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Caracalla Denarius "fidei Exercitvs" -- Certificate Of Authenticity



200 EUR

Period : Before 16th century

Condition : Bon état

Description

Analysis & expertise
A silver denarius of Caracalla, attributed to the Rome mint and placed, according to the dating commonly retained for this type, within the AD 210-213 sequence, whose appeal to collectors lies in the strength of an explicitly military message--FIDEI EXERCITVS--and in an iconography that is immediately identifiable, since Fides stands left, carrying the legionary eagle and the standard (signum), while a second standard rises at right, a configuration precisely documented in the references RIC IV 213 / BMCRE 71 / RSC 76, to which this specimen conforms through the combination of legends and depicted attributes.
Careful observation under ×10 magnification and raking light: examination of the visible surfaces

Dealer

ANTIKARTS
Antiques, artworks, historical curiosities and archaeological items

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highlights a silver flan with a crisp peripheral beading, an expressive portrait relief--clearly legible laurel wreath, structured hair and beard, well-ordered eye and profile--and a reverse on which the scene retains its decisive markers (eagle, held standard, upright standard), with nuanced grey toning and fine circulation traces consistent with the normal life of a preserved imperial denarius.

Specifications

Authority / period: Caracalla (AD 197-217).

Mint / type dating: Rome, issue generally classified AD 210-213 (and often specified AD 212-213 in certain reference catalogues).

Denomination / metal: Denarius, silver (AR).

Weight / diameter: 3.85 g; 19 mm (as stated).

Obverse (reading and type): ANTONINVS PIVS AVG BRIT, laureate head right, bearded portrait of Caracalla, the BRIT mention belonging to the prestige titulature associated with this phase of the coinage.

Reverse (reading and type): FIDEI EXERCITVS, Fides standing left holding a signum and the aquila (legionary eagle), with another signum at right, an arrangement exactly described for RIC 213.

References: RIC IV 213; BMCRE 71; RSC 76.

Historical context

The FIDEI EXERCITVS reverse belongs to a monetary language in which the Roman state makes visible, in a synthetic scene, the relationship of trust between prince and army: Fides embodies sworn loyalty, and the standards--signa and aquila--incarnate the very identity of the legions, making this type a particularly eloquent testimony to Severan political culture at a moment when the stability of power is also conceived as the stability of military loyalties.

Cultural value

For the collector, this denarius offers a very direct cabinet interest, as it pairs a strong, easily readable titulature with a "documentary" reverse--the eagle and standards--materializing

the Roman army through its most recognizable symbols, making it a choice piece for a collection devoted to the Severans, to military types, or to civic personifications (Fides) employed as a language of authority.

Traceability & guarantees

The provenance is European, from an established numismatic dealer, and the acquisition was made through a specialized international transaction, conducted within a recognized numismatic network and validated according to the highest practices of the art and heritage market; the attribution rests on concordance of legends and types with RIC IV 213 / BMCRE 71 / RSC 76, as cited in reference works and sale comparanda. Each specimen is examined, described, and accompanied by a certificate of authenticity consistent with the standards of the art and heritage market, this notice being deliberately anchored in observable elements and consultable documentation, so that the collector's confidence rests on a verifiable and durable numismatic basis.