

STEVEN BATTELLE

Certificate of Authenticity

This coin has been personally inspected and determined to be an authentic ancient coin .
If deemed a forgery by the ACCS, IGC, NGC, or PCGS, it may be
returned at any time for a refund of the purchase price.



Italian States, Venice, MA Giustinian, 1684-88, Ducato

Bo81513 / U03612 19.8 Gm 41 mm

Obv: St. Mark seated at left presenting staff with cross and pennant at top to doge kneeling at right, mintmaster's initials in exergue. Rev: Lion of St. Mark striding to left, head facing forward, left paw resting on open book, above which is a castle on a hill. Sign: L.A.F

The ducat (ducat) was a gold or silver coin used as a trade coin in Europe from the later middle ages until as late as the 20th century. Many types of ducats had various metallic content and purchasing power throughout the period. The gold ducat of Venice gained wide international acceptance, like the medieval Byzantine hyperpyron and the Florentine florin, or the modern British Pound sterling and the United States dollar. Paolo Renier was a Venetian statesman, the 119th, and penultimate, Doge of Venice. He was an orator and tactician, and served as ambassador to Constantinople and to Vienna. His election as Doge was unpopular, and he was the subject of numerous menacing letters at the time. Renier was succeeded as Doge by Ludovico Manin, who would be the last Doge of Venice.

The Lion of Saint Mark, representing the evangelist St Mark, pictured in the form of a winged lion holding a Bible is the symbol of the city of Venice and formerly of the Republic of Venice, as well as of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Alexandria. It appears also in both merchant and military naval flags of the Italian Republic. St Mark is a typical Christian iconography derived from the prophetic visions contained in the verse of the Apocalypse of St John 4:7. The lion is one of the four living creatures described in the book as a place around the throne of the Almighty and they are chosen as symbols of the four evangelists. These "beings" were previously described by the prophet Ezekiel. The lion also symbolizes the power of the Evangelist's word, the wings symbolize the spiritual elevation, while the halo is the traditional Christian symbol of holiness. However, the lion symbols express also the significance of majesty and power (drawn especially from the upward feline tail), while the book expresses the concepts of wisdom and peace and the halo gives an image of religious piety.

