

Abbiatico & Salvinelli 12ga SxS Sidelock

Ser 32028

Extraordinary "Rising Ducks"

Scene on both sides

And 5 Ducks (Mallards)

On bottom

Engraved by Firmo Fracassi

Featured on Cover of the Book

"Grandi Incisioni Su Armi D'Oggi" (see also p.119)

by: Mario Abbiatico, Gianberto Lupi, and

Franco Vaccario

Featured in Pachmayr Catalog, Winter 1987

Also, see p164 of "Modern Firearm"

Engraving by Abbiatico

Circassian Walnut, D/T, English Grip,

Checquered Butt

Firmo Fracassi is considered the "best of the best" among engravers----see page 27 of "Modern Firearm Engraving" by Mario Abbiatico. As of 2011 Fracassi had only engraved 57 shotguns (of course, he had engraved many other objects).

JOSEPH BRAZIER

A-2
ESTABLISHED 1827

TRADE MARK
No 1

JOSEPH BRAZIER
ASHS.

GUNMAKERS

P.O. BOX 60719
COLORADO SPRINGS
COLORADO
80960



Subject: **Appraisal**, A&S sidelock side by side shotgun model Exhibition serial number 32028

To Whit:

The subject being a A&S sidelock 12 gauge **special order** serial number **32028** engraved by **Firno Fracassi** in **game bird scenes**. The firearm is mint; to unfired it is exceedingly rare. This is a Best Work effort and featured on the cover of the book: "Grandi Incisioni su Armi D'Oggi" by Mario Abbiatico.

The Receiver has rosettes and scroll on the fences and leaf rendition on the hinge pin areas. Fine scroll about the borders with the focus on the sides supporting the great work on the lock plates them selves there spilling over and continuing onto the Receiver or Action proper.

The Locks are full game scenes of Pintails on the right and Mallards on the left where birds are represented in natural fauna on the rise. The basis of the mallard rendition was from an American painter whose name I do not recall. As previous owner twice and

a number of times since removed, the painter found cause to attempt to sue me for copyright infringement as purveyor of the firearm. He did not succeed.

The Forend & iron also engraved to match the great work on the lock plates but not to the extent of distraction. Just a fine border scroll. The wood has a maker's crest of gold inlaid. The metal is bright finish.

The Buttstock is well figured 4A Circassian walnut hand selected to match the engraving and metal treatment to follow. It is well figured but does not detract from the prominent engraving scenes depicted on the firearm.

Double trigger: The double triggers have a hinged front to give finger relief when the rear trigger is being fired with heavy loads. It is not standard and an extra to be ordered suggesting the gun was intended to be shot and so it should.

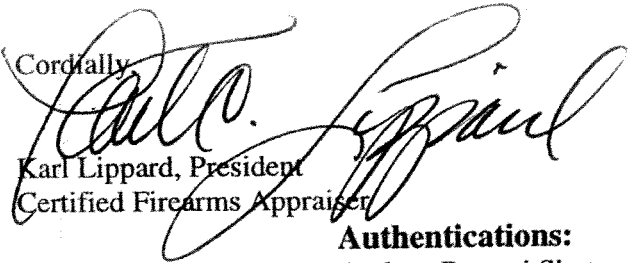
Firmo Fracassi, the Master Engraver, was born 1939 in Tavernole, (Brescia) Italy. "Brescia" means the County or area proper. The majority of Gunmakers and engravers in Italy live and were born in the Brescia area which is the front door to Gardone, Valtrompia most known for the historical factories such as Beretta. Firmo's work can be seen today on many of the finest shotguns from the Brescia due in part to Mr. Joe Bojalad, a patron of the arts of engraving, who discovered him early and retained him exclusively for 10 years. That relationship ended with the "Birds of Prey". In fact engraving today would not have reached prominence had Mr. Bojalad not provided the commissions on which Fracassi and others had the opportunity to advance their skill. Mr. Fracassi's work on other firearms can be seen in many books but more importantly the Great Works seen in "Modern Firearms Engraving". Here one can find numerous works I represent today valued in the half million dollar range which I use for comparison in this and many such appraisals of his work.

The **subject shotgun** is conventional in design following the Holland & Holland designs internally. It was crafted by **Remo Salvinelli**, a partner to the late Mario Abbiatico and owners of **Abbiatico & Salvinelli** firm. Today Mr. Salvinelli is retired. The shotgun I believe it was commissioned made by Mr. Joe Bojalad.

Therefore having considered the subject firearm, its condition and the retail market as of this date, **I represent the value to be \$245,000.00.**

The amount is base on recent sales in the International market and not in the United States. Today it is unlikely the gun or the engraving can be replaced. Firmo Fracassi has reached the end of his career at 69 and much of his work is now take by his daughter Francesca. While he is not retired, reaching the level of rendition is unlikely with bookings taking the remainder of his lifetime. The gun IS a Master Work and very rare. And I would point out that to HAVE a representative piece of Fracassi's work in itself is rare. Most exceed this value and do reach upwards of a million dollars. The value is expected to rise quickly now as the makers career has ended and so few pieces remain to be acquired.

Cordially,


Karl Lippard, President
Certified Firearms Appraiser

Authentications:

Author: Perazzi Shotguns and Fabbri Shotguns
Former Vice President, Manafattura Armi Perazzi
Former General Manager, Perazzi USA, Inc.
Former Vice President, Renato Gamba
Managing Director, Joseph Brazier, Ltd.
Chief Design Engineer, John Wilkes Gunmakers, Ltd.
President, Karl Lippard Designs, Master Gunmaker.

EXECUTIVE CORNER

We're proud to bring back our Executive Corner. Our regular readers may recall it all started two years ago, featuring many exotic and unusual items for those with a taste for the finest. That year we started off with a \$35,000 engraved and inlaid shotgun by Lancini (which we sold the first week the catalogs got out in the mail).

This year we've really outdone ourselves, with four engraved shotguns and a variety of distinctive, elegant products for the sportsman who knows what he wants — and wants the finest!

1. LEATHER BUSH JACKET

We've taken the classic safari coat features — bi-swing back, four bellows pockets, and a leather sash belt — and had Spanish artisans hand-tailor them into this elegant jacket crafted from supple calfskin. The jacket is fully lined and has an inside breast pocket. The stitching, finish, and detail appointments (like the leather-covered buckle) all bear witness to the Pachmayr quality hallmark. Even sizes 38" to 50", specify when ordering. No. 60411R \$350.00



1

2



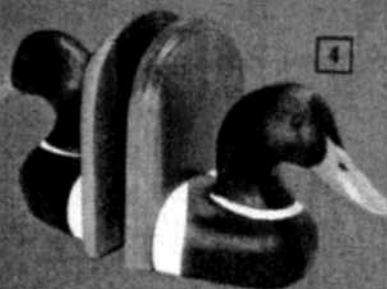
3

2. AUSTRALIAN MOLESKIN JEANS

These five-pocket jeans from Morrison's of Australia make the transition from saddle to cocktail party better than any other pants we've seen. Available in fawn (on model) or bone (inset). Fine Australian moleskin cotton gets better with wear; even sizes 28" to 44". Specify size when ordering. Unfinished inseams proportional to waist, from 32" to 35". Should be drycleaned or order one size larger to allow for shrinking. Bone, No. 61300 or Fawn, No. 61301 \$70.00

3. MATCHED DUCK & GOOSE CALLS

Iverson calls are known for their true tones and resonance. Hand made from select rosewood, all three calls (goose, mallard duck, and pintail/widgeon) are tuned to provide the full range of calls — from clucks to highballs — at high or low volume. No. 90352 \$119.00



4

4. MALLARD BOOKENDS

These handsomely hand-painted mallards have weighted bottoms to keep your books in place. Frankly, there's nothing we like better for keeping our library in order (as seen on pages 20-23). No. JDR 02 \$60.00 pr.

24-HOUR TOLL FREE ORDERING

In cont'l U.S., except Utah,
call 1-800-635-7700;
in Utah 1-800-662-8666;
in Alaska 1-800-982-1500

For all the details on this elegant
bbiatico & Salcinelli side by side,
engraved by Fracassi, see pages 42-3.

1. ABBIATICO & SALVINELLI S/S 12 GAUGE, ENGRAVED BY FRACASSI

Among serious collectors of contemporary shotguns, "A & S" is a name not lightly dropped. Messrs. Abbiatico and Salvinelli are renowned the world over for the quality of their firearms. Little wonder that so many of their limited production are used as the metal upon which the world's finest

engravers are commissioned to do their greatest works.

Such is the case with this A & S, which we are pleased to offer for your examination.

The straight stock and splinter fore end are AAAAA European walnut, oil finished and hand checkered. The traditionally configured straight stock measures 1-3/8"

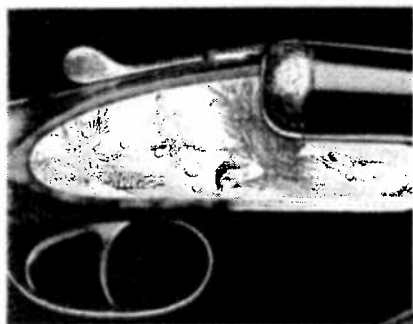
drop at comb, 2-1/8" drop at heel, cast-off 1/4", and 14-1/8" length of pull to the checkered butt. The blued steel 28" barrels are choked modified and full for proper field work.

Traditional double triggers and modern ejectors capture the essence of this fine gun — at once timeless and thoroughly modern. The raised center rib is hand checkered

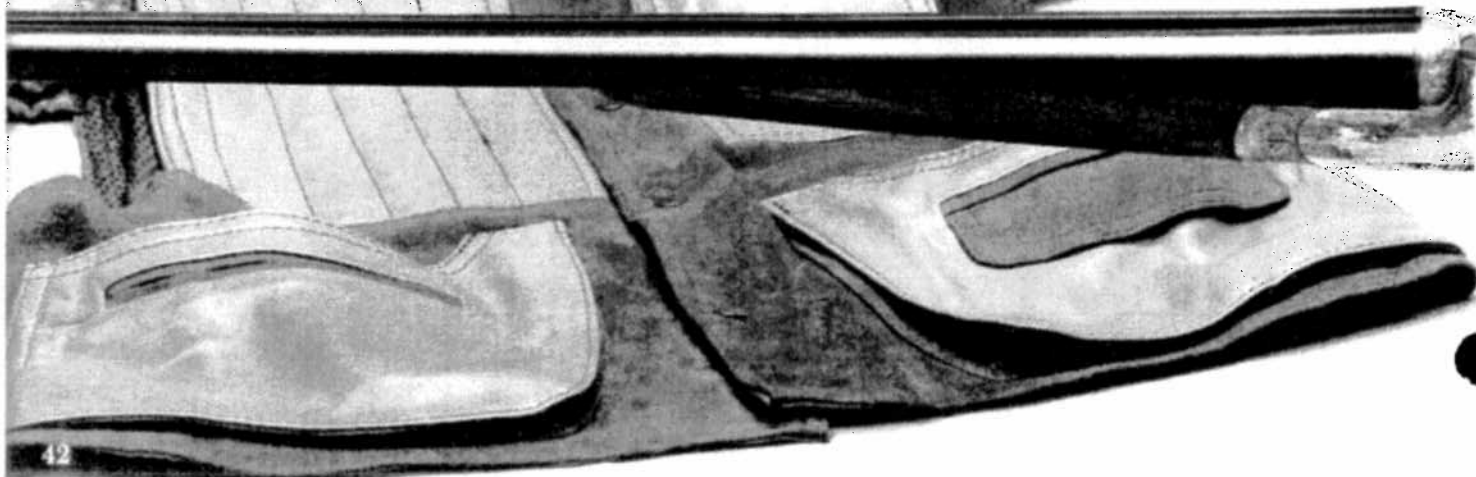
with a single ivory bead. The water table, standing breech, and all action surfaces are flawlessly finished.

The engraving by Fracassi goes beyond our poor supply of adjectives. The three Bulino game scenes are of such elegance and refinement, they challenge

the finest engraved guns we've ever seen. All three game scenes are remarkably understated, executed beautifully without the use of gold inlays or scroll floral



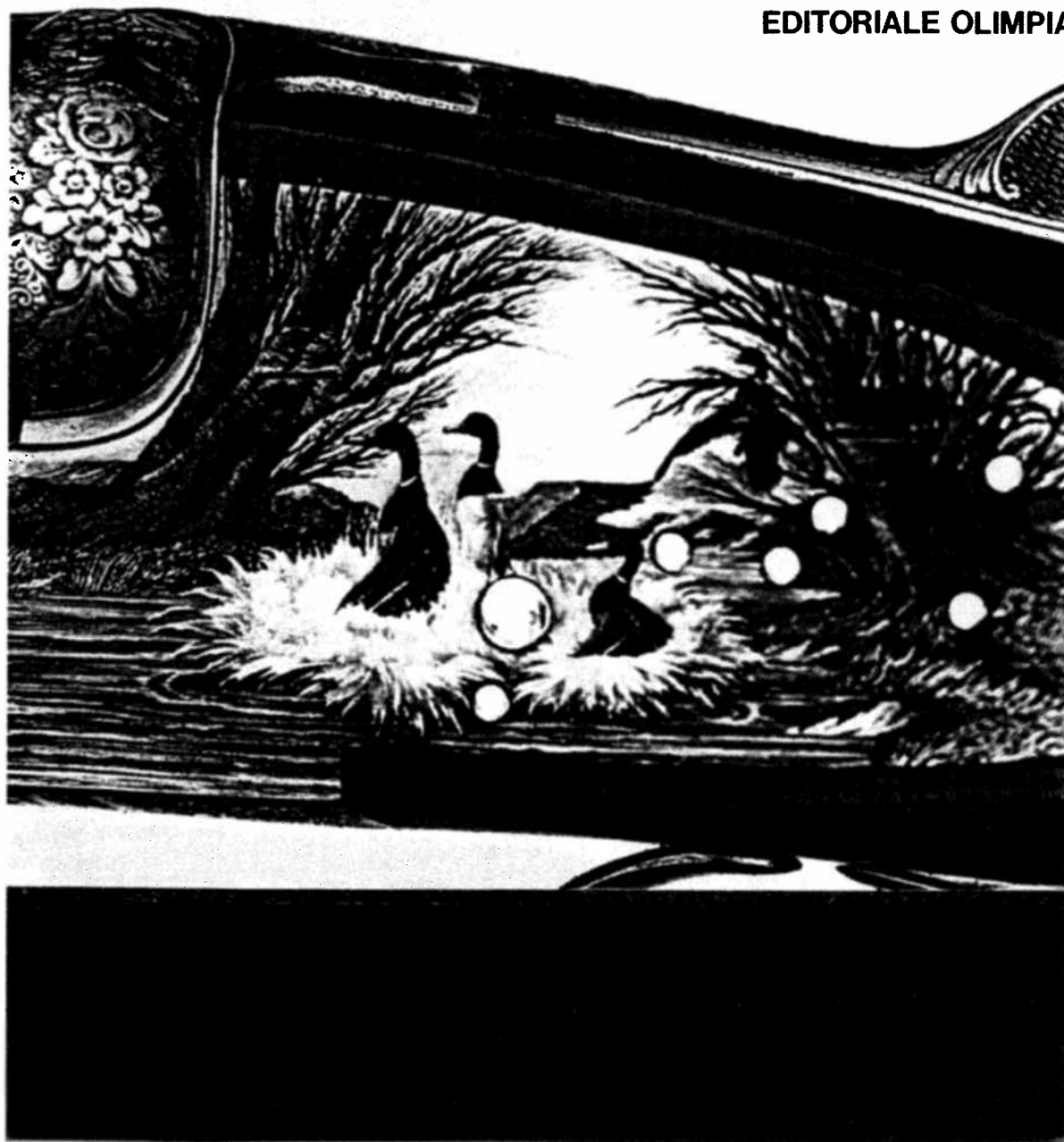
2



MARIO ABBIATICO · GIANOBERTO LUPI · FRANCO VACCARI

GRANDI INCISIONI SU ARMI D'OGGI

EDITORIALE OLIMPIA



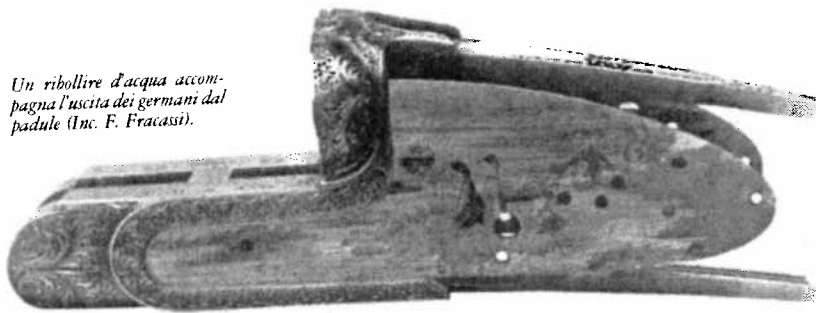
deltà dell'ambiente montano che fanno da naturale cornice ai protagonisti della scena, oltre ad esaltarli ulteriormente, si manifestano come il necessario complemento dell'esimia opera d'arte.

Germani sul padule

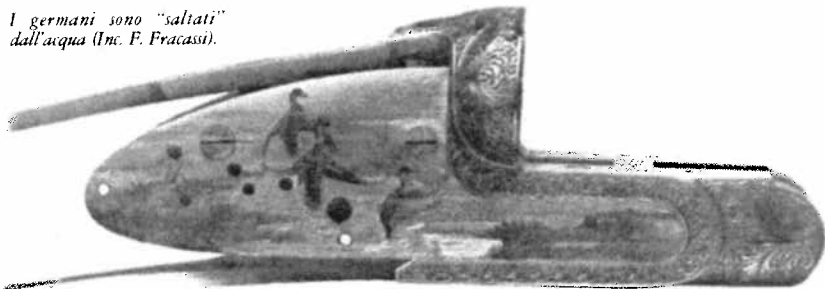
È indubbio come su un fucile d'alta classe una bella incisione contribuisca ad impreziosirlo; basta osservare la sequenza delle tre scene illustrate qui di seguito per esserne convinti.

Padule e germani è il motivo illustrato sull'arma: una caccia grande, una caccia d'amatore. Sulla prima cartella, quella sinistra, ecco il branchetto di germani alzarsi rumorosamente dal padule: sono maschi e femmine che, terminata la pastura, riprendono la migrazione attraverso le infinite rotte del cielo. E la massa dei becchi piatti sembra riempire tutta la scena; il padule è ancora immerso nelle ultime ombre della notte invernale,

Un ribollire d'acqua accompagna l'uscita dei germani dal padule (Inc. F. Fracassi).



I germani sono "saltati" dall'acqua (Inc. F. Fracassi).



le, anche se, lontano già spunta un'alba gelida e, tuttavia, splendida come la conoscono e l'amano gli appassionati di questa affascinante caccia.

La cartella destra ci offre gli stessi germani oramai "saltati" dall'acqua ed in procinto della virata per prendere l'aria, come suol dirsi, e, quindi, la migrazione. Stesso padule, stesso contrasto di ombre tra i falaschi della riva e della scarsa alberatura, uguali i riflessi del cielo gelido sull'acqua gonfia illuminata fiocamente, come le montagne lontane, da un leggero bagliore di luce. La schiena della bascula, poi, corona il capolavoro: i selvatici hanno decisamente preso quota e sorvolano per l'ultima volta il padule, puntando verso la meta. Ammiriamo assieme le anatre, gustiamone i colori delle penne nel contrasto lunare del cielo, osserviamo la potenza delle ali del germano più vicino, i colli protesi nel volo, la potenza della battuta alare, la finezza e la realtà della flora e della vegetazione sottostante, l'albero privo di foglie, dalle radici tuffate nell'acqua del padule: un'incisione, insomma, che non ha bisogno di alcun commento, un



Presa quota, gli anatidi sorvolano per l'ultima volta il padule. Evidente la sequenza logica delle tre scene (Inc. F. Fracassi).

