

Wiener Cathedral Medals Presentation



Stephen Petty - CONA
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Westminster Abbey - London England (1849)



Westminster Abbey
Marks Collection of Wiener Cathedral Medals

Jacques (Jacob) Wiener

History and Background

- The Wieners were a Jewish-Flemish family of extraordinary artists and die engravers.
- His parents, Marcus Wiener and Hanna Baruch, lived in Venlo, the Netherlands.
- Jacques was born in Hoerstgen, Germany, studied in Paris and then settled in Brussels.
- Jacob Wiener (1815-1899), who generally signed his medals as J. Wiener (occasionally as Jacob), but known more commonly as Jacques, was the eldest of three brothers
- The two brothers were Léopold (1823-1891) and Charles (1832-1888), both of whom excelled in the art of medal engraving.

St. Peter's Basilica - Rome, Italy (1857)



Basilica di S. Pietro A Roma
Marks Collection of Wiener Cathedral Medals

Jacques (Jacob) Wiener

History and Background – cont.

- In 1845, at age 30, Jacques decided to engrave medals representing the exterior and interior of monuments with a degree of precision of details that had not yet been attempted.
- The first in the series was a group of ten medals, 50 mm in diameter, depicting famous Belgian churches. All but one of these medals were done in collaboration with his brother Léopold.
- Jacques Wiener then undertook what was to be a series of 50 medals, each 59 mm in diameter, entitled "Medals of the Most Remarkable Edifices of Europe", to represent the principal monuments of Europe. Of these, the majority were cathedrals, churches and mosques. One was a synagogue. (Two other medals, each 40 mm in diameter also depicted synagogues).

Cordoba Cathedral - Cordoba, Spain (1859)



Catedral de Cordoba

Marlks Collection of Wiener Cathedral Medals

Jacques (Jacob) Wiener

History and Background – cont.

- He was unable to complete the whole task as only 41 cathedral medals were issued, some of which were done in conjunction with his brother Charles.
- This intricate and minute work, however, was to take its toll, for by 1872 (age 57) Wiener had almost completely lost his eyesight, and after 1874 (age 59) he produced no more medals.
- He also engraved dies for a large number of other monuments, including prisons, town halls, the stock exchange etc. In addition to buildings, he engraved dies for individuals commemorating important events in their lives.

Notre Dame Cathedral - Paris, France (1855)



Notre-Dame Cathédrale de Paris
Marks Collection of Wiener Cathedral Medals

Jacques (Jacob) Wiener

History and Background – cont.

- His work was not only prodigious but was also some of the best rendition of perspective of the interior of buildings seen.
- His collective works have been catalogued by Emiel van Hoydonck who lists, mostly with photographs, 233 medals and 62 jetons by Jacques Wiener.
- His medals were also extensively catalogued by Klaus Reinecke.
- The vast majority of his medals were struck in bronze, with a relatively few in silver.

Jetons were token or coin-like medals produced across Europe from the 13th through the 17th centuries. They were produced as counters for use in calculation on a lined board similar to an abacus. They also found use as a money substitute in games, similar to modern casino chips or poker chips. Thousands of different jetons exist, mostly of religious and educational designs, as well as portraits, these most resembling coinage.

Speyer Cathedral – Speyer, Germany (1863)



Der Kaiser Dom zu Speyer
Marks Collection of Wiener Cathedral Medals

History of Petty Wiener Cathedral Medal Collection

- Started by my son Mark – fascinated by detail and relief of medals.
- Used monies from 1836 O-121 bust half he cherry-picked off e-bay for \$75 and sold for \$2,700 (2007 to 2009).
- Would not spend over \$200/medal, but often irritated when he lost a bid for a coin on e-bay (2009 to 2011).
- I helped him acquire a lot of seven medals in 2011.
- Mark was also fascinated by original medal boxes and acquired three of them – two are here today.
- Mark acquired 27 of the metals; I've added 7 more.

St. Marco Basilica – Venice, Italy (1850)



Basilica di S. Marco in Venezia
Marks Collection of Wiener Cathedral Medals

Wiener Cathedral Medals

- Wiener Cathedral Metals – Intended to produce 50 of the 59 mm diameter medals; only produced 41.
- Mostly made of bronze; some made in silver.
- Produced from 1848 to 1867 when he lost his eyesight.
- Typically between 175 and 650 each were produced.

Mainz Cathedral – Mainz, Germany (1866)



Der Dom zu Mainz
Marks Collection of Wiener Cathedral Medals

Wiener Cathedral Medals

- Much of the information in this presentation regarding the medals comes from Ben Weiss' web page:
(<http://www.historicalartmedals.com/MEDAL%20WEB%20ENTRIES/THUMBNAILS/BELGIUM/WIENER-EUROPEAN%20CATHEDRALS/brand%20new%20thumbnails.htm>), from Reinecke's book (in German) and from Stacks August 18, 2009 catalogue.
- Typically cost for bronze medals between \$200 and \$300; a few are more expensive.
- We have 29 of the 41 metals plus a number of duplicates.

Magdeburg Cathedral – Magdeburg, Germany (1865)



Dom zu Magdeburg
Marks Collection of Wiener Cathedral Medals

Wiener Cathedral Medals - Details

ST. MICHAEL AND ST. GUDULE AT BRUSSELS	Brussels	Belgium	1848	15	5
ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL IN LONDON	London	England	1849	49	34
ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL IN LONDON	London	England	1849	49	34
TOLEDO CATHEDRAL	Toledo	Spain	1850	Unlisted - Engraved by Charles	
BASILICA SAN MARCO IN VENEZIA	Venice	Italy	1850	65	52
AMSTERDAM STADHUIS	Amsterdam	Holland	1850		64
COLOGNE CATHEDRAL	Cologne (Koln)	Germany	1849	78	24
COLOGNE CATHEDRAL	Cologne (Koln)	Germany	1849		25
COLOGNE CATHEDRAL	Cologne (Koln)	Germany	1851		26
COLOGNE CATHEDRAL	Cologne (Koln)	Germany	1855		27
COLOGNE CATHEDRAL	Cologne (Koln)	Germany	1861		28
ROYAL MONASTERY AT BATALHA	Batalha	Portugal	1853	103	55
CATHEDRAL AT AACHEN - no lettering top of obverse	Aachen	Germany	1853	46	20
CATHEDRAL AT AACHEN - lettering top of obverse	Aachen	Germany	1853	?	21
YORK CATHEDRAL	York	England	1854	112	37
CATHEDRALE DE YORK	York	England	1855	Unlisted by all	
BONN CATHEDRAL	Bonn	Germany	1855	121	23
NOTRE DAME CATHEDRAL IN PARIS	Paris	France	1855	122	40
Duomo Di Pisa	Pisa	Italy	1855	123	48
ST APOLLINARIS CHURCH AT REMAGEN-ON-RHINE	Remagen (Prussian Rhine Providene)	Germany	1856	140	31
WESTMINSTER ABBEY	Westminster	England	1856	142	35
WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL	Winchester in Hampshire	England	1856		36
LINCOLN CATHEDRAL	Lincoln	England	1857	150	33
TOURNAI CATHEDRAL	Tournai	Belgium	1857	151	18
BASILICA OF ST PETERS IN ROME	Rome	Italy	1857	152	50
CHURCH OF ST FRONT AT PERIGUEUX	Perigueux	France	1858	157	42
ST ISAACS CHURCH IN ST PETERSBURG	St. Petersburg (Petrograd, Leningrad)	Russia	1858	158	57
ST GENEVIEVE AT PARIS (Pantheon)	Paris	France	1858	159	41
CATHEDRAL AT CORDOBA	Cordoba	Spain	1859	168	59
THE (DIE) WALHALLA	Regensburg	Germany	1859	169	95
CATHEDRAL DE REIMS	Reims (Rheims)	France	1859	170	43
ST OUENS CHURCH AT ROUEN	Rouen	France	1859	171	44
DUOMO AT SIENA	Siena	Italy	1860	176	51
CATHEDRAL OF MILAN	Milan	Italy	1860	177	47
SYNAGOGUE AT COLOGNE	Cologne (Koln)	Germany	1861	182	61
CATHEDRAL AT BAMBERG	Bamberg	Germany	1861	183	22
CHARTRES CATHEDRAL	Chartres	France	1861	184	39
CATHEDRAL AT STRASBOURG	Strasbourg	France	1861	185	45
ST PAUL'S BASILICA IN ROME	Rome	Italy	1861		49
ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH AT VIENNA	Wein (Vienna)	Austria	1862	190	54
ST ETIENNE'S CHURCH AT CAEN	Caen (Hommes)	France	1862	191	38
ST OLAF'S CATHEDRAL AT TRONDHEIM	Trondheim	Norway	1862	192	53
CATHEDRAL AT SPEYER	Speyer	Germany	1863	199	32
CATHEDRAL AT FLORENCE	Florence	Florence	1864	205	46
SANTA SOPHIA AT CONSTANTINOPLE	Constantinople (Istanbul, Byzantium)	Turkey	1864	206	60
CATHEDRAL AT MAGDEBURG	Magdeburg	Germany	1865	210	29
CATHEDRAL AT MAINZ	Mainz	Germany	1866	216	30
ST. MARY'S AT BELEM	Lisbonne (Lisbon, Lisboa, Belem)	Portugal	1867	219	56
BURGOS CATHEDRAL	Burgos	Spain	1867	220	58

Strasbourg Cathedral – Strasbourg, France



Cathedrale de Strassbourg

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Wiener Cathedral Medals - Details



Wiener Cathedral Medals - Details



Thank You

Any Questions or Comments?

