

TNUMS

MAGAZINE

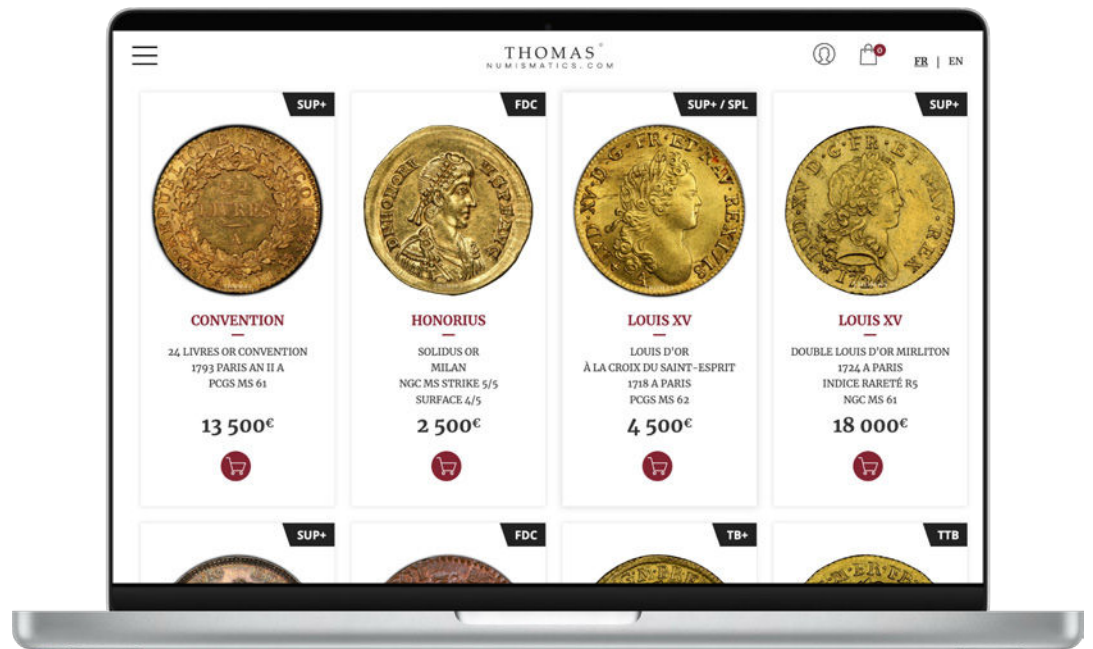
THOMASNUMISMATICS.COM - VOL2 - 2023



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Editorial

We are delighted to welcome you to Volume 2 of our Tnumis magazine, dedicated to the fascinating art of numismatics. Following the success of our inaugural issue, we were inspired to continue our journey through the world of coins, medals and banknotes that have shaped history and culture.

In this volume, we will take you on a journey through time and space. You will discover astonishing tales of hidden treasures, a portrait of a famous counterfeiter, an exclusive interview with the owner of one of France's most prestigious coins, as well as the latest new items available in our online catalog thomasnumismatics.com. Whether you're a seasoned collector or a curious neophyte, our magazine strives to nurture your passion and guide you in this ongoing quest for knowledge and discovery.

Numismatics is a multidimensional science that goes far beyond mere coin collecting. It provides a unique way to understand our history, our culture, and our identity. Every coin tells a story, whether ancient or contemporary. It's this continuous exploration of monetary tales that drives and enthralls us.

We'd like to warmly thank our readers for their unwavering support and enthusiasm for this magazine. It is thanks to you that we continue to research, write, and share these hidden treasures of history, thus preserving numismatic heritage for future generations.

We hope that this Volume 2 will inspire you as much as the previous one, and encourage you to continue your own journey into the world of numismatics. May the quest for rare coins and fascinating stories continue, and may each new discovery delight you as much as the last.

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GEM



Julius Caesar
Restrike Tin Aureus
Carl Wilhelm Becker
200 €

FDC



Honorius
Solidus or – Milan
NGC MS strike 5/5 – Surface 4/5
2 500€

AU



Faustina Senior
Gold aureus – Roma – Old collection
5 500€

AU+



Justinian I
Gold Solidus – Constantinople
750€

AU+



Justin II
Gold Solidus – Constantinople
740€

GEM



Macedon-Karia-Rhodos
Drachm – Kingdom of Macedon
Pseudo-Rhodian issue
Rainbow patina – Sitichiro Hoard
2 300€

EF



Macedonia
Philipp III – Gold Stater – Sardes
4 000€

CARL WILHELM BECKER, NUMISMATIST AND FORGER

 Historical figure

 Germany

 Counterfeit money



© wikimedia

The activity of counterfeiting is as old as the creation of money. We also know of examples of counterfeit coins dating from the 7th century BC. At the time, these coins were forged more for economic reasons than for criminal reasons. Collectible counterfeits are more recent and are indeed intended to deceive numismatists. The forger Carl Wilhelm Becker enjoyed this activity for a large part of his life. Let's take a look back at this man's journey.

THE PROFESSIONAL FIRST STEPS OF CARL WILHELM BECKER

Becker was born in **Germany**, in Speyer, in 1772 and died in 1830. He began his career in his father's family business, a wine merchant. At the age of 23, he married Maria Catharina Tremelius, with whom he opened a wine shop in Frankfurt am Main and then a cloth business in Mannheim, which finally went bankrupt in 1803.

HIS PASSION FOR NUMISMATICS AND THE TRIGGER

Carl Wilhelm Becker had always been interested in **sculpture** and **numismatics**, his true passions. In his free time, he drew **old antique coins** and had fun reproducing them. In Munich, he trained in the manufacture of engraved steel **matrices** and eventually decided to leave the commercial sector by setting up as an art and **antiques dealer**. Becker purchased a Roman gold coin from Emperor Commodus from a baron. He then realized that it was a scam and that the coin was fake. When he complained to the latter, the thief replied that he should have found out and that he had been fooled because of

his own ignorance. Annoyed, he undertook extensive research and practiced to be able to deceive in his turn. He then began selling his own creations.

HIS ACTIVITY AS A FORGER

He traveled to Europe, Switzerland and Italy where he became friends with renowned **numismatists**. He was considered a scholar and **connoisseur of coins** and this reputation allowed him to regularly sell **counterfeit coins**, which he produced discreetly in Offenbach.

He would study the original carefully, then **engrave** the design by hand. He then worked from copies made with plaster **casts**. Becker imitated the gestures and rendering of Antiquity, striking his pieces with a **hammer**. To give them an **aged appearance**, he transported them by cart in bags filled with grease and iron filings. Once his pieces were produced, Becker marketed them, thanks to a network of agents. In some cases they were sold as **modern copies**, but in most cases, they were presented as **authentic**. Throughout his career, Becker sold coins to major collectors across the continent and even to museums.

THE FAME OF CARL WILHELM BECKER

It attracted some criticism such as that of the Italian numismatist **Domenico Sestini** who unmasked him. Carl Wilhelm Becker defended himself by praising his talents as an **imitator of ancient coins**, but completely denying the intention of defrauding his customers. However, notes found later in his diary show that some of his works were indeed sold at a high price. After his death, his work **as a forger** remained in the annals. It appears in the catalog of forgeries by Anton von Steinbüchel in 1836, then in 1843 in that of Moritz Pinder and in the manual dictionary of numismatics of 1909 by Heinrich Halke. George Hill explored 360 examples of fake Greek coins made by Becker in a work published in 1924. All these publications helped to establish his **reputation** as a great forger in the numismatic world.

Becker counterfeits are today appreciated by collectors in the same way as the originals.



Diadumenian - Restrike Gold Aureus

MS+



Louis XV

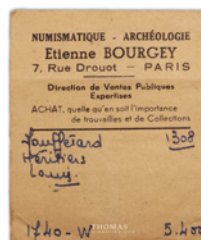
Gold - Double Louis d'Or
 au bandeau
 1748 BB Strasbourg
 PCGS MS 63
 Treasure of rue Mouffetard
8 000€

MS+



Louis XV

Gold - Louis d'or
 au bandeau
 1740 W Lille
 PCGS MS 63
 6401 examples
 Treasure of rue
 Mouffetard
4 600€



AU



Charles V

Gold - Franc à pied or
1 600€

AU



Louis XII

Gold - Ecu d'or au soleil - Paris
1 300€

AU/AU+



François I

Gold - Écu d'or aux salamandres
 1^{er} type Toulouse - 2200 examples
 Pedigree Credit de la bourse
8 000€

AU+



François II

Teston au nom d'Henri II - 1560 D Lyon
850€

THE HIDDEN TREASURE OF RUE MOUFFETARD

The treasure of Rue Mouffetard is a fabulous French numismatic find. This story of gold coins hidden in a mystic hoarder's apartment, in the heart of Paris, has aroused great curiosity. The Louis XV period treasure is now recognized worldwide, and it is the object of covetousness of most of our collectors.

A HISTORIC NUMISMATIC DISCOVERY



Press - Discovery of the treasure of rue Mouffetard

On May 25, 1938, before finishing their working day, workers decided to tear down a last wall of an unsanitary building where they worked on rue Mouffetard in Paris. From it fall "sorts of sausages" containing "small yellow tokens". One of them, Flaminio Maures, intrigued by this find, decided to go see the jeweler in his neighborhood in Montreuil to have it appraised: they were in reality **Louis XV gold coins!** Flaminio rushes to the police station.

The next day, the commissioner, Mr. Duhaut, the contractor and a bailiff went to the scene. In addition to dozens of rolls of gold coins, they found several **parchments**, fragments of **wills** of a certain **Louis Nivelles** "Squire, Advisor, Secretary to the King, Court Usher in

the Chancellery of the Palace". The most complete dates from November 16, 1756 in which he intended the loot for his daughter. Unfortunately for her, he disappeared before warning her...

The newspapers and neighbors covered the event. The treasure of rue Mouffetard makes the headlines! Ce Soir headlines on the front page "It was gold!" Rue Mouffetard, demolition workers discover a treasure." The neighborhood becomes "rue au Magot", a little prankster covers the building with an inscription: "Gold Mine".

A HIDDEN TREASURE

Why did this rich man living on rue de la Coutellerie hide his fortune in an apartment in the 5th arrondissement? What happened to Louis Nivelles? What will become of the treasure?

84 people are recognized as **heirs**.

After investigation, it seems that Mr. Nivelles lived a double life, sometimes close to his wife and daughter, sometimes mystical and irrational. He was introduced to the Jansenist deacon François de Paris, a man living in asceticism and devoting his life to the poor of the neighborhood. When he died, he was buried in the Saint-Médard cemetery. On the day of her burial, a woman suffering from paralysis regained the use of her arm and this is how the "affair of the convulsionnaires" began under Louis XV. Men and women go to his grave, are seized with convulsions and a desire for torture. Sects are created and secret gatherings take place. **The apartment on rue Mouffetard**, close to the cemetery, was certainly rented by Louis Nivelles to engage in questionable practices.



Hidden treasure



France



Royal French Coins

SHARING THE TREASURE OF RUE MOUFFETARD

In total, the treasure of rue Mouffetard was composed solely of **gold coins from the reign of Louis headband and glasses.**

A first **public sale** was organized on April 5, 1939. 205 coins were sold for a total of 210,000 francs.

The treasure of rue Mouffetard having been legally declared, the distribution is divided into three parts between the **discoverers**, the **city of Paris**, as owner of the building and the **heirs** of Anne Nivelles, i.e. the 84 people found.

The part of the treasure stated in the wills is the inheritance (2812 pieces). The other coins are considered finds (539 coins) and shared in half between the city of Paris and the nine discoverers.

Several sales are organized and appraised by the **Bourgey cabinet**, a prestigious numismatic auction house, with the shares of the rights holders of the treasure.



Louis XV - Louis d'Or au Bandeau
Treasure of rue Mouffetard



SOLD

8 Louis d'or

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CLIENT INTERVIEW 8 LOUIS D'OR

In 2023, we assisted many numismatists with their collection projects. One of them agreed to answer our questions following his purchase of an 8 Louis d'or coin.

How did your interest in numismatics come about?

From my earliest childhood, I was enchanted by gold, and more specifically by the treasures of ancient civilizations: those of the Incas, the Egyptians... I held a certain fascination for the yellow metal.

My passion for numismatics is much more recent. A few years ago, I came across an article which recounted the discovery of a treasure. This story resonated with a lesser-known family anecdote and immediately caught my attention. The newspaper announced that the Louis d'or coins were up for auction, near my home. Driven by immense curiosity, I decided to go and see.

I got caught up in the excitement. Overwhelmed by emotion and the captivating atmosphere, I passionately and almost instinctively bought some Louis d'or coins. Once back home, I began to research. I had just entered the world of numismatics.

What motivated your latest acquisition, an 8 Louis d'or coin from Louis XIII's reign?

That initial purchase ignited a true passion within me. I began by exploring the Louis d'or coins, and my period of interest became increasingly specific. I focused on the early Louis d'or coins, from the reigns of Louis XIII and Louis XIV.

The more I researched, the more I was captivated by the year the Louis d'or was created, 1640, and its iconic engraver, Jean Varin. While the ecus had previously been hand-struck with a hammer, Jean Varin invented a new technique for minting the golden Louis: the screw press striking. It provided newfound precision with high technical and artistic quality and allowed for much larger production volumes. At the time, the engraver sparked immense rivalry among his competitors.

I quickly turned my attention to historical gold and the so-called 'pleasure coins,' even more prestigious: the 4 Louis, the 6 Louis, the 8 Louis, and the 10 Louis. With

these exemplary coins, ever larger and produced in very limited quantities, Jean Varin employed all his expertise to impress and win over the king.

What are your plans as a numismatist?

My goal is to refocus my collection solely on this pivotal year of 1640, especially on these exceptional coins that never circulated, except most likely in the hands of Louis XIII and on the gaming tables of his courtiers. It's this story that I share with my daughters and wish to bequeath to them.

Can you describe your experience with Thomas Numismatics?

Shortly after the start of our collaboration, I found myself in a private room to formalize the sale. Thomas handed me the coin in person, accompanied by a box and its certificate. It was not just a transaction, but a real experience, both exhilarating and solemn.

AU



Louis XIII
Gold – Ecu d'or au soleil
Frappe au marteau – 1636 X Amiens
1 800€

AU+



Louis XIV
Gold – Louis d'or à la mèche longue
1651 A Paris – PCGS AU 58
3 600€

EF



Louis XIV
Gold Double louis d'or aux 4 L
1694 M Toulouse
6 500€

AU+



Louis XIV
Écu à la mèche courte – 1645 A Paris
1 400€



MS



Louis XV
Gold – Double Louis d'or Mirliton
1724 A Paris – Rarity R5 – NGC MS 61
18 000€

MS/MS+



Louis XV
Gold – Louis d'or – à la croix du – Saint-Esprit
1718 A Paris – PCGS MS 62
4 500€

MS



Louis XVI
Ecu de Calonne – 6 segments – 1786 A
PCGS SP 61
4 500€

AU



Napoleon I
Gold – 20 Francs or – 1815 W Lille
Hundred Days – PCGS AU 50
2 700€

THE TREASURE OF SULFUR SPRINGS

 Hidden treasure

 United States

 Dollars

Sulfur Springs are located in Florida and now annexed to the city of Tampa. At the beginning of the 20th century, they were an example of resort expansion. Thanks to the will of one man, the mineral hot springs of Tampa became a national tourist attraction for the middle and working classes in the 1920s. The place declined but it was hiding a treasure buried underground, the Sulfur Springs treasure.



Sulphur Springs © wikimedia-credit-ebayabe

SULFUR SPRINGS: ONE MAN'S PROJECT

These Florida sulfur springs were renowned for their **therapeutic and medicinal properties** for decades. Native Americans already went there to treat their wounds. At the end of the 1800s, the place became increasingly frequented by settlers. In 1898, a businessman named **John Mills** purchased a 40-hectare plot of land on the Hillsborough River, which contained the sulfuric spring. A small complex developed around the spring and the river with a hotel, baths, a restaurant and a swimming pool. At the time, the

only way to access the resort was by horse and carriage, or by boat up the river. For white, middle-class families, rural, authentic vacations were ideal. In 1906, **Josiah Richardson** decided to take advantage of this magical place. He moved there with his family and bought the land from Doctor Mills with the Tampa sulfur springs for \$10,000. He begins to imagine a much more substantial seaside resort to accommodate travelers. This turned out to be the project of a lifetime.

SULFUR SPRINGS: A SULFUR TREASURE

In 1908, a **streetcar line** was built, bringing tourists from downtown Tampa. In 1926, he built a classic-style **hotel** and installed an **arcade** on the ground floor which became the first indoor **shopping center** in Florida. Other leisure facilities are installed such as a water slide and an alligator farm. **Sulfur Springs** becomes a national tourist attraction. To obtain the pressure necessary for all his attractions, he began building a **water tower**, a gigantic white tower which would become the symbol of this district of Tampa. The Sulfur Springs Water Tower was built in just eight days in 1927. Josiah Richardson **borrowed a lot of money** and mortgaged all his assets to build this tower.

It provided water to what had become a real city. In 1933, a hurricane flooded the Hillsborough River, causing damage to Sulfur Springs. According to a press article from September 3, 1933, the river flooded approximately 50 to 100 houses and damaged the amusement park. This was the start of several unfortunate events that ultimately led to the city's economic downturn. Against the backdrop of the Great Depression, Richardson eventually went **bankrupt**. In 1974, the arcade was demolished to make way for a parking lot, but residents fought to preserve the water tower. It was during this **development work** that we found the **Sulfur Springs treasure** containing coins and artifacts. **The**

coins were all struck between **1898 and 1904**, mainly **Liberty silver dollars**, **Barber half dollars** and **Barber quarter dollars**. The parts show significant **corrosion** due to contact with sulfur.



Half Dollar - 1904



United-states

1 dollar – certificate silver
Premium box PCGS – Shipwreck
Treasure – S.S Andrea Doria

650€



Framed set

Framed set of three banknotes
Treasure shipwreck – S.S. Andrea Doria

2 000€

MS+



United-states

1 Dollar 1923 – NGC UNC – Treasure
Binion Collection

180€

VF+



Great-Britain

George I – Gold Guinea 1719 – NGC VF 35 –
Treasure Ellerby area Hoard

2 600€

VF



Mexico

Carlos II – Cob 8 reales Mexico – PCGS VF 20
Treasure Pasay Hoard

650€

AU



Germany

Johann georg II – Taler – 1659 CR Dresden

800€

VF+



Mexico

Carlos IV – 8 Reales – 1792 MO Mexico NGC
Treasure MarbleHead Ma Hoard

1 850€

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THE SINKING OF THE ANDREA DORIA



Shipwreck treasure



Italian ship



American dollars and
Italian liras

The Italian transatlantic liner *Andrea Doria* suffered a terrible accident on the night of July 25, 1956. This renowned 20th-century shipwreck swallowed up with it some bank vaults estimated to equal several million dollars. Here is the story of the sinking of the *Andrea Doria*.



©Newton Ashford Beeton – Flickr

THE TRANSATLANTIC ANDREA DORIA

The *Andrea Doria* was a **liner** belonging to the Italian Line. Based in Genoa, it regularly connected Europe and the United States. Named in homage to the 16th century Italian admiral, the ship was a source of national pride.

A true colossus, it was also renowned for its cruising speed and could reach 26 knots. However, it was built especially for its comfort and luxurious standing. Measuring 213 meters long and 27 meters

wide, it could transport more than 29,000 tonnes. Built in 1951, it made her first voyage in 1953. The *Andrea Doria* was one of **Italy's most popular transatlantic** cruisers and considered one of the safest boats of its time.

What happened on July 25, 1956? It was sailing between the Nantucket and Ambrose lighthouses, at the entrance to New York Harbor, when it collided with a Swedish liner, the *Stockholm*.

THE SINKING OF THE ANDREA DORIA

On Wednesday July 25, 1956, the *Andrea Doria* was on its way to New York and was due to dock on the 26th. As it approached the coast, it encountered a thick fog that caused it to slow down to 21.8 knots.

The *Stockholm*, a smaller liner, had left New York at noon that day. It was following the opposite course of the *Andrea Doria* and was about to enter this foggy area as well, in the south of Nantucket Island.

It seems that everyone misinterpreted the situation and the trajectories and that no communication was made between them. The fog did not help either and despite last minute maneuvers, the liners collided at 11:10 p.m. **The *Stockholm* pierces the *Andrea Doria*.**

46 people died as a result of the impact. Thirty minutes after the accident, the crew decided to abandon the ship. All the lifeboats were not usable and panic broke out. A radio message alerted the surrounding boats. The *Ile de France*, which had crossed a few times earlier, turned around to come to the rescue of the passengers.

The *Andrea Doria* sank the next morning, eleven hours after the disaster. The event was widely covered by the media. **The *Stockholm* still sails today** under the name *Astoria*, it is the oldest liner in the world fleet still in service. The accident led to changes in maritime legislation: shipping companies were required to better train the crew in radar and radio technology.

EXPLORATIONS ON THE ANDREA DORIA

At only 50 meters deep, the wreck is easily accessible and therefore very popular with sea explorers. The site is nicknamed “the Everest of diving” by the adventurous.

In 1956, the French explorer Jacques Cousteau tried to access the wreck, but he quickly abandoned evaluating the expedition as too dangerous.

In 1966, **Gimbel** was hired by the Marine Index Bureau to inspect the wreck again. Then, having become a documentary producer, he returned to the wreck in 1981, convinced that a **treasure of gold and jewels** was still there in a safe. 25 men dived with sophisticated equipment. After 33 days, they discovered the bank's safe. However, it was confiscated for three years while awaiting court decisions.

The contents of the first-class safe were revealed during a television program in 1984. While the contents of the jewelry store and the bank treasure were estimated at \$4 million, it was **banknotes** that were discovered: essentially **American dollars** and **Italian liras**. Are there any other safes to discover at the bottom of the ocean?



1 dollar – Certificate silver Shipwreck
Treasure S.S. *Andrea Doria*

VG



Bolivia

Felipe III
2 Reales Cob – Potosi
Shipwreck Treasure
Atocha
650€

MS



Belgium

Leopold II – Gold obverse die trial Franc
NGC MS 61 – Pedigree
15 000€

AU



Empire Kushan

Gold Stater – Kidara
950€

MS+/GEM



Germany

Gold – Hieronymus – Ducat – Salzburg
Proof like
970€

GEM



South Africa

Gold – 1 oz – Krugerrand 2017
50th anniversary – PCGS MS 69
2 200€

MS



Great Britain

Gold Sovereign Victoria 1869
Treasure shipwreck Douro – NGC MS 62
2 000€

AU+



United-States

50 Cents Capped Bust – 1833 Philadelphia
650€

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THE TREASURE OF NUESTRA SEÑORA DE ATOCHA

 Shipwreck treasure

 Spanish ship

 Silver coin pesos

In 1621, the Nuestra Señora de Atocha, an imposing Spanish galleon, made its first voyage to Spain during which it broke its mast. Was this the announcement a bad omen? Indeed, in 1622, only a year after its launch, the galleon could not withstand a violent storm. It sank to the bottom of the ocean and took with it a precious cargo which would become one of the greatest numismatic treasures of all time, discovered only 300 years later.



Señora de Atocha box and certificate

NUESTRA SEÑORA DE ATOCHA, A MILITARY ESCORT

The Nuestra Señora de Atocha was a **ship** built in Havana in 1620 for the **Spanish Empire**. Typical of the large galleons of the 17th century, it belonged to the **Indian Fleet**, the naval navy designed to escort a hundred merchant ships and their cargoes, between the Americas and Spain.

The Nuestra Señora de Atocha was heavily armed with twenty **bronze cannons**. It measured 34 meters long, 10 meters wide,

and could displace 550 tonnes. A crew of 180 sailors and 82 infantry soldiers was necessary for its proper functioning.

At the time of its sinking, it was carrying a considerable cargo: the inventory listed 1,038 silver ingots, **180,000 pesos in silver coins (reales)**, 582 copper **lingots**, 125 gold lingots and discs. Colombian, 350 bales of indigo, 525 bundles of tobacco, as well as 600 kilos of silverware.

THE SINKING OF THE SEÑORA DE ATOCHA

September 6, 1622

What exactly happened? The Señora de Atocha left Portobelo on July 22, with a cargo hold already full of **Peruvian treasures**. It joined the rest of the Indian Fleet in **Cartagena**, Colombia, where it completed its cargo. Delayed by various events, the departure of the Spanish East India Fleet took place later than expected, when the hurricane season was already well underway. The fleet, made

up of **28 ships** in single file, first called at Havana, before casting off for **Spain** on the morning of September 5.

The procession headed north towards the **Florida Keys archipelago**. The next day, September 6, 1622, a strong wind pushed the convoy back into the Gulf of Mexico. The Atocha kept watch and was the rear guard. It did not have time

Next →

VF



Mexico
Philip IV
Cob 8 Reales Mexico
Treasure Shipwreck
Nuestra Señora de
la Concepción
950€

MS+



Italy
Philipp V of Spain – Gold Scudo Cagliari
1 800€

AU+



Italy
Alvise Mogenico III – Gold Zecchino
Venezia
750€

MS+



United States
Gold 20 Dollars – 1857 S San Francisco
Spiked shield – PCGS MS 64
Treasure Shipwreck – SS central america
14 500€

AU+



Netherlands
Albert & Isabella – Gold Ducat Spanish Type
PCGS AU 55
1 400€

AU



Ethiopia
Axum Ebana Gold Unite – 460-480 AC
1 300€

MS+



Poland
10 Zlotych gold – 1925
1 080€

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to avoid the storm and was hit by the hurricane, as were eight other ships, including the **Santa Margarita** and the **Nuestra Señora del Rosario**, which were swept away from Key West. The Atocha broke up on a reef and sank very quickly.

Contemporary research into the shipwreck

The next day, a passing boat found five men desperately clinging to the mast still sticking out of the water. They were the only survivors of the entire crew.

Marked by the mast, the site of the wreck was easy to locate and a salvage company sent by Spain, quickly arrived on the spot from Havana. However, the divers did not manage to go down deep and did not have the necessary tools to drill the hull. The Spaniards had to go back to Havana to look for more adequate equipment. In the meantime, another hurricane hit the region and completed the destruction of the wreck, knocking down the remaining mast and scattering the debris of the ship. The authorities were unable to find the remains of the Atocha.

THE TREASURE OF NUESTRA SEÑORA DE ATOCHA

Diver Mel Fisher

The treasure of the Nuestra Señora de Atocha finally reappeared from the water more than 350 years later, thanks to a man who devoted part of his life to finding the wreck: **Mel Fisher**.

Born in 1922 in Indiana, Mel Fisher was a true adventurer. As

a child, he already had a thirst for discovery and spent his time swimming in lakes. He also made objects such as a diving helmet or a raft to descend the Mississippi. Not surprisingly, he **studied engineering** when he was drafted to France at the beginning of World War II. Upon his return, he moved to Florida and opened a dive store.

In the 1950s, **the gold rush** opened up opportunities and gave new ideas to Mel Fisher. He was fascinated by the discovery of gold and treasures in general. One day, a meeting with some **treasure-hunting** divers became decisive. They had just found some coins in a wreck off the coast of Miami. Mel was won over. In 1962, he founded the Treasure Rescuers with five other divers, and began expeditions in the waters of the Pacific.

It was during this period that he invented the **mail box**. A huge blower that allows clearing the sand of the depths to make appear the objects strewn in the depths. This machine quickly gave him results.

Discovering the treasure of Atocha

Confident, Mel Fisher decided to concentrate on the **search for the Nuestra Señora de Atocha**. He then concentrated on a very large area of the Keys archipelago. He leased a maritime concession to the State of Florida, which planned to leave 75% of the value of the finds to the inventors and to win only the remaining 25%.

Fisher was actually looking in the wrong place until he benefited from the research of the **historian Eugene Lyon**. Lyon was able

to determine a more precise location of the shipwreck, thanks to the archives of Seville.

Five years later, Fisher found the first object attesting to Atocha's origin. But the treasure was scattered over more than 18 kilometers. He found pieces here and there, but could not find the wreck.

The search for the Atocha's treasure made a major breakthrough in 1973, when **three numbered silver ingots** were found, and then in July 1975, when Mel's son, Dirk Fisher, unearthed the ship's **five bronze cannons**. But the euphoria quickly gave way to horror. A week after the discovery, Dirk and his wife died in an accident with their own boat. In mourning, the Fisher family continues the search for justice for Dirk. In 1980, a part of the Santa Margarita was found with its cargo. The Atocha was clearly not far. One would have to wait five more years before Mel's second son, Kane, finally discovered the main site of the Atocha's sinking, in **July 1985!**

In total, **47 tons of silver** were brought to the surface, as well as the mythical **eight reales coins**, minted in **Potosí** and **Mexico City**. The coins of the Atocha were later categorized in **5 grades**, according to their state of conservation due to the long stay in the salt water. A long legal process followed. Given the size of the loot, Florida demanded that the loot be returned to the state. The Supreme Court finally decided: the Fishers obtained exclusive rights to the treasure. The wreck remains to this day the greatest treasure ever found at sea, estimated at **\$450 million**.



Wood case papals medals

Italy Vatican Leon XIII
Wood case
10 silver papals medals
885-1899
2 500€



AU+

Louis XVI and Marie-Antoinette
Uniface trial – Duvivier – 1782 – Pedigree
600€



AU+

Louis XVI
Token – Clergy donation american independence- 1782 PCGS AU 58
Jean lecompte collection
570€



AU+

Napoleon III
Medal in wood – Around 1860
François Lepage
200€



AU+

Papal Medal
Clement XV – Papal Medal
Tortoise shell gilt
950€



VG

U.S. Token
2 reales Charles III Mexico – U.S. Merchant
Token countermarked – J.M. TAYLOR
Ex Donald G. Partrick – Collection
350€



MS+

George Washington
United-States – Medal George Washington
Letter to Hamilton
4 500€

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WHO ARE WE?

Have you decided to sell a part of your collection? Our team of numismatic experts is here to assist you with your project.

Dear collector and merchant friend, Thomas Numismatics is the new online reference. We specialize in the online sale of prestigious items: coins, medals, tokens, banknotes, and more. Our goal is to offer you a premium service that meets your expectations.

WHAT SOLUTIONS ARE OFFERED TO YOU?

You have two options:

- ▶ **Sell your numismatic items directly to us.** After appraising your coin or banknote, we provide you with an offer. If you accept our proposal, the purchase is immediate;
- ▶ **Opt for consignment.** We sell your collection to our clients, and we take a commission on the sale price.

WHY CHOOSE CONSIGNMENT?

Consignment is the preferred option, whether you're selling a single coin or a significant collection. Our purpose is to make the most of them and make the process easier for you. **We handle everything on your behalf.**



Excellent ★★★★★ ★ Trustpilot

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Postcard
British Indian – shipwreck Treasure
S.S. Camberwell
200€



Gold nuggets
Gold Nuggets – NGC
Fenn's Treasure Chest
2 500€



Middle-East
Cylinder Seal – Green Jasper
500€



Photo shipwreck Titanic
Genuine Photo – Shipwreck R.M.S Titanic
Signature Dick Barton
450€



Photo discoverer R.M.S Titanic
Genuine Photo discoverer – Shipwreck R.M.S
Titanic – Signature Robert Duane Ballard
350€



Tag cabine luggage
Genuine tag – cabine luggage
White star Line
250€



Matrix
Twentieth century Mark
Collection Terry Hardaker
100€



United-states Engraving
Lot of 3 Engravings
Related to Early America
1 100€

YOU WANT TO SELL?

ALL THE BENEFITS OF CONSIGNMENT WITH THOMAS NUMISMATICS



A NUMISMATIC EXPERTISE

Our personalized advice is provided by **experts with recognized experience** in the French and international numismatic markets.



A HUMAN INTERACTION ABOVE ALL

Contact with our customers is essential to our service. We listen carefully and give priority to **personalized and sincere communication**.



A DYNAMIC SALES SYSTEM

Your coins and banknotes will be listed for sale on **our premium online store** as well as on various **online sales platforms and marketplaces** (eBay, MA-Shop, Vcoins...). Your products will be **highlighted on our various channels**: newsletters, social media (Facebook, Instagram), and will be the subject of paid advertising, which we fully cover.



A METICULOUS PROMOTION

Your items are enhanced by an **individual listing**. It includes a precise and appealing description, along with high-quality professional photos, in high definition.



A HIGH VISIBILITY

Our **visibility is international** and our online store caters to both French and English speakers.



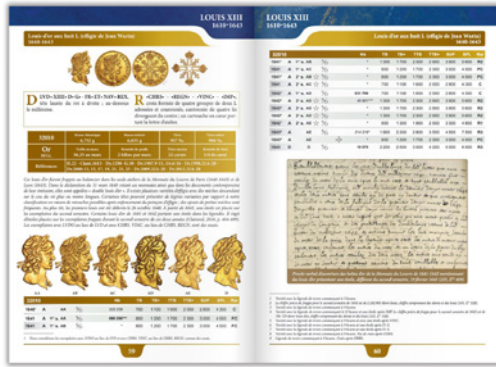
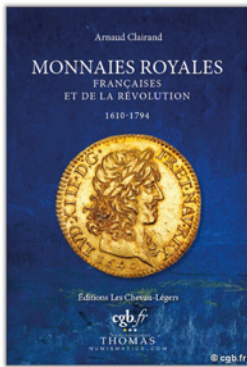
A RELIABLE EXPERIENCE

You will benefit from the reputation of Thomas Numismatics. Our **rigor and reliability** guarantee secure transactions.



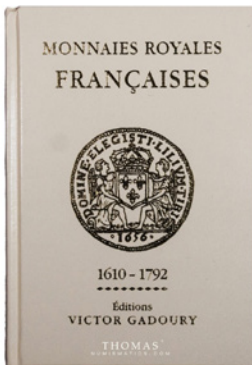
A LOYAL CLIENTELE

Your items will be offered to **our wide customer base of collectors** and our **loyal community**.



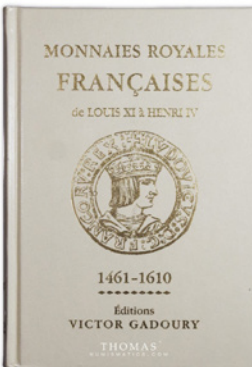
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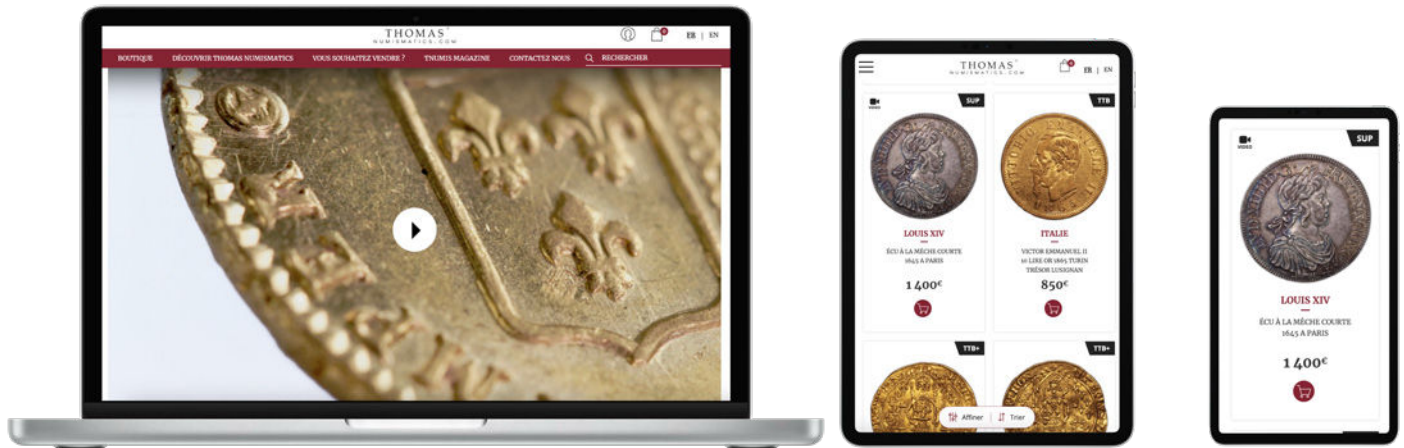
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