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*We are specialized in science, philosophy, natural history, and history of ideas in general, in the period from the 15th to the 20th century. Below are short-title descriptions of the books that we are showing at the Amsterdam International Antiquarian Book Fair, 2025. Full descriptions of all of our books are available. Please visit us in **BOOTH 20**. For a full view of our entire stock, please visit our web-site, www.lynge.com, where you will be able to search and browse more than 20,000 books.*

Amsterdam International Antiquarian Book Fair

September 27-28

Short-title List

-Full descriptions of all items are available upon request

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DUTCH SHIPBUILDING

(ALLARD, C.).

L'Art de Batir les Vaisseaux...

1719-18. First edition in French of Allard's famous classic on shipbuilding, finely illustrated with construction drawings and nautical instruments and equipment. The original Dutch edition, "Nieuwe Hollandse Scheepsbouw", was first published in 1695. Polak notes that, though known as 'L'Allard français', the French translation was more than a mere translation, being augmented with chapters by Witsen and van Eyk, and with plates representing vessels and nautical instruments as well as the flags of the maritime nations.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 3.000

THE EPITOME OF THE COBRA ART MOVEMENT

ASGER, JORN (red.).

Cobra Bibliotheket. 1. Serie: De Frie Kunstnere. (i.e. English: "The Cobra Library").

Copenhagen, 1950. Fine set of all 15 volumes in original lithographed wrappers, constituting one of the final collected works by the Cobra art group which dissolved in 1951. The Cobra art movement was a significant avant-garde art movement that emerged in the years immediately following World War II. The term "Cobra" is derived from the names of the three major cities involved: Copenhagen, Brussels, and Amsterdam. The Cobra movement is also known as CoBrA, with each letter representing one of the cities.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 1.600

"THE SHIP OF FEMALE FOOLS" - THE WARDINGTON-COPY

BADIUS, JODOCUS ASCENSIUS.

Stultiferae naviculae seu scaphe fatuarum multierum: circa sensus quinque exteriors fraude navigantium.

1502. Rare second edition - considered more attractive than the first, as it contains a short preface (on the verso of the title) by J. Wimpheling of Schlettstadt – of Badius' 'Ship of Female Fools', a supplementary work to Sebastian Brant's Ship of Fools, which Badius had translated into Latin. In his address to Marnef, the publisher of the original Latin edition of Brant's work (1500), Badius explains that this book, 'Ship of Female Fools', serves to fill a gap left by Brant - specifically, the omission of satirical chapters on the faults and follies of women. The work consists of six chapters written in both Latin verse and prose, accompanied by seven woodcut illustrations (including the one on the title-page) that closely follow the Parisian original. By attributing the origins of folly to women and depicting them as the driving force behind moral corruption, Badius underlines the prevailing theological and humanistic views that saw female nature as inherently dangerous and deceptive. 'Ship of Female Fools' serves as both a literary expansion of Narrenschiff and a fine testament documenting the anxieties and gendered biases of its time.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 33.500

EXCEEDINGLY SCARCE POST-INCUNABLE

BELTRAME DA FERRARA.

Libro devotissimo chiamato Spechio de prudentia.

Venice, 1505. Exceedingly scarce, beautifully printed post-incunable. This "Mirror of Prudence" by the hermit monk Beltrame da Ferrara was seemingly printed for the first time around 1490 (at least according to Gesamtkatalog der Wiegendrucke), but he have not been able to trace a single copy of that edition anywhere. It is not listed at all on OCLC and is seemingly not in any libraries anywhere. We have also not been able to find it sold at auction ever, and we have not found mention of it in any other bibliographies. The present edition printed in 1505 is of the utmost scarcity with only four copies in libraries worldwide and no other copy listed in auction records. We have also not been able to find it mentioned in any bibliographies (apart from Gesamtkatalog der Wiegendrucke - 03807). This moral work that teaches the importance of careful consideration, thoughtful planning, and the ability to learn from experience in order to make wise and ethical decisions in all aspects of life was written some time between late 14th century and ca. 1440, when Beltrame da Ferrara died. He was a monk in the congregation of San Piero in Pisa, and in 1404, he took over the leadership of the hermit convent of S. Felicitatis de Romano.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 5.500

SHAPING MARIAN DEVOTION - THE SCHÄFER-COPY

BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX.

Tractatus beati bernardi abbatis clareuallensis d laudibus beate marie vginis super euageliu Missus est angelus gabriel cetera.

(Between 1487 and 1489). Second - being the first illustrated - edition of Bernard of Clairvaux's seminal work on the Virgin Mary, her virtues, her role in salvation, and her theological significance. The work is structured as a commentary on the passage from the Gospel of Luke (1:26) where the angel Gabriel announces the Incarnation to Mary. Bernard was a productive writer on various aspects of the Bible and Christianity. As a devoted Mariologist, he emphasized Mary's central role in Christian theology and preached effectively on Marian devotions, making the present publication one of the most representative and influential of all his works. It was pivotal in shaping Medieval and Renaissance Marian devotion.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 20.000

EDITIO PRINCEPS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT IN ARABIC

[BIBLIA ARABICA].

[Arab text followed by Latin translation:] Evangelium Sanctum Domini nostri Iesu Christi conscriptum a quatuor Evangelistis sanctis, id est Matthaeo, Marco, Luca et Iohanne.

1590-(91). The scarce editio princeps - completely uncut and in interim wrappers - of the Arabic translation of the New Testament, magnificently printed in Granjon's famous font (considered the first satisfactory Arabic printing type, appearing here for the first time) and beautifully illustrated with 149 woodcut illustrations in the text. This splendid work is considered the first successful printing of Arabic. Two issues of the work were printed almost simultaneously, the Arabic-only text, which has the year 1590 on the title-page (and 1591 on the colophon), and the interlinear Arabic-Latin edition, which has 1591 on the title-page. The Arabic-only edition, with 1590 on the title-page, is generally considered the first. "Its first great Arabic publication was this edition of the Gospels, bearing the date 1590 on the title page, and 1591 at the end. Two versions appeared, one solely in Arabic and one with an interlinear Latin translation." (Library of Congress).

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 23.500

"THIS IS THE ATOM THAT BOHR BUILT"

(- BOHR, NIELS).

Journal of Jocular Physics. Volume III.

1955. One of the few original stenciled copies of the "Journal of Jocular Physics, Vol. III," the 1955-volume of the privately circulated amateur-comedy-journal that Bohr's students made on the occasions of Bohr's most important birthdays (beginning with his 50th in 1935), in this case his 70th. The "Journal" is an eclectic blend of funny and clever stories, songs, poems, aphorisms, humorous descriptions of recent developments in physics, etc., all written in an informal tone with the underlying subject being Bohr's birthday.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 1.600

FIRST DANISH "DON QUIXOTE"

CERVANTES SAAVEDRA, MIGUEL de.

Den Sindrige Herremands Don Quixote af Mancha, Levnet og Bedrifter.

Copenhagen, 1776-77. The rare first Danish translation of Cervantes' Don Quixote, illustrated with elegant Rococo-style engravings copied from the French folio edition of 1746. When the great Danish female translator Charlotte Dorothea Biehl approached the publisher Gyldendal to draw up a contract for the publication of her translation, she had already issued a prospectus and secured 350 subscribers. To honor this commitment, Biehl arranged to have 500 copies printed at her own initiative. Of these, Gyldendal agreed to take over the remaining 150 copies. In addition, Gyldendal was permitted to print a further 500 copies at its own expense, and the copperplates were transferred to the publisher. The present copy is one of the now extremely scarce 500 copies printed on thick paper, and includes both the subscriber's list and the Gyldendal title-page. The copy is uncut and in original boards (neatly rebacked).

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 2.700

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL SWEDISH BOOK OF THE 18TH CENTURY

[EHRENSVÄRD, CARL AUGUST].

Resa til Italien, 1780, 1781, 1782. Skrifven 1782 i Stralsund. Ny Upplaga.

Stockholm, 1819. A wonderful copy of the second illustrated (fourth overall) edition of what is considered the most beautiful Swedish book of the 18th century, which is exceedingly difficult to find in as excellent state as here, the first and second editions being equally fine.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 4.000

KUAN PAPER-MONEY FROM EARLY MING DYNASTY - THE EARLIEST OBTAINABLE COMMERCIAL PRINTING ON PAPER

[EMPEROR ZHU YUANZHANG (MING TAIZU)].

1 kuan note. 14th century Ming Dynasty banknote. Original cash value of a string of 1,000 copper coins, or 1 kuan [Kwan].

[China, Hung-wu era, Printed during the reign of the first Ming emperor, Emperor Zhu Yuanzhang (Ming Taizu) (1368-98)]. Uncirculated condition, and by far the best preserved specimen we have ever handled, of this Ming dynasty 1 kuan note - the earliest obtainable commercial printing on paper, and nearly the earliest obtainable printing of anything - a full lifetime before Gutenberg. The oldest paper-money that are preserved till this day are those from early Ming dynasty, dated year 1375. These notes are the earliest numismatic printings. The first 1 kuan banknote featured as one the world-changing inventions in the British Museum project, A History of the World in 100 objects (Broadcasted by BBC 4 in 2010).

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 27.000

EDITIO PRINCEPS OF EIGHT PLAYS BY EURIPIDES

EURIPIDES.

Rhesos (Rhesus) + Troades (The Trojan Women) + Bakchai (Bacchae) + Kyklops (Cyclops) + Herakleidai (Children of Heracles) + Helene (Helen) + Ion + Herakles Mainomenos (Hercules Furens / Heracles).

Venice, Aldus, 1503. Extremely important first printing of eight of Euripides' tragedies – including the Cyclops, which is the only fully extant example of the genre of satyr play -, the publication that ensured the survival of these seminal Greek dramas. In 1503, Aldus issued in Venice a breakthrough publication in two volumes of all the extant plays of Euripides. Four of these had been previously published (ca. 1495), the rest of the eighteen appeared in this two-volume publication for the first time. The first volume contained 10 plays, among them the four previously published ones, whereas the second volume contained eight plays, all published here for the first time. We have here the second volume, in a lovely copy, of this seminal important edition, containing eight of Euripides' plays printed for the first time. As Dibdin says, “[t]his is an Aldine publication, which, more frequently than any with which I am acquainted, is found in an imperfect or indifferent condition. The first copy of it on paper that I ever saw, and bound in the Grolier style, had only the first volume... Earl Spencer has a portion of the second volume uncut...”

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 6.000

FIRST FULL TRANSLATION OF THE DHAMMAPADA - FOUNDING PALI STUDIES IN THE WEST

FAUSBÖLL, V. (edt., trans. et comm.) - DHAMMAPADA

Dhammapadam.

1855. Exceedingly scarce first edition of the work that founded Pali-studies in the West, the foundational first Western publication of Theravada-Buddhism, namely Fausböll's critical edition of the Dhammapada, being the first European edition of a complete Pali-text as well as the first Latin translation of the Dhammapada, today probably the most frequently translated Buddhist text in the world. This Latin translation is also the first full non-Asian translation. With Fausböll's publication, the Dhammapada was introduced in the West, where it came to find great dissemination and is now the most frequently translated Buddhist text in Europe.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 22.000

THE FIRST BOOK SUCCESSFULLY PRINTED WITH COLOURS

FOSSÉ.

Idées d'un Militaire...

1783. First edition of the main work by the French military engineer Fossé (1734 - 1812). The work is especially renowned for the extraordinary coloured plates by Louis Marion Bonnet, which show for one of the first times the perfection of the illustrating-process called the CRAYON MANNER adapted to colour-printing. The work is probably the first book printed using this technique.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 4.800

THE EXCEEDINGLY RARE FIRST DANISH PATTERN BOOK FOR EMBROIDERY

GROSCH, HENRIK AUGUST.

Haandbog til Brodering og Tegning. (i.e. Handbook for Embroidery and Drawing).

1794-(1805). The exceedingly rare first edition of the very first Danish pattern book for embroidery. Except for the present copy, only one complete copy of part 1 is known; that copy is in the Royal Danish Library, which does not have part 2. Lilly Library holds an incomplete copy of part 1 (containing 24 plates) and the only other known copy of any part of part 2 (with 25 plates, presumably being complete). The work is so rare and known in so few copies, that no-one has been able to establish exactly what was published. We know that part 1 is complete as it is here, with 12 leaves of text and 26 plates. Part 2, however, is even scarcer with only one other copy to compare with, and whether that is complete, is uncertain. In all, our copy has 49 plates, as does the other copy known of parts 1 and 2 together (that in the Lilly Library). The work contains beautiful hand coloured plates with floral designs and ornaments for both wool foot rugs and for embroidery on silk clothing, handkerchiefs etc. Grosch was fully aware that he was treading new ground with the present publication; in the introduction he states that no comparable work has been published before and that he therefore had to make all designs and colour decisions himself, with no historical references to lean on.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 8.750

EARLY WORK ON PALESTINE

HEIDMANN, CHRISTOPHORI.

Palaestina, sive Terra Sancta, paucis capitibus distincte ordineque congruo explicata...

1689. Fourth edition of Heidmann's early work on Palestine's history and topography. His work on the Holy Land, which he had never visited, was published during the 17th century in a large number of editions, the first being published in 1655.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 3.000

"THE FIRST TO USE THE TERM 'GAS'" - PMM 135

HELMONT, JOHAN BAPTIST VON.

Ortus medicinae...

1648. First edition of Helmont's landmark work, in which he discovered gas. His experiment on a willow tree has been considered among the earliest quantitative studies on plant nutrition and growth and constitutes a milestone in the history of biology. "Helmont was one of the founders of gases, and indeed invented the word 'gas'. He introduced the gravimetric idea in the analysis of urine." Edited by his son and published posthumously, the present work established his name as one of the founders of biochemistry: "His discovery of digestive juices in the stomach and intestine, and especially his first use of the specific gravity of urine for diagnostic purposes, mark him as a man of no insignificant importance in the history of medicine". (Heirs of Hippocrates)

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 5.000

RARE ILLUSTRATED 18TH CENTURY HAGADDAH

HERZ LEVI ROFE E KOSMAN (BEN YOSEF) (Edt.) (& RAV YEHUDA ARYEH LEON MODENA).

Seder Haggadah le- Pessach (Hebrew). (Containing the commentary Tzeli Esh by Leon of Modena, translated into Yiddish by Solomon ben Moses Raphael Zalman London).

Amsterdam, 1765. A beautifully illustrated and very rare 18th century Haggadah, setting forth the order of the Passover Seder; fully complete, with 14 large woodcut illustrations inspired by the "Amsterdam Haggadah" from 1695. The commentary by Rav Leone Modena found in this Hagadah, the famous "Tzeli Esh," is an abbreviation of Don Isaac Abrabanel's voluminous commentary "Zevach Pesach" first published during the author's lifetime in Constantinople in 1505. The translation of the "Tzeli Esh" into Yiddish is by Solomon Zalman ben Moses Raphael London (1661-1748), author and translator, who was active between 1709 and 1735. Leon de Modena (1571-1648) is considered the most famous Venetian Rabbi of the 17th century. He was a Jewish scholar born in Venice, into a family of migrants from France, after the French expulsion of Jews. He was well respected, but his reputation within traditional Judaism suffered both due to his criticism of emerging sects within Judaism, but also because of his addiction to gambling and seeming lack of stability. He is famous for his criticism of the mystical approach to Judaism and his attacks on the Kaballa, but his international fame mainly rests upon him being the interpreter of Judaism to the Christian world.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 3.750

BEAUTIFUL WORK ILLUSTRATED BY HOKUSAI

HOKUSAI, KATSUSHIKA.

Shaka Goichiki Dai Ki Zue.

1845. Beautiful work written by Yamada Isai with illustrations by Katsushika Hokusai consisting 55 episodes in the life of Shaka (Buddah). Hokusai has made 35 illustrations for 27 episodes, and 23 of those are new iconographies in Shaka's biography, inspired by various pictorial resources, while other 12 scenes originate in the former or traditional ones of these subjects.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 2.700

THE EARLIEST DESCRIPTION OF MOROCCAN-ARABIC DIALECT IN A EUROPEAN SOURCE

HÖST, GEORG

Efterretninger om Marókos og Fes, samlede der i Landene fra Ao.1760 til 1768.

1776. First edition of one of the very first detailed descriptions of North Africa and Morocco in particular, containing the earliest description of Moroccan-Arabic dialect in a European source by mentioning personal pronouns, some verbs and prepositions, genitive marker, present markers and euphemisms, together with comparisons between Moroccan and Classical Arabic.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 2.700

KIERKEGAARD'S DISSERTATION – ONE OF TWO COPIES ON THICK VELLUM PAPER, INSCRIBED TO ØRSTED

KIERKEGAARD, SØREN.

Om Begrebet Ironi med stadig hensyn til Socrates.

1841. Arguably the best possible copy one can ever hope to acquire of Kierkegaard's dissertation – one of two copies on thick vellum paper, being a presentation-copy from Kierkegaard to the discoverer of electromagnetism H.C. Ørsted. The work is of the utmost importance in Kierkegaard's production, not only as his first academic treatise, but also because he here introduces several themes that will be addressed in his later works. Among these we find the question of defining the subject of cognition and self-knowledge of the subject. The maxim of "know thyself" will be a constant throughout his oeuvre, as is the theory of knowledge acquisition that he deals with here. In many ways, Either-Or is born directly out of The Concept of Irony and is the work that brings the theory of Irony to life. In all, 11 presentation-copies of the dissertation are known.

Email for full description and pictures

EUR 80.000

DISCOVERING THE "MASTER-EYE"

LE CLERC, SEB.

Discours touchant le Point de Veue...

1679. Extremely scarce first edition of Leclerc's important work on binocular vision in which he finds that one of the eyes has a dominant status, thus announcing the discovery of the "Master-eye" - a discovery of utmost importance in the theory of shooting and elsewhere. With use of diagrams he shows that "things that can be seen clearly are seen with but one single eye.". He records and depicts a large series of experiments with binocular vision and shows geometrically the relation to the science of perspective, and points out the importance of understanding the physiology of binocular vision for perspective painting in general.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 3.350

A MAIN WORK ON BINOMIAL NOMENCLATURE

LINNAEUS, CARL.

Flora Lapponica...

1737. Scarce first edition of this highly important work, which is one of the first in which Linnaeus worked out his binomial nomenclature. Linnaeus' journey into Lapland in the year 1732 "was the most adventurous that Linnaeus ever made; it has been assessed by his fellow-countrymen as the most fruitful single scientific expedition ever made in Sweden both for its immediate botanical results and its influence on Linnaeus's later career. It led to the publication in 1737 of his Flora Lapponica which is of prime importance for the nomenclature of Arctic-Alpine species."

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 6.000

THE JOYCE OF BRAZIL

LISPECTOR, CLARICE.

O Lustre. (i.e. English: "The Chandelier").

Rio de Janeiro, 1946. The rare first edition of Clarice Lispector's enigmatic second novel, her haunting *O Lustre* ("The Chandelier"), now recognized as a foundational work of modern Brazilian literature and a daring exploration of inner consciousness. In spite of now being considered one of the most intriguing and revolutionizing authors of the 20th century, Clarice Lispector (1920-1977) is a fairly recent discovery for most, and many of her most famous novels have only recently been translated into English for the first time. After having been re-discovered in Europe, she is now compared to the likes of Joyce, Kafka, and Steinbeck. "Written in 1946, *The Chandelier* is a mesmerizing journey into the mind of a young woman struggling to make sense of her inner world. Clarice Lispector's second novel, long overshadowed by her debut, is finally emerging as a key work in her development."

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 2.400

THE HANDBOOK OF NIEBUHR'S ARABIA-EXPEDITION

MICHAELIS, JOHANN DAVID.

Fragen an eine Gesellschaft Gelehrter Männer...

1762. The very rare first edition of the founding work of Niebuhr's Arabia-expedition, which would gain world-wide fame and establish the scientific description of the Arabian peninsula. The present work consists in 100 questions, the answers to which constitute the purpose of the Royal Danish Arabia Expedition. In fact, the present work is the handbook of Niebuhr's travel to Arabia Felix, as its author is the spiritual father of it. The work is extraordinary in many ways, and it not only served as the basis for the Arabia-expedition, it also constitutes a forerunner of modern bible science that would begin to emerge a few decades later.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 3.750

NIEBUHR'S GREAT TRAVEL ACCOUNT OF THE MIDDLE EAST

NIEBUHR, CARSTEN.

Reize naar Arabië en andere omliggende landen. Uit het Hoogduitsch vertaald. 2 parts.

1776. First Dutch edition of Niebuhr's great travel account of Arabia, originally published in Copenhagen, 1774-78, in German under the title "Reisebeschreibung von Arabien". This splendid and extremely important work on the Middle East, Egypt, Persia and India "provided a mass of new geographical, regional, and historical information... Among is many exact maps and plans, the map of the Red Sea and of Yemen served as the most reliable information for more than 50 years."

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 2.700

FOUNDING SOCIALISM

OWEN, ROBERT.

A New View of Society...

London, 1813 (-1816). Very scarce edition of Owen's seminal four-part work, which constitutes "The Birth of Socialism", parts I & II being the first printings, and II & IV presumably the second editions (after the privately printed 1814-edition of both parts, which were for private circulation), later used for the 1816 overall second edition of all four parts together. The copy corresponds to Kress B6194, where it is listed first, and Goldsmiths' 20855.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 10.750

PICASSO'S FAMOUS LINOCUTS

PICASSO, PABLO (+) BOECK, W (Introduction).

Pablo Picasso - Linocuts.

1963. The uncommon and exquisitely printed "Linocuts" by Picasso, which marked the beginning a new period for him as an artist. The 45 prints were made by carving away part of the surface of a sheet of linoleum then inking and printing the remaining surface. Picasso began creating linoleum cuts to give color a more prominent role in his graphic work having previously considered it a secondary medium. His linoleum cuts emerged from a desire to adapt previous artistic concepts to a new medium and he quickly achieved original results that were not secondary to his pervious works.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 4.000

FROM NAPOLEON'S LIBRARY

PRONY, (GASPARD CLAIR FRANCOIS RICHE de).

Mécanique Philosophique...

(1800). First edition, original offprint from Journal Polytechnique, of Prony's magnum opus "Mécanique philosophique". A truly splendid copy from Napoleon's library, with the gilt monogram of him and Joséphine from the library at Malmaison and with a presentation-inscription for Napoléon, which is rare. Napoleon had been an avid reader since he was quite young, and when he began studying at the École Militaire in Paris, he continued to read classics, literature, and philosophy, as he would throughout his life, but he also read more scientifically and strategically aimed books. Prony, with his great Mechanical Philosophy, will have found a natural place amongst the great writers Napoleon preferred, combining politics, science, and philosophy. It is not difficult to see how Napoleon would have been intrigued by mechanical philosophy, which is a form of natural philosophy that compares the universe to a large-scale mechanism. Prony, in the present work, argues that mechanical principles in the practical arts themselves call for philosophical analysis.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 20.000

"SCARCELY ANY SPANISH BOOK IS MORE RARE THAN THIS FIRST EDITION OF ROIG"

ROIG, JAUME.

Libre de consells.

Valencia, 1531. The exceedingly rare first edition of Roig's magnum opus, his seminal masterpiece of Catalan literature. This satirical work on women offering extensive advice on avoiding their alleged deceptive nature, the pitfalls of marriage, including all the misadventures Roig himself has suffered during four marriages is widely considered one of the most significant pieces of literature in Catalan. The first edition is of the utmost scarcity and hardly ever finds its way into the trade. Salva only knew of two complete copies, and as early as 1735, the book was already so unprocurable that the editor of an attempted reprint had to omit some parts for lack of an early copy. Salva's own copy is now housed in the British Library, where it is stated: "Scarcely any Spanish book is more rare than this first edition of Roig"

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 100.000

MAGNIFICENT ROMAN COIN - IN NEAR MINT CONDITION - DEPICTING ODYSSEUS

C. MAMILIUS LIMETANUS.

Serrate silver denarius.

82 BC. A magnificent specimen of this splendid denarius of the Roman Republic featuring one of the very few references to Homer's Odyssey in ancient coinage. On the obverse is Mercury, a god very much propitious to Odysseus. The reverse depicts one of the most moving passages in literature, hardly matched to this day. In book XVII Odysseus returns to Ithaca disguised as a beggar. His faithful dog, Argos, has been waiting for his return for 20 years. Odysseus immediately recognizes his dog, but cannot greet him, as that would give away his identity. Argos, after all those years, recognizes his master as well, but if he were to run to him it would most certainly cause his death by the suitors. Here Homer cannot do anything other than to end the life of Argos, otherwise the entire Odyssey would have been for naught. So Argos dies upon the vision of his master having fulfilled his life purpose: to await his return. The denarius' reverse depicts the idealized moment of the scene where master and dog would be just about to meet and greet each other, but as we have seen, the reunion cannot happen.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 6.000

"THE FIRST OUTLINE OF A SCIENTIFIC THEORY OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE EARTH"

STENO, NICOLAI (STENONIS, NILS STENSEN).

Elementorum myologiae specimen...

1667. First edition, with an interesting provenance, of Steno's landmark work in the history of science, introducing several groundbreaking discoveries across multiple fields of science, particularly anatomy, geology, and the philosophy of science. Steno was the first to demonstrate that muscles do not increase in volume when they contract. This refuted the longstanding Galenic theory and laid the foundation for modern muscle physiology. With the present work, Steno fully developed his groundbreaking muscle theory and revolutionized our knowledge of how the muscles function. He also included comparisons between animal and human anatomical structures, helping to establish the discipline of comparative anatomy and opening new pathways for later evolutionary thought. It is also in the present work that Steno, through the dissection of a shark's head, successfully identified "tongue stones" as fossilized shark teeth, which directly contradicted earlier beliefs that fossils formed spontaneously in rocks. This marked a foundational moment in paleontology and stratigraphy helping to establish that fossils are remains of once-living organisms, thereby setting the stage for his later geological principles such as the principle of original horizontality and superposition.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 8.750

THE MOST IMPORTANT BOTANICAL WORK OF THE 17TH CENTURY

THEOPHRASTUS ERESII.

De historia plantarum...

1644. First edition thus, being the most important and influential edition of Theophrastus' seminal work "Enquiry into Plants" - the first systematization of the botanical world and the most important contribution to botanical science up until the Renaissance. Bodaeus von Stapel's groundbreaking edition constitutes the first illustrated edition of Theophrastus' masterpiece as well as the first with both Greek and Latin text. Furthermore, von Stapel also added corrections and much foundational information, turning the work into one of the most influential botanical works of the 17th century, profoundly influencing the likes of Linnaeus and contributing significantly to the development of modern scientific botany.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 10.750

FINE COLLECTION OF EARLY PHOTOGRAPHS FROM EAST-ASIA DOCUMENTING THE LAYDOWN OF THE FIRST TELEGRAPH CABLES IN EAST-ASIA

THOMSON, JOHN - WILLIAM FLOYD - FELICE BEATO - HIPPOLYTE ARNOUX.

The Tordenskjold-expedition. 71 albumen prints from the 1860'ies to 1873.

1870-1872. Exceedingly rare photo-album documenting the Danish vessel Tordenskjold's mission in laying the very first telegraph cables in East Asia thereby connecting China and Japan to the global telegraph system. The album consists of photos taken aboard the vessel Tordenskjold, of Tordenskjold itself along with its crew, by an unknown photographer, and of photographs of the visited cities and surrounding areas by some of the finest photographers operating in East Asia at the time, such as John Thomson, William Floyd, Felice Beato and, in Egypt, Hippolyte. The present album depicts a pivotal moment in international relations and communications and does so through some of the earliest photos taken in China, Japan, and of the excavation of the Suez Canal.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 33.500

THE ALDUS-COIN

TITUS VESPASIAN.

Roman coin. Denarius.

[Rome, AD 79-80]. Good specimen of the beautiful and rare coin that inspired Aldus Manutius' famous printer's device, the dolphin-and-anchor, the most famous logo in the history of book printing and the trademark of the Renaissance. The Aldus coin is the only book- or printing-related ancient coin in existence. Aldus Manutius, the most famous printer of all times, had been given a copy of the Titus coin, with the dolphin-and-anchor logo on the verso, as a gift by Pietro Bembo. He was extremely taken by the magnificent logo, that in Roman times, by Titus Vespasian, had been used to illustrate the proverb "Festina lente" ("make haste slowly"), and was so inspired by it that he began using it as his printer's device at the very beginning of the 16th century. Before it appears as his printer's device for the first time, he used it as an illustration in one of his most magnificent books, Colonna's "Hypnerotomachia Poliphili", 1499.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 2.000

THE FIRST DANISH TRANSLATION OF THE HOBBIT

TOLKIEN, J. R. R.

Hobbitten eller Ud og hjem igen.

1969. The scarce first edition of the first translation of The Hobbit into Danish. This first Danish translation appeared in 1969, at a time when Tolkien had not yet become a world sensation within literature and the scope of his enormous literary production was still not fully known in Denmark. At the time, The Hobbit was considered an individual work rather than the introductory part to the extensive universe we now know to be Tolkien's. The present translation is the first introduction to this universe in the Danish language and a legendary production. As Tolkien was virtually unknown in Denmark at the time, the book was not printed in a large number and is now extremely difficult to find in the first printing.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 2.700

THE FIRST BOOK ON ALCOHOLISM

TROTTER, THOMAS.

An Essay on Drunkenness, and its Effects on the Human Body.

London, 1804. The very scarce first edition of Trotter's seminal "Essay on Drunkenness", which constitutes the first book on alcoholism. "It was during the course of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries that the problem of chronic alcohol dependence in modern society and its consequent medical effects emerged. The topic of drunkenness figures prominently in the thinking and writing of social reformers, politicians, theorists, medical practitioners, and psychiatrists. Eventually, by the mid-nineteenth century, 'alcoholism' was named as the disease of habitual drunkenness. Possibly the most important book to predict this was Trotter's Essay, written in 1804. Through case studies based on wide experience, he detailed the manifestations of alcoholism, ventured therapeutic recommendations, and squarely termed drunkenness a disease – indeed, a mental disease."

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 3.750

THE CREATION OF THE DANISH SEASCAPE PAINTING

TRUSLEW, N. (& ECKERSBERG).

En Samling af Skibe i næsten alle mulige Stillinger i Søen.

1805. Exceedingly scarce collection of all 36 plates that were issued of Truslew's spectacular "Ships in the Sea", this being one of three complete copies known and the only known complete copy on private hands. The 36 highly interesting plates occupy a central role in the history of war. It is with this work that the tradition of Danish marine art is founded and it is inextricably linked to the name of one of the greatest Danish artists of all time: C.W. Eckersberg (known as "the father of Danish seascape painting"). Truslew portrays the ships in action, and the illustrations are of one or more ships in function, in specific situations. The depicted ships include both English, American, Russian, French, Dutch, and Swedish ones, as well as Danish. And seeing that the interest lies in portraying contemporary ships, not historical ones, it becomes an important historical source.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 24,000

THE MAGELLAN-EXPEDITIONS

(VARGAS Y PONCE, JOSE de) - ANTONIO DE CORDOBA.

Relacion del último Viage al Estrecho de Magallanes de la Fragata de S.M. Santa Maria de la Cabeza en los an(n)os de 1785 y 1786... (+) Apéndice a la Relacion del Viage al Magallanes...

1788-93. First edition of two important expeditions by Antonio de Córdoba. The first voyage was made with the intention of surveying the Straits of Magellan to see if it was advisable for the Spaniards to continue to use it as a route to the Pacific. It also includes a history of the discovery of the strait, as well as of the expeditions of Cabot, Drake, Bougainville, Carmargo and others. The second voyage includes an interesting account by Cevallos of the first encounter with the natives.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 3.350

A SELECTION OF VIEWS

WILLYAMS, C.

A Selection of Views in Egypt, Palestine, Rhodes, Italy, Minorca, and Gibraltar, from the original Drawings, executed during a Visit to those Places. With a geographical and historical Description to each View, in English and French.

1822. A very fine copy of the first edition, with all 36 fine handcoloured aquatint-plates.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 3.350

THE FOUNDATION OF RUNOLOGY

WORM, OLE.

Danicorum Monumentorum Libri Sex + Regum Daniae Series duplex et Limitum inter Daniam & Sveciam Descriptio.

1643 & 1642. A very nice wide margined copy printed on good paper of the scarce first editions of both of Worm's famous masterpieces on runes - 1) "Danicorum Monumentorum" being Worm's runic magnum opus, which not only constitutes the first written study of runestones and the first scientific analysis of them, but also one of the only surviving sources for depictions of numerous runestones and inscriptions from Denmark, many of which are now lost; 2) "Regum Daniae", which contains the highly important reproduction of The Law of Scania in runes as well as in Latin translation with commentaries.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 11.500

EXCEEDINGLY SCARCE ILLUMINATED ARMENIAN MANUSCRIPT LETTER

YEPREM I (EPHREM), CATHOLICOS OF ETCHMIADZIN.

Letter from the Catholicos of Etchmiadzin, Yeprem I, to a certain Haroutioun, dated 1816.

Armenia, Etchmiadzin, June 7th, 1816. An exceedingly rare illuminated Armenian ecclesiastical manuscript letter, issued under the authority of Catholicos Yeprem I Der Movsessian (Ephrem I) (served 1809–1830), head of the Armenian Apostolic Church. Written at the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin, the document formally records the ordination and blessing of a certain cleric named Haroutioun, commending him for his exemplary service to the Church. Catholicos Yeprem I served during a pivotal period in modern Armenian history, as the Caucasus was being reshaped by imperial conflict. His tenure coincided with a profound geopolitical transformation in the South Caucasus, marked by the decline of Persian control over Eastern Armenia and the steady expansion of the Russian Empire into traditionally Armenian lands. As head of the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin, Yeprem I's leadership was crucial in navigating the Church through this period of realignment. Documents of this kind - formally issued and stamped, personally signed and illuminated - were reserved for major ecclesiastical acts and now very rarely appear on the market.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 10.750

MAGNIFICENT ALBUM WITH EARLY PHOTOGRAPHS OF EGYPT INCLUDING SOME OF THE VERY EARLIEST OF THE SUEZ CANAL

ZANGAKI (+) BONFILS (+) ARNOUX (+) A. BEATO (+) FIORILLO (+) BECHARD (+) SEBAH.

Album containing 146 albumen prints of Egypt from the 1870ies.

Egypt, ca. 1870ies. Extraordinary collection containing 146 albumen prints depicting landscapes and animated scenes of Egypt including some of the very earliest photographs of the newly opened Suez Canal. The photographs also document a period in Egyptian history, where the country began to gain independence and autonomy from Ottoman rule; Constantinople had granted Egypt the status of an autonomous vassal state or Khedivate in 1867, and completion of the Suez Canal gave Britain a faster route to India which in turn made Egypt increasingly reliant on Britain for both military and economic aid. Most photos are signed by the greatest local photographers of the time. The photos have some overall wear.

[Full description and pictures](#)

EUR 8.000