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**Asia Cum Omnibus Imperiis Provinciis Statibus et Insulis Iuxta Observationes
Recentissimas et Accuratissimas... [Asia, with all the empires, provinces, states, and
islands, according to the most recent and accurate observations...]**

Stock#: 95548
Map Maker: Seutter

Date: 1730
Place: Augsburg
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 23 x 19.5 inches

Price: \$ 575.00



Description:

Titled *Asia cum omnibus Imperiis, Provinciis Statibus et Insulis*, this 1730 map by Matthaeus Seutter from Augsburg offers a richly detailed view of Asia, including an incomplete portrayal of Australia and speculative regions north of Japan. Noted for their artistry, Seutter's maps are highly coveted from the period, and this particular rendering stands as an exceptional representation of both geographical knowledge and cartographic skill of its time.

Situated within the era of exploration and colonial expansion, the map embodies European efforts to chart and understand the vast continent of Asia, its adjoining islands, and beyond. The inclusion of speculative regions and inaccurately depicted territories, such as "Terra Yedso" and the vicinity of the present-day Bering Strait, reflects the limitations and misconceptions of geographical knowledge during this period. The reference to "Comapgnie Land" and the voyage of Don Jean de Gama adds to the historical intrigue, providing insight into the exploratory endeavors that shaped European understanding of the East.

The map's details, captured through Seutter's renowned engraving technique, offer not only geographical information but also cultural and socio-political insights. The elaborately-engraved cartouche in the upper right corner addresses the reader in Latin, commenting on the wondrous yet woeful condition of the inhabitants of Asia. This commentary, intertwined with references to gemstones, silk, gold, and silver, paints a vivid picture of a land rich in material goods but described as lacking in spiritual wealth. This perspective sheds light on the cultural biases and aspirations that influenced European engagement with



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Asia during the early 18th century.

In terms of artistic and historical significance, *Asia cum omnibus Imperiis, Provinciis Statibus et Insulis* serves as a masterful example of cartography from an era marked by curiosity, exploration, and often-misguided understanding. The map's combination of geographical depiction, speculative content, artistic embellishment, and socio-cultural commentary makes it an invaluable artifact. It stands not only as a representation of Asia as perceived in the 18th century but also as a complex document reflecting broader themes of exploration, colonization, commerce, and cultural interaction.

Detailed Condition:

Original hand-color. Early ink manuscript in the upper left corner. Some marginal staining.