



DENMARK

1769-HSK CHRISTIAN VII 1/2 SPECIEDALER PCGS MS66



Christian VII (29 January 1749 – 13 March 1808) was a monarch of the House of Oldenburg who was King of Denmark–Norway and Duke of Schleswig and Holstein from 1766 until his death in 1808. For his motto he chose: "Gloria ex amore patriae" ("Glory through love of the fatherland"). Christian VII's reign was marked by mental illness and for most of his reign, Christian was only nominally king. His royal advisers changed depending on who won power struggles around the throne. From 1770 to 1772, his court physician Johann Friedrich Struensee was the de facto ruler of the country and introduced progressive reforms signed into law by Christian VII. Struensee was deposed by a coup in 1772, after which the country was ruled by Christian's stepmother, Juliane Marie of Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel, his half-brother Frederick, and the Danish politician Ove Høgh-Guldberg. From 1784 until Christian VII's death in 1808, Christian's son, later Frederick VI, acted as unofficial regent.

Rethwisch mint, KM605, Schou-10, Hede-9B, Schou-32. 31mm. Variety without denomination on obverse. An absolutely stunning and gorgeous survivor from this extremely elusive and short-lived mint in Schleswig-Holstein, which only operated between 1768 and 1769 as a branch of the royal mint in Copenhagen. Embellished throughout in sleek, icy-white color, the offering appears resoundingly mint-fresh from all angles, a generous degree of lightly stippled mint frost further imbuing the raised elements with an especially chiseled appearance. Confined mainly to the obverse, notes of subdued plum tone heighten the coin's beautiful visual presence yet further, nicely contouring Christian's monogram and igniting to iridescent shades when caught by plentiful cartwheel luster. Notably the first example of this type we have ever handled, and very likely among the very finest that has emerged on the market in many years. Exceedingly Rare.

