



Ortelius's landmark map of China

ORTELIUS, Abraham.

Chinae, olim Sinarum regionis, nova descriptio. auctore Ludovicio Georgio.

Antwerp, 1608-12, Italian text edition. Original colour. 370 x 470mm.

£4,500

The most decorative map of China. Oriented with north to the right, there are cartouches for the title, scale and privilege; on the map are elephants, Tartar tents and land-yachts. Japan has an extra landmass to the east, with its further reaches hidden by the scale cartouche. The Philippines appear, but with little accuracy or detail; they were not even named until the second state (c.1588).

WALTER: 11f, illus; VAN DEN BROECKE: 164, state 3 of 3, with the Philippines named and some extra strengthening of the engraving.

Stock ID :15820