



A reconstruction of the aviary of Marcus Terentius Varro

BRAMBILLA, Ambrogio.

Ornithon sive Aviarium M Varronis Pyrro Ligorio neap inv.

Rome: Hendrik van Schoel, 1607. 480 x 365mm.

£850

The famed aviary of Marcus Terentius Varro (116 - 27 BC) in Casinum (Cassino), drawn by Brambilla after a reconstruction by Pirro Ligorio (c.1510-83). Built in 64 BC, the 'ornithon' was looted by the army of Mark Antony in 47BC. This plate was first published by Duchetti in 1581, after taking over the publication of Salamanca's 'Speculum Romanæ Magnificentiæ' after the death of his uncle, Antonio Lafreri, in 1577. Later Hendrik van Schoel (c.1565-1622) of Antwerp bought a number of Duchetti's plates for re-issue in a business in Rome.

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