

## Catellis vaginae

This is my version of Catellis vaginae. There are many replicas as variants of this subject of Roman military fashion. I have seen over 6 different replicas produced by colleagues. In my version, I have tried to get closer to the museum exhibit from London. There are several interesting exhibits from other museums. Of course I did not make an exact copy of this subject. This is not my goal. This is a replica I made as my creative vision of that of London Museum. In my opinion, the image from the original is Emperor Oton. At least it looks like him. But it may be an image of Apollo or another Roman god. This is a question of assumptions.



This is my new model from Mainz. The subject is very interesting but I have very limited information about it. The publications are in several books and the pictures are of poor quality. But I tried to make a good replica for reenacting needs.



Due to the specifics of the Mainz Catellis vaginae model I made several changes. Although all models are similar, they also have differences and specificities which differentiate them from each other.

The shape of the two half moons are differs as well as the springs. This is an objects that was most probably fashionable in the antiquity among the legionnaires. Due to its value, which in antiquity was not low, this was the subject of showing the status of the Roman warrior. It is used mainly for the decoration of the scabbard of the Roman gladii. But they were certainly used to decorate and other objects.



My creative wax work on the topic. Here we can see that the ear below is larger than this one from the British Museum. Also, there is no ring for the chain on the top. The fastening is constructed in another way.



Together with the back side of the Catellis vaginae.



My wax work on the topic. I have here depicted Augustus and Emperor Oton. In principle, I can portray other Roman emperors or Roman deities. Like the other members of the August family or the popular Flavius dynasty. My work is creative as I try to stick to the originals.



My creative project Catellis vaginae from The British Museum and Mainz already in action at the event in Budapest Aquincum. Here can be seen that I have decorated 3 different gladii scabbard in our military order with my Catellis vaginae model.



This is the new Pompeii sword with us. Decorated with my newest model Catellis vaginae, with 2 different hangers Mainz model with an image of the Divine Augustus, and a combination of several imperial buttons (straps studs).



Although the archeology with which I'm familiar is about bronze patterns there is an ancient text that mentions silver *Catellis vaginae*. Pliny the Elder expresses himself on the sword *Catellis vaginae* on chains. Because he was commander of the fleet and he has met with this jewelry daily. So he was not very enthusiastic about it and complains about the strumming and the strange fashion of hanging silver pendants on chains on the *gladii scabbard*. That's why I made some silver-plated models.

