of Naples in Campania, where he is said to have lived for at least thirty more years.

**Basiliscus, sole reign 9 January 475 – August 476**



516



516

- 516 Solidus, Constantinopolis early 475, AV 4.44 g. D N BASILIS – CUS P P AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG: Victory standing l., supporting long jewelled cross; in r. field, star. In exergue, CONOB. RIC 1003. MIRB 1a. LRC 607. Depeyrot 101/1. Good extremely fine 3'000

Ex NAC sale 46, 2008, 753.

**Basiliscus and Marcus joint reign, Autumn 475 – August 476**



517



517

- 517 Solidus, Constantinopolis circa 475-476, AV 4.47 g. D N bASILISCI – Et MARC P AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG I Victory standing l., supporting long jewelled cross; in r. field, star. In exergue, CONOB. RIC 1024. MIRB 8.1. LRC obverse 623 (incorrectly illustrated in the plate, see description), reverse 624 (the same coin's reverse is illustrated on 623). Depyrot 105/2.

Rare. Extremely fine 4'000

Ex NAC sale 51, 2009, 460.

**Zeno, second reign 476 – 491**



518



518

- 518 Solidus, Constantinopolis 476-491, AV 4.49 g. D N ZENO – PERP AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG I Victory standing l., supporting long jewelled cross; in r. field, star. In exergue, CONOB. RIC 930. MIRB 7. LRC 643 var. (different officina letter). Depyrot 108/1.

Extremely fine 750

Ex Giessener Münzhandlung 62, 1993, 653 and CNG 72, 2006, 1957 sales. From the D. O. Rosenberg collection.



519



519

- 519 Solidus, Thessalonica 476-491, AV 4.39 g. D N ZENO – PERP AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG I Victory standing l., supporting long jewelled cross; on either side, star. In exergue, CONOB. RIC 941. MIRB 19. LRC 666. Depyrot 108/1.

Reverse slightly double-struck, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc 700

## Migration of the German tribes

### Uncertain tribe



520

- 520 Unit after 348, Æ 5.27 g. Blundered legend. Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Blundered legend. Emperor spearing down fallen horseman. Bastien ANSMN 30, 1985, pl. 43, cf. 32.  
Light green patina and very fine 150

Ex Lanz 48, 1989, 48 and Künker 121, de Wit, 44 sales.

### The Vandals



521

522

- 521 **Pseudo-imperial coinage, circa 440-490. In the name of Honorius, 393-423.** Siliqua, Carthago 428-477, AR 1.38 g. Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Roma seated l. on cuirass, holding sceptre and Victory on globe; in exergue, [RVPS]. BMC 9. MEC 1, 2. RIC 3801.  
In unusually fine condition for the issue. Old cabinet tone, slightly off centre, otherwise about extremely fine 600

Ex Busso Peus Nach. 250, 1954, Lejeune, 1991 and Lanz 123, 2005, 1092 sales.

- 522 **In the name of Honorius, 393-423.** Half siliqua, Carthago 428-477, AR 0.77 g. Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Victory standing l., holding wreath and palm branch. MEC 1, 4. RIC 3802.  
Toned and very fine 300

Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, de Wit, 81.



523

- 523 **Huneric (?), 477-484.** 2 1/2 nummi, Æ 0.68 g. Pearl-diademed and draped bust r. Rev. Cross set on exergual line; in exergue, three pellets. MEC 1, -. MIB -. RIC -.  
Apparently unique and unrecorded. Dark brown tone and very fine 400

Ex Schulten 19 April 1989, 851 and Künker 121, 2007, de Wit, 82 sales.



524

524

- 524 **Regal Coinage, circa 490-533. Gunthamund, 484-496.** 50 denarii, Carthago 484-496, AR 1.03 g. Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. DN within wreath. MIB 3. MEC 1, 8.  
Rare. Lightly toned and very fine 750

Ex CNG sale 67, 2004, 1827.



- 525 25 denarii, Carthago 484-496, AR 0.45 g. Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. DN / XXV within wreath. MIB 11. MEC 1, 11. Rare. Toned and about very fine / very fine 450  
Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, de Wit, 84.
- 526 2 1/2 nummi, Carthago 484-496, Æ 0.43 g. Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. Christogram within wreath. MIB 15 var. MEC 1, -. Rare. Good very fine 300  
Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, de Wit, 85.
- 527 **Thrasamund, 496-523.** 50 denarii, Carthago 495-523, AR 1.04 g. Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. DN over horizontal bar within wreath. MIB 6a. MEC 1, 17. Rare. Lovely iridescent tone and good very fine 500  
Ex Elsen sale 84, 2005, 739.
- 528 2 1/2 nummi, Carthago 496-523, Æ 0.38 g. Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. Victory standing l., holding wreath and palm branch. MIB 16. MEC 1, 19-20. Good very fine 250  
Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, de Wit, 90.



- 529 **Hilderic, 523-530.** 50 denarii, Carthago 523-530, AR 1.20 g. Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. Carthago standing facing, holding barley ears with both hands. MIB 8. MEC 1, 21. Struck on a very broad flan with a lovely old cabinet tone, about extremely fine 900  
Ex Elsen list 226, 2003, 513.



- 530 **Attributed to Gelimer, 530-534.** 2 1/2 nummi, Carthago (?) 530-534, Æ 0.69 g. Barbarised bust (?) r. Rev. Ears of wheat. MIB cf. 16. MEC -. Green patina and about very fine 300  
Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, de Wit, 93.
- 531 **Anonymous Vandalic imitation, V-VI century AD.** Nummus, Æ 1.39 g. Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. Victory advancing l., holding wreath and palm branch. BMC Vandals 29. MEC 1, cf. 31-32. Dark brown tone and very fine 200



- 532 **Semi-autonomous coinage of Carthago.** 12 nummi circa 480-533, Æ 5.93 g. Carthago, crowned with barley wreath, standing facing, holding ears of wheat. All within wreath. Rev. NXII within wreath. MIB 19. MEC 42. Rare and in superb condition for the issue. Brown tone and very fine 1'500  
Ex Elsen 58, 1999, 651 and Künker 121, 2007, de Wit, 93 sales.



533



534



534



533

- 533 21 nummi circa 480-533, Æ 7.38 g. Soldier standing facing, holding spear. Rev. Forepart of horse l.; in exergue, XXI. MIB 23. MEC 45. Dark tone and very fine 300  
Ex CNG sale 67, 2004, 1831.

- 534 4 nummi circa 480-533, Æ 1.05 g. Diademed and draped bust l., holding branch. Rev. N / IIII. MIB 20. MEC 1, 51. A lovely green patina and very fine 250  
Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, de Wit, 92.

Some scholars assign this issue to the reign of Hilderic, but we have preferred to follow the attribution adopted by Grierson in MEC 1.

### Early Goths



535



- 535 **Taman Peninsula region.** Denarius late 3rd century-early 4th century AD, billon 1.64 g. Stylised male head l. Rev. Stylised male figure, standing facing, holding transverse spear and trophy; at sides, three pellets and a circle. Kazamanova group III. Faltin, *Coins of the unknown People*, Celator July 2006, pp. 22-26. Very rare. Dark green patina and very fine 750  
Ex Elsen 69, 2002, 66 and CNG 78, 2008, 1900 sales.

### The Ostrogoths



536



- 536 **Municipal bronze coinage of Roma.** 20 nummi 493-553, Æ 6.51 g. Helmeted bust of Roma r. Rev. She-wolf with twins to l.; above, XL. In exergue, IIII. MIB 70. MEC 1, 97. Metlich 84 (Atalaric). Dark green patina and about very fine 250



537



538



- 537 **Pseudo-imperial. Theoderic, 493-526. In the name of Anastasius, 491-518.** Quarter siliqua, Sirmium, AR 0.70 g. Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. + ARVNAD \* INVIT around monogram of Theodoric. MIB 46. Demo 77 var. MEC 1, -. Lightly toned and very fine 500
- 538 Quarter siliqua, Sirmium, AR 0.68 g. Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. + AROMAII\*VIIVICTA around monogram of Theodoric. MIB 50 var. Demo 122 var. Lightly toned and about extremely fine 500  
Ex Lanz sale 123, 2005, 1114.



539



540



539

- 539 **Athalaric, 526-534. In the name of Justin, 518-527.** Solidus, Rome 526-527, AV 4.43 g. D N IVSTI – NVS P F AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGGA Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in l. field, star and in exergue, COMOB. MIB 24. MEC 1, –. Metlich 32.

Traces of mounting, otherwise good very fine 1'500

- 540 **In the name of Justinian I, 527-534.** Quarter siliqua, Roma 527-534, AR 0.64 g. Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. D N / ATHAL / ARICVS / RIX within wreath. MIB 54. MEC 1, 127. Metlich 59.

Old cabinet tone and very fine 400



541



542



- 541 Decanummium, Roma 527-534, Æ 2.22 g. INVIC – TA ROMA Helmeted and draped bust of Roma r. Rev. D N ATHAL – ARICVS Figure standing facing, with head r., holding spear and shield; in field, S / X – C. MIB 77. MEC 1, 132. Metlich 85a.

In superb condition for the issue. Dark green patina and about extremely fine 400

- 542 Decanummium, Roma 527-534, Æ 4.21 g. INVIC – TA ROMA Helmeted and draped bust of Roma r. Rev. D N / ATHAL / ARICVS / REX within wreath. MIB 78. MEC 1, 133. Metlich 86.

Brown green patina and good very fine 350



543



543

- 543 **Theodahad, 534-536.** Follis, Roma 534-536, Æ 8.66 g. D N THEO – DAHATVS REX Bust r., wearing closed crown, ornamented with jewels and two stars, and robe decorated with jewels and pectoral cross on breast. Rev. [VICTORIA] – PRINCIPVM Victory standing r. on *prora*, holding wreath and palm branch; in field, S – C. MIB 81. MEC 1, 141. Metlich 89b. Arslan-Metlich 1c, B1-L5.

Scarce and in fine condition for the issue. Dark green patina and good very fine 2'500

Ex Stack's sale 12 January 2009, MIRB, 3394.



544



545

544 **Municipal bronze coinage of Ravenna, 536-554.** Decanummium, Æ 2.84 g. FELIX R – [AVENNA] Turreted female bust r. Rev. Monogram of Ravenna within wreath. MIB 72a. MEC 1, 145. Metlich 78a (Theoderic). Ranieri 260. Lovely green patina, very fine / good very fine 400

545 **Regal coinage. Witigis, 536-540. In the name of Justinian I, 527-565.** Half siliqua, Ravenna 536-540, AR 1.39 g. Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. D N / VV IT / ICES / REX within wreath. MIB 57. MEC 1, 151. Metlich 63. Old cabinet tone, broken in two pieces and glued back together, otherwise good very fine 200



546



546 **Baduila, 541-542. In the name of Anastasius I, 491-518.** Quarter siliqua, Ticinum 491-518, AR 0.75 g. D N ANASTA – SIVS P F AVG Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. D N / BADV / ILA / REX within wreath. MIB 64. MEC 1, 156. Metlich 71a. Old cabinet tone and extremely fine 600



547



547

547 Decanummium, Roma 541-542, Æ 3.54 g. Helmeted and cuirassed bust facing. Rev. D N B / ADV / ELA / REX. MIB 89b. MEC 157. Metlich 97a. Good very fine 250

### The Visigoths



548



549



548

548 **Pseudo-imperial series in Gaul, 417-507. In the name the name of Severus III, 461-466.** Solidus, uncertain mint in Gaul, AV 4.18 g. DN IIBIVS SEVE – RVS P F AVG Rosette-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTO[R]I – A AVCCC Emperor standing facing, holding long jewelled cross and Victory on globe, spurning captive at his feet; in field, R – A. RIC 3755. Lacam pl. 5, 33. MEC 1, 175. ALDE 147. Rare. Die break on obverse and minor area of weakness on reverse, otherwise about extremely fine 2'500

549 **Anonymous issues in Spain.** Bronze, Sevilla circa 650, Æ 0.34 g. Cross on step. Rev. S P. Crusafont Grupo A / tipo 2. MEC 1, -. Very fine 100  
Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, de Wit, 137.

## The Lombards



- 550 **Lombardy and Tuscany. Aistulf, 749-756.** Follis, Ravenna year 6 / 752-753, Æ 0.92 g. [D N AISTVL]F PR Draped and bearded bust of Aistulf facing, wearing diadem surmounted by cross. Rev. [DN AISTVL]F RX] Crowned, draped and bearded bust of Aistulf facing, holding sceptre in r. hand; in r. field, S. MEC I, –. Ranieri 850. Of the highest rarity and interest, apparently only the second specimen known.  
Dark green patina, small section of the flan broken and repaired, otherwise very fine 1'000

Ex Triton sale X, 2007, 876.

Aistulf was the Duke of Friuli from 744, King of the Lombards from 749, and Duke of Spoleto from 751. He continued the policy of expansion and raids against the papacy and the Byzantine exarchate of Ravenna, and also conquered the Istria region taking it from the Byzantines. In 751, he captured Ravenna itself and even threatened Rome, claiming a capitation tax.

The popes, thoroughly irritated and alarmed, and hopeless of aid from the Byzantine Emperor, turned to the Carolingians for help. In 741, Pope Gregory III asked Charles Martel to intervene, but he was too busy elsewhere and declined. In 753, Pope Stephen II visited Charles Martel's son Pippin the Short, who had been proclaimed king of the Franks in 751 with the consent of Pope Zachary. In gratitude for the papal support of his coronation, Pippin crossed the Alps, defeated Aistulf, and gave to the pope the lands which Aistulf had taken from the *ducatu Romanus* and the exarchate (Emilia-Romagna and the Pentapolis).

Aistulf died hunting in 756. He was succeeded by Desiderius as king of the Lombards and by Alboin as duke of Spoleto. He had given Friuli to his brother-in-law Anselm, abbot of Nonantula, whose sister Gisaltruda he had married, when he succeeded to the kingship in 749.



- 551 **Desiderius 757-774.** Tremissis, Sibirium 756-774, AV 0.94 g. + D·ND:SIDI:RIVS:RX around cross potent. Rev. +·FL·AVI·ASIBRV⊙: around star within circle. Sambon Repertorio 354 var. Arslan 71 var. Bernareggi 177 var. Exceedingly rare. About extremely fine 10'000

Ex SBV sale 43, 1997, 428.

Desiderius was the last Lombard king in Italy. As duke of Tuscany, he was chosen king with the support of the pope and Pepin the Short, king of the Franks and whose son Charles, later Emperor Charlemagne, married Desiderius' daughter. Desiderius' alliance with his son-in-law Duke Tassilo of Bavaria and his subsequent interference in Roman affairs incensed Charlemagne, who repudiated his wife in 771 and provoked open conflict. Desiderius responded by supporting the claims of the children of Charlemagne's brother Carloman, by attacking Pope Adrian I and by occupying several papal cities. Charlemagne invaded Italy in 773, captured Desiderius at Pavia in 774 after a long siege, and proclaimed himself king of the Lombards. Desiderius was forced to retire to a monastery at Liège. In the 7th Century Castelseprio became evermore important: with the Lombards and the Carolingians, the castle, together with the vast town that surrounded it, became the administrative, judicial and defensive capital of a considerable expanse of territory bounded by lake Lugano to the north, lake Maggiore and partly the river Ticino to the west, the river Seveso to the east and a strip which joins the two rivers to the south.



552



552

- 552 **Benevento. First period: dukes of Benevento, 706-774. Romualdus II, 706-731.** Solidus in the type of Justinian II, AV 3.90 g. D N IV – PPCTV Bust facing, wearing diadem with cross on circlet and holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VICTOR – VGT. Cross potent on globe set on four steps; in l. field, R and, in exergue, CONOB. CNI –. Sambon Repertorio 379 var. Oddy cf. 397. MEC 1, 1087 var. Friedberg 83. Rare. About extremely fine 1'600



553



1,5:1

- 553 **Gregory, 732-739.** Solidus in the type of Justinian II, AV 4.16 g. D N IVS – TINID NYTP Diademed bust facing, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VIVTORA – TVG IVS. Cross potent on globe set on three steps; in l. field, G and in exergue, CONOB. CNI 1 var. (Gisulfo II bambino?). Sambon Repertorio 390 var. Oddy 401 (these dies). MEC 1, 1089 var. Friedberg 87. Rare. Extremely fine 2'500

CNI's attribution of this solidus to the child Gisulfo, based on stylistic comparisons and a contemporary source, is not supported by factual evidence; in fact, Oddy happily includes it in the series of Gregory, even illustrating a specimen from the same die. We cannot, however, avoid mentioning that the style of the coin in question is certainly not that of the solidi of Gregorio, therefore what is affirmed by Catemario in the CNI footnote for the coin is not totally groundless but rather worthy of further investigation.



554



554

- 554 Solidus in the type of Justinian II, AV 4.10 g. DLL – VIVPP Diademed bust facing, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VITORD – VGV. Cross potent on globe set on three steps; in l. field, G and in exergue, CONOB. CNI 26 var. Sambon Repertorio 390. Oddy 402. MEC 1, 1089 var. Friedberg 87. Rare. Extremely fine 1'800



555

555

- 555 **Gottschalk, 739-742.** Solidus in the type of Justinian II, EL 3.87 g. D N I – ••• – NVSPP Diademed bust facing, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VICTOR – IVGVSTO Cross potent on globe set on four steps; in field, D – G, and in exergue, CONOB. CNI 3. Sambon Repertorio 395. Oddy 406. MEC 1, –. Friedberg 89. Rare. Lovely reddish tone, minor flan cracks and a nick at two o'clock on obverse edge, otherwise very fine 1'600



556

556

- 556 Solidus in the type of Justinian II and in the name of Leo III, AV 3.92 g. D N – LEO P P Bust facing, wearing diadem with cross on circlet and holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VICTO – YV Cross potent on globe set on four steps; in l. field, G and in exergue, CONOB. CNI 16-17 var. Sambon Repertorio cf. 393 and note. Oddy –. MEC 1, –. Friedberg –. Extremely rare. Metal flaw on reverse field, otherwise good very fine 1'800

According to Sambon, Gottschalk, having usurped the duchy upon the death of Gregory asked the Byzantine emperor Leo III for help against king Liutprand, who wanted to replace him on the throne of Beneventum with his nephew Gisulf. In this scenario we can find the reason why the coins of Gottschalk were issued in the name of Leo.



557

557

- 557 **Gisulf II, 742-751.** Tremissis in the type of Artemius II Anastasius, AV 1.33 g. D N – IVG P P Diademed and draped bust facing, holding *globus cruciger* and *mappa*. Rev. VICo – ▽STV Cross potent on base; in field, G – ∞. In exergue, CONOB. CNI 27 var. Sambon 399. MEC 1, p. 70-71. Friedberg –. Very rare. About extremely fine 1'500

Ex NAC-Spink Taisei sale 52 part II, 1994, 869.



558

558

- 558 **Second period: Princes of Benevento, 774-878. Sico, 817-832.** Denarius, AR 1.15 g. PRIHCES BENEBEHTI around the letters SICO in the shape of a cross. Rev. ARHANGELVS NICHAEI • Cross potent set on three steps. CNI 38. Sambon Repertorio 435. MEC 1, 1105. Rare. Old cabinet tone and very fine 600

Ex NAC sale 20, 2000, 53.



559



560



559 Denarius, AR 1.25 g. ПРИЦЕС ВЕИЕВЕИТИ around the letters SICO in the shape of a cross; pellet in second quarter. Rev. ARHANGELVS NICHAEI• Cross potent set on three steps; in 1. field, pellet. CNI 27 var. Sambon Repertorio 435. MEC 1, 1105 var. Very fine 400

560 Denarius, AR 1.25 g. + PRINCES BENEBEHTI△ around the letters SICO in the shape of a cross; star in fourth quarter. Rev. ARHANGELVS NICHAEI• Cross potent set on three steps; in 1. field, pellet. CNI 11 var. Sambon Repertorio 435. MEC 1, 1107. Old cabinet tone, flan somewhat wavy, otherwise very fine 400



561



561

561 **Sicard, 832-835.** Solidus, AV 3.62 g. SIC ◁ - ▷ ARDV• Bust facing, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand and wearing diadem with cross. In r. field, △. Rev. + VICTORV – PRINCI Cross potent set on three steps; in field, S – I; in lower field, at sides, ◁ - ▷. In exergue, CONOB. CNI 1. Sambon Repertorio 438. Oddy 479. MEC 1, 1108. Friedberg 109.

Edge chipped at eleven o'clock on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine 1'500

Ex CNG sale 72, 2006, 2261.



563



562



564



562 Solidus, AV 3.38 g. SIC ◁ - ▷ ARDV• Bust facing, wearing diadem with cross and holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. In r. field, △. Rev. VICTOR• – PRINCI Cross potent set on three steps; in field, S – I; in lower field, at sides, ◁ - ▷. In exergue, CONOB. CNI 6 var. Sambon Repertorio 438. Oddy 479. MEC 1, 1108 var. Friedberg 109. Edge chipped at four o'clock on obverse, flan crack and traces of mounting, otherwise good very fine 600

563 **Adelehis, 853-878. First period: as sole ruler, 853-867.** Denarius, AR 1.03 g. + ADELCPRI• Cross quartered with four pellets. Rev. + S•C•AMARIA Latin cross; at base, two pellets. CNI 8. Sambon Repertorio -. Mec 1, -. Extremely rare. Old cabinet tone and extremely fine 700

564 Denarius, AR 0.89 g. + SANCTA MARIA around P /ADL / R. Rev. + ARHANGELV ΠΙΗ Cross. CNI 11. Sambon Repertorio 447. MEC 1, -. Extremely rare. Old cabinet tone and very fine 1'000



565



566



- 565 Denarius, AR 1.07 g. ADELCHIS PRIN Carolingian temple surmounted by cross. Rev. + S•C•AII – ARIA Latin cross on three steps. CNI 20. Sambon Repertorio 450. MEC 1, 1113.  
Old cabinet tone and about extremely fine 400

- 566 **Second period: issues with the name of Louis II and Angilberga, 866-871.** Denarius, AR 1.00 g. + LVDOVICVS INP Cross potent on three steps. Rev. + ANGILBERGA NP Cross in saltire. CNI 42. Sambon Repertorio 460. MEC 1, 1116.  
Lightly toned and about extremely fine 500



567



568



- 567 Denarius, AR 0.95 g. + LVDOVICVS INP Cross potent on three steps. Rev. + ANGILBERGA NP Cross in saltire. CNI 42. Sambon Repertorio 460. MEC 1, 1116.  
Dark tone and about extremely fine 400

- 568 Denarius, AR 0.84 g. + LVDOVICVS III P around the letters S / AV / G in the shape of cross. Rev. + ANGILBERGA IIP around AGV / STA. CNI 54 var. Sambon Repertorio 461 var. MEC 1, 1118 var.  
Rare. Old cabinet tone and very fine 700



569



- 569 **Anonymous issues of uncertain dates.** Denarius, AR 1.08 g. + BENEVENTV Latin cross; in field, A – O. Rev. + SC•AMARIA Cross in saltire. CNI 2 (Interregnum, Pietro bishop of Benevento). Sambon Repertorio 466. MEC 1, 1119.  
Rare. Old cabinet tone and good very fine 750

Grierson deems the attribution of this denarius to the regency of bishop Pietro unlikely.

### The Merovingians



570



- 570 **Gold coinage, national series. Cabanisium.** Tremissis, Chalon-sur-Saône circa 500-580, AV 1.15 g. CABIL – [...] OFIT Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. [...] VVNTRIO [ET DVC] Cross potent; at base, C–A. Belfort 1178 and pl. III, 65. MEC 1, 399 var.  
Rare. About extremely fine 2'500

# The Byzantine Empire

The mint is Constantinople unless otherwise stated

## Anastasius, 491 – 518



571



571

- 571 Solidus 491-498, AV 4.46 g. D N ANASTA – SIVS PP AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield decorated with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTOR – I – A AVGGG Δ Victory standing l., holding long jewelled cross; in r. field, star and in exergue, CONOB. DO 3d. MIBE 4a. Sear 3. Good extremely fine 800

Ex CNG sale 72, 2006, 1964.



572



- 572 Tremissis 491-518, AV 1.32 g. D N ANASTA – SIVS PP AVG Pearl-diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVGVSTORVM Victory advancing r., looking back, holding wreath and *globus cruciger*; in r. field, star and in exergue, CONOB. DO 10a. MIBE 11. Sear 8.

Light traces of edge filing, otherwise good very fine

300

## Justin I, 518 – 527



573



- 573 Solidus 519-527, AV 4.46 g. D N IVSTI – NVS PP AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG B Angel standing facing, holding long jewelled cross and *globus cruciger*; in r. field, star. In exergue, CONOB. DO 2b. MIBE 3. Sear 56. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 1'000



574



574

- 574 Solidus 519-527, AV 4.50 g. D N IVSTI – NVS PP AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG I Angel standing facing, holding long jewelled cross and *globus cruciger*; in r. field, star. In exergue, CONOB. DO 2i. MIBE 3. Sear 56. Good extremely fine 750



575



575

575 Semissis 518-527, AV 2.08 g. D N IVSTI – NVS PP AVG Diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVGGG Victory seated r., inscribing XXXX on shield set on knee; to l., star and to r., Christogram. In exergue, CONOB. DO 3. MIBE 4. Sear 57. Extremely fine 450  
Ex CNG sale 72, 2006, 1979.



576

576 Tremissis 518-527, AV 1.49 g. D N IVSTI – NVS PP AVG Diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA AVGVSTORVM Victory walking r., head l., holding wreath and *globus cruciger*; in r. field, star. In exergue, CONOB. DO 4. MIBE 5. Sear 58. A minor mark on cheek, otherwise extremely fine 400  
Ex Lanz sale 125, 2005, 1193.

#### Justin I and Justinian I, 4 April – 1 August 527



577

577 Follis 4 April-1 August 527, Æ 14.02 g. D N IVSTIN E IVSTINIAN PP [AV] Diademed, draped and cuirassed bust of Justin I r., [star] on shoulder. Rev. Large M between star and cross; above, [cross] and beneath, B. In exergue, CON. DO 10a. MIBE 4.2. Sear 125. Rare. Green patina, traces of overstriking, otherwise fine / about very fine 200

#### Justinian I, 527 – 565



578



578

578 Solidus 527-538, AV 4.43 g. D N IVSTINI – ANVS PP AVG Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – AVGGG I Angel standing facing, holding long cross of pellets and *globus cruciger*; in r. field, star. In exergue, CONOB. DO 3i.3. MIBE 5. Sear 137. Unobtrusive scratch on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine 600



579

579 Follis, Roma 538-544, Æ 13.80 g. D N IVSTINI – ANVS PP AVG Diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Large M between cross and star; above, cross and in exergue, ROMA. All within wreath. DO 323 var. MIBE 216. Sear 295.

Brown tone, metal flaw at twelve o'clock on obverse edge, otherwise very fine

300



580



581



582



580 Follis, Nicomedia year 12 / 538-9, Æ 23.68 g. D N IVSTINI – ANVS P F AVG Helmeted, diademed and cuirassed bust facing, holding *globus cruciger* and shield decorated with horseman and enemy motif; in r. field, cross. Rev. Large M between A / N / N / O – XII; above, cross and beneath, B. In exergue, NIK. DO 116b. MIBE 114b. Sear 201.

Struck on a very broad flan with a pleasant dark green patina. Good extremely fine

500

581 Follis year 14 / 540-1, Æ 22.21 g. D N IVSTINI – ANVS P F AVG Helmeted, diademed and cuirassed bust facing, holding *globus cruciger* and shield decorated with horseman and enemy motif; in r. field, cross. Rev. Large M between A / N / N / O – X / II / II; above, cross and beneath, A. In exergue, CON. DO 39a. MIBE 95a. Sear 163.

Extremely fine

450

Ex CNG 36, 1995, 2516 and Triton VIII, 2005, 1305 sales. From the Malcom W. Heckman collection.

582 Follis, Cyzicus year 14 / 540-1, Æ 22.67 g. D N IVSTINI – ANVS P F AVG Helmeted, diademed and cuirassed bust facing, holding *globus cruciger* and shield decorated with horseman and enemy motif; in r. field, cross. Rev. Large M between A / N / N / O – X / II / II; above, cross and beneath, A. In exergue, KYZ. DO 166a.1. MIBE 120b. Sear 207.

Struck on a very broad flan with a lovely dark green patina, extremely fine

500



584



583



585



- 583 Follis, Nicomedia year 15 / 541-2, Æ 23.42 g. D N IVSTINI – ANVS P F AVG Helmeted, diademed and cuirassed bust facing, holding *globus cruciger* and shield decorated with horseman and enemy motif; in r. field, cross. Rev. Large M between A / N / N / O – X / C; above, cross and beneath, A. In exergue, NIKO. DO 120a.1. MIBE 113a.1. Sear 201. Dark green patina and extremely fine 500
- 584 Follis, Nicomedia year 18 / 544-5, Æ 20.63 g. D N IVSTINI – ANVS P F AVG Helmeted, diademed and cuirassed bust facing, holding *globus cruciger* and shield decorated with horseman and enemy motif; in r. field, cross. Rev. Large M between A / N / N / O – X / C / II / I; above, Christogram and beneath, B. In exergue, NIKO. DO 124b.2. MIBE 113b. Sear 201. Brown-green patina and about extremely fine / extremely fine 350
- 585 Follis, Nicomedia year 24 / 550-1, Æ 17.46 g. D N IVSTINI – ANVS P F AVG Helmeted, diademed and cuirassed bust facing, holding *globus cruciger* and shield decorated with horseman and enemy motif; in r. field, cross. Rev. Large M between A / N / N / O – X / X / II / II; above, cross and beneath, B. In exergue, NIKO. DO 130b.2. MIBE 113a. Sear 201. Green patina and extremely fine 400



587



586



587

- 586 Half follis, Salona (?) 552-553, Æ 3.29 g. D N IVSTINI – ANVS PP Diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. Large K. DO 360. MIBE 250.2. Sear 331. Lovely green patina, extremely fine / about extremely fine 200
- 587 Follis, Nicomedia year 31 / 550-1, Æ 17.99 g. D N IVSTINI – ANVS P F AVG Helmeted, diademed and cuirassed bust facing, holding *globus cruciger* and shield decorated with horseman and enemy motif; in r. field, cross. Rev. Large M between A / N / N / O – X / X / X / I; above, cross and beneath, A. In exergue, NIKO. DO 137a. MIBE 113a. Sear 201. Light green patina and good very fine 300

**Justin II, 565 – 578**



- 588 Solidus 565-578, AV 4.50 g. D N – IVSTI – NVS PP AVG Helmeted, diademed and cuirassed bust facing, holding Victory on globe and shield decorated with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG A Constantinopolis seated facing, head r., holding spear and *globus cruciger*; in exergue, CONOB. DO 4a. MIBE 5. Sear 345.  
 Minor nick on edge at eleven o'clock on obverse, otherwise good very fine 300
- 589 Follis, Cyzicus year X / 574-5, Æ 13.32 g. D N IVSTI – NVS PP A Justin and his wife Sophia, both nimbate, seated facing on throne: the Emperor holds the *globus cruciger*, Sophia a cruciform sceptre; between their heads, a cross. In exergue, a wavy pattern. Rev. Large M between A / N / N / O – X; above, cross and beneath, B. In exergue, KYZ. DO 123c.var (star). MIBE 50b.2. Sear 372.  
 Green patina, good very fine / about extremely fine 200

**Tiberius II Constantine, 578 – 582**



- 590 Consular solidus 579, AV 4.50 g. CONSTANT A – UC UIU FELIX Crowned bust facing, wearing consular robes, holding *mappa* and eagle-tipped sceptre surmounted by cross. Rev. UICTOR TI – BERI AUG Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 2. MIB 2. Sear 420.  
 Rare and in superb condition for the issue, light mark on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine 4'000
- Ex NAC sale 51, 2009, lot 464.



- 591 Solidus 579-582, AV 4.49 g. δ m Tib CONS – TANT PP AVI Cuirassed bust facing, wearing crown with cross and *pendilia*, holding *globus cruciger* and shield decorated with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGZ Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 4g. MIBE 4. Sear 422.  
 Good extremely fine 600
- 592 Solidus 579-582, AV 4.38 g. δ m Tib CONS – TANT PP AVI Cuirassed bust facing, wearing crown with cross and *pendilia*, holding *globus cruciger* and shield decorated with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGF Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 4c. MIBE 4. Sear 422.  
 Area of weakness on obverse, otherwise extremely fine / good extremely fine 400



593



593

- 593 Tremissis 578-582, AV 1.48 g.  $\delta$  M COSTAN – TINVS PP AI Diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTOR TIBERI AVG Cross potent; in exergue, CONOB. DO 7. MIBE 15.3. Sear 425.  
Minor marks, otherwise good extremely fine 300



594



- 594 Follis, Antiochia year 5, 580,  $\mathcal{A}$  14.34 g.  $\delta$  M TO>S – TANT [PP AVI] Cuirassed bust facing, wearing consular robes and crown surmounted by trefoil, holding *mappa* and eagle-tipped sceptre. Rev. Large M between A / N / N / O – 4; above, cross and in exergue, THEYPs. DO 41 var. (cross on crown). MIB 47a var. (cross on crown). Sear 448.  
Dark green patina and very fine / good very fine 300



595



595

- 595 Solidus, Ravenna 581-582, AV 4.50 g.  $\delta$  M TIB CONS – TANT P P AVG Cuirassed bust facing, wearing crown with cross and *pendilia*, holding *globus cruciger* and shield decorated with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGG H Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 62a. MIBE 15.3. Sear 468. Ranieri 438.  
Extremely fine 1'250

Ex CNG sale 72, 2006, 2009. From the Marc Poncin collection.



596



596

- 596 Half follis, Antiochia year 8 / 581-2,  $\mathcal{A}$  5.57 g.  $\delta$  M Tib CO – TAN PP A Cuirassed bust facing, wearing consular robes and crown surmounted by trefoil, holding *mappa* and eagle-tipped sceptre. Rev. Large XX between A / N / N / O – III / 4; above, cross and in exergue, R. DO –, cf. 49 (year 4II). MIBE –, cf. 52 (year 4II). Sear –, cf. 452 (year 4II).  
An apparently unrecorded variety. Green patina and extremely fine 500

**Maurice Tiberius, 582 – 602**



597

597 Solidus circa 583, AV 4.39 g. D N MAVRIC – TibER PP AV Cuirassed bust facing, wearing crown surmounted by cross and *pendilia*, holding *globus cruciger* and shield with horseman motif. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGB Angel standing facing, holding long linear staff surmounted by Christogram and *globus cruciger*; in exergue, CONOB. DO 4 (this officina unlisted). MIBE 5. Sear 477.  
Good extremely fine 750



598

598 Lightweight solidus of 23 siliquae, AV 4.35 g. O N MAVRC – Tib PP AVC Helmeted and cuirassed bust facing, with fold of *paludamentum* over l. shoulder, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand; in r. field, star. Rev. VICTORI – A AVGGG Angel standing facing, holding long linear staff surmounted by Christogram and *globus cruciger*; in r. field, star. In exergue, CONOB. DO 7d. MIBE 11.2. Sear 481.  
Good extremely fine 500

Ex E. J. Waddell 2, 1983, 656 and Triton VIII, 2005, 1941 sales.



599

599

599 Tremissis, 583-602, AV 1.49 g. O N TibE – RI PP AVC Diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORI MAVRI AVG Cross potent; beneath, CONOB. DO 14. MIBE 20. Sear 488.  
Extremely fine 250



600

600 Tremissis, Alexandria 583-602, AV 1.48 g. O N TibER M – AVRIC PP AVI Diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA CRIAYS Cross; beneath, CONOB. DO 16 (Constantinopolis). MIBE 22.1. Sear 503 (Thessalonica).  
Very rare. Almost invisible traces of double striking on obverse, otherwise extremely fine 1'000



601

601 Follis year 20 / 601-2, Æ 12.89 g. δ N MAVRICI – TIBER PP AVC Cuirassed bust facing, wearing consular robes and crown surmounted by trefoil, holding *mappa* and eagle-tipped sceptre with cross above. Rev. Large M between A / N / N / O – X / X; above, Christogram and beneath, B. In exergue, CON. DO 44b. MIBE 68Dc. Sear 495. Brown-green patina, light traces of overstriking, extremely fine 450

**Phocas, 602 – 610**



602



602

602 Solidus 603-607, AV 4.42 g. O N FOCAS – PERP AVC Cuirassed bust facing, wearing crown surmounted by cross and *paludamentum*, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VICTORI – A AVCCF Angel standing facing, holding long linear staff surmounted by Christogram and *globus cruciger*; in exergue, CONOB. DO 5c. MIBE 7. Sear 618. Good extremely fine 600

Ex Triton sale VIII, 2005, 1349. From the M. W. Heckman collection.



603



603

603 Solidus 603-607, AV 4.31 g. O N FOCAS – PERP AVC Cuirassed bust facing, wearing crown surmounted by cross and *paludamentum*, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VICTORI – A AVCCZ Angel standing facing, holding long linear staff surmounted by Christogram and *globus cruciger*; in exergue, CONOB. DO 5h. MIBE 7. Sear 618. Extremely fine 400



604



604

604 Solidus 607-610, AV 4.52 g. δ N FOCAS – PERP AVC Cuirassed bust facing, wearing crown surmounted by cross and *paludamentum*, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VICTORIA – AVSYS Angel standing facing, holding long linear staff surmounted by Christogram and *globus cruciger*; in exergue, CONOB. DO 10f. MIBE 9. Sear 620. Extremely fine 400



605



606



605

605 Solidus 607-610, AV 4.48 g. δ N FOCAS – PERP AVC Cuirassed bust facing, wearing crown surmounted by cross and *paludamentum*, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGYH Angel standing facing, holding long linear staff surmounted by Christogram and *globus cruciger*; in exergue, CONOB. DO 10h. MIBE 9. Sear 620. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 600

606 Pentanummium, Antiochia 602-610, Æ 1.63 g. Monogram of Phocas. Rev. Large χ surmounted by cross. DO -. MIB III, pl. 58, N89. Sear -. Rare. Very fine 250

### Heraclius, 610 – 641, with colleagues from 613



607



607



607 Solidus 610-613, AV 4.46 g. d N HERACLI – YS PP AVC Cuirassed bust facing, wearing crowned plumed helmet with cross on circlet and *paludamentum*, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGYE Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 3b. MIB 5. Sear 731. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 600



608



608



608 Solidus 610-613, AV 4.46 g. d N HERACLI – YS PP AVC Cuirassed bust facing, wearing crowned plumed helmet with cross on circlet and *paludamentum*, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGYE Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 3b. MIB 5. Sear 731. Minor marks on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine 500

Ex NGSA sale II, 2002, 171.



609



610



609 Decanummium, Catana year 10 / 619-620, Æ 2.29 g. Blundered legend. Crowned, draped and cuirassed bust facing, with short beard, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. Large I between A / N / N / O and X; in exergue, CAT. DO 251. MIB 240.4. Sear 885. Spahr 29. Green patina and very fine 50

610 Solidus, Carthago 623-624, AV 4.40 g. Blundered legend. Facing busts of of Heraclius, with short beard, on l., and Heraclius Constantine, smaller and beardless, on r., both wearing *chlamys* and crown; between their heads, cross. Rev. VICTORIA – AAVCCIB Cross potent on step; in exergue, CONOB. DO 214. MIB 84b.11. Sear 867. Good very fine / about extremely fine 350



611



611

- 611 Solidus 629-631, AV 4.46 g. dd NN HERACLIYS ET HERA CONST PP ... Facing busts of Heraclius, on l., with long beard and Heraclius Constantine, to r., with slight beard, both wearing *chlamys* and crown with cross on circlet. Rev. VICTORIA AVGYA Cross potent on step; in exergue, CONOB / T. DO 29 (this officina unlisted). MIB 34. Sear 756. Very rare variety. About extremely fine 1'000



612



612

- 612 Solidus 629-631, AV 4.48 g. dd NN HERACLIYS Et HERACONS PP AVC Facing busts of Heraclius, on l., with long beard and on r., Heraclius Constantine, with slight beard, both wearing *chlamys* and crown with cross on circlet. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGYH Cross potent on three steps. DO 26h. MIB 29. Sear 749. Good extremely fine 800



613



613

- 613 Solidus 637-638, AV 4.52 g. Heraclius standing facing between Heraclius Constantine, on r., and Heraclonas, somewhat smaller, on l., each wearing crown and *chlamys* and holding *globus cruciger*. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGYB Cross potent on three steps; in field, monogram of Heraclius – AI ligate; in exergue DO 39i. MIB 45. Sear 764. Extremely fine 600

Ex Triton sale VIII, 2005, 1361.



614



614

- 614 Solidus 638-639, AV 4.38 g. Heraclius standing facing between Heraclius Constantine, on r., and Heraclonas, on l., each wearing crown and *chlamys* and holding *globus cruciger*. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGYΓ Cross potent on three steps; in field, monogram of Heraclius – BI ligate; in exergue, CONOB. DO 341c. MIB 48. Sear 767. Graffito on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine / extremely fine 500

Constans II 641 – 668, with colleagues from 654



615



615

- 615 Solidus 641, AV 4.47 g.  $\delta$  N CONSTAN – tINYS PP AVI Facing beardless bust, with large head, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGYC Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 1 (Heraclonas, this officina unlisted). MIB 3a. Sear 936. Extremely fine 500



616



616

- 616 Solidus 641-646, AV 4.44 g.  $\delta$  N CONSTAN – tINYS PP AV Facing beardless bust, with large head, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGY $\theta$  Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 1i. MIB 3b. Sear 938. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 800



617



617

- 617 Solidus 641-646, AV 4.45 g.  $\delta$  N CONSTAN – tINYS PP AV Facing beardless bust, with small head, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGYB Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOBS. DO 3 (this officina unlisted). MIB 7a. Sear 940. Good extremely fine 750

Ex Triton sale VII, 2004, 1102.



618



618

- 618 Semissis, Syracuse circa 645-649, AV 2.14 g.  $\delta$  N CONSTAN – tINYS PP AV Diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGY $\theta$ I Cross potent on globe; in r. field, C. DO 164b. MIB 99. Sear 1089. Spahr 73. Good very fine 450



619



619

- 619 Solidus 647, AV 4.4 g. δ N CONStAN – tINYS PP AV Facing bust, with close beard, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGYΓ Cross potent on four steps; in r. field, € and in exergue, CONOB. DO 5 (this officina unlisted). MIB 9. Sear 942.  
Good extremely fine 750



620



621



- 620 Semissis, Syracuse circa 645-649, AV 2.15 g. [δ N] CONStAN – tINYS PP AV Diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGYC• Cross potent on globe; in r. field, Γ with dot at the end. DO 165bis var. MIB 102.2. Sear 1091. Spahr 77.  
Insignificant area of weakness on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine 500
- 621 Semissis, Syracuse circa 645-649, AV 2.13 g. [δ N] CONSt[AN] – tINYS PP AV Diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGYC• Cross potent on globe; in r. field, χ. DO 166a. MIB 103. Sear 1092. Spahr 79.  
Good very fine 450



622



623



624



- 622 Follis, Syracuse 647-650, Æ 5.31 g Bust facing with short beard, wearing crown and *chlamys* and holding *globus cruciger*. Rev. Large M; above, monogram of Constans and beneath, SCL. DO 177a. MIB 206. Sear 1105. Spahr 116. Green patina, traces of overstriking, otherwise about very fine 150
- 623 Half follis, Carthago 647-659, Æ 5.01 g. D N C[ONS – TANTN]P Bust facing, with short beard, wearing consular robes and crown with trefoil ornament on circlet and holding *mappa* and *globus cruciger*. Rev. Large cross between C / X and T / X; above cross, star between two pellets. DO 144. MIB 198. Sear 1059.  
Dark green patina. Traces of overstriking, otherwise about extremely fine 200
- Ex NGSA sale II, 2002, 184.
- 624 Follis, Syracuse 650-651, Æ 5.35 g. Bust facing, with long beard, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. Large M; above, monogram of Constans and beneath, SCL. DO 178. MIB 207. Sear 1107. Spahr 117.  
Dark green patina, traces of overstriking, otherwise about extremely fine 150



- 625 Follis, Syracuse 650-651, Æ 3.40 g. Bust facing, with long beard, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. Large M; above, monogram of Constans and beneath, SCL. DO 178. MIB 207. Sear 1107. Spahr 117.  
Dark green patina, minor traces of overstriking, otherwise about extremely fine 100

- 626 Decanummium, Catana year 10 / 650-651, Æ 3.78 g. Bust facing, with long beard, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. Large I between A / N – N / O / I. DO 185. MIB 214. Sear 1115. Spahr 121.  
Green patina and good very fine 100



- 627 Solidus 651-654, AV 4.40 g. δ N CONSTAN – TINYS PP AV Bust facing, with long beard, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGYΓ Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOBI. DO 20 (this officina unlisted). MIB 25. Sear 957.  
Graffito on reverse field, otherwise good extremely fine 600



- 628 Solidus of 23 siliquae 651-654, AV 4.31 g. δ N CONSTAN – TINYS PP AV Bust facing, with long beard, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGYΣ Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, BOΠK. DO 24c. MIB 44. Sear 979.  
Good extremely fine 750



- 629 Solidus of 23 siliquae 651-654, AV 4.29 g. δ N CONSTAN – TINYS PP AV Bust facing, with long beard, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. VICTORIA – AVSYΔ Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, BOΠKI. DO –. MIB 45. Sear 980.  
A rare variety. Light marks on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 700



630

- 630 Solidus of 23 siliquae 651-654, AV 4.31 g. δ N CONSTAN – tINYS PP AV Bust facing, with long beard, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VICTORIA – AVSYA Cross potent on four steps; in r. field, star and in exergue, CONOB. DO. 22a. MIB 46. Sear 977.  
A rare variety. Graffito on reverse, otherwise about extremely fine 600



631

- 631 Half miliarensis 652-654, AR 2.19 g. δ N CONSTAN – [tINYS PP AV] Emperor standing facing, wearing *chlamys* and crown with cross, holding *globus cruciger*. Rev. Cross potent on two steps between two palm branches. DO –. MIB –. Sear –. Bendall, A new ceremonial coin of Constans II, *Numismatic Circular* October 2005, p. 306.

Of the highest rarity and possibly the finest of only four specimens known. Lovely old cabinet tone, an almost invisible metal flaw on obverse and minor marks, otherwise good very fine

2'500

This rare ceremonial issue recently has been studied by Simon Bendall (2005 *Numismatic Circular*). He considers it to have been struck c.652-654 due to the similarity of the standing figure to a follis dated to Constans' indictional year 11 (652/3). Even though the follis is of Syracuse, and this half miliarensis of Constantinople, the parallel cannot be ignored. Other silver coins of Constans II with this same ceremonial reverse type include full miliarenses with the facing bust of the emperor wearing a short beard, with a long beard, and with the facing busts of a long-bearded Constans II and his eldest son Constantine IV. The first of these clearly belongs to a different period, but the latter two show Constans II with a long beard, just as these new half-miliarenses.

Some authorities have associated the latter types with the coronation of Constantine IV in 654 (though the dual-portrait issue may belong to after c.659), and we might suggest the same with the half-miliarenses. The value of these halves was not great - 1/24th of a gold solidus - so the intended recipients would not have been of high social rank, but perhaps soldiers or citizens.



632

- 632 Solidus circa 654-659, AV 4.47 g. dN CONSTANTINYS CCONTA Facing busts of Constans, with long beard, on l., and Constantine IV, on r., each wearing crown surmounted by cross on circlet and *chlamys*; in field above, between them, cross. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGYT Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOBI. DO 25c. MIB 26. Sear 959.  
Good extremely fine 800



633

- 633 Solidus circa 654-659, AV 4.46 g. δN CONSTANTINYS CCONSTANOSTA Facing busts of Constans, with long beard, on l., and Constantine IV, on r., each wearing crown surmounted by cross on circlet and *chlamys*; in field above, between them, cross. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGYE Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO cf. 25e. MIB 26. Sear 959. Extremely fine 500



634

- 634 Solidus circa 659-661, AV 4.45 g. δ N CONS – tAN – I Facing busts of Constans, with long beard and plumed helmet with cross, on l., and Constantine IV, on r., wearing crown with cross on circlet, both wearing *chlamys*; in field above, between them, cross. Rev. VICTORI – A – AVGYE Cross potent set on globe between Heraclius and Tiberius standing facing; in exergue, CONOB. Do 280. MIB 29. Sear 962, Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 750



635

636

- 635 Solidus, Syracuse circa 659-661, AV 4.34 g. δ N CONSTAN – tINYS CON[StA...] Facing busts of Constans, with long beard, on l., and Constantine IV, on r., each wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*; in field above, between them, cross. Rev. VICTORIA – A[V]GYE Cross potent on globe set on four steps between Heraclius and Tiberius standing facing; in exergue, CONOB. DO 161b. MIB 94. Sear 1083. Spahr 148. Rare. Some areas of weakness, otherwise very fine 900

- 636 Solidus circa 661-663, AV 4.47 g. δ N – AN Facing busts of Constans, with long beard, on l., wearing plumed helmet with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, and Constantine IV, on r., wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*; in field above, between them, cross. Rev. VICTORIA – A – VGYA Cross potent on four steps between Heraclius and Tiberius standing facing; in exergue, CONOB. DO 30a. MIB 31. Sear 964. Graffito on reverse field, otherwise good extremely fine 600



637

637

- 637 Solidus circa 661-663, AV 4.47 g. δ N CO [...] – AtS PP [...] Facing busts of Constans, with long beard, on l., wearing plumed helmet with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, and Constantine IV, on r., wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*; in field above, between them, cross. Rev. VICTORIA – A – VGYE Cross potent on four steps between Heraclius and Tiberius standing facing; in exergue, CONOBT. DO 38ab. MIB 37. Sear 971. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 800



638

- 638 Solidus, Syracuse circa 661-668, AV 4.34 g.  $\delta$  N CO – CO – Y Facing busts of Constans, with long beard, on l., wearing plumed helmet with cross and *chlamys*, and Constantine IV, on r., wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*; in field above, between them, cross. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGYKY• Cross potent on four steps between Heraclius and Tiberius standing facing; in exergue, CONOB:•. DO 162d. MIB 96. Sear 1086. Spahr 151. Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Good extremely fine 2'000



640

639

641

- 639 Solidus, Syracuse circa 661-668, AV 4.30 g.  $\delta$  N CON – SCO – Y Facing busts of Constans, with long beard, wearing plumed helmet with cross and *chlamys*, on l., and Constantine IV, on r., wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*; in field above, between them, cross. Rev. VICTORIA – A – VGYK  $\Gamma$  Cross potent on four steps between Heraclius and Tiberius standing facing; in exergue, CONOB. DO 162a. MIB 95. Sear 1087a. Spahr 157. Very rare. Very fine 750
- 640 Tremissis, Syracuse circa 662-668, AV 1.46 g.  $\delta$  N CONSTa – NtINYS PP A Diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGCI• Cross potent; in r. field,  $\Psi$ . DO 175a. MIB 111. Sear 1102. Spahr 107. About extremely fine 600
- 641 Tremissis, Syracuse circa 662-668, AV 1.40 g.  $\delta$  N CONSTAN – tINGY PP AV Diademed, draped and cuirassed bust r. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGY:• Cross potent; in r. field,  $\Psi$ . DO 175a note. MIB 111.4. Sear 1102. Spahr 107. Two light scratches on cheek, otherwise good very fine 400



642

- 642 Solidus 663-668, AV 4.40 g. VICTORIA – AVGY $\Theta$ + Facing bust of Constans, with long beard, wearing plumed helmet with cross and *chlamys*. Rev. Constantine IV standing between Heraclius, on r., and Tiberius, on l., each wearing crown with cross and *chlamys* and holding *globus cruciger*; in exergue, CONOB. DO 41d (this officina unlisted). MIB 42. Sear 975. A rare variety. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 1'500

**Constantine IV Pogonatus 668 – 685, with colleagues until 681**



643



643

- 643 Solidus 674-681, AV 4.45 g. δ N COS – t – NVS P Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTOA – A – AVGYH Cross potent on four steps between Heraclius and Tiberius standing facing, each wearing *chlamys* and crown with cross, and holding *globus cruciger*; in exergue, CONOB. DO 10g. MIB 7b. Sear 1156.  
Good extremely fine 600



644



645



- 644 Follis, Syracuse 668-674, Æ 3.77 g. Beardless and cuirassed bust facing, wearing helmet (off-flan?) and holding *globus cruciger*. Rev. Large M between Heraclius and Tiberius standing facing, each wearing *chlamys* and crown with cross, and holding *globus cruciger*; above, monogram of Constantine, and in exergue, SCL. Do 60. MIB 104. Sear 1207. Spahr 172.  
Dark green patina. Traces of overstriking, otherwise very fine 150

- 645 Follis, Syracuse 674-681, Æ 1.86 g. Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. Large M between Heraclius and Tiberius standing facing, each wearing *chlamys* and crown with cross, and holding *globus cruciger*; above, monogram of Constantine, and in exergue, SCL. DO 61. MIB 106. Sear 1208. Spahr 173.  
Traces of overstriking, otherwise very fine 100



646



647



- 646 Solidus 681-685, AV 4.36 g. P CONSTAN – YS PP A Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORA – AVGYB Cross potent on three steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 14a. MIB 10. Sear 1157.  
Extremely fine 1'250  
Ex Freeman & Sear 6, 1999, 651 and Triton XII, 2009, 818 sales.

- 647 Solidus 681-685, AV 4.50 g. P CONS – tA – NYS PP A Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORA – AVGYΘ Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 14a. MIB 10. Sear 1157.  
Graffito on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine 600



648



648

648 Solidus, Syracuse 681-685, AV 4.18 g. P COS – t – ANtYS P Helmeted, pearl-diademed and cuirassed bust facing three-quarters r., holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORA – AVGY K (reverted) Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO –, cf. 59b (K). MIB –, cf. 37.2 (K). Sear 1204 var. Spahr 177 var. (K).

An apparently unrecorded variety of a very rare type. Slightly off-centre, a scratch on obverse and two minor edge marks on reverse, otherwise good very fine

2'000



649



649 Follis, Syracuse 681-685, Æ 3.92 g. The Emperor standing facing, wearing helmet, cuirass and cloak, holding spear and *globus cruciger*. Rev. Large M; above, monogram of Costantine, and in exergue, SCL. DO 64. MIB 108. Sear 1211. Spahr 184. Rare. Green patina and very fine 180

### Justinian II, first reign 685 – 695



650



650

650 Solidus, Syracuse 685-695, AV 4.13 g. δ IYSTI – NIANYS PP Bust facing, wearing crown with cross and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGYΘ• Cross potent on four steps; in r. field, Z and in exergue, CONOB. DO 42. MIB 13 (second reign). Sear 1282. Spahr 194.

Rare. An unobtrusive nick at twelve o'clock on obverse and slightly off-centre, otherwise good very fine / about extremely fine

1'500



651



651

651 Solidus, Syracuse 685-695, AV 4.27 g. δ IYSTI – NIANYS PP Bust facing, wearing crown with cross and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGYE Cross potent on four steps; in l. and r. field, star – K. In exergue, CONOB. DO 46. MIB 13 (second reign). Sear 1287. Spahr 199.

Very rare. About extremely fine / extremely fine

2'000



652



653



654



- 652 Follis, Syracuse 685-695, Æ 2.82 g. Bust facing, wearing crown with cross and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand; in r. field, star above branch. Rev. Large M; above, monogram of Justinian and beneath, star. In exergue, SCL. DO 55. MIB 68. Sear 1296. Spahr 212. Very fine 150
- 653 Follis, Syracuse 685-695, Æ 3.74 g. Emperor seated facing on throne, wearing *chlamys* and crown with cross, holding *globus cruciger* and *akakia*. Rev. Large M between two palms; above, monogram of Justinian and beneath, star. In exergue, SCL. DO 64. MIB 73. Sear 1304. Spahr 222. Rare. Green patina and very fine 200
- 654 Follis, Carthago 687-695, Æ 4.41 g [...STtNIANYS AYGS] Bearded bust facing, wearing *chlamys* and crown with cross on circlet, holding *globus cruciger*. Rev. Large M between [YITOR] (upwards) and [I]A AG[T?] (downwards); above, [PAX] and beneath [KΓΩ]. DO 31. MIB 54. Sear 1268. Rare. Green patina, light traces of overstriking, otherwise very fine 200



655



- 655 Hexagram 692-695, AR 6.97 g. IηSCRIStDSREX – RESNANtIYM Bust of Christ facing, with cross behind head; wearing *pallium* over *colobium*, with r. hand raised in benediction and l. holding book of Gospels. Rev. DIYSt[INIANYS – ]SERYSCHIStI Justinian, wearing crown and *loros*, standing facing, holding cross potent set on two steps, and *akakia*; beneath, CONOB. DO 17. MIB 40. Sear 1259. Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. A metal flaw at one o'clock on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine 8'000

The first numismatic portraits of Christ appear during the first reign of Justinian II, it is a familiar image of Christ Pantocrator that, ultimately, can be traced to the Zeus of Phidias from Olympia. It graced numerous icons, including a particularly famous one in the imperial palace in Constantinople. Justinian's decision to portray Christ on coins was of great importance to the history of Byzantium, and to its relations with its Muslim neighbours, who may have initiated their own coinage in an effort to avoid handling Justinian's coins bearing the portrait of Christ.

A logical connection has been made between the introduction of Justinian's Christ Pantocrator coins in c.692 and the adoption in 692 of Canon 82 of the Quinisext Council. It proscribes that the Lamb as a symbol of Christ should be abandoned in favour of an image of Christ in human form: "...the Lamb, Christ our God, who removes the sins of the world, should henceforward be set up in human form on images also, in the place of the ancient Lamb, inasmuch as we comprehend thereby the sublimity of the humiliation of God's Word, and are guided to the recollection of His life in the flesh, His Passion and His salutary Death, and the redemption which has thence accrued to the world."

Christ also appears on solidi from Justinian's second reign, though the portrait is remarkably different in appearance, and often is described as a 'Semitic type' Christ. The cause of this monumental change must remain a matter of speculation, and we can only look to the possible sources for such an image, with His short hair and beard, rendered in tight curls. The most obvious source would be icons, especially some early examples from eastern monasteries. Icons from the Mt. Sinai monastery of St. Catherine are of great value, as they offer precise parallels to the two Christ images of Justinian II, including one of the 6th Century that shows the 'Semitic type' Christ and another of the 6th/7th Century that portrays the long-haired Christ Pantocrator.

The majority of Christ portraits on Justinian's coinage appear on gold solidi, though there are gold fractions and silver hexagrams, all of which are considerably rarer than the solidi. Interestingly, Grierson notes that these first-reign hexagrams of Justinian II were struck with obverse and reverse dies used for solidi.



656

- 656 Follis, Syracuse 694-695, Æ 3.32 g. Emperor standing facing, wearing plumed helmet and elaborate robe, holding *akakia* and *globus cruciger*; on either side, star above palm. Rev. Large M between I / N / Δ and [+ / H / + ]; above, monogram of Justinian. DO 63. MIB 72. Sear 1303. Spahr 1303.  
Very rare. Green patina, traces of overstriking on a follis DO 60, otherwise good very fine 250

### Leontius, 695 – 698



657

657

- 657 Solidus 695-698, AV 4.37 g. D LEO – N PE AV Bearded bust facing, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *loros*, and holding *akakia* and *globus cruciger*. Rev. VICTORIA – AVSYB Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 1b. MIB 1. Sear 1330.  
Several graffiti on fields, otherwise extremely fine / about extremely fine 1'500

Ex Goldberg sale 53, 2009, Christov, 2181.



658

658

- 658 Solidus 695-698, AV 4.39 g. D LEO – N PE AV Bearded bust facing, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *loros*, and holding *akakia* and *globus cruciger*. Rev. VICTORIA – AVSYAΔ Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 2 var. (this officina unlisted). MIB 3. Sear 1331A.  
Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Good extremely fine 2'500

Ex Triton sale VII, 2004, 1109. From the Christian Connell collection.



659

659

- 659 Solidus, Syracuse 695-698, AV 4.31 g. D LEO – N A PY Bearded bust facing, wearing crown and *loros*, and holding *akakia* and *globus cruciger*. Rev. [V]ICT[ORIA – A]VSYΓ Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 12b.2. MIB 10.1. Sear 1339. Spahr 229.  
Very rare. Areas of weakness, some minor marks on obverse and a graffito on reverse, otherwise extremely fine / about extremely fine 2'000



660



660 Solidus, Syracuse 695-698, AV 4.16 g. D LEO – N A PY Bearded bust facing, wearing crown and *loros*, and holding *akakia* and *globus cruciger*. Rev. VICTORI[A] – AVSYΘ Cross potent on four steps; in field, ❖ – I and in exergue, CONOB. DO 13.1. MIB 9. Sear 1340. Spahr 233.

Very rare and in superb condition for the issue.

Unusually well struck and extremely fine

3'500



661



661

661 Solidus, Syracuse 695-698, AV 4.07 g. D LEO – N A P Bearded bust facing, wearing crown and *loros*, and holding *akakia* and *globus cruciger*. Rev. [VICTORI]A – AVSY I (vertical, with dot at end) Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, [CO]NOB. DO –. MIB –. Sear –. Spahr –.

An extremely rare type and an apparently unrecorded officina letter.

Reverse slightly off-centre, otherwise good very fine

2'000



662



662 Follis, Syracuse 695-698, Æ 3.49 g. Bearded bust facing, wearing crown and *loros*, and holding *akakia* and *globus cruciger*. Rev Large M; above, monogram of Leontius and in exergue, SCL. DO 17. MIB 36. Sear 1343. Spahr 237. Rare. Light green patina, traces of overstriking, otherwise very fine 200

### Tiberius III Apsimar, 698 – 705



663



663

663 Solidus, Syracuse 698-705, AV 4.20 g. D tIbERI – < S – YP Cuirassed bust facing wearing crown with cross, holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI< – >YGY\* Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 21h.2. MIB 22. Sear 1380. Spahr 250.

Very rare and unusually complete for the issue. Some minor areas of metal flaws on reverse

field and a minor scuff on obverse, otherwise good very fine / about extremely fine

2'000



- 664 Solidus, Syracuse 698-705, AV 4.11 g. D tIbE[RI – ...] > Y Cuirassed bust facing, wearing crown with cross, holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. VICTORI<->YGY Cross potent on four steps; in field, + – + and in exergue, CONOB. DO 22.1. MIB 34. Sear 1381. Spahr 256 and note.  
Extremely rare. Lovely reddish tone and about extremely fine / extremely fine 3'000



- 665 Follis, Syracuse 698-705, Æ 3.88 g. Cuirassed bust facing wearing crown with cross, holding spear and shield with horseman and enemy motif. Rev. Large M between two palms, above monogram of Tiberius; in exergue, SCL. DO 32.2. MIB 79.2. Sear 1395.  
Very rare. Green patina, traces of overstriking, otherwise very fine 350

#### Justinian II, second reign 705 – 711, with Tiberius



- 666 Solidus 705, AV 4.41 g. δ N hIS ChS REX REGNAN[TIYM] Bust of Christ facing, with cross behind head and close beard, wearing *pallium* over *colobium*, with r. hand raised in benediction and l. holding Book of Gospels. Rev. [D N IYSTU]NIANYS MYLTYS AN' Bust facing, slightly bearded, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *loros*, holding cross potent on three steps and patriarchal cross on globe inscribed PAX. DO 1. MIB 1. Sear 1413. Slightly off-centre on obverse, otherwise extremely fine 2'250

Ex Leu 36, 1985, 388 and NAC 33, 2006, 656 sales.



- 667 Semissis 705, AV 2.12 g. dN hIS ChS REX – REGNANTIYM Bust of Christ facing with cross behind head and close beard, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l. Rev. D N IYSTINIA – NYS MYLTYS A Bust facing, slightly bearded, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *loros*, holding cross potent on globe and patriarchal cross on globe inscribed PAX. DO 3.2. MIB 3. Sear 1416.  
Rare. Two light graffiti and traces of overstriking on obverse, otherwise extremely fine 1'000



668

- 668 Semissis 705, AV 2.06 g. dN hIS ChS REX – [REGNANTIYM] Bust of Christ facing with cross behind head and close beard, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l. Rev. [D N IYS]TINIA – [NYS MYLTYS AN'] Bust facing, slightly bearded, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *loros*, holding cross potent on globe and patriarchal cross on globe inscribed PAX. DO 3.1. MIB 3. Sear 1416.  
Rare. Graffito on reverse and slightly off-centre on obverse, otherwise good very fine 800



669

- 669 Solidus 705-711, AV 4.37 g. dN hIS ChS REX – REGNANTIYM Bust of Christ facing with cross behind head and close beard, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l. Rev. d N IYSTINIAN – YS ET TIBERIYS P P A – Half-length figures of Justinian II, on l., and Tiberius, on r., facing, each wearing crown, *divitision* and *chlamys* and holding between them, cross potent on three steps. DO 2a. MIB 2a. Sear 1414.  
An insignificant area of weakness at eleven o'clock on obverse, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc 2'750



670

- 670 Solidus 705-711, AV 4.21 g. dN hIS ChS REX – REGNANTIYM Bust of Christ facing with cross behind head and close beard, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l. Rev. d N IYSTINIAN – YS ET TIBERIYS P P A – Half-length figures of Justinian II, on l., and Tiberius, on r., facing, each wearing crown, *divitision* and *chlamys* and holding between them, cross potent on three steps. DO 2a. MIB 2a. Sear 1414. An almost invisible area of weakness on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine 2'500



671

672

- 671 Tremissis 705-711, AV 1.42 g. dN hIS ChS REX – [REGNANTIYM] Bust of Christ facing with cross behind head and close beard, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l. Rev. d N IYSTINIAN – YS ET TIBERIYS P P A – Half-length figures of Justinian II, on l., and Tiberius, on r., facing, each wearing crown, *divitision* and *chlamys* and holding between them cross potent. DO 6a. MIB 6a. Sear 1420. Extremely fine 700
- 672 Tremissis 705-711, AV 1.42 g. dN hIS ChS REX – [REGNANTIYM] Bust of Christ facing with cross behind head and close beard, raising r. hand in blessing and holding book of Gospels in l. Rev. d N IYSTINIAN – YS ET TIBERIYS P P A – Half-length figures of Justinian II, on l., and Tiberius, on r., facing, each wearing crown, *divitision* and *chlamys* and holding between them cross potent on base. DO 6b. MIB 6b. Sear 1421. Minor marks on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine 700

Philippicus Bardanes, 711 – 713



673



673

- 673 Solidus 711-713, AV 4.44 g. DN FILEPICYS – MYL [– TYS AN] Bust facing, with close beard, wearing *loros* and crown with cross, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand and eagle-tipped sceptre with cross above in l. Rev. VICTORIA AVGV I Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 1j. MIB 1. Sear 1447.  
Rare. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 3'250

Ex NAC sale 29, 2005, 705.



674



- 674 Solidus 711-713, AV 4.20 g. DN FILEPICYS – MYL – T YS AN Bust facing, with close beard, wearing *loros* and crown with cross, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand and eagle-tipped sceptre with cross above in l. Rev. VICTORIA AVGV A Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 1a. MIB 1. Sear 1447.  
Rare. Almost invisible marks on reverse, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc 3'000



675



675

- 675 Solidus 711-713, AV 4.45 g. DN FILEPICYS – MYL – TYS AN Bust facing, with close beard, wearing *loros* and crown with cross, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand and eagle-tipped sceptre with cross above in l. Rev. VICTORIA AVGV Θ Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 1i. MIB 1. Sear 1447.  
Rare. Extremely fine / good extremely fine 2'750



676

- 676 Solidus, Syracuse 711-713, AV 4.12 g. D N FVLEPI – CYS – M Bust facing, with close beard, wearing *loros* and crown with cross, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand and eagle-tipped sceptre with cross above in l. Rev. VICTORIA AVGU Θ Cross potent on four steps; in r. field, P and in exergue, CONOB. DO –, cf. 16 (no officina letter). MIB cf. 10 (no officina letter). Sear cf. 1458 (no officina letter). Spahr cf. 280 (no officina letter).  
An apparently unrecorded variety of an extremely rare type. Lovely reddish tone, two graffiti on reverse, otherwise good very fine 5'000

The Armenian general Philippicus Bardanes rose to power at the end of the reign of Justinian II, whose imperial policies were more focused on personal grudges than the interests of the Byzantine state. Philippicus was hailed emperor by the mutinous army he was leading on a punitive expedition in Cherson, on the northern coast of the Black Sea; within a few months his supporters in Constantinople overthrew and murdered Justinian II in November, 711.

His reign is not well understood since the ancient sources are often in conflict, leaving us with a confused and incomplete picture. As emperor, Philippicus was militarily active, leading a war against Armenians and barely turning back a Bulgarian raid against the Thracian Bosphorus that advanced dangerously close to Constantinople. However, he is best remembered for his religious sympathies for the Monophysites, who held that Christ had only one, divine nature. This was in conflict with the idea that Christ was of a dual nature, one divine and one human, the doctrine that had been adopted at the Council of Chalcedon in 451.

Philippicus acted upon his 'heretical' beliefs by anathematizing the council and seemingly replacing with his own image one at the palace that depicted the gathering. In doing so, he earned the distinction from Pope Constantine (708-715) of being a "heretic emperor". Seemingly on June 3, 713, Philippicus was dethroned, after which the supporters of his former secretary and successor, Artemius (who assumed the name Anastasius), sent him into exile in the Dalmatoi Monastery, where he later died.



677

677

- 677 Semissis 711-713, AV 2.15 g. DN FILEPICYS – MYL – TYS AN Bust facing, with close beard, wearing *loros* and crown, holding *globus cruciger* in r. hand and eagle-tipped sceptre with cross above in l. Rev. VICTORIA AVGUS Cross potent on globe. DO 5. MIB 5. Sear 1451.  
Rare. Slightly wavy flan, otherwise extremely fine 1'200

### Anastasius II Artemius, 713 – 715



678

678

- 678 Solidus circa 713-715, AV 4.44 g. DN ARTEMIYS A – NASTASIYS MYL Bust facing, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding *akakia* and *globus cruciger*. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGY Θ Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 2h.1. MIB 2. Sear 1463.  
Rare. Tiny edge mark at eleven o'clock on obverse and hairlines on reverse field, otherwise good extremely fine 4'750

Ex Goldberg sale 26 May 2008, Millennia, 158.



679



679

- 679 Solidus 713-715, AV 4.37 g. DN ARTEMIYS A – NASTASIYS MYL Bust facing, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding *akakia* and *globus cruciger*. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGYZ Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 2f. MIB 2. Sear 1463.  
Rare and exceptionally sharp. Graffito on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine 3'500



680



680

- 680 Semissis 713-715, AV 2.18 g. DN ARTEMIYS – ANASTASIYS MYL Bust facing, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding *akakia* and *globus cruciger*. Rev. VICTORIA AVGYZ Cross potent on globe. DO 4.1. MIB 5. Sear 1465.  
Rare. A very minor mark on obverse, otherwise extremely fine 2'000



681



681

- 681 Semissis 713-715, AV 2.10 g. DN ARTEMIYS – ANASTASIYS MYL Bust facing, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding *akakia* and *globus cruciger*. Rev. VICTORIA AVGYZ Cross potent on globe. DO 4.1. MIB 5. Sear 1465.  
Rare. About extremely fine 1'750



682



- 682 Follis, Syracuse 713-715, Æ 3.08 g. Bust facing, with close beard, wearing crown with cross and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* and *akakia*. Rev. Large M between two palms; above, monogram of Artemius. In exergue, SCL. DO 13. MIB 31.1. Sear 1474. Spahr 290.  
Rare. Green patina, traces of overstriking, otherwise very fine 200

Theodosius III, 715 – 717



683



683

- 683 Solidus 715-717, AV 4.35 g. dN ThEOdO – SIYS MYL A Bust facing, with close beard, wearing *loros* and crown with cross on circlet, holding patriarchal cross, with an X at the intersection, on globe and *akakia*. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGYZC Cross potent on four steps; in exergue, CONOB. DO 2 (this officina unlisted). MIB 2 (this officina unlisted). Sear 1488 (this officina unlisted).

Extremely rare. Graffito and minor marks on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine 6'000

A minor treasury official, and thus an unlikely candidate for the throne, Theodosius was elevated against his will by soldiers stationed at Rhodes, who were revolting against the burdensome rule of Anastasius II. After a six-month siege of Constantinople, Theodosius took the city in November, 715. His reign lasted just less than two years, and he abdicated in favour of Leo III, who had captured his son in Nicomedia. Both Theodosius and his son were permitted to retire to a monastery, and the former emperor subsequently became the bishop of Ephes



684



684

- 684 Tremissis 715-717, AV 1.38 g. dN thEOdO – SIYS MYL A Bust facing, with close beard, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *loros*, holding patriarchal cross with an X at the intersection, on globe and *akakia*. Rev. VICTORIA AGYS Cross potent on base; in exergue, CONOB. DO 4. MIB 4. Sear 1409.

Very rare. Insignificant die-break on obverse and a metal flaw on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine 2'000



685



685

- 685 Solidus, Syracuse 716-717, AV 3.97 g. [dN thEOdO] – SIYS MYL† Bust facing, with close beard, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *loros*, holding patriarchal cross on globe and *akakia*. Rev. VICTORIA – AGY\* Cross potent on four steps; in r. field, P and in exergue, CONOB. DO 7. MIB 6. Sear 1494. Spahr 292.

Extremely rare. Attractive reddish tone and very fine 3'000



686



- 686 Follis, Syracuse 716-717, Æ 1.78 g. Bust facing, with close beard, wearing crown with cross and *akakia*, holding spear over shoulder and *globus cruciger*. Rev. Large M between two palms; above, monogram of Theodosius, beneath, Θ and in exergue, SCL. DO 9. MIB 16. Sear 1496. Spahr 293.

Very rare. Green patina, traces of overstriking, otherwise very fine 250

Leo III the Isaurian, 717 – 741, with colleagues from 720



687



687

- 687 Solidus, Neapolis 717-718, AV 4.01 g. D L – EO PP TV Bust facing, wearing crown with cross and *loros*, holding *globus cruciger*. Rev. VICTOR – AVGYΔ Cross potent on three steps; in r. field, star and in exergue, CONOB. DO –. MIB cf. 10 (officina A). Sear cf. 1536 (officina A, uncertain Italian mints).

Extremely rare. Light reddish tone and very fine 3'500

Ex NAC Autumn sale 95, 26-27 October 1995, 888.



688



688

- 688 Solidus 720, AV 4.45 g. D N LEO – P A MYL' Facing bust of Leo, with close beard, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* and *akakia*. Rev. D N CONST – ANtINYS M B Bust facing of youthful Constantine, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* and *akakia*. DO 3b. Sear 1504. Good extremely fine 1'500

Ex Tkalec sale 9 May 2005, 415.



689



690



691



- 689 Solidus, Syracuse 720-735, AV 3.89 g. [δND LEO] – [P A M] Bust of Leo facing, with close beard, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* with dot at base of cross and *akakia*. Rev. [...] DOCO – SNTANT Facing bust of youthful Constantine, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* with dot at base of cross and *akakia*. DO 43 var. (no dot at base of cross). Sear 1537B (uncertain Italian mints). Spahr 299 (this coin). Very rare. Very fine. 1'500

Ex Leu-M&M sale 11 March 1987, Spahr, 37.

- 690 Tremissis, Syracuse 720-735, AV 1.28 g. [...] A...L [...] Bust of Leo facing, with close beard, wearing crown with cross and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* with dot at base of cross and *akakia*. Rev. [...] Facing bust of youthful Constantine, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding by its shaft a cross potent on base. DO 48 var. (no dot at base of cross). Sear 1540C (uncertain Italian mints). Spahr 305. Rare. Good very fine 600

- 691 Follis circa 721-730, Æ 1.76 g. Bust of Leo facing, with close beard, wearing crown with cross and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* and *akakia*. Rev. Horizontal bar, above which small bust of youthful Constantine facing, wearing *chlamys* and crown with cross, holding *globus cruciger* and *akakia*; in exergue, M. DO 54b. Sear 1530. Spahr 318 bis. Green patina and very fine 80

Constantine V Copronymus, 741 – 775, with Leo IV from 751



- 692 Solidus 741-751, AV 4.45 g. 6 ND – LE – ON PAMYL Θ Bearded bust of Leo III facing, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding inwards in r. hand cross potent on base, and in l., *akakia*. Rev. 6NCO – NS – tANtINYS'S Bearded bust of Constantine facing, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding outwards in r. hand cross potent on base, in l. *akakia*. DO 1b. Sear 1550.  
Extremely fine 1'250

Ex H.D. Rauch sale 79, 2006, 2628.



- 693 Solidus circa 751-757, AV 4.47 g. CONStAntINOS S LEON O NEOS Busts of Constantine V and Leo IV facing, each wearing crown and *chlamys*; between them a dot, and above, cross. Rev. 6 – LE – ON PAMYL Facing bust of Leo III, wearing crown and *loros*, holding cross potent on base. DO 2a. Sear 1551.  
Some minor areas of weakness and from slightly worn dies, otherwise about extremely fine 1'250



- 694 Solidus circa 751-757, AV 4.43 g. CONStAntINOS S LEON O NEOS Busts of Constantine V and Leo IV facing, each wearing crown and *chlamys*; between them a dot and above, cross. Rev. 6 – LE – ON PAMYL Facing bust of Leo III, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *loros*, holding cross potent on base. DO 2c. Sear 1551.  
An almost invisible metal flaw on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine 1'400



- 695 Solidus, Syracuse 751-775, AV 3.73 g. CON [...] Busts of Constantine V, bearded, and Leo IV, very young, facing, each wearing crown and *chlamys*; above them, cross. Rev. [6N] – O – L – E [...] Bearded bust of Leo III facing, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *loros*, and holding cross potent on base. DO 15a. Sear 1565. Spahr cf. 328. (long cross on obverse).  
Rare. Struck on a very short flan, otherwise extremely fine 1'500



696



696

- 696 Solidus, Syracuse 751-775, AV 3.95 g. [CON]...LE Busts of Constantine V, bearded, and Leo IV facing, each wearing crown and *chlamys*; above them, a cross. Rev. [6N – O – L – ...]N PAMY Bearded bust of Leo III facing, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *loros*, and holding cross potent on base. DO 15c. Sear 1565. Spahr 323. Metal flaw on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 1'500



697



- 697 Tremissis, Syracuse 751-775, AV 1.21 g. [...] – CON PAM Bust of bearded Constantine V facing, wearing crown and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger*. Rev. [...] – [...]ANTC Bust of Leo IV facing, wearing crown with cross on circlet and *chlamys*, holding cross potent on base. DO 17. Sear 1567. Spar 330. Irregular flan, otherwise extremely fine 750



698



699



- 698 Follis, Syracuse 751-775, Æ 2.25 g. K – [Λ / E / O / N] Facing half-length figure of bearded Constantine V, on l., and Leo IV, beardless, on r., both wearing crown with cross and *chlamys*, and holding *akakia*. Rev. [Λ / ] E [ / O / N – Δ / E / C / Π] Facing half-figure of Leo III, bearded, wearing crown with cross and *chlamys*, and holding cross potent on base. DO 19. Sear 1569. Spahr 333 bis. Green patina and good very fine 50
- 699 Follis, Syracuse 751-775, Æ 1.48 g. Above exergual line the busts facing of Constantine V bearded, on l., and beardless Leo IV, on r., both wearing *chlamys*; beneath CIK'Λ. Rev. Above exergual line facing bust of bearded Leo III, wearing crown and *chlamys*, holding cross potent on base; beneath, Λ. In r. field, cross [on globe]. DO 20 var. (no cross in r. field). Sear 1569A var. (no cross in r. field). Spahr 336. Rare. Green patina and very fine 150

### Leo IV the Khazar, 775 – 780, with Constantine VI from 776



700



- 700 Solidus 776-778, AV 4.36 g. LEONVS SEGGON CONStAntINOS O NEOS Θ Facing busts of Leo, on l., and Constantine VI, on r., each wearing crown and *chlamys*; between their heads, pellet and in field above, cross. Rev. LEON PAP' CONStAntINOS PATER Θ Facing busts of Leo III, on l., and Constantine V, on r., both with short beards, each wearing crown and *loros*, between their heads, pellet and in field above, cross. DO 1b. Sear 1583. Good extremely fine 2'500

Ex Triton sale VII, 2004, 1116.



701

- 701 Follis, Syracuse 778-780, Æ 2.20 g. Leo IV, on l., and Constantine VI, on r., seated facing on throne, both wearing crown and *chlamys*; between their heads, cross. Rev. Above exergual line facing busts of Leo III, on l., and Constantine V, on r., both with short beards, wearing crown and *loros*; between their heads, [cross]. Beneath, CIK'. DO 8. Sear 1590. Spahr 338. Green patina and very fine 100

**Nicephorus I, 1st November 802 – 25 July 811, with Stauracius from 803**



702

702

- 702 Solidus 803-811, AV 4.42 g. ΝΙΚΙ – FOROS ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣΤΑ Bust of Nicephorus facing, wearing crown and *chlamys*, holding cross potent and *akakia*. Rev. ΣΤΑΥΡΑΚΙΟΥ – ΚΙΣ ΔΕΣΠΟΤΗΣ Bust of Stauracius facing, wearing crown and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* and *akakia*. DO 2a. Sear 1604. A minor scuff on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 1'800

**Michael I Rhangabe as sole ruler, 2nd October 811 – 25th December 811**



703

- 703 Tremissis, Syracuse 2nd October 811 – 25th December 811, AV 1.18 g. ΜΙ – [ΧΑΗΛ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣΤΑ] Bust of Michael facing, wearing crown with cross and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger* and *akakia*. Rev. [ΜΙΧΑΗΛ ΔΕ] Bust of Michael facing, wearing crown with cross and *chlamys*, holding cross potent on base. DO 6. Sear 1623. Spahr 357. Extremely rare. Extremely fine 1'500

**Leo V the Armenian, 813 – 820, with Constantine from December 813**



704

- 704 Solidus 813, AV 4.46 g. • – ΛΕ – ΟΝ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣΤΑ Facing bust, with short beard, wearing crown with cross and *chlamys*, holding cross potent on base. Rev. • – ΛΕΟΝ ΔΕ – ΣΠΟΤΙΣΤΑ Facing bust, with short beard, wearing crown with cross and *loros*, holding *globus cruciger*. DO 1. Sear 1626. Füeg 1a. Of the highest rarity, only eight specimens known of which only six are in private hands. Struck on broad flan and well centred, extremely fine 15'000

Ex Triton sale XII, 2009, 836.



705

- 705 Follis, Syracuse 813-820, Æ 2.47 g. Λ – EON Bust of Leo facing, wearing crown with cross and *chlamys*, holding cross potent. Rev. K – [ON] Bust of Constantine facing, wearing crown with cross and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger*. DO 16. Sear 1638. Spahr 372. Green patina and very fine 50

**Michael II the Armorian, 820 – 829, with Theophilus from 821 (or 822)**



706

707

708

- 706 Solidus, Syracuse 821-829, AV 3.63 g. MI – XAHLD Bust of Michael facing, wearing crown and *loros*, holding cross potent. Rev. ΘEO – FILO SE Bust of beardless Theophilus facing, wearing crown and *chlamys* and holding *globus cruciger*. DO 14a.1. Sear 1645. Spahr 385. About extremely fine 400
- 707 Solidus, Syracuse 821-829, AV 3.91 g. MI – XAHL Bust of Michael facing, wearing crown and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger*. Rev. ΘEO – FIL Bust of beardless Theophilus facing, wearing crown and *loros*, and holding cross potent. DO 15b. Sear 1646. Spahr 407 (Theophilus). Extremely fine 500
- 708 Semissis, Syracuse 821-829, AV 1.86 g. MI – XAHL Bust of Michael facing, wearing crown and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger*. Rev. ΘEO – FIL Bust of beardless Theophilus facing, wearing crown and *loros* and holding *globus cruciger*. DO 17 var. Sear 1648. Spahr 408 (Theophilus) Extremely fine 350



709

- 709 Follis, Syracuse 821-829, Æ 7.13 g. MIXA – EL – SΘEOFIL Facing busts of Michael, on l., with short beard, wearing *chlamys* and crown with cross, and Theophilus, beardless, on r., wearing crown with cross and *loros*. Rev. Large M; above, cross and beneath, Θ. DO 21. Sear 1652. Spahr 399. Dark green patina and about extremely fine 80

**Theophilus, 829 – 842, with colleagues from 830**



710

- 710 Solidus 829-830/1, AV 4.49 g. \*ΘEOFIL – LOS bASILES Facing bust, with short beard, wearing *loros* and crown, holding *globus cruciger* and cruciform sceptre. Rev. CVRIE bOHΘH tO SO dOVLO\*E Patriarchal cross on three steps. DO 1a. Sear 1655. Rare. Good extremely fine 4'000

Ex Goldberg sale 26 May 2009, Christov, 2238.



711



- 711 Solidus, Syracuse 831-842, AV 3.86 g. ΘEO – FILOS Facing bust, wearing crown and *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger*. Rev. ΘE – OFILOS Facing bust, wearing crown and *loros*, holding cross potent. DO 24. Sear 1670. Spahr 423. A minor scratch on obverse, otherwise extremely fine 350

**Basil I the Macedonian, 867 – 886, with colleagues from 868**



712



- 712 Solidus 868-879, AV 4.42 g. +IHS XPS REX – REGNANTIYM\* Christ enthroned facing, with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l. Rev. BASILIOS ET COHSTAHYGGB Facing busts of Basil, on l., and Constantine, on r., both crowned and wearing, *loros* and *chlamys* respectively and holding between them a patriarchal cross. DO 2. Sear 1704.

Good extremely fine 1'750

Ex Tkalec sale May 2009, 221.

**Constantine VII Porphyrogenitus, 913 – 959, with Romanus I Lacapenus, 920 – 944, and colleagues from 921**



713



713

- 713 Follis 914-919, Æ 6.15 g. + CONStANT' CEZOHB Facing busts of beardless Constantine, on l., and Zoe, on r., both crowned and holding between them a long patriarchal cross. Rev. + CONS / TANTINO' / CE ZOH bA / SILIS RO/MEON. DO 22. Sear 1758.

Rare in this condition. Dark green patina and good very fine 300

Ex CNG sale 72, 2006, 2134. From the Marc Poncin collection.



714

- 714 Solidus 924, AV 4.35 g. + KEBOHΘEI – ROM – ANΘ ΔECPOTH Romanus, standing facing, wearing crown and *loros* and holding *globus cruciger*, being crowned by Christ, also standing facing, wearing *pallium* and *colobium* and holding Book of Gospels in l. hand. Rev. XPISTOF'ETCONST'AYGG'b' Facing busts of Christopher, on l., wearing *loros*, and, Constantine VII, smaller and beardless on r., wearing *chlamys*; both with short beards and crowned, holding between them a long patriarchal cross. DO 5. Sear 1744.  
Extremely rare. Extremely fine 16'000

Ex Triton IV, 2000, 830 and Goldberg 26 May 2009, Christov, 2265 sales.

The sequence and dating of solidi from the reigns of Constantine VII and Romanus I are far from certain. If an undoubted sequence could be determined, it would contribute much to our understanding of this complex period, in which there was a power struggle between a legitimate emperor and his ambitious general.

Since Constantine VII was two years old when elevated to the throne, and merely seven when he became sole emperor in 913, he was especially vulnerable to court intrigues. Among the opportunists was Romanus I, who rose to become the principal military figure in the empire. Romanus I arranged for his daughter, Helena, to marry the young emperor Constantine VII, allowing for his own rise: first he was made *Basileopator* in 919, then Caesar in September, 920, and finally co-emperor with his new son-in-law three months later, in December. Since Constantine VII had not by then reached majority, Romanus I became the senior emperor.

Romanus I had no interest in the welfare of Constantine VII and he wasted little time before raising his own sons to the purple. In 921 he made his eldest son, Christopher, co-emperor, and in 924 extended that same honour to his two younger boys. Meanwhile, Constantine VII remained in the background more than two decades before he could triumph over his unwanted in-laws early in 945 and establish a court that centred on his own family.

Though the coinage shows that Romanus I took careful, incremental steps to marginalize Constantine VII in favour of his own sons, authorities disagree about the order of events. Two rare and remarkable issues of solidi from this period show on their obverse Christ crowning Romanus I, and on their reverse the figures of Christopher and Constantine VII. One of them shows Constantine VII in the position of primacy (at the left, and with his hand higher on the patriarchal cross) and the other with Christopher in that position.

Exactly when these coins were struck is still a matter of debate. Traditionally they are attributed to 921, essentially at the time of Christopher's coronation. However, in his 2007 *Corpus of the Nomismata from Anastasius II to John I in Constantinople, 713-976*, Franz Füeg argues for a later date. He attributes the solidi with Constantine VII in primacy to 923-924 and to 924 the issue with Christopher in primacy (the type offered here, which he suggests was produced in haste, with only one pair of dies).

Füeg notes that on the issue that portrays Christopher subordinate to Constantine VII, both are bearded, and their busts are of equal size. However, on the subsequent issue, Christopher not only assumes the primary position, but is shown to be physically superior, as Constantine VII is now un-bearded and shorter.

The next series appears to be the common solidi that show on their obverse the seated figure of Christ, and on the reverse Romanus I and his son Christopher holding a patriarchal cross. Constantine VII is not present on this massive issue, and if Füeg's order is correct it would represent the completion of the triumph of Romanus over his royal, but out-manuevered, son-in-law.



- 715 Solidus 921-931, AV 4.35 g. + IHS XPS REX REGNANTIYM\* Christ enthroned facing, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in blessing and holding the Book of Gospels in l. Rev. ROMAN' eT XPISiOFO' AYGGb Facing busts of Romanus, with short beard, on l., wearing *loros*, and Christopher, beardless, on r., wearing *chlamys*; both are crowned, holding between them long patriarchal cross. DO 7. Sear 1745. Light reddish tone and extremely fine 800

- 716 Solidus 921-931, AV 4.42 g. + IHS XPS REX REGNANTIYM\* Christ enthroned facing, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in blessing and holding the Book of Gospels in l. Rev. ROMAN' eT XPISiOFO' AYGGb Facing busts of Romanus, with short beard, on l., wearing *loros*, and Christopher, beardless, on r., wearing *chlamys*; both crowned, holding between them a long patriarchal cross. DO 7. Sear 1745. Extremely fine 800

Ex Lanz sale 125, 2005, 1222.



- 717 Solidus 931-944, AV 4.44 g. + IHS XPS REX REGNANTIYM\* Christ enthroned facing, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in blessing and holding the Book of Gospels in l. Rev. + CONSTANTINOS CE R – OMAN'ENX'Ω b R Constantine VII, on r., wearing crown and *loros*, and Romanus II, on l., wearing crown and *chlamys*, standing facing; both holding a long patriarchal cross between them and a *globus cruciger* in their outer hand. DO 10.3. Sear 1749. Rare. Good very fine 3'000

Ex CNG sale 72, 2006, 2137. From the Marc Poncin collection.



- 718 Miliaresion 931-944, AR 2.86 g. IHSUS XRISTUS NIKA Oval medallion with facing bust of Romanus I, wearing crown and *loros*, set on cross potent on four steps; beneath, small dotted cross. In field, R / Ω – M A. Rev. < + > / + ROMANIO' / CONSTANT' / STEFANOS / CE CONSTA' / EN XΩ b'R' / < + >. Do 18. Sear 1755. Surface somewhat porous, otherwise very fine 350

- 719 Follis 931-944, Æ 7.38 g. Bust of Romanus facing, wearing crown and jewelled *chlamys*, holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*. Rev. + ROMA / N' EN ΘΩ bA / SILEVS RΩ / MAION. DO 25a. Sear 1760. Green patina and very fine 200

Ex Giessener Münzhandlung sale 92, 1998, 690.



720 Solidus 949-959, AV 4.38 g. + IHS XPS REX REGNANTIVM Bust of Christ facing, nimbus with three pellets in each limb, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in blessing and holding the Book of Gospels in l. Rev. CONSTANT CE ROMAN AVGG IA Facing busts of Constantine, with short beard, on l., wearing crown and *loros*, and beardless Romanus II, on r., wearing crown and *chlamys*, holding long patriarchal cross between them. DO 15. Sear 1751. Extremely fine 750

721 Solidus 949-959, AV 4.38 g. + IHS XPS REX REGNANTIVM Bust of Christ facing, nimbus with three pellets in each limb, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in blessing and holding the Book of Gospels in l. Rev. CONSTANT CE ROMAN AVGG IA Facing bust of Constantine, with short beard, on l., wearing crown and *loros*, and beardless Romanus II, on r., wearing crown and *chlamys*, holding a long patriarchal cross between them. DO 15. Sear 1751. Extremely fine 600

**Nicephorus II Phocas, 963 – 969, with colleagues throughout the reign**



722 Histamenon nomisma 963-969, AV 4.42 g. + IHS XPS ReX ReGNANTIYM Bust of Christ facing, nimbus with three pellets in each limb, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l. Rev. NICHFOR'CE BASIL' AYGG b R Busts facing of Nicephorus II, with short beard, on l., wearing crown and *loros*, and Basil II, beardless on r., wearing crown and *chlamys*, holding long patriarchal cross between them. DO 1.1. Sear 1776.

Rare. A light mark on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine 2'500

Ex Monetarium list 48, 1987, 208; CNG 28, 1993, 523 and Triton VIII, 2005, 1430 sales. From the Malcom W. Heckman collection.



723 Histamenon nomisma circa 963-969, AV 4.35 g. + IHS XPS REX REGNATIYM Bust of Christ facing with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l. Rev. +ΘΕΟΤΟC' b' hΘ' NICHF, dES' Facing bust of the Virgin, veiled and nimbate and Nicephorus, wearing crown and *loros*, holding between them patriarchal cross; at Virgin's side, M – Θ. Do 4. Sear 1778.

About extremely fine / extremely fine 2'000

**John I Tzimisces 969 – 976, with colleagues throughout the reign**



724

- 724 Tetarteron nomisma 969-976, AV 3.90 g. + IHS XPS REX REGNATIAM Bust of Christ facing, with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding book of Gospels in l. Rev. +ΘΕΟΤΟC – ΒΟΗΘ' ΙΩ ΔΕC' Facing busts of the Virgin, veiled and nimbate and John I, wearing crown and *loros* and holding patriarchal cross; the Virgin crowns the Emperor with Her hand; above Her head, M – Θ. Above John's head, the hand of God. DO 6a.6. Sear 1784. Rare. Extremely fine 3'250

Ex Leu 13, 1975, 696; Sotheby's December 1990, Hunt part III, 731 and Stack's January 2009, MIRB, 3242 sales.



725

725

- 725 Miliaresion 969-976, AR 2.17 g. + IhsYS XPI – STYS NIKA \* Circular medallion containing facing bust of John, wearing crown and *loros*, set above cross crosslet on *globus* above two steps. Rev. <+> / ΙΩΑΝΝ / EN XΩ AVTO / CRAT' EVSEB' / bASILEVS / RΩMAIΩ' / <+>. DO 7a var. Sear 1792. Old cabinet tone and good very fine 500

Ex Bourgey sale 27/29 October 1992, N.K., 502.

**Basil II Bulgaroktonus and Constantine VIII, 976 – 1025**



726

- 726 Histamenon nomisma circa 977-989, AV 4.05 g. + IHS XIS REX REGNANTIYM Bust of Christ facing, with ornate crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l. Rev. + bASIL C COhSTAHTI b R Facing crowned busts of Basil, on l., and Constantine, on r., wearing *loros* and *chlamys* respectively and holding between them a long patriarchal cross with triangle over pellet on shaft. DO 2h. Sear 1796. Minor marks, otherwise about extremely fine 700



- 727 Histamenon nomisma 1005-1025, AV 4.38 g. + IHS XIS REX REGNANTIHM Bust of Christ facing with ornate crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding book of Gospels in l.; triple border. Rev. + bASILE COhSTAHTIB R Crowned facing busts of Basil, on l., and Constantine, on r., wearing *loros* and *chlamys* respectively and holding plain cross on shaft between them; triple border. DO 6. Sear 1800.  
Good extremely fine 1'500



- 728 Histamenon nomisma 1005-1025, AV 4.42 g. + IHS XIS REX REGNANTIHM Bust of Christ facing with ornate crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding book of Gospels in l.; triple border. Rev. + bASILE COhSTAHTIB R Crowned facing busts of Basil, on l. and Constantine, on r., wearing *loros* and *chlamys* respectively and holding a plain cross on shaft between them; triple border. DO 6. Sear 1800.  
Extremely fine 1'250

Ex DNW sale 9 April 2008, 477.

**Anonymous folles, time of Basil II and Constantine VIII, 970 – 1092**



- 729 Follis circa 976-1030/1035, Æ 9.43 g. EMMA – NOYHA Bust of Christ facing with ornate crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev. < Γ > / + IHSYS / XRISTYS / bASILEY' / bASILE' / < Γ >. DO A2.36. Sear 1813.  
Green patina and extremely fine 200



730



730

- 730 Follis, uncertain mint circa 1020-1028, Æ 9.43 g. EMMA – NOYHA Bust of Christ facing with ornate crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev.  $\omega\sigma\theta$  / + IhsYS / XRISTYS / bASILEY / bASILE /  $\omega\sigma\theta$ . DO A2.24a. Metcalf, Interpretation, NC 1970, Variety 1/39 (obv./rev.). Sear 1818. Dark green patina and good extremely fine 1'500

Ex CNG 53, 2000, 1872 and Triton XII, 2009, 842 sales. From the Norman Frank collection.

### Contemporary imitations.



731



- 731 Follis, uncertain mint circa 976 (?) - 1030/1035, Æ 10.40 g. Blundered legend. Bust of Christ facing with ornate crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding book of Gospels in l.; at sides, IC (retrograde) – XC. Rev.  $\omega\sigma\theta$  / + IhsYS / XRISTYS / bASILEY / bASILE /  $\omega\sigma\theta$ , all retrograde. DO A2.52.2. Sear 1813. Dark tone and very fine 100

### Constantine VIII, 1025 – 1028



732



- 732 Histamenon nomisma 1025-1028, AV 4.42 g. + IHS XIS REX REGNANTIYM Bust of Christ facing, with ornate crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; triple border. Rev. +KONSTANTIN bASILEYS ROM Crowned bust facing, wearing *loros*, holding *labarum* with plain shaft and *akakia*; triple border. DO 1.1. Sear 1815. Extremely fine 1'500

Ex Triton sale VIII, 2005, 1437.



733



- 733 Histamenon nomisma 1025-1028, AV 4.41 g. + IHS XIS REX REGNANTIYM Bust of Christ facing, with ornate crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding book of Gospels in l.; triple border. Rev. +KONSTANTIN BASILEIS ROM Crowned bust facing, wearing *loros*, holding *labarum* with pellet on shaft and *akakia*; triple border. DO 2. Sear 1815.

Several light scratches, slightly wavy flan and traces of mounting, otherwise very fine 500

Ex M&M Germany sale 7, 2000, 679.

### Romanus III Argyrus, 1028 – 1034



734



735



- 734 Histamenon nomisma 1028-1034, AV 4.44 g. + IHS XIS REX REGNANTIYM Christ enthroned facing, with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; triple border. Rev. ΘCE BOHO' – RΩMANO Romanus on l., crowned and wearing *loros*, standing facing and holding *globus cruciger*; on r., Virgin, veiled and nimbate, standing facing and crowning the Emperor with Her r. hand. Between their heads, M – Θ. DO 1b.6. Sear 1819. Extremely fine 800

Ex Triton sale VIII, 2005, 1439. From the Malcom W. Heckman collection.

- 735 Histamenon nomisma 1028-1034, AV 4.34 g. + IHS XIS REX REGNANTIYM Christ enthroned facing with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; triple border. Rev. ΘCE BOHO' – PΩMANO Romanus, on l., crowned and wearing *loros*, standing facing and holding *globus cruciger*; on r., Virgin, veiled and nimbate, standing facing and crowning the Emperor with Her r. hand. Between their heads, M – Θ. DO 1d. Sear 1819. Good very fine 600

### Michael IV the Paphlagonian, 1034 – 1041



736



- 736 Histamenon nomisma 1034-1041, AV 4.41 g. + IHS XIS REX REGNANTIYM Bust of Christ facing, with ornate crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l. Rev. + MIK – AH – L BASILEYS RM Bust facing, with short beard, wearing crown with cross and *loros*, holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*; above to l., the hand of God. Triple border. DO 1a. Sear 1824.

Extremely fine 1'000

Ex Tkalec sale 9 May 2005, 421.



737



- 737 Histamenon nomisma 1034-1041, AV 4.39 g. + HIS XIS REX REGNANTIYM Bust of Christ facing, with ornate crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l. Rev. + MIX – AEL – BASILEYS RM Bust facing, with short beard, wearing crown with cross and *loros*, holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*; above to l., the hand of God. Triple border. DO 1a. Sear 1824.

Extremely fine 800

Ex CNG sale 51, 1999, 1710.

### Constantine IX Monomachus, 1042 – 1055



738



738

- 738 Histamenon nomisma circa 1042-1055, AV 4.43 g. + IHS XIS REX – REGNANTIYM Christ enthroned facing with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; triple border. Rev. + CŌhSTA – hTh – bASILEYS RM Bust facing, wearing crown and *loros*, holding *labarum* and globe surmounted by patriarchal cross; triple border. DO 1a. Sear 1828. Good extremely fine 650

Ex Waddell II, 1987, 744 and Triton VIII, 2005, 1442 sales. From the Malcom W. Heckman collection.



739



740



- 739 Histamenon nomisma 1042-1055, AV 4.36 g. + IHS XIS REX – REGNANTIYM Christ enthroned facing with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; triple border. Rev. + CŌhSTA – hTh – bASILEYS RM Bust facing, wearing crown and *loros*, holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*; triple border. DO 2a. Sear 1829.

An absolutely insignificant scratch at nine o'clock on reverse edge, otherwise good extremely fine

650

- 740 Histamenon nomisma 1042-1055, AV 4.41 g. + IHS XIS REX – REGNANTIYM Christ enthroned facing with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; triple border. Rev. + CŌhSTA – hTh – bASILEYS RM Bust facing, wearing crown and *loros*, holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*; triple border. DO 2a. Sear 1829. Good very fine 350

Ex Auctiones sale 15, 1985, 864.



741 Histamenon nomisma 1042-1055, AV 4.41 g. + IHS XIS REX – REGNANTIYM Bust of Christ facing, with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels; triple border. Rev. + CØhSTA – hTh – bASILEYS RM Bust facing, wearing crown and *loros*, holding cross-tipped sceptre and *globus cruciger* surmounted by pelleted cross; triple border. DO 3. Sear 1830.  
Good extremely fine 750

Ex Auctiones sale 17, 1988, 769.



742 Histamenon nomisma 1042-1055, AV 4.40 g. + IHS XIS REX – REGNANTIYM Bust of Christ facing, with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels; triple border. Rev. + CØhSTA – hTh – bASILEYS RM Bust facing, wearing crown and *loros*, holding cross-tipped sceptre and *globus cruciger* surmounted by pelleted cross; triple border. DO 3. Sear 1830.  
Good extremely fine 650

Ex DNW sale 9, 2008, 478.



743 Tetarteron nomisma 1042-1055, AV 4.03 g. + hIS REX REGNATIIM Nimbate bust of Christ facing, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l. Rev. + CØONStAntM BASILEYS RM Crowned bust facing, holding trefoil-tipped sceptre and globe surmounted by pelleted cross. DO 5. Sear 1832.  
Struck from weak dies, otherwise about extremely fine 750



- 744 Miliaresion 1042-1055, AR 2.64 g. + ΔΕΥΠΟΙ – ΝΑ ΚΩΖΟΙΚ The Virgin orans, nimbate, standing facing on footstool, wearing *pallium* and *maphorium*; at sides, MHP in monogram – ΘΥ. Rev. ΕΥCΕΡΗ – ΜΟΝΟΜΑΧΟΝ Constantine, bearded, standing facing, crowned and in military attire, holding long cross in r. hand and resting l. on sheath of sword. DO 7a.1. Sear 1834.

Rare and possibly the finest specimen known. Struck on an exceptionally large flan and finely detailed, extremely fine 3'500

The most creative period for Byzantine silver coinage, 1028-1081, saw the introduction of many new types. Curiously, the inventiveness of design coincided with a great silver shortage in the 11th Century that affected all regions from India to Western Europe. There is no solid evidence for the cause of the shortage, but ideas range from the exhaustion of productive mines to the mass export of silver to the realms of the Vikings. It caused a reduction in the output of Byzantine silver coins, a virtual abandonment of it in Muslim states, and a reduction in the purity of the penny in Latin Christendom. By 1092, when Alexius I reformed Byzantine coinage, the situation was so difficult that he abandoned the miliaresion all together.

Constantine IX Monomachus, who reigned in the midst of this period of expansion of types and contraction of volume, produced some extraordinarily beautiful coins, among which we may count this miliaresion. The common obverse for his miliaresion and two-thirds miliaresion coins is the *Theotokos*, the Virgin Mary shown facing with hands raised in a gesture of prayer (*orans*). Grierson describes Her appearance in this case as "iconic" since Mary is shown singly, without the emperor. In other cases, when Mary is the sole subject of a design, She is shown *orans* with a medallion of Christ on her breast, or holding the Infant Jesus.

With notable exceptions under Leo VI and Zoe and Theodora aside, Grierson suggests that there is a hierarchy in which Christ tends to appear on the full gold denominations – the solidus and histamenon – and the Virgin appears on subordinate denominations, including the tetarteron and silver coins. In the case of Leo VI, it is believed that the tradition of separation had not yet been established, and in that of Zoe and Theodora we might consider that Mary was favoured by these empresses.



- 745 Miliaresion 1042-1055, AR 2.77 g. + ΔΕΥΠΟΙ – ΝΑ ΚΩΖΟΙΚ The Virgin orans, nimbate, standing facing on footstool, wearing *pallium* and *maphorium*; at sides, MHP in monogram – ΘΥ. Rev. ΕΥCΕΡΗ – ΜΟΝΟΜΑΧΟΝ Constantine, bearded, standing facing, crowned and in military attire, holding long cross in r. hand and resting l. on sheath of sword. DO 7a.5. Sear 1834.

Rare. Toned, traces of double-striking and chipped edge, otherwise very fine 500

Ex CNG sale 51, 1999, 1719.

**Theodora, 1055 – 1056**



- 746 Histamenon nomisma 1055-1056, AV 4.41 g. + IHS XIS REX REGNANTINM Christ standing facing on footstool, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium* and holding Book of Gospels with both hands. Double border. Rev. + ΘΕΟΔΩΡΑ – ΑΥΓΟΥΣΤΑ Theodora, crowned, and Virgin, nimbate, standing facing holding between them *labarum* with triangle on shaft; the Empress wears *saccos* and *loros*, the Virgin is clad in *pallium* and *maphorium*. On either side of Her shoulders, M – Θ. DO 1b. Sear 1837.

Rare. Minor scratch on obverse and light marks on Theodora's face on reverse, otherwise about extremely fine 3'000

**Michael VI Stratioticus, 1056 – 1057**



- 747 Histamenon nomisma 1056-1057, AV 4.39 g. + Ihs XIS REX REGNANTINM Bust of Christ facing, with nimbus with one pellet in each limb, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l. Rev. ΜΙΧΑ – ΗΛ ΑΥ – ΤΟΚΡΑΤ Standing figures of Michael VI, on l., wearing crown and jewelled *chlamys*, holding *globus cruciger*, blessed by Virgin, on r., wearing *pallium* and *maphorium*; between their heads, M Θ. DO 1b. Sear 1840.

Extremely rare. Light reddish tone and extremely fine 25'000

Ex Sternberg sale XVII, 1986, 726.

The yearlong reign of Michael VI is a lesson in poor judgment in emperor selection. As his surname Stratioticus "the warlike" suggests, he at one time must have been a formidable soldier, but by the time he became emperor he was no more than an elderly and incompetent palace official. He inherited the purple from Theodora, the last ruling member of the venerable Macedonian House, when her death was imminent.

Michael was proclaimed on August 31, 1056, and though he apparently made a good faith attempt to bridge the gap between Constantinople and the West, he is chiefly remembered for his failure to properly handle the interests of high military officials in Asia Minor, which caused a rebellion in the summer of 1057. The uprising was led by Isaac Comnenus, a wealthy member of the Comneni who was proclaimed emperor in June. Michael initially offered to accept the lesser office of Caesar and to promise that the succession would fall to Isaac, but his ability to negotiate faded quickly, and he was forced to abdicate on August 30. Isaac entered the capital late on the 31st and was crowned the following day in St. Sophia, with Michael taking up the monastic life and dying not long afterward.

Michael's gold coins bear the title *autocrator*, which seldom appears on coins of this era. Not only does it help distinguish his coins from those of Michael IV and Michael V, but it may signify the fact that unlike his two predecessors who bore that name, this Michael ruled without having to share power with a woman of the Macedonian dynasty.

**Isaac I Comnenus, 1057 – 1059**



748



748

- 748 Histamenon nomisma 1057-1059, AV 4.38 g. + IHS XIS REX REGNANTINM Christ enthroned facing with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; double border. Rev. + IKACIOC RA – CIAEVIC PΘM Emperor standing facing in military attire, holding upright in r. hand sword, l. on scabbard. DO 2. Sear 1843.  
Minor marks and traces of double-striking on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine 1'250

Ex Vinchon sale 25/27 May 1998, 252.



749



749

- 749 Histamenon nomisma 1057-1059, AV 4.42 g. + IHS XIS REX REGNANTINM Christ enthroned facing with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; double border. Rev. + IKACIOC RA – CIAEVIC PΘM Emperor standing facing in military attire, holding upright in r. hand sword, l. on scabbard. DO 2. Sear 1843.  
Obverse struck from a weak die, otherwise extremely fine 1'000

Ex Leu sale 38, 1986, 432.

**Constantine X Ducas, 1059 – 1067**



750



751



- 750 Histamenon nomisma 1059-1067, AV 4.40 g. + IHS XIS RCX – REGNANTIYM Christ enthroned facing with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; triple border. Rev. + KΘN RACA' – O ΔOVKAC Emperor standing facing, wearing crown and *loros*, holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*; double border. DO 1a. Sear 1847. Light reddish tone and extremely fine 500

Ex NAC sale D, 1994, 2307.

- 751 Histamenon nomisma 1059-1067, AV 4.40 g. + IHS XIS RCX – REGNANTIYM Christ enthroned facing with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; triple border. Rev. + KΘN RACA – O ΔOVKAC Emperor standing facing, wearing crown and *loros*, holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*; double border. DO 1a. Sear 1847. About extremely fine 350

Ex Auctiones sale 15, 1985, 866.



- 752 Histamenon nomisma 1059-1067, AV 4.42 g. + IHS XIS RCX – REGNANTIYM Christ enthroned facing with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; triple border. Rev. + ΚΩΝ ΡΑϸΑ – Ο ΔΟΥΚΑϸ Emperor standing facing, wearing crown and *loros*, holding *labarum* with pellet on shaft and *globus cruciger*, pearl-shaped object suspended from l. hand; triple border. DO 1b. Sear 1847  
Light reddish tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 800

Ex Giessener Münzhandlung sale 92, 1998, 691.



- 753 Histamenon nomisma 1059-1067, AV 4.41 g. + IHS XIS RCX – REGNANTIYM Christ enthroned facing with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; triple border. Rev. + ΚΩΝ ΡΑϸΑ – Ο ΔΟΥΚΑϸ Emperor standing facing, wearing crown and *loros*, holding *labarum* with pellet on shaft and *globus cruciger*, pearl-shaped object suspended from l. hand; triple border. DO 1b. Sear 1847  
Some weakness on reverse legend, otherwise extremely fine 650



- 754 Regal Bulla 1059-1067, Pb 21.30 g. Bust of Christ facing, with nimbus decorated with five pellets in each limb, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; at sides, IC – XC. Rev. [...]ΔΕΠΙΟΤ – ΤΩ ΚΩΜΝΕ [...] Emperor standing facing, wearing crown and *loros*, holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*. Zakos, *Byzantine lead Seals I*, 87c.  
Extremely rare and in an exceptional state of preservation. A lovely brown tone and an astonishing example of Byzantine craftsmanship, extremely fine 2'500

**Romanus IV Diogenes, 1068 – 1071, and colleagues throughout the reign**



755

- 755 Histamenon nomisma 1068-1071, AV 4.35 g. +ΡΩΜΑΝΣ – ΕΥΔΟΚΙΑ Three figures standing: Christ, nimbate, in centre, on dais, crowning Romanus, on l., and Eudocia, on r., both wearing crown and *loros* and holding *globus cruciger*. Above, IC – XC. Rev. ΚΩΝ – ΜΧ – ΑΝΔ Three figures standing on separate cushions: Michael VII, in centre, wearing crown and *loros* and holding sceptre; Constantius, on l., and Andronicus, on r., both wearing crown and *loros* and holding *globus cruciger*. DO 1. Sear 1859.  
Good extremely fine 400

Ex Kunst und Münzen sale 26, 1988, 437.



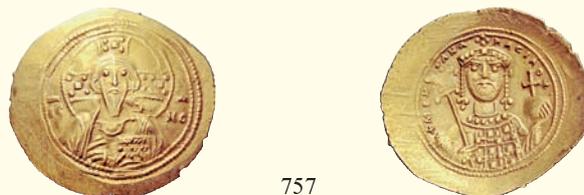
756

756

- 756 Histamenon nomisma 1068-1071, AV 4.37 g. +ΡΩΜΑΝΣ – ΕΥΔΟΚΙΑ Three figures standing: Christ, nimbate, in centre, on dais, crowning Romanus, on l. and Eudocia, on r., both wearing crown and *loros* and holding *globus cruciger*. Above, IC – XC. Rev. ΚΩΝ – ΜΧ – ΑΝΔ Three figures standing on separate cushions: Michel VII, in centre, wearing crown and *loros* and holding sceptre; Constantius, on l. and Andronicus, on r., both wearing crown and *loros* and holding *globus cruciger*. DO 1. Sear 1859.  
An unobtrusive trace of double-striking on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine 400

Ex SKA list 39, 1983, 281 and Spink sale 13 July 2000, Dreesmann part II, 692.

**Michael VII Ducas, 1071 – 1078**



757

- 757 Histamenon nomisma circa 1071-1078, AV 4.35 g. Bust of Christ facing, with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; at sides, IC – XC; double border. Rev. + ΜΙΚ – ΑΗΛ – ΡΑΚΙΑ Ο Δ Bearded bust facing, wearing crown and *loros*, holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*; double border. DO 2. Sear 1868.  
About extremely fine / extremely fine 400



- 758 Histamenon nomisma circa 1071-1078, AV 4.40 g. Bust of Christ facing, with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; at sides, IC – XC; double border. Rev. + MIK – AHA – PACIA O Δ Bearded bust facing, wearing crown and *loros*, holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*; double border. DO 2. Sear 1868. Almost invisible trace of double striking on nimbus, otherwise extremely fine 400
- 759 Histamenon nomisma circa 1071-1078, AV 4.36 g. Bust of Christ facing, with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding book of Gospels in l.; at sides, IC – XC; double border. Rev. +MIK – AHA – PACIA O Δ Bearded bust facing, wearing crown and *loros*, holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*; double border. DO 2. Sear 1868. Weakly struck on obverse, otherwise good very fine 250



- 760 Tetarteron nomisma, AV 4.06 g. + ΘΚΕ ΡΟΗΘ Bust of the Virgin facing, wearing *pallium* and *maphorium* and holding before Her the infant Christ by His nimbus; in field, MHP ligate – ΘV. Rev. MIKAHA – S MAPIA Busts of Michael and Maria, both crowned, holding between them long cross whose shaft is ornamented with X. DO 4. Sear 1871. Extremely fine 2'000

Ex Tkalec sale 2001, 457.

### Nicephorus III Botaniates, 1078 – 1081



- 761 Histamenon nomisma 1078-1081, EL 4.38 g. Bust of Christ facing, with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; at sides, IC – XC; double border. Rev. + ΝΙΚΗΦΡ' – ΔΕCΠ' Half figure of the Emperor facing, wearing crown and *loros*, holding long cross and *globus cruciger*. DO 1. Sear 1883. Very fine / good very fine 400
- 762 Histamenon nomisma 1078-1081, EL 4.38 g. Christ seated facing on throne with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; at sides, IC – XC. Double border. Rev. + ΝΙΚΗΙ ΔΕCΠ' – ΤΩ ROTANIATI Emperor standing facing on dais, wearing crown and *loros*, holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*. DO 2. Sear 1882. Flan crack at one o'clock on obverse, otherwise good very fine 400

Ex Nummorum Auctiones sale 10, 1998, 1313



763

- 763 Histamenon nomisma 1078-1081, EL 4.41 g. Christ seated facing on throne with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; at sides, IC – XC. Double border. Rev. + NIK[.....] ΔΕΡ – ΤΩ ROTANIAT Emperor standing facing on dais, wearing crown and *loros* and holding *labarum* with X on shaft and *globus cruciger*, with pear-shaped object suspended from hand. DO 3b. Sear 1881.  
Good very fine 500

Ex Bourgey sale 27/29 October 1992, N.K. 549.

### Alexius I Comnenus 1081 – 1118, with colleagues from 1092



764

- 764 **Pre-reform coinage, 1081-1092.** Histamenon nomisma, Thessalonica 1081-1082, AR 4.48 g. + KE RO – AΛEZ' Bust of Christ facing, with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; at sides, IC – XC. Rev. [ΔΙΜΙΤΙ] – Δ ΕC ΠΟ ΤΗ Τ St. Demetrius, on l., nimbate, standing r., presenting *labarum* to the Emperor, standing facing, wearing crown and *loros*. DO 4. Sear 1904.  
Lightly toned, obverse slightly double struck, about extremely fine 1'500

Ex Baldwin 2, 1994, Conte, 188 and Triton VIII, 2005, 1454 sales. From the Malcom W. Heckman collection.



765

766

- 765 **Pre-reform coinage, 1081-1092.** Histamenon nomisma, Thessalonica 1081-1082, AR 3.94 g. + KE RO – AΛEZ' Bust of Christ facing, with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; at sides, IC – XC. Rev. ΔΙΜΙΤΙ – ΔΕCΠΟΤΗΤ St. Demetrius, on l., nimbate, standing r., presenting *labarum* to the Emperor, standing facing, wearing crown and *loros*. DO 4. Sear 1904.  
Lightly toned, flan crack at four o'clock on obverse, otherwise very fine 600

- 766 **Pre-reform coinage, 1081-1092.** Histamenon nomisma, Thessalonica 1081-1082, AR 4.22 g. + KE RO – AΛEZ' Bust of Christ facing, with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; at sides, IC – XC. Rev. [Δ]Ι[Μ]ΙΤΙ – Δ [ΕCΠΟΤΗΤ] St. Demetrius, nimbate, standing r., presenting *labarum* to the Emperor, standing facing, wearing crown and *loros*. DO 4. Sear 1904.  
Lightly toned, flan crack at four o'clock on obverse, otherwise very fine 500

Ex Vecchi sale 10, 1998, 1314.



767

- 767 **Pre-reform coinage, 1081-1092.** Histamenon nomisma 1082-1087, EL 4.39 g. Christ seated facing on throne with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev. ALEXIΩ ΔEC – ΠOT Bust facing, wearing crown and *chlamys*, holding sceptre surmounted by pelleted star and *globus cruciger*; in outer r. field, A. DO 2b.1. Sear 1893. Good very fine 400



768

- 768 **Pre-reform coinage, 1081-1092.** Histamenon nomisma 1081-1092, EL 4.40 g. Christ seated facing on throne with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev. ALEXIΩ – ΔEC[ΠOT] Bust facing, wearing crown and *chlamys*, holding globe and *mappa*; on either side, six-rayed star. DO –. Sear –. BN –.

Of the highest rarity, apparently only two or three specimens known. A few minor marks on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 3'000

Ex Triton sale III, 1999, 1340.

When the general Alexius I Comnenus gained the Byzantine throne by marching on Constantinople and forcing the abdication of Nicephorus III (1078-1081), a change of course was both urgent and necessary. Much like the more successful 'soldier emperors' of the late third century A.D., Alexius' vigorous actions assured the survival of the empire, which was then teetering on the brink of collapse.

This histamenon nomisma of Alexius is particularly interesting due to its rarity and the presence of two large stars in the reverse field. Attempts traditionally have been made to connect such 'stars' with an astrological event that can be attested in ancient sources or confirmed through scientific investigation. The most notable occurrence is under Constantine IX (1042-1055), whose gold histamena with two stars are thought to mark the appearance of a supernova in 1054. A single 'star' on an electrum aspron trachy of Alexius I struck at Thessalonica (D.O. IV 23c) may refer to a comet of 1105/6, but even if correct, that instance is too late for the proposed dating of this histamenon nomisma, which appears to have been struck in the first decade of Alexius' reign.



769

- 769 **Pre-reform coinage, 1081-1092.** Histamenon nomisma, Thessalonica circa 1082-1087, AR 4.15 g. Facing bust of Christ with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev. St. Demetrius, nimbate and in military attire, on l. and Alexius, on r., wearing crown and *loros*, both holding patriarchal cross on globe between them. DO 5a. Sear 1905.

Magnificent iridescent tone and about extremely fine 600



770



771



772



- 770 **Pre-reform coinage, 1082-1092.** Histamenon nomisma, Thessalonica circa 1082-1087, AR 4.34 g. Facing bust of Christ with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev. St. Demetrius, on l., nimbate and in military attire and Alexius, on r., wearing crown and *loros*, both holding patriarchal cross on globe between them. DO 5a. Sear 1905.  
Lightly toned and about extremely fine 450

- 771 **Pre-reform coinage, 1081-1092.** Histamenon nomisma, Thessalonica circa 1082-1087, AR 4.29 g. Facing bust of Christ with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev. St. Demetrius, on l., nimbate and in military attire and Alexius, on r., wearing crown and *loros*, both holding patriarchal cross on globe between them. DO 5a. Sear 1905. Good very fine 300

- 772 **Pre-reform coinage, 1081-1092.** Histamenon nomisma, Thessalonica circa 1082-1087, AR 3.66 g. Facing bust of Christ with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev. St. Demetrius, on l., nimbate and in military attire and Alexius, on r., wearing crown and *loros*, both holding patriarchal cross on globe between them. DO 5a. Sear 1905.  
Surface somewhat porous, otherwise good very fine 250



773



773

- 773 **Pre-reform coinage, 1081-1092.** Miliaresion 1081-1092, AR 1.63 g. + ΘΚ ΕΡ ΟΗΘΕΙ – ΤΩCΩΔΟVΛΩ Figure of Virgin, nimbate, *orans*, wearing tunic and *maphorion*; in field, MHP (ligate) – ΘV. Rev. + ΛΛΕΞΙΩΔΕC ΠΟΤΤΩΚΟΜΝ The Emperor standing facing, crowned and in military attire, holding long cross on shaft and sheathed sword; between Emperor's body and shaft, large pellet. DO 10. Sear 1897.  
Rare and in unusually good condition for the issue. Lightly toned, weakly struck on obverse, otherwise good very fine 1'000

Ex CNG sale 55, 2000, 1560.



774



774

- 774 **Post-reform coinage, 1092-1118.** Hyperpyron 1092-1118, AV 4.49 g. + KE RO – HΘEI Christ seated facing on throne with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev. ΑΛΕΞΙΩ ΔΕCΠΟΤ – ΤΩ ΚΟΜΝΗΝΩ Emperor, wearing crown and *chlamys*, standing facing and holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*, crowned by the hand of God above. DO 20e. Sear 1912.  
Unusually well struck and extremely fine 500

Ex Credit Suisse list December 1985, 92.



775



- 775 **Post-reform coinage, 1092-1118.** Hyperpyron, Thessalonica 1092-1118, AV 4.42 g. KE RO – HΘEI Christ seated facing on throne with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev. ΑΛΕΞΙΩ ΔΕCΠΟΤ – ΤΩ ΚΟΜΝΗΝΩ Emperor, wearing crown and *chlamys*, standing facing and holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*, crowned by the hand of God above. DO 20h. Sear 1924.  
Exceptionally well struck and good extremely fine 500



776



776

- 776 **Post-reform coinage, 1092-1118.** Hyperpyron, Thessalonica 1092-1118, AV 4.41 g. KE RO – HΘEI Christ seated facing on throne with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in blessing and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev. ΑΛΕΞΙΩ ΔΕCΠΟΤ – ΤΩ ΚΟΜΝΗΝΩ Emperor, wearing crown and *chlamys*, standing facing and holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*, crowned by the hand of God above. DO 20h. Sear 1924.  
Obverse slightly double-struck, otherwise extremely fine 400



777



778



779



- 777 **Post-reform coinage, 1092-1118.** Aspron trachy 1092-1118, EL 4.35 g. Virgin, nimbate, wearing tunic and *maphorion*, seated on backless throne, holding nimbate head of Christ to breast; in field, MHP (ligate) – ΘV. Rev. ALEXIΘ ΔΕCΠOΤ – TΘ KOMNH Emperor, wearing crown and *chlamys*, standing facing and holding jewelled sceptre and *globus cruciger*. DO 22. Sear 1915.  
Rare. Flan crack at one o'clock and an area of weakness at twelve o'clock on obverse, otherwise good very fine 450
- 778 **Post-reform coinage, 1092-1118.** Aspron trachy 1092-1118, EL 4.32 g. + KERO – ALEZIO Christ enthroned facing, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, holding Book of Gospels; on either side of the nimbus, XC – IC. Rev. + ΔΕCΠOΘH – [TO KOMNH] The Virgin, nimbate, standing r., crowning Alexius, wearing *divitision* and *loros*, and holding *globus cruciger*; between their heads, M – Θ. DO 23a.2. Sear 1926.  
Scarce and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Two flan cracks and an area of weakness on reverse, otherwise about extremely fine 600
- 779 **Post-reform coinage, 1092-1118.** Aspron trachy, Philippopolis 1092-1093, billon 4.04 g. [+ KERO ΛΛΕZIO] Christ enthroned facing, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, holding Book of Gospels; on either side of throne, IC – XC. Rev. + ΔΕCΠOΘH – TO KOMNH Alexius standing facing, wearing crown and *loros*, holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*. DO 31a.2. Sear 1936.  
Surface somewhat porous and weakly struck, otherwise very fine 150

Ex Stack's sale 12 January 2009, MIRB, 3284.

### John II Comnenus, 1118 – 1143



780



781



780

- 780 Aspron trachy 1118-1122 (?), EL 4.45 g. Christ, with crossed nimbus, enthroned facing, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; on either side of nimbus, IC – XC. Rev. IO ΔΕCΠOΘH – Θ IC ΘP ΓI retrograde The Emperor, on l., and St. George, on r., standing facing, holding patriarchal cross with globe at base between them. DO 8a.1. Sear 1941. Good very fine 450
- 781 Hyperpyron, Thessalonica 1122-1137 (?), AV 4.29 g. Christ, with crossed nimbus, enthroned facing, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; on either side of nimbus, IC – XC. Rev. [IO ΔΕCΠOΘH – ΦVPOΓENHT] The Emperor, on l., standing facing and holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*, crowned by the Virgin, nimbate, standing on r. DO 5. Sear 1950.  
Areas of weakness, otherwise good very fine 500

Ex Auctiones sale 15, 1985, 869.



782



784



783



- 782 Aspron trachy 1122-1143, EL 4.61 g. Bust of Christ facing, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l. hand; at each end of cushion on throne, triangle of pellets. On either side of nimbus, IC – XC. Rev. [ΙΘ ΔΕCΠΟΤΗ – © ΓC ΩΡ ΓΙ] retrograde. The Emperor, on l., and St. George, on r., standing facing, holding a patriarchal cross on three steps between them. DO 8d.1. Sear 1942. Graffito on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 450  
Ex Giessener Münzhandlung sale 84, 1997, 6202.

- 783 Aspron trachy 1122-1143, EL 4.11 g. Bust of Christ facing, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; at either end of cushion on throne, triangle of pellets. On either side of nimbus, IC – XC. Rev. ΙΘ ΔΕCΠΟΤΗ – [© ΓC ΩΡ ΓΙ] retrograde. The Emperor, on l., and St. George, on r., standing facing, holding a patriarchal cross on three steps between them. DO 8c.2. Sear 1942. Flan crack at seven o'clock on obverse, otherwise very fine 300  
Ex Busso Peus Nachf sale 29-31 October 1997, 699.

- 784 Aspron trachy 1137-1143, billon 4.05 g. Bust of Christ facing, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; on either side of nimbus, IC – XC. Rev. [+ ΙΘ ΔΕCΠΟΤΗ – ΠΟΡΦΥΡΟΓΕΝΗΤ] Bust facing, wearing crown and *loros*, holding cruciform sceptre with transverse stroke on shaft and *globus cruciger*. DO 10b. Sear 1944. Lovely iridescent tone and about extremely fine 250  
Ex Vecchi sale 10, 1998, 1317.



785



786



- 785 Aspron trachy, Thessalonica 1118-1143, EL 3.91 g. Bust of Christ facing, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l. hand; on either side of nimbus, IC – XC. Rev. ΙΘ ΔΙCΠΟΤΗ – © ΓC ΩΡ ΓΙ retrograde. The Emperor, on l., and St. George, on r., standing facing, holding patriarchal cross with globe at base between them. DO 8e. Sear 1951. Weakly struck on obverse with large areas of weakness and minor metal flaws, otherwise about very fine / about extremely fine 350  
Ex Sotheby's sale 2 November 1998, 572.

- 786 Aspron trachy, Thessalonica 1118-1143, billon 4.60 g. The Virgin, nimbate, enthroned facing, wearing *pallium* and *maphorium*; she holds before her nimbate head of infant Christ. On either side of throne, MHP (ligate) – ΘV. Rev. ΙΘ ΔΕCΠΟΤ ΤΩ ΠΟΡΦΥΡΟΓ[CNHT] The Emperor standing facing, wearing *divitision* and *loros*, holding *labarum* and *akakia*. DO 11. Sear 1952. Weakly struck on obverse, otherwise very fine / about extremely fine 200

Manuel I Comnenus, 1143 – 1180



- 787 Hyperpyron 1143-1152 (?), AV 4.34 g. + KE ROHΘEI Facing bust of beardless Christ, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium* and raising r. hand in benediction; in l. hand, scroll. At sides, IC – XC. Double border. Rev. ΜΑΝΥΗΛ ΔΕCΠΗ – ΤΩ ΠΟΡΦΥΡΟΓΕΝΗΤΩ Manuel standing facing, wearing crown, *divitision* and *chlamys*, holding *labarum* and globe surmounted by patriarchal cross: in upper field to r., the hand of God. Double border. DO 1e.5. Sear 1956. About extremely fine 500

Ex Baldwin list 37, 2001, 59.



- 788 Aspron trachy 1143-1152, EL 1.89 g. [O EMMA / ΝΥΗΛ] Facing bust of beardless Christ, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium* and raising r. hand in benediction; in l. hand, scroll. In field above, IC – XC. Rev. [ΜΑΝΥΗΛ – ΔΕCΠΟΤΕ] The Emperor, on l., wearing *divitision* and *loros*, holding *labarum* and *akakia*, crowned by the Virgin, on r., nimbate, wearing *pallium* and *maphorion*; above their heads, ΜΘV. DO 2a. Sear 1957.

Very large areas of weakness, hammered and clipped, otherwise about very fine 150

Ex Elsen list 218, 2001, 978.

- 789 Aspron trachy 1143-1152, EL 4.35 g. O EMMA / ΝΥΗΛ Facing bust of Christ, beardless, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium* and raising r. hand in benediction; in l. hand, scroll. In field above, IC – XC. Rev. ΜΑΝΥΗΛ – ΔΕCΠΟΤΕ The Emperor, on l., wearing *divitision* and *loros*, holding *labarum* headed sceptre with dot on shaft, crowned by the Virgin, on r., nimbate, wearing *pallium* and *maphorion*; above their heads, ΜΘV. DO 2b. Sear 1957.

Lovely reddish tone, slightly double-struck on obverse, otherwise extremely fine 500

- 790 Aspron trachy 1152-1167 (?), EL 4.30 g. Christ, with crossed nimbus, enthroned facing, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l., at sides of nimbus, IC – XC. Rev. [ΜΑΝΥΗΛ – ΔΕCΠΟΤΕ] The Emperor, on l., wearing *divitision* and *loros*, and Virgin, on r., wearing *pallium* and *maphorion*, both standing facing and holding a long patriarchal cross with horizontal bar on shaft between them. On upper centre field, M – [ΘV]. DO 3a.1 var. (no bar on shaft). Sear 1958.

Lovely reddish tone and extremely fine 450

Ex Leu sale 38, 1986, 434.



791



792



793



- 791 Aspron trachy 1152-1167 (?), EL 4.20 g. Christ, with crossed nimbus, enthroned facing, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l., on either side of nimbus, IC – XC. Rev. [MANΥHA – ΔΕCΠOTE] The Emperor, on r., wearing *divitision* and *loros*, and Virgin, on l., wearing *pallium* and *maphorion*, both standing facing and holding long patriarchal cross set on small globe between them. On upper centre field, ΜΠ. DO 3b. Sear 1958. Extremely fine 450

- 792 Aspron trachy 1160-1164 (?), EL 4.08 g. Christ standing facing on dais, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospel in l.; at sides, IC / star – XC / star. Rev. MANΥHA – ΘΕΟΔΩΡ Standing, facing figures of Manuel, on l. and St. Theodore, on r., holding a long patriarchal cross set on globe between them. DO 4c.1. Sear 1959. Double-struck on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine 300

Ex Credit Suisse list December 1995, 95.

- 793 Aspron trachy, Thessalonica 1160-1167 (?), EL 4.30 g. The Virgin, nimbate, enthroned facing, wearing *pallium* and *maphorium*, holding nimbate head of infant Christ before Her. On either side of bust, MHP (ligate ) – ΘV. Rev. [MANΥHA ΔΕCΠOTE – Ο ΔΗΜΗΤΡΙΟΣ] St. Demetrius, on r., nimbate and in military attire, and the Emperor with *akakia* in r. hand, on l., wearing *divitision* and *chlamys*, both standing facing, holding *labarum* between them. DO 9. Sear 1974. Graffito on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 400

Ex NAC sale H, 1998, 2316.



794



795



- 794 Aspron trachy 1164-1167 (?), EL 4.03 g. Christ, with crossed nimbus, enthroned facing, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l., on either side of nimbus, IC – XC. Rev. MANΥHA ΔΕCΠOTE – [ΠΟΡΦΥΡΟΓΝΗΤΟΣ] The Emperor standing facing, wearing crown, *divitision* and *sagion*, holding *labarum*-headed sceptre and *akakia*; in upper r. field, the Hand of God about to crown him. DO 5a. Sear 1960. Insignificant graffiti, otherwise exceptionally well struck and extremely fine 350

- 795 Aspron trachy 1167-1183 (?), EL 4.13 g. Christ, with crossed nimbus, seated upon throne with back, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l., on either side of nimbus, IC – XC. Rev. MANΥHA – ΔΕCΠΟΤ' The Emperor, on l., wearing *divitision* and *chlamys*, and holding *labarum*, crowned by the Virgin, on r., nimbate, wearing *pallium* and *maphorion*; at sides of the head of the Virgin, MHP (ligate) – ΘV. DO 6c. Sear 1961. Minor weakness on obverse, otherwise extremely fine 300

Ex H. Berk list 101, 1998, 49.

Andronicus I Comnenus, 1183-1185



- 796 Hyperpyron 1183-1185, AV 4.53 g. The Virgin, nimbate, enthroned facing, wearing *pallium* and *maphorium* and holding before Her, nimbate head of the infant Christ facing; at sides of nimbus, MHP ligate – ΘV. Rev. A – ΝΑΡΟΝΙΚΟC – ΔΕCΠΟΤΗC Christ, on l., , bearded and with crossed nimbus, and Andronicus, on r., standing facing; Christ wears *pallium* and *colobium*, holding Book of Gospels and crowning the Emperor, who wears *divitision*, *loros* and *sagion* and holds *labarum* and *globus cruciger*. In upper field, IC – XC. DO 1. Sear 1983.

Very rare and in superb condition for the issue. Absolutely insignificant graffito on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine

2'000



- 797 Hyperpyron 1183-1185, AV 4.49 g. The Virgin, nimbate, enthroned facing, wearing *pallium* and *maphorium* and holding before Her, nimbate head of the infant Christ facing; at sides of nimbus, MHP ligate – ΘV. Rev. [ΑΝΑΡΟΝΙ]ΚΟC – ΔΕCΠΟΤΗC Christ, on l., , bearded and with crossed nimbus, and Andronicus, on r., standing facing; Christ wears *pallium* and *colobium*, holding Book of Gospels and crowning the Emperor, who wears *divitision*, *loros* and *sagion* and holds *labarum* and *globus cruciger*. In upper field, IC – XC. DO 1. Sear 1983.

Very rare and in superb condition for the issue. Good extremely fine

1'800

Ex NFA XVIII, 1987, Lacam, 990; Baldwin 2, 1994, Conte, 206; Leu 83, 2002, 932 and Triton VIII, 2005, 1457 sales. From Malcom W. Heckman collection.



798



798

- 798 Aspron trachy 1183-1185, EL 4.28 g. + Θ KE – ROHΘEI The Virgin orans, nimbate, standing facing, wearing *pallium* and *maphorium*; on Her breast, nimbate head of the infant Christ. At sides of nimbus, MHP ligate – ΘV. Rev. ANΔPONIKΩ – [ΔECPIO[THC] Christ, bearded and with crossed nimbus, and Andronicus standing facing; Christ wears *pallium* and *collobium*, holding Book of Gospels and crowning the Emperor, who wears *divitision*, *loros* and *sagion* and holds *labarum* and *anakakia*. In upper field, IC – XC. DO 2a. Sear 1984. Rare. Extremely fine 1'400



799



799

- 799 Aspron trachy 1183-1185, EL 4.28 g. + Θ KERO – HΘEI The Virgin orans, nimbate, standing facing, wearing *pallium* and *maphorium*; on Her breast, nimbate head of the infant Christ. At sides of nimbus, MHP ligate – ΘV. Rev. ANΔPONIKΩ – [ΔECPIO[THC] Christ, on r., bearded and with crossed nimbus, and Andronicus, on l., standing facing; Christ wears *pallium* and *collobium*, holding Book of Gospels and crowning the Emperor, who wears *divitision*, *loros* and *sagion* and holds *akakia* and a *labarum* with a short shaft ending with a dot. In upper field, IC – XC. DO 2b var. Sear 1984.

An apparently unrecorded variety (short shaft of the *labarum*) of a rare type.

Lovely reddish tone and good very fine / about extremely fine

750

Ex Naville VIII, 1924, Beement, 1762.



800



- 800 Aspron trachy 1183-1185, billon 2.92 g. The Virgin, nimbate and wearing *pallium* and *maphorium*, standing facing on dais; on Her breast, nimbate head of the infant Christ. Rev. ANΔPONIK [ΩC] – ΔECPIO[THC] Christ, on r., bearded and with crossed nimbus, and Andronicus, on l., standing facing; Christ wears *pallium* and *collobium*, holding Book of Gospels and crowning the Emperor, who wears *divitision* and *loros* and holds *globus cruciger* and a *labarum*-headed sceptre. In upper field, IC – XC. DO 3a. Sear 1985.

In unusually fine condition for the issue and good very fine

250



801

- 801 Aspron trachy 1183-1185, billon 2.92 g. The Virgin, nimbate and wearing *pallium* and *maphorium*, standing facing on dais, holding beardless, nimbate head of Christ on breast. Rev. ANΔPONIK ΘC – [ΔΕCΠOTHC] Christ, on r., bearded and with crossed nimbus, and Andronicus, on l., standing facing; Christ wears *pallium* and *collobium*, holding Book of Gospels and crowning the Emperor, who wears *divitision* and *loros* and holds *globus cruciger* and a *labarum*-headed sceptre. In upper field, IC – XC. DO 3b. Sear 1985. Unusually clear for the issue. Obverse slightly double-struck, otherwise extremely fine 300

### Isaac II Angelus, 1185 – 1195



802

802

- 802 Hyperpyron nomisma 1185-1195, EL 4.33 g. The Virgin orans enthroned facing; on Her breast, facing head of infant Christ; at sides of nimbus, IC – XC. Rev. ICAAKIOC Isaac, on l., wearing *loros* and *divitision* and holding cruciform sceptre, and the Archangel Michael, on r., in military attire, both standing facing and holding sheathed sword between them; in upper centre field, the hand of God and in lower r. field, X / M. DO 1b.1. Sear 2001. Insignificant graffiti on reverse, otherwise about extremely fine 1'500



803

804

- 803 Aspron trachy 1185-1195, EL 4.38 g. The Virgin orans enthroned facing; on Her breast, facing head of infant Christ; at sides of nimbus, MHP ligate – ΘV. Rev. [ICAAKIOC] – O AP Isaac, on l., standing facing and holding cruciform sceptre and *akakia*, crowned by Archangel Michael, on r., nimbate and in military attire, also standing facing and holding jewelled sceptre; in lower r. field, X / M. DO 2b. Sear 2002. Virtually invisible hairline flan flaw on obverse, otherwise extremely fine 500  
Ex Triton sale V, 2002, 2315.
- 804 Aspron trachy 1185-1195, EL 3.32 g. The Virgin orans enthroned facing; on Her breast, facing head of infant Christ; at sides of nimbus, MHP ligate – ΘV. Rev. [ICAAKIOC] – [O APXM] Isaac, on l., standing facing and holding cruciform sceptre and *akakia*, crowned by Archangel Michael, on r., nimbate and in military attire, also standing facing and holding jewelled sceptre. DO 2b. Sear 2002. Minor die slip on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine 400

Ex Busso Peus Nachf sale 29/31 October 1997, 700.



805



806



- 805 Aspron trachy 1185-1195, EL 4.02 g. The Virgin orans enthroned facing; on Her breast, facing head of infant Christ; at sides of nimbus, MHP ligate – ΘV. On either side of throne, ✠ – •. Rev. [ICAAKIOC] – NAXM Isaac, on l., standing facing and holding cruciform sceptre and *akakia*, crowned by Archangel Michael, on r., nimbate and in military attire, also standing facing and holding jewelled sceptre. DO 2b var. (globe on either side of throne). Sear 2002. About extremely fine 400

Ex Rauch sale 82, 2008, 709.

- 806 Aspron trachy 1185-1195, EL 3.93 g. The Virgin orans enthroned facing; on Her breast, facing head of infant Christ; at sides of nimbus, MHP ligate – ΘV. On cushion to either side of throne, ✠. Rev. ICA[AK]IΔ - O Isaac, on l., standing facing and holding cruciform sceptre and *akakia*, crowned by Archangel Michael on r., nimbate and in military attire, also standing facing and holding jewelled sceptre; in lower r. field, X / M. DO 2c. Sear 2002. Extremely fine 450

Ex Leu sale 38, 1986, 435.

### Alexius III Angelus self-styled Comnenus, 1195 – 1203



807



808



809



- 807 Hyperpyron 1197-1203, AV 4.17 g. KE RO – HΘEI Christ standing facing, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev. AΛEZI[Ω ΔEC]Π – [OTΩ KOMNHNΩ] Alexius II, on l., wearing crown, *divitision* and *chlamys* and St. Constantine, on r., nimbate and wearing *loros*, both standing facing and together holding patriarchal cross between them. DO 1b. Sear 2008.

Minor areas of weakness and one small graffito on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine 700

- 808 Hyperpyron 1197-1203, AV 4.39 g. + KE RO – HΘEI Christ standing facing, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev. [AΛEZIΩ ΔEC]ΠO – [TΩ KOMNHNΩ] Alexius II, on l., wearing crown, *divitision* and *chlamys* and St. Constantine, on r., nimbate and wearing *loros*, both standing facing, together holding a patriarchal cross between them. DO 1b. Sear 2008. From worn dies, otherwise about extremely fine 600

Ex Lanz sale 125, 2005, 1247.

- 809 Aspron trachy 1197-1203, EL 3.61 g. KE RO – HΘEI Christ standing facing, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC. Small cross on l. cushion of throne. Rev. AΛEZIΩ ΔE – Θ – [KΩNTANT] Alexius II, on l., wearing crown, *divitision* and *loros*, and St. Constantine, on r., nimbate and wearing *loros*, both standing facing, each holding a cruciform sceptre and together holding *labarum*. DO 2a.4. Sear 2009. O'Hara, NC 1977, p. 187, 23. Superb iridescent tone and good extremely fine 700



810



811



- 810 Aspron trachy 1197-1203, EL 4.68 g. KE RO – HΘEI Christ standing facing, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in field, IC – XC. Rev. AAE[ZIΩ]ΔE – O – [TΩ KOMNHNΩ] Alexius II, on l., wearing crown, *divitision* and *loros*, and St. Constantine, on r., nimbate and wearing *loros*, both standing facing, each holding a cruciform sceptre and together holding *labarum*. DO 2b.6. Sear 2009. O'Hara, NC 1977, p. 187, –.

A minor die slip on obverse and a graffito on reverse, otherwise extremely fine

400

- 811 Aspron trachy 1197-1203, EL 4.37 g. Christ enthroned facing, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in field, [IC] – X[C]. Rev. AA[EZIΩC] TO [KΩMNH]N Alexius II, on l., wearing crown, *divitision* and *loros*, and St. Constantine, on r., nimbate and wearing *loros*, both standing facing, each holding a cruciform sceptre and together holding *labarum*. DO 2d.1-2. Sear 2010a. O'Hara, NC 1977, p. 187, 11.

Double-struck and with an insignificant flan crack at five o'clock on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine

500

## The Empire of Nicaea

### Theodore I Comnenus-Lascaris, 1208 – 1221



812



- 812 Aspron trachy, Nicaea 1208-1212 (?), AR 3.30 g. Christ enthroned facing, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in upper field, IC – XC. Rev. [ΘEOΔΩPOC ΔECPOT – ΘEOΔΩPOC] The Emperor and St. Theodore standing facing, holding long star-tipped shaft between them. DO 2.1. Sear 2064. LBC 133.

Lightly toned and extremely fine

600

Ex Vecchi sale 4, 1996, 718.



813



813

- 813 Aspron trachy, Magnesia 1212-1221 (?), AR 4.09 g. EM / MA – NϞ/HA Beardless bust of Christ facing, with crossed nimbus, holding scroll. Rev. Theodore and St. Theodore standing facing, both holding sword at their sides and patriarchal cross set on three steps between them. DO 4. Sear 2066. LBC 188.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. A lovely iridescent tone, extremely fine

1'000

John III Ducas-Vatazes, 1222 – 1254



814



815



816



817



- 814 Hyperpyron, Magnesia 1232-1254, AV 4.30 g. Christ enthroned facing, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in upper field, IC – XC; small cross on l. of throne. Rev. [ΙΩ ΔΕCΠΟΤΗ ΤΩ ΠΟΡΦΥΡΟΓΕΝΝΗΤΩ] (some letters visible) John, on l., standing facing and holding *labarum*, crowned by the Virgin; in upper field, MHP ligate – ΘV. Metcalf, Agrinion Hoard, NC 1980, 57 and pl. 16, 57. DO 4f. Sear 2073. LBC –.  
About extremely fine 300
- 815 Hyperpyron, Magnesia 1232-1254, AV 4.57 g. Christ enthroned facing, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in upper field, IC – XC. Rev. [ΙΩ ΔΕCΠΟΤΗ ΤΩ ΠΟΡΦΥΡΟΓΕΝΝΗΤΩ] (some letters visible) John, on l., standing facing and holding *labarum*, crowned by the Virgin; in upper field, MHP ligate – ΘV. DO 5.9. Sear 2073. LBC –.  
Graffito on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 400
- 816 Hyperpyron, Magnesia 1232-1254, AV 4.34 g. Christ enthroned facing, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in upper field, IC – XC. Rev. [ΙΩ ΔΕCΠΟΤΗ ΤΩ ΠΟΡΦΥΡΟΓΕΝΝΗΤΩ] (some letters visible) John, on l., standing facing and holding *labarum*, crowned by the Virgin; in upper field, MHP ligate – ΘV. DO 5.10. Sear 2073.  
A nick on obverse at ten o'clock and several graffiti, otherwise about extremely fine 400
- 817 Hyperpyron, Magnesia 1232-1254, AV 4.10 g. Christ enthroned facing, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in upper field, IC – XC; pellet on r. of throne. Rev. [ΙΩ ΔΕCΠΟΤΗ ΤΩ ΠΟΡΦΥΡΟΓΕΝΝΗΤΩ] (some letters visible) John, on l., standing facing and holding *labarum*, crowned by the Virgin; in upper field, [MHP ligate – ΘV]. Metcalf, Agrinion Hoard, NC 1980, cf. 215 and pl. 19, 215. DO 6b.7. Sear 2073.  
Slightly clipped, otherwise good very fine 300



818



818

- 818 Aspron trachy, Magnesia 1222-1254, AR 2.81 g. Christ enthroned facing, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in upper field, IC – XC. Rev. [ΙΩ ΔΕCΠΟΤΗ ΤΩ ΠΟΡΦΥΡΟΓΕΝΝΗΤΩ] The Emperor standing facing, holding globe surmounted by patriarchal cross and star-tipped sceptre. DO –. Sear –. BN –. LBC –.  
Apparently unique and unrecorded. Lovely tone, slightly double-struck on obverse, otherwise good very fine 2'800

Ex Giessener Münzhandlung sale 84, 1997, 6206.

**Theodore II Ducas Lascaris, 1254 – 1258**



- 819 Aspron Trachy, Magnesia 1256-1257, AR 2.58 g. Christ enthroned facing, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in upper field, IC – XC. On either side of throne, Γ. Rev. Θ[...]ΘΙCΠIC – ΟΑΓ (in monogram) ΤΡΥΦΘΚΑCΟΛΑΚΑΡΙC Standing, facing figures of Theodore, on l., and St. Tryphon, on r., holding between them a *labarum* set on a lily. DO 7. 3 (this coin). Sear 2139. LBC 303. Very rare. Lightly toned and good very fine 2'500

Ex Hess-Leu 24, 1964, 474 and Leu 77, 2000, 913 sales.

**Theodore II Ducas Lascaris 1254 – 1258**



- 820 Aspron trachy, Magnesia 1254-1255 (?), billon 2.53 g. Beardless bust of Christ facing, with crossed nimbus, holding scroll. Rev. Facing figures of Theodore, on l., and St. Tryphon, on r., holding between them listipped shaft. DO 12. Sear 2144. LBC –.

Green patina, large areas of weakness, otherwise good very fine 250

Ex Vecchi sale 14, 1999, 1519.

**Michael VIII Ducas-Angelus-Comnenus-Paleologus, as emperor of Nicaea, 1258/9 - 1261**



- 821 Trachy, Magnesia 1259-1260, AR 2.19 g. MHP – ΘV The Virgin, nimbate, seated facing upon high backed throne, holding beardless nimbate head of Christ on breast; on the back of throne, B – B. Rev. X / M / [ΔECΠOTH ICA] X / M The Emperor standing facing, holding *anexikakia*, embraced by Archangel Michael standing facing at his side. Bendall-Donald, Numismatic Circular XC, 1982, 3. DO 27. PCPC 8. Sear 2246. LBC 479.

Very rare and in superb condition for the issue. Attractively toned and about extremely fine 8'000

Ex LHS sale 97, 2006, 151.

One of the towering figures of Byzantine history, Michael VIII founded the last of the great Byzantine dynasties and is credited with restoring the old empire when he recovered Constantinople from the Latin Emperor Baldwin II. A member of old nobility, his qualifications for leadership were extraordinary: he was a brilliant commander whose personality consistently won him supporters in all circles, including the army and the clergy.

His rise to power was typically 'Byzantine': when the Nicaean emperor Theodore II died young, at age 36, in August, 1258, he was succeeded by his seven-year-old son John IV Lascaris. Theodore had arranged for George Muzalon to serve as regent to the young emperor, but he was despised by the aristocracy, who nine days later attacked and murdered him before an altar at a ceremony being held for the deceased Theodore.

Power passed to the popular aristocrat Michael VIII, who was first *megas dux* (Grand Duke), then Despot, and finally co-Emperor with John IV at the turn of 1258/9. It would seem that Michael's goal from the outset was to restore the former Byzantine Empire; to this end he re-captured Constantinople on July 25, 1261, and three weeks later was re-crowned in St. Sophia.

When Michael VIII re-took Constantinople, the centre of the Byzantine world shifted from Asia Minor to the old capital, which this emperor went to great lengths to fortify and defend by strengthening the army and rebuilding the navy. But all of these efforts exhausted the empire's resources. It might be said with fairness that the grand scale of Michael's ambitions contributed directly to the downfall of the Byzantine Empire soon after it was restored, and that not all of the blame must be shouldered by later emperors, including his son and successor, Andronicus II.

We have particularly good sources for Michael VIII due to the history of George Pachymeres (1242 to c.1310), perhaps the greatest Byzantine scholar of the 13th century, which provides a detailed, contemporary, view of Michael's reign. The typicon of 1282 for the monastery of St. Demetrius in Constantinople and the typicon for the monastery of the Archangel Michael on Mt. Auxentius also contain useful information, with the former even providing insights into his personality.

## The Empire of Thessalonica

### Theodore I Comnenus-Ducas, 1225 or 1227 – 1230



822

- 822 Aspron trachy, Thessalonica 1224-1225, EL 3.63 g. Christ enthroned facing, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in upper field, IC – XC. At sides of throne, IC – ΑΓΚ. Rev. ΘΕΟΔΩΡΟΣ ΔΥΚΑ – ΟΑΓΙΟΣ ΔΙΜΙΤΡΙΟΣ The Emperor, on l., and St. Demetrius, on r., both standing facing and holding between them a cross within circle surmounting triangular decoration on long shaft. In lower centre field, on either side of the shaft, star. DO1a.1 var. Sear 2158. LBC 320 var.

An apparently unrecorded variety of a very rare type. In superb condition for the issue, with a lovely tone, almost invisible metal flaw on reverse, otherwise extremely fine

2'000



823

823

- 823 Aspron trachy, Thessalonica 1227 (?), AR 2.05 g. Η ΑΓΙΟΚΩΡΗΤΗΝΑ Standing facing figure of the Virgin Mary, wearing tunic and *maphorion*. Rev. [ΘΕΟΔΩΡΟΣ ΔΕΣΠΟ] – ΟΑΓΙΟ[C ΔΙΜΙΤΡΙΟΣ] The Emperor, on l., and St. Demetrius, on r., both standing facing; the Saint giving a castle with three towers to the hands of the Emperor; in upper center field, the hand of God. DO 2a var. Sear 2159. LBC 321.

Very rare. Lovely old cabinet tone, flan crack on l. side of the Emperor, otherwise good very fine / about extremely fine

4'000

Ex Berk Buy or Bid 81, 1994, 483 and Stack's 12 January 2009, MIRB, 3312 sales.



824

- 824 Aspron trachy, Thessalonica 1227-1228 (?), billon 3.18 g. ΟΑΓΙΟC ΔΗΜΠΙΤΡΙΟC St. Demetrius, nimbate, seated facing upon throne, holding hilt of sword in r. hand and sheath in l.. Rev. [ΘΕΟΔΩΡΟC] ΔΕC Half figure facing of the Emperor, on l., crowned by the hand of God, and the Virgin, nimbate, on r., holding between them patriarchal cross on shaft; in upper r. field, MHP ligate – ΘV. DO 9. Sear 2167. LBC 332.  
About extremely fine 300

Ex CNG sale 57, 2001, 1515.

### Manuel Comnenus-Ducas, 1230 – 1237



825

- 825 Aspron trachy, Thessalonica 1230-1237, pale EL 3.01 g. MHP ligate – ΘV The Virgin, nimbate, wearing tunic and *maphorion*, seated upon throne, holding beardless nimbate head of Christ at Her breast. Rev. ΜΑΝΥ[ΗΑ] ΔΕCΠ The Emperor, on l., and St. Demetrius, on r., both standing facing and holding sheathed, downward pointing sword between them; in lower r. field, X / M. Protonotarios, Numismatic Circular LXXX, 1972, p. 53, 12 (this coin). DO 2.2 (this coin). Sear 2175. LBC 344.  
Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Attractively toned and extremely fine / good extremely fine 9'000

Ex LHS sale 97, 2006, 1721.

Manuel Comnenus-Ducas assumed rule in Thessalonica in 1230, following the crushing defeat of his brother, Theodore, by the Bulgarian King John Asen II. Though the details are not recorded, there seems to have been no serious opposition to Manuel taking his brother's place. He apparently refrained from being crowned emperor, being content with the title despot which he'd already held during his brother's reign.

His reign was remarkably tame, and the sources indicate his actions were largely diplomatic, involving a wide variety of political and religious figures. Curiously, he was a son-in-law of the John Asen who had defeated his brother, having married one of the Bulgarian king's illegitimate daughters.

Near the end of Manuel's reign, regional circumstances became more complex. Michael II Comnenus-Ducas had long infringed on Manuel's territories by exercising authority in Epirus, a state of affairs that seems to have become more noticeable by 1236. The final blow occurred when John Asen II released Manuel's brother Theodore, who returned to Thessalonica to oust Manuel and replace him with his son, John Comnenus-Ducas, on the throne of Thessalonica.

The exiled Manuel soon made his way to the court of John III, the emperor of Nicaea, who agreed to provide the military might to challenge his brother and his nephew in Thessalonica. The venture met with moderate success for Manuel, who was able to rule Thessaly while Theodore controlled part of Western Macedonia, his son John ruled in Thessalonica, and Michael II Comnenus-Ducas retained his rule in Epirus. The distribution of power in the region among four rulers was a turn of events that proved beneficial to competing powers of the era.



826

- 826 Aspron trachy, Thessalonica 1230-1237, billon 3.19 g. Half-length figure of Archangel Michael, nimbate, holding in r. hand sword resting over shoulder. Rev. The Emperor, on l., and St. Constantine, on r., both standing facing and holding a patriarchal cross between them. DO 6. Sear 2180. LBC 356.  
Very fine 100

**John Comnenus-Ducas, Emperor 1237 – 1242, Despot, 1242 – 1244**



827



828



827



- 827 Aspron trachy, Thessalonica 1237-1242, billon 2.54 g. The Virgin, nimbate, enthroned facing. Rev. The Emperor standing facing, holding *labarum* and globe. Series III, DO 16. Sear 2201. LBC –.  
About very fine 100

- 828 Aspron trachy, Thessalonica 1237-, billon 0.74 g. Winged and nimbate facing head of Cherub. Rev. The Emperor and St. Demetrius standing facing, holding long cross between them. Series III, DO 25a. Sear 2210. LBC 401.  
In exceptional condition for the issue. Lovely brown tone and good very fine 800

Ex LHS sale 97, 2006, 184.



829



- 829 Aspron trachy, Thessalonica 1137-1242, billon 1.42 g. MHP ligate – ΘV The Virgin seated facing on throne. Rev. ΔΕCΠOΘHC IOANNHC The Emperor standing facing, holding *labarum*-tipped sceptre and *anexikakia*; in upper r. field, the Hand of God. DO 28. Sear 2214. LBC 411.

In superb condition for the issue. Brown tone and about extremely fine

4'000

Ex LHS sale 97, 2006, 185.



830



- 830 Aspron trachy, Thessalonica 1137-1142, billon 1.01 g. Nimbate head of Christ facing. Rev. IOANN Facing heads of the Emperor and St. Demetrius, beardless; between them, patriarchal cross. DO –. Sear –. LBC –.  
Apparently unrecorded. Dark tone and very fine 200

**John III Ducas-Vatazes, 1246 – 1254**



831

- 831 Aspron trachy, Thessalonica 1249-1254, AR 2.87 g. MHP ligate – ΘV The Virgin, nimbate, seated facing on throne, holding nimbate head of infant Christ at Her breast; eight-pointed star on the back of throne. Rev. ΙΩ – Α[ΔΑΜΕ] The Emperor, on l., and St. Demetrius, on r., both standing facing and holding *labarum* between them. DO 2. Sear 2122. LBC 440.

Extremely rare. Lovely old cabinet tone and extremely fine 12'500

Ex LHS sale 97, 2006, 195.

When Constantinople came under Latin rule in 1204, during the Fourth Crusade, the political and military elements of the former Byzantine Empire were dispersed, yet the Greek speakers in the former realm never lost their desire to see Constantinople recover as the centre of a Greek Orthodox empire. On more than one occasion the former Byzantines backed a Greek-speaking potentate who promised to restore their empire. One such candidate was John III Ducas-Vatazes of Nicaea, who after 1230 drew Bulgarian, Latin and Epirote subjects to his grand cause.

He ruled the Empire of Nicaea starting in 1222, and in 1246 also came to rule in Thessalonica, maintaining all of these territories until his death in 1254, when he was succeeded by his only son Theodore Ducas-Lascaris. He was an effective ruler considering the abundance of his enemies, and despite his success in driving the Latins out of Asia Minor, and weakening the Empire of Constantinople, he did not recover the capital, which remained under the Latin rule until 1261.

Among John III's successes was his defeat of Demetrius Angelus Ducas, by which in 1246 he took command of the rival Greek empire based in Thessalonica. This caused Michael II Comnenus Ducas of Epirus (c.1230-67) to ally with the Latins against the Nicaeans, but sometime between 1248 and 1250 the rivals came to an agreement by which John III recognized Michael II as emperor, and in return Michael II was allowed to remain despot in Epirus.

In 1248, however, Michael II had offered his daughter Anna in a political marriage to William II, Prince of Achaia, and Michael apparently held this alliance in higher regard than his obligations to John III. Thus, in the winter of 1252/3 John III campaigned against Michael II and his uncle, the blinded ex-emperor Theodore Comnenus Ducas. It was on this occasion that the famous panegyric was composed for John III by the Peloponnesian Jacob of Bulgaria.

The most important coinage of this period was that of John III, who produced gold, silver and copper coins for decades at his principal mint of Magnesia, to which he later added the mint at Thessalonica, which provided so much coinage for the European provinces of the Empire.

## Other Rulers before the Restoration of the Byzantine Empire in 1261

### Isaac Comnenus, usurper in Cyprus, 1184 – 1191



- 832 Aspron trachy, main mint (Nicosia ?) 1187-1191 (?), EL 4.65 g. The Virgin, nimbate, seated facing and wearing *pallium* and *maphorium*, and holding beardless, nimbate head of Christ at Her breast. At sides MHP ligate - ΘV. Rev. ICAAKIOC [ΔE]C Isaac standing facing, wearing crown, *divitision* and *chlamys*, holding cruciform sceptre and *akakia*. Do 1. Sear 1990.

Extremely rare. Large areas of weakness and from a worn obverse die,  
otherwise good very fine / about extremely fine

8'000

Ex Gemini I, 2005, 515 and Stack's 12 January 2009, MIRB, 3292 sales.



- 833 Aspron trachy, main mint (Nicosia ?) 1187-1191, billon 3.73 g. O E MM A[ – NϞHA] Facing bust of Christ, beardless, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium* and raising r. hand in benediction; in l. hand, scroll. On either side of nimbus, IC – XC. Rev. [I]CAAKIOC – ΔEΠIO [...] Isaac standing facing, wearing crown, *divitision* and *chlamys*, holding cruciform sceptre and *akakia*. Do 3. Sear 1992.

Very rare and in unusual condition for the issue. Dark tone and good very fine

1'200

Ex Sotheby's sale 14 October 1999, 1992, Slocum, 180.

### Theodore Mancaphas, usurper in Philadelphia, circa 1188 – 1189



- 834 Aspron trachy, Philadelphia 1188-1189, billon 3.59 g. Christ, nimbate, standing facing on dais; at sides, IC – XC. On either side of bust, monogram ΘΦ. Rev. ΘE – ΔPO Crowned figure of Theodore standing facing, holding sceptre surmounted by patriarchal cross; in upper field, + – B. DO 2.2.

Very rare. Dark brown patina and very fine

600

Ex LHS sale 97, 2006, 205.

**John III Emperor with Michael Comnenus-Ducas Despot of Epirus, circa 1248**



835

835

- 835 Aspron trachy, Thessalonica 1248, billon 2.21 g. Half-length figure of Archangel Michael, beardless and nimbate, holding jewelled sceptre and globus; in field, X / [AP] – X / M. Rev. Facing figure of John, on r., crowning Despot Michael, on l.; the Emperor, holds sceptre *cruciger* and Despot holds a palm branch. At sides, X / [M] – IC. Hendy and Bendall, RN 1970, p. 144, 2 (this coin). Bendall, Numismatic Circular CIV, 1996, 5. DO 1.2 (this coin). Sear 2235.

Very rare. Brown tone, flan cracks, otherwise very fine 2'500

Ex LHS sale 97, 2006, 209.

**Ivan II Asen, Tsar of Bulgaria, 1218 – 1241**



836

- 836 Aspron, Ochrida (?) 1230-1241 (?), billon 4.01 g. Nimbate and beardless bust of Christ facing, holding Gospel in l. hand. Rev. [...] – ΔΕΜΗΤΡΙΕ Full length facing figures of Ivan, on l., and St. Demetrius, on r., holding a long shaft surmounted by star between them. DO 2.2. Dochev pl. 25, 1.

Dark green patina and good very fine 500

**The restored Byzantine Empire**

**Michel VIII Paleologus, 1261 – 1282, with Adronicus II Paleologus from 1272**



837

- 837 Hyperpyron 1261-1272, AV 4.15 g. Facing bust of the Virgin orans within city walls; in upper field, Θ – Θ. Rev. Michael, on l., kneeling r. before Christ seated facing, holding scroll; in the background, to l., St. Michael. In centre field, IC XC. DO 22. Sear 2243. PCPC 5, sigla 64. LBC 500.

Flan cracks, otherwise good very fine 500

Ex Künker sale 112, 2006, 1104.



838



838

838 Aspron trachy, Magnesia or Thessalonica 1272-1282, AR 1.40 g. A ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟC Δ Bust of St. Nicholas facing, with crossed nimbus, holding Book of Gospels; in lower field, monogram – A. Rev. [ΑΝΔΡΟΚΟC – ΧΜ ΔΕCΠΙΟΤΗ] Bust of Christ crowning the kneeling figure of Andronicus II and Michael VIII, both holding trifurcate sceptre in outer hand and a patriarchal cross between them set on a triangle; at sides of nimbus, IC – XC. DO 44 (this coin). Sear 2317 (this coin). PCPC 54. NK 697 (this coin). LPC –.

Extremely rare. Lovely old cabinet tone, flan crack at twelve o'clock on obverse, otherwise very fine 6'000

Ex Bourgey October 1992, NK, 589 and Stack's 12 January 2009, MIRB, 3329 sales.

Michael VIII, the Nicaean emperor who restored the Byzantine Empire by re-taking Constantinople in 1261, was strongly focused on building a dynasty of his own. Upon his coronation in Constantinople, he also crowned his three-year-old son, Andronicus II, thus laying the groundwork for his imperial role.

Meanwhile, the legitimate Nicaean emperor, John IV Lascaris, who Michael had used as a tool to become emperor, did not participate in the ceremonies since he conveniently had been left behind in Nicaea. Only a few months after the crowning, Michael made the young emperor forever ineligible for the throne by blinding him on December 25, 1261, the boy's eleventh birthday.

Afterward John IV was incarcerated in Bithynia, surviving until about 1305. He eventually became a priest, and was sainted, though there is no liturgical commemoration or surviving hagiography. His relics are said to have worked healing miracles, and were venerated by pilgrims.

Michael's callous acts against John IV received much condemnation, the most important being his excommunication by the Patriarch Arsenius, who became one of the emperor's most potent enemies and suffered much retaliation. Even after his death in exile in 1273, the Arsenites continued to oppose the Palaeologans – sometimes with uprisings and murder attempts. Until the Arsenite schism finally was resolved in 1310, it remained the most serious internal problem in the Byzantine state during the early Palaeologan period.

Those consequences aside, the transformation of power that Michael desired was complete. Unless we consider the Grand Comneni of Trebizond, we may say that Michael founded the longest-lived of all Byzantine dynasties, which would endure until the empire collapsed.

This silver trachy of Andronicus II reflects the royal arrangement of father and son, with both emperors being depicted on the reverse. The busy design spares little room for inscriptions, and only the name of St. Nicholas on the obverse, is complete. On the reverse Christ is identified with the traditional IC XC, and the two emperors, who hold between them a patriarchal cross, are identified merely by M and A, the first letters of their names.

### Andronicus II Palaeogulus, 1282 – 1328, with colleagues from 1295



839



839 Hyperpyron 1282-1294, AV 4.07 g. Bust of the Virgin orans within the walls of Constantinople; in lower field, P – P. Rev. Andronicus, nimbate, kneeling r. blessed by Christ standing facing. DO 226. Sear 2326. Bendall 25. PCPC 91. Areas of weakness, otherwise good very fine 400



840

- 840 Hyperpyron 1295-1320, AV 3.31 g. Bust of the Virgin orans within the walls of Constantinople; in lower field, Γ – Θ. Rev. Andronicus, on l., and Michael, on r., kneeling on either side of Christ standing facing and crowning both Emperors. DO 452. Sear 2396. PCPC 129. Very fine 200



841

841

- 841 Assarion 1294-1320 or later, Æ 2.14 g. Palaeologan monogram. Rev. Facing figures of the Emperors, holding *labarum* between them. DO 701. Sear 2430. LPC 50. PCPC 162. LBC 804. Brown tone and about very fine 750

Ex LHS sale 97, 2006, 285.



842

842

- 842 Trachy 1294-1320, Æ 1.45 g. Facing bust of Christ, with crossed nimbus; at sides, H – H. Rev. Facing figures of the Emperors, each holding cross-tipped sceptre and holding *labarum* between them. DO –. Sear DO –. LPC –. PCPC –. LBC –. Apparently unrecorded. Brown-green patina and very fine 300



843

- 843 Hyperpyron 1325-1328, AV 4.33 g. Bust of the Virgin orans, within city walls. Rev. Andronicus II and Andronicus III kneeling at either side of Christ, standing facing and crowning both emperors. DO 494. Sear 2461. LPC 108. PCPC 185.1. Very fine 300

- 844 Lot of five copper trachea: Sear: 2360, 2391, 2418, 2435, 2456. About very fine 250

**Andronicus III, 1328 – 1341**



845



846



- 845 Basilicon light series 1328-1341, AR 1.20 g. Christ, nimbate, standing on *souppédion*; in upper field, IC / B – [XC] / B; to l. and r., flower and lis. Rev. St. Demetrius and Andronicus standing facing. DO 871. Sear 2473. LPC 5. PCPC 198. LBC 825. Very rare. Areas of weakness, otherwise very fine 750
- 846 Stamenon 1328-1345, Æ 3.05 g. St. Demetrius, in military attire, standing facing, holding spear and shield. Rev. The Emperor standing facing, holding cross sceptre and *globus cruciger*. DO 889 var. (*labarum*). Sear 2477 var. (*labarum*). LPC 9 var. (*labarum*). PCPC 201 var. (*labarum*). An apparently unrecorded variety. Areas of weakness on obverse, otherwise about very fine 200



847



- 847 Assarion 1334-1335, Æ 2.25 g. Cross fleury quartered with pellet. Rev. Emperor standing facing, holding cross sceptre. DO 908. Sear 2481. PCPC 205. LPC 13. LBC 831. In superb condition for the issue. Dark tone and good very fine 300

**John V Palaeologus, 1341 – 1391**



848



850



849



- 848 **The Regency: Anna of Savoy and John V, 1341-1347.** Hyperpyron 1341-1347, EL 3.27 g. Ann of Savoy and John V standing facing. Rev. Andronicus III kneeling l. before Christ standing r. DO 942. Sear 2466. LPC 1. PCPC 190 var. Rare. Clipped flan, otherwise very fine / about very fine 500
- 849 **John V and John VI Cantacuzene, 1347-1353.** Stamenon 1347-1353, Æ 1.61 g. Christ enthroned facing. Rev. John V and John VI standing facing and holding cross on long shaft between them. DO –. Sear 2534. LPC 9. PCPC 296. LBC –. Very rare. Brown tone and about very fine 350
- 850 **John V restored, 1354-1376.** Politikon 1354-1376, billon 0.37 g. ΠΟΛΙΤΙΚΟΝ Cross. Rev. Castel with three towers; at sides, trefoil with stem. DO 1209/14. Sear 2578. LPC 7. PCPC 362. LBC 859. Very rare. Porous surfaces, otherwise very fine 600

**Andronicus IV Palaeologus, usurper, 1376 – 1379 – 1381**



851

- 851 Stavraton 1376-1379, AR 8.59 g. Facing bust of Christ, with crossed nimbus; in upper field, IC – XC. On either side of bust,  $\lambda\iota\varsigma$ ; all within beaded border surrounded by an outer border of eight stars alternating with pellets. Rev. + ANAPONIKOC ΔΕCΠΟΤΙC Ο ΠΑΛΑΕΟΛΟΓΟC / ΘΥ ΧΑΡΙΤΙ ΒΑCΙΛΕΥC ΤΩΝ ΡΩΜΑΙΟ in two circles around nimbate and crowned facing bust of Andronicus. DO –, see p. 208, 3 for sigla. Sear 2544. LPC 1. PCPC 323.3. LBC –.

Extremely rare and in excellent condition for this difficult issue. Lightly toned, minor areas of weakness, otherwise about extremely fine

12'000

Andronicus IV Palaeologus was born in Constantinople in 1348, and by 1355 at the latest he was made co-emperor with his father, John V Palaeologus, the emperor since 1341. While still a young man he shouldered serious responsibilities, acting as regent during his father's absence in Hungary from 1366 to 1367, and in Italy from 1369 to 1371.

However, he apparently lacked a sense of loyalty to his father, which was especially proven on two occasions. First, he failed to help his father when he was kept hostage by the Venetians for an outstanding debt, and it fell upon another of his sons, Manuel, then governor of Thessalonica, to stand in his place as hostage until the situation could be resolved.

The second event occurred in 1373, when Andronicus led a revolt against his father, allegedly because John V had agreed to become a vassal of the Ottoman Sultan Murad I (1361-1389). However, the sultan's son, Saudji (Savci Bey), simultaneously rebelled against his own father, seemingly because there was a private pact between the two heirs-apparent. Both attempts failed and Manuel was made co-emperor with his father. The sultan blinded his son so savagely that he died of his wounds, and he requested that John V blind his son as well; the emperor complied, but only to a degree, for Andronicus apparently retained or recovered his sight in one eye.

Andronicus was consequently jailed, and after about four years of incarceration he escaped and raised a new revolt. Turkish armed forces and Genoese ships combined on an expedition in August, 1376 that laid siege to Constantinople and in one month allowed Andronicus to enter the capitol and depose and imprison his father and brother. Eventually, in the following year, Andronicus was crowned emperor with his son, John VII Palaeologus. But his supremacy was not long lived, for in 1379 his father was able to escape from prison with the aid of Turks and Venetians, at which point he recovered the throne of the Byzantine Empire.

With the assistance of the Genoese, Andronicus remained unharmed in exile until the early summer of 1381, when he was able to negotiate his restoration to power. Not only was he named heir to his father, but he was given the right to rule over Selymbria, a region not far from Constantinople. Andronicus' feuding with his father persisted, however, and even as he died late in June, 1385, he was in the midst of a conflict with his father over a border fortress.

### Manuel II Palaeologus, 1391 – 1425



852



853



- 852 Stavraton circa 1391-1394 or 1395, AR 7.64 g. Facing bust of Christ, with crossed nimbus; in upper field, IC – XC. At sides of bust, B• – •B; all within beaded border surrounded by an outer border of eight stars alternating with pellets. Rev. + ΜΑΝΟΥΗΛ Δ[ΕΣΠΟΤΗΣ Ο ΠΑ]ΛΕΟΛΟΓΟΣ / ΘΥ ΧΑΡΙΤΙ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥ ΤΩΝ ΡΩΜΕΩ In two circles around nimbate and crowned facing bust of Manuel between two pellets. DO p. 218, plate 27, m and 1396 (this sigla unlisted). Sear 2549. LPC 1. PCPC 332.3.

Rare and in superb condition for the issue. About extremely fine 1'500

Ex LHS 97, 2006, 358.

- 853 Half stavraton light coinage, "Public mint" circa 1043-1425, AR 3.70 g. Facing bust of Christ, with crossed nimbus; in upper field, IC – XC. In lower l. field, monogram. All within beaded border surrounded by an outer border of pellets. Rev. + ΜΑΝΟΥΗΛ ΧΘ ΤΟ ΘΘ ΠΙΣΤΟΣ ΒΑ around nimbate and crowned facing bust of Manuel; at sides, • / Θ – •. DO 1500 (these dies). Sear 2552. LPC 2. PCPC 343.14. LBC –.

Rare. Lovely old cabinet tone, slightly off-centre, otherwise good very fine 750

### John VII Palaeologus, Regent, 1399 – 1403



854



854

- 854 Half stavraton 1399-1403, AR 3.68 g. Facing bust of Christ, with crossed nimbus; in field, IC – XC / C – Π. All within beaded border surrounded by an outer border of pellets. Rev. + ΙΩΑΝΗC ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥC Ο ΠΑΛΕΟΛΟΓΟΣ Nimbate and crowned facing bust of Emperor; at sides, two pellets. DO 1328. Sear 2562. LPC –. PCPC 346.6. LBC 1036.

Rare and in superb condition for the issue. Lightly toned and about extremely fine 2'000

Ex LHS sale 97, 2006, 364.

### John VIII Palaeologus, 1423 – 1448



855



- 855 Stavraton 1423-1448, AR 6.89 g. Facing bust of Christ, with crossed nimbus; in field, IC – XC / ΙΙC – ΙΙC. Rev. +ΙΩ Δ[ΕΣΠΟΤΗΣ Ο ΠΑΛΕΟΛΟΓΟΣ / ΘΥ ΧΑΡΙΤΙ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥ ΤΩΝ ΡΩΜΕΩ] In two circles around nimbate and crowned facing bust of John between two pellets. DO 1649 var. Sear 2564. LPC 1. PCPC 348.6. LBC –.

Large areas of weakness and slightly off-centre, otherwise good very fine 200

## The Empire of Trebizond

Andronicus I Gidon Comnenus, 1222 – 1235



856

- 856 Heavy aspron trachy, Trebizond 1222-1235, AR 3.05 g. MHP – ΘV The Virgin, nimbate and orans, wearing *maphorion*, standing facing on dais. Rev. OXAA – KHThC Christ Chalkites, with crossed nimbus, standing facing and wearing *himation* over *divitision*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; in upper field, IC – XC. DO 1 (uncertain of Nicaea). Sear 2148 (uncertain of Nicaea). Bendall, 'A Further Note on a Possible Early Coinage of the Empire of Trebizond', Numismatic Circular, August 2006, fig. 1; 'An Early Coinage of the 'Empire' of Trebizond?', Numismatic Circular, June 2002, 1 and Numismatic Circular, January 2007, p. 9.1.

Very rare. An enchanting iridescent tone, flan crack, otherwise good extremely fine 1'500

Ex Freeman & Sear Mail Bid XIV, 2007, 538.

The figures of the Virgin and Christ on this aspron trachy of Trebizond are of special interest for their connection to famous icons in Constantinople. The obverse shows the Theotokos Blachernitissa (Our Lady of Blachernae), best represented by an icon in the Chapel of the Reliquary in the Church of St. Mary of Blachernae.

The Virgin is shown with her nimbate head facing, and her body turned to the right, arms extended in a gesture of prayer. By the middle of the 11th century the image was considered an invincible weapon which on some occasions was brought to battle by emperors; eventually that role was assumed by the Hodegetria icon.

The reverse depicts Christ Chalkites, whose icon resided in the vestibule of the Imperial Palace, at the Chalke gate. The earliest representations of this icon show Christ with his right hand raised in benediction, but the later version on this Trebizond coin show him instead with hand on chest.

The original icon was reputedly placed above the entrance gate by none other than Constantine I (307-337), but this is generally regarded with suspicion. What presumably was the original work was demolished in 726 by Leo III (717-741), an event that marked the start of Iconoclasm. Once this powerful movement ended in 843, the patriarch Methodios, under Michael III (842-867), restored the figure of Christ over the Chalke Gate by enlisting the iconographer Lazarus. It was a triumph of sorts for Lazarus since he had been tortured by Theophilus (829-842), who took exception to the monk's devotion to images.

In that same monumental year of 843, the Feast of Orthodoxy was introduced into the calendar to mark the defeat of Iconoclasm. The procession of icons began at the Church of the Virgin in Blachernai and ended at the Hagia Sophia. About a century later a chapel was built beside the Chalke gate by Romanus I (920-944), and it later was reconstructed on a larger scale by John I Tzimiskes (969-976), who was buried there.



857

- 857 Trachy, Trebizond 1222-1235,  $\text{Æ}$  2.65 g. ANΔΠΟ – ΝΙΚΟC St. Andronicus, nimbate, standing facing, holding spear in his r. hand and resting l. on shield at his side. Rev. ΜΗΡ – ΘΥ / ΚΟΜΝΗ ΝC – ΟΓΙΔΟΝ The Virgin, nimbate, standing facing on dais, holding the bust of beardless Christ to her breast. Vegliery and Millas Numismatic Circular LXXXV, 1977, pp. 487-488 (this coin illustrated). Grierson p. 275 (this coin cited). Sear 2599 (this coin cited).

Extremely rare. Obverse somewhat rough, otherwise fine / very fine 3'000

Ex Leu sale 77, 2000, 912.

Andronicus I Comnenus-Gidon of Trebizond (1222-1235) came to the throne merely a generation after the Empire of Trebizond had been founded by his father-in-law Alexius I, Comnenus. Gidon's qualifications must have been significant, for he was chosen as successor over the emperor's natural son John Axuchus, still a minor at the time. Gidon, who is known to have led an expedition to protect the Trebizond vassal territories in the Crimea, was succeeded by his sons, John I (1235-1238) and the long-lived Manuel I (1238-1263), from whom all subsequent Trebizond rulers were descendants. Gidon seems to have been the first emperor of Trebizond to issue coinage in his own name, which apparently consisted entirely of base metal trachya. Though a number of these coin types have been attributed to this emperor in recent years, this is the only one that can be assigned without hesitation, for the name Gidon appears in the reverse inscription (which is remarkably clear on this example). With all other issues, good cases for their attribution to Gidon have been made, yet it remains possible that they belong to the Byzantine emperor Andronicus I Comnenus. The military figure on the obverse is usually described as St. Andronicus, though it may be Gidon since Andronicus was not a military saint.

## John II, 1280 – 1297



858



859



860



- 858 Asper, Trebizond 1280-1297, AR 2.66 g. St. Eugenius, nimbate, standing facing, holding long cross. Rev. The Emperor standing facing, holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*; in upper r. field, the hand of God. Retowski 6 var. (different symbol). Sear 2609. Lovely old cabinet tone and good very fine 200
- 859 Asper, Trebizond 1280-1297, AR 2.85 g. St. Eugenius, nimbate, standing facing, holding long cross. Rev. The Emperor standing facing, holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*; in upper r. field, the hand of God. Retowski 78. Sear 2609. Old cabinet tone and extremely fine 300
- Ex Aufhauser sale 16, 2001, 530.
- 860 Asper, Trebizond 1280-1297, AR 2.57 g. St. Eugenius, nimbate, standing facing, holding long cross. Rev. The Emperor standing facing, holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*; in upper r. field, the hand of God. Sear 2609. Areas of weakness, otherwise good very fine 100

## The Coinage of the Crusaders



861



862



861 **Latin Princes of Antioch. Tancred, regent, 1104-1111, and effective ruler, 1111-1112 (?).** Follis, Antioch 1104-1112, Æ 5.68 g. Nimbate bust of St. Peter facing, holding long cross and scroll. Rev. [...] HTOAV / OCOVT / NHRI. Schlumberger pl. II, 6. Metcalf 49. Green patina and about very fine 150

862 Follis, Antioch 1104-1112, Æ 5.55 g. Facing bust of Christ, with crossed nimbus, holding Book of Gospels; at sides, IC – XC. Rev. Cross quartered with the inscription TA – NK – P – H. Schlumberger pl. II, 8. Metcalf 82. Extremely fine 200

Ex NAC sale 20, 2000, 1642.



863



864



865



866



863 **Raymond of Poitiers, 1136-1149.** Denier, Antioch 1136-1149, billon 0.95 g. + RAIMVNDVS Bare head r. Rev. + ANTIOCHIE Cross. Schlumberger pl. II, 17. Metcalf 334. Toned and very fine 150

864 **Bohemond III of Poitiers, 1149-1163.** Denier, Antioch 1136-1149, billon 0.82 g. + BOAMVNDVS Bare head r. Rev. + ANTI⊙CHIA Cross with pellet in first quarter. Schlumberger pl. II, 20. Metcalf 46. About extremely fine 100

865 Denier, Antioch 1136-1149, billon 0.99 g. + BOAMVNDVS Helmeted head l., wearing chainmail; the helmet is decorated with cross; in field, crescent – star. Rev. + ANTIOCHIA Cross with crescent in second quarter. Schlumberger pl. III, 4. Metcalf 368 ff. Attractively toned and extremely fine 150

Ex Vecchi sale 1, 1996, 973.

866 **Kingdom of Jerusalem. Baldwin III of Anjou, 1143-1163.** Denier, Jerusalem 1143-1163, billon 0.82. REX BALdVINVS Cross. Rev. +: dE IERVSALEM Tower of David. Schlumberger pl. III, 21. Metcalf 163. Very fine 150



867



868



867 **Amaury of Anjou, 1163-1174.** Denier, Jerusalem 1163-1174, billon 0.76 g. AMALRICVS REX Cross with annulet in first and fourth quarter. Rev. +DE IERVSALEM Church of the Resurrection. Schlumberger pl. III, 19. Metcalf 176. About extremely fine 200

868 **John of Brienne, 1210-1225.** Denier, Damietta or Acri after 1219, billon 0.61 g. + IOhESiREX Cross with annulet in first and fourth quarter. Rev. + DAMI·ATA Crowned head facing. Schlumberger pl. III, 25. Metcalf 205. Lightly toned, metal flaw on reverse, otherwise good very fine 200



870



869



870

869 **Lords and kings of Cyprus. Guy of Lusignan, lord of Cyprus, 1192-1194.** Denier, Cyprus 1192-1194, billon 1.17 g. + REX GVIDOD. Crowned head facing, with pellet on each side. Rev. + IERUSALEM The Holy Sepulchre. Schlumberger pl. III, 25. Metcalf 628. Extremely rare. About very fine 600

Ex CNG sale 63, 2003, 1758.

870 **Hugo IV of Lusignan, king of Cyprus, 1324-1359.** Gros grand, Nicosia (?) 1324-1359, AR 4.60 g. King seated on throne, holding lis-tipped sceptre and *globus cruciger*. Rev. Jerusalem cross. Schlumberger pl. VI, 24. Metcalf 733 var. Old cabinet tone and very fine 200



871



872



871

871 **Latin ruler of Constantinople.** Trachy, Constantinople 1204-1261, billon 3.65 g. Bust of Christ facing, with crossed nimbus, wearing *pallium* and *colobium*, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l. Rev. The Archangel Michael standing facing. DO B.16.7-10. Sear 2036. Very fine 200

872 Trachy, Constantinople 1204-1261, billon 1.49 g. Half figure of the Virgin orans standing facing. Rev. The Emperor standing facing, holding *labarum* and globe. DO 34. Sear 2048. Very fine 150



873



873 **Baudouin II of Courtenay (?), 1240-1261.** Hyperpyron, Constantinopolis 1240-1259, AV 3.54 g. Christ, with crossed nimbus, enthroned facing, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l.; above r. cushion of throne, cross of pellets. Rev. The Emperor standing facing, holding *labarum*, crowned by the Virgin, standing at his side. DO 9f. Sear -. Metcalf p. 229.

Very rare. Graffiti and the faces of the Emperor and the Virgin partially re-engraved, otherwise very fine 2'000

Ex Künker 43, 1998, 474 and Künker 112, 2006, 1109 sales.

We have, doubtfully, attributed this hyperpyron to Baudouin de Courtenay on the basis of what is reported by Metcalf (*op. cit.*, pp. 229-230) and Hendy (*DO*, vol 4, part 2, pp. 475 e 476, table 14). These two scholars, referring to documents of the period – in particular the treatise “Pratica della Marcatura” written by the Florentine merchant Francesco Balducci Pegolotti towards the end of the XIII century – assigned the type of hyperpyra with the with randomly dotted pellets at either side of the throne to the Latin Authorities, whilst expressing the need for further evidence.

Baudouin was crowned emperor at Saint Sophia at Easter 1240, but left his dominion for France until he joined the Fifth Crusade, during which he was present at Damietta in June 1249. In January 1266, he sold his titular rights to the Kingdom of Thessalonica to Hugues IV Duke of Burgundy for 13,000 livres tournois. Under the Treaty of Viterbo, concluded on 27th May 1267, Emperor Baudouin ceded all of his rights over Greece (except the city of Constantinople) to Charles I d’Anjou king of Sicily, a contract confirmed by the betrothal of his son to Charles’ daughter.

## Medieval European Coinage

### Bohemia



874



874

- 874 **Udalrich, 1012-1034.** Denar, Prague 1012-1034, AR 1.12 g. ODALRICVS:DVX Stylised bust r. Rev. ODALRICVS:X Cross quartered with arrows in the first quarter, annulets in the second and third, three pellets in fourth. Cach 284.

Lovely iridescent tone, sharply struck with a minor flan crack at eleven o'clock on obverse, otherwise extremely fine

900

Ex Rauch 25, 1979, 542 and Künker 130, 2007, de Wit, 2707 sales.



875



875

- 875 Denar, Prague 1012-1034, AR 1.00 g. ODALRICVS:DVX Bust facing, holding standard. Rev. SVENCE ZLAVS The hand of Providence. Cach 288.

Old cabinet tone, minor area of weakness on obverse, otherwise extremely fine

800

Ex Rauch 25, 1979, 547 and Künker 130, 2007, de Wit, 2709 sales.

### Bulgaria



877



876



877

- 876 **Bulgarian imitative coinage of the Byzantine. In the name of Alexius III, 1195-1203.** Trachy, Tarnovo (?) circa 1195, Æ 2.89 g. Facing bust of youthful Christ, with crossed nimbus, raising r. hand in benediction; in upper field, IC – XC. Rev. Facing figures of Alexander, holding *labarum*-tipped sceptre and St. Constantine. Both holding a *globus cruciger* between them. DO –, cf. type C p. 441-442.

Brown tone and very fine

200

Ex Münzentrum 66, 1989, 1714 and Stack's 12 January 2009, MIRB, 3298 sales.

- 877 **Second Bulgarian Empire. Ivan Asen II, 1218-1241.** Tracy, Tarnovo 1218-1241, Æ 3.59 g. Facing bust of Christ Pantokrator; at sides, IC – XC. Rev. Facing figures of Ivan II and St. Dimitri holding star-tipped sceptre between them. Raduchev & Zekov type 1.2.2. Yokourova 35-36.

Green patina, weakly struck on obverse and flan crack, otherwise good very fine

400



- 878 **Mitzo Asen, 1256-1257.** Trachy, Æ 3.10 g. Facing and nimbate bust of St. Nikolai, raising r. hand in benediction and holding Book of Gospels in l. Rev. Half-length figure of the Emperor, holding sceptre and cross. Raduchev & Zekov type 1.6.2-5. Yokourova 137. Good very fine 200
- 879 **Constantin I Asen, 1257-1277.** Trachy, Tarnovo, Æ 1.87 g. Facing bust of Christ Pantokrator; in upper field, IC – XC. Rev. The Emperor standing facing, holding *labarum* and *globus cruciger*. Raduchev & Zekov type 1.4.4-6. Yokourova 39. Areas of weakness, otherwise extremely fine 100
- 880 Trachy, Tarnovo, Æ 1.92 g. Facing bust of Christ Pantokrator; in upper field, IC – XC. Rev. The Emperor on horseback r., head facing, holding patriarchal cross. Raduchev & Zekov type 1.4.11. Yokourova 42. Slightly double-struck on obverse, otherwise extremely fine 200
- 881 **Georg Terter I, 1280-1292.** Trachy, Tarnovo, Æ 2.24 g. Christ Pantokrator enthroned facing; in upper field, IC – XC. Rev. The Emperors standing facing, holding cross between them. Raduchev & Zekov type 1.7.1. Yokourova 51. Light green patina and good very fine 250



- 882 **Todor Svetoslav, 1300-1322.** Grosh, AR 1.66 g. Christ Pantokrator enthroned facing; in upper field, IC – XC. Rev. The Emperor standing facing, holding cross-tipped sceptre. Raduchev & Zekov type 1.8.1. Yokourova 52. Very fine 300
- 883 Grosh, AR 1.34 g. Christ Pantokrator enthroned facing; in upper field, IC – XC. Rev. The Emperor standing facing, holding cross-tipped sceptre. Raduchev & Zekov type 1.8.2-3. Yokourova –. Good very fine 350



- 884 Trachy, Æ 1.69 g. Cross patée. Rev. The Emperor on horseback r., head facing, holding patriarchal cross. Raduchev & Zekov type 1.8.4-6. Yokourova 55. Weakly struck on obverse, otherwise very fine / extremely fine 200
- 885 **Georg II Terter, 1222-1223.** Grosh, AR 1.67 g. Christ Pantokrator enthroned facing; in upper field, IC – XC. Rev. The Emperor and St. Mark standing facing, holding *vexillum* between them. Raduchev & Zekov type 1.10.1-3. Yokourova 50. Very fine / about very fine 400



886



887



888



889



- 886 **Michael III Asen III Sisman, 1323-1330.** Grosh, Tarnovo, AR 1.18 g. Christ Pantokrator enthroned facing; in upper field, IC – XC. Rev. The Emperor and St. Mark standing facing, holding *vexillum* between them. Raduchev & Zekov type 1.11.7. Yokourova 59. Very fine 250
- 887 Grosh, Tarnovo, AR 1.64 g. Christ Pantokrator enthroned facing; in upper field, IC – XC. Rev. The Emperor on horseback r., head facing, holding long cruciform sceptre. Raduchev & Zekov type 1.11.11. Yokourova 64. Rare. Toned, edge very slightly chipped, otherwise good very fine 500
- 888 Trachy, Chirpan, Æ 1.61 g. Christ Pantokrator enthroned facing; in upper field, IC – XC. Rev. The Emperor standing facing, holding sceptre and cross. Raduchev & Zekov –. Yokourova 70. Green patina and very fine 250
- 889 **Ivan Stefan, 1330-1331.** Trachy, Æ 1.47 g. Sisman monogram. Rev. Ivan Stefan and Michael III standing facing, holding long cruciform sceptre between them. Raduchev & Zekov type 1.11.1-2. Yokourova 65-66. Very fine 250



890



891



892



893



- 890 **Ivan Aleksander, 1331-1371.** Grosh, Tarnovo, AR 1.54 g. Christ Pantokrator enthroned facing; in upper field, IC – XC. Rev. The Emperor standing facing, holding long cruciform sceptre and *globus cruciger*. Raduchev & Zekov type 1.13.1-2. Yokourova 71. Extremely fine 200
- 891 Trachy, Tarnovo, Æ 1.26 g. Monogram of Aleksander. Rev. The Emperor on horseback r., head facing, holding long cruciform sceptre. Raduchev & Zekov type 1.13.9-12. Yokourova 83-84. Green patina and good very fine 250
- 892 Trachy, Tarnovo, Æ 1.27 g. Cross patée ending in floral motif; in upper field, D – X. Rev. Imperial eagle facing with spread wings. Raduchev & Zekov type 1.13.64. Yokourova 105. Green patina and about extremely fine 400
- 893 Trachy, Tarnovo, Æ 1.57 g. Castle with three towers. Rev. Ivan Aleksander and Michael Asen IV standing facing, holding *labarum* between them. Raduchev & Zekov type 1.13.19-22. Yokourova 89. Good very fine 200



894



895



896



897



- 894 **Ivan Sisman, 1371-1395.** Half-grosh, Tarnovo, AR 0.60 g. Half bust of the Virgin orans, with figure of nimbate infant Christ to Her breast. Rev. Half figure of Ivan Sisman, holding cross-tipped sceptre. Raduchev & Zekov type 1.15.7-8. Yokourova 124-5. Very fine 250
- 895 Trachy, Tarnovo, Æ 0.80 g. Cross in saltire. Rev. Monogram of Sisman tsar; below, cross. Raduchev & Zekov type 1.15.21-22. Yokourova 130. About very fine 200
- 896 Trachy, Tarnovo, billon 1.15 g. Rampant lion to l. Rev. Monogram of Sisman tsar. Raduchev & Zekov type 1.15.15-16. Yokourova 131. Traces of silvering, about very fine 200
- 897 **Ivan Sracimir, 1356-1397.** Grosh, Vidin, AR 1.13 g. Half-figure of the Pantokrator facing. Rev. Ivan enthroned facing, holding lis-tipped sceptre and scroll. Raduchev & Zekov type 1.14.1. Yokourova 107. Lightly toned and very fine 250

### Denmark



898



899



- 898 **Svein Estridsen, 1047-1074.** Denier, Lund 1047-1074, AR 0.94 g. + VIIDO – IIT – IV – O Draped male figure standing facing, holding long sceptre surmounted by cross and globe surmounted by patriarchal cross. Rev. + PV – LFE:TOV IDIO Long void cross with limbs ending in three crescents. Hauberg 9. Very rare. Lightly toned and extremely fine 2'400  
Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, de Wit, 631.
- 899 Denier, Roskilde (?) 1047-1074, AR 0.92 g. Draped male figure standing facing, holding long sceptre surmounted by cross and *globus cruciger*; in upper l. field, S. Rev. Blundered legend. Long void cross with limbs ending in three crescents. Hauberg –. Rare. Light scratches on reverse and slightly wavy flan, otherwise about extremely fine / very fine 900  
Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, de Wit, 632. From the Hauberg and Ernst collections.

### England



900



900

- 900 **Aethelred II, 978-1016.** Long cross penny, Bath circa 997-1003, AR 1.71 g. + ÆDELRED REX ANG Bare-headed and draped bust l. Rev. + PI – NSTA NM⊙ – BAD Void cross with limbs ending in three crescents. North 774. Seaby 1151. Wonderful iridescent tone and extremely fine 900



901

- 901 **Cnut, 1016-1035.** Penny, London circa 1024-1030, AR 1.35 g. + CNVT – T REC Draped bust l., wearing pointed helmet and holding sceptre. Rev. + GODERE ON LVND Short void cross with pellet in centre and in each corner a broken annulet with a pellet inside. North 787. Seaby 1158.  
Lightly toned and about extremely fine 400



902

- 902 **Edward the confessor, 1042-1066.** Penny, Lewes 1053-1056, AR 1.33 g. + EDPER – D REX Draped bust r., with pointed helmet and cross-tipped sceptre. Rev. + EDPINE ON LEPE Short void cross with pellet in centre and in each corner a broken annulet with a pellet inside. North 825. Seaby 1179.  
Superb iridescent tone and good extremely fine 1'200

Ex Triton sale IV, 2000, 967 and Nomos I, 2009, 182 sales.

## France



- 903 **Aquitaine. Edward the black prince, 1362-1372.** Hardi, Bordeaux 1362-1372, AR 1.09 g. The Prince standing facing, holding upright sword in r. hand. Rev. Cross quartered with lis and leopards. PdA pl. 65, 17-18. Elias 202.  
Old cabinet tone and good very fine 200

Ex Vecchi sale I, 1996, 1063.

- 904 **Diocese of Clermont. Anonymous Episcopal issues, 1030-1120.** Denier, AR 1.05 g. SEA·MARIA Crowned and draped bust of Maria facing. Rev. + VRBS ARVERNA Cross quartered with trefoils. PdA 2253.  
Old cabinet tone and good very fine 100

- 905 **Provence. Alphonse II of Aragon, 1185-1209.** Denier, AR 0.94 g. Crowned head l. Rev. Cross. Crusafont 171.  
Old cabinet tone and very fine 100

- 906 **Orange. Raymond IV de Baux prince, 1340-1393.** Florin, AV 3.51 g. R DI G P AVRA Fleur-de-lis. Rev. S IOHA – NNES B helmet St. John standing facing, raising r. in benediction and holding cruciform sceptre. PdA 4521. Bernocchi 173. Friedberg 189.  
Light marks on edge, otherwise very fine 600

## Germany



907



908



907

- 907 **Halle. Adelgod archbishop, 1107-1119.** Brakteat, AR 0.66 g. Facing bust of the archbishop, holding flag; in r. field, star. Rev. The same type incuse. Berger 2026. Löbbecke collection 498.

Lightly toned and extremely fine 600

Ex M&M Germany sale 19, 2006, Güstrow, 966.

- 908 **Brandenburg. Anonymous issues (Albrecht III?).** Pfennig, AR 0.71 g. Male figure standing facing, holding sword and flag. Rev. Eagle with spread wings within castle with three towers. Bahrfeldt 254. Dannenberg 87.

Old cabinet tone and very fine 120

Ex M&M Germany sale 19, 2006, Güstrow, 976.

## Hungary



909



910



909



- 909 **Stephan IV, 1162-1163.** Trachy, Æ 2.45 g. Bela II on l., and Stephan IV, on r., enthroned facing, both with sceptre and *globus cruciger*. Rev. The Virgin seated facing, holding lily and Child. CNH 98. Huszar 72.

About extremely fine 100

- 910 **Ludwig I, 1342-1382.** Florin, AV 3.57 g. + LODOV – ICI REX Fleur-de-lis. Rev. S IOIIA – NES B crown St. John standing facing, raising r. hand in benediction and holding cruciform sceptre. CNH 62. Pohl B1. Friedberg 3.

Very fine 400

## Ireland



911



- 911 **Hiberno-Norse, 1035-1052.** Penny, AR 0.85 g. + IIITINRIIDIIPIIM Stylized, draped bust l., with four points on neck. Rev. + IIPIPIFNIDII Long void cross with each limb ending in three crescents; quartered by hand in first, pellet in second and third, and S in fourth. D-F 24. Seaby 6133.

Nicely toned and extremely fine 1'750

Ex Spink Numismatic Circular 1970, 5678 and Künker sale 137, 2008, de Wit, 3308.

Italy



912



913



914



- 912 **Amalfi. Anonymous dukes, mid 11th century.** Tari first half of 11th century (?), AV 0.93 g. Two circles of pseudo-Cufic legend around linear circle with pellet inside. Rev. Two circles of pseudo-Cufic legend around linear circle with pellet inside. MIN cf. 40 and 53. MEC 14, 39. Extremely fine 800

Ex Vinchon sale 25-27 June 1998, 499.

- 913 Tari circa 1070-1100 (?), AV 0.95 g. Two circles of pseudo-Cufic legend around linear circle with cross inside. Rev. Two circles of pseudo-Cufic legend around linear circle with cross inside. MIN 51. MEC 14, 40. Areas of weakness, otherwise good very fine 850

- 914 Tari early 12th century (?), AV 0.90 g. Two circles of pseudo-Cufic legend around linear circle with pellet inside. Rev. Two circles of pseudo-Cufic legend around linear circle with pellet inside. MIN cf. 53. MEC 14, 44-45. Flan crack at twelve o'clock, otherwise very fine 500

Ex NAC sale 12, 1998, 2516.



915



- 915 **Manso vicedux, end of the 11th century.** Follaro after 1077, Æ 2.74 g. Bull (?) advancing r.; above, IMA (?). Rev. [MANSO / V]ICED / VX. Cappelli 47 (Salerno). MIN 80. MEC 14, 127.

Extremely rare. Traces of overstriking, otherwise very fine 800

Ex NAC sale 20, 2000, 9.

Although Manso was a common surname among the dukes of Amalfi in the 10th and 11th centuries, written sources do not allow us to attribute this issue to a precise duke of that name let alone explain the legend VICEDVX. The authors of MEC 14 however, are inclined to identify this Manso, even if they are doubtful and await new evidence, as the son or grandson of a Manso IV, Duke of Amalfi, deposed in 1053. One of the two could have been made *vicedux* by Roberto Guiscard or Roger Borsa, most probably the latter, noted for his good relations with the Lombards.



916



917



- 916 **Ruggero II, 1130-1154.** Tari 1140-1154, AV 0.84 g. Two circles of pseudo-Cufic legend around linear circle with R· inside. Rev. Two circles of pseudo-Cufic legend around linear circle with cross inside. MIN 230. MEC 14, 231. Areas of weakness, otherwise very fine 300

- 917 Tari 1140-1154, AV 0.86 g. Two circles of pseudo-Cufic legend around linear circle with R· inside. Rev. Two circles of pseudo-Cufic legend around linear circle with cross inside. MIN 230. MEC 14, 231. Areas of weakness, otherwise about very fine 250



918

- 918 **Enrico VI, king of Sicily, 1194-1197.** Tari summer 1194, AV 0.81 g. + HEINRICVS SEXTVS Crowned bust facing, with sceptre in r. hand; in r. field, star. Rev. + ROMAN6 IMPATR Cross with pellet at each end. Sambon Repertorio 1096. CNI 1-3. MEC 14, 476.

Exceedingly rare, only very few specimens known. Reddish tone and very fine 10'000

Very few specimens are known of this exceedingly rare coin, almost all of which are held in public collections. Sambon in his book mentions only four specimens: one in the collection of "His Majesty the King of Italy", the second in museum of Copenhagen, the third in Paris at the Biblioteque Nationale and the fourth in the Giulio Sambon collection. To these specimens we can add the one published by Grierson in MEC 14, coming from the NAC-Spink-Taisei sale 51.

The marriage of Costanza d'Altavilla and the Emperor Henry VI of Hohenstaufen, unfortunately wanted by her nephew, William II king of Sicily, was to have dire consequences for the Norman dynasty. Upon the death of the childless William, there were three pretenders to the throne: Costanza, legitimised by her nephew; Tancredi, illegitimate son of Roger of Apulia, son of king Roger II; and Roger of Andria, a shady character who was vaguely connected to the royal family. Tancredi, supported by the Sicilians and the Church, managed to be crowned, but to the ambitious and ruthless Henry, who regarded the conquest of Kingdom as the first step towards much larger territorial gains, the opportunity to become involved in dynastic dispute supporting his wife's claim to the throne seemed too good to be true. Arriving in Italy in 1191 to be crowned in Rome, the military operations began and over the course of three years, after three expeditions and thanks to the power vacuum created by the premature death of Tancredi, Henry became master of the Kingdom. After attending Henry's coronation held in the Duomo of Palermo, Tancredi's wife Sybilla and her son, William III who was king for just ten months, were imprisoned for an alleged conspiracy and deported to Germany. Henry's plans for conquest were so complete but he was unable to enjoy the fruits of his success for long because he died of a chill shortly after, in 1197. Henry's was to be the first foreign invasion to brusquely put an end to a legitimate government. The same will happen, nemesis of history, to the Svevi and then to all of the dynasties that ruled over Southern Italy. The date of this tari is uncertain, datable around either the first Italian expedition (1191) or the second (1194). The authors of MEC 14 leaning towards the second.



919

920

- 919 **Aquileia. Patriarchal city, second half XII century. Frisacenses attributed to Aquileia.** Denaro, AR 1.17 g. Stylized male bust facing, with patriarchal staff on l., and four-leaf clover between pellets above. Rev. Three towers, each surmounted by four-leaf clover. CNI 10-12. Bernardi 3.

Very rare. Old cabinet tone and good very fine 400

- 920 **Antonio II Panciera, 1402-1411.** Soldo or denaro, AR 0.69 g. Coat of arms of the patriarch. Rev. Eagle standing l., with spread wings. CNI 1. Bernardi 66.

Lightly toned and good very fine 100



921

- 921 **Asti. Comune, 1140-1336.** Grosso tornese, AR 3.93 g. AVE MARIA GRA PLENA DOMINVS TECVM / CONRADVS II around the inscription REX. Rev. ASTE NITET MVDO SCO CVSTODE SECVNDO / ASTENSIS around cross. CNI 41. MIR 30.

Very rare. Old cabinet tone and very fine 2'000



- 922 **Bari. Ruggero II, 1130-1154.** Fraction of follaro 543 AH (1139), Æ 1.44 g. Nimbate bust of St Nicholas facing; at sides, OA / NI – KO / ΛA / O. Rev. Cufic legend: “made in Bari in 534” around linear circle with pellet inside. CNI cf. 4. MIN 209. MEC 14, 193. Rare. Very fine 750

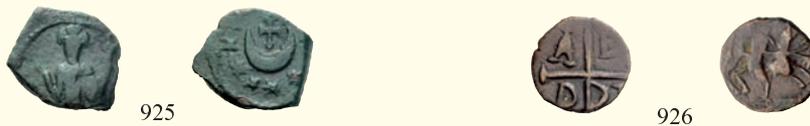
Ex NAC sale 20, 2000, 24.

This coin was struck to commemorate the conquest of Bari by Roger II.

- 923 Follaro after 1145, Æ 1.44 g. Nimbate figure of St. Demetrius standing facing, holding sword; in l. field, O / Δ / [N]. Rev. Pseudo-Cufic legend; above, [cross]. CNI 2 (Pandolfo Capo di Ferro). Sambon Repertorio 482 (Pandolfo Capo di Ferro). MIN 203 (Capua). MEC 14, 488 (Capua). Travaini, Monete e storia nell’Italia medievale, p. 64, C. Green patina and very fine 150



- 924 **Bergamo. Comune, XIII-XIV century. Issues in the name of Frederic II of Hohenstaufen.** Grosso da denari 6 1236-1250, AR 2.06. FRIDERI/CVS – IMPRT Laureate and draped bust r. Rev. Building with four towers and four arches; at sides, PGA – MVM. CNI 138. Gasparinetti B1. MIR 16a. Rare. Lovely old cabinet tone and an attractive portrait, about extremely fine 5\*250

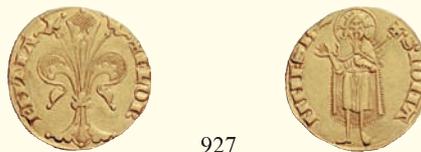


- 925 **Capua. Ruggero II, 1130-1154.** Follaro 1134-1135, Æ 2.85 g. St. Stephan standing facing, raising r. hand. Rev. Cross set over crescent within circle of star. CNI 4. Sambon Repertorio 902. MIN 208. MEC 14, 192. In unusually fine condition for the issue. Green patina and very fine / good very fine 150

Ex NAC sale 20, 2000, 80.

- 926 Follaro 1136-1144, Æ 1.44 g. Cross quartered with A – D – P – P. Rev. Horseman riding r. CNI 2 (Atenolfo). MIN 204b var. MEC 14, 189 var. Rare. Brown tone and very fine 200

Ex NAC sale 20, 2000, 74.



- 927 **Firenze. Republic 1189-1533.** Fiorino stretto IV serie 1252-1303, AV 3.49 g. Fleur-de-lis. Rev. St. John standing facing, holding cross-tipped sceptre and raising r. hand in benediction; symbol: fish. CNI 643. Bernocchi 295. Good very fine 800



928



928

- 928 Fiorino largo di I tipo 1455/I semester, AV 3.51 g. Fleur-de-lis. Rev. St. John standing facing, holding cross-tipped sceptre and raising r. hand in benediction; symbol: wheel surmounted by L. (Lutozio Nasi). CNI 299. Bernocchi 2763. Rare. Extremely fine 1'200



929



930



931



- 929 **Gaeta. Anonymous dukes, mid 11th century.** Follaro, Æ 2.64 g. Stylised bust facing. Rev. + CON ET DVX α retrograde with reverse letters; in field, ∅. CNI 5. MIN 430. MEC 14, 48. Fair 200
- 930 **Norman dukes, 12th century. Follari in the name of Richard.** Follaro, Æ 3.10 g. RIC CON ET DVX Cross potent. Rev. GAETA II Cross potent. CNI 1 (Riccardo II dell'Aquila). MIN 433. MEC 14, -. Traces of overstriking, otherwise about very fine 200
- Ex NAC sale 20, 2000, 105.

- 931 Follaro, Æ 4.09 g. RIC CON ET DVX Cross potent. Rev. GAETA II Cross potent; countermark, D\*V. CNI 3 (Riccardo II dell'Aquila). MIN 434a. MEC 14, -. Fine 150



932



933



934



- 932 **Autonomous coinage, late 12th to early 13th century.** + SCS ERASMVS Cross potent quartered with dots. Rev. CIVITAS GAIETA Castle with dot above. CNI 1. MIN 437. MEC 14, 59. Fine 150
- 933 **Guglielmo II, 1166-1189.** Follaro, Æ 7.74 g. + W DEI GRA REX Cross potent. Rev. + CIVITAS GAIETA Castle. CNI pl. 15, 12 (Guglielmo I or II). MIN 380. MEC 14, 421-422. About very fine 200
- 934 **Tancredi, 1189-1194.** + TANC DEI GRA REX Cross potent quartered by wedges; countermark on obverse field. Rev. + CIVITAS GAIETA Castle. CNI 4. MIN 408. MEC 14, -. Rare. About very fine 250



935

- 935 **Enrico VI imperatore, 1194-1197.** Follaro summer 1194, Æ 5.89 g. [∗]PIAL M]AIESTA Crowned bust facing, with sceptre in r. hand. Rv. [∗]MON CI]VIT GA[IE]TA Crowned bust facing, with sceptre in r. hand ; in r. field, two pellets. CNI 2 (Enrico VI and Costanza). MIN 443. MEC 14, 475.  
Extremely rare. Green patina and very fine 1'500

The most recent studies attribute this follaro, formerly assigned to Enrico and Costanza, to Enrico alone.



936



936



- 936 **Genova. Carlo VI King of France and Lord of Genova, 1396-1409.** Genovino, AV 3.53 g. + K REX FRANCOR D IANVAE N Castle. Rev. + CONRADV REX ROMANORVM N Cross. CNI 3. Lunardi 52. Ricci 59. MIR 53.  
Very rare. Good very fine 3'000



937



938



939



- 937 **Napoli. Carlo II d'Angiò, 1285-1309.** Saluto d'oro, AV 4.36 g. + KAROL'SCD'DEI GRA IERL'SICIL' REX Shield of Jerusalem-Anjou surrounded by star and rosette; above, crescent. Rev. + AVE GRACIA PLENA DOMINVS TECVM Scene of the Annunciation; in the foreground, vase with lis. CNI 1. Pannuti-Riccio 1. MEC 14, 682.  
Traces of mounting, otherwise very fine 1'500

- 938 Saluto d'argento, AR 3.21 g. + KAROL'SCD'DEI GRA IERL'SICIL' REX Shield of Jerusalem-Anjou surrounded by star and rosette; above, crescent. Rev. + AVE GRACIA PLENA DOMINVS TECVM Scene of the Annunciation; in the foreground, vase with lis. CNI 9. Pannuti-Riccio 2. MEC 14, 683.  
Old cabinet tone and about extremely fine 350

Ex M&M-Leu sale 11 March 1987, Spahr, 215.

- 939 Denaro regale 1290-1292, billon 0.71 g. Crowned bust facing. Rev. Cross fleurdelisée. CNI 28. Pannuti-Riccio 4. MEC 14, 689.  
Very fine 150



940

- 940 **Alfonso I d'Aragona, 1442-1558.** Sesquiducato or 1 1/2 ducat, AV 5.23 g. + ALFONSV D G R ARAGO SICILI CITRA VLTR Quartered arms of Naples and Aragona (second and third). Rev. + D N S M ADIVT ET EGO DESPICIA INIMIC M King on horseback r., brandishing sword. CNI 26. Pannuti-Riccio 2. MEC 14, 848. A few light edge marks, otherwise good very fine / about extremely fine 3'500



942



941



942



- 941 Denaro, billon 0.55 g. Crowned bust facing. Rev. Quartered arms of Aragona and Naples. CNI 262 var. Pannuti-Riccio 16. MEC 14, 877. Crusafont 432b. Very fine 120

- 942 **Federico II d'Aragona, 1596-1501.** Cavallo, Æ 1.78 g. Crowned bust r. Rev. Horse pacing r.; in exergue, o \* L \* o. CNI 127. Pannuti-Riccio 15. MEC 14, cf. 1071.

A lovely portrait, traces of overstriking on a "cavallo" of Charles VIII of France, otherwise about extremely fine

150



943



943

- 943 **Roma. Giovanni VIII, 872-882 with Carlo il Calvo, 875-877 and Carlo il Grosso, 881-882.** Denaro, AR 0.92 g. S / C / C - P / E / TR / VS Bust of St. Peter facing, holding long cruciform sceptre. Rev. + CAROLVS IMP around IOHANS in monogram. CNI 2. Muntoni 2. MEC 1, 153. Berman 36.

Very rare. Toned and extremely fine

3'000

Ex M&M Germany sale 8, 2001, 555.



944



944

- 944 **Formoso, 891-896 with Guido da Spoleto, 891-894.** Denaro, AR 1.15 g. FORMOSIP Bust of St. Peter facing; in field, S - P. Rev. + WWIDOMP:: around monogram of ROMA. CNI 2. Muntoni 1. MEC 1, 1058. Berman 45. Extremely fine 3'000

Ex M&M Germany sale 15, 2004, 1268.



- 945 **Giovanni IX, 898-900 with Lamberto, 898 and later to 900.** Denaro, AR 1.38 g. S / C / S - P / ET / RV / S Bust of St. Peter facing. Rev. + LANTWERT MP around IOHANS in monogram. CNI 1. Muntoni 1. MEC 1, 1063. Berman 52. Old cabinet tone and about extremely fine 1'500  
Ex M&M Germany sale 8, 2001, 559.



- 946 **Anastasius III, 911-913.** Denaro, AR 0.67 g. + ROMA around monogram of ANASTASIVS. Rev. S / C / S - P / ET / RV / S Bust of St. Peter facing. CNI 1. Muntoni 1. MEC 1, -. Berman 61. Very rare. Broken in two pieces and glued back together, otherwise very fine 1'800  
Ex M&M Germany sale 15, 2004, 1273.



- 947 **Salerno. Guaiferio, 861-880.** Denaro, AR 0.86 g. ERI / VVAIF / ER P. Rev. •ARIIAHGLVSII Latin cross. CNI 1. Sambon Repertorio 500. Cappelli 10. MEC 14, -. Extremely rare. Old cabinet tone and good very fine 2'000



- 948 **Gisulfo II, 1052-1077.** Follaro, Æ 3.11 g. Half-figure of the prince facing, holding sceptre; in r. field, star. Rev. View of the city. CNI 3. Cappelli 21. MIN 13. MEC 14, 13. Rare. Dark tone. Pierced and repaired, otherwise very fine 150
- 949 **Gisulfo II, 1052-1077 or Roberto Guiscardo, 1077-1085.** Follaro, Æ 2.84 g. [VICTO]RI[A AAVCC] Angel standing facing, holding long cross and *globus cruciger*. In exergue, [CONOB]. Rev. MEN / SEAV / GVSTV / \*. CNI 6. Cappelli 51 (follari anonimi). MIN 23. MEC 14, 29. Rare. Traces of overstriking, otherwise good very fine 400



950

- 950 **Ruggero Borsa, 1085-1111.** Tarí, AV 0.82 g. Two circles of pseudo-Cufic legend around liner circle within which R. Rev. Two circles of pseudo-Cufic legend around liner circle within which D. CNI 1. Cappelli 62 (Roberto Guiscardo). MIN 85a. MEC 14, 102. Very fine 500



951



952



953



- 951 Follaro, Æ 4.03 g. S – M Nimbate bust of St. Matthew facing. Rev. ROGE / RIVS / DVX. CNI 1. Cappelli 63. MIN 86. MEC 14, 103. Traces of overstriking, otherwise about very fine 200  
Ex NAC sale 20, 2000, 273.
- 952 Follaro, Æ 2.67 g. Duke standing facing, raising both hands. Rev. ROGE / RIVS / DVX. CNI 3. Cappelli 68. MIN 88. MEC 14, 110. Traces of overstriking, otherwise about very fine 150  
Ex NAC sale 20, 2000, 276.
- 953 Follaro, Æ 3.70 g. Bust facing between two towers. Rev. ITALIE Bust facing, holding sceptre. CNI 4. Cappelli 72. MIN 93. MEC 14, 118. Rare. Traces of overstriking, otherwise about very fine 500  
Ex NAC sale 20, 2000, 279.



954



956



955



- 954 **Guglielmo duca, 1111-1117.** Follaro, Æ 1.63 g. Star surrounded by pellets. Rev. GVI / DVX, CNI 5. Cappelli 63. MIN 101. MEC 14, –. Rare. Traces of overstriking, otherwise very fine 250  
Ex NAC sale 20, 2000, 283.
- 955 Follaro, Æ 1.17 g. Four-rayed star quartered by X. Rev. V / DV / X. CNI –. Cappelli 81 (unico). MIN 106. MEC 14, –. Extremely rare. Traces of overstriking, otherwise about very fine 400  
Ex NAC sale 20, 2000, 286.
- 956 **Ruggero II count of Calabria and Sicily, duke of Apulia, 1127-1130.** Follaro, Æ 2.35 g. Head facing. Rev. Anchor cross with ornate end. CNI 10. Cappelli 104. MIN 177. MEC 14, 170. Green patina and very fine 150



957 **Ruggero II king, 1130-1154.** Tari 1130 or 1140 or 1154, AV 0.81 g. Arabic legend on three lines: “*the king Ruggero*”; between the first and the second line, R surmounted by pellet. Rev. Arabic legend on three lines: “*Protector of Christianity*”. CNI 3. Cappelli 109. MIN 194. MEC 14, 184.

Exceedingly rare. Large areas of weakness, otherwise about very fine 3'000

Ex Spink sale 13 July 2000, Dreesmann, 869.



958 Fraction of follaro, Æ 1.48 g. Head facing. Rev. R REX. CNI 26. Cappelli 113. MIN 253. MEC 14, 245.  
Very fine 150

959 Fraction of follaro, Æ 1.49 g. Crowned head facing. Rev. Cross potent with pellet at end of each arm. CNI 29. Cappelli 116. MIN 255. MEC 14, 249.  
Green patina and good very fine 200

960 Fraction of follaro, Æ 1.39 g. Lion's head facing. Rev. ROGERIVS DVX around star. CNI 32. Cappelli 126. MIN 264. MEC 14, 250.  
Green patina and very fine 100

Ex NAC sale 20, 2000, 300.

961 Fraction of follaro, Æ 0.98 g. Fish r.; above and below, cross. Rev. RS RX. CNI 41. Cappelli 130. MIN 268. MEC 14, 259.  
Green patina and very fine 150

Ex Künker sale 137, 2008, de Wit, 3801.

962 **Guglielmo I, 1154-1166.** Fraction of follaro, Æ 1.21 g. Blessing hand. Rev. W REX Latin cross set on crescent. CNI 22. Cappelli 182. MIN 324. MEC 14, –.  
Rare. About extremely fine 200

Ex NAC sale 20, 2000, 342.



963 **Guglielmo II re, 1166-1189.** Tari, AV 0.89 g. Arabic legend on three lines: “*the king William the powerful*”. In centre field, star. Rev. Arabic legend on three lines: “*protector of Christianity*”. In centre field, W. CNI 1. Cappelli 218. MIN 362. MEC 14, –.  
Very rare. Extremely fine 6'000



964

- 964 Follaro, Æ 2.19 g. W surmounted by crescent. Rev. RX II. CNI 4. Cappelli 220. MIN 374. MEC 14, 412. Very fine 100  
 Ex Künker sale 137, 2008, de Wit, 3812.



965

- 965 **Santo Jacopo al Serchio. The Florentine republic, 1256.** Fiorino, AV 3.46 g. Fleur-de-lis. Rev. St. John standing facing, holding cross-tipped sceptre and raising r. hand in benediction; in lower r. field, trefoil with stem. CNI 1. Bernocchi 4102. Very rare. Very fine 2'500



966

967

968

969

- 966 **Sicilia. Califfi fatimidi. Al Mansur, 334-341 AH (946-953).** Robâi, Palermo or Messina, AV 1.02 g. Spahr -. Lagumina pl. 2, 15. Rare. Extremely fine 400  
 Ex NAC sale 20, 2000, 673.
- 967 **Al-Zahir (1020-1035).** Robâi, Palermo, AV 1.02 g. Spahr 25. Lagumina 68. Very fine 300  
 Ex Künker sale 137, 2008, de Wit, 3785.
- 968 **Al Mustansir, 1036-1094.** Robâi, AV 0.94 g. Spahr 41e. Very fine 200  
 Ex NAC sale 20, 2000, 702.
- 969 **Roberto Guiscardo, 1059-1085.** Tarî, Palermo 1072, AV 0.89 g. Spahr 1. MIN 61. MEC 14, 66. Rare. Areas of weakness, otherwise good very fine 300



970



971

- 970 **Ruggero I, 1072-1101 or Ruggero II, 1105-1154.** Kharruba, uncertain mint, Æ 0.39 g. Spahr pl. XVIII, cf. 16. MIN cf. 145. Dark green patina and good very fine 250  
 Ex Triton sale 1, 1997, 1947.
- 971 **Ruggero II, count of Calabria and Sicily, 1105-1130, and duke of Apulia from 1127.** Tarî, Palermo and Messina 1112-1127, AV 1.02 g. Spahr 39. MIN 169. MEC 14, - cf. 153. Very fine 200  
 Ex CNG sale 55, 2000, 1732.



- 972 Follaro, Messina 1112-1127, Æ 6.90 g. Roger enthroned facing, holding long shaft surmounted by cross. Rev. Bust of Christ facing, with crossed nimbus. Spahr 48. MIN 174. MEC 14, 156.  
Dark tone and very fine 200  
Ex Künker sale 137, 2008, de Wit, 3791.
- 973 Follaro, Messina circa 1127-1130, Æ 4.20 g. Roger standing facing, holding cruciform shaft and *globus cruciger*. Rev. Cross fourchée quartered by triangles. Spahr 54. MIN 176. MEC 14, 165.  
Dark green patina and very fine 150



- 974 **Ruggero II king, 1130-1154.** Tarì, Palermo 1130 (?) - 1140, AV 0.83. Spahr 59. MIN 186. MEC 14, -.  
Very fine 250
- 975 Follaro, Messina 1130-1138, Æ 0.92 g. Roger standing facing, holding sceptre in r. hand. Rev. Cross potent. Spahr 78. MIN 191. MEC 14, 178.  
Very fine 150
- 976 Follaro, Messina 1130-1138, Æ 1.87 g. MIN 199 (Salerno). Tarascio 90.  
Dark green patina and very fine 200  
Ex NAC sale 20, 2000, 765.



- 977 Ducalis, Palermo 1140, AR 2.04 g. Bust of Christ Pantokrator facing. Rev. King Roger, on l., and his son, Duke Roger, on r., both standing facing and holding a long patriarchal cross set on three steps between them; the King also holds his sword by the hilt, while his son holds the *globus cruciger*. Spahr 72. MIN 241A.1. MEC 14, 212.  
Old cabinet tone and good very fine 350  
Ex Vecchi sale 1, 1996, 1449.
- 978 Tercia ducalis, Palermo 1140-1141, AR 0.84 g. Circular Arabic legend around linear circle with two lines of Arabic legend inside. Rev. Legend around cross fourchée. Spahr 74. MIN 242A.1. MEC 14, 214.  
Toned and very fine 200  
Ex Vecchi sale 14, 1999, 1618.



- 979 Kharruba, Æ 0.35 g. Arabic legend on three lines: "*by order of King Roger*". Rev. Helmeted head of Roger r. F. d'Angelo, Un minimo di mistura di re Ruggero II di Sicilia, SM 181, 1996, pp. 11-12.  
Very rare. Green patina and very fine 2'500  
Ex Triton sale 1, 1997, 1954.



980



980

- 980 **Guglielmo I, 1154-1156.** Ducalis, Palermo after 1156, AR 2.77g. Bust of Christ Pantokrator facing. Rev. King William, on l., and his son, Duke Roger, on r., both standing facing and holding a long patriarchal cross between them; the King also holds *globus cruciger*, while his son holds his sword by the hilt. Spahr 94. MIN 300. MEC 14, 290. Rare. Lightly toned and good very fine 2'400



981



982



983



984



- 981 Follis, Messina 1155 and later, Æ 1.42 g. Circular Arabic legend around REX / V. Rev. Facing bust of the Virgin with Child. Spahr 99. MIN 302. MEC 14, 286. Green patina and extremely fine 200
- 982 **Guglielmo II, 1166-1189.** Tarì, Messina, AV 1.00 g. Spahr 100. MIN 355. MEC 14, -. Very fine 200
- 983 Tarì, uncertain mint, AV 1.13 g. Spahr 106. MIN 358. MEC 14, -. Very fine 200
- 984 Follaro, Messina, Æ 2.23 g. + OPERATA IN VRBE MESSANE around REX W / SCdS. Rev. Arabic legend on three lines. Spahr 119. MIN 368. MEC 14, 401. Good very fine 150

Ex Vecchi sale 14, 1999, 1622.



985



986



987



988



989



- 985 Reduced follaro, Messina, Æ 1.80 g. Arabic legend on three lines. Rev. Lion mask. Spahr 118. MIN 371. MEC 14, 432. Good very fine 100
- 986 **Tancredi, 1190-1194.** Medalea tercenari, Palermo 1190-1194, AR 0.95 g. + DEXTERA DNI EXALTAVIT ME around TACD / REX SI / CILIAE. Rev. Cufic legend on five lines. Spahr 135. MIN 396a. Very rare. Almost very fine 250
- 987 1/4 tercenarius, Palermo 1190-1194, AR 0.51 g. TACD' / REX SI / CILIE. Rev. Arabic legend on three lines. Spahr 137. MIN 397. MEC 14, 443. Rare. Very fine 200
- 988 Follaro, Messina 1191-1193, Æ 2.19 g. Arabic legend on two lines. Rev. + ROGERIVS around REX. Spahr 139. MIN 399. MEC 14, 451. Green patina and about extremely fine 100

Ex Vecchi sale 15, 1999, 1966.

- 989 **Enrico VI imperatore 1191-1197, re di Sicilia 1194-1997.** Dirham fraction or 1/4 tercenarius, Palermo 1194-1195, billon 0.45 g. Arabic legend: "Henry Caesar Augustus". Rev. + / Z REX / SICI +. Spahr 2. MEC 14, 477. Rare. Very fine 150

Ex Vecchi sale 14, 1999, 1625.



- 990 Multiple of tari, Palermo or Messina 1194-1197, AV 1.64 g. Two circles of Arabic legend; the outer off flan, the inner: "Henry Caesar Augustus" around linear circle within which cross with star at each end. Rev. Outer legend off flan; in field, Latin cross between IC – XC / NI – KA. Spinelli –. Spahr –. Cardella pl. II, 1. Exceedingly rare, very few specimens known. About extremely fine / good very fine 2'500
- 991 Multiple of tari, Palermo or Messina 1196, AV 1.58 g. Two circles of Arabic legend; the outer off flan, the inner: "Henry Caesar Augustus" around linear circle within which P. Rev. Outer legend off flan; in field, Latin cross between IC – XC / NI – KA. Spahr cf. 9 and 13. MEC 14, 481. Rare. Minor areas of weakness, otherwise good very fine 300  
Ex NAC sale 20, 2000, 811.



- 992 **Enrico VI imperatore and Federico re, 1196-1197.** Denaro, Palermo or Messina, billon 0.63 g. CNI pl. 8, 25 (Brindisi). Travaini 8. Spahr 32. MEC 14, 489. Good very fine 100
- 993 **Costanza d'Altavilla imperatrice, 1197.** Follaro, Messina, Æ 1.27 g. + [CON]STANCIA Eagle standing facing, head l., with spread wings. Rev. [+ IMPERAT]RIX Star. Cappelli 241 (Salerno?). Spahr 33. MEC 14, 492. Very rare. Very fine 650  
Ex NAC sale 20, 2000, 814.
- 994 **Federico II re di Sicilia, 1197-1250, imperatore from 1220.** Fraction of dirham, Palermo circa 1197-1200, billon 0.43 g. Arabic legend on three lines. Rev. Circular Arabic legend around star. Spahr –. MEC 14, 500. Tarascio 143. Extremely rare. Very fine 350  
Ex NAC sale 20, 2000, 818.
- 995 Denaro, Messina 1225 (?), billon 0.76 g. Crowned head facing. Rev. Cross. CNI 14 (Brindisi). Spahr 112. Travaini 26. MEC 14, 544. Green patina and about extremely fine 300  
For the sake of consistency, we have included Brindisi in the Sicilian series, in fact if we had given precedence to geographical order, we would have been forced to break the series.
- 996 Denaro, Messina 1225, billon 0.92 g. Crowned head l. Rev. Cross. CNI 15 (Brindisi). Spahr 113. Travaini 37. MEC 14, 545. Good very fine 200  
Ex Vecchi sale 14, 1999, 1633.



- 997 Augustale, Messina 1231-1250, AV 5.08 g. CESAR AVG – IMP ROM Laureate and draped bust r. Rev. + FRIDE – RICVS Eagle standing l., with spread wings, head reverted. Spahr 98-102. MEC 14, 514-516. Kowalski 174 (L1 / A12). Traces of mounting, otherwise very fine / about very fine 4'000
- 998 Denaro, Brindisi 1239, billon 0.84 g. Long cross. Rev. Crowned head set on long cross. CNI 21. Spahr 121. Travaini 31. MEC 14, 550. About extremely fine 250  
Ex Vecchi sale 1, 1996, 1463.



- 999 Denaro, Messina (?) 1242, billon 0.84 g. Legend around A set on crescent upon star. Rev. Cross. CNI 24 (Brindisi). Spahr 123. Travaini 32. MEC 14, 552. Very fine 100  
Ex Vecchi sale 14, 1999, 1634.
- 1000 Denaro, Messina or Brindisi 1242, billon 0.71 g. Legend around AVG. Rev. Cross. CNI 23 (Brindisi). Spahr 124. Travaini 33. MEC 14, 553. Very fine 150  
Ex Vecchi sale 14, 1999, 1635.
- 1001 Denaro, Brindisi 1243, billon 0.97 g. Bare head r. Rev. Eagle. CNI 25. Spahr 128. Travaini 35. MEC 14, 555. Rare. Good very fine 350
- 1002 Denaro, Messina or Brindisi 1243 (?), billon 0.82 g. Crowned head r. Rev. Eagle. CNI 26 (Brindisi). Spahr 126. Travaini 36. MEC 14, 559. Good very fine / very fine 200  
Ex Vecchi sale 1, 1996, 1465.
- 1003 Mezzo denaro, Messina or Brindisi 1243 (?), billon 0.42 g. Crowned head r. Rev. Eagle. CNI pl. 10, 2 (Brindisi). Spahr 127. Travaini 36a. MEC 14, -. Extremely rare. Very fine 600



- 1004 **Manfredi, 1258-1264.** Multiple of tari, Messina (?), AV 2.33 g. Legend off-flan. Eagle standing facing, with spread wings, head l.; at sides of its neck, O – V. Rev. Legend off-flan. Latin cross; in field, IC – XC / NI – KA. Spahr 182. MEC 14, 599. Very fine 350
- 1005 Denaro, Messina, billon 0.49 g. Legend around M. Rev. Two crosses intersecting. CNI pl. XVI, 4 (Manfredonia). Spahr 215 (Manfredonia). Travaini 81. MEC 14, 616. Very fine 100  
Ex Vecchi sale 15, 1999, 1971.



- 1006 **Costanza di Svevia and Pietro d'Aragona, 1282-1285.** Pierreale, Messina 1182-1185, AV 4.35 g. Two lines of legend. The inner: + COSTA DEI GRA ARAG SICIL' REG. The outer: XPS VINCIT XPS REGNAT XPS IMPACT. Eagle standing l., with spread wings, head r. Rev. Two lines of legend. The inner: + P DEI GRA ARAGON SICIL' REX. The outer: SVMMA POTENCIA EST IN DEO. Coat of arms of Aragon. Spahr 1. MEC 14, 756 var. (annulet on arms). Rare. About extremely fine 8'000



1007



1008



1007

1007 **Federico il Semplice, 1355-1377.** Pierreale, Messina 1355-1377, AR 3.10 g. Crowned eagle standing facing, with open wings, head r. Rev. Coat of arms of Aragon; in field, P – P. Spahr 200-210. MEC 14, 803. Lovely iridescent tone and about extremely fine 200

1008 Denaro, Messina 1355-1377, billon 0.49 g. Crowned head facing. Rev. Long cross. Spahr 251. MEC 14, – P. Very fine 120  
Ex Vecchi sale 7, 1997, 1989.



1009



1009



1009 **Giovanni d'Aragona, 1458-1479.** Reale, Messina 1458-1479, AV 3.95 g. + IOHANNES D G R SICILIE ET ARAGO The king seated on throne, flanked by eagles, holding sceptre and *globus cruciger*; in field, I – C. Rev. + H ATENARVM ET NEOPATRIE DV Crowned eagle standing l., with spread wings, looking r. Spahr 16 var. MEC 14, 880 var. (I – I).

A very rare variety of a scarce type. About extremely fine 5'000



1010



1011



1012



1013



1014



1010 **Venezia. Marco Corner, 1365-1368.** Ducato, AV 3.51. Paolucci 1. Extremely fine 400

1011 **Andrea Contarini, 1368-1382.** Ducato, AV 3,54 g. Paolucci 1. Good very fine 350

1012 **Antonio Venier, 1382-1400.** Ducato, AV 3.54 g. Paolucci 1. Extremely fine 400

1013 **Michele Steno, 1400-1413.** Ducato, AV 3.54 g. Paolucci 1. Extremely fine 450

1014 **Tommaso Mocenigo, 1414-1423.** Ducato, AV 3.41 g. Paolucci 1. Good extremely fine 600



1015



1016



### Malta

- 1015 **Fra Alof de Wignacourt, 1601-1622.** Zecchino, AV 3.33 g. St. John presents the banner of the Order to the kneeling Gran Master. Rev. The standing figure of Christ flanked by stars, within ellipse of dots. Restelli-Sammut 3 var. Friedberg 10.  
Some roughness on obverse surface, otherwise very fine 800

### Spain

- 1016 **Castile and León. Enrique II, 1368-1379.** Coronado, Sevilla, billon 0.72 g. Crowned head l. Rev. Castle. Heiss 15.  
Green patina and good very fine 100

### Sweden



1017



1017

- 1017 **Olaf Skötkonung, 924 – 1021 or 1022.** Denier, long cross type, Sigtuna (?), AR 1.99 g. + EDED ONOEDDPOPI Draped bust l. Rev. + CIO – LEO – V + – CII Long cross with three crescents at end. Lagerqvist –, cf. 20a-b.  
Rare. A superb portrait and a lovely old cabinet tone. Flan slightly wavy and minor marks on reverse, otherwise extremely fine 2'750

Ex Künker sale 121, 2007, de Wit, 671.

## Coinage of the Caucasus, the Middle East and bordering regions



1018



1019



### Cilician Armenia

- 1018 **Levon I, 1199-1226.** Denier, AR 0.66 g. Crowned bust facing. Rev. Cross. Necessian 280. BNC XIV, 1:2.  
Lightly toned, very rare and good very fine 2'500

Ex Baldwin's Crusaders list, June 2002, 25.

### Georgia

- 1019 **Rusudan, 1223-1247.** Botinati 1230, AR 2.47 g. Bust of Christ Pantokrator facing. Rev. Inscription in Georgian characters. Lang 14.  
Very rare. Lightly toned and good very fine 600

Ex Künker sale 137, 2008, de Wit, 3951.

## Anatolia



1020



1021



1022



1023



- 1020 **Artuqids of Mardin. Najm al-Din Alpi, 547-572 AH (1152-1176).** Dirham,  $\text{Æ}$  13.59 g. Two diademed and draped male bust confronted. Rev. Two Byzantine Emperors standing facing. Album 1827.  
In exceptional condition for the issue. Extremely fine 500
- 1021 **Rum Seljuks. Rukn Al-Din Suleiman Shah, 692-600 AH (1196-1204).** Fals,  $\text{Æ}$  7.14 g. Nimbate horseman advancing r., behind, star. Rev. Legend. Album 1205. Mitchiner WOI 963-964.  
Dark tone and very fine 150
- 1022 **Zangids of Mosul. Qubt al-Din Maudud.** Dirham, Mosul 564 AH (1169-1170),  $\text{Æ}$  12.54 g. Male bust facing three-quarters l.; above, two winged figures. Rev. Arabic legend. Album 1858.  
Ex Ars Antiqua sale 2, 2001, 871. Brown tone and good very fine 250

## Syria

- 1023 **Umayyad caliphs in Damascus, 661-750.** Fals, Tiberias after 696,  $\text{Æ}$  3.32 g. Traces of legend. Branch upright. Rev. Traces of legend. Branch upright. Walker 606. Green patina and fine 80  
Ex Künker sale 137, 2008, de Wit, 4071.

## Coinage of Central Asia

### Afghanistan



1024



1025



- 1024 **The Hephtalites, Alxon Huns. Kinghila, 430-490.** Drachm, AR 3.36 g. Helmeted bust r. Rev. Lighted altar with attendants. Göbl, Hunnen, issue 70. Mitchiner OCTV 1425.  
Ex CNG sale 58, 2001, 840. Lightly toned and extremely fine 250
- 1025 **The Hephtalites, Nezak Huns. Anonymous issue, circa 5151-560.** Drachm, Kabul, AR 2.84 g. Bust r., with winged bull headdress. Rev. Lighted altar with attendants. Göbl, Hunnen, issue 198 var. Alram 69.  
Ex CNG sale 63, 2003, 909. Finely detailed obverse die, lightly toned and extremely fine 500



1026

- 1026 **Kidarite Huns.** Drachm, Kidara after 350, AR 3.62. Crowned bust, facing slightly r. Rev. Lighted altar with two attendants. Cribb 80. Göbl, Hunnen, issue 11.  
A finely detailed obverse, flan crack and light scratches, good very fine 200  
Ex CNG sale 58, 2001, 892.

### The Coinage of Axum



1027

- 1027 **Endybis, circa 230-300.** Aureus, AV 2.71 g. ENDYBC Ⓞ BACILEYC Draped bust r., wearing head-cloth within two ears of barley. Rev. AZNBIYN Ⓞ CICΔAXY Draped bust r., wearing head-cloth within two ears of barley. Vaccaro 1. Munro-Hay p. 45, AV 1. Friedberg 1. Rare. About extremely fine 1'500



1028

- 1028 **Ousanas II, circa 360-380.** AR 1.22 g. OYC – ANA Draped bust r., wearing head-cloth. Rev. BAC – IΔEI Draped bust r., wearing head-cloth. Vaccaro 42. Munro-Hay p. 65, AR 1.  
Lightly toned, flan crack, otherwise extremely fine 1'000  
Ex Sternberg sale 23, 2000, 1012.



1029

1030

- 1029 **Khaleb, circa 525.** Bronze, 0.73 g. Crowned and draped bust r., holding sceptre. Rev. Incuse cruciform pellets set on disc. Vaccaro –. Munro-Hay p. 126, AE 1. Green patina and very fine 200
- 1030 **Johel, VI century.** Unit, Æ 0.49 g. Crowned bust facing. Rev. Latin cross. Vaccaro 59. Munro-Hay p. 138, AE 3. Extremely fine 200  
Ex NAC sale 20, 2000, 1621.





