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2825

A LOUIS XVI ENGRAVING DEPICTING THE ENCAMPMENT OF THE KHAN

AFTER JEAN DAMASCENE, CIRCA 1775

**Price Realized** (Set Currency)

€2,500

(\$3,523)

Price includes buyer's premium

Estimate

€1,000 - €2,000

(\$1,412 - \$2,823)

Sale Information

Sale 2825

Including The J.w.n. Van

Achterbergh Collection and Fine

Paintings

30 June - 1 July 2009

Amsterdam

[ENLARGE & ZOOM](#)[CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT](#)**Lot Description**

A LOUIS XVI ENGRAVING DEPICTING THE ENCAMPMENT OF THE KHAN

AFTER JEAN DAMASCENE, CIRCA 1775

Depicting the scene 'The Khan of Badakhshan Asks to Surrender' (Le Khan de Badakhshan Demande a Se Soumettre), drawn by Damascene; engraved by Choffard; framed and glazed, unexamined out of frame
53 x 91.5 cm. (plate)

Special Notice

This lot is offered without reserve.

Christie's charges a premium to the buyer on the Hammer Price of each lot sold at the following rates: 29.75% of the Hammer Price of each lot up to and including €20,000, plus 23.8% of the Hammer Price between €20,001 and €800,000, plus 14.28% of any amount in excess of €800,000. Buyer's premium is calculated on the basis of each lot individually.

Saleroom Notice

Please note this lot will be offered without reserve. This lot will be sold to the highest bidder regardless of the pre-sale estimate printed in the catalogue.

Lot Notes

Originally part of a series of sixteen engravings depicting the military achievements of Emperor Qianlong in Central Asia (1755-1759). The Emperor Qianlong commissioned the original set of sixteen engravings of his conquests on 13 July 1765 for the central hall of the Palace in Beijing.

A closely related set of thirteen engravings was sold Sotheby's, New York, 22 March 1995, lot 339 (\$118,000 including premium) and a set of eleven was sold Christie's King Street, Four British Collections Including Important Furniture sale 7592, 5 June 2008, lot 170 (GPB 82.850 including premium)

Emperor Qianlong is recorded to have said: 'I wish the sixteen prints of the victories that I won in the conquest of the kingdom of Chumgar and the neighbouring Mahomedan countries, which I had painted by Lamxinim [Castiglione] and the other European painters who are in my service in the city of Peking, to be sent to Europe where the best artists in copper shall be chosen so that they may render each of these prints perfectly in all its parts on plates of copper'. The drawings were prepared in China by four Jesuits: Giuseppe Castiglione, the director of the project, Jean-Denis Attiret, Ignatius Sichelbarth and Jean Damascene. By recommendation of Louis-Joseph Le Febvre, head of the French Jesuit mission to China, they were sent to Paris, where the engravings were executed by eight artists under the direction of Charles-Nicolas Cochin of the Académie Royale at the Court of Louis XVI. Jean-Philippe Le Bas, Helman's master, was one of the engravers. This commission was considered of utmost importance, as it potentially offered France means of leaving a favorable impression on the Emperor and thus gaining advantage in view of commerce and missioning, directed against the Dutch, Portuguese and English. The Emperor's commission was for an edition of one hundred copies only; however, to ensure the safe receipt of at least one hundred copies in China, an edition of 200 copies was actually printed. To reduce the risk of loss at sea they were distributed over two ships in lots of 100 impressions each. The entire edition was received in China by 1775 for which the Compagnie Francaise des Indes in Canton was paid the sum of 240,000 pounds. Only a very limited number of extra copies were printed for the French King, his ministers and some members of the Court and the greatest precaution was taken that no copies remained with the engravers or printers to ensure its exclusivity.

The engravings are documented in a monograph by Michle Pirazzoli-T'Serstevens, *Gravures des Conquetes de l'Empereur de Chine K'ien-Long au Muse Guimet*, Paris 1969. A closely related set of thirteen engravings was sold anonymously, Sotheby's, New York, 22 March 1995, lot 339 (\$ 118,000 including premium) and a set of eleven was sold Christie's King Street, Four British Collections Including Important Furniture, sale 7592, 5 June 2008, lot 170 (GPB 82.850 including premium)

Department Information

European Furniture, Decorative Objects & Early Sculpture

Keywords

18th Century

Books & Manuscripts

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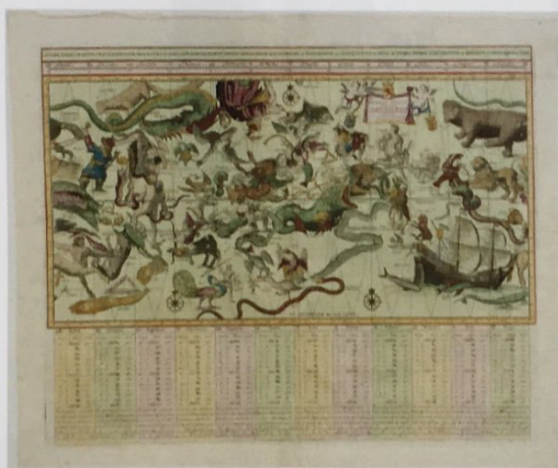
Asia



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•117

MARTIN, ROBERT, 'A VIEW OF LONDON BRIDGE IN THE YEAR 1647'
CIRCA 1832; FROM AN ENGRAVING BY HOLLAR

Handcoloured lithograph, *LITHOGRAPHED BY ROBERT MARTIN*,
124 HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON 1832; framed; unexamined out of
frame

49 x 23.5 cm. (plate)

NO RESERVE

€1,000–1,500

US\$1,400–2,000

•118

A PAIR OF CELESTIAL MAPS 'NOORDER-HEMEL-KLOOT' AND 'ZUIDER-HEMEL-KLOOT'

FRENCH OR DUTCH, 18TH CENTURY

Inscribed in French and Dutch

Each 28 x 28 cm. (plates)

(2)

NO RESERVE

€700–900

US\$960–1,200

•119

ELWE, JAN BAREND 'STERRE-KAERT OF HEMELS PLEYN'

AMSTERDAM, LATE 18TH/EARLY 19TH CENTURY

*Door dit HEMELS PLEYN wert vertoont den geheelen loop des Hemels der
vaste sterren met haer beeltenisse...*

47.5 x 59.5 cm. (plate)

NO RESERVE

€800–1,200

US\$1,100–1,600

•120

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KHAN**

AFTER JEAN DAMASCENE, CIRCA 1775

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de Badakhshan Demande a Se Soumettre*), drawn by Damascene; engraved
by Choffard; framed and glazed, unexamined out of frame

53 x 91.5 cm. (plate)

NO RESERVE

€1,000–2,000

US\$1,400–2,700

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achievements of Emperor Qianlong in Central Asia (1755–1759). The
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Furniture sale 7592, 5 June 2008, lot 170 (GPB 82,850 including premium)

Visit www.christies.com for additional information on this lot

AMSTERDAM

THE DECORATIVE ARTS SALE

INCLUDING THE J. W. N. VAN ACHTERBERGH
COLLECTION AND FINE PAINTINGS

*Tuesday 30 June and
Wednesday 1 July 2009*

A photograph of a Dutch landscape featuring a traditional windmill in the background, partially obscured by a line of trees and a small house. The foreground is filled with tall green grass and numerous small white flowers. In the lower-left foreground, a dark wood armchair with green patterned upholstery is positioned. The sky is overcast with grey clouds.

CHRISTIE'S