



Ortelius's landmark map of China

ORTELIUS, Abraham.

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

Antwerp, 1609-12, Latin text edition. 370 x 470mm.

£3,000

A fine example of 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, described as "the most accurate one of China" to be published.

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