

Basic Detail Report



Tetradrachm with Head of Tyche

Date

c. 150 BCE

Primary Maker

Unidentified artist

Medium

Silver

Description

Obverse: Head of a woman in profile to right wearing a crown with a turreted city wall. Her hair is pulled back from the face in richly coiled locks with a small wisp

escaping before the ear. The long hair is pulled into a bunch at the nape from which two twisting locks fall over the neck. Individual strands are finely detailed. The prominent features, strong chin, and full "Venus rings" in the neck give her a commanding presence. Reverse: An oak wreath surrounds the two-lined legend "Smyrnaion," that is, belonging to the people of Smyrna (modern Izmir), and the monogram of a magistrate or mint. The oak wreath signified the worship of that deity. An altar to Zeus was built at Smyrna circa 150 BCE.

Dimensions

3/16 x 1 5/16 x 1 5/16 in., 0.0377 lb. (0.5 x 3.4 x 3.4 cm, 17.1g)