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Asia Concinnata Secundum Observationes Academiae Regalis Scientiarum . . .

Stock#: 67942
Map Maker: Lotter
Date: 1770
Place: Augsburg
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 22.5 x 17.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Striking Eighteenth-Century Map of Asia

Fine example of Tobias Conrad Lotter's large format map of Asia, based on the cartography of the pre-eminent French cartographer of the eighteenth-century, Guillaume de L'Isle.

The map embraces the whole of Asia, from the Arabian Peninsula to the East Indies and the tip of New Guinea and Australia. The north of Europe and Tartary are recognizably delineated but farther east has unfinished coastlines for Nova Zembla. To the northeast is no coastline; Eastern Siberia is an enigma.

The interior is remarkably detailed, with political divisions shown with dotted lines, cities large and small are marked, as are rivers and mountains. In the upper left corner is a decorative cartouche; the ornate frame gives way to mountains and a grand parade of elegant, turbaned men on camels. Below this are a series of scales in their own frame, and in the lower left corner is a note explaining the ongoing geographical work on the part of the author.

Japan is separated from the mainland by a narrow strait. Instead of Hokkaido, there is a peninsula identified as *Terra Yeco*. Korea is a peninsula to the west. In the Pacific are the fictional *Terre de la Compagnie* and *I. Staats*.

There remains plenty of space for a Northwest or a Northeast Passage, the most-hoped for geographic chimera of the early modern period. Indeed, there is a *Portus glacial* near Nova Zembla—an icy doorway, perhaps around Asia and into the Pacific.



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Detailed Condition: