

CLASSIC GOLD

1. **ENGLAND. Edward IV Restored. 1471-1483.** AV angel. 5.08 gm. 78.4 grains (80 grains). Pierced cross i.m. (1477-80). Archangel Michael slaying the dragon/ A ship holding a shield, cross above, E left, rose right at sides. S. 2091. N. 1626. *Very Fine; well centered on a full round flan; face weakly struck.* \$3800
2. **Henry VIII. First coinage. 1509-1526.** AV angel. 5.13 gm. Crowned portcullis i.m. Archangel Michael slaying the dragon/ A ship holding a shield, cross above. S. 2265. N. 1760. *Extremely Fine; well struck on a full round flan.* \$6500
3. **NETHERLANDS. Flanders. Ghent. Philip the Good. 1419-1467.** AV cavalier d'or, 3.55 gm. Philip on horseback charging right brandishing a sword/ Floriate cross over shield. Friedberg 183. Delmonte 487. 4. *Good Very Fine; lightly bent, now straightened (an artifact of the times); historic issue.* \$2000

ANCIENT GREEK COINAGE, SILVER AND BRONZE

Celtic coinage

4. **GAUL. Massalia.** After 200 B.C. AR drachm. 2.62 gm. Head of Artemis right, bow and quiver at shoulder, monogram in field right/ Lion standing right; ΜΑΣΣΑ above. SGC 77. *Good Very Fine; attractive lustrous toning with red-gold highlights.* \$200
5. **GAUL. Caletes.** (Sequani-Aedui-Lingones intersect region.) Late (after 38 B.C.) First century B.C. AR quinarius. 1.87 gm. (influenced by denarius of T. Carisius, ca 45 B.C.) Winged bust left; ATEVLA in front (complete legend on this piece)/ Horse right, scroll above, pentacle below; VLATOS in front. BMC Celtic II: 566. *Very Fine; half well struck; main details of portrait and all legends fully struck—rarely seen on these issues. Old collection tag.* \$200
6. **GAUL. Caletes.** Late First Century B.C. AR quinarius. 1.73 gm. Bust left, braided hair (or hair in a sakkos); [C]ALEDV in front/ Horse prancing left, scroll above, pellet-in-circle below. BMC II: S441. de la Tour 7177. *Very Fine; small void in flan; attractive horse.* \$150
7. **GAUL. Allobroges horseman series.** Post 52 B.C. AR quinarius. 1.95 gm. Helmeted head of Roma, right/ Horse and rider with spear galloping right; DONNVS below. BMC Celtic II: 277. *Good Very Fine; attractively toned.* \$150
8. **GAUL. Allobroges horseman series.** Post 52 B.C. AR quinarius. 2.08 gm. Helmeted head of Roma, right/ Horse and rider with spear galloping right; AVSCRO below. BMC Celtic II: 263. de la Tour 5748. Old tag: "fd. at St. Blandine." *Good Very Fine, sharply struck, with full reverse legend; good quality metal.* \$150
9. **EASTERN EUROPE. Oltenia and the Danube.** 2nd-1st Centuries B.C. AR tetradrachm. 13.43 gm. Imitative of Larissa silver issues. Celticized head of Larissa facing/ Rider on horse trotting right. CCBM I:S112. *Extremely Fine; about as made; high relief, attractive pewter tone; better quality than the small group we have seen of the recent hoard.* \$1100
10. **GAUL. Sequani.** Ca First Century B.C. AE. 3.40 gm. Head left with smooth depiction of hair as a smooth roll (or wearing a sakkos?) /Horned horse (antelope?) galloping left. BMC Celtic III:347. *Extremely Fine; exceptional horse; high relief, glossy black patina.* \$200
11. **BELGIC GAUL. Suessiones region.** AE. 3.38 gm. BMC type xlvi. Helmeted head left/ Pegasus left. CRICRV legend. BMC III: 90. *Fine / Very Fine; glossy black patina.* \$100
12. **GAUL. Senones.** Upper Seine region. Cast potin. 4.53 gm. Bust with "wild hair" right/ Prancing horse. CCBM III:389. De la Tour 7417. Ex John Perry Celtic Collection. *Extremely Fine; attractive glossy dark green-black patina. Choice example.* \$200
13. **GAUL. 'Leuci'.** Potin coinage. BMC type xlvi. 4.97 gm. Crude head left/ Boar left, crude fleur-de-lis below. Cf. BMC III: 413. *Very Fine; glossy pewter-gray with traces of stable green verdigris.* \$100

CLASSIC GREEK SILVER AND BRONZE

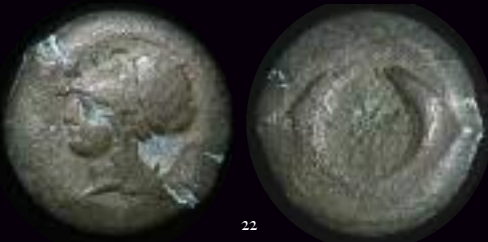
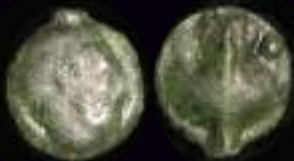
14. **ITALY. CALABRIA. Taras.** Period VIII. The Roman Alliance. 272-235 B.C. AR stater. 6.33 gm. Naked youth on standing horse right; NK in small letters below horse/ Taras riding on a dolphin to the left, AII below. Vlasto 876. *Fine/Very Fine; generous flan; attractive high relief reverse with complete dolphin.* \$300
15. **ITALY. CALABRIA. Taras.** 272-235 B.C. AR stater. 6.07 gm. Warrior in close fitting lorica and crested helmet, holding a lance in his right hand and a large round shield behind him; top of shield continues so that arc also appears between the warrior and the horse's neck; uncertain legend below (this obverse not in Vlasto)/ Taras astride a dolphin left, his left arm holding a cornucopia, his right arm extended; EI monogram in field right and a thymiaterion (incense burner) above the dolphin; TAPAZ below. Cf. Vlasto 890. *About Extremely Fine; good style.* \$750



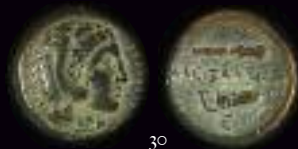
CELTIC COINS



16. **ITALY. LUCANIA. Velia.** 4th-3rd Centuries B.C. AR didrachm. 7.21 gm. Head of Athena left, Phrygian helmet decorated with a griffin, P behind head / Lion crouching right, ΓΕΛΗΤΩΝ below, Φ above. SNG Cop 1585ff. *Very Fine; cleaned and lightly hairlined at one point, now retoning. Attractive style.* \$200
17. **BRUTTIUM, The Brettii.** Circa 214-211 BC. Æ Half-triobol (17mm, 4.01 g, 10h). Fourth coinage. Head of Nike left; grain ear behind / Zeus striding right, hurling thunderbolt; cornucopia to right, star between legs. SNG ANS 61. Scheu 27 (NC 1971). *Good Very Fine; attractive smooth dark brown patina.* \$200
18. **Brettian League.** 215-205 B.C. Æ 21. 9.15 gm. Laureate head of Zeus right, an ear of corn behind/An eagle standing left, wings spread, on a thunderbolt; a cornucopia to the left and a crescent to the right; ΒΡΕΤΤΙΩΝ around. SGC 704. SNGCop 1662ff. *Bold Very Fine; minor stable verdigris; exceptional style.* \$200
19. **SICILY. Messina.** 461-396 B.C. AR tetradrachm. 17.12 gm. A biga pulled by mules driven by a man with a beard; Nike is above, flying to the right and crowning the mules/ A hare leaping right; ΜΕΣΣΑΝΙΟΝ around counterclockwise with reversed N's. SNG Cop 393var. Caltabiano 357. Ex Rockefeller University. *Very Fine; toned; bold and well centered; minor porosity; striking crack at 8. \$1500*
20. **SICILY. Selinus.** Ca 440-425 B.C. Æ hexas, cast. 6.61 gm. Head right (indistinct)/ Selinon leaf with pellet. Vecchi 133. *Choice Very Fine. Attractive smooth green patina.* \$200
21. **SICILY. Syracuse.** 344-333 B.C. Æ diliron. 17.66 gm. Laureate head of Zeus left; ΞΕΥΕ ΕΛΕΥΕΠΙΟΣ/ Horse leaping left; ΣΥΡΑΚΟΣΙΩΝ around. CNS II: 189: 80. *Exceptional style with a particularly fine representation of Zeus; the horse is well centered and in high relief. The dark green patina is even and attractive. All the letters of the legend are clear. The fields have been expertly smoothed and this has noticeably enhanced the letters of the legend. The coin is Extremely Fine, visually highly appealing and would be worth several multiples of this price if there were no smoothing.* \$2000
22. **SICILY. Syracuse. Time of Timoleon.** Ca 334-336 B.C. Æ litra. 32.26 gm. Head of Athena left wearing a Corinthian helmet; SURΑ in field left/ A starfish between two dolphins. SGC 1189. SNGCop 720. *Near Very Fine; attractive brown patina with some areas of blue patination.* \$350
23. **SICILY. Syracuse. Hieron II.** 275-215 B.C. Æ 20. 7.66 gm. Diademed head of Poseidon left/ Ornamented trident head flanked by four dolphins; ΗΡΩ - ΝΟΣ below, Θ below. Calciati II:p370: 194. *Good Very Fine. Dark brown patina.* \$200
24. **THRACE. Istros.** 4th century BC. AR drachm. 5.60 gm Facing male heads, the left inverted/ Eagle left, holding dolphin; ΙΣΤΡΗ above, ΑΓ monogram below. SNG BM Black Sea 246. SGC 1669. *Good Very Fine; well centered; well struck; fresh and pleasing surfaces.* \$250
25. **ISLANDS off THRACE. Thasos.** Circa 168/7-148 BC. AR tetradrachm. 16.81 gm. Wreathed head of young Dionysos right / Herakles standing left, holding club and lion's skin; M to inner left. Le Rider, Thasiennes 51; SNG Copenhagen 1039. *Very Fine; pleasing style, broad flan.* \$250
26. **THRACE. Thasos.** After 146 B.C. AR tetradrachm. 16.86 gm. Head of Young Dionysos right, band across his forehead and his hair adorned with an ivy wreath, his hair tied in a plait behind/ Herakles, head left, nude body facing out, holding a club with his outstretched right hand and with a lion skin draped over his left arm; M between club and right leg. ΗΡΑΚΛΕΟΥΣ ΣΩΤΗΡΟΣ ΘΑΣΙΩΝ. SNG Cop 1045. *Extremely Fine; attractively toned with red and gold highlights on fresh surfaces.* \$600



27. **MACEDONIA. Akanthos.** 424-380 B.C. AR tetradrachm. 2.30 gm. Forepart of a bull kneeling left, head looking back, ΓΕ above/ Shallow quadripartite incuse square. BMC Macedonia 38. Cf. SGC 1369. *Choice Extremely Fine; particularly sharp high relief strike, well centered and bold; fresh surfaces with cabinet toning. An exceptional example.* \$1200
28. **MACEDONIA. Aphytis.** After 168 B.C. Æ 21. 8.17 gm. Head of Zeus Ammon right/ An eagle standing, facing right, with closed wings; ΑΦΥ ΤΑΙ around. BMC Macedonia 4. SNG Cop 129f. SGC 1401. *Good Very Fine; possible tooling and minor encrustation on reverse; attractive glossy red-brown patina.* \$100
29. **MACEDONIAN KINGDOM. Alexander III.** 336-323 B.C. Æ 18. 6.27 gm. Sardes. Ca 328 B.C. and later. (Lifetime issue) Head of Herakles in a lion skin, right/ Above, a bow and quiver, beneath a club ; ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ between, monogram below (16 as on SNG Cop 945, a drachm issue of Alexandria before 323 B.C.). SNGCop 1041. Price 2252. *Good Very Fine; glossy blue and sea green patina; pretty coin.* \$150
30. **MACEDONIA. KINGS. Alexander III.** 336-323 B.C. Æ. 4.95 gm. Macedonian bronze. (Lifetime) Head of Herakles in a lion skin, right/A club and a bow in a case; ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ between, Ε monogram below. SNGCop 1034ff. Price 304. *Good Very Fine; glossy brown and pale sea green patina; well centered and choice.* \$150
31. **MACEDONIAN KINGDOM. Anonymous.** Interregnum Period, 288-277 B.C. Æ 17. 3.92 gm. A Macedonian shield with a Gorgon head in the center/ A Macedonian helmet; Β - Α in field left and right; a caduceus lower left. SNG Cop 1124f. *Good Very Fine on a full round flan; pleasing deep green and tan patina.* \$150
32. **MACEDONIAN KINGDOM. Antigonos Gonatas.** 277-239 B.C. Æ 20. 5.19 gm. Head of Athena wearing a Corinthian helmet, right/ Pan erecting a trophy, a Macedonian helmet to the left, Β above, Φ below; monogram (SNGCop 5) between Pan's legs; Α above a bucranium in the field right. Cf SNGCop 1205ff. SGC 6786. *Very Fine; glossy black patina; charming depiction of Pan.* \$150
33. **MACEDONIAN KINGDOM. Philip V.** 221-179 B.C. Æ 22. 9.40 gm. Head of Herakles right, in lion skin/ A club in an oak wreath; ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ in two lines on either side of club. Cf SNG Cop 1262. *Very Fine; smooth brown and olive patina; handsome coin.* \$100
34. **MACEDONIA UNDER THE ROMANS.** 158-150 B.C. AR tetradrachm. 16.64 gm. Macedonian shield, small delicate depiction of Artemis, bow and quiver in center/ Club, ΜΑΚΕΔΟΝΩΝ ΠΡΩΤΗΣ; ΑΡ monogram above; oak wreath around, thunderbolt left. SNG Cop 1310f though this portrait finer. *Extremely Fine; deep strike; excellent style; shovel mark at left of club.* \$750
35. **MACEDONIA UNDER THE ROMANS..** Ca 90-75 B.C. AR tetradrachm. 16.03 gm. ↑↑Pella Mint. Head of Alexander III, right, flowing hair, wearing Horn of Ammon, Θ behind head/ A club between a money chest and a questor's chair. Bauslaugh Obv 12D;- . (Bauslaugh does not show this reverse die; the key diagnostic is the lettering, the large dropped S and the relationship of the club to the ...IL...) *Extremely Fine; exceptional style; deep strike; broad flan; attractive old toning. Unlisted reverse die. Dramatic die stress evident in obverse field; nicest example of this issue we have seen. (Acquired in Paris from an old French collection.)* \$1000
36. **MACEDON (Roman Province). Aesillas, Quaestor.** Ca 95-70 BC. AR tetradrachm. 16.42 gm. Uncertain mint. Head of the deified Alexander the Great right; ΜΑΚΕΔΟΝΩΝ below, Θ behind / Money chest, club, and chair; AESILLAS above, all within wreath. Bauslaugh Group 6. SNG COP 1330. *Good Very Fine; attractive portrait style; luster in devices.* \$450
37. **THRACE.** Odessus. Later 3rd Century B.C. Æ. 5.64 gm. Zeus laureate right/ Horseman right wearing kausia; [ΟΔΗΣΙΤΩΝ]. SNG BMBBlack Sea 292. *Extremely Fine; slightly primitive style; glossy green patina.* \$150
38. **THRACE.** Olbia. 200-150 B.C. Æ didrachm. 8.66 gm. Head of Herakles right, clad in lion's skin; a countermark of a head in a Corinthian helmet/ A club; ΟΑΒΙΟ above, ΕΙΗΒΑ (as on SNG BM IX 629). Cf SNG BM IX (Black Sea) 61. *Very Fine; glossy black patina.* \$150
39. **NORTHERN GREECE. BLACK SEA.** Pantikapaion. Late 4th - 3rd Cent. B.C. Æ. 5.17 gm. Bearded head of Pan left/ Bull's head and neck; ΠΑΝ. SNG BM IX: 890-3. *Good Very Fine; smooth black patina.* \$150
40. **THRACE. The Thracian Chersonese.** Ca 400-350 B.C. AR hemidrachm. 2.48 gm. Forepart of a lion right looking back to the left/ Four part incuse square, a pellet with an Α over it in one square and a seashell in the opposing square; the other two squares blank. BMC Thrace 184:19. *Extremely Fine; well centered; blue and red-gold old toning; Exceptional coin.* \$350
41. **THRACE. Lysimachos.** 323-281 B.C. Æ 20. 4.80 gm. Head of Athena right wearing crested helmet/ A lion running right, a spear head below; ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΛΥΣΙΜΑΧΟΥ above and below; caduceus and ΕΥΜ monogram underneath lion. SNGCop 1153. *Very Fine; smooth black-brown patina with original soil adhering in devices. Great style, lovely coin.* \$200



THESSALY was the last and best of the collections of the Greek mainland known as the BCD collection. The collection was definitive enough that the sale catalog now serves as an important reference for the series. This sale, held in Zurich in May 2011, offered, in the words of Alan Walker, the cataloguer, “437 lots (that) not only contain what are the finest coins in the BCD collection, but also some of the finest coins of Thessaly anywhere.”

The sale itself saw prices at many multiples of the estimates which had been set low by the consignor with the comment that “Most of the readers of this catalogue, but especially the ones that are keen followers of market prices, will consider the estimates of this auction unreasonably low... The way this catalogue was planned and written favours those knowledgeable collectors and dealers who are aware of current price levels or, in general terms, the individuals who take the time to do some research.”

Marnie and I flew to Zurich for the sale for several reasons. The coins of Thessaly are diverse and fascinating. Our daughter was named after Larissa, the city namesake princess. We also recognized that this sale was both the last and best of the BCD collections as well as one of those rare epochal sales in the numismatic firmament. We were not around for Murdoch or Lockett or any of another of the epochal sales of the last couple of centuries but we could attend the last definitive BCD sale. This series of sales ranks with the most important sales of Greek coins of all time. We went into the sale with notes from nearly two full days of intense viewing and bids—all at multiple estimate—on more than a hundred lots. We watched as bidders around the floor, and particularly a sheik from an emirate, seemingly held up their bidding paddles without regard to how high the bidding went. When lot 1307, a magnificent stater of Alexander of Pherai breached the half million Swiss franc level, the bidding continued on briefly until that particular bidder simply said “Well, why not a million?” and the bidding ended soon at 580000 Sfr. It was that kind of day. We did buy four great lots at prices reflecting the importance of the collection and the beauty of the coins. They were not cheap but they are excellent values both in terms of their quality and in terms of their provenance. They are offered here. They represent a particularly restricted opportunity to have something from the auction. A great majority of the lots went into the sheik’s permanent collection.

42. **THESSALY. Gyrtion.** Late 4th or earlier 3rd Century B.C. Æ trichalkon. 7.62 gm. Laureate head of Zeus left/ A bridled horse trotting to the right; ΓΥΠΤ | Ω | ΝΙΩΝ above, beside and below; ΔΗ below the horse and a bunch of grapes below the raised front leg. BCD 1055.1. BMC Thessaly 20:7. *About Extremely Fine and choice with glossy dark patina.* \$850
43. **THESSALY. Gyrtion.** Late 4th or earlier 3rd Century B.C. Æ trichalkon. 7.61 gm. Laureate head of Zeus left/ A bridled horse trotting to the left; ΓΥΠΤ | Ω | ΝΙΩΝ above, beside and below; ΜΑΓ monogram below the horse. BCD 1055.2. BMC Thessaly 20:5. *About Extremely Fine and choice with glossy dark brown and red patina. Good style, broad flan.* \$1250
44. **THESSALY. Larissa.** Ca 420-400 B.C. AR drachm. 6.27 gm. Thessalos wrestling a bull to the ground with a band he has wrapped around its head (looks similar to bull-dogging in a modern western rodeo)/ A bridled horse with a trailing rein galloping right; ΛΑΠΙ | Σ | ΑΙ (Σ retrograde). BCD 1126. Lorber 2008: plate 43:58. *Good Very Fine; fine style. Lightly toned.* \$3200
- Very few silver pieces in this sale went to anyone other than the sheik. We were fortunate to secure two magnificent coins, 44 and 47.*
45. **THESSALY. Pelinna.** First half of the 4th century B.C. Æ chalkoi. 2.94 gm. Thessalian horseman prancing right/ Thessalian warrior striding left, holding lance in right hand and shield in left; ΠΕΛΙΝΝ | ΑΙΩΝ. BCD 1228.2. SNGCop 187. *Nearly Extremely Fine; choice glossy dark patina. Marvelous style.* \$1000
46. **THESSALY. Pelinna.** First half of the 4th century B.C. Æ chalkoi. 2.66 gm. Thessalian horseman prancing left with fallen foe/ Thessalian warrior striding left, holding a lance in his right hand and shield with his left; ΠΕΛΙΝ | ΝΑΙ. BCD 1228.1. *Extremely Fine; choice glossy dark patina. Magnificent style.* \$1000
47. **THESSALIAN CONFEDERACY.** Late 2nd to mid 1st Century B.C. AR stater. 6.15 gm. Menedemos, Pherekrates Neoterus (“Pherekrates the Younger”) Head of Zeus right wearing an oak wreath; ΜΕΝΕΔΗ | ΜΟΣ/ Athena Itonia striding right, hurling a spear with her right arm and holding a shield horizontally with her outstretched left hand; ΦΕ ΠΕ ΚΡ ΑΤΗ Ω Ν ΕΩ ΤΕ ΡΟΣ around and about the figure, ΝΙ just below the shield. BCD 1380. *An exquisite example of a generally common type from a lengthy series; the BCD collection includes many examples of this issue but this was selected for the quality of the portraiture and reverse design; exceptional style and an exceptional example of the finest art on a coin of this series.* \$2000
- (This ends the small selection of coins we were able to acquire in this historic auction. If you need a copy of the sale, we may be able to help.)
48. **THESSALY. Phalanna. 400-344 B.C.** Æ. 5.53 gm. Young male head right/ Head of nymph right, wearing necklace, hair in sakkos; ΦΑΛΑΝΝΙΩΝ above. SNGCop 206var. Rogers 452var. *Glossy patina; near Extremely Fine; well centered and attractive.* \$250
49. **THESSALIAN CONFEDERACY.** 196-1st Century B.C. AR double victoriatius. 5.84 gm. Head of Zeus, right, crowned with oak/ Athena Itonia advancing right, holding shield, spear at ready; ΘΕΣΣΑΛΩΝ behind and beside, ΠΥΘ - ΩΝ(ΟΣ) above, ΚΑΕΟΜΑΧ(ΙΔΗΣ) below; a tripod in the field to right. BMC Thessaly 2:23. *Very Fine.* \$150
50. **BOIOTIA. Thebes.** 426-395 B.C. AR stater. 12.02 gm. Boiotian shield/ Head of Dionysos right. SNG Cop 282. *Very Fine; old toning with blue and gold highlights; die rust evident in recessed areas of obverse.* \$1000
51. **BOIOTIA. Thebes.** 395-338 B.C. AR stater. 12.18 gm. Peli-, magistrate. Struck ca 379-368 B.C. Boiotian shield/ Amphora; ΠΕ ΑΙ across. Ex Rockefeller University Collection. SNG Cop 348. SNG Berry 604. As BCD 512. Ex Rockefeller University. *Good Very Fine; light abrasions but generally fresh; blue and gold highlights in the old toning.* \$350

THESSALY

FROM THE DEFINITIVE BCD COLLECTION

nomos, auction 4

Zurich, 10 May 2011

