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OLD HILLIARD COIN & FINE ART

Collecting Chatter

Did you find the golden tortilla chip?

On June 2 of this year Doritos launched a clever campaign-the 24K Gold-Plated Doritos Chip Replica Giveaway. They hoped to start a stampede of customers filling their arms with bags of the salty snacks and they were targeting a growing number of Americans investing in precious metals and collecting it. Along with offering customers the thrill of an old fashioned treasure hunt the Doritos giveaway satisfied a renewed interest in precious metals, among increasingly young, mainstream investors, along with a desire to own collectible bullion. This is not a new phenomenon, as collecting gold artifacts has been popular among the affluent since the beginning of civilization and as ancient as Rome. Cataloged by sovereign treasuries, hoarded by nobility, and viewed as portable art, coins have been valued above and beyond their metal content for millennia. By the 17th century, ancient numismatic study was underway and during the Enlightenment it grew as a legitimate academic discipline- a science- and coin collecting has since never been the same.

In the world of coins there are two camps: Numismatic coin collecting and bullion investing. Though the two overlap, they are not one in the same.

So what is the difference?

To put in simply, a collectible coin has a value based on its rarity, history and condition; while a bullion coin has a value based mainly on its precious metals content.

In an article published by ABC News, Scott Travers, author of The Coin Collector's Survival Manual, said typical pieces like \$20 gold coins are often viewed as prudent investments because their value is about equal to their weight in gold. "So, there is very little downside in them" said Travers. "If gold goes down in value, collectors who prize these coins for their beauty or historical significance still pay about that price. If gold goes up in value, the coins become worth even more."

We find that coin collecting begins for some with the wild swings in the metals market. When gold climbs, investors flock to join the ride. Then, as the investor becomes more informed on coin collecting, he/she might exchange some or all of the bullion coins for numismatic coins as a safeguard against metals volatility. Or, the investor might also become intrigued by the beauty and rarity of these treasures and find enjoyment along with investment returns by building a numismatic collection. Collectors also enjoy the advantages of wealth diversification and let's face it; your stock certificates are just not as enjoyable to look at our catalog!

Since our last newsletter, we have launched a new and improved website. It features an expanded art gallery and online store; all numismatic items and bullion coins have corresponding photos of the obverse and reverse of each (front and back). This was a significant improvement as any investor will tell you it is imperative to view a coin before purchasing online. We hope you will log on to <http://www.oldhilliardcoin.com> and check it out. Please feel free to give us your feedback to help us keep improving our site.

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This past June, we traveled to upstate New York to view the vast collections of art and coins of fellow CPA, James, who needed to liquidate in preparation of moving cross country and retirement. The trip was made even more enjoyable as we brought our oldest grandchild, Collin, along for a cultural injection. These collections of art come directly from the artists' studios in Russia, as James previously lived in St. Petersburg. While in Russia during 1999-2000, he had the opportunity to meet



each artist and tour their studios. James' idea was to someday move back to the United States and open a gallery. So see, our idea that a CPA can also run an art gallery is not altogether unique! A detailed biography of each artist as well as a photo catalog is included in this newsletter. Also included are images of five new works by our mainstay artist, YUROZ. All will be on display at our opening reception on Friday, November 14th. Plan to join us as our gallery is transformed by the wintery landscapes of Russia!

As always, we thank our loyal monthly coin club members who give us the opportunity to build their collections. Without you, OHC would not be what it is today.

Until next time, remember, if it is pretty, buy it!

John & Karen

New Inventory of Morgan Silver Dollars

1879-S, R78 NGC MS-63 EA9.....	\$665.00
1880-CC, NGC MS-64 EA9	\$725.00
1886-S, NGC MS-64, EA9	\$960.00
1888-S, PCGS MS-64, EA9	\$1,020.00
1892-CC, PCGS MS62, EA9	\$2,000.00
1878 7F, NGC MS63 EA9	\$175.00
1878 7F, NGC MS-63 EA9.....	\$175.00
1878 8F, PCGS MS-63 EA9	\$285.00
1878 8F, NGC MS-64 EA9.....	\$495.00
1878-S, PCGS MS-64 EA9	\$125.00
1878-S, PCGS MS-64 EA9	\$125.00
1878-S, NGC MS-64 EA10.....	\$125.00
1880-CC, PCGS MS-63 EA9.....	\$650.00
1881-O, NGC MS-63 EA10.....	\$100.00
1881-S, NGC MS-65 EA9	\$210.00
1881-S, NGC MS-65 EA9	\$210.00
1881-S, NGC MS-65 EA10.....	\$210.00
1882, NGC MS-64 EA9	\$150.00
1882-O, PCGS MS-64, EA10.....	\$140.00
1882-S, NGC MS-65 EA9	\$205.00
1883-O, PCGS MS-65 EA9.....	\$205.00
1886, NGC MS-65, EA9	\$205.00
1888-O, NGC MS-64, EA9	\$130.00
1890, PCGS MS-64 EA9.....	\$185.00
1892, NGC AU-55, EA9.....	\$130.00
1893, NGC XF-45 EA10.....	\$350.00
1894-O, NGC AU-55, EA9.....	\$325.00
1899-O, NGC MS-65, EA10.....	\$205.00
1902-O, NGC MS-64, EA9	\$115.00
1903, NGC MS-65, EA10.....	\$365.00
1903-S, PCGS VF-20, EA9	\$210.00
1921, PCGS MS-64 EA10	\$85.00
1921-D, NGC MS-64 EA9.....	\$125.00

Kennedy Halves

When President John F. Kennedy was assassinated in 1963, the world was devastated. He was a beloved man in his time, and his popularity has only grown in the 51 years since his passing. A year after his death, in March of 1964, the Kennedy half-dollar was initially struck in commemoration of his life. Since then, the half-dollar has been a staple to collectors and more than 4.2 billion of these coins have been minted. Last year, however, numismatists were vocalizing their hope that the U.S. Mint would produce a new coin or set to honor the late President on the 50th anniversary of his death. They were unaware that plans were already in the making to release a very special edition of the Kennedy half-dollar in time for the 50th anniversary of the coin's original mint.

During July of this year, the Kennedy half-dollar was issued in .9999-the first time a half-dollar has been struck 24 karat gold. Before now, the coins were only issued in 90% silver or a cupro-nickel and silver blend. This special edition coin is marked with a dual date, 1964-2014, to honor the 50 years that have passed since the initial honor for JFK. These coins were initially released to the public at numismatic conventions and World Fairs of Money in Los Angeles, Chicago, Philadelphia, Denver, and Washington during early August of this year. The U.S. Mint had record-breaking



first day sales of the coin: collectors gobbled up 56,694 proof gold Kennedy half dollars!

The coin's price has been varying with the price of gold, but this unique homage will continue to hold significant value because of its worth to collectors. This coin is a beautiful tribute piece from the U.S. Mint to honor JFK, and it is definitely a worthy addition to seek for those collectors of the Kennedy halves. Interested in purchasing? We can help you.



SPARE CHANGE...

TOP 10 COIN AUCTIONS PRICES

Wondering what that coin might be worth? Here is a list of the top 10 of all time:

1. 1933 \$20 Double Eagle: Gem Brilliant Uncirculated; sold for \$7,590,020 in July 2002 by Sotheby's and Stack's
2. 1804 Class I Silver Dollar: PCGS Proof 68; sold for \$4,140,000 in August 1999 by Bowers & Merena
3. 1787 Brasher Doubloon, EB on Breast: NGC Extremely Fine 45; sold for \$2,990,000 in January 2005 by Heritage
4. MCMVII (1907) Ultra High-Relief, Lettered-Edge \$20 Double Eagle: PCGS Proof-69; sold for \$2,990,000 in November 2005 by Heritage
5. 1787 Brasher Doubloon, EB on Wing: NGC About Uncirculated 55; sold for \$2,415,000 in January 2005 by Heritage
6. 1927-D \$20 Double Eagle: PCGS Mint-State 67; sold for \$1,897,500 in November 2005 by Heritage
7. 1913 Liberty Head Nickel: PCGS Proof 66; sold for \$1,840,000 in March 2001 by Superior
8. MCMVII (1907) Ultra High-Relief, Lettered-Edge \$20 Double Eagle: PCGS Proof 68; sold for \$1,840,000 in January 2007 by Heritage
9. 1804 Class I Silver Dollar: PCGS Proof 64; sold for \$1,840,000 in October 2000 by Stack's
10. 1804 Class I Silver Dollar: Proof 63; sold for \$1,815,000 in April 1997 by Bowers & Merena/Stack's

HEAVY METALS

At the end of November, Swiss citizens will vote on whether or not the Swiss National Bank should increase its gold reserves to 20% and whether to end future precious metals selling, keeping Swiss gold in Switzerland. The "Save our Swiss Gold" act was initiated by concerned citizens who do not like the direction in which their country is heading and want to go back to a gold standard in hopes of forcing politicians to cut spending and to stockpile gold as a means of savings. If it passes, this could have a dramatic impact on the global gold market and even if it fails could lead to future debates about gold and monetary policy. A new found awareness of gold's importance as a monetary asset and a safe haven may also result. This could be the turning point for what has been a bearish market for gold since 2011.

The European Central bank has renewed talk of Quantitative Easing, this time by purchasing corporate bonds. This would further weaken the euro currency and strengthen the US Dollar, putting additional pressure on gold and most commodities. Gold and silver have been feeling the heat of the stronger dollar since July. Silver led this down draft falling to a 4+ year low as the stock market soared. Clearly, gold demand is down. The next few months will be a true test; if gold can stay above \$1230 and silver above \$17, it will be a great start to stability.

A rebound rise could just be getting started and silver might far outperform the yellow metal. Demand for physical silver by American investors is so strong in the US that the dollar volume of retail sales by coin dealers (including ourselves) far exceeds that of gold; especially over the past month. Consequently, there is a short term delay on many forms of bullion coins and bars and premiums are starting to increase. Our recommendation? Buy 90% "junk silver." It has not been struck in over 50 years and the only way to get it is to buy it from someone who already owns it. The metals are on sale, and we will just have to see how long the sale is going to last!

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WHEN YOU AREN'T A BUCKEYE FAN

...it is not necessarily easy growing up in Columbus, Ohio. Picture a 3rd grader getting ready to go to school on "Wear Your Team Colors to School" day at some elementary in Hilliard. Excitedly, the student takes ample time picking out which Notre Dame jersey would best fit this event, even donning various ND accessories to top off the look. Off to school they go, decked out in blue and gold, only to enter a classroom full of 28 other kids wearing scarlet and gray. Even this young, those kids have already formed their special clan of buckeye groupies before the day has even started. The students who actually follow sports have all their stats on THE Ohio State University ready to spew at anyone whose loyalty doesn't favor their own, and we all know how cruel kids can be. That lone 3rd grade Irish fan is virtually out-casted for the entire day. I won't even discuss what it was like for that poor kid who dare wore his Michigan t-shirt to school.

However, no matter how much controversy we may have faced over the years for our admiration, since I am sure it is clear that this article is written about my family, the Zappitelli have held true to their love of the gold and blue (and green.) It is not always easy; Notre Dame has a recent history of some pretty rough seasons. It can be particularly harsh when Notre Dame struggles and the Buckeyes consistently do not. And those 3rd grade rascals have grown into some true Ohio State fans with better verbal ammo to shoot at their opposition. Even my brother-in-law, Shamus Cassidy, whom we love dearly, will constantly chant his favorite anti Notre Dame cheer: "Go Irish! Beat...someone!" But there is just something about the history, mystique, and tradition of Irish football that makes it irresistible to us. It is also a long-standing tradition to love Irish ball in my own family. My father, John Zappitelli, has been a sports enthusiast his whole life. We all love the moments when he fondly recounts his own glory days on the field, his cheerleader girlfriend (my mom) rooting for him on the sidelines. And these stories always find a roundabout way into a discussion of Irish football history, since he watched Notre Dame football religiously throughout his youth. Passion for the Irish has been a part of this family since our Zappitelli relatives immigrated to this country, and that is not an exaggeration!



I could go on for a few paragraphs about why you are asked if you do not share a love of Notre Dame, but that is neither here nor there. I am sure your passion for your chosen team, or lack of passion for the sport in general, is not misguided. We might not agree on team colors, but I think we can all agree that there is just something magical about the atmosphere of football season. It is hard to beat a crisp, autumn day, a cold beer, some hot chili, some light-hearted sport banter, and a football game. The older I get, the more I find that I love that atmosphere of game day as much as I love the games themselves. I enjoy that my family gathers at my parents several times a season to partake in merriment of fall football. I love the excited cheers, the desperate groans, my mom's delicious food, and even the razzing of the in-laws, my spouse included. The games are in some ways, just another catalyst to bring us all together and have a good time.

I hope that this is a wonderful football season for you all; whether you are a Buckeye, a Wolverine, a blasé football enthusiast, or hopefully, an Irish fan.

Sarah Zappitelli Downey, Contributing Author

“20TH CENTURY RUSSIAN ART”

In the 20th century, the world saw a dramatic cultural change causing it to be one of the most transformative periods in history. Global wars, the uprising of industrialization, and the constant pressure to be better than ever before initiated a lot of these changes.

In Russia during the 20th century the lifestyles of the population were heavily influenced by the government and the development of the Soviet Union. These political perspectives tried to limit the freethinking nature of civilization thus causing a desire by artists to break free from what they were being told to create and move towards more emotional and thought provoking works that depicted the true state of the country. Three of these such artists were Vladimir Petrov, Yuri Alexandrovich Medvedev, and Alexander Alexandrovsky. Though these artist were each born over ten years apart, the influence of Soviet history is still a stylistic influence on each.

Vladimir Petrov was born in 1920 in Astrakhan, Soviet Russia. Prior to Petrov's birth, 19th century Russian art had a heavy focus on portraiture and mythology. Realistic detail within those paintings showed that an artist was advanced at his craft. When Petrov was 14 he began attending the Astrakhan art school where he learned the technical skills in both painting and drawing from several great artists of the day. He eventually graduated and moved to Enotaevsk to become an art teacher. However, in 1939 Petrov became a soldier in the Red Army fighting against fascist Germany. This presented him with the chance to tour various nations. Ultimately Petrov was wounded in battle and while healing decided to attend the Latvian Academy of Fine Arts in Riga where he received his diploma. His time serving in the army gave Petrov the inspiration for many of his works.

Though Petrov's paintings do not depict the fighting he took part in, his works exhibit the settings through which he traveled. The predominant subject matter in his works showcase the local scenery of rolling hills, open plains, buildings set along the coast, small towns, and monuments. Vladimir Petrov's work does have a focus on detail like the artist's before him, yet the way he painted was much more expressionistic. For example, the way people are portrayed in his artworks is more of a recognition that people were present and less about who they were. In addition, the application of his paints create dimension by emphasizing lighting and molding the environment. This strayed away from the photographic style of painting in the past and instead captures emotions with each intentional strokes of the paint. The perspective of Petrov's works causes them to feel almost posed because the viewer is set further away from the action, as depicted by the amount of skyline visible in each work. This causes an emotional trigger of feelings of longing or an admiration, without the ability to participate. However, the proportion of sky shown in the works could correspond to a feeling of optimism because the sky has the inventive ability to transform with changing weather, whereas the objects on the ground are less free to alter where they are going. This could be an influence of the oppressive nature of the communist society during war times. The stories within each of Petrov's artworks might not be theatrical like the mythological Russian art of the past, but rather his works depict the actual lives and setting of the Soviet people at that time.



Yuri Alexandrovich Medvedev had a similar desire to take a new approach with his artwork compared to the artworks of the past. Medvedev was born in Ufa in 1939. He graduated from architecture school in 1962 and then worked as an architect for many years. His job, like Petrov's military career, allowed him to travel and see new parts of the world that he had not been previously exposed to, which heavily inspired his drawing abilities. At this time the Second World War had ended, but the devastation on the economy had taken a toll on the country. In order to rebuild Soviet influence in the world, Soviet minds initiated projects such as launching Sputnik into orbit in 1957 and a few years later sending the first human into space. The idea that someone could travel outside of this world and into an unknown land inspired many artists like Medvedev to test their own limits and create more abstract artworks.

Though Yuri Medvedev was trained as an architect, his work heavily reflects the influences of his peers and focuses more on humanity and nature rather than structural forms. In the mid-1960s, Medvedev had become a member of the USSR Architects Union and participated in multiple art shows and painters exhibitions. These settings introduced Medvedev to many new artists who inspired him to test his own limits with his style of painting. In addition, Medvedev's teachers exposed him to some of the great 20th century artists in Europe, like Picasso, whose cubist movement clearly influenced some of Medvedev's style. Picasso's cubist paintings and Medvedev's paintings use multiple angles to try and give the viewer more information about the subject. Both artists also utilize distinct lines creating shapes filled in with vibrant colors to form their bold imagery that breaks away from the super realism of the past. Despite these descriptive angles, only some information is given to the viewer in the details of the artwork. This stylistic choice gives the audience the impression that the artist captured the subjects in the middle of the action, so the viewer has to try and interpret the rest of the story surrounding the uncertain scene. Also similar to Picasso, Medvedev's work varies in its intensity- some works depict normal Soviet life while others are more extravagant, unusual events. Each of his works however, reflect the changing lives of Soviet citizens and, like Vladimir Petrov's works, test the limits of previous generations of Russian artwork.

Alexander Alexandrovsky's work does not challenge Russian art of the past, but rather rejuvenates the styles of previous Russian artists like Petrov and Medvedev. Born in 1951 in Pushkin, a suburb of Leningrad, Alexandrovsky took private art lessons from a teacher who had been taught by another renowned Soviet artist, Victor Oreshnikov. He learned a great deal of technical skill from his instructor and was accepted into the St. Petersburg Academy of Art where he graduated in 1989, completing a thesis

project on the Russian Civil War. Since Alexandrovsky's growth into the art community comes towards the fall of the Soviet Union, many of his works allude back to its dominance while also reflecting the change in society and the newer freedoms of its people.

Though his works mainly depict scenery, Alexandrovsky's art also contains a narrative aspect, similar to Medvedev's paintings. His works often have a division between the world directly in front of the viewer and the world shown off in the distance, usually depicted by some type of path going from an outskirts community heading in the direction of some taller structure. This focus point is sometimes a Russian Orthodox Church, possibly putting emphasis on the early Soviet Union's desire to alienate citizens from faith in order to emphasize leaders like Stalin as being the ultimate ruler. Unlike Medvedev's works, the layout of Alexandrovsky's work usually plays with perspective and the lines within the scenery, drawing the viewers' eyes all throughout the heavily detailed artwork. Alexandrovsky's work also looks into the future showing peaceful scenes of these areas and framing the work to cause the viewer to feel as though they were an active part of the scene, walking through were Alexandrovsky walked. Often showing some open air setting, his work builds on

Petrov's idea of possibilities in negative space. Alexandrovsky's works show the transformation from a limited Soviet society to a more lively Russian society, going from the toned down colors in Petrov's works to the more vivid expressionistic paints. Overall, Alexandrovsky's works incorporate the styles of past Russian artists to showcase the importance of knowing one's history to understand the possibilities of the future.

Vladimir Petrov, Yuri Alexandrovich Medvedev, and Alexander Alexandrovsky all exemplify the extent to which society can influence artistic style. The transition of Russia and the world during the times of these artist's creations created the opportunity to depict society in a very expressive way when in the past everything had been so strictly defined. In recording the world around them, these artists captured the mind frame and the inner desires of those living in Russia during the 20th century.

NOW SHOWING

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"The Dancers" - Oil on Canvas, 27 x 43 inches - Yuri Medvedev





“Street Scene” - Oil on Canvas, 32 x 43 inches - Yuri Medvedev

“The River” - Oil on Canvas, 26 x 35 inches - Yuri Medvedev





“The Beer Drinkers” - Oil on Canvas, 43 x 35 inches - Yuri Medvedev

“Tea Party” - Oil on Canvas, 36 x 48 inches - Yuri Medvedev





“River Scene” - Oil on Canvas, 48 x 36 inches - Yuri Medvedev

“Party” - Oil on Canvas, 36 x 48 inches - Yuri Medvedev





“Flight 2” - Oil on Canvas, 36 x 44 inches - Vladimir Petrov

“Village Market” - Oil on Canvas, 32 x 43 inches - Vladimir Petrov





“Flight” - Oil on Canvas, 32 x 32 inches - Vladimir Petrov

“Big Fish” - Oil on Canvas, 44 x 53 inches - Vladimir Petrov





“Blacksmith Shop-Where the Metal is Made” - Oil on Canvas, 30 x36 inches - Vladimir Petrov

“Village Scene” - Oil on Canvas, 36 x 44 inches - Vladimir Petrov





“First Communion” - Oil on Canvas, 23 x 26 inches - Vladimir Petrov

“Village Wedding” - Oil on Canvas, 36 x 44 inches - Vladimir Petrov





"Bridge" - Oil on Canvas, 17 x 18 inches - Alexander Alexandrovsky

"Autumn on Fontanka" - Oil on Canvas, 26 x 37 inches - Alexander Alexandrovsky





“In Civil War” Thesis Painting - Oil on Canvas, 43 x 54 inches - Alexander Alexandrovsky

“Tihuin” - Oil on Canvas, 42 x 24 inches - Alexander Alexandrovsky





"Kargopol Soviet Street" - Oil on Canvas, 34x18 inches - Alexander Alexandrovsky

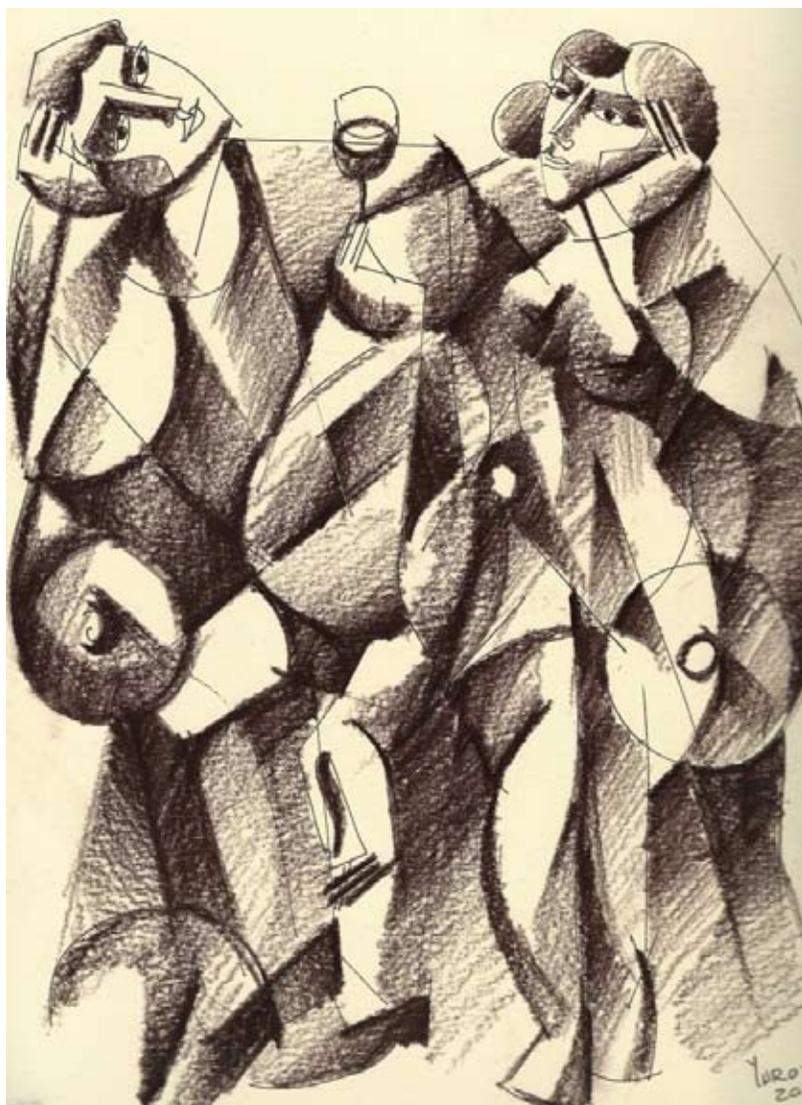
"Kargopol Winter" - Oil on Canvas, 17 x 18 inches - Alexander Alexandrovsky





“Winter Scene” - Oil on Canvas, 19 x 44 inches - Alexander Alexandrovsky

“Sharing a Moment” - Charcoal on Paper, 9 x 12 inches - Yuroz





**"Connected Souls" - Painted Serigraph,
23.5 x 29.5 inches - Yuroz**



**"Tender Embrace" - Painted Serigraph,
23.5 x 29.5 inches - Yuroz**

**“The Cello” - Serigraph,
32x48 inches - Yuroz**



“In the Garden” - Clay board, 28 x 34 inches - Yuroz



FRANKLIN PROOF HALVES: THEY'RE A BFD

Founding father, Benjamin Franklin, probably wouldn't have been thrilled to have his face on a coin minted for circulation. Born in an era where most coins bore the faces of the royals, humble Franklin would have been appalled to have himself put in such high esteem. However, had he known what a "BFD" his half dollar would become to the collecting world of the 21st century, we strongly feel he would have changed his mind.

Most of us are familiar with the Franklin Half Dollar, as it is still a legal tender in the United States. The coin was minted from



1948-1963, and Franklin's face was chosen to grace the obverse of the coin because mint director, Nellie Ross had been a long time admirer of him. The reverse of the coin has the image of the Liberty Bell and a small depiction of an eagle, the nation's national bird. If Franklin would have been steamed to see his bust grace the front of the coin, we

can only imagine his displeasure at sharing his coin with the eagle, which he thought of as a disgusting scavenger. Well, we can't always get what we want, Ben!

Novice collectors may not be aware that the face value of the Franklin Half Dollar is greatly exceeded by its value to collectors. Franklin Proof Halves were created especially for coin collectors, and a completed set is an important addition to your personal coin collection. Not only is the completed set of coins nice to look at, they are a relatively easy collection to complete. Proof Franklin Half Dollars are usually found with quite brilliant surfaces. Sometimes the coins will be found with a cameo or deep cameo finish. Their luster is a crowd pleaser, and this adds to their enjoyment factor. The completed set is also only 14 coins- 11 of which are easy to find. For the beginner collector, (or even the advanced!) this is an easily attainable goal.

Why are these Proofs such a big deal in the collecting world? A completed set of Proofs can start at a value of \$1500.00! Benjamin Franklin might not have desired to have his mug on a coin, but perhaps he would have been mollified by the value his face would have to collectors. Add Franklin's face to your personal collection. Trust us; they're a BFD.

CONDER TOKENS

When most of us hear the word "token," our minds immediately go to vacation souvenirs or meaningless coins given to us at an arcade to trade in for a fabulous prize. We don't often consider a token to be a coin that carries any sort of value or significance. But to a true collector, the word token becomes quite valuable, especially when preceded by the word *Conder*.

Conder Tokens were small copper coins, the size of a halfpenny, that were created in England, Scotland, and Ireland in the late 1790's. These coins were minted independently of the government because though there was a dire need for small denominations of coins, the government refused to do anything to ameliorate the problem. It was difficult for companies to pay their employees, and people were unable to make small transactions on a day-to-day basis. The people's clamor for a solution led to independent minters to take advantage of a timely copper boom. Therefore, thousands of copper tokens, bearing a variety of designs, were struck as a solution to the societal problem. They were used to trade for goods and services, often in lieu of monies created by The Royal Mint, and they quite quickly caught the eye of the collectors of the time.

Though most of the early tokens, Conder tokens included, created were intended for circulation, after a few years the tokens also become popular treasures to collect and trade. Manufacturers of tokens soon realized that minting very limited editions of these tokens could be traded for a tidy profit. "Rare" designs of tokens could be traded to the collectors for large sums, so manufacturers often funded to mint very small quantities of their own design. Because of the collecting frenzy of the time, a large quantity of these tokens remain extremely well-preserved today because they have spent decades hiding away in private collections.



Conder tokens are given their name from early collector of these tokens, James Conder. Because they were minted independently from the government, the tokens are designed in a variety of ways-ranging from strong political statements to images of "great men" of the time. Modern day attributers categorize the tokens into 4 large geographic regions: England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland. Within each county of production, the tokens are further organized by size and denomination: pennies, halfpennies, and farthings.

For Conder Tokens, rarity information has been issued through coin attributers Dalton and Hamer. The tokens are classified into 5 class categories: "Common," "Scarce," "Rare," "Very Rare," and "Extremely Rare." The condition and rarity of the token determines their value- and the range of value is quite large! These tokens can go from as low as \$50.00 and up to the \$1,000's! That certainly brings a new perspective to the word *token*! If you would like to learn more about these tokens or build a collection, please let us know as we have many examples in our inventory.