

Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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Chart of the East India Islands, Exhibiting the several Passages between the Indian and Pacific Oceans; Inscribed to the Commanders and Officers of the British Ships Navigating those Seas, By A. Arrowsmith.

Stock#: 34420 Map Maker: Arrowsmith

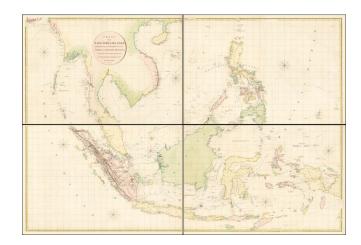
Date: 1812 Place: London

Color: Hand Colored

Condition: VG+

Size: 75.5×52.5 inches (if joined)

Price: SOLD



Description:

Finely colored example of Aaron Arrowsmith's rare 4-sheet map of the East Indies, with additions to 1812.

The map shows the coasts of Burma, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Philippines and West Papua. Depth shown by bathymetric soundings.

Title set at upper left sheet, with a graticuled border, grid at one degree intervals, numerous coastal soundings, wind directions, and shoals indicated. The map includes details of the best clipper routes to China at various months of the year, as well as the tre routes of various English navigators, including Cook.

An impressive four sheet chart of the navigation routes through the southeast Asian archipelago to China and the Philippines. Arrowsmith was a very inventive and accurate mapmaker. This wallm ap may have been commissioned specifically for an Asian trading company and was certainly aimed at English captains and companies trading to China and southeast Asia.

The detail on depth soundings, winds, obstructions and general accuracy is a trademark of Arrowsmith's fine work. Arrowsmith moved to London in 1770 and was employed by both Faden and John Cary. In 1790, he set up on his own and made his reputation with his 8 sheet world map on Mercator's projection, 1790. It was not until the end of the 19th century that the Hydrographical office of the Royal Navy sent its surveying ships *Sulphur*, *Samarang*, *Herald* and others to the region that accurate nautical charts became available.



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This is one of Arrowsmith rarest charts. We note one example of the 1824 edition in a dealer catalog (Shapero, 2004, Item 219) and one example of the 1809 edition (Manasek, 1992, Item 25). We also note that Christies offered a copy of the 1812 edition of the chart in their July 15, 2005 Travel Sale (Lot 65).

Detailed Condition:

4 sheets, unjoined.