



# KÜNKER

## Exklusiv

NEWS FROM THE AUCTION AND GOLD MARKET

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## Dear Customers, Dear Coin Enthusiasts,



We are humbled and grateful that Lottie and Mark Salton, together with the New York auction house Stack's Bowers Galleries, have entrusted us with the sale of their magnificent collection, and we reiterate that all proceeds will go to Jewish organisations working for reconciliation and for the commemoration of Jewish history.

As part of our summer auction week, we also cordially invite you all to a barbecue on Wednesday 21 June at the Hotel Vienna House Remarque, and we would be pleased to welcome many of you there. If you're interested, please contact our Customer Service Department at [service@kuenker.de](mailto:service@kuenker.de) or +49 (0)541-962020.

In this issue, however, we hope not only to look into the future, but also to take a look at the past weeks: For example, we participated with great success at the Numismata coin show in Munich,

and were pleased to be able to meet many of you in person. You also had the opportunity to view the coins and medals from our spring auction onsite. We offer sincere thanks to the auction house Karl & Faber for allowing us to use their premises for our viewing and for an exciting lecture by Prof. Dr Johannes Nollé. You can read the Numismata report on page 5. But we were not only present at this coin exchange in Munich – we also attended the TICC in Tokyo and the Wachau coin exchange in Austria. We report on our teams' impressions of those events on pages 13 and 16 respectively.

A special anniversary is coming up in this year 2023, which is closely linked to our hometown of Osnabrück: the 375th anniversary of the Peace of Westphalia. The couple Margret and Johannes Nollé illuminate the background of the Thirty Years' War and the Peace of Münster and Osnabrück on pages 6 to 8 of this issue.

We hope you enjoy reading our latest issue, and we hope to see you in person again soon.

With warm regards from Osnabrück,

*Dr. Andreas Kaiser*  
Dr Andreas Kaiser

*Ulrich Künker*  
Ulrich Künker

**D**o you also have the feeling that time simply flies by? A phrase we hear frequently here is "After the auction is before the auction", and so our summer auctions are currently ready for you. We are looking forward to an exciting auction week, with two live floor sales and two eLive Premium Auctions, covering a rich spectrum from ancient to German coins of the 20th century. We will start on Tuesday, 20 June 2023 with Auction 387, for which we would like to cordially invite you to the Vienna House Remarque in Osnabrück, with "Rarities of Swedish Numismatics from the Gunnar Ekström Collection" and selected lots from the Friedrich Popken Collection. We present a separate report on the Gunnar Ekström Foundation and numismatic research in Sweden on page 12 of this issue. After further exciting numismatic rarities from all over the world, Auction 388 will follow on Thursday, 22 June 2023 with the collection "Thalers and Marks - German Coins from 1800 to 1918". You will find the detailed preliminary report and selected highlights on the offerings for Auctions 387 and 388 on pages 2 and 3 of this issue.

Beginning Friday, 23 June, we will move the auctions to our virtual auction room at [www.elive-auction.de](http://www.elive-auction.de). You can look forward to a special collection of Bremen and Verden coins, the second part of the Walter Kemlein Collection of Saxon coins and medals, and an important series of Jewish medals, about which we have also written an article in this issue. You will find it on pages 14 and 15. Finally, on Saturday, 24 June we offer you the seventh and final part of the Salton Collection, with minted history from ancient to modern times.

### In this issue



## The Thirty Years' War and the Peace of Osnabrück and Münster

Margret and Johannes Nollé

### Calendar 2023



<b>Bratislava Collector Days</b>	2-3 June 2023
<b>Summer Auction Sales 387-388</b>	20-22. June 2023
<b>Summer Auction Sales 389-390</b> eLive Premium Auction	23-24 June 2023
<b>eLive Auction 78</b>	10-14 July 2023
<b>ANA Pittsburgh</b>	8-12 August 2023
<b>Fall Auction Sales</b> Coins and Medals from the Medieval and Modern Times	25-29 September 2023
<b>Coinex</b>	29-30 September 2023
<b>eLive Auction 79</b>	16-20 October 2023
<b>Winter Auction Sales</b> Orders and Decorations Coins from the Ancient World	13-15 November 2023
<b>eLive Auction 80</b>	4-8 December 2023

# Our Summer Auction Sales from 20-22 June 2023

From 20 to 22 June 2023, two of our summer auctions will take place in Osnabrück, and we have put together some very special rarities for you. Don't miss out on perusing our auction catalogues carefully – there is something for everyone!

## Auction 387

We start the auction week with 21 lots from the collection of a very important numismatist, Gunnar Ekström, whose legacy has had a lasting impact on Swedish numismatics. We have written a separate article for the Exklusiv, which tells you how an individual can set an example in promoting numismatic research. You will find it on page 12.

Let's move on in this report to the coins and medals from all over the world that are offered in Catalogue 387. Two remarkable series from the German states can be found in Catalogue 387: Another part of the Friedrich Popken Collection of löser will be auctioned. Join us in looking forward to the rich imagery that makes these impressive mintages so interesting. In addition, there will be a small group of coins of the Duchy of Mecklenburg. We mention here only one extremely rare pistole, eight of which were minted in 1828 to demonstrate to the duke how well the new minting presses worked, during his visit to the duchy's mint.



Lot 182 - Russia.  
Peter III. 1762 gold medal commemorating the Peace of Hamburg.  
Probably the only specimen in private possession.  
Extremely fine to FDC.  
Estimate: 100,000 euros

Among the coins and medals from all over the world in particular, there are many pieces of the greatest rarity. We will limit ourselves here to presenting a personal favourite piece to you in more detail. It commemorates a central episode in world history: The Seven Years' War has often been called the "first real world war". The dispute between Prussia and Austria over Silesia was merely the trigger for a war of all against all, in which overseas trading interests were also involved. While Britain cemented its dominance during these years, Prussia came to the brink of ruin. Its defences were so overstretched that its capital Berlin was taken twice in surprise attacks.

But when all seemed lost for Frederick and Prussia, on 5 January 1762 the Russian Tsarina Elizabeth II died and was succeeded by Peter III, an admirer of Frederick II. Peter was eager to quickly imitate Frederick's reforms in Russia, and pushed through a change of alliances. The Peace of Hamburg of 5 May 1762 turned Prussia's enemy into an ally. Prussia's survival was thus secured, and it emerged from the Seven Years' War as a great German power.

The medal we present to you here (Lot 182) commemorates the Peace of Hamburg between Prussia and Russia. It shows the busts of Peter III and Frederick II with the inscription (in translation) "Salvation of Humanity". On the reverse side, Minerva is depicted as the bringer of peace. The idea for the design is said to go back to the famous Jewish Enlightenment philosopher Moses Mendelssohn. This piece is extremely rare, and is probably the only example of this medal in gold in private hands.

What makes this medal particularly interesting is that it commemorates a worldwide historical turning point. For the peace agreement also had decisive consequences for Russia: By so quickly and impulsively renouncing any advantage, after all the sacrifices Russia had made for this war, Peter lost the support of his military. This was the sole reason the putsch by his wife Catherine was successful. She is known today as "Catherine the Great", a result of her excellent media policy. She invested vast sums in opinion makers such as Voltaire, in order to conceal her true policies behind their panegyrics.

In fact, in 1762 Catherine had initially feared that her husband would pronounce a divorce because she had given birth to a son by her lover Grigori Orlov in April – a son who could have made a claim to the throne if Peter had done nothing. Now Catherine took advantage of the favourable situation following the conclusion of peace to overthrow her husband. Imagine what might have happened if Peter had remained in power and put his reform plans into action, such as the abolition of serfdom! Perhaps there would never have been a Russian revolution.

Coins and medals always provide testimony to history. We present some other spectacular coins and medals here.



Lot 754  
China. Hsuang Tung.  
25 cents (1/4 dollar) n.d. (1910), Tientsin. Pattern with plain edge.  
NGC PF65 CAMEO. Extremely rare. Proof  
Estimate: 75,000 euros



Lot 944 - Brunswick.  
Augustus the Younger, 1635-1666. Löser of 5 reichstalers 1666, commemorating his death, Zellerfeld. From the Popken Collection.  
Extremely rare. Very fine +.  
Estimate: 40,000 euros



Lot 123 - Great Britain.  
George III. 1777 pattern 2 guineas, London.  
NGC PF63 CAMEO. Extremely rare. Proof, minimally touched.  
Estimate: 100,000 euros



Lot 127 - Great Britain.  
Victoria. 5 pounds 1839, London. Una and the Lion.  
NGC PF61 CAMEO. Very rare. Proof, minimally touched.  
Estimate: 100,000 euros



Lot 750 - Hungary.  
Ludwig II. 1626 silver medal commemorating his death at the Battle of Mohacs. From the Princely Fürstenberg Coin Cabinet in Donaueschingen.  
Original strike. Very fine.  
Estimate: 12,500 euros



Lot 368 - Brandenburg-Prussia.  
Frederick II. Double Friedrich d'or 1753, Cleve. Extremely rare. Extremely fine.  
Estimate: 50,000 euros



Lot 446 - Mecklenburg-Schwerin.  
Frederick Francis I. 5 talers (pistole) 1828, commemorating the visit of the Grand Duke to the mint. Only 8 specimens minted. Extremely fine.  
Estimate: 15,000 euros



Lot 1533 - Bavaria.  
Ludwig I., History thaler, on the first German railroad from Nuremberg to Fürth. Extremely fine to FDC.  
Estimate: 500 euros



Lot 1553 - Brunswick.  
Charles II. Konventionstaler 1821.  
Very rare. About FDC.  
Estimate: 7,500 euros



Lot 958 - Brunswick-Calenberg-Hanover.  
George William. Löser of 6 reichstalers 1660, Zellerfeld.  
From the Popken Collection. Extremely rare. Very fine +.  
Estimate: 50,000 euros

And by the way: With these historical thalers, the concept of the modern commemorative coin was implemented in Bavaria for the first time. This is the root of the rich commemorative coinage that generates handsome sums for the treasuries of so many nations today.



Lot 1599 - Nassau.  
Frederick William of Weilburg.  
Konventionstaler, undated (1815), commemorating the visit of the mint in Ehrenbreitstein. Extremely rare. FDC.  
Estimate: 25,000 euros



Lot 1605 - Oldenburg.  
Paul Frederick Augustus. Double vereinstaler, 1840, for the Principality of Birkenfeld.  
First strike, FDC.  
Estimate: 5,000 euros

The great importance that the rulers attached to their monetary systems is shown by the many coins of the 19th century that were issued on the occasion of a visit by the sovereign to the mint. This extremely rare "convention thaler" from the year 1815 was created on the occasion of a coin visit to Ehrenbreitstein. For once, it shows no reverse, but was minted as a "hermaphrodite" coinage from two obverse dies of Prince Friedrich Wilhelm zu Weilburg and his elder cousin, Duke Friedrich August zu Usingen.



Lot 1664 - Württemberg.  
Frederick II (I). Konventionstaler 1806, Königstaler (king's taler).  
Very rare. Very fine to extremely fine.  
Estimate: 7,500 euros

**Auction 388: From the Thaler to the Mark**

If you collect German coins, you can look forward to a great collection that will be liquidated in our summer auctions. On Thursday 22 June 2023, German coins from 1800 to 1918 from private collections in Northern Germany will come on the market.

All of these coins are testimony to one of the decisive phases of German history (the "long 19th century"). During these years, the country in which Germans live today developed out of the previous patchwork of the Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation. Germany changed completely in the process – not only politically, but also economically and above all educationally. The reason for this was the English model, which rich citizens emulated in close cooperation with state officials. In England, Adam Smith had popularised the idea of free trade: The economy should be free to develop independently of the state. We still speak of the "invisible hand of the market" today. A government's task was thought to be merely to ensure the largest possible sales market with clever laws, and to provide as many excellently trained workers as possible through its education policy. Customs unions, currency alliances and, of course, the founding of many new universities, technical colleges and trade schools are the concomitants of this epoch. In the 19th century, an agrarian Germany became a modern industrial nation whose belated aspirations to a place among the colonial powers contributed to its defeat in the First World War.

The coins from Auction 388 with the title "From Thaler to Mark" tell of this epoch. We illustrate them here with three examples.

Let's start with a piece that you have surely seen many times in auctions, which beautifully illustrates a crucial phase of industrialisation. Without the railway, it would not have been possible to distribute over a wide market the products manufactured cheaply through the division of labour. The geschichtsthaler ("history thaler") of King Ludwig I commemorates the first German railway to run between Nuremberg and Fürth.



Lot 1710 - German Empire. Bavaria.  
3 marks 1918. Commemorating the golden wedding anniversary of the Bavarian royal couple. Very rare. About FDC.  
Estimate: 40,000 euros

Let's close with a piece from 1918. In the "material battle" of the First World War, Germany's economic power was inferior to the combined economies of Great Britain and the United States. Silver became a scarce commodity. As a result, this Bavarian commemorative coin from 1918 commemorating the golden wedding anniversary of the royal couple was issued in a mintage of only approximately 130 pieces.

You will find in auction Catalogue 388 many more coined testimonies to what happened during this time; some of the most interesting can be found on the right.

We are very pleased to welcome you to Osnabrück once again on the occasion of the floor Auctions 387-388, from 20 to 22 June 2023.



Lot 1722 - Hesse.  
Louis III. 2 marks 1876. Extremely rare. Proof.  
Estimate: 25,000 euros



Lot 1798 - Saxony.  
Frederick Augustus III. 3 marks 1917. Frederick the Wise.  
Extremely rare. Proof.  
Estimate: 100,000 euros



Lot 1892 - Mecklenburg-Strelitz.  
Frederick William. 10 marks 1873.  
Very rare. Extremely fine to FDC.  
Estimate: 50,000 euros



Lot 1927 - Saxe-Coburg and Gotha.  
Ernest II. 20 marks 1872.  
Very rare. Extremely fine to FDC.  
Estimate: 100,000 euros

# Our eLive Premium Auctions 389 and 390

The second part of our summer auction week will take place virtually: On 23 and 24 June 2023, we will auction around 2,000 lots with coins and medals from ancient to modern times, including numerous special collections, as part of our eLive Premium Auction series.

## eLive Premium Auction 389 Bremen and Verden, Saxony, and Jewish medals

On Friday, 23 June, coins and medals from the ancient world, the Middle Ages, and modern times will be on sale beginning at 10:00 am. The focus is on German coinage. You can look forward to joining us for a special collection on Bremen and Verden; the second part of the Dr Walter Kemlein Collection with Saxon coins and medals; as well as an important collection of Jewish medals. Finally, we offer you the numismatic library of Dr Walter Kemlein. To illustrate how exciting the lots in these auctions are, we have written a short article for you on a piece from the collection of Jewish medals. You'll find it on page 14. We will also address other topics in our regular newsletters before the auctions.



Lot 2421 - Saxony.  
Frederick Augustus I. 1719 silver medal by Chr. Wermuth on the occasion of his son's wedding.  
Very rare. About extremely fine.  
Estimate: 2,500 euros



Lot 2301  
Upper Lusatia. Vladislaus II of Bohemia, 1158-1173.  
Bracteate, Bautzen or Görlitz.  
Extremely rare. Extremely fine.  
Estimate: 3,000 euros



Lot 2056 - Russia.  
Aleksy Mikhaylovich. Jefimok 1655.  
Overstrike on a 1637 Saxon reichstaler.  
Rare. Very fine to extremely fine.  
Estimate: 1,250 euros



Lot 2198 - Bremen-Verden.  
Charles XI. 1692 reichstaler, Stade.  
Very rare. Very fine to extremely fine.  
Estimate: 3,000 euros



Lot 2249 - Mecklenburg.  
Frederick Francis I, 1785-1837. 2 talers 1797, Schwerin.  
Extremely fine.  
Estimate: 750 euros

## eLive Premium Auction 390 The Salton Collection , Part VII

Saturday, 24 June 2023 is dedicated to the seventh and final part of the Salton Collection.

On offer are coins from antiquity, from Europe and Old Germany, whereby the lot of Italian coins is especially remarkable. You will remember the tragic fate of Mark Salton, alias Max Schlessinger, who after the Second World War had the great good fortune to find a new home together with his beloved wife Lottie in New York, USA. His employer, the Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company, sent him to Italy to run the Italian branch of the bank. Mark and Lottie Salton enjoyed the Italian way of life, loved Italian art, and visited all the country's major cities. After their return to New York in 1975, they commemorated this wonderful time with countless Italian coins and medals reflecting the country's interesting history.

Take this opportunity to buy a new object for your collection that has a very unusual background as part of the Salton Collection. And don't forget that the proceeds of this collection go to support Jewish organisations working for reconciliation and the commemoration of Jewish history.



Lot 3065 - Roman Republic.  
Caesar. M. Mettius. Denarius, 44, Rome.  
Very rare. About extremely fine.  
Estimate: 2,000 euros



Lot 3187 - Hadrian, 117-138.  
Denarius, 121-123.  
Extremely fine.  
Estimate: 300 euros



Lot 3216 - Marcus Aurelius, 161-180.  
Aureus, 161-162. Very fine to extremely fine.  
Estimate: 2,500 euros



Lot 3224 - Faustina II.  
Aureus, 161-176. Very fine.  
Estimate: 2,500 euros



Lot 3328 - Roman Empire. Julianus II.  
Apostata, 360-363. Solidus 361/363, Antiochia, 8. Offizin.  
Little scratch. Very nice.  
Estimate: 1.500 euros



Lot 3229 - Commodus.  
Aureus, 178. Very rare. Extremely fine.  
Estimate: 12,500 euros

# Gold coins for Hamburg's merchants and citizens

## Bankportugalöser coin reminds us of the history of the city's first giro bank

What can we learn about Hamburg's history from a 17th century bankportugalöser coin? Quite a lot, as Roland Trampe, our representative in the Hanseatic city, knows: "Coins are great testimony to past eras, and direct links to our history." The passion for collecting them is not only a wonderful hobby for history lovers, but has also always been a way to invest money in an inflation-proof manner. This was the case with the bankportugalöser coin and it remains so today. For it is not uncommon that the value of a coin exceeds that of the precious metal used many times over, especially when only a few specimens remain and their history is closely linked to that of a city. The first Hamburg bankportugalöser coin, from 1653, is considered a numismatic rarity today. One specimen was sold in our Berlin auction of January 2020 with a hammer price of 55,000 euros.

"Regardless of the possible value development of numismatic collections, there is hardly any other comparable hobby that opens so many doors to history, art history, and regional studies," says our Managing Director Dr Andreas Kaiser. "Collecting coins is like putting together a huge mosaic in which the stones complement each other." To make this possible, it is important that coins keep coming into circulation. "That is one of our tasks. We keep getting requests from customers or their descendants to have collections they have inherited appraised, or perhaps they come across long-forgotten treasures while going through the attic," says Dr Kaiser. "Then our coin expert inspects the rarities. If their value is confirmed, we buy them or auction them off on behalf of the customer."

Back to the bankportugalöser: What does this gold coin tell us about Hamburg? It all started with the war and the inflation of that time. The German states minted more and more coins from less and less precious metal, and cash lost credibility. Hamburg's merchants founded their giro (clearing) bank, with its own private currency, and called the currency the mark banco. Anyone who wanted to open an account at this giro bank was required to deposit pure silver. One (weight) mark of silver at 233.85489 g was worth 27 mark bancos. Cashless transfers could be made from one account to another account at the giro bank. It quickly became the most important giro bank in Germany, and the third most important in Europe. Anyone who "was anyone" had an account with this bank. The silver-backed currency existed for centuries. It was only with the introduction of the bankportugalöser that it became possible to withdraw money; in 1653, the giro bank paid out the first coin of this kind after receiving permission from the council.

Historically, the coins go back to the fact that for many years it had been customary in Hamburg to pay large sums of money with bankportugalöser coins. However, the heavy gold coins from Portugal were no longer minted in the 17th century. One of the most renowned medallists of the time was engaged for their successors: Sebastian Dadler created the coin design with the impressive city view, dominated by Hamburg's church towers and the view towards the Elbe River, on which numerous ships are seen cruising in front of the harbour entrance.



The first Hamburg bankportugalöser, from 1653. This numismatic rarity was auctioned by the Künker Auction House in Osnabrück on 30 January 2020 with a hammer price of 55,000 euros.

The reverse of the coin shows the mouth of the Elbe itself with the city in the background. Above it, the goddess of peace Pax empties her two cornucopias, bestowing trade and rich harvests. "The history of the Hamburg bankportugalöser spans several centuries. The giro bank existed until 1875, but bankportugalösers were minted for many years after that and are thus an integral part of the history of the city of Hamburg," says Roland Trampe.

## From coins to motors: Künker at the Numismata in Munich

At the beginning of 2020, the Munich Numismata was the first coin exchange to be cancelled due to the onset of the pandemic. This year it finally took place again, and of course we were there.



A big crowd at our stand at the Numismata.

### The most important coin exchange in southern Germany

The Numismata is generally considered to be the most important coin exchange in southern Germany. It attracts numerous collectors, including those from foreign countries close to the border. Like all exhibitors, we were curious to see whether the Numismata would be able to continue its success of the pre-Corona era. But long before the doors opened, it was already clear that all expectations would be far exceeded! More than an hour before opening, collectors were already crowding into the foyer to buy their tickets. Due to the large

number of visitors, the organisers at the ticket counters could not keep up with the sales. No one had expected such a large number of visitors! And when the administrators of the MOC Centre then had to close the trading floor repeatedly due to overcrowding, some collectors were a little annoyed. But their disgruntlement subsided the moment they entered the room – rarely have we experienced such a good and positive atmosphere at a coin fair. You could literally feel how much everyone present had missed the exchange, and how happy everyone was to meet old acquaintances again.

We enjoyed a successful few days at our stand. Many customers came by to shop, to pick up goods from the last auction, to consign them for the next auction, or just to have a short numismatic chat.

### Auction display at Motorwelt in Munich

While some of our staff were looking after the stand at the Numismata, others were sitting a few hundred metres away in the Munich Motorwelt, an attraction you simply must see if you love the smell of motor oil. We had chosen this location for the auction viewing during the bourse because it is less than a 10-minute walk from the Numismata location, and

offers a wonderful setting in addition to suitable premises. Whether classic cars or the latest racing cars, here you will find everything associated with the joy of driving.

The room we were assigned was a bit out of the way, but of course our customers found us anyway. Many took the opportunity to view the coins and medals from the spring auction. Ulrich Künker says: "It's important to us that as many of our customers as possible have the opportunity to see items from our auction goods for themselves. Although we do everything we can to give as realistic an impression as possible of the coins' preservation in our catalogues and on the internet, nothing beats the judgement of one's own eyes. That's why we take advantage of the fact that so many coin collectors and dealer colleagues visit the Numismata, and present the auction goods here. I invite you to join us next time."

In addition, we had already exhibited our auction lots for viewing in the Luitpoldblock at the Karl & Faber art auction house, a few days before the Numismata. In this context, the lecture by Prof. Dr Johannes Nollé on the topic "History Minted in Gold from Antiquity to Modern Times: The Roger Wolf Collection" took place on 2 March. Our guests enjoyed intensive discussions with the speaker afterwards.

# The Thirty Years' War and the Peace of Osnabrück and Münster

## 2023: an anniversary year

This year marks the 375th anniversary of the so-called Peace of Westphalia, which was concluded in Osnabrück and Münster. It was one of the most important peace treaties, if not the foundation of modern Europe. It massively changed the world of nation-states on this continent, led to the final recognition of the Protestant confessions, and put an end to the medieval idea of an all-encompassing and all-controlling Holy Roman Empire in thought, even if not yet in fact. The "City of Peace" Osnabrück commemorates this event with many events. Especially at a time when another war is causing unspeakable suffering in Europe and evoking as yet unforeseeable consequences, it is important to think of war and peace and their effects on humanity – in other words, to learn from history. For us as the Osnabrück institution which, in the words of its founder Fritz Rudolf Künker, sees itself as a "house of coined history", it is a matter of course to bring the events of this time to the attention of our customers and readers and to show what role coins and medals play as contemporary "witnesses": what insights into history they can provide, and what a pleasure it can be to gain a new world view by collecting such pieces.

## The prehistory of the War: Union and League, 1608/1609

The Augsburg Religious Peace of 1555 was intended to guarantee a stable and peaceful relationship between the religious confessions in Germany. It had stipulated that a sovereign should have the right to determine the denomination of the resident population: "Cuius regio, eius religio" ("Whose land, whose faith"). In this way, however, the empire had developed into a confessionally divided and politically increasingly loose association of imperial estates striving for extensive freedom, over which an emperor had only nominal supervision. In addition, this maxim was contradicted by the fact that since Albrecht II (1438-1439) a Habsburg had been elected emperor without interruption, who invariably saw himself as the guardian and protector of the Catholic religion.

At the beginning of the 17th century, the Catholic Habsburgs – and above all Emperor Matthias (1612-1619) – began to push for the recatholicisation of the empire. In doing so, they once again fuelled the dispute between the confessions. The emperor's activities met with resistance from the Protestant imperial states in southern Germany, and later also in northern Germany. In their opinion, the emperor no longer represented the interests of the empire, but only those of the Catholic Church and the Catholic imperial states, and especially those of the House of Habsburg. Eight Protestant princes and cities therefore founded the Protestant "Union" in 1608 as an alliance to ward off the oppression of the Protestants. In return, the "League" was formed in 1609, an association of Catholic imperial princes under the leadership of Duke Maximilian I of Bavaria.

The founding of both confederations led to ever greater tensions and finally to the Thirty Years' War (1618-1648), which began as a war of religion between Catholics and Protestants in Bohemia but then became more and more about dominance in Europe. It eventually became one of the longest and bloodiest wars ever fought on European soil, and brought with it the destruction of entire regions, widespread plunder, hunger, murder and forced displacements. On a European level, the old enmity between France and the Habsburgs was again unleashed, Sweden tried to assert its claim to power beyond the Baltic region without restraint, and in the Holy Roman Empire the power of the emperor and the medieval religious unity of the empire were at stake.



In Osnabrück's historic town hall, the Peace of Westphalia was signed in 1648 by the envoys of the emperor, the imperial states, and the Kingdom of Sweden. The "Peace Room" can still be visited today.



The elevation of Elector Frederick V of the Palatinate to King of Bohemia, 1619: The silver medal shows on the obverse the so-called Winter King on horseback in coronation regalia; on the reverse his armourer is putting on his armour; to the right and left of the two are a cannon and a trunk with helmets. The Latin inscription reads: "May you protect the fatherland and the faith!" (Auction 375, Lot 2577, estimate: 300 euros, hammer price: 2,600 euros)

Maximilian I of Bavaria, champion of the Catholic League, supporter of the Habsburgs and beneficiary of the fall of the "Winter King": Maximilian I celebrated his elevation to elector with this double imperial thaler from 1627. One year later, the emperor also conferred upon him the territories of the Rhine Palatinate on the right bank of the Rhine and in the Upper Palatinate. The coin shows his armoured bust on the obverse, and on the reverse is the Bavarian coat of arms, held by two lions, crowned with two knight's helmets and the elector's hat. It is surrounded by the order chain of the Golden Fleece; the inscription emphasises the office of an archduchess (archidapifer). (Auction 302, Lot 1028, estimate: 40,000 euros, hammer price: 80,000 euros)

## The Bohemian-Palatinate War and the "Winter King" Frederick V of the Palatinate, 1618-1623

In Bohemia the Habsburg Holy Roman Emperor Matthias, who was also King of Bohemia, had revoked the religious freedom of the Protestants, which had previously been guaranteed to them in 1609 by his brother Emperor Rudolf II with the so-called "Letter of Majesty". On 23 May 1618, a band of armed Bohemian nobles entered the imperial chancellery in Prague Castle. The Protestant aristocrats began a heated argument with the emperor's officials, and eventually threw them bodily out of the high window. Thanks to a pile of dung lying under the window, the victims got off lightly. The "Defenestration of Prague" was certainly a planned action, with which the mostly Protestant Bohemian nobility wanted to humiliate the emperor and rid themselves of Catholic-Habsburg sovereignty. For the emperor, however, the loss of Bohemia would have been fatal. Of the seven electors who chose the emperor, three – in Brandenburg, Saxony and the Rhine Palatinate – belonged to the Protestant camp. On the Catholic side were the archbishops of Cologne, Mainz and Trier. Bohemia, which until then had belonged to the Catholic party, tipped the scales in the imperial election. Therefore the Habsburgs could not allow Bohemia to be lost, but were militarily too weak to put down the uprising with their own forces. Emperor Matthias' successor, Ferdinand II, looked for allies – and found a close one in the Bavarian

Duke Maximilian I in particular. The rebels were able to win Frederick V of the Palatinate, the head of the Protestant Union, and the Duke of Savoy, Charles Emmanuel I, to their cause. Initially, the Bohemians' revolt against the emperor seemed to be successful. In the summer of 1619, the Bohemians deposed Ferdinand of Habsburg and elected Frederick V as the new Bohemian king, while at the same time the German electors unanimously elected the Habsburg Ferdinand emperor on 28 August. Ferdinand II succeeded in binding the Protestant German princes to him with many promises. Thus the army of the imperial League was able to take action against Bohemia in September. On 8 November 1620, the battle of White Mountain near Prague took place, in which the Bohemian army was defeated by the imperial troops. The "Winter King" Frederick V fled to The Hague and was sentenced to the imperial ban by Emperor Ferdinand II. The emperor expelled 30,000 Protestant families from Bohemia and confiscated 650 noble estates, which he distributed to his allies. One of them was Albrecht von Wallenstein. Finally, the Protestant Union was dissolved in April 1621.

## The expansion of the war: The battle for the Electoral Palatinate, 1620-1622

In order to save the Palatine hereditary lands of the "Winter King" for the Protestant side, Protestant army leaders invaded

the Palatinate. Initially, they were able to prevail against the Catholic League. However, they were subsequently defeated by Spanish-Dutch units under Spinola and the imperial League army led by Tilly. The portion of the Palatinate on the right bank of the Rhine was occupied by the League in the summer of 1622, while the area on the left bank of the Rhine was held by the Spanish. On 23 February 1623 Frederick V of the Palatinate lost the electoral "dignity" or power, which fell instead to the Bavarian Duke Maximilian I. In 1628 the electoral dignity of the Bavarian dukes became hereditary. The Upper Palatinate became Bavarian and was recatholicised. In return, Duke Maximilian I abated the Habsburg Emperor Ferdinand II the reimbursement of war debts amounting to 13 million guilders. This shifted the balance of power in the empire in favour of the Catholics and formed the basis for a further expansion of the conflict.

#### The enemies of the Habsburgs interfere:

##### The Lower Saxon-Danish War and the Peace of Lübeck, 1623-1629

If the war had been only a German affair, peace could probably have been made at this point. But this was not to be the case: For one thing, the Palatinate War had repercussions in northern Germany, and for another, France under Louis XIII and the political leadership of Cardinal Richelieu did not want to accept the rise to power of the House of Habsburg. To this end, the cardinal arranged an alliance of the Protestant rulers in northern Germany against the Habsburg emperor. In 1623, the "Hague Alliance" was founded between England, the Dutch States General, and Denmark.

When the Protestants raised an army in northern Germany, the commander of the League, Tilly, advanced into northern Germany. The nobility of Lower Saxony feared war and immediately submitted to the emperor, giving the imperial troops a foothold in northern Germany. On the Weser River and east of it lay most of the old imperial monasteries, which had converted to Protestantism after 1555. On the imperial Catholic side, the idea of making these monastic territories Catholic again came up very quickly. The North German princes therefore had every reason to worry about their spiritual possessions. They therefore decided on an alliance with the Danish King Christian IV.

Denmark's territory extended into what is now central northern Germany, and it hoped to expand this area even further. With Denmark's entry into the war, Emperor Ferdinand II was forced to raise a second army to relieve his commander Tilly. A Bohemian nobleman, Albrecht von Wallenstein, made an offer to the emperor to equip an army from his own resources. In the fascinating person of Wallenstein, an excellent military man, shrewd businessman, ingenious organiser and unscrupulous plunderer entered the stage of history, whose fate has provided posterity with material for films and historical novels time and again, from Friedrich Schiller's trilogy of dramas to some in our own period. After the Emperor had authorised him to raise an army, Wallenstein used a completely new method to ensure the sustenance of his soldiers: "War must feed war" was his motto. Everywhere he went, he plundered towns and villages; the local inhabitants were forced to provide the soldiers' pay and food. Thus the emperor and his commander incurred hardly any costs for warfare. King Christian IV of Denmark and his allies suffered several defeats against the imperial armies under Tilly and Wallenstein. Wallenstein's successful strategy enabled Ferdinand II to extend his power to the Baltic Sea: The imperial army occupied Jutland in 1627, and then Mecklenburg and Pomerania in 1628. The presence of a Catholic army on the Baltic made the Swedes extremely nervous. To forestall a possible Danish-Swedish alliance, Wallenstein and Tilly, who had no fleet at their disposal, made peace with Denmark in Lübeck on 22 May 1629 as representatives of the Empire. The Dukes of Mecklenburg, who were allied with Denmark, were declared deposed and their sovereignty transferred to Wallenstein. Before the peace was concluded, Ferdinand II issued the so-called Edict of Restitution, whereby all bishoprics and monasteries in northern Germany that had become Protestant became Catholic once again. This meant a tremendous increase in power for the emperor, which provoked renewed resistance from the Protestants.



*The battle of Breitenfeld (today a district of Leipzig) on 17 September 1631 was Gustav Adolf's first great victory over the imperial army under Tilly: The silver medal shows on the obverse how the personifications of justice, persevering piety and courage, with the laurel of victory in their left hands, jointly raise a crowned victory column. Above, the hand of God emerges from the clouds, a radiant sun with the name of Yahweh sending forth its rays. In the background the silhouette of the city of Leipzig, in a cartouche the slogan "God with us". The reverse depicts the clash of the imperial and Swedish-Saxon armies. An angel with a flaming sword comes to the aid of the Protestant army: The Latin legend reads: "With the help of God, victory came to the oppressed". The day of the battle is given as 7 September 1631 according to the old Julian calendar. The Protestants refused to use Pope Gregory's calendar. (Auction 375, Lot 2511, estimate: 1,000 euros, hammer price: 5,750 euros)*



*The Peace of Lübeck: The peace treaty was concluded on 22 May 1630 between Emperor Ferdinand II and Christian IV of Denmark, and the Hanseatic city had a hexagonal silver medal minted: On the reverse, three men are kneeling in prayer before an altar, another is laying wood to offer a smoke sacrifice on the altar. Above the altar arches a rainbow, the Old Testament sign of peace between God and man, above which shines the sun of God/Jehovah. The Latin inscription reads: "May the golden peace of the world return! "The "golden peace" was a catchword of the Thirty Years' War. (Auction 335, Lot 4053, estimate: 300 euros, hammer price: 550 euros)*

#### The Regensburg Imperial Diet and the powerlessness of the victorious emperor, 1630

The Peace of Lübeck and the Edict of Restitution initially seemed to have consolidated the Habsburg position in the Empire, and restored peace to some extent. But soon discontent arose among the German electors. The elevation of the imperial commander Wallenstein from the lesser nobility to the title of duke was perceived as an insult by the princes who were direct subjects of the empire. The emperor was forced to dismiss Wallenstein. The greatest fear among the Protestants, however, was the further expansion of imperial power. For this reason, the electors at the Regensburg Imperial Diet held from July to November 1630 refused to elect Ferdinand's son as Holy Roman Emperor. The decisions made by the electors at the Imperial Diet had dramatic consequences for the further course of the war: Just as the imperial army was reduced and its most capable general deposed, King Gustav II Adolf of Sweden landed on 6 July 1630 on the Baltic Sea island of Usedom with an army of 13,000.

#### King Gustav Adolf's advance through Germany, 1630-1632

After Denmark had withdrawn from the war, Gustav Adolf saw his chance to assert his claim to leadership in northeastern Europe. The Swedish king soon succeeded in reinforcing his troops to 40,000 soldiers and gaining more allies. At first, however, only a few German princes joined him, including his brother-in-law, Landgrave Wilhelm V of Hesse-Kassel, and Elector Johann Georg I of Saxony. Many also feared the

emperor's subsequent revenge. In the meantime, the imperial commander Tilly and the Catholic League troops tried to prevent Gustav Adolf from advancing further into central Germany. Tilly captured Magdeburg – a centre of the Reformation – and the city was sacked and almost completely burned down. With 20,000 dead, this capture of the city, known as the "Magdeburg Wedding", was considered one of the most brutal massacres of the

war. But on 17 September 1631, Tilly met Gustavus Adolphus' army at Breitenfeld and suffered a crushing defeat. As a result, the Catholic party in northern Germany collapsed completely, and the Swedish formations advanced into Franconia, Swabia, the Rhine, and – after the Battle of Lech on 15 April 1632, in which Tilly was mortally wounded – also into Bavaria. Elector Maximilian fled to Salzburg and left his barely fortified residence city of Munich to the Swedish king, who took it without encountering any significant resistance. By paying the large sum of 300,000 talers, the city was able to buy itself free of plunder. In his distress, Ferdinand II recalled Wallenstein and entrusted him once again with the supreme command of an imperial army. Wallenstein did not disappoint the emperor; he defeated the Swedes at Nuremberg and then moved further north to place his army in winter quarters in central Germany. Gustavus Adolphus, seeing his retreat north to the coast threatened, followed him. The two armies met at Lützen, not far from Leipzig, on 16 November 1632 and engaged in battle, which remained a draw from a military point of view, but in the course of which the great Swedish king fell. The death of their king was an irreplaceable loss for the Swedes. Sweden's chancellor Axel Oxenstjerna, in charge of the government on behalf of the king's daughter Christina who was still underage, now became commander-in-chief of the Swedish army.



*The death of Gustav Adolf at Lützen on 16 November 1632: On the obverse the bust of the Swedish king who fell in battle, below a skull. On the reverse a sword, the pommel of which is clasped by a hand; it is entwined with a victory wreath, while victory laurel and victory palm surround it; the sun of God/Jahweh shines down on it. The Latin inscription on the edge says: "He stood firm in battle, fought, conquered, died and triumphed. Born on 9 December 1594, he died gloriously on 6 November 1632." (Auction 368, Lot 472, estimate: 400 euros, hammer price: 1,400 euros)*

#### The fall of Wallenstein and the Peace of Prague, 1632-1635

Oxenstjerna had no intention of withdrawing from Germany, but rather allied himself in the "Heilbronn League" with the Protestant imperial states, whose power thus reached deep into central Germany. This development forced the imperial Catholic party to attempt the expulsion of the Swedes from Germany at all costs. In the meantime, the imperial commander-in-chief Wallenstein was pursuing his own interests. He established contacts with France and Sweden, clearly intending to become independent of the emperor. These high-handed moves were sufficient for the emperor to accuse him of high treason and depose him. On February 24, 1634, Wallenstein was killed in the Bohemian city of Eger, murdered together with his closest confidants by officers of his own army.

In the autumn of 1634, the imperial army led by Archduke Ferdinand (later Emperor Ferdinand III) defeated the Swedes and their German allies at Nördlingen so completely that most of the Protestant imperial states subsequently withdrew from the alliance with Sweden, and joined forces with Emperor Ferdinand II, concluding the Peace of Prague in May 1635.



# The subject of war on coins of Mainz

A review of selected coins from our most recent auctions



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

Since the beginning of the war of aggression that Putin has been waging against Ukraine for more than a year now, the people of Europe have been confronted once again, after many decades, with the despotic desire for power, with brutal acts of war, and unspeakable human suffering. After the end of the Second World War and the fear of nuclear war during the so-called Cold War, many Europeans had lost sight of war as an ever-present reality threatening humanity. They had increasingly ignored the lessons of history and forgotten that keeping the peace is an ongoing task that constantly demands our mental, political, and military attention. Our Künker staff who deal with the coins and medals entrusted to us, on the other hand, are constantly confronted with war and peace throughout history. Now, in a year that marks the 375th anniversary of the Peace of Westphalia, some Mainz coins can inspire some thoughts on this topic.

Toward the end of the Thirty Years' War, in 1642, the Archbishop and Elector of Mainz, Anselm Casimir Wambold von Umstadt (Fig. 1: copperplate engraving by Pieter de Jode le Jeune, ca. 1646) had the so-called Augustinustaler minted. Wambold of Umstadt had fled from Mainz to Cologne with his entire clergy on 18 December 1631, after the imperial army commander Johann T'Serclaes von Tilly had lost the battle of Breitenfeld on 17 September 1631 and the Swedes had appeared before the city wall of Mainz. The Swedish King Gustav II Adolf entered Mainz with all pomp and ceremony on Christmas Eve 1631. He then tried to transform the capital of the electorate into a

Protestant city. As the Swedes put it, they "wanted to make a real city out of a nest of priests". The reality was different: The Swedes had not come as liberators or bringers of culture. Gustav Adolf extorted large sums of money, and had many precious books confiscated and transported from Mainz to Sweden. The people of Mainz were forced to pay 80,000 reichstalers to prevent the plunder of their city. This burden drove many citizens and the city government into bankruptcy. In Mainz, the Swedes minted coins with the portrait of Gustav Adolf (Fig 2: 5 ducats, 1632, Auction 380, Lot 777, estimate: 40,000 euros, hammer price 44,000 euros).

The Swedish king, who had left Mainz in the spring of 1632, fell in the battle of Lützen on 16 November 1632. It was not until 1636 that the Archbishop of Mainz, Wambold von Umstadt, was able to return to a largely ruined, depopulated and impoverished Mainz. It is therefore hardly surprising that the archbishop, a learned theologian and humanist, also devoted his coinage to the theme of war and peace.

On a splendid Mainz imperial thaler of 1642, which was sold in our Auction 386 as Lot 4870 at 13,000 euros (estimate: 12,500 euros) (Fig. 3), the obverse is decorated with the coat of arms of the elector. On the reverse, a wreath of leaves and flowers reads: "S(ankt) Augustinus: Bellum pacis pater.

Nulla salus bello, pacem te poscimus omnes." / "War is the father of peace. No salvation lies in war, peace we demand of Thee!" The church father Augustine (354-430) lived in the time of the Great Migration of peoples. A massive deterioration in the climate – which meant that people in the north were unable to harvest crops, or only sparse ones – caused Germanic tribes and other peoples to constantly cross into the Roman Empire, plundering and murdering there. Many of the invaders pursued the goal of settling permanently in the Roman Empire with its more favorable climate. A climax was reached when even the capital of the Roman Empire, the city of Rome, was sacked by the Visigoths in 410. The church father Augustine (Fig. 4: The Conversion of Augustine, from the fresco cycle by Benozzo Gozzoli, 1420-1497, in the apsidal chapel of Sant' Agostino in San Gimignano) argues in his works, especially in his "State of God", that God has given peace to humanity as the natural basis of mutual coexistence and that humanity must work towards maintaining this peace of God. However, the goal of peacekeeping is not absolute. One may defend oneself against an aggressor. But whoever takes up arms in such a case must have peace with justice as the goal of all warlike actions. His understanding of war may be understood as an expression of the statement "War is the father of peace". The learned elector, however, follows this with a verse from Virgil's Aeneid (XI 362): "No salvation lies in war" is particularly emphasised on the coin. This Latin hexameter later became a common saying.



Fig. 4

Wambold von Umstadt was to learn the truth of these words again a short time later. In the summer of 1644, he fled to Frankfurt to escape from the French, who occupied Mainz in the last years of the Thirty Years' War. When the last French troops left Mainz in 1650, Wambold von Umstadt had already been dead for several years.

In 1688, the French occupied Mainz again during the War of the Palatinate Succession. Only in 1689 did an alliance of various German armies succeed in driving the French out of Mainz. On the obverse of an extremely beautiful and rare silver medal (Künker Auction 386, Lot 4891, estimate: 5,000 euros, hammer price 7,000 euros) of almost 50 mm diameter is the bust of the Bavarian Elector Max II Emanuel (1679-1726) in parade armour, on the reverse the bombardment of the city of Mainz (Fig. 5). The bombardment of Mainz is reminiscent of images we currently see every day in the media. Underneath the gruesome scene is the inscription: "The bravery of the Teutons has won back Mainz, which was snatched away by the treachery of the Gauls". Etched into the edge of the medal is Verse 51:6 from the Old Testament Book of Jeremiah: "For it is the time of vengeance that cometh from the Lord: He Himself bringeth vengeance upon him". God is said to have uttered these words about Babylon/Babel, which subjugated many peoples, often very brutally.

Johannes Nollé



Fig. 5

# Coins – reliable “news anchors”

Imagine a world without telephone, television and internet. How would we learn about important events in the world? This question may be theoretical today, but in the past it was a very real problem of everyday life.

The commercial internet celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2020. Today, almost 95% of the world’s information flows via the internet. But how was communication carried out before the internet existed?

In the Middle Ages, the general population was not yet educated, and knowledge was mostly concentrated in the church and among nobles, who could afford hand-copied books. However, this was to change with the invention of the printing press, one of the most groundbreaking advances in human history. Johannes Gutenberg, a goldsmith from Mainz in Germany, invented modern letterpress printing in 1440, although it should not go unmentioned that initial attempts had already been made in Asia in the 11th century.

Gutenberg’s method now made it possible to print entire texts with interchangeable and reusable letter stamps. The first printed book was the Biblia Latina, which was completed in 1454 and is also often referred to as the “Gutenberg Bible”. Book production shifted from the monasteries to a few printing centers, and books were no longer just individual items owned by the church and wealthy people. The general population now had access to books, and thus learned to read and write. The book became the first mass medium, and initiated massive social changes that led to the beginning of the modern era. There are numerous coins and medals commemorating, for example, the 500th anniversary of the death of Johann Gutenberg and his invention of the printing press (Figs. 1-4).

Martin Luther is considered the driving force of the Reformation. In 1517, Luther is said to have posted his 95 theses on the Schlosskirche palace church in Wittenberg. This was the starting point of the Reformation, and it is not surprising that this historic and groundbreaking event is the subject of countless coins and medals. One of the most important collections on the history of the Reformation and Protestantism is the Rainer Opitz Collection, published in the complete work “Reformatio in Nummis” (you can find the book series in our online shop here: <https://www.kuenker.de/de/shop/stueck/231631>). A special exhibition on this history took place at Wartburg Castle and attracted some 400,000 visitors. On the occasion of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, 1,000 coins and medals from the Opitz Collection were auctioned in 2017 as part of our Auction 297, and three additional auctions followed. The significance of coins and medals as transmitters of historical events can be clearly seen in this collection. The so-called “Hus Thaler”, for example, commemorates the theologian and reformer John Hus (Fig. 5).

Further examples are the numerous coins and medals on Reformation anniversaries (Figs. 6-8).

But the Reformation is not commemorated only on German coins and medals. Luther’s theses were so far-reaching in their profound implications that other European countries also took up the theme. There are coins from France and the Netherlands that celebrated the event of the Reformation, as well as from Great Britain, which immortalised the end of “papism” (by which was meant an exaggerated devotion to the Pope) in 1683 on a medal (Figs. 9-10).

The theme of the Reformation is also present in Part VI of the Salton Collection (Auction 379). In 1617, Johann Georg I of Saxony commissioned a quadruple imperial thaler for the 100th anniversary of the Reformation.

However, not only religious themes were stamped on coins and medals. Family events such as births, weddings and marriage anniversaries, deaths or the proclamation of a ruler, as well as warlike events such as victorious battles or government anniversaries, can also be the subject of a coin or medal. All the events that life “writes” can therefore be reflected. It was a special need of the rulers of the time, who were the holders of

the coinage sovereignty, that posterity should learn of and be reminded of important events – and that this information should be spread throughout their countries. Coins and medals were an essential medium for the transmission of information. In historical times, the importance of this medium was much more pronounced than is the case today. Nevertheless, the Federal Republic of Germany still has a coinage programme in which, for example, the introduction of the euro, the Brothers Grimm, or the founding of the Red Cross have been commemorated.

Under Elector Ferdinand Maria “the Peace-Loving”, whose declared aim was to rebuild Bavaria after the devastation of the Thirty Years’ War, a whole series of coinages with references to his family were commissioned. Examples include the three-ducat piece on his marriage to his wife Henriette Adelheid on 25 June 1652 (Fig. 12) and the ducat on the birth of his son Joseph Clemens in 1671 (Fig. 13).

Carlos III of Spain commissioned a silver medal for his royal proclamation in 1759. He is said to have insisted that he and the members of his government should be depicted in front of a cheering crowd (Fig. 14).

The celebration of inaugurations and the anniversaries of reigns are also important events in the life of a ruler, and it is not surprising that there are a very large number of coins and medals with such thematic references. These coinages range from the 18th century to the time of the German Empire (Figs. 15-17).

But the passing away of family members, as well as one’s own death, are also important events in a ruler’s life and are immortalised on coins and medals (Figs. 18-22).

In conclusion, it can be said that coins and medals, in the past as well as today, are mediators of information about events, always bringing history closer and keeping our memory of important events alive.

One such important event occurred on 24 October 1648 when the Peace of Westphalia was concluded, marking the end of the Thirty Years’ War. There are numerous coins and medals on this event too! 2023 marks the 375th anniversary of this special day commemorating the Peace of Westphalia. Find out more about this special anniversary on pages 6-8.

Roland Trampe



Fig. 1: City of Mainz. Silver Medal 1840, to the 400th anniversary of letterpress printing. eLive Auction 48, Lot No. 1360, estimate: 500 euros, hammer price: 500 euros



Fig. 2: J. 1523. DDR, 10 Marks 1968, on the 500th birthday of Johann Gutenberg.



Fig. 3: J. 397. BRD, 5 Deutschmarks 1968, on the 500th birthday of Johann Gutenberg.



Fig. 4: Netherlands. Haarlem. Silver Medal 1740, to the 500th anniversary of letterpress printing. Auction 319, Lot No. 2713, estimate: 500 euros, hammer price: 1.600 euros



Fig. 5: Silver Medal („Hus-Doublethaler“), Auction 197, Lot No. 3014, estimate: 1.500 euros, hammer price: 3.200 euros



Fig. 6: Gold Medal 1971, on the 400th anniversary of the Reformation. Auction 297, Lot No. 3082, estimate: 1.000 euros, hammer price: 3.000 euros



Fig. 7: Gold Medal 1930, on the 400th anniversary of the handing over of the Augsburg Confession. Auction 297, Lot No. 3084, estimate: 1.000 euros, hammer price: 2.800 euros



Fig. 8: France. City of Straßbourg. 1/2 Reichstaler 1617, on the 100th anniversary of the Reformation. Auction 297, Lot No. 3104, estimate: 2.000 euros, hammer price: 1.900 euros



Fig. 9: Netherlands. Amsterdam. Silver Medal 1717, on the 200th anniversary of the Reformation. Auction 297, Lot No. 3144, estimate: 750 euros, hammer price: 1.000 euros



Fig. 10: Great Britain. Silver Medal 1689, on the liberation of England from papism. Auction 297, Lot No. 3113, estimate: 1.500 euros, hammer price: 2.600 euros



Fig. 11: Electorate of Saxony. Johann Georg I. Quadruple Reichstaler 1617, on the 100th anniversary of the Reformation. Auction 379, Lot No. 40, estimate: 10.000 euros, hammer price: 20.000 euros



Fig. 12: Electorate of Bavaria. Ferdinand Maria. 3 ducats 1652, Presentation of the Bavarian estates on the occasion of the marriage of the elector. Auction 379, Lot No. 644, estimate: 7.500 euros, hammer price: 15.000 euros



Fig. 13: Electorate of Bavaria. Ferdinand Maria. Ducat 1671, Presentation of the Bavarian estates on the birth of Prince Joseph Clemens. Auction 379, Lot No. 646, estimate: 7.500 euros, hammer price: 8.000 euros



Fig. 14: Kingdom of Spain. Carlos III. Silver Medal 1759, on his proclamation as Spanish king in Madrid. Auction 247, Lot No. 5564, estimate: 1.000 euros, hammer price: 2.200 euros



Fig. 15: Duchy of Saxony-Weimar. Ernst August Constantin. Reichstaler 1756, on his accession to the government. Auction 379, Lot No. 48, estimate: 2.000 euros, hammer price: 11.000 euros



Fig. 16: Austrian Empire. Franz Josef I. 100 Kronen 1908, on his 60th anniversary in government. Auction 380, Lot No. 593, estimate: 10.000 euros, hammer price: 22.000 euros



Fig. 17: German Empire. Prussia. Wilhelm II. 5 Marks 1901, 200 years of the Kingdom of Prussia. J. 106



Fig. 18: Counts of Schlick. Stephan, Burian, Heinrich, Hieronymus and Lorenz. Double Taler 1526, on the death of Stephen at the Battle of Mohacs. Auction 380, Lot No. 631, estimate: 10.000 euros, hammer price: 55.000 euros



Fig. 19: Duchy of Brunswick-Wolfenbützel. Friedrich Ulrich. Reichstaler 1626, on the death of his mother Elisabeth. Auction 380, Lot No. 680, estimate: 1.000 euros, hammer price: 1.900 euros



Fig. 20: Duchy of Schleswig-Holstein. Friedrich III. Reichstaler 1659, on his death. Auction 379, Lot No. 51, estimate: 3.000 euros, hammer price: 6.000 euros



Fig. 21: Duchy of Brunswick-Wolfenbützel. Ferdinand Albrecht. Reichstaler 1735, on his death. Auction 290, Lot No. 3334, estimate: 6.000 euros, hammer price: 20.000 euros



Fig. 22: German Empire. Saxony. Georg. 5 Marks, on his death 1904. Auction 336, Lot No. 6996, estimate: 400 euros, hammer price: 1.300 euros

# The Gunnar Ekström Foundation and numismatic research in Sweden



Gunnar Ekström

Many decades ago I was a very young researcher, and had just finished my dissertation when Harald Nilsson invited me to Uppsala to give a seminar on provincial Roman numismatics. That week in Uppsala is one of my fondest memories. And one of the big surprises for me, a scholar just out of the university, was the small fee I received for my seminar – extremely unusual in academia. In response to my questions, my host told me that in Sweden they had the

Gunnar Ekström Foundation, and it would support anything that was good for numismatics. Without the Gunnar Ekström Foundation, he said, Swedish numismatics would be nowhere near as vibrant as it is. Of course, I asked at the time who this Gunnar Ekström was. And I still find the answer exciting today.

Gunnar Ekström was born in Stockholm on 29 December 1883. He attended the Frans Schartau Handelsinstitut there, a school

The auction was entrusted to the well-known Swedish coin dealer Bjarne Ahlström, who offered the collection consisting of 3,000 lots in eight parts between 1975 and 1987, achieving proceeds of just under 16 million kroners, which became the foundation's capital.

Originally, the foundation was only intended to establish a professorship in numismatics and monetary history at Stockholm University. But the foundation's immense assets made it possible to support other numismatic concerns as well. Thus, to this day, scholarships are awarded, printing subsidies are granted and – very rarely – funds are made available for the acquisition of exceptional objects for the Royal Numismatic Collection in Stockholm.

In view of what has been achieved with this capital in recent years, one can only offer a tip of the hat to the commitment of Wera and Gunnar Ekström. Swedish numismatics is considered exemplary in the field of "find coin" evaluation. The "Numismatiska forskningsgruppen", the numismatic research group, has revolutionised our knowledge of Viking Age finds, indeed of all the find coins of the northern European region. Only thanks to the Gunnar Ekström Foundation was it possible to adequately process and scientifically evaluate Sweden's immense finds. The scientists who have held the Gunnar Ekström Professorship since it was established are among the most renowned numismatists worldwide: Britta Malmer, Kenneth Jonsson, and Jens Christian Moesgaard.



Oval gold medal of 8 ducats from 1772, on the coup d'état executed by Gustav III on 19 August 1772. Gustav III presented this piece personally together with other gold medals to his Cousin Peter Friedrich Ludwig during his visit to Stockholm. From Künker Auction 387 (20 June 2023), Lot 20.

It's a special honour for us to offer coins and medals that are associated with such great names. It's fascinating for me to touch gold medals that come from the property of the Swedish King Gustav III, and were given by him to the later Grand Duke Friedrich August of Oldenburg. I love Swedish history, and with these pieces I'm right in the middle of it."

The other coins in the Ekström showcase will be offered by Myntauktioner i Sverige AB (MISAB) in the coming autumn. Dr Andreas Kaiser comments: "The Ekström example shows what can be achieved when everyone – coin collectors, coin dealers and numismatic scholars in museums and universities – work together. We at Künker are pleased to be able to make our contribution to the promotion of Swedish numismatics through the auction of the Ekström Collection."

Ursula Kampmann



Award for numismatic research with the portraits of Wera and Gunnar Ekström, commissioned by the Gunnar Ekström Foundation in 1998, created by Ernst Nordin



These numismatists have not only presented extensive catalogues of coin finds, but also compiled a modern database at a time when databases were not yet common. Their concern is not limited to understanding the numismatic dimension of a find, but extends to placing it in its economic and social context. Thanks to Gunnar Ekström's endowment, Swedish numismatics today serves as a model, and its findings are being applied to the evaluation of finds in other countries.

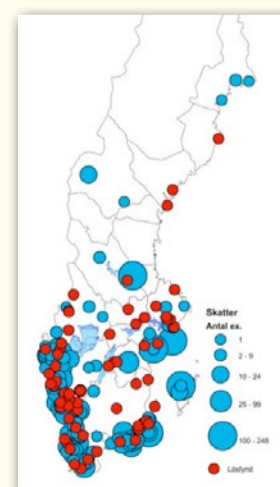
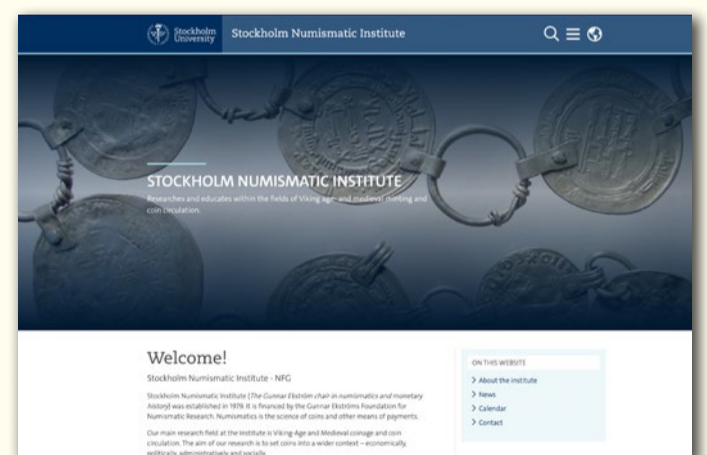
Since my first visit to Uppsala, I have observed with increasing enthusiasm what dedicated numismatists have been able to achieve with the help of the financial support of an uncomplicated

foundation. Twice a year, the foundation board decides on the concerns that everyone can place there – from students to well-established professors. The Foundation Board consists of five persons, and its composition is interesting. One member is appointed by Stockholm University, one by the Royal Numismatic Collection, one by the Swedish Numismatic Society, one by Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken, and finally a coin dealer: Thus the Foundation Board combines teaching, the Numismatic Collection, collectors, and dealers with a representative from the business world.

similar to a college-preparatory high school, whose course of study is focused on the commerce and trade fields. He then worked for the engineering company AB Axel Christiernsson before setting up his own engineering company, Maskin AB Gunnar Ekström, in 1927. The business flourished. When Gunnar Ekström retired to Bromma as a private citizen in 1945, he not only had the time but also the means to build up the most important private collection of Swedish coins and medals that we know of. There are numerous documents which show how systematically he proceeded. He not only bought constantly at auctions and coin dealerships all over the world, but also acquired complete collections: for example, as early as 1927, the Hermann Vogel collection from Chemnitz with about 700 pieces, and in 1950, the 1,751 Swedish coins from the collection of Virgil Brand, who in turn had acquired the collection of Israel Berghman.

Gunnar Ekström loved numismatics, and he always supported numismatic projects financially. After her husband's death on 23 June 1969 his wife Wera Ekström decided to establish a foundation in his memory. The foundation was established on 12 June 1974, whereby the coin collection was contributed as endowment capital. Its sale was to provide the necessary cash.

When the last of the eight parts of the Ekström Collection were auctioned off in 1987, the Foundation decided to acquire a representative selection of a few special objects to furnish a showcase in honour of its founder in Stockholm's magnificent new Museum of Economics. From 1997 to 2017, 84 objects were on display on the second floor of the museum at Slottsbacken 6. Now that the Royal Numismatic Collection has moved to the History Museum, it is no longer possible to show these pieces to the public. Therefore, the Foundation Council has decided to auction the 84 objects and to donate the proceeds to the Foundation's funds. Dr Andreas Kaiser says: "We at Künker are very proud to be able to auction off some of these objects.



Website of the Numismatiska Forskningsgruppen. The cataloguing of the coin finds is translated on this website in detailed "find maps".



# Künker at the TICC – Tokyo International Coin Convention

In Japan, the various members of the numismatic community work together to present the Tokyo International Coin Convention each year. That is why the TICC has established itself as the most important international event for Japanese coin collectors. We were exhibitors at this coin exchange which is so central to Asian numismatics.



The TICC begins with an elaborate opening ceremony. Involved this time – from left to right – were the Chairperson of the TICC Organising Committee, the Director of Banknote Production, the Director of the Mint, and the Mintmaster of Singapore, the 2023 Guest of Honour at the TICC.



A view of the trading floor. There were around 3,000 visitors over the three days.

Asia has been a highly interesting market for coins for several decades. In Japan, in particular, there are many extremely well-informed collectors. As in Germany, they are organised in very active associations. They are interested not only in Japanese coins, but in foreign coins as well. We have been in close contact with numerous Japanese collectors and coin dealers for many years, partly because we are regular guests at the TICC, the Tokyo International Coin Convention.

First, a few words about this coin show. It is not – like many European events – an event organised by a single private company. It is backed by the Japanese Coin Dealers Association, which cooperates with all other participants in the Japanese numismatic scene. Thus, within the framework of the coin exchange, there are several high-calibre exhibitions for which collectors and the museums of the Japanese Mint make objects available. The Banknote Printing Office of Japan was also present with an exhibition this year, because new banknotes are currently being produced that are to circulate in Japan beginning in 2024.

In addition, the Japanese coin collectors' associations are involved in the organisation of the TICC. They develop the supporting programme with many lectures, which are exceptionally well attended. Our colleague Fabian Halbich, who has also attended the TICC in previous years, says: "What impresses me most is the inquisitiveness of Japanese coin

collectors. They learn about European history by looking at coin images. They want to understand why something is depicted on a coin as it is, and what historical process is behind it."

The TICC is the central event where Künker presents coins from our summer auctions to the Japanese market. Fabian Halbich explains: "We meet good customers here who have become friends over the years. But the Japanese dealers are also important partners who help us to establish contact with Japanese collectors. To gain someone's trust in Japan, it's important to be there in person. You have to show that the customer is worth the effort to come in person. This is time-consuming, but we are happy to invest this time, because the Japanese coin market is very interesting for what we have to offer. As I said, there are many collectors here who are interested in a coin not only for its price and preservation, but also for its historical background. That's why it's so much fun to talk to Japanese customers."

Incidentally, there are two numismatic museums in or near Tokyo that are well worth a visit. Directly adjacent to the famous Nihonbashi Bridge, which gave its name to Tokyo's business district and was immortalised in Hokusai's woodblock prints, is the Currency Museum of the Bank of Japan. And only about half an hour from the Royal Park Hotel, venue of the TICC, is a branch of the Mint of Japan. There one can find an interesting exhibition on Japanese coinage. You can also visit



Fabian Halbich and his colleague Haru Fujii were happy to welcome many Japanese collectors to their stand.

the mint, and buy the latest commemorative coins, beautiful medals, and other products depicting coins in the large souvenir shop.

If you are interested in Asian coins or banknotes, consider visiting the TICC as part of a trip to Japan. It's certainly worth it. And the weather is glorious at this time of year: The week following the TICC is known in Japan as the "Golden Week".

## Künker on Youtube



Fritz Rudolf Künker in "Founder Talk" with Hauke Rehme genannt Schlüter. Watch it on our Youtube channel.

Are you familiar with our Youtube channel? On it you will find a wide range of different formats on coins and medals. Many people know the "1-minute preview" from our newsletter, which we regularly send out in the run-up to our auctions. These present the individual thematic areas of the auction, as well as selected highlights in each edition.

We also take a closer look at one topic for each auction, and illustrate background information or highlight entire collections. Lectures already given by our scientific advisor Prof. Dr Johannes Nollé (topics include "River Gold", "The Silver Wealth of the Dukes of Brunswick" or "Prussia - Feared, Hated, Admired"), Dr Wolfgang Steguweit ("The Preservation and Publication of Numismatic Treasures in Public and

Private Hands") and Dr Andreas Kaiser ("Frankfurt and Hessian Coins from an Important Hessian Special Collection") can also be viewed again there.

Currently available is the new episode of "Hauke's Gründertalk" (Hauke's Founder Talk) from the Seedhouse Start-Up Centre in the Osnabrück Science Park. Fritz Rudolf Künker answered Hauke Rehme genannt Schlüter's questions on what new start-ups should consider, and how he made it in 50 years from a one-man operation to the company Künker is today. Have a look!



The QR code opposite will guide you directly to our Youtube channel.

# The old Main Synagogue of Munich



Silver medal for the dedication of the Main Synagogue on Herzog-Max-Strasse in 1887. Fine example. Mint luster. Auction 389, Lot 2698, estimate: 500 euros (part of the collection of Jewish medals).

On 23 June 2023, our eLive Premium Auction 389 will take place. In it, an extensive collection of Jewish medals is to be broken up, many of which date from the 19th century and proudly commemorate the building of a synagogue. These houses of worship, visible from afar, were proof in stone that the members of the Jewish communities were finally allowed to feel like equal citizens after many centuries of discrimination. Munich's Main Synagogue is one example among many. It still stands today in spite of the fact that this equality, at that time recently won, lasted only a few generations.

## The Bavarian Jewish Edict and its consequences

Munich was already a city which was very friendly towards Jews under King Max I Joseph. The Jewish court factor Aron Elias Seligmann had saved the king and his minister Mongelas from national bankruptcy: Not least because of this, the Bavarian government returned the favour on 10 June 1813 with one of the most progressive edicts on Jewish citizens that existed on

founded. In 1824, it built its first small synagogue with 320 seats near the Viktualienmarkt, and was able to welcome King Ludwig I and Queen Therese at its inauguration.

## The Main Synagogue of Munich

In 1861, the Bavarian Parliament lifted the last remaining restrictions on the freedom of settlement and trade for Jews. This attracted many more Jewish persons to the capital. The result: The old synagogue was no longer large enough, and a new building was needed. Of course, there was once again protracted wrangling over the building site. In one case, the construction authority did not issue a building permit; another site proved unsuitable. In the end, Ludwig II personally ordered that a building site on Herzog-Max-Straße be made available to the Jewish community in return for a payment of 300,000 marks. The architect Albert Schmidt was commissioned to build the Main Synagogue in the neo-Romanesque style. Veteran coin collectors know one of his most famous buildings:

*"The new synagogue, which in the opinion of experts is an ornament to the city in terms of construction, was inaugurated on Friday evening with a celebration that is to be recorded in Munich's history as an act of cultural significance. The Israelite community filled the beautiful temple building, whose wide galleries were occupied by the women. Flags in the Bavarian and Munich colours flew on the outside, and groups of ornamental plants grew at the three portals and on the balustrade in front of the holy ark. Candles burned on the magnificent candelabras. In the central aisle, boys and girls with blue and white sashes formed a trellis. Gradually the guests of honour arrived, among whom we mention: the Royal Ministers of State Dr Freiherr von Lutz and Freiherr von Feilitzsch, Administration President Freiherr von Pfeufer, Hofmarschall Freiherr von Hutten, General von Sprunner, several members of the State Assembly, including Maison and Frankenburger, Court Band Conductor Levi, the police and government directors Dr von Müller and Rat Meixner, the mayors Dr von Erhardt and Dr von Widenmayer with the councillors Sickenberger, Schrott, Hergl, Hemmeter, Schreibmayer, senior building officer Zenetti, the municipal representatives Ritter von Schultes, Neuner, Böhm, Buchner and Heldenberg, City Archivist Ernst von Destouches, the Master Architect of the synagogue Albert Schmidt, District Court Judge Epstein, and several representatives of the press, for whom the fourth chair was reserved.*

*"A ceremonial procession with trombones and timpani initiated the festivities, and was followed by the entry of the twelve Torah scrolls stored in magnificent gold and silver devices. Cantor Kirchner, Rabbi Dr Perles, and ten members of the Israelite religious administration carried these devices with bells on top in their left arms around the synagogue, the portals of which were opened, while the 26th verse of Psalm 118, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord', sounded from the choir. While lighting the eternal lamp, which signifies the divine spark in the human breast, Dr Perles spoke the consecration text in Hebrew. Splendid singing accompanied the opening of the holy ark, which is located in the centre-front area under Romanesque round arch decorations. Once again, a procession with the Torah scrolls took place, accompanied by uplifting singing, whereby Cantor Kirchner's solo chants were universally admired. When the Torah scrolls were closed in the holy ark and its door was covered with a richly embroidered gold velvet covering, the psalm resounded: 'How lovely are your dwellings, Eternal of Hosts!'*



The old Main Synagogue shortly after it was built.



Artist's postcard with the Main Synagogue, to the right the Künstlerhaus, in the background the Frauenkirche church.

German soil. In the "Edict on the Conditions of Jewish Fellow-Believers in the Kingdom of Bavaria", Bavaria for the first time allowed its Jewish citizens to purchase land, and granted them complete religious freedom. However, only those who had enough property to buy either a business or a farm were included in the Jewish register. But the Jewish communities were allowed to build a synagogue, employ a rabbi, found a school, and operate a Jewish cemetery – at the Jewish community's own expense, of course.

This legislation, which was very liberal by German standards, attracted numerous wealthy Jewish families to the Bavarian capital. As early as 1815, an Israelite religious community was

Among other works, he was responsible for the Löwenbräukeller (on Stiglmaierplatz), where many coin fairs including the Numismata were held in the 1970s.

In 1883, the foundation stone for the new synagogue was laid, and the consecration took place on 16 September 1887. A contemporary report was published at the time by the Münchner Bote für Stadt und Land ("Munich Messenger for City and State"):

*"Rabbi Dr Perles used this verse of the Psalm as a starting point for his meaningful sermon; the beauty of the temple and the solemn design of the service originate in ancient Israel, and even in the times of the First and Second Temples, Israel built its religious ceremonial rooms in an artistically beautiful manner. There came a time when Israel was forced to withdraw its worship from the light of day, but now it thanks God that, in orderly secure conditions, worship spaces can again be furnished with splendour and art.*



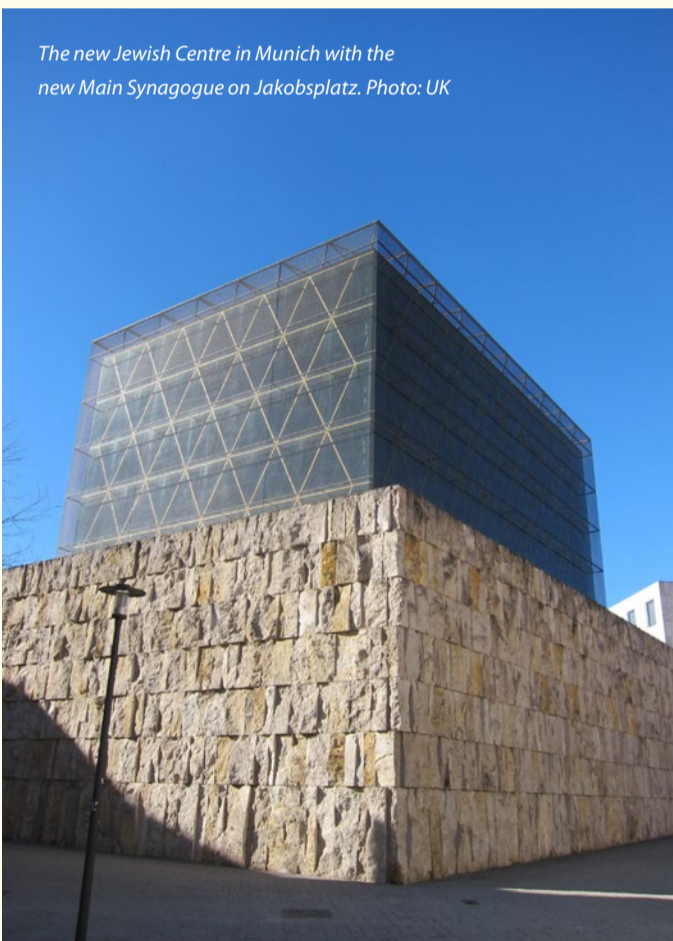
The interior of the old Main Synagogue.



Title page of the commemorative publication for the 50th anniversary.



The demolition of the old Main Synagogue in June 1938.  
Leo Baeck Institute AR 3680



The new Jewish Centre in Munich with the new Main Synagogue on Jakobsplatz. Photo: UK

this magnificent composition was the conclusion of the celebration of the dedication of the new synagogue in Munich, which was memorable for all participants."

**The 50th Anniversary**

On 5 September 1937, Munich's Main Synagogue celebrated its 50th anniversary. Instead of a large ceremony, there was only a small celebration with a sermon, a speech, and festive music. It seems almost a small act of insurrection that in addition to this ceremony, the Jewish community designed an elaborate commemorative publication in the form of a book which once again summarised its history – before the synagogue was destroyed in an act of barbarism on Adolf Hitler's personal orders.

**Destruction and a new beginning**

On 8 June 1938, the City of Munich informed the Jewish Community that it would be required to cede the synagogue and the property at the officially-fixed price of 100,000 reichsmarks. Adolf Hitler did not want to see the synagogue during the procession on the occasion of the opening of the Day of German Art on 9 July 1938. Therefore, the Leonhard Moll construction company began demolishing the venerable building quickly on 9 June 1938, and the place of prayer became a car park. Other buildings owned by the Jewish community were confiscated by Heinrich Himmler's Lebensborn, the organisation whose purpose was to increase the birth rate of "Aryan" children.

After the war, this injustice was initially forgotten. It took until 1969 before (at least) a memorial stone was erected to commemorate the destroyed synagogue. A new generation subsequently considered it appropriate to grant the Jewish community the right to the former property. Thus, the land was sold in 1999 for 20.5 million euros. This amount was used to build the new Main Synagogue and the Munich Jewish Centre on Jakobsplatz.

It remains a lasting shame that even today, Jewish life there is possible only under constant police surveillance.  
Ursula Kampmann



Lot 2674 - Habsburg hereditary lands.  
1745 silver medal on the expulsion of the Jews from Bohemia and the successful protest against it, minted on behalf of the Jewish communities of Amsterdam, Rotterdam and The Hague. In silver probably the only specimen on the market. Extremely fine.  
Estimate: 20.000 euros



Lot 2599 - Denmark.  
1888 gold medal for the 60th jubilee of Abraham Alexander Wolff as Chief Rabbi of Denmark. Probably unique in gold.  
Extremely fine.  
Estimate: 10.000 euros



Lot 2697 - Germany / Munich.  
1826 silver medal for the consecration of the synagogue in the presence of King Ludwig I and Queen Therese. Very rare. Extremely fine.  
Estimate: 6.000 euros

The history of the Munich synagogue is old and goes back to 1285, when the first Israelite house of prayer was built, only to fall victim, along with the entire congregation, to the dark views of a time now thankfully overcome. With better times came better conditions, and under Bavarian kings the old synagogue was built, but already after several decades the steady growth of the congregation called for a new building, for which the foundation stone was laid four years ago. It is the work of a highly gifted master, and everything in this building proclaims the glory of the Lord. The synagogue is a worthy addition to Munich's places of art. May all disunity and every kind of fanaticism give way, and may everyone take peace with them as they move from the old synagogue to the new one as the most beautiful consecration of the building!

"The sermon was followed by the consecration prayer with a blessing, in which the rabbi asked in uplifting words for Bavaria's King, for the worthy head of the Prince-Regent, for the ministers, for the negotiations of the chambers, for the whole of Bavaria and especially for the city of Munich, for its authorities and citizens, for the Israelite community and its administration, the protection and blessing of Heaven. Now, with organ, trombones and timpani, Psalm 150 'Hallelujah! Praise God in His sanctuary' was heard, and

# The coinage of Werden Abbey from the 11th century until 1765



Heinz-Josef Kramer,  
one of the authors.

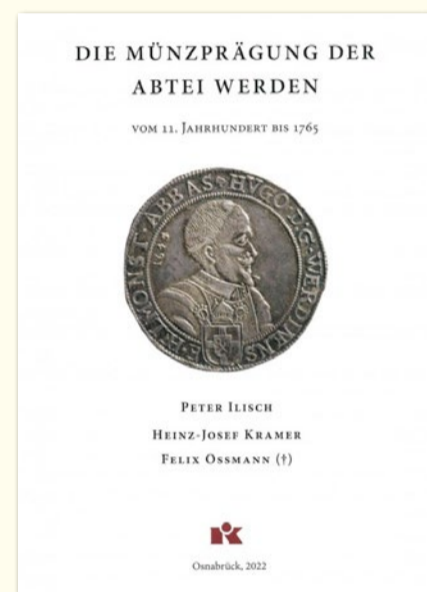
a corpus work on the coins of Werden Abbey. The former preparatory school headmaster Heinz-Josef Kramer, now 94 years old, has been supervising the coin collection of the Ruhr Museum of Essen on a voluntary basis since his retirement, and has earned great merit in doing so. As early as 1993, with his book 'Das Stift Essen. Münzen und Medaillen. Königliche und stiftische Prägungen in und für Essen' ('The Essen Abbey. Coins and medals. Royal and abbey coinages in and for Essen'), he made an important contribution to the history of coins and money. Two years ago he asked me to publish his manuscript on Werden, which was essentially based on the holdings of the Ruhr Museum. Herr Kramer knew nothing about the work of the other two authors on the same subject.

"The master butcher Felix Ossmann of Heiligenhaus, who died at such a young age, had been an enthusiastic coin collector since his youth. As a longtime guest student at Peter Berghaus' numismatic seminars in Münster, he was particularly interested in the Middle Ages and the coinage of the Rhineland and Westphalia regions. In the early 1990s he teamed up with Peter Ilisch, who is highly regarded for his scholarly work in the field of medieval coinage. At the LWL – the Museum for Art and Culture at Domplatz in Münster, known as the Westphalian State Museum for short -- Peter Ilisch was responsible for the museum's coin collection until his retirement as curator. Ossmann and Ilisch met mostly on a weekly basis, and fine-tuned their digital manuscript on the mintings of Werden. The sudden death of Felix Ossmann in 1997 brought these activities to a virtual standstill. Peter Ilisch added to the file from time to time, but was unable to devote himself fully to the Werden project due to other official commitments. The draft remained unpublished on the hard disk until 2021.

"Heinz-Josef Kramer was very interested in a publication on the coins of Werden, and asked me for help. It is a stroke of luck that I was able to convince Heinz-Josef Kramer and Peter Ilisch to join forces as authors for this work, whereby the commitment of the late Felix Ossmann should also be acknowledged. In accordance with scholarly practice, the names of the authors on the title page are therefore listed in alphabetical order.

"Frau Frederike Lindemann rendered outstanding services in the implementation of this project. The House of Künker was able to recruit Frau Lindemann for the Werden project after she completed her master's thesis. She ensured the standardisation of the texts, and dealt with numerous museums and institutions to obtain the images, not only those for printing, but also those for comparison. To all of those who have

contributed to this book, we would like to take this opportunity to extend our heartfelt Thanks."



**Interested parties can order the work here.**



We are pleased to present a new publication which you can purchase in our online shop. It is a work by the authors Peter Ilisch, Heinz-Josef Kramer, and Felix Ossmann (†), and gives a comprehensive insight into the coinage of Werden Abbey.

We quote from the foreword by Fritz Rudolf Künker:

"In the numismatic landscape of the region of Rhineland-Westphalia a large gap has now been closed with the publication of the present work. The manner in which this new publication came about is extraordinary, which is why I would like to discuss it briefly here. Two manuscripts were written in parallel, completely independently of each other, to create

# Künker at the 20th Wachau Coin Exchange



Kmar Chachoua and Dr Andreas Kaiser represented Künker at the Wachau Coin Exchange.



The Wachau region in the area of Spitz on the Danube, looking west. Photo: C.Stadler/Bwag

On 29 April 2023, the Lower Austrian Numismatic Society invited coin enthusiasts to its 20th coin bourse in Spitz an der Donau (Spitz on the Danube), and we were there for the first time with a Künker stand. Among many Austrian dealer colleagues, we felt very comfortable as the only foreign exhibitor and thoroughly enjoyed the atmosphere at the small but quite interesting coin exchange. On the evening before, Priv.-Doz. Klaus Vondrovec from the Kunsthistorisches Museum Vienna made a presentation on "Cimelia and Odds and Ends". As Director of the Coin Cabinet, he gave a very entertaining and descriptive talk on 500 years of numismatics at the Coin Cabinet in Vienna.

## Impressum

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