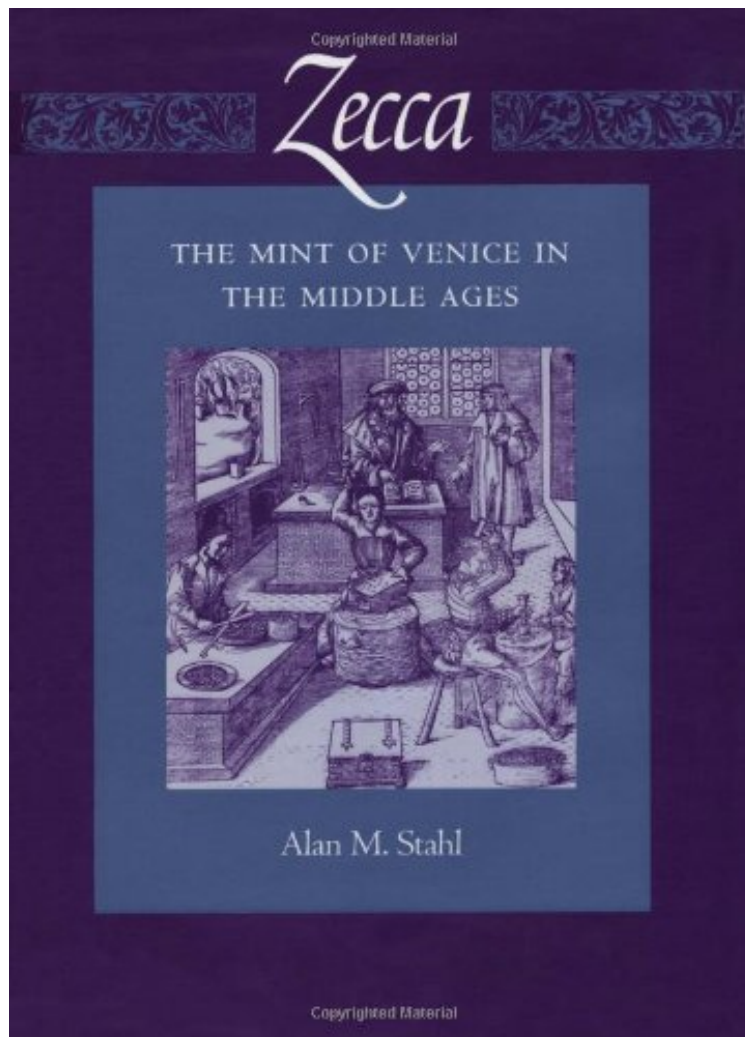


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## **Zecca: The Mint of Venice in the Middle Ages (Published in Association With the American Numismatic Society)**

*Alan M. Stahl*

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**Alan M. Stahl : Zecca: The Mint of Venice in the Middle Ages (Published in Association With the American Numismatic Society)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Zecca: The Mint of Venice in the Middle Ages (Published in Association With the American Numismatic Society):

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A Masterful Work for Historians and NumismatistsBy Jorg H. LuekeZecca is an impressively researched historical work focusing adeptly on its subject: the Venetian mint in the

middle ages. The narrative is very readable and the presentation uses footnotes to annotate the voluminous amount of source material that went into the creation of this work. The book focuses first on the coinage itself, the medieval penny, the grosso, the ducat, and finally the soldino. Each era goes into great detail on the weights, the fineness, and the people making the decisions to have the coins made. The book then goes back and examines each of the roles of the mint employees in additional detail. From the mintmasters and engravers to the smiths and weighers the duties of each position are laid out. In addition salaries and legal documents help flesh out some of the actual persons and the work done at the mint. The book left me with a thirst for more knowledge about Venice's history. There is little background in the book on some of the external reasons that caused some of the decisions presented in the work. I think this is definitely a must read for those people who have a strong interest in both history and numismatics. It is not so well suited for the casual reader who will undoubtedly get bored by the finer details of how many pennies are in a mark, and which minor noble filled the role of mintmaster. But if the reader is interested in medieval coinage, even if it is not Italian, than this work will provide a ton of insightful information on mint practices and medieval monetary policy. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. GREAT..By CustomerIT'S ABOUT MY FAMILY...GREAT....0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy JMHSExcellent

Zecca: The Mint of Venice in the Middle Ages , is the first book to explore a premodern mint using original documents and coins. Alan M. Stahl divides the book into three sections. The first section shows how the coinage of Venice became the dominant currency in the Mediterranean by the time of the Renaissance. The second section, explores the mint's role in Venetian trade, the mechanisms of the control of the bullion and the strategies utilized for mint profit. The third section, explores the operations that transformed bullion into coins, while also examining and explaining the positions and personnel of the mint. Zecca , contains numerous photos of Venetian coinage, along with a listing of all holders of office related to the Venetian mint. It also contains summaries of all the major finds of medieval coins.

A significant contribution to the literature on the economic and monetary history of medieval Venice and of the Italian Middle Ages...a welcome addition to most university libraries. It is extremely well written...essential reading for scholars of medieval economic and monetary history, and it will also find an audience among numismatists and collectors of medieval coins. (Speculum)About the AuthorAlan M. Stahl served for twenty years as the curator of medieval coins for the American Numismatic Society, and is currently a visiting professor in the department of history at the University of Michigan. His previous books include The Merovingian Coinage of the Region of Metz and The Venetian Tornese: A Medieval Colonial Coinage.