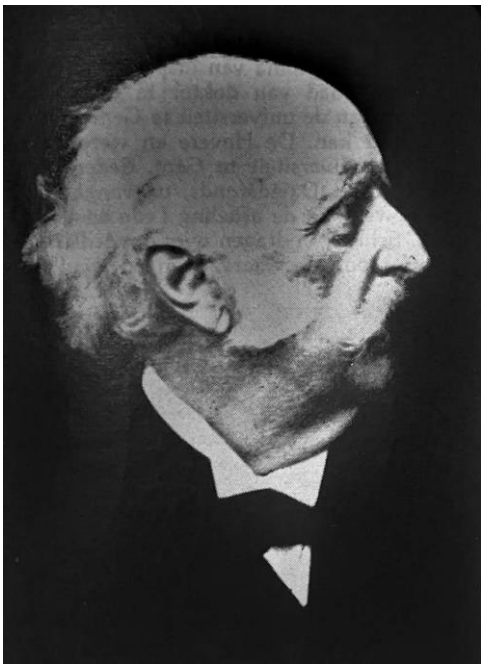
First Public Auction – Numis by The House

The Jean Moens Collection (1841–1922)

Amateur archaeologist and curator in the 19th century



The first auction of Numis by The House features a large number of coins collected by Jean Moens (1841–1922), a doctor of law and amateur archaeologist. Moens was a collector of antiquities, an antiquarian and the curator of two museums in Aalst. He amassed a wide-ranging collection of books, archaeological artefacts, historical objects and coins. Most of his museum collection was already auctioned in 1922. The catalogue of that sale lists all kinds of objects: swords, High Middle Ages statues, pots, pans, glasses and more. What is missing from Moens' museum catalogue, however, are coins. This clear gap in his collection is no coincidence: the coins of Jean Moens largely stayed in the family, and part of them has been preserved to this day. On 5 December, Numis by The House will auction Mr Moens' collection, which is more than a century old, on the Biddr auction platform.

Through auction houses in Flanders and archaeological excavations in the Aalst region, Moens acquired an exceptionally large collection of artefacts and coins, and a thematically very diverse one. He bought mainly coins of the Burgundian and Spanish Netherlands, with a particular focus on the Bruges mint. To a lesser extent, the collection also consisted of Greek, Roman and Carolingian coins, as well as jetons, medals and prison money. What makes the Moens collection unique is its documentation. Most of Moens' coins were described on a small card, which records crucial information such as the auction at which the coin was bought. This information makes it possible to reconstruct the provenance, or pedigree, of these coins. Archaeological find spots, catalogues and the fellow collectors with whom Moens traded can all be found on these cards as well. Among the highlights of the Moens collection are lot 34, a denier of Charles the Simple (896–922) struck in Bruges under Baldwin II, Count of Flanders (879–918), and lot 39, a denier of Charles the Bald, as king (840–875), struck in Ghent. Both coins can be seen as among the earliest coins that can be attributed to these two most beautiful cities of Flanders. The Burgundian and Spanish coins also include some exceptionally unique pieces. I would pick out lot 111, a silver Fleece of Philip the Fair struck in Bruges (1496–1500), and lot 144, a gold noble of 1581 from Ghent, struck during the revolt against Philip II (1581–1584) and bearing the arms of Francis of Anjou (fleurs-de-lis). The complete auction list can be found on our website and on Biddr. Want to know more about the Moens collection? Then read the extended article on our website. Gent voor de opstand tegen Filips II (1581-1584) met het

wapen van Frans Van Anjou (fleurs-de-lis). Op onze website alsook op Biddr ziet u de volledige veilingslijst. Meer weten over de verzameling Moens? Lees dan het uitgebreidde artkel op onze website.

The Moens collection will be auctioned on Saturday 5 December, starting at 10 a.m. From 1 November, you will be able to bid on any of our more than 250 lots via the Biddr auction platform. Buyers pay a 20% commission, all-inclusive. After the auction, you can collect your coins at any of our six offices in Flanders (Brussels, Sint-Niklaas, Ghent, Ostend, Kortrijk or Hasselt). Shipping within the Benelux is done via Micropacket; please see our terms and conditions on the website. For shipments within the EU as well, we recommend reading the terms and conditions. Would you like to view the coins in person before the auction? You can make an appointment at our office in Ghent from 23 to 28 November. Please mention which lots you wish to view!

Numis by The House is the auction house of The House Gold and Silver. Managing director Jan Van Cutsem and in-house numismatist Robbe Devriendt value your collection with the greatest care.

Jan Van Cutsem, Founder and CEO, has more than 35 years of experience in the gold sector. He can see what makes a piece rare and knows where it belongs. His network reaches far beyond our borders, from NCG to Heritage Auctions in the United States.

Robbe Devriendt, Numismatist and Historian. A historian by training (UGent) and a numismatist by passion. His heart lies with the coins of the Southern Netherlands and the Belgian Congo. For the Moens collection, he dug into the handwritten cards, searching for the story behind each piece.