

SPINK

e-Catalogue

CSS113 - HONG KONG BANKNOTE RARITIES FROM THE 'LEE' COLLECTION

Lot 1



HongKong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, \$50, 1.10.1927, serial number B188068, green, Communications on wheel at left, reverse, HSBC headquarters at centre with winged female angel at top, one handsigned signature, printed signature Hynes, (Pick 175a), PMG 45EPQ. An already rare first year of issue in superb original condition with fresh colours and strong signature. PMG Census SINGLE TOP POP with second place being a mere 35 (without EPQ). One of the only two examples with EPQ (Exceptional Paper Quality), with the other being 30EPQ which was sold at Spink March 2024 for HKD114,000 (inc.premium). Best graded example known for the 1927 issue. A must have for any vintage collectors

Estimate
HK\$150,000 to HK\$250,000

Lot 2



HongKong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, \$100, 1.9.1930, serial number B207421, red, seated maiden with book at left, reverse, HSBC headquarters at centre with winged female angel at top, one handsigned signature, printed signature Grayburn, (Pick 176a), PMG 35, annotation. Second date of this iconic issue, despite with usual annotation, still a completely original example, only 3 better in PMG Census. 1930 rare date and difficult to see in good grades. A favourite among collectors

Estimate
HK\$30,000 to HK\$60,000

Lot 3



HongKong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, \$10, 1.1.1938, serial number K274476, green, maiden with straw at top left, reverse HSBC headquarters at centre, one handsigned signature, printed Grayburn signature, (Pick 178a), PMG 25. Last date of the handsigned \$10 issue. Getting scarcer

Estimate
HK\$2,000 to HK\$3,000

Lot 4



Government of HongKong, \$1, ND (1935), serial number F665126, purple and yellow, George V at right,(Pick 311), PMG 65EPQ. An always popular issue in a respectable grade with 'Exceptional Paper Quality' and original note with good embossing

Estimate
HK\$30,000 to HK\$40,000

Lot 5



Mercantile Bank of India, Hong Kong, \$10, 1.12.1937, serial number 82427, orange, mountain and bridge scene at centre, reverse green, with one handsigned signature, printed Benson signature,(Pick 236d), PMG 30 Very Fine, minor ink. The 1937 issue by far the scarcest of the all the dates, with only 5500 notes issued. An extremely low print run type for Hong Kong banknotes. One of best condition example known, completely original. Vivid colours and very eye-catching. Not to be missed

Estimate
HK\$150,000 to HK\$200,000

Lot 6



Mercantile Bank of India, Hong Kong, \$100, 1.1.1930, serial number 35782, red, mountain and coastal scene at centre, reverse, red, one handsigned signature, printed Sandes signature,(Pick 239b), PMG 25, minor repairs. Though with a print run of 20,000 notes, this elusive earlier 1930 issue is seldom seen compared with the later lower print run issues. PMG one of only 7 and TOP POP. Remarkable high denomination example for its scarcity. Not to be missed

Estimate
HK\$150,000 to HK\$200,000

Lot 7



Mercantile Bank of India, Hong Kong, \$5, 1.12.1937, serial number 165623, green, pavilion and junk scene at centre, reverse red, one handsigned signature, printed Benson signature,(Pick 235c), PMG 12. No remarks and popular type

Estimate
HK\$15,000 to HK\$25,000

Lot 8



Mercantile Bank of India, Hong Kong, \$10, 1.12.1937, serial number 81682, orange, mountain and bridge scene at centre, reverse green, with one handsigned signature, printed Benson signature,(Pick 236d), PMG 8NET, repaired, pieces added. A low print run scarce type nonetheless

Estimate
HK\$10,000 to HK\$15,000

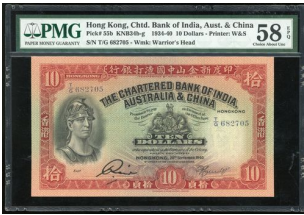
Lot 9



Mercantile Bank of India, Hong Kong, a \$10 raised to \$100, 29.11.1941, serial number 93936, orange, with additional pieces mounted on denominations, to raise denomination from \$10 to \$100,(Pick 236e), margins repaired made to \$100, ink, about fine. Interesting for collectors with interest in Hong Kong history

Estimate
HK\$10,000 to HK\$20,000

Lot 10



Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China, Hong Kong, \$10, 20.9.1940, serial number T/G 682705, red, allegorical man in helmet at left, one handsigned signature,(Pick 55b), PMG 58EPQ. Last issue date for the handsigned type. With original paper and bright vivid colours. And not to mention a large clean hand signature. PMG Census one of only two TOP POP example with EPQ designation. Early type that is rarely seen in such lovely and fresh condition! Consecutive with next lot, not often seen as a pair. A lower grade example of PMG 55EPQ was sold in Spink auction March 2024 for HKD72,000 (inc.premium)

Estimate
HK\$100,000 to HK\$150,000

Lot 11



Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China, Hong Kong, \$10, 20.9.1940, serial number T/G 682704, red, allegorical man in helmet at left, one handsigned signature,(Pick 55b), PMG 55EPQ, as made wrinkle. Last issue date for the handsigned type. With original paper and bright vivid colours. And not to mention a large clean hand signature. PMG Census second highest grade example with EPQ designation. Early type that is rarely seen in such lovely and fresh condition! Consecutive with previous lot, not often seen as a pair. A PMG 55EPQ example was sold in Spink March 2024 for HKD72,000 (inc.premium)

Estimate
HK\$70,000 to HK\$100,000

Lot 12



The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, \$500, pattern, undated (ca.1911-1912), without serial numbers, purple-red, black and dark yellow, supported arms at upper centre, denomination at each corner and within left and right borders, central vignette of sailing sampans and junk boat against fortress walls and pagoda, reverse blue and black, bank building at centre, 'SPECIMEN' printed in red diagonally twice on the obverse, hole punch cancelled, (Pick 46s), PMG 53 About Uncirculated (Pinholes). This note is a pattern for the issue of 1912. It was prepared either late in 1911 or early in 1912. At the time of preparation it was not yet decided whether the notes would be hand-signed and dated. Thus a unique pattern. Colloquially known as the 'Spider Web' because of the geometric design at centre, this type is one of the most iconic and coveted Hong Kong banknotes. Ultra rare in any form, this note is in superb quality and will be fiercely contested for without doubt. Must have for serious collectors

Estimate
HK\$500,000 to HK\$800,000

Lot 13



HongKong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, \$5, 1.1.1909, serial number A063758, green and orange, men carrying water at left, junk at right, reverse red, one handsigned signature, one printed signature, (Pick 161), PMG 25, ink stamp, foreign substance. Very scarce early 'red reverse' issue. Not often seen. An always soughtafter type amongst the four "sceneries" series. Colloquially known as the "water carrying" note. Crisp original example

Estimate
HK\$70,000 to HK\$100,000

Lot 14



HongKong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, \$10, 1.7.1913, serial number A217253, blue, building and mountain scene at left, beach scene at right, reverse orange, one handsigned signature, printed Stabb signature, (Pick 167), PMG 20NET, repaired, ink. Rare type nonetheless. A very scarce early 'red reverse' tyoe. Always highly soughtafter type amongst the "four sceneries" series. Colloquially known as the 'beach' note. One of the few designs that uses scenery of HK in design.

Estimate
HK\$60,000 to HK\$80,000

Lot 15



Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China, Hong Kong, \$10, 1.5.1923, serial number N/B 378312, mauve, bridge scene at left, gorge scene at right, reverse mauve, one handsigned signature, printed Fergusson signature, (Pick 42), PCGS 15 fine, rust stains and damage, small splits, writing on back. Note this is the earlier type without 'TEN' at centre. Another sought after type amongst the "four sceneries" series. Colloquially known as the 'calf skin'

Estimate
HK\$80,000 to HK\$120,000

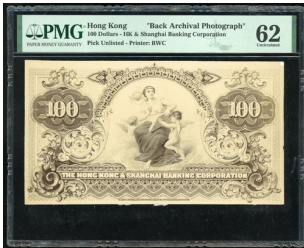
Lot 16



HongKong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, China, \$10, Shanghai, 3.9.1919, serial number 317711, green on orange, arms at centre, reverse, reverse mauve, cherubs, one handsigned signature, one printed signature,(Pick S357A), PMG 15, ink. Of all 4 dates with the mauve coloured reverse, 1919 dated issued only appears in the market once in a blue moon. Very rare

Estimate
HK\$20,000 to HK\$25,000

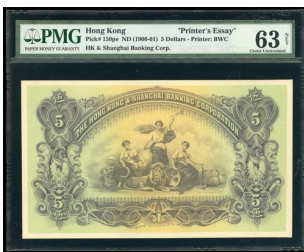
Lot 17



HongKong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, China, archival photograph for an unissued reverse of \$100, ND (1900-23), black and white, seated allegorical woman with cherubs at centre (note the final issued design have the bank name in arched format over centre design and other major differences with guilloche patterns and denomination placement),(Pick unlisted), PMG 62. Extremely rare and unique. All archival photographs are one of a kind

Estimate
HK\$30,000 to HK\$50,000

Lot 18



HongKong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, unissued colour proof \$5, ND (1900-01), uniface, green/yellow/purple (issued note in red), allegorical figures at centre, (Agriculture, Commerce, Communication, Industry),(Pick 150pe), PMG 63NET, internal tear. Rare early printer's essay

Estimate
HK\$15,000 to HK\$20,000

Lot 19



Standard Chartered Bank, Hong Kong, \$500, 1.1.1997, serial number AA000001, brown, phoenix at left, reverse, bank headquarters at left,(Pick 288b), PMG 65EPQ. A note that needs no introduction, spectacular number 1 note with AA prefix! Crisp original example with good embossing. First prefix low numbers are rarely seen in the market as they are usually kept at the bank archive and used for exhibition purposes. Rare opportunity for serious lucky number collectors!

Estimate
HK\$150,000 to HK\$200,000

Lot 20



HongKong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, \$1000, 1.1.2016, lucky solid serial number GS888888, (Pick 216e), PMG 67EPQ. Top denomination high grade lucky 8! Highly sought after and becoming rarer in the market

Estimate
HK\$38,000 to HK\$60,000

Lot 21



HongKong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, \$1000, 1.1.2012, lucky solid serial number CD888888, (Pick 216b), PMG 58. An always popular \$1000 solid 8!

Estimate
HK\$10,000 to HK\$20,000

Lot 22



HongKong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, \$500, 1.1.2012, lucky solid serial number DJ888888, (Pick 215b), PCGS 66PPQ. Rare lucky solid 8, makes a nice pair with the previous lot. Note there are only FOUR prefixes for 2012 date from DH to DK, making this GEM of modern lucky notes. Would be extremely difficult to find another solid 8s of this date. 'Sold as is, no return'

Estimate
HK\$30,000 to HK\$50,000

Lot 23



HongKong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, consecutive set of low number \$1000 (10), 1.1.2016, serial numbers GE000001, GE000002, GE000003, GE000004, GE000005, GE000006, GE000007, GE000008, GE000009, GE000010, (Pick 216e), number 2 and 6 PMG 66EPQ, others PMG 65EPQ. A very rare complete low number set that is first time seen in auction. Not to be missed by fancy serial number collectors! (10)

Estimate
HK\$100,000 to HK\$150,000

Lot 24



Bank of China, Hong Kong, \$500, 1.1.2018, serial number DD111111, (Pick 351a), PMG 65EPQ. Double prefix generally scarcer

Estimate
HK\$5,000 to HK\$7,000

Lot 25



Standard Chartered Bank, Hong Kong, \$50, 1.1.1998, serial number T111111, (Pick 286c), PMG 66EPQ. The prefix 'T' mimics '1' so as can be seen as a super solid 1s note

Estimate
HK\$20,000 to HK\$40,000

Lot 26



Chartered Bank, Hong Kong, \$5, ND (1962-70), fancy serial number S/F 4000000, (Pick 68c), PMG 65EPQ. Fancy serial number rarely found with this type as the 7 digits serial number adds to difficulty. The best fancy serial seen on this 'Millar' signature no date type

Estimate
HK\$30,000 to HK\$50,000

Lot 27



HongKong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, \$500, 1.7.2003, 1 million serial number AA1000000, (Pick 210a), PMG 66EPQ. A truly impressive 1 million serial number note in pristine condition. The LAST note of this first run new design issue! Highly important. HK has now stopped issuing 1 million serial number notes. Extremely popular and now shares the same prestige as solid 8s! As the last note in the series - first prefix fancy serial number notes are usually kept at bank archive and used for exhibition purposes. A rare opportunity for serious lucky number collectors!

Estimate
HK\$100,000 to HK\$150,000

Lot 28



HongKong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, \$100, 1.1.1909, serial number A024126, orange and black on pale green, bank coat of arms at upper left, tea production scenes at left and right, one handsigned signature, printed Smith signature, reverse red, the old Bank building at centre,(Pick 163a), PMG 20NET, repaired, annotations. Colloquially known as the 'Tea House', this note in issued formed is extremely rare, in addition to it being the first date of issue with the red reverse. A crown piece that will stand out in any collection of vintage Hong Kong notes. Previously sold for HKD840,000 (inc.premium) at Spink

Estimate
HK\$800,000 to HK\$1,200,000

Lot 29



HongKong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, \$1, 1.1.1904, serial number 451524, blue on yellow, bust of Athena at left, arms at lower right, reverse red, allegory woman playing with lyre, one handsigned signature, printed Smith signature,(Pick 155a), PMG 55. First date example of the small size issue in high grade with clear signature and original paper. PMG census with only 1 better. Note an inferior PMG 50 example of the later 1906 date was sold for HKD84,000 (inc. premium) in Spink March 2024. Original

Estimate
HK\$100,000 to HK\$150,000

Lot 30



Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China, Hong Kong, \$5, 28.3.1936, serial number S/F 265173, 'large 5' type, green, Roman soldier at left, one handsigned signature, one printed signature,(Pick 54a), PMG 20, ink. A less common early date example. Original and crisp

Estimate
HK\$10,000 to HK\$15,000

Lot 31



HongKong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, \$500, 1.4.1941, serial number C334636, brown and blue, Thomas Jackson at right, reverse, blue, HSBC building at centre, 2 printed signatures,(Pick 179b), PMG 30EPQ. FIRST date of the double printed signature type. An impressive original example for this early date in above average condition with well centred design and vibrant printing. Very attractive and rare. 1941 dated TOP GRADE example with EPQ. With the 1941 issue sharing a similar level of rarity as their handsigned counterparts.

Estimate
HK\$70,000 to HK\$90,000

Lot 32



HongKong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, DURESS \$500, 1.1.1936, serial number C126783, brown and blue, Thomas Jackson at right, reverse, blue, HSBC building at centre, two handsigned signatures,(Pick 179 for type), PMG 30. An early duress issue as the print run started at C126001. Well above average condition, rare. Similar PMG 30 example sold for HKD66.000 (inc. premium) in Spink March 2024

Estimate
HK\$70,000 to HK\$100,000

Lot 33



HongKong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, \$500, 1.8.1966, serial number F203982, brown and blue, Thomas Jackson at right, reverse, blue, HSBC building at centre, 2 printed signatures,(Pick 179c), with splits at margin, small centre hole from folding, original good fine. 1966 F prefix type not often seen

Estimate
HK\$1,500 to HK\$2,500

Lot 34



Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China, Hong Kong, \$100, 1.5.1934, serial number Y/M 038945, green with seated Britannia at centre, one handsigned signature,(Pick 57a), PMG 30, insect damage, pinholes. First date for this handsigned type, rarely seen nowadays. A completely original example and without the usual ink annotations. Attractive well centred example. Very rare

Estimate
HK\$60,000 to HK\$100,000

Lot 35



Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China, Hong Kong, \$100, 1.10.1946, serial number Y/M 209368, green, seated Britannia at centre,(Pick 57c), PMG 20. Rarely seen WITHOUT remarks and repair. Original example

Estimate
HK\$15,000 to HK\$30,000

Lot 36



HongKong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, specimen \$20, 1.1.1986, serial number AA000000, (Pick 192s), PMG 67EPQ (*). First prefix. One of only 2 TOP POP examples with the coveted STAR designation on PMG census. Extremely rare

Estimate
HK\$25,000 to HK\$40,000

Lot 37



HongKong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, specimen proof \$100, ND (1959-72), no serial number or signatures, red, seated maiden at left, (Pick 183s), PMG 35. With SPECIMEN perforated and printers annotation 'FOR COLOUR ONLY 20/4/59'. Note the first issue of the smaller red \$100 was dated August 1959, therefore we can assume this is from one of the final stages of printing process where the colour scheme was submitted to bank official for confirmation before mass printing. A rarely seen proof type and a good reference for banking history

Estimate
HK\$15,000 to HK\$25,000

Lot 38



HongKong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, reverse proofs for \$5, ND (1975), obverse both showing undeprint only, reverse with fully printed designs, (Pick 181 for type), encapsulated by PMG, with printers annotations at top margin. This is a proof by Bradbury Wilkinson, and not printing remnants it is individually dated and numbered. Interesting glimps into printing history

Estimate
HK\$4,000 to HK\$8,000

Lot 39



Banco Nacional Ultramarino, Macau, hand-drawn printer's model for an unissued design for 5 patacas, green, arms at left, Bay of Praia Grande, ship at right, (Pick 58 for type), PMG 65EPQ. Note the different Chinese name used for BNU. With similar themes as the issued note but largely different design and guilloches. Unique and very eye catching. A unique example and not to be missed by any Macau collectors! Hand drawn unissued items are getting more and more popular with serious collectors and is considered as some of the holy grail items in banknote collecting. Similar examples had been included in exhibitions in Macau.

Estimate
HK\$150,000 to HK\$200,000

Lot 40



HongKong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, \$50, 1.1.1986, serial number AF997766, 'key date', (Pick 193a), PMG 66EPQ. Key date crossover prefix type with semi fancy serial number "three pairs"

Estimate
HK\$5,000 to HK\$7,000

Lot 41



Chartered Bank, Hong Kong, \$500, ND (1975), serial number Z/P 120005, brown on multicolour underprint, Roman bust at left, (Pick 72c), PMG 50EPQ. Note the NO DATE 1975 issue is scarcer than 1977. Scarce large size original note. Good serial as well!

Estimate
HK\$12,000 to HK\$18,000

Lot 42



Chartered Bank, Hong Kong, \$500, ND (1962), serial number Z/N 226633, brown on multicolour underprint, Roman bust at left, printed Millar and Reynolds signatures, (Pick 72b), PMG 30. The scarcest signature type of the later Chartered \$500 issue. To add to its appeal, with a great semi fancy 'three pairs' serial amongst the 'MILLAR' signatures and in the one of the best condition known

Estimate
HK\$50,000 to HK\$60,000

Lot 43



Chartered Bank, Hong Kong, ERROR \$500, 1.1.1977, serial number Z/Q 362123, (Pick 72d), LCG 58 choice about new, colour error. The only graded example. Previously sold for HKD90,000 (inc. premium) in Spink auction. Extremely rare and not to be missed by error collectors!

Estimate
HK\$90,000 to HK\$100,000

Lot 44



HongKong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, \$50, 1.1.1986, serial number AA042358, 'key date', (Pick 193a), PMG 68EPQ. High grade example with only 9 better on PMG Census. Similar example sold for HKD4,560 (inc. premium) in Spink January 2024

Estimate
HK\$4,000 to HK\$5,000

Lot 45



Standard Chartered Bank, Hong Kong, \$500, 1.1.1992, serial number L976658, (Pick 282c), PMG 65EPQ. Popular type. Similar example with 66EPQ sold at Spink January 2024 for HKD7,800 (inc. premium). The phoenix design has not appeared in recent SCB banknote issues.

Estimate
HK\$5,000 to HK\$6,000

Lot 46



Standard Chartered Bank, Hong Kong, \$1000, 1.1.1999, serial number T533474, (Pick 289c), PMG 66EPQ. Crisp original example. The golden dragon has not appeared in recent SCB banknote issues.

Estimate
HK\$2,000 to HK\$3,000

Lot 47



Bank of England, Great Britain, £20, ND (1970-80), serial number C25 665394, (Pick 380b, EPM B328), PMG 66EPQ. Part of a consecutive run of three

**Estimate
HK\$2,000 to HK\$3,000**

Lot 48



Bank of England, Great Britain, £20, ND (1970-80), serial number C25 665395, (Pick 380b, EPM B328), PMG 66EPQ. Part of a consecutive run of three

**Estimate
HK\$2,000 to HK\$3,000**

Lot 49



Bank of England, Great Britain, £20, ND (1970-80), serial number C25 665396, (Pick 380b, EPM B328), PMG 66EPQ. Part of a consecutive run of three

**Estimate
HK\$2,000 to HK\$3,000**
