



UNITED STATES

1914 U.S. \$20 SAINT-GAUDENS MATTE PR-63 CAC PCGS



The Saint-Gaudens double eagle is a twenty-dollar gold coin, or double eagle, produced by the United States Mint from 1907 to 1933. The coin is named after its designer, the sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens, who designed the obverse and reverse. It is considered by many to be the most beautiful of U.S. coins. It is fully struck with nicely preserved surfaces and is a highlight of the extensive Proof gold coin offerings in this sale. The penultimate issue in the Proof Saint-Gaudens double eagle series, 70 coins dated 1914 were produced, all of which were struck between September 28 and December 19. No more than two-thirds of these coins seem to have been distributed, the balance of the mintage destroyed through melting in the Mint.

In 1904, President Theodore Roosevelt sought to beautify American coinage, and proposed Saint-Gaudens as an artist capable of the task. Although the sculptor had poor experiences with the Mint and its chief engraver, Charles E. Barber, Saint-Gaudens accepted Roosevelt's call. The work was subject to considerable delays, due to Saint-Gaudens's declining health and difficulties because of the high relief of his design. Saint-Gaudens died in 1907, after designing the eagle and double eagle, but before the designs were finalized for production.

The 1933 double eagle is among the most valuable of U.S. coins, with the sole example currently known to be in private hands selling in 2002 for \$7,590,020.

