



A fine prospect of Jacobean London

MERIAN, Mattheus.
 London.

Frankfurt, c.1650. Coloured. Two sheets conjoined, total 220 x 700mm.

£4,000

One of the earliest views of London, showing the City during the reign of James I, based on Visscher's engraving published in 1616, with a 43-point key underneath. It shows London fifty years before the Great Fire of London of 1666, showing from the King's Palace at Whitehall to the Tower of London and St Katherine's Church in the East. London Bridge still has buildings across it, and the heads of criminals on stakes decorate the bridge's southern gate. The Globe (Shakespeare's theatre) and the bull-baiting ring can be seen in Southwark. This engraving is one of the few prospects of London published before the Great Fire available to the collector.

HOWGEGO: p.7.

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