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FRANCE

1899 PIEFORT REPUBLIC GOLD SPECIMEN ESSAI 10 FRANCS PCGS SP65



Marianne has been the national personification of the French Republic since the French Revolution, as a personification of liberty, equality, fraternity and reason, as well as a portrayal of the Goddess of Liberty. Marianne is displayed in many places in France and holds a place of honour in town halls and law courts. She is depicted in the Triumph of the Republic, a bronze sculpture overlooking the Place de la Nation in Paris, as well as represented with another Parisian statue on the Place de la République. Her profile stands out on the official government logo of the country, appears on French euro coins and on French postage stamps. As a national icon Marianne represents opposition to monarchy and the championship of freedom and democracy against all forms of oppression

ESSAI edge. A rarely-seen representative, struck in double-weight, with one of the most covetable gold designs in all of French coinage. Featuring the emblematic rooster and personified liberty as Marianne and rendered in low relief, the slight cameo effect from gentle mirrors within the watery fields adding a surprising overall depth to the devices. Only a handful of comparable specimens have come to market in recent years and they have brought very spirited bidding leading to strong prices.

