

## **NUMISMATA Berlin 2009 – A Review**

*by numiscontrol*

When you hear of a true Bavarian in Prussia – humorously said to be ‘behind enemy lines’ – who has been organising long queues of collectors at the entrances to the exhibition halls at the radio tower for 11 years, you can be sure it is Erich Modes, the organiser of the NUMISMATA. Not only in Berlin but also in Vienna, Munich and Frankfurt am Main, people come from all over the world to this eldorado for collectors. Among other reasons, this is down to the tried and tested philosophy of the coin fair and the fact that no “rubbish” such as sample Euros and picture coins can be sold here. Established international dealers and the collectors appreciate this. It is not only the seasoned coin collector who can be found here; new numismatic talent is also frequently to be found browsing through the many products of the specialist dealers. A wide spectrum is always catered for: coins and medals from the ancient world to the modern era, banknotes and securities as well as accessories and specialist literature. Is this not enough? No problem: here, you simply went into the next exhibition hall and looked around the stamp exhibition being held at the same time – naturally all without buying another ticket. Both exhibitions could be visited with one ticket! For the first time, the stamp exhibition this year was organised by Erich Modes and the ever-popular hall reserved for the friends of philately only emphasised the success of these events.

If the customer is satisfied, so is the dealer. *“Business went well; I am happy,”* one dealer who supplies bullion coins told me. Yes, but the whole world is talking about recession and a financial crisis, is it not? *“Crisis? No, there is no such thing among collectors – quite the contrary!”* There is little that can be added to this.

As the president of a numismatic association from Switzerland recently so aptly said: **“there is no crisis in numismatics!”**

This was evident on both days. The dealer and exhibitor stands were always surrounded by crowds. Indeed, many visitors used the NUMISMATA to gain comprehensive information and advice before making a purchase. Those who wanted only to look also had their money’s worth, as the rarest 2-Euro coin from Germany was available to view right at the entrance. The NUMISMATA always also displays something special. It is the incredible abundance of the different attractions, which enchants the visitors time and again and causes them to linger at the individual stands. This unique atmosphere can be experienced only at a NUMISMATA!

At this point, all of the visible and invisible helpers should be commended, whose work contributed to the success of this major numismatic event.

Thank you NUMISMATA. We look forward to seeing you again in Berlin on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> October 2010 in exhibition hall 9.