

ITALIAN MINISTRY OF ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS
ITALIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
THE ITALIAN CONSULATE IN EDMONTON
ALBERTA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

ANCIENT ROME

Provincial Museum of Alberta - Edmonton
12 Ottobre 2002 - 21 Aprile 2003

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Italian Ministry of Arts and Cultural Affairs
Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
The Italian Consulate in Edmonton
The Provincial Museum of Alberta, Edmonton
Centro Promozioni e Servizi, Arezzo

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CATALOGUE

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S.B. - Stefano Bruni

G.C. - Gabriele Catani

G.Ca. - Gaetana Cava

M.C. - Marco Cavalieri

C.C. - Cecilia Ciatti



380. *AUREUS* OF AUGUSTUS

NMA, Florence
Inventory Number M 68
Unknown provenance
Weight: 7.9 g

Gold

Obverse: Head of Augustus
(uncovered)

Reverse: Seated sphinx
About 19 B.C.

During the reign of Augustus, when it was common to use the Latin and Greek alphabets, the lack of any writing on the coin, as is the case with



this example, was likely an attempt to accentuate the importance of the image of the Emperor.

L.T.



381. *DENARIUS* OF AUGUSTUS

Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 0107
Unknown provenance

Silver

Obverse: Head of Augustus with laurel wreath

Reverse: Gaius and Lucius Caesar in togas and with veiled heads
2 B.C. to A.D. 11

Gaius and Lucius, the sons of Agrippa and Livia, daughter of Augustus, were adopted by Augustus to be his heirs. This plan for succession was spoiled



when they both died a premature death.
M.C.



382. *DUPONDIUS* OF LIVIA

Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 1475
Unknown provenance

Bronze

Obverse: Bust of Livia

Reverse: SC in large letters
A.D. 33

This coin identifies Livia as Salus Augusta. The Senate, who recognized her as a great woman who had always shown respect for their assembly, dedicated this coin to Livia. Another coin was dedicated at the same time to



the Emperor Tiberius, the son of Livia.

M.C.



383. *AUREUS* OF TIBERIUS

Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 0106
Unknown provenance

Gold

Obverse: Head of Tiberius with laurel wreath

Reverse: Cloaked female figure, seated on a throne, with a branch in her left hand and a long sceptre in her right

This figure is the representation of Livia as the goddess Pax (peace)
A.D. 26 to 37

M.C.



384. *DENARIUS* OF TIBERIUS
Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 1488
Unknown provenance
Silver
Obverse: Head of Tiberius with
laurel wreath
Reverse: Livia as Pax
A.D. 16 to 21

M.C.



385. *AS* OF DRUSUS
Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 123 d
Unknown provenance
Bronze
Obverse: Head of Drusus
(uncovered)
Reverse: *S C* in large letters
A.D. 22 to 23

M.C.



386. *AS* OF ANTONIA
Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 1519
Unknown provenance
Bronze
Obverse: Head of Antonia
Reverse: Standing male figure
Mid-1st century A.D.

M.C.



387. *SESTERTIUS* OF
AGRIPPINA MAJOR
Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 140 d
Unknown provenance
Bronze
Obverse: Bust of Agrippina
wearing a cloak
Reverse: *Carpentum* (chariot or
wagon) drawn by mules
A.D. 37 to 41

In order to understand the imagery of
this coin, it is useful to know that,
according to the author Suetonius,

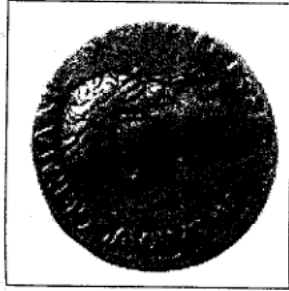
Caligula held annual public festivals in
honour of his mother Agrippina Major.
These festivals included many contests
and rituals, including a race of
carpentia, chariots drawn by mules.

M.C.



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388. *SESTERTIUS OF CALIGULA*

Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 1541

Unknown provenance

Bronze

Obverse: Head of Caligula with laurel wreath

Reverse: Three female figures, identifiable from the inscription as the sisters of Caligula, standing by a cornucopia

On the left Agrippina is leaning on a pilaster, in the middle Drusilla



holds a *patera* in her right hand, and on the right Julia holds a ship's rudder in her right hand
A.D. 37 to 38

The three sisters of Caligula are represented as the personifications of deities. Drusilla, the favourite of Caligula and the one of his sisters for whom he had more than just fraternal affection, is represented as *Concordia* (harmony). Agrippina as *Securitas* (security) and Julia as *Fortuna* (prosperity).

M.C.



389. *AS OF GERMANICUS*

Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 137 D

Unknown provenance

Bronze

Obverse: Head of Germanicus (uncovered)

Reverse: *SC* in large letters

A.D. 41 to 54

This coin commemorates Germanicus and was struck during the reign of the Emperor Claudius, his brother.

M.C.



390. *AUREUS OF CLAUDIUS*

NMA, Florence

Inventory Number 43/C12

Unknown provenance

Gold

Obverse: Head of Claudius with laurel wreath

Reverse: Winged Nemesis holding a *caduceus* (a staff and symbol of peace)

A.D. 41 to 42

G. Ca.



391. *AS OF CLAUDIUS*

Archaeological Museum of Siena

Inventory Number 171 D

Unknown provenance

Bronze

Obverse: Head of Claudius (uncovered)

Reverse: Personification of Libertas with the name Augustus to show that the Emperor could guarantee freedom

After A.D. 42

M.C.



392. **AUREUS OF NERO**
Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 1621
Unknown provenance
Gold
Obverse: Head of Nero
(uncovered)
Reverse: Armed Virtus.

M.C.



393. **AS OF NERO**
Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 1629
Unknown provenance
Bronze
Reverse: Head of Nero with laurel
wreath
Obverse: The closed doors of the
Temple of Janus (closed only when
Rome fought no wars).
The circulation of this coin celebrated
the closing of the doors of the Temple
of Janus and the beginning of a period
of peace.

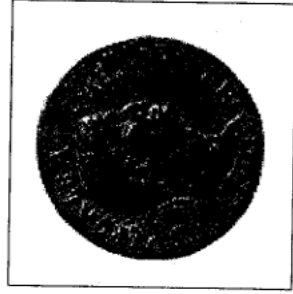
M.C.



395. **SESTERTIUS OF OTHO**
Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 1669
Unknown provenance
Bronze
Obverse: Head of Otho
(uncovered)
Reverse: One figure is larger than
the others who are holding out their
right hands towards three armed
figures

A.D. 69

This coin represents an important
moment in the brief reign of Otho,



394. **AS OF GALBA**
Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 1656
Unknown provenance
Bronze
Obverse: Head of Galba with laurel
wreath
Reverse: Libertas
A.D. 68 to 69

M.C.



namely when his troops swore their
allegiance to him.

M.C.

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396. *DENARIUS OF VITELLIUS*
Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 1672
Unknown provenance

Silver
Obverse: Head of Vitellius with laurel wreath
Reverse: Libertas standing with a pileus (felt hat) in his right hand and a long sceptre in his left
A.D. 69

M.C.



397. *DENARIUS OF VESPASIAN*
Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 1687
Unknown provenance

Silver
Obverse: Head of Vespasian with laurel wreath
Reverse: Personification of Judaea represented as a draped figure seated at the foot of the trophy
A.D. 70

Judaea is represented as a seated Hebrew woman. This coin, part of a series of coins showing trophies and

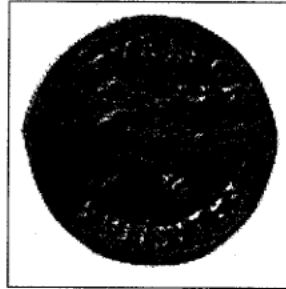
prisoners, is the first of a number of coins that show the province of Judaea as a defeated enemy.

M.C.



398. *DUPONDIVS OF VESPASIAN*
Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 1690
Unknown provenance

Silver
Obverse: Head of Vespasian with radiant crown
Reverse: Felicitas is represented as a standing female figure who holds a *caduceus* (staff representing peace) in her right hand and a cornucopia in her left
A.D. 73



The personification of Felicitas indicates the prosperity of the world brought by the new ruling family, the Flavians.

M.C.



399. *AUREUS OF TITUS*
NMA, Florence
Inventory Number 1072
Unknown provenance
Weight: 7.34 g

Gold
Obverse: Head of Titus
Reverse: Pax (Peace) kneeling on a *cippus* (marker stone) with a *caduceus* (staff) in one hand and a tree branch in the other
A.D. 73

Struck and Circulated under Vespasian in A.D. 73.

G.Ca.



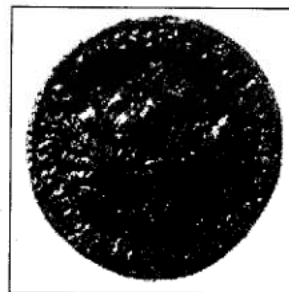
400. *SESTERTIUS* OF TITUS
Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 1761
Unknown provenance
Bronze
Obverse: Head of Titus with beard and laurel wreath
Reverse: Titus and Vespasian standing and facing each other with their right hands joined. They are holding up a globe that is positioned above a ship's rudder
A.D. 80
This coin shows Vespasian, who had



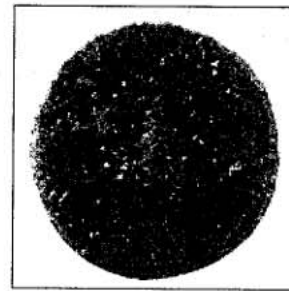
become divine after his death in A.D. 79, offering his successor the rule of the world symbolized by the globe resting on the ship's rudder. The globe and the rudder symbolize Rome's control of the land and sea.
M.C.



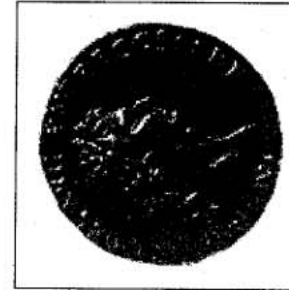
401. *DENARIUS* OF DOMITIAN
Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 1858
Unknown provenance
Silver
Obverse: Head of Domitian with a beard and laurel wreath
Reverse: Minerva is throwing a spear with her right hand
A.D. 93
Minerva was the patron goddess of Domitian.
M.C.



402. *SESTERTIUS* OF DOMITIAN
Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 241 D
Unknown provenance
Bronze
Obverse: Head of Domitian with beard and laurel wreath
Reverse: Seated Jupiter who holds a Victory in his right hand and a long sceptre in his left
A.D. 92 to 94
The image of Jupiter on a coin meant that the person who issued the coin was placing himself under the



protection of the father of the gods. This helped ensure success in politics and warfare, as symbolized by Victory.
M.C.



403. *AS* OF NERVA
Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 255 D
Unknown provenance
Bronze
Obverse: Head of Nerva with laurel wreath
Reverse: Two right hands joined together
A.D. 96
The joined right hands symbolize *Concordia* or the harmony that was regained after the difficult reign of Domitian.
M.C.





404. *DENARIUS* OF TRAJAN

Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 1984
Unknown provenance

Silver

Obverse: Bust of Trajan with laurel wreath

Reverse: Trophy of weapons

A.D. 107 to 111

The trophy and the armour are symbols of the Trajan's military victories over the Dacians in A.D. 101-102 and 105-106.

M.C.



405. *SESTERTIUS* OF TRAJAN

Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 1966
Unknown provenance

Bronze

Obverse: Bust of Trajan with laurel wreath

Reverse: Dacian seated at the foot of a trophy of weapons

A.D. 104 to 111

The significance of this coin is clear: it represents the defeat of the Dacian enemies of Rome.

M.C.



406. *AUREUS* OF HADRIAN

NMA, Florence

Inventory Number 1986

Unknown provenance

Weight: 7.2 g

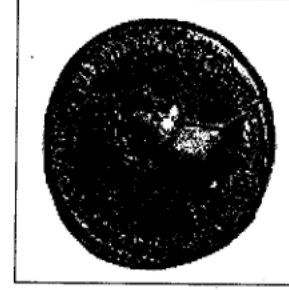
Gold

Obverse: Bust of Hadrian with laurel wreath

Reverse: Hadrian on a galloping horse

A.D. 125 to 128

G.Ca.



407. *SESTERTIUS* OF HADRIAN

NMA, Florence

Inventory Number 2116

Unknown provenance

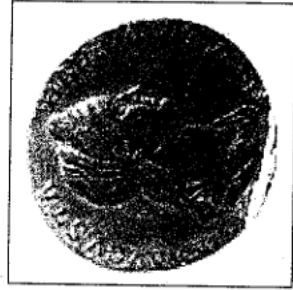
Weight: 26.9 g

Bronze

Obverse: Bust of Hadrian with beard and laurel wreath

Reverse: The goddess Roma seated with the goddess Victoria and a cornucopia.

G.Ca.



408. *SESTERTIUS* OF *VIBIA SABINA*

Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 2146 a
Unknown provenance

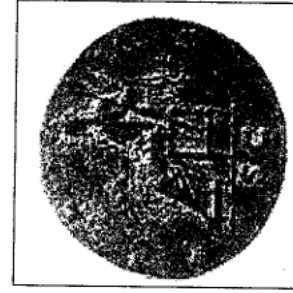
Bronze

Obverse: Bust of *Vibia Sabina* with diadem

Reverse: *Pietas* represented as a female figure seated on a throne holding a *patera* in her right hand and a long sceptre in her left
A.D. 132 to 137

Vibia was the wife of the Emperor *Hadrian*.

M.C.



409. *DENARIUS* OF *ANTONINUS PIUS*

Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 109

Unknown provenance

Silver

Obverse: Bearded head of the divine *Antoninus Pius*

Reverse: Eagle

A.D. 161 (?)

This coin shows the apotheosis of the Emperor *Antoninus Pius*. The eagle, carrier of immortal souls and messenger of *Jupiter*, has the task of

carrying worthy humans from earth to the kingdom of the gods.

M.C.



410. *DUPONDIIUS* OF *ANTONINUS PIUS*

Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 0113

Unknown provenance

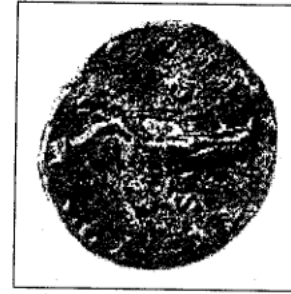
Bronze

Obverse: Head of *Antoninus Pius* with beard and laurel wreath

Reverse: Standing female figure with a branch in her right hand and a cornucopia in her left

A.D. 139

The female figure represented in this coin can be m as *Pax* or *Pietas*,



the patron goddess of *Antoninus Pius*.

M.C.



411. *DENARIUS* OF *MARCUS AURELIUS*

Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 0111

Unknown provenance

Silver

Obverse: Head of *Marcus Aurelius* with beard

Reverse: Standing female figure with a globe in her extended right hand and a cornucopia in her left

A.D. 161

The female figure in this example is the personification of divine

Providence who has predetermined the succession of *Antoninus Pius*. The goddess holds the globe, symbol of Rome's universal power, and the cornucopia, the symbol of abundance brought by the new emperor.

M.C.



412. Arch Inve: Unkn Silve Obw crow Reve A.D. Faust Pius: of the died A.D.

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412. *DENARIUS OF FAUSTINA*

Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 0108
Unknown provenance

Silver

Obverse: Bust of Faustina with crowned head

Reverse: Salus seated on a throne

A.D. 161 to 176

Faustina Minor, daughter of Antoninus Pius and Faustina Major, was the wife of the Emperor Marcus Aurelius. She died in the province of Cappadocia in A.D. 175.

M.C.



413. *DENARIUS OF LUCIUS*

VERUS

Archaeological Museum of Siena

Inventory Number 0112

Unknown provenance

Silver

Obverse: Bust of Lucius Verus with beard and laurel wreath

Reverse: Standing Mars

A.D. 163

The figure of Mars in this coin commemorates the victorious military campaign against the Armenians in A.D. 163.

M.C.



414. *DENARIUS OF*

COMMODUS

Archaeological Museum of Siena

Inventory Number 2616

Unknown provenance

Silver

Obverse: Uncovered and beardless head of Commodus

Reverse: Cup for pouring libations.

This coin shows a young Commodus. It was struck and circulated by Marcus Aurelius and so dates to before A.D. 180 when Commodus became Emperor.

M.C.



415. *DENARIUS OF*

COMMODUS

Archaeological Museum of Siena

Inventory Number 2616 D

Unknown provenance

Silver

Obverse: Head of Commodus with beard and laurel wreath

Reverse: Female figure seated on a throne

In her right hand she holds a ship's rudder resting on a globe and a cornucopia in her left

A.D. 186



The female figure seen here is the personification of Fortuna Redux who has been invoked to commemorate the return to Rome of the legions after their victories in Britain and Sarmatia in A.D. 184.

M.C.



416. A.S. OF CRISPINA
Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 2655
Unknown provenance
Bronze

Obverse: Bust of Crispina
Reverse: Standing Juno
A.D. 180 to 183

This coin likely relates to the marriage of the Commodus with the young Crispina which took place before the death of the Emperor Marcus Aurelius. This would explain the presence of the goddess Juno, who was associated



with the rites of marriage.

M.C.



417. MEDALLION WITH
ANNIUS VERUS AND
COMMODOUS
Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 2335
Unknown provenance
Bronze

Obverse: Bust of Annius Verus in military cloak
Reverse: Bust of young Commodus in military cloak.

The medallion was an item that was not circulated as part of ordinary coinage.

M.C.



An emperor, in commemoration of specific political, religious and civil events, would circulate a bronze medallion. These were larger than coins in order to better render the subject matter. This medallion, which represents the two sons of the Emperor Marcus Aurelius, was likely struck when the two boys were each given the title of Caesar, succeeding to their father.



418. MEDALLION WITH
MARCUS AURELIUS AND
COMMODOUS
Archaeological Museum of Siena
Inventory Number 0114
Unknown provenance
Bronze

Obverse: Bust of Marcus Aurelius with beard, laurel wreath, lorica (breast plate) and shield
Reverse: Bust of young Commodus with paludament (military cloak) and armour

A.D. 173



This medallion portrays the emperor and his son, Commodus, at a time when he had already been given the title of Caesar, successor to the position of emperor.

M.C.



419. AUREUS OF SEPTIMIUS
SEVERUS
NMA, Florence
Inventory Number 3999
Unknown provenance
Weight: 6.97 g
Gold

Obverse: Head of Septimius Severus with laurel wreath
Reverse: Victory holding a palm bough and a crown
A.D. 194

G.Ca.



422. AUI
NMA, FI
Inventory
Unknown.
Weight: 7
Gold
Obverse:
laurel wreath
Reverse:
over his head
tree branch
A.D. 205