

LEU NUMISMATIK

AUCTION 7 . PART 1

FOREWORD

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

Welcome to Leu Auction 7. Due to the high number of consignments, we have decided to present the 1,100 lots on offer in two catalogues and hold the auction over two consecutive days.

In the first part you will therefore find exclusively Celtic, Greek and Roman Provincial gold, silver and bronze coins, which are characterized by their particularly high quality, rarity, fine style or remarkable provenance. What all these coins have in common is that in one way or another they stand out from the rather large offer of ancient coins available today. In contrast, the second part of Leu Auction 7 contains the coinage of the Roman Republic and the Imperial era, the Byzantine, Islamic, early medieval and modern coins as well as one of the most important selections of Greek, Roman and Byzantine coin and commercial weights to date.

Part I of Leu Auction 7 opens with the Celtic coinage, including a significant series of gold and electrum coins of the Vindelici from a Swiss collection that was assembled over two generations, and the Eastern Celts from the collection of our friend Harald J. from Lower Austria.

The task of selecting the Greek coins posed a special challenge in view of the excellent 'Kleinkunst' Collection, which will be auctioned in our upcoming Leu Auction 6 on 23 October 2020. However, we have succeeded in compiling a selection of interesting coins that are in no way inferior to the pieces from the 'Kleinkunst' Collection in terms of quality, rarity and provenance. These three aspects are exemplified by the gold decadrachm of Pyrrhos (lot 1135), which was consigned to us by an esteemed colleague from our beautiful capital city. The piece comes from an old Swiss collection and came to us with a collector's ticket, which indicated the origin of the coin from the collection of the famous and controversial writer Roger Peyrefitte (1907-2000). Our meticulous provenance research now revealed that the piece was not only from the collection of Theodor Prowe - sold by the Egger brothers in 1912 - but was also formerly part of the collection of the Royal Coin Cabinet in Berlin, which had acquired it from Dr. Friedrich Imhoof-Blumer (Winterthur), and was originally owned by Gustav Adolf von Rauch (1805-1877), the chamberlain and court marshal of Princess Luise of Prussia (1838-1923). It is a special honor for us to include coins with such a fascinating provenance in our auctions, thus enabling the continuation of their histories.

Further exciting stories await, especially regarding the outstanding Roman Provincial coins in this auction. In particular, we would like to draw your attention to the cover piece, the magnificent large bronze coin of Philip I from Apameia from the von Aulock Collection with the depiction of Noah's Ark on the reverse (lot 1457), as well as to the two outstanding Gnostic amulets (lots 1515 and 1516), all of which are of great religious-historical interest.

We now wish you much enjoyment in reading the catalogue and success in the auction. We look forward to welcoming you to the auction in Zurich on 23-25 October, either in person, by telephone or via the Internet.