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C. Coelius Caldus Republican Denarius -- Victory In Biga -- Certificate Of Authenticity



250 EUR

Period : Before 16th century

Condition : Bon état

Description

Analysis & expertise
A silver denarius of the Roman Republic, struck at Rome around 104 BC in the name of the moneyer C. Coelius Caldus, an issue particularly appreciated by collectors for the clarity of its typological markers, since the anepigraphic obverse presents the helmeted head of Roma left, while the reverse depicts Victory driving a galloping biga, with the onomastic legend C·COIL and the exergue CALD; the whole corresponds to the type classified as Crawford 318/1a, also recorded as Babelon (Coelia) 2 and Sydenham 582, concordances whose description remains stable in published repertories and comparanda.
Careful observation under ×10 magnification and raking light: the specimen, 18 mm and 3.90 g

Dealer

ANTIKARTS
Antiques, artworks, historical curiosities and archaeological items

58 rue monceau
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(specimen data), offers a reading immediately structured by crisp relief on the "signature" elements--on the obverse, Roma's physiognomy and the helmet outline, and on the reverse, the team and the winged figure of Victory--while the legends COIL and CALD appear with sufficient presence to support the attribution without rhetorical overstatement; fine superficial circulation striations visible in the fields read as old traces compatible with the material life of a Republican denarius, without diminishing the force of the main scene.

Characteristics

Authority / period: Roman Republic, 104 BC.

Moneyer: C. Coelius Caldus (the coin form COIL reflecting an archaic spelling of Coelius).

Mint: Rome.

Denomination / metal: Denarius, silver (AR).

Weight / diameter: 3.90 g; 18 mm (specimen data).

Obverse: anepigraphic, helmeted head of Roma left.

Reverse: Victory in a galloping biga, with C·COIL below and CALD in exergue; control mark above, consistent with the series variants.

References: Crawford 318/1a; Sydenham 582; Babelon (Coelia) 2.

Historical context

In the last third of the 2nd century BC, the denarius remains the preeminent instrument of civic diffusion, and the Roma/Victory pairing--here concentrated into a deliberately energetic composition--continues a visual language in which the city defines itself by military power as much as by institutional identity; the name Coelius/Coilius, attested as a plebeian gens and often confused in manuscript transmission with the Caelii, is presented here in an explicit monetary spelling, giving the coin a documentary value in its own right beyond the beauty of the type.

Cultural value

For a Republican collection, this denarius has a rare virtue: it combines an immediately

recognizable obverse, where Roma asserts the identity of the Urbs without superfluous legend, with a narrative reverse where the biga and Victory condense the Roman idea of public success; the inscription C·COIL / CALD provides a clear onomastic anchoring, highly valued by cabinets that link coinage to the prosopography of moneyers--especially as C. Coelius Caldus belongs to a lineage whose political rise is well attested, the cognomen "Caldus" being otherwise known as borne by a consul of 94 BC, naturally enriching the historical interest of the Coelia series.

Traceability & guarantees

The provenance is European, from an established numismatic dealer, and the acquisition was made through a specialized international transaction within a recognized numismatic network, validated according to the highest standards of the art and heritage market; the attribution rests on the verifiable concordance of types and inscriptions with Crawford 318/1a, Sydenham 582, and Babelon (Coelia) 2, as described and illustrated in standard repertories and reference comparanda.

Each specimen is examined, described, and accompanied by a certificate of authenticity consistent with the standards of the art and heritage market, and this notice remains deliberately tied to observable and documentable elements so that the collector's assurance rests on a controllable truth.