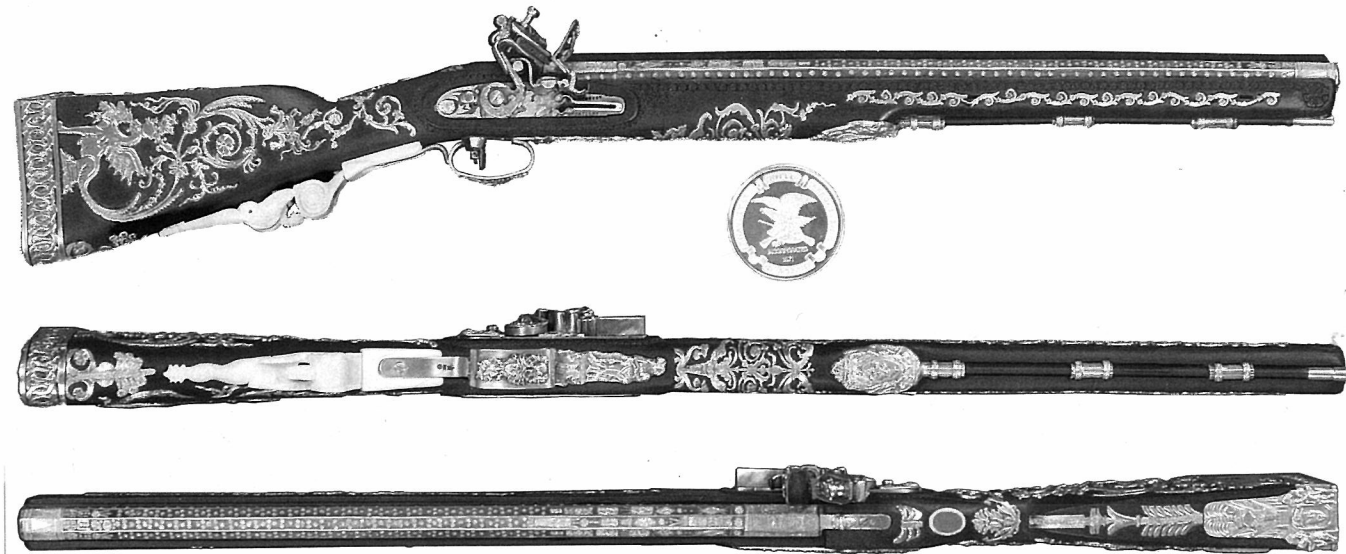


From Bogota, Colombia, Antonio Rincon presents,  
**A 1/3 Scale Gold Mounted  
 Carbine, Boutet Desing, in Honor of  
 My Friend Ralph Koebbeman.**

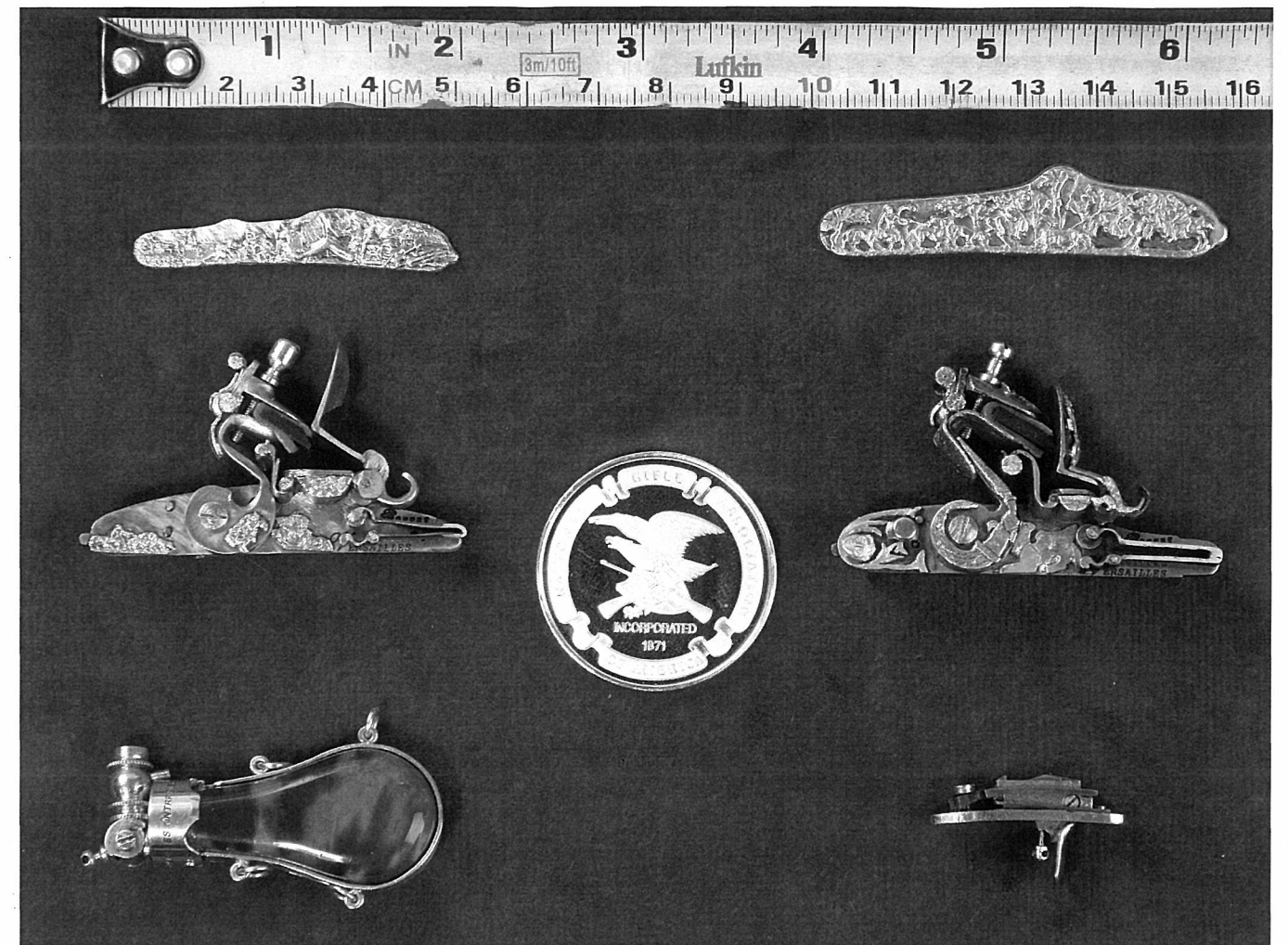


This carbine was exhibited in the NRA show held in saint Louis Missouri, April 13 – 15 2007 and will be auctioned at Greg Martin Auctions of New York and San Francisco. It was totally hand made by Antonio Rincón using the finest gold, ivory, silver, ebony, tortoise shell and silk filament velvet cloth materials.

The over-all-length is 15 inches, with a 9 inch octagonal hooked-breech barrel, poly-groove rifled to approximately .18 caliber, and stippled to a fine granular ground along the entire length. It is decorated at the breech with an elaborate damascened panel of engraved gold-work depicting panoplies-of-arms, crossed canons and flags, classical motifs of Grecian-styled urns ushering forth clouds of incense, and Masonic symbols of flaming orbs. It is struck six times with the cartouches of Nicolás Boutet, Jean Le Clerc, and

BC (unknown), LC B  
 LC NB BOUTET BC  
 At the muzzle are two gold panel-sections connected by an orderly array (*semée*) of 398 five-pointed gold stars, of one 32 of inch, and numbered on the right-most flat between two stars 216. The touch-hole is lined with a large oval panel of gold. The barrel is finished with a finely polished steel fore-sight and blade rear-sight, and has an engraved, polished-steel breech tang with high-relief gold-work. The lock-plate is polished-steel and inscribed: *Boutet a' Versailles*, with high-relief gold-work depicting sphinx and classical faces. The pan has gold drapery, and the lock set a swan-necked cock with gold high-relief putti carrying a smoking torch. There is a screw-adjustable set-trigger. The gold counter-plate depicts a medieval boar hunt with three mounted riders and one

man on foot thrusting boar-spears into the defeated boar while attendants hold hunting dogs off to the side. The stock is carved from Zaire, Ebony with molded borders, foliate flourishes and intricate scrolls. It is extensively inlaid with engraved gold panels. The butt stock has complicated panels depicting a mythological bare-breasted sphinx *dexter sejant issuing* forth fire and smoke, and surmounted by a flaming orb, within a surround of gold-work panels forming delicate scrolls, meandering foliage and decorative embellishments. A gold escutcheon plate at the wrist is set within a frame of carved ebony. The pistol-grip is formed as an elaborate carved ivory female dragon-form (wyvern or sea-serpent) beast breathing fire over a scroll which forms the base for the trigger guard strap. A cheek-piece carved with high-relief scrolls is surrounded



by an intricately carved doughnut-shaped insert of ebony at its terminus and embellished with finely carved rope and floral molded borders. A gilt-silver butt plate is decorated with a Medusa Head, Classical Armor, Small Dragons and Foliate motifs, and is struck three times with silver-maker's hallmarks. It is set off by an elaborate brocade of pierced gold concentric circles. The butt plate mounting screws are polished and engraved.

The solid gold trigger guard, is struck with maker's hall marks and the rear-strap is decorated with the Medusa Head at bow, a pair of pseudo-ancient Egyptian dogs'

heads at the juncture of the bow and strap lead to a figure of the goddess Diana, who with her bow and hunting dog completes the trigger guard fore-strap. The gold fore-end cap is decorated with a fox with its paw caught in a trap (after paintings by **Jean-Baptiste Oudry**, 1686-1755). The oval medallion-form held within an eagle's upswept wings form the frame for that panel.

*Above: Parts shown actual size. At the bottom of the picture we can see the powder flask, and set-screw trigger.*

*Below the left side of the Boutet.*

