

### The Imperial Image The Evidence of Coins



Clare Rowan  
@ancient\_tokens

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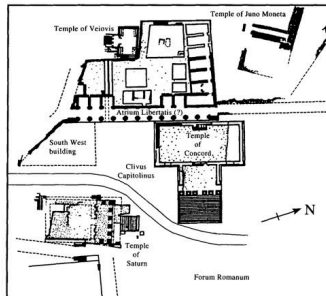
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### The Roman attitude to *Moneta*

- *moneo*
- Temple of Juno Moneta on the Arx, Capitoline



Meadows, A. and J. Williams (2001). *Moneta and the Monuments: Coinage and Politics in Republican Rome.* *Journal of Roman Studies* 91: 27-49.

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### Suetonius *Augustus* 94.12

While in retirement at Apollonia, Augustus mounted with Agrippa to the studio of the astrologer Theogenes. Agrippa was the first to try his fortune, and when a great and almost incredible career was predicted for him, Augustus persisted in concealing the time of his birth and in refusing to disclose it, through diffidence and fear that he might be found to be less eminent. When he at last gave it unwillingly and hesitatingly, and only after many requests, Theogenes sprang up and threw himself at his feet. **From that time on Augustus had such faith in his destiny, that he made his horoscope public and issued a silver coin stamped with the sign of the constellation Capricornus, under which he was born.**

RIC 1<sup>2</sup>126



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The screenshot shows a search results page for the keyword 'capricorn'. It includes a 'Data Options' sidebar with filters for Geographic, Keyword, and Refine Results. The main content area displays two search results for 'RIC I (second edition) Augustus 124' and 'RIC I (second edition) Augustus 125'. Each result includes a table of metadata (Date, Denomination, Mint, Obverse, Reverse) and small images of the coin's obverse and reverse sides. The first result is a silver coin (aureus) from the mint of Colonia Patricia, featuring the head of Augustus on the obverse and Augustus holding a cornucopia on the reverse. The second result is a gold coin (aureus) from the mint of Colonia Patricia, featuring the head of Augustus on the obverse and Augustus holding a globe on the reverse.

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The image shows two bronze tokens on the left and a diagram of the coin-making process on the right. The tokens are from the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna, with inventory number inv.no.mkro32.652. The diagram illustrates the use of an anvil and hammer to strike a coin between an upper die and a lower die. The blank space between the dies is labeled 'Blank or flan', and the anvil is labeled 'Anvil'.

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The diagram shows the obverse and reverse of a coin with several labels and definitions:
 

- obverse**: the design struck from the anvil or lower die
- reverse**: the design struck from the held or upper die
- legend**: the inscription that appears on a coin
- field**: the empty space on a coin
- type**: The design that appears on a coin
- exergue**: The area on a coin below the ground-line of a design

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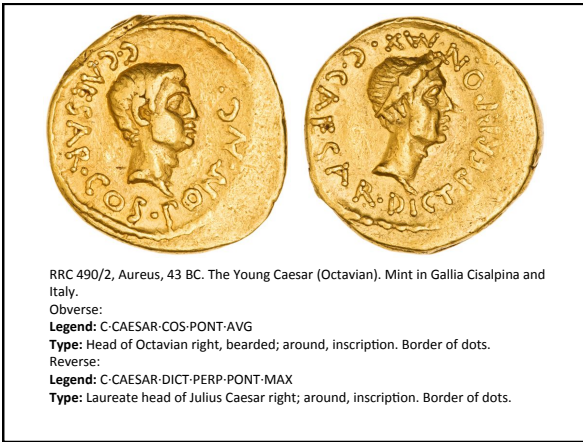
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RRC 490/2, Aureus, 43 BC. The Young Caesar (Octavian). Mint in Gallia Cisalpina and Italy.  
**Obverse:**  
**Legend:** C·CAESAR·COS·PONT·AVG  
**Type:** Head of Octavian right, bearded; around, inscription. Border of dots.  
**Reverse:**  
**Legend:** C·CAESAR·DICT·PERP·PONT·MAX  
**Type:** Laureate head of Julius Caesar right; around, inscription. Border of dots.

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RRC 480/2, 44 BC.  
 Denarius, mint of Rome, P. Sepullius Macer.

RRC 488/1, 43 BC.  
 Denarius, mint in Gallia Transalpina and Cisalpina.

Bearded head of Mark Antony, *lituus* behind, M ANTON IMP.

Laureate head of Caesar, jug behind, CAESAR DIC.

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Aureus, Ephesus (?), c. 28 BC. Laureate head of Octavian, IMP CAESAR DIVI F COS VI / Togate Octavian seated on curule chair holding scroll, scroll case (*scrinium*) before, LEGES ET IVRA P(OPULO) R(omano) RESTITVIT.

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RIC 1<sup>2</sup> 476 = RPC 1 2203



Silver cistophorus from the mint of Ephesus, c. 28 BC.  
Laureate head of Octavian, IMP CAESAR DIVI F COS VI LIBERTATIS P(OPULI) R(OMANI)  
V(index) / Pax standing on parazonium (?) holding caduceus; snake emerging from *cista mystica* on the right, PAX, all within laurel wreath.

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RIC 1<sup>2</sup> 256  
Uncertain Italian  
mint  
34-29 BC

RIC 1<sup>2</sup> 270  
Uncertain Italian  
mint  
29-27 BC

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### Blackburn Museum



Abdy, R. and N. Harling (2005). Two important new Roman coins. *Numismatic Chronicle* 165: 175-178.

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RIC 1<sup>2</sup> 206

RGDA 14.1



Aureus, mint of Rome, 2 BC – AD 4. Laureate head of Augustus, CAESAR AVGVSTVS DIVI F PATER PATRIAE / Gaius and Lucius Caesar standing, each, togate, resting hand on shield and spear, simpulum, right, and lituus, left, flanking, left and right respectively, C L CAESARES AVGVSTI F COS DESIG PRINC IVVENT.

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RIC 1<sup>2</sup> 405, denarius, mint of Rome. C. Marius C. f. Tro moneyer. 13 BC. Bare head of Augustus within oak wreath, AVGVSTVS DIVI F. Head of Julia with wreath above, between the heads of Gaius and Lucius, C MARIVS TRO III VIR.

Pollini, J. (1985). The meaning and date of the reverse type of Gaius Caesar on horseback. *American Journal of Numismatics* 30: 113-117.



RIC 1<sup>2</sup> 199, denarius, mint of Lugdunum, 9-8 BC.

Gaius Caesar galloping holding sword and shield; *aquila* between two standards on the ground behind. C CAES AVGVS F. Dio 55.6.4.

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RIC 1<sup>2</sup> 207

Wolters, R. (2002). Gaius und Lucius Caesar als designierte Konsuln und principes iuventutis. Die lex Valeria Cornelia und RIC 1<sup>2</sup> 205ff. *Chiron* 32: 297-323.



c. 2 BC – AD 4 'or beyond'

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The 'X' series



Wolters –  
*Tabula Hebana*  
*Tabula Siarensis*

RIC 1<sup>2</sup> 211

Hymn of the *Salii*  
10 *centuriae*

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Imitations



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TURS 10  
Rostowzew, M.  
(1903). *Tesserarum*  
*urbis romae et*  
*suburbi*. St.  
Petersburg.



Provincial coin of  
Aeolis in Aegae. The  
obverse shows the  
head of Gaius  
Caesar and the  
reverse the head of  
Lucius Caesar.

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### Ludi Saeculares



RIC 1<sup>2</sup>340.  
Legend: AVGVST DIVI F LVDOS SAE  
Type: Herald, standing, left, holding caduceus in right hand, and shield with star in left  
Legend: M SANQVINIVS IIIVIR  
Type: Four-rayed comet with tail above youthful head, laureate, right (Deified Julius Caesar)

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### Saecular Games

- acta  
- cippus



Augustus

Domitian

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### Further Resources

- *Coinage of the Roman Republic Online* <http://numismatics.org/crro/>
- *Online Coins of the Roman Empire* <http://numismatics.org/ocre/>
- *The Portable Antiquities Scheme* <https://finds.org.uk/>
- C. Rowan (2019), *ANS/CUP Guides to the Coinage of the Ancient World: From 49 BC to AD 14*. Cambridge.
- Videos on #AskAcademic - <https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/classics/research/outreach/warwickclassicsnetwork/stoa/videosetc/askanacademic/>

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