



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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[Rare Atlas of Asia with 3 rare Jesuit maps of China] L'Asie, en plusieurs cartes nouvelles et exactes . . .

Stock#: 52605
Map Maker: Mariette & Sanson & Sanson fils
Date: 1670 circa
Place: Paris
Color: Outline Color
Condition: VG
Size: 8 x 5.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Extremely Rare Edition of the Sanson Atlas of Asia, with the Highly Desirable Set of Three Maps of China

Nice example of this rare extra illustrated edition of Sanson's Atlas of Asia, which includes 3 very rare Jesuit maps of China, representing the work of three of the most famous Jesuits to have created maps of China up to date.

The atlas includes 19 double page engraved maps, each in original outline color. First issued in 1656 with a set of 17 maps, this rare variant edition incorporates 3 very rare Jesuit Maps of China which were first issued in 1670 by Sanson. The 3 maps of China, each based upon the works of Jesuit Missionaries who created manuscript maps of China, replace the standard Sanson map of China. The 3 maps are as follows:

Bouyn (Michal Piotr Boym): {{ [inventory_detail_link\('52605a'\)](#) }}

Michal Piotr Boym (1612-1659), was a Polish Jesuit missionary. Boym was one of the first westerners to travel within the Chinese mainland, and the author of numerous works on Asian fauna, flora and geography. During his return trip to Europe he prepared a large collection of maps of mainland China and South-East Asia. The merit of Boym's maps was that they were the first European maps to properly represent Korea as a peninsula, rather than an island. They also took notice of the correct positions of many Chinese cities previously unknown to the westerners or known only by the semi-fabulous descriptions of Marco Polo. Boym also marked the Great Wall and the Gobi Desert. Although the collection was not published during Boym's lifetime, it extended the knowledge of China in the west.

Martin (Martino Martini): {{ [inventory_detail_link\('52605b'\)](#) }}



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Martino Martini (1614-1661) was an Italian Jesuit Missionary, who traveled to China in 1640. His most important work was his *Novus Atlas Sinensis*, the first Chinese Atlas published in the Western World. It is one of the first true Sino-European publications, based on Chinese land surveys but presenting geographic data in a highly visual European cartographic format.

Ruggieri (Michel Ruggieri): {{ [inventory_detail_link\('52605c'\)](#) }}

Michele Ruggieri (1543-1607) was an Italian Jesuit priest and one of the founders of the Jesuit Missions in China, along with Matteo Ricci, among others. Ruggieri is credited with one of the first collections of handwritten maps of China, translated into Latin from Chinese sources (atlases and maps), dating back to 1606, or nearly fifty years before the manuscript maps of the Polish Jesuit Michael Boym and the *Novus Atlas Sinensis* of Martino Martini. The manuscript is now preserved in the State Archives of Rome.

The atlas is extremely rare. We are not aware of any other examples of the atlas which have appeared on the market with the 3 Jesuit maps.

Detailed Condition:

4to, contemporary full calf (moderate wear, upper right corner of front cover damaged and somewhat crudely recolored, head and foot of spine damaged), spine in six compartments separated by raised bands, lettered "LASIE" in the second. 19 double page engraved maps, each in old outline hand-color.