

**DAVID R. SEAR**

# *Certificate of Authenticity*

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*This coin has been personally inspected and authenticated by*

Issued to: Jens Feierabend

On: December 28, 2021

*David R. Sear*

State: Roman Empire

Ruler: Julia (daughter of Titus)

Denomination: orichalcum dupondius

Mint: Rome

Date: AD 80-81

Weight: 14.58 grams

Maximum Diameter: 28.10 millimeters

Die Axis: ↓

Obverse: IVLIA IMP T AVG [F AVGVSTA], diademed and draped bust of Julia right, her hair in bun behind.

Reverse: VESTA (in exergue) S — C (in field), Vesta seated left, holding Palladium and transverse sceptre.

References: RIC (Titus) 398; BMCRE (Titus) 258 and pl. 53, 8; CBN (Titus) 271 and pl. LXXXVI; Cohen 18.

Grade: F/fair, sensitive portrait with unusually slender neck

Historical & Numismatic Note: Flavia Julia was the daughter of Titus by his second wife, Marcia Furnilla, and was born about AD 65, shortly before her parents' divorce. She married her cousin Flavius Sabinus and appears to have been granted the title of Augusta during her father's reign (AD 79-81). Her husband was Domitian's colleague in the consulship in AD 82 but two years later he was executed on the emperor's orders. Thereafter, Julia lived with her uncle Domitian as his mistress and on her death (*circa* AD 89) she was deified. Coins in the name of Julia were struck in gold, silver and *aes*, but all are rare. The earlier issues belong to the reign of Titus and were probably produced on the occasion of Julia's elevation to the rank of Augusta. Her later coinage was struck under Domitian, the final issues being posthumous sestertii depicting a coach (*carpentum*). This dupondius features a seated figure of Vesta on reverse; representations of the goddess of the family hearth and guardian of family life were always deemed appropriate on the coinages of Roman empresses. It is of some interest that Julia, daughter of Titus, was the first empress to be honored with the issue of regular Roman coin denominations, in precious metal as well as *aes*, produced in her own name.

**DAVID R. SEAR / A.C.C.S.** (P. O. Box 7314, Porter Ranch, CA. 91327, U.S.A.)

**Phone** (818) 993-7363 **Mobile** (818) 312-4903 **E-mail** [david@davidrsear.com](mailto:david@davidrsear.com) **Web site** [www.davidrsear.com](http://www.davidrsear.com)

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