

Sotheby's

IMPORTANT CHINESE WORKS OF ART

224

PROPERTY FROM A PRIVATE AMERICAN COLLECTION

TWO COPPER-PLATE ENGRAVINGS OF EMPEROR QIANLONG'S CONQUEST DATED 1769

Estimate 20,000 — 40,000 [USD](#) ▼



DETAILS & CATALOGUING

TWO COPPER-PLATE ENGRAVINGS OF EMPEROR QIANLONG'S CONQUEST DATED 1769

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the first depicting the surrender of the Ili, from a drawing by Jonatius Sichelbarth, engraved by B.L. Prevost under the direction of C.N. Cochin, the lower edge inscribed P. Jonatius Sichelbarth Soc. JESU delin. 1765, C.N. Cochin direx. and B.L. Prevost Sculpsit 1769; the second depicting the battle of Oroï-Jalatu where the enemy camp is destroyed, from a drawing by Joseph Castilhoni, engraved by J. Ph. Le Bas under the direction of C.N. Cochin, the lower edge inscribed Joseph Castilhoni Soc. JESU delin 1765, C.N. Cochin direx. and J. Ph. Le Bas Scul 1769; each lightly tinted, framed and glazed; **together with** a catalogue in French from the Musée Guimet titled Gravures des Conquetes de l'Empereur de Chine K'ien-Long au Musée Guimet, Paris, 1969 (3) Height 20 1/4 in., 51.4 cm; Width 35 1/4 in., 89.5 cm

IMPORTANT CHINESE WORKS OF ART

17 MARCH 2015 - 18 MARCH 2015 |
2:00 PM EDT
NEW YORK

PROVENANCE

Paul Seidenberg, New York.

CATALOGUE NOTE

After seeing battle prints by the German painter Rugendas (1666-1742), the Qianlong emperor was inspired to celebrate his own victories by having them commemorated in prints. He commissioned the original set of sixteen engravings of his conquests on 13th July 1765 for the central hall of the Palace of Beijing. The drawings were prepared in China by Jesuit missionaries and sent to France, where the engravings were executed in Paris by eight artists under the direction of Charles-Nicolas Cochin of the Académie Royale at the Court of Louis XVI. The individual engravers included Le Bas, Aliamet, Prevost, Saint-Aubin, Masquelier, Choffard and De Launay.

The series is a remarkable fusion between a blend of European and Chinese aesthetics and European technique.

A set of twelve engravings that Qianlong commissioned to commemorate later victories were sold in our Hong Kong rooms, 27th April 2003, lot 35.

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**TWO COPPER-PLATE ENGRAVINGS OF EMPEROR QI
CONQUEST
DATED 1769****Estimate** 20,000 — 40,000 **USD** ▼ **LOT SOLD.** 42,500 USD