



Certificate of Authenticity



ID14408

Denomination: Tetradrachm

Date: Circa 2nd Century BC

Description: Thasos, AR Tetradrachm struck after 148 BC. **Obverse:** Head of Dionysos right, wreathed with ivy **Reverse:** ΗΡΑΚΛΕΟΥΣ ΣΩΤΗΡΟΣ ΘΑΣΙΩΝ, Herakles standing left, leaning on a club and holding a lion's skin, H to left.

Dionysos is the Greek god of wine, agriculture, and fertility of nature, and the patron god of the Greek stage. Greek legends of Dionysos vary widely as to how, where and why he was born. But all agree that he was the son of Zeus, and was eventually born from a mortal woman called Semele. In addition to the attributes typically associated with him, Dionysos represented the outstanding features of mystery religions; ecstasy, personal deliverance from the daily world through personal or spiritual intoxication, and initiation into secret rites.

The reverse of this piece shows Herakles, better known by his Roman name Hercules, with his club and the skin of the Nemean lion. This animal was fierce and virtually indestructible, and with his super-human strength and clever thinking, Herakles decided to strangle the lion since he was unable to cut through its skin. After he killed the lion, he used its own razor sharp claws to remove its hide, and forever after, Herakles wore the lion's skin for protection and as a symbol of his victory.

Erez Inc 752 Gilman St, Berkeley, CA 94710

Phone (510) 704-8618 Web Site: www.ownapieceofhistory.biz

The information provided on this certificate has been researched in good faith by the signatory utilizing 20 years of professional experience in ancient numismatics. However, no guarantee is made regarding the accuracy of any of the opinions or data conveyed above and no liability of any kind is assumed. It should be borne in mind that the authentication and grading of ancient coins is subjective and opinions can, and do, vary among experts.