



A prospect of Jerusalem in the 17th century by a professional artist

BRUYN, Cornelis de.  
 Jerusalem.

Paris: Guillaume Cavelier, 1714. Two sheets conjoined, total 305 x 1235mm.

£2,200

A spectacular prospect of Jerusalem taken from the Mount of Olives. As the making of 'graven images' was prohibited by the Ottomans, de Bruyn drew this prospect by pretending to be picnicking with two Franciscan monks. In 1675 the Dutch painter Cornelis de Bruyn (1652-1727) set out from Livorno on a journey through the Levant, visiting Jerusalem, Constantinople, Egypt, Greece and Cyprus, returning in 1684. His account was first published in Dutch in 1698 as 'Reizen van Cornelis de Bruyn... door Klein Asia... van Aegypten, Syrien en Palestina'. This example comes from a French edition, 'Voyage au Levant, c'est-à-dire, dans les principaux endroits de l'Asie Mineure, dans les isles de Chio, Rhodes, & Chypre &c'. On a second tour de Bruyn visited Russia, from where he travelled south to Persia then east to Java.

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