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The only known complete example of a 17th century prospect of Venice

DE ROSSI, Giovanni Domenico. Vero e Nuovo Disegno della Inclita Citta de Venetia.

Rome: Giovanni Domenico de' Rossi, c.1650. Two sheets conjoined, total 275 x 675mm, with wide margins.

£12,500

A possibly unique map of Venice presented as a bird's-eye view, with the buildings shown in profile and the lagoon filled with galleys (including the Bucentaur) and galleons. In the sky are the arms of the city and a a dedication to Andrea Tasca. The prospect was published by Giovanni Domenico de' Rossi (1619-53), older brother of the more famous Giovanni Giacomo de' Rossi (1627-91), who bought Giovanni Domenico's business after he died in 1653. It is rare: Gino Moretto, author of the best reference book of maps and prospects of Venice, could only find the right sheet only of a later state published by Giovanni Giacomo de' Rossi, which he dated to 1680-90 because he mistook Giovanni Domenico for Domenico de' Rossi, son of Giovanni Giacomo.

MORETTO: 103, right sheet only.

Stock ID: 24057