



THE FIRST WESTERN ATLAS OF CHINA

£29,000.00

Novus Atlas Sinensis. A Martino Martinio... Eerste Deel van't
Negende Stuck der Aerdycks Beashryving.

Cartographer [BLAEU, Johannes.](#)

Date 1655

Stock #: 20044

Publication: Amsterdam, 1655, Dutch edition. Folio; full
vellum; two coloured engr. titles with gold highlights, pp. [iv] + 212
+ 40 + xviii + [20]; 17 maps in excellent original colour.

Condition: A good example.

DESCRIPTION:

A very fine example of Blaeu's influential Atlas of China, the first Western atlas devoted to that country, with maps compiled by Father Martino Martini (1614-61), a Jesuit missionary. In the preface Martini claimed to have visited seven of the fifteen Chinese provinces, although he does not say which ones. His maps (a general map of China and Japan, 15 provinces and a more detailed map of Japan) were far in advance of any available in the West, and this atlas remained the standard geographical work on China until 1737, when D'Anville published his 'Atlas de la Chine'.