

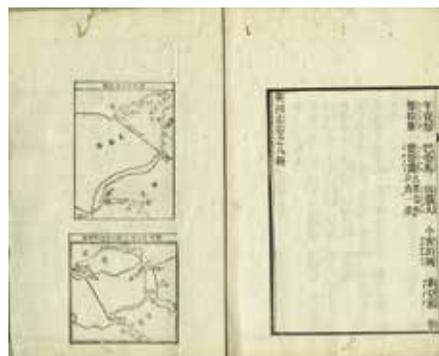


Early Chinese translation of the History of England

01. "Da Yiguo zhi" [大英国志]
 Thomas Milner (author), Mu Weilian (translator)
 Shanghai: Mo hai shu yuan [publisher], 1856

"The History of England" by Thomas Milner was a legendary book published in London in 1852. This edition was translated into Chinese by Mu Weilian, a protestant missionary (William Muirhead, 1822-1900). It is an extremely rare early publication in Chinese. The book recounts the history of England from Julius Caesar to the Victorian era. The final section contains a short representation of contemporary England at the time of publication.

Original paper wrapper. 8 books bound in two volumes, complete. Comes with the original title slip. 27,4 x 17 cm. Minor worm holes on the cover. Occasional stains on the margins. Damage on a few pages.
 I part: I vol: [1], [1], [2], [4], [3], [2], [8]; II vol: [27]; III vol: [11]; IV vol: [66]; IIpart: VI vol: [81]; VII vol: [51]; VIII vol: [16] leaves; 1 leaf with a map Ex-owner stamp on the first page of each volume. Otherwise nice and clean copy.
 Near fine to fine. Comes with a non-original custom made slip case. Text in Chinese. **US\$ 8,650 / £ 6,350**



Early Chinese translation of the History of England

02. "Eikoku shi" [英国志]
 Thomas Milner (author), Mu Weilian (translator) Edo [Tokyo]: Izumiya Kanaemon [publisher], Bunkyo 1 (1861)

"The History of England" by Thomas Milner was a legendary book published in London in 1852. This edition was translated into Chinese by Mu Weilian, a protestant missionary (William Muirhead, 1822-1900). The book recounts the history of England from Julius Caesar to the Victorian era; the final section contains a short representation of contemporary England at the time of publication. The volume heavily influenced Japanese scholars. This reprint was made by the Choshu domain during the Satsuma province's revolt against the Tokugawa clan and their international policies. In 1862, Satsuma and Choshu were rebelling against the British presence in Japan. The translation of the "History of England" was a strategic decision, meant to provide information about the foreign enemy in preparation for war.

Original Japanese fukuro toji binding. Paper wrapper. The original title slip of the 7th and 8th volumes are missing. 25,7 x 17,9 cm. Eight volumes complete. Vol 1,2: [2], [3], [2], [3], [8], [27]; vol.3 : [11], [15]; vol. 4: [52]; vol. 4: [50], vol.6, part 1,2: [81], vol. 7: part1,2: [51], [16] +1 map Minor stains on the first volume. Worm holes on the last volume. Small ex-owner sticker on each cover. Red ex-owner stamp on the first leaf of each volume. Otherwise a fine and clean copy.
 Comes with a non-original custom made slip case. Text in Chinese with Japanese reading marks. **US\$2,850 / £ 2,095**

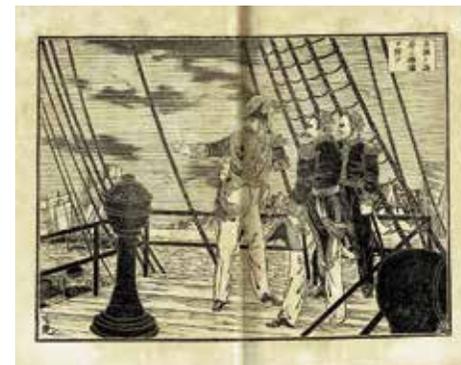


"London as it is", in Japanese

03. "Eikoku rondon shin hanjooki" [英国龍動新繁昌記]
 Murray, John [original author] Niwa, Junichiro [translator]
 Echigo (Niigata pref.) & Tokyo: Takahashi Bunsaku, Yamanaka Ichibei & Sakagami Hanshichi [publisher]
 Meiji 11(1878), First edition.

A charming small-format book, in five volume complete set, containing a guide to London originally written by John Murray III, a descendant of the prominent dynasty whose roots stretch back to John Murray I (born in 1736), a publisher of Lord Byron, Jane Austen, Sir Walter Scott et al. In 1836, John Murray started a series called "Murray's Handbooks for Travellers", which is well-known nowadays as the "Blue Guide". This book was probably written by Murray himself and published in 1871 under the title "Handbook to London as it is". The guide provides explanations about the main places of interest to travelers, for example Crystal Palace, as well as restaurants, pubs, sewing shops, newspapers, clock shops, and brothels. Five copper plate engravings, three of which are folding engraving plates showing the theater, Parliament and a splendid panorama of the Thames. One plate is a woodblock-print folding map of London. The text is printed in woodblock technique.

Original Japanese fukuro toji binding, paper wrapper, with original title slip. Minor stains & very few rubbing on the wrappers. Occasional creasings at page corners on the vol.4. Some inscriptions on the page margins at vol. 1 & 2. Otherwise clean, near fine to fine condition. 5 volumes complete, 18.4x12.7cm, vol.1, [6]+42 leaves, vol.2 [1]+44 leaves, vol.3 [1]+45 leaves, vol.4 [1]+44 leaves, vol.3 [1]+45 leaves. Text in Japanese. **\$1,950 / £ 1,435**

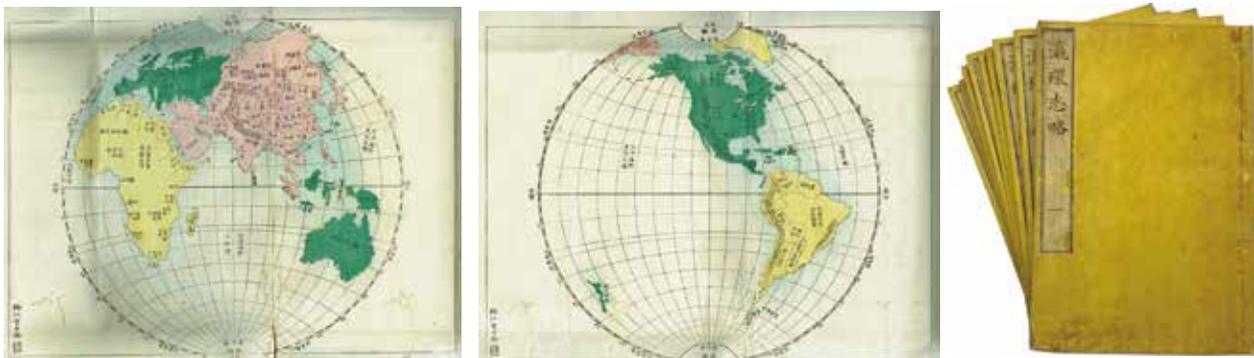


Heroic Japanese biography of admiral Horatio Nelson

04. "Kintecho" [金鉄腸]
 Southey, Robert (original text by); Jo, Yoshinori (translated by) Tokyō : Kin'odō, Meiji 21 (1888)

The first translation of "The Life of Nelson" by Robert Southey. The original book was published in 1886 in New York and London. The three double-page illustrations were made by the Japanese artist Adachi Ginko (1853-1908). The frontispiece includes a lithographic portrait of Nelson himself. British Navy history had an intense influence on Japanese military spirit and the development of the Japanese Navy. This biography of the famous Admiral became a widely popular superhero story during the Meiji period, and partly inspired the military ideology of the Japanese empire.

Original cardboard binding. 12,2 x 18 cm. 3 leaves of the preface + 78 + 85 pages. Slight scratches on the spine. tiny private owner stamp on the front flyleaf. Occasional stains and natural browning on the contents. Near fine condition. **US\$ 595 / £ 440**



World Geography in 10 books

05. “Eikan shiryaku (Ying huan zhi lue)” [瀛環志略]

Jo, Keio (Jiyu Xu) [original author] Inoue, Shunyo / Mori, Tekien / Mitsumori, Ryuho [reading marks for Japanese reader]. Ayo (Tokushima pref.) : Taibikaku [publisher], Bunkyo 1 (1861).

Keiyo Jo, or Xu Jiyu (1795-1873) was a Chinese official and geographer during the late Qing dynasty. “Eikan shiryaku” gives general information on world geography. Originally written in China after the First Opium War in 1848 and translated into Japanese after the Second, the book reflected the Westernisation strategy of Asia in the 19th century. The First Opium war (1840-1842) demonstrated China’s backwardness in technology and armour, and as a consequence, the inability of the Qing government to resist European oppression. The book includes numerous large-size folding maps. First Chinese edition published in 1849, this book is the first Japanese edition.

Original paper wrappers. Japanese fukuro toji binding with original title slip. Minor stains and rubbing, mostly first and second parts. Minor wormholing in the first volume has been repaired. Two ex-owner stamps paste on each of the first pages. Comes with a custom made slip case. Very good to near fine condition. 26x17,5 cm. Ten vols complete. 1 book: [2], [7], 39; 2: 42; 3: 50, 4: 32, 5: 23, 6: 43, 7: 45, 8: 25, 9: 30, 10: 29, [1] leaves. Two colour folding maps, 41 b&w folding maps included. Text in Chinese with Japanese reading marks. **US\$3,850 / £ 2,840**



World Atlas with Australia and New Zealand, illustrated by Kawanabe Kyosai

06. “Sekai Miyakoji” [世界都路]

Kanagaki, Robun [written by] ; Kyosai, Kawanabe [illustrated by]. Tokyo: Bankyukaku: Ejima Kihei [publisher] Meiji 5 [1872], First edition.

A set of books on the history, customs, geography, and natural environments of Asia, Eastern Europe, Western Europe, North Africa, South Africa, and Australia, delicately illustrated in woodcuts by acclaimed Japanese artist Kawanabe Kyosai (1831-1889). As the description of the volume on Australia (v.7) held at the State Library of N.S.W. states, “The depiction of the Aboriginal Australian characters appears as a generic depiction of dark skinned people; for example, the figures are set before pyramids (African continent), and one of the figures is shown holding what appears to be a human foot. The figures are negatively referred to in a caption as 'drunk'.” Includes six colour woodblock-printed maps, as well as many more black-and-white woodblock-printed vignettes. A very interesting if tenuous link between Kyosai and Australia/ New Zealand. Volume 7 only is held by the State Library of New South Wales.

Original Japanese fukuro toji binding, paper wrapper, with original title slip. Occasional rubbing on the wrapper. Minor stains and faint creasing on the contents. Overall very good to near fine condition. 7 v., complete. 22,5 x 15,1 cm. 52, 45, 46, 40, 38, 26, 17 (+ 10 of advertisements) leaves. Text in Japanese. **US\$2,350 / £ 1,730**



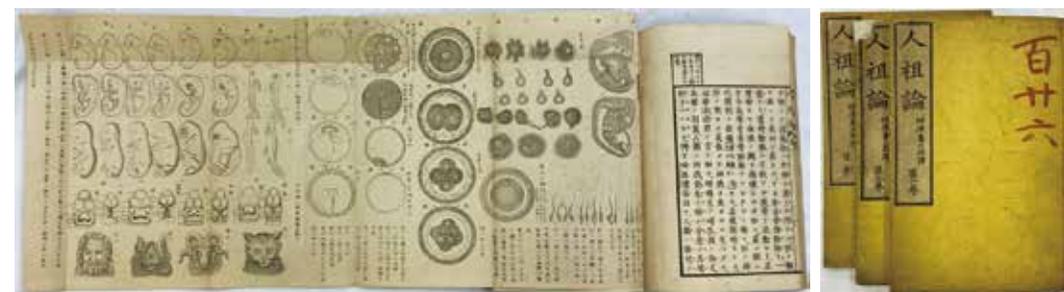
Full Explanation of Darwin's Theory in Japanese

07. “Dobutsu Shinkaron” [動物進化論]

Morse, Edward Sylvester [dictated by] ; Ishikawa, Chiyomatsu [copied down by]. Tokyo : Mankan Shorō ; Tōshō Kamejirō, Meiji 16 [1883]. First edition.

A highly illustrated translation of nine lectures given to Tokyo University students by American professor Edward S. Morse between 1877 and 1879. Morse’s lectures have been described as “a watershed in the history of science in Japan. Dōbutsu Shinkaron is a small book of only nine chapters, and it skims over the major topics in the field, but it shifted the course of scientific inquiry in Japan. Dōbutsu shinkaron offers a snapshot in the globalization of evolutionary theory. It shows how the basic ideas of modern biology arrived in Japan and took on immediate political importance. Morse spoke broadly in the lectures, sermonizing on topics ranging from the development of dog breeds to the relationship between class and order in nomenclature, but what emerges most forcefully from Animal Evolution is not a new understanding of animals per se but a new sense of humanity’s place in the world. A scarce text paved the way for direct Japanese translations of Darwin’s “The Origin of Species” and “The Descent of Man”.

Original boards, very lightly soiled. Light discolouration to some pages due to age. Occasional ex-ownership inscription to upper free endpaper. Overall very good to near fine. 1 v., complete. 4, 134 p. 18 x 12.4 cm. 24 vignettes. 8 unnumbered full-page illustrations, engraved on copper. Text in Japanese. **US\$ 6,850 / £ 5,035**



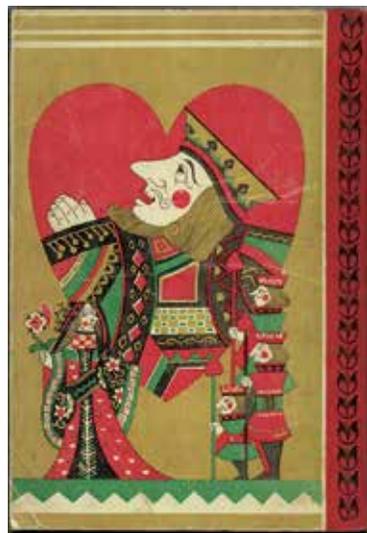
The First Edition of the First of Darwin's Works to be translated into Japanese: 'The Descent of Man'

08. “Jinsoron” [人祖論]

Darwin, Charles [original text by] ; Kozu, Senzaburo [edited and translated by]. Tokyo : Yamanaka Ichibe, Meiji 14 [1881]. First edition.

A rare set of the first of Darwin’s works to be translated into Japanese, complete with ten copperplate-engraved illustrations. The first set contains the first Japanese edition (abridged) of Darwin’s “The Descent of Man, and Selection in Relation to Sex” (originally published in 1871). The translator was a scholar of education, Kozu Senzaburo. Despite its title, the book was actually a compendium of chapters from the “Descent” (namely, chapters 1–7 and 21) and other texts: the “Historical Sketch” that Darwin appended to the third edition of the “Origin” (1861), and some sections taken from Thomas Huxley’s “Evidence as to Man’s Place in Nature”. Thus this book can also be described as the first publication to include a partial translation of a text from the “Origin” (“Translating ‘natural selection’ in Japanese: from ‘shizen tota’ to ‘shizen sentaku’, and back?”, Kijima & Hoquet, 2013). The second volume (titled ‘volume one’) includes ten leaves of illustrations (including one folding plate) that were recarved from the illustrations in the original English edition.

Original Japanese fukuro toji binding with original title slip. Paper wrapper. A little soiled and foxed. The ex-owner’s inscription on the cover of each volume. stamps on the first pages. Paperback repair on the folding plates. Overall very good to near fine. No wormholing. The corner of the third volume has damage, but has been repaired. Three volume, complete set. 8, 2, 3, 7, 6, 21, 1, 70, 2, 72 leaves. 22.4 x 15 cm. Comes with a custom made slip case. Text in Japanese. **US\$ 11,500 / £ 8,440**

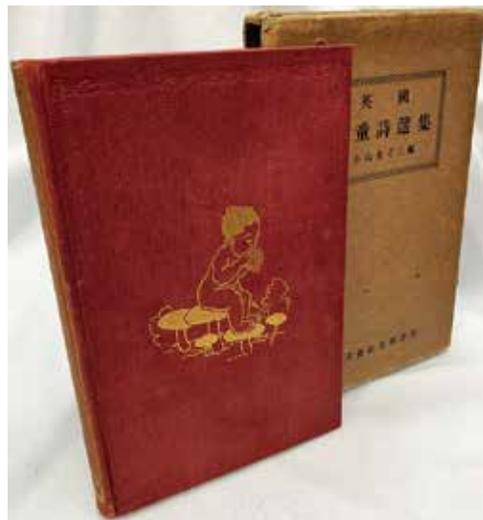


An Early Authentic Translation of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland
09.

“Arisu Monogatari” [アリス物語]
Carroll, Lewis [original text by];
Akutagawa, Ryunosuke and
Kikuchi, Kan [translated by];
Hirasawa, Bunkichi [illustrated by].
Tokyo : Bungei Shunju Shunju-sha,
Showa 2 [1927]. First edition.

An early Japanese translation of Carroll's 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland' by the celebrated Japanese writer Akutagawa Ryunosuke (1892-1927). While translating this work, Akutagawa killed himself, and his friend Kikuchi Kan finished the translation. This edition is an important milestone for Japanese translations of 'Alice', as Akutagawa uses satirical humour similar to that of the original. In the ten Japanese translations published prior to this one, the translators omitted such passages, in order to make it easier for a Japanese audience to understand. This text is thus the first 'loyal' translation in Japanese.

Volume 28 of 'Shogakusei Zenshu'. Original, charmingly-designed wrappers, in nice condition. Minor stains on back wrapper. Very occasional minor foxing to text. Overall near fine. Includes one coloured frontispiece and numerous black-and-white illustrations. 1 v., complete. 254 p. 22.1 x 14.8 cm. Text in Japanese. **US\$495 / £ 365**



Old British poetry for young and children

10. “Eikoku Jidoshi Senshu” [英国児童詩選集]
Koyama, Kishizo [editor], Tokyo: Bunmei shoin [publisher], Tocho 13 (1924), first edition.

An anthology of British poetry for children translated to Japanese, including poems by William Blake, Robert Louis Stevenson, Christina Rossetti and Laurence Alma-Tadema, among others. The original binding is decorated with a gilded silhouette by Arthur Racham from the 'Peter Pan in Kensington Garden' book. No illustrations except one offset on the frontispiece page. Relatively rare.

One volume complete. Original red cloth hard cover binding. Spine slightly discoloured. Minor foxing on the text, the corners of several pages have been damaged by the oxidised clip. Comes with an original cardboard slipcase. Overall very good to near fine. 18.9x12.6cm, 146p. Text in Japanese. **US\$550 / £ 405**

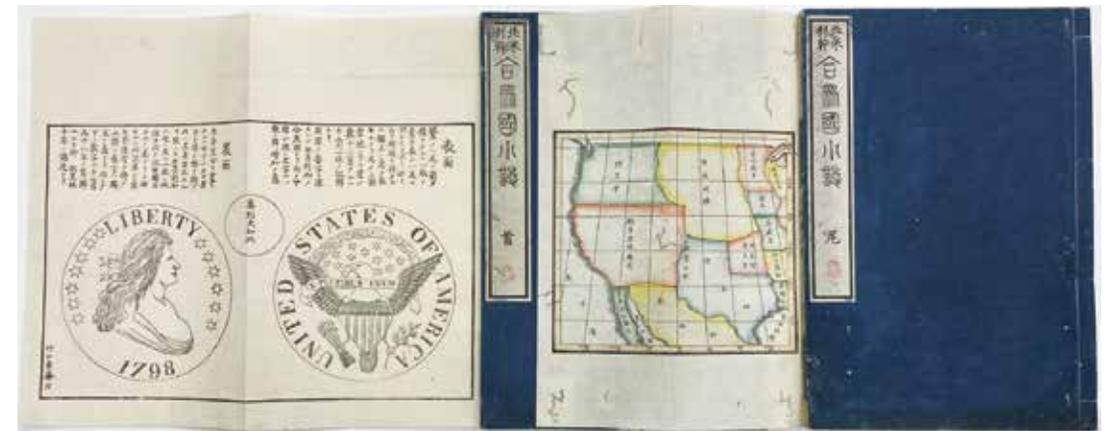


Early Brief Account of the United States by EC Bridgman

11. “Daibi renpo shiryaku” [聯邦志略]
Elijah Coleman Bridgman (author), Mitsukuri Genpo (reading marks)
Tokyo: Yorozuya Heishiro [publisher]. Meiji 4 (1871).

Third Japanese edition of the book titled “The Brief Account of the United States”. The book was written in Chinese by Elijah Coleman Bridgman (1801 – 1861), an American Protestant Christian missionary in China. The original Chinese title was Da Mei lian bang zhi lue. The book was first printed in Singapore in 1836 and published three times in revised editions before it came to its present form in 1861. Mitsukuri Genpo (1799-1863) was a well-known translator of Western science, including medicine, politics, geography and cartography. He oversaw this first Japanese publication (1861 in Tokyo). Though it is a later edition overall, the book is still extremely rare. The first volume contains general geography, a brief history, maps, language notes and descriptions of everyday life of the United States. The second volume contains writing about 42 individual states. The book also contains seven coloured and 55 black-and-white woodblock illustrations.

Original Japanese fukuro toji binding. Paper wrapper with original title slip. 25,7 x 18 cm. 2 volumes complete. 1 vol: 2, 7, 47 leaves. 2 vol: 48 leaves. Minor stains on the cover of the first volume. Waiving on the corner of the pages of the first volume. Small ink stains on the very few pages. Overall very good to near fine. Text in Chinese with Japanese reading marks. **US\$2,050 / £ 1,520**



Notes on America, translated from Dutch to Japanese

12. “Kita meriken Gasshukoku shooshi” [北米利幹 合衆国小誌]
Kramers, Jacob J. [original author]; Ozeki, Takahiko [translation]; Otsuki, Bankei [correction].
Publishing place unknown: Chihodo [publisher], Ansei 2 (1855). First edition.

Notes on the USA. The translator adopted this section about North America from a book written by Jacob Kramers (1802-1869) in 1850 entitled “Geographisch-statistisch-historisch handboek; of, Beschrijving van het wetenswaardigste uit de natuur en geschiedenis der aarde en harer bewoners ...”. The book covers the geography, population, politics, habits, and economics of the USA. It contains two folding plates: a 1798 Liberty Silver Dollar and a map with 13 states. The book was translated only four years after the publication of the original, an indication of the burning interest in America from Japanese society.

Original Japanese fukuro toji binding with original title slip. Paper wrapper. Many ex-owners' stamps. Minor wormholing on the plates, repaired. 26,2 x 17,9 cm [26], [29] leaves. Two volumes complete. Text in Japanese. **US\$2,350 / £ 1,730**



Extremely accurate Opium War-era map of North America

13. "Kaikokusuzhi Meriken shinzu" [海国図志 弥利堅図]

Nakayama Motonari [author], Publisher unknown, Published Kaei 7 (1854).

An early detailed map of North America. The Japanese title can be translated as 'New map of North America'. This map is a supplement of the book titled 'Kaikoku Zushi'. The original book was published in China in 1844. It was a treatise of the famous Chinese scholar Wei Yuanda. His most prominent work, 'Illustrated Treatise on the Maritime Kingdoms,' was translated to Japanese ten years later. It was a detailed description of world countries with maps, including the 'Meriken Shizu'. In comparison with library copies, this one lacks the legend. Nonetheless, it is still a rare piece, lavishly printed in colour woodblocks.

Original cover and original title slip. Very few stains on the margins. Near fine to fine condition. Comes with a non original slipcase. 44 x 81 cm (folding 21,8 x 13,6 cm). Text in Japanese. **US\$ 3,850 / £ 2,840**



Extremely rare early Cervantes translation in Japanese

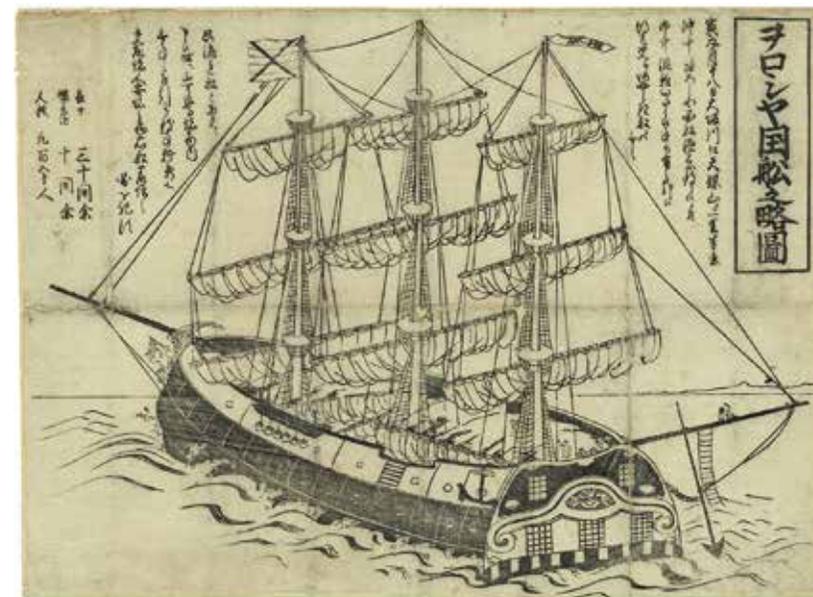
14.

"Bijin no wana : Oshu joshi" [欧州情史 美人の罠]

Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra [original author];
Nakamura, Ryū [translator]
Ogata, Gekko [illustrator]
Tōkyōfu : Kyōryūsha [publisher], 1887.

The original Japanese title can be translated as "The Trap of Beauty". In the foreword, the author explains that this is a translation of the "Birds of the Valley" by Miguel Cervantes de Saavedra. The translator Ryū Nakamura misunderstood that the author was Spanish; he mentions in the preface that the book was translated from the French language. This is a very rare example of a translation of a masterpiece by Miguel Cervantes. Translators from Western languages into Japanese often simplified the stories to make them easier for Japanese readers to comprehend, leaving the stories to have little in common with the originals. This is, however, essentially what Cervantes himself did with "Birds of the Valley", which was published in 1613 in Madrid and as part of the collection "El casamiento engañoso" (or "A Fake Marriage," with Alferez Campuzano as the main character): it was an adaptation from Italian to Spanish of Boccaccio's Decamerone. The black and white illustrations in this edition were made by Ogata Gekko, a celebrated Japanese artist.

Original cardboard cover. Cloth spine. Occasional rubbing on the cover. The spine is damaged. The ex-owner has a small inscription on the cover. Ink dirt on the extremities of the first few pages. Minor foxing on the contents. Otherwise it is in very good condition. Text in Japanese. **US\$595 / £ 440**

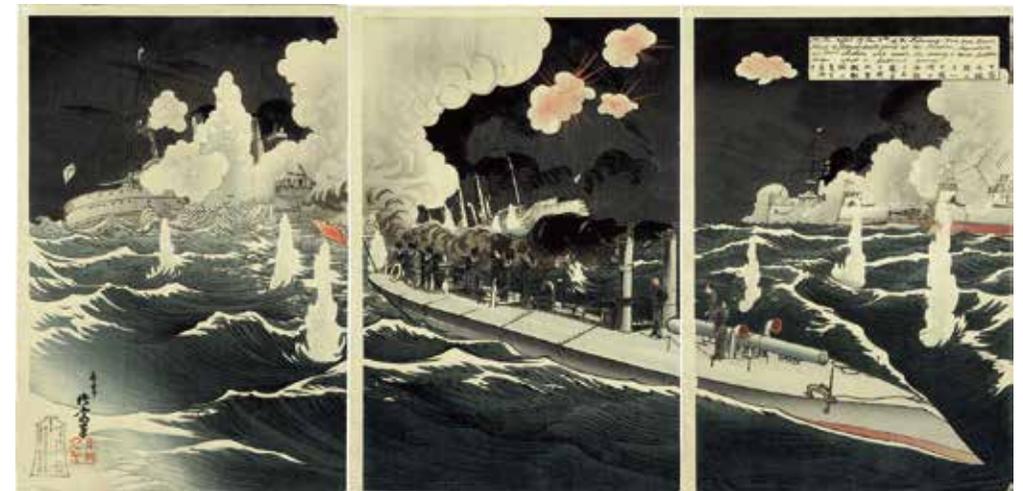


A Rough Sketch of a Russian Ship

15.
"Yoroshia Koku Bune no Ryaku-zu"
[ロシア国船之略図]
Unknown author, publisher.
Published around Kaei 7 [1855].

A large woodblock-printed 'kawaraban' [newspaper print] recording the arrival of the Russian ship the 'Diana', the flagship of a fleet captained by Yevfimiy Putyatin, in Tenposan-oki, Osaka, Kaei 7 [1855]. The fleet's arrival caused a great panic in Osaka; the fear of the Japanese people is symbolized in this print in the size of the ship and its large crew (150).

One leaf of woodblock print. 35.3x48cm. Mounted on card, minor wormholing, a few creases and tears. Very good condition. Text in Japanese. **US\$3,150 / £ 2,320**



Russian defeat in Port-Arthur, ukiyo-e

16. "On the night of the 8th of the February 1904, our brave Fleet of Torpedo-boats fired at the Russian Squadron at Port-Arthur and sank the enemy's three battleships. What a brilliant success!"

"Nichiro ryo-kaitai nigatsu yoka no yoru ryojun-ko dai-kaisen ni meiyō naru waga suirai-tei tekikan sanso wo gekichin su"
[日露両艦隊二月八日の夜旅順口大海戦に名誉なる我水雷艇敵艦三隻を撃沈す]

Migita, Yoshihide [painter], Tokyo: Akiyama Buemon [publisher], Meiji 37 (1904), first edition.

Gorgeous propaganda triptych showing the legendary battle of Port Arthur, which brought victory to the Japanese troops during the Russo-Japanese war. It was the first war with a Western foe during which Japan demonstrated its achievements in military engineering. The artist focuses the spectators gaze on the lovingly-detailed torpedo boat. The print itself bares the qualities of high-end woodblock printing: a polychrome nocturne sea battle in diagonal perspective with embossing on the velvet black waves.

Colour woodblock printing, triptych complete. Very minor wear on the corners of the prints, otherwise very clean and fine condition. Each 37x 25cm. Text in English and Japanese **US\$1,650 / 1,220**



Japanese portrait of a prominent Russian Diplomat

17.
“Rezanov scroll”
 [魯国使節レサノツト之像図幅]
 Unknown painter, Ca. 1804~.

This unique document, a small sketch for a future portrait, was made by an unknown Japanese painter. The vivid naturalistic drawing contains a detailed depiction of the uniform of Nikolay Rezanov (1764-1807), an extremely prominent Russian diplomat, nobleman and statesman. On September 6, 1804, Rezanov entered the port of Nagasaki aboard the ship Nadezhda with an ambitious idea to undermine the Tokugawa isolation. He spent half of a year in Dejima, to no avail. The documentary qualities of the sketch testify that the creator of the image saw the captain with his own eyes. The sketch is mounted on calico, or sitetz, fabric, to highlight that the model of the portrait as well as the framing pattern came from overseas.

Contemporary Japanese cloth Kakejiku binding.
 A few stains on the binding, some cleansing on the drawing.
 Overall very good to near fine condition.
 51x24.8cm (image size), 144x32cm (scroll size).
 Comes with an old wooden box.
US\$8,000 / £ 5,880



Early depiction of Russians in Japan

18.
“Roshia” [魯西亞]
 Utagawa, Yoshikazu [painter],
 Edo (Tokyo): Izumiya Ichibei [publisher],
 Bunkyo 1 (1961), first edition.

A rare ukiyo-e print showing two Russian officials in a very unexpected situation: sitting in low Asian chairs and using Japanese brushes for calligraphy. The two may have been employees of the consulate in Yokohama. The artist Utagawa Yoshikazu (active ca. 1850–70) was a pupil of famous painter Utagawa Kuniyoshi and a master of yokohama-e.

One leaf of woodblock print. 37x24.8cm. Some damages on the edges & corners, above side repaired.
 Overall very good condition. Text in Japanese **US\$1,350 / £ 995**



Pushkin's novel with Yoshitoshi illustrations

19. **“Sumisu Mari no den : Rokoku jōshi” [スミス・マリー之傳 : 露國情史]**
 Pushkin, Aleksandr Sergeevich [original author], Takasu, Jisuke [translator], Hattori, Busho [corrected], Tsukioka, Yoshitoshi [illustrator]. Tokyo: Takasaki Shobo [publisher], Meiji 19 (1886), second edition.

“The life of Mary Smith: a Russian Romantic story” is officially the second Russian book translated into Japanese. It is an adaptation of a famous novel written by Alexander Pushkin, “The Captain’s Daughter”. In the original, the name of the protagonist was Masha Mironova. But complicated Russian names were far from popular in Japan, so the publisher took the liberty to give the main characters more marketable names; he also invited Yoshitoshi to make illustrations. Thus, in Yoshitoshi’s portrait of Catherine the Great (who died in 1797), we see a European lady wearing a dress from the 1880s while sitting under a palm tree. The book is a brilliant example of what was meant by translation in the Meiji period.

Original cardboard binding, black cloth spine. Very minor chipping on the edges of the cover. Very tiny ex-ownership stamp on the first page. Occasional browning on the contents, otherwise near fine to fine condition. 18.3x12.4cm, 88p. 6 leaves of b&w copper plate engravings included. Text in Japanese. **US\$1,350 / £ 995**



The genius of Pushkin

20. **“Shiso Pushikin” [詩宗プーシキン]**
 Yasugi, Sadatoshi [author], Tokyo: Jidai shicho-sha [publisher], Meiji 39 (1906), first edition.

“Shiso” literally means “genius” or “Origin”. Published in 1906, the book is evidence of the importance of Pushkin in early modern Japanese culture. Perhaps the most valuable Russian writer, Pushkin also made a great impact on the literature of modern Japan, and especially on its poetry. The present book is both a biography of Pushkin and an analysis of his works, including a brief history of Russian literature. The book is in perfect condition and comes with an extremely rare dust jacket.

Original cloth wrapper with original dust jacket. Stamp by publisher on the dust jacket. Ex-owner’s inscriptions by red ink with brush on the contents. Otherwise clean & nice copy. 18.7x12.4cm, [6][6]+280+[6.ad]p. 4 leaves of offset printing plates included. Text in Japanese.

US\$550 / £ 405



Book of lithographs about the Siberian Intervention

21. “Shiberia Usuri no sentō Konomi Taii yūsen funtō meiyō no senshi” [救露討独遠征軍画報]
Tanaka, Ryozo [illustrator and publisher]; Tokyo, Shobido [publisher]. Taisho 7-8 (1918-1919), first edition.

An important episode in the Russian Civil War (1918-1922) is depicted here in a Japanese propaganda album. The album consists mainly of battle scenes where the White Army—with the help of Western allies, Japan and China—fights against Red troops. Two types of inscriptions in Japanese and English (translations). The episodes of the Far East front are entitled “The Siberian war”. Along with 17 pictures of the Far East and Siberia, the album includes one picture of World War I. Originally the editor and lithographer Tanaka Ryozo made the prints to sell them separately. The present album was bound by an ex-owner at practically the same time it was printed.

Eighteen colour lithographic plates bound into the oblong folding album, contemporary card board cover. Soiled, stained on the front cover. Original hand written title slip is scratched. Creasing on the center of the plates, some of the corners of the plates are chipped, affected only at the margins. Overall very good condition. Size 39x27cm (plate size 39x54cm). Text in Japanese and English. **US\$6,600 / £ 4,850**

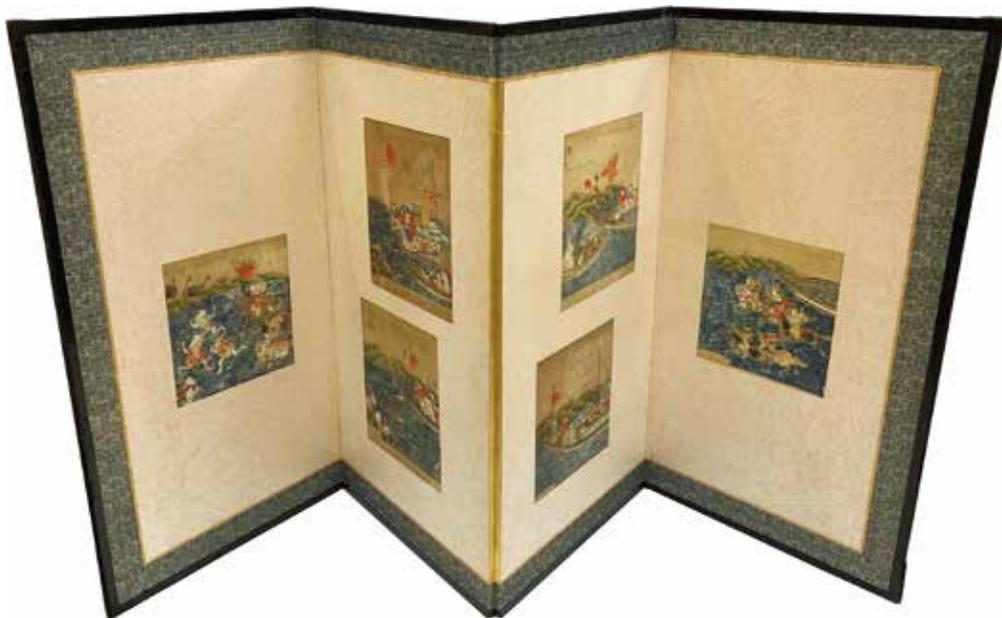


Melancholic views of the abandoned Palace

22. “Shina pekin-jo kenchiku” [支那北京城建築]
Ito, Chuta [author], Tokyo: Kenchiku kogei shuppan-jo [publisher], Tisho 15 (1926).

Chuta Ito (1867-1954) was a professor of architecture at Tokyo University. He sought the origins of Japanese architecture in China, Korea and Mongolia. The Japanese government sent him to study Western architecture in the United States, and he traveled to Europe along the silk road (Birma, India, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Europe), studying Asian Medieval ruins along the way. Upon his return, attitudes towards Asian antiquity started a long process of change. Under Chuta Ito’s protection, many of the remains of such cultural heritage were preserved. The Forbidden Palace is one example. The present book tells the story of when the palace was abandoned after the flight of the Emperor to Manchuria. The book is illustrated with collotype reproductions and hand-coloured woodblock prints of decorations and architectural plans. Curiously, the rare people depicted in the images are not staffers, but the lonely eunuchs, or cangan, of the Imperial Court. The present book is a rare smaller edition of the first bigger, even rarer version.

One volume complete, with original purple cloth slipcase. The slipcase, slightly discoloured, has some damage. 102 plates plus 10 title, contents & colophon page complete. Minor foxing on the plates otherwise very good to near fine condition. Text in Japanese. **US\$6,850 / £ 5,035**



Phantasmagoric folding screen with battle scenes
23. “Taishokan (Taishokkan) byōbu” [大職冠 屏風]

This splendid miniature folding screen, or the byōbu, was made in the 19th century. The battle scenes were taken from the scroll made in Nara ehon style. The style contains the name of the main production center - Nara. The masters were using bright colours, such as gold, and preferred contrasts in their compositions. The narrative pictures are detailed and epic. The present one was made in the late 17th century.

Taishokan is a phantasmagoric tale of the Muromachi (1333-1573) period about a gem embedded in the statue of Buddha, sent as a gift from the Japanese wife of the Chinese emperor to her homeland. When the Sea Dragon King stole the gem, the battle between humans and sea monsters started. The full story is long and varied, and is one of the popular subjects of traditional Japanese theater.

Japanese folding screen, 147.4x68.5 cm (68.5x37.2cm, when folding). Six plates paste down to the screen, roughly each 20x17 cm. Painted on gold freckled paper with Japanese colour inks made of mineral pigments (Iwa enogu), light chippings & rubbing on the plates. Back side of the screen has small bumps. Overall near fine condition. **\$4,250 / £ 3,125**



Ghost scroll

24.

“Yurei Zu-fuku” [幽霊図幅]

Keibun (景文) [painter]

Ca. late 18th to early 19th century.

A rare Japanese painting in the yurei-ga genre showing a female ghost. The remains of the ohaguro - teeth dying - tells us that she was married. The yurei-ga is always connected to a tragic story of death and sometimes of revenge. Such ghost-women are typically jilted lovers or mothers who lost their children. The ink painters chose the feminine macabre genre to practice anatomy and to show their skills in combining beauty and ugliness. In this case, the painter's anatomy skills are primitive (as to be expected in the 18th century), but the decorative qualities are on a very high level. The scroll itself represents a true “Ghost sonata” in black-and-white tones. Though there are two stamps and one signature on the work that suggest the painter was Keibun Matsumura, a prominent 18-19th artist, the attribution cannot be completely confirmed.

One scroll complete. Original cloth contemporary binding, and one tiny hole at the top of the scroll. 2cm square fingerprint on the top of the painting, some creasing, overall very good condition. Painted on Japanese washi paper with b&w by brush. Scroll size 171x22cm, image size 114x14cm.

Comes with a non-original custom made wooden box. **US\$5,800 / £ 4,270**



A Waka Poem Card Game from the 19th Century

25. “Hyakunin Isshu Karuta” [百人一首歌留多]

[Creator not identified].

[Japan, ca. Bakumatsu to early Meiji period (1830-70s)].

The Hyakunin Isshu Karuta, a game in which one person reads out the first half of a famous waka poem and others rush to be the first to touch the card on which the end of the poem is written, is the most famous card game in Japan.

The poems are traditionally taken from a selection of masterful waka poems compiled around the 13th century. Portraits of the poets who wrote the famous poems are featured on the illustrated cards. Until the 19th century, the Hyakunin Isshu Karuta was an important part of a bride's trousseau. This complete set includes one hundred poem cards and one hundred poet (illustrated) cards. All of the cards have been made from paper and speckled with gold leaf, and the illustrated cards have been woodblock printed with black pigment and then hand-coloured.

Two hundred cards, complete. Very minor marks, soiling. A few cards have very tiny wormholes. Otherwise, near fine condition. Housed in an original wooden box.

The lacquer on the button is damaged, with few losses. Cards measure 7.7 x 5.5 cm.

Text in Japanese. **US\$ 1,350 / £ 995**



The seven gaits of the Ichiwa school

26. “Ichiwa ryu bajutsu” [一和流馬術伝書]

A manuscript written in Banen 2 (1861) by Shinohe, Nikidayu. (signed & stamped by him.)

A horse-riding manuscript scroll explaining the seven main gaits of the Ichiwa ryu horse riding school. The school was established in the late 17th century.

Ichiwa school was based in the Morioka domain, situated in the Eastern part of Japan mainland.

The unknown artist uses only black ink splendidly. Seven black-and-white illustrations represent a sort of Japanese chiaroscuro. Nevertheless, the artist's knowledge about horse dressage is naive.

To emphasize the different patterns of leg movement he uses the difference in horse suits and horse equipment.

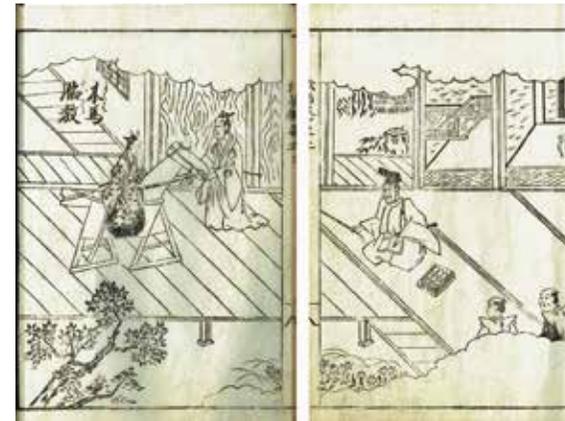
Otherwise his skills in horse anatomy are satisfying for 19th century Japan.

Annotation in red ink. Possibly made at the same time.

Original Japanese scroll binding. Contemporary fabric backed with gold flecked paper at the top and with wooden roller. Minor stains in the beginning of the scroll, a very few wormholes, faint creasing.

Overall near fine to fine condition. 24 x 445 cm. Text in Japanese

US\$3,850 / £ 2,840



Korean influence on traditional Japanese equestrianism

27. “Ootsubo honyu buba hitsuyo” [武馬必要]

Saito, Sadayasu [author] Edo (Tokyo) : Suharaya Mohei, Kyoho 2 (1717). First edition.

The author Sadayasu Saito (1657-1744) started his career as an apprentice of the equestrian school Ootsubo, the most famous equestrian school in Japanese history. Saito ushered in a revolution in riding technique in the 17th century by adapting the acrobatic techniques from Korea to the traditional Japanese style. His modernisation became popular, and Saito ultimately founded his own school.

This book covers the stylistic revolution brought about through the assimilation of techniques from Korea.

The book title “Buba hitsuyo” can also be translated as the “Necessaries of the Cavalry”.

The book is illustrated with eight double-sided woodblock prints, 11 overall. No copies outside of Japan. (OCLC)

Original Japanese fukuro toji binding with original title slip. Paper wrapper. Dirt and stains on the cover.

Small ex-owner stamp on the first page of each volume. Faint wormholing on the cover and the contents.

Lined by red ink on the contents. Large ink stains on two pages of the second volume. Otherwise still in very good condition.

22,8 x 16,4 cm. [20], [43], [15], [14], [25] leaves. Five volumes complete. Comes with a custom made slipcase. Text in Japanese.

US\$ 2,850 / £ 2,095



Ancient seasonal poetry book

28. “Shin Rokkasen gajo” [新六歌仙画帖]

Manuscript, unknown artist. Ca. late 17th to early 18th century.

Ancient Japanese accordion album bound with golden paper in various designs of clouds and flecks on blue backgrounds. On the center of each page the artist placed a patch with a different seasonal decorative motif and a poem written in beautiful calligraphy. The poems are all by the six sacred poets of Japan: Fujiwara no Shunzei, Kujo Yoshitsune, Jien, Fujiwara no Teika, Fujiwara no Iekata and Saigyō. The patches were taken from a scroll or a screen made earlier, possibly in the 18th or even in the 17th century. On the first page is a depiction of a Chinese deity, Zhong Kui, or Shoki.

Original contemporary cloth binding, oblong folding album.

One picture and six poems pasted down on four leaves of the album.

Some wear and damage on the extremities of the cover. Scratched on the front & end paper.

Otherwise the contents are in very nice condition. Book size 28.4x23.8cm. Text in Japanese. **US\$2,750 / £ 2,025**



A Lavishly Illustrated Set of “Bird & Flower” Books by Imao Keinen

29. “Keinen Kachō Gafu” [景年花鳥画譜]

Imao, Keinen [text and illustrations by].

Kyōto: Nishimura Sōzaemon, Meiji 24-25 [1891-1892]. First edition.

Imao Keinen (1845-1924) was a nihon-ga (Japanese-style) painter of the Kyoto Shijō school. Skilled at kachō-ga (bird and flower) paintings, he garnered high acclaim not only at the 1900 Paris Exposition but also at exhibitions around the world. A work that depicts Japanese birds together with the flowers that are most familiar to them, Keinen Kachō Gafu is divided into four volumes, each introducing birds and flowers of a different season. Interestingly, the illustrations were not painted in a traditional kachō-ga style but were produced in a modern realist style under the guidance of a naturalist instead. The beautiful woodblock prints were carved by master craftsman Tanaka Jihē.

Original gold-speckled wrappers, a little worn, scraped, and soiled. Minor wormholes to wrappers, endpapers, and first and last pages of each volume. Supplement with index in English originally consists of 4 leaves. In this copy one leaf is lacking.

Nevertheless the supplement itself is extremely rare. No copies in the libraries are known. Otherwise near fine. 4 v., complete.

27, 24, 24, 24 leaves. 36.9 x 25.5 cm. Comes with a custom made slip case. Text in Japanese. **US\$ 5,650 / £ 4,155**



Silk kimono for the book lovers

30.

“Shomotsu moyo Kosode-Kimono” [書物文様小袖]

Ca. Taisho period (1910-1930s)

Kosode is one of the types of traditional Japanese dresses - kimono - that appeared in pre-war Japan. As a sign of modernisation it represents not only a simplified version of complicated Japanese outfits, but also an absorption of avant-garde design. The ten more different patterns of the books are a kind of anachronism because they are typical book covers from the Edo era.

Silk, lining: silk. One piece H165xW132 cm.

Dry-cleaned. Fine condition.

US\$1,100 / £ 810



Manners and rules of the traditional Japanese wedding

31. “Konrei shiyo keshi bukuro” [婚礼仕用器粟袋]

Unknown author, Edo, Osaka, Kyoto: Nishimura Genroku et al [publisher], Kanen 3 (1750).

Two volumes of instructions on how to marry, written for the parents and the brides. Instead of using the hieroglyphs of the first and the last volumes, typical for such old books, the publisher used the signs of Crane and Turtle as symbols for longevity. The text comes with illustrations showing matchmaking ceremonies, dresses for the ceremonies, and instructions for preparing banquets according to a set menu and for wrapping presents. A special section is dedicated to the bride's skills. She must know music, sawing and calligraphy. The bride's chapter includes a list of necessary dowry: textiles, porcelain, money and her library, including the titles of the books (History of Prince Genji, for example). Little has changed in Japanese wedding rituals since the 18th century when the book was written.

2 volumes complete. Japanese fukuro-toji wrapper with original title slip. Rubbing on the wrapper.

Minor stains on several pages, otherwise near fine to fine condition.

Very old wooden box holds the inscription on the top mentioning the name of the clan (Fuji family).

13.2x18.2cm, [2]+60 leaves (total). Numerous b&w woodblock printing illustrations including. Text is Japanese.

US\$1,100/ £ 810



The book of a Tokugawa courtier, 19th century manuscript copy

32. "Shozoku chakuyo no zu" [装束着用之図]
Ise, Sadatake [original author]. Anei 7 (1778).

A lavishly handcoloured early 19th century manuscript copied from the original book written in 1778 by Ise Sadatake (1718-1784). The author was a prominent descendant of the samurai clan who created a school of manners for the upper class of the Tokugawa shogunate. The scroll contains an encyclopedia of formal clothing for courtiers, differentiated by order and based on the Daijō-kan system. Daijō-kan was the highest organ of Japan's government to be briefly restored to power after the Meiji era. These 18 images show the courtiers along with instructions about items, colours and the arrangements of accessories.

One scroll complete. Original contemporary paper bound. Occasional wormholing on the bottom of the paper. Small ownership stamps on the first part of the scroll. Very nice condition. Size 37,2 x 550 cm. Comes with an original wooden box. Text in Japanese. **US\$1,350 / £ 995**



The Last Work of Master Rinpa Artist Kamisaka Sekka: "Poems and Pictures"

33. "Uta-e" [うた絵]
Kamisaka, Sekka [illustrated by].
Kyōto: Unsōdō, Shōwa 9 [1934]. First edition.

Nihon-ga (Japanese-style) painter and designer Kamisaka Sekka (1866-1942) was a master of Neo-Rinpa, a style in which paintings and illustrations boldly incorporated the designs of the Rinpa school. Uta-e, Sekka's last book, created by him as a tribute to Rinpa school founder Hon'amī Kōetsu (1558-1637), contains 25 colour woodblock-printed illustrations. Each illustration is accompanied by a classical poem from the Kokin Wakashū, an anthology of medieval waka poetry dating from the 12th century (Heian period). The word uta-e used in the title refers to a genre popular from around the Heian period onwards in which stories and poems were symbolised in motifs.

Original wrappers. Slight waves to page corners. Very minor marks, otherwise near fine to fine. Housed in original slipcase, slightly soiled and corners damaged. 1 v., complete. 28 leaves. 30.9 x 21.8 cm. Text in Japanese. **US\$2,750 / £ 2,025**



Modernist silk designs of birds and flowers

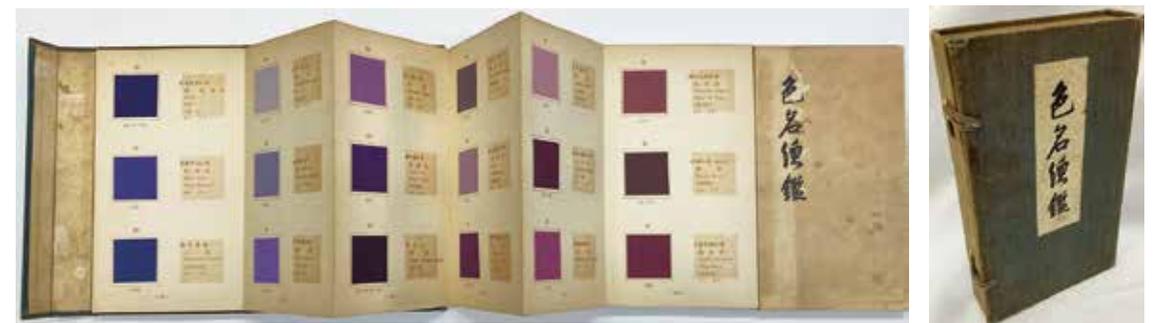
34. "Tansai Gafu" [単彩画譜]
Kyobashi, Masuichi 京橋増市/
Yoshida, Tamaki 吉田玉城/
Honda, Bansui 本多萬翠 [author]
Kyoto: Happo-do [publisher].
howa 15 (1940). Possibly second edition.



In Japanese "tansai gafu" means "simple colour picture book". This four-volume set was made by different artists, with the idea of making an abstract floral design with a very naturalistic depiction of Japanese fauna. The style of the albums appeals to European tastes.

The patterns were supposed to be used for silk kimono or fabrics destined to be exported. The production of Japanese silk for Western countries was established in the Meiji era, during the last decade of the 19th century. The book reflects the development of Japan's cultural relationships before WWII. The perfection of shapes and vivid colours already speaks to us in the language of the blossoming Modernity. The book also represents the final point of woodblock printing history. The artists graduated from the Kyoto neo-rinpa school. Extremely rare full set, no record in OCLC, CINII or National Diet Library.

Original cardboard folding album. Occasional stains on the cover, chipping on the edges. Ex-owner's stickers paste down on the front covers. Stamps on the title slip. Interior is quite nice, near fine to fine condition. 4 volumes complete. 36.8x25cm, [15][12][12][12] plates included. Comes with a non-original custom made cardboard slipcase. Text in Japanese. **US\$ 6,850/ £ 5,035**



Book of Colours

35. "Shikimei sokan" [色名総鑑]
Wada, Sanzo [author], Tokyo: Shunjusha [publisher], Showa 6 (1931) First edition.

Each sample is accompanied by the Japanese title and its English, French and (occasionally) German analogues. One of the earliest examples of a Japanese colour book with references to the Ridgway Colour Standards (1912) and the Standard Colour Reference of America (1915). The editor, Wada Sanzo, was a painter, printmaker and craft designer.

Two volumes complete. Plates part accordion style album 27 leaves, 19.5 x 11.3cm. Text part 178 pp, 19.5 x 11.3cm. Illustrated with 56 accordion folded plates with 160 mounted colour samples. Original cloth folding case. The top edges are gilded. Soiling of the case and the text, foxing. Very good condition. Text in Japanese.

US\$1,350/ £ 995



Views of nature and simple things by a Rinpa master

36. "Ouson Gafu" [鶯邨画譜]

Sakai, Hoitsu [painter] Edo (Tokyo), Suharaya Sasuke [publisher] N.D. Ca. 1840s or 1850s.

The quintessence of sophisticated Japanese simplicity. 25 beautiful colour double-page woodblock plates, made by the prominent artist Hoitsu Sakai (1761-1829). Sakai was a master of the Rinpa school, a leading group during the Edo period, and he drew his inspiration from the art of Ogata Korin (1658-1716). The retrospectivism of Sakai's style is hard for the untrained eye to recognise, but for the images speak in the language of lapidary perfection. The ex-owner's inscription on the wrapper bears witness to the fact that the book was published before 1853, when it was purchased. Nonetheless, this is a later printing of an album first published in 1817.

Original Japanese fukuro toji binding, paper wrapper, with original title slip. Some stains on the front wrapper, ex-owners inscription on the back wrapper. Slightly browned on the plates, overall very good to near fine condition. One volume complete. 25.6x18.1cm, 26 leaves (+6 leaves of advertisement). Text in Japanese.

US\$1,500 / £ 1,110



Lively Keisai sketches

38. "Keisai sogu" [蕙斎鹿画]

Kitao, Masayoshi (Ku wagata, Keisai) [author]

Owari (Nagoya), Eirakuya Toshiro & others [publisher] N.d., Ca. 1860s.

A book of sketches, or sogu, made by a prominent master of ukiyo-e, Keisai. The contents are varied, from animals (cats, dogs, horses, fish) and humans, to musical instruments, flowers and fruits. Soga, or quick painting, is a vivid genre of Edo woodblock printing that is intended to show artistry. The images of sogu are traditionally strict and simple, almost like an industrial design. At the same time, the best artists reveal for the viewer the moment of creativity, leaving brush strokes on a polichrome silhouette.

Kitao Masayoshi (born 1764, Edo) is maybe more famous in Japan than Hokusai and definitely more beloved. After joining the Kano school, he started to work under the name "Keisai", which is now recognisable around the world.

Original Japanese fukuro toji binding, paper wrapper, with original title slip. Some stains & rubbing on the wrappers, ex-owners stamps on each first page. Ink stains on the page edges at vol 1 & 4, a few pages have very tiny worm holes at vol. 4. The contents are clean & bright, near fine condition. 5 volumes complete.

15.8x22.7cm, [22][21][21][21][21] leaves. Text in Japanese.

US\$2,500/ £ 1,845



One hundred views of Mt. Fuji by Kano Tanyu

37. "Fuji Hyakkei (Hyaku Fuji)" [富士百景 (百富士)]

Kano, Tanyu [illustrated by] Osaka: Shunko-do, Ono Tokichi [publisher]. N.d. Ca. 1900s.

Since ancient times, Mt. Fuji has been worshipped as a sacred mountain. The most celebrated artist in the 17th century, Kano Tanyu (1602-1674), depicted Mt. Fuji dramatically alongside famous waka poems by numerous poets at that time. Tanyu's Mt Fuji had a great influence on Hokusai and other painters. 105 B&W woodblock prints illustration included.

Original Japanese fukuro toji binding, paper wrapper, with original title slip.

Minor stains & rubbing on the wrappers. Very few wormholes at the margins of the page, otherwise near fine to fine condition. 4 volumes bind in two books, complete. 25.4x18cm, Book.1 [3][27][26] leaves, Book.2 [25][28] leaves. Text in Japanese.

US\$1,350/ £ 995



Grotesque scenes of Tokyo at the end of the 19th century

39. "Odoke-zue" [御東京図会]

Kobayashi, Kiyochika [painter]. Tokyo: Fukuda Hatsujiro [publisher], Meiji 28 (1895), first edition.

Original cardboard cover with original title slip. Folding album. One volume complete, 17,6 x 11,8 cm. 12 leaves. Colour woodblock. Very lightly foxing on the cover. Very slight damage on the page edge. Otherwise near fine to fine condition.

Original Japanese fukuro toji binding, paper wrapper, with original title slip.

Minor stains & rubbing on the wrappers. Very few wormholes at the margins of the page, otherwise near fine to fine condition. 4 volumes bind in two books, complete. 25.4x18cm, Book.1 [3][27][26] leaves, Book.2 [25][28] leaves. Text in Japanese.

US\$1,650/ £ 1,220





A Collection of Masterpieces by Renowned Artist Hokusai

40. "Hokusai Gafu" [北斎画譜]

Katsushika, Hokusai [illustrated by].

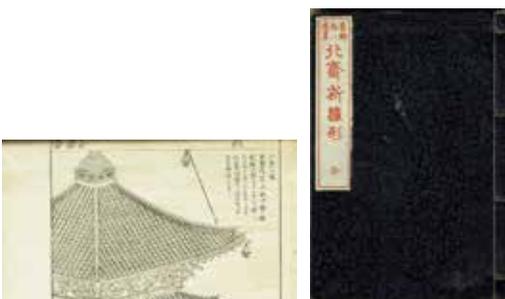
Nagoya: Tōhekidō [Eirakuya Tōshirō] ... [et al.], [ca. Bakumatsu to early Meiji period (1860-70s)].

This set of three volumes contains a selection of lightly coloured woodblock-printed illustrations of masterpieces by Hokusai, one of the most famous ukiyo-e artists. The works are filled with Hokusai's "essence", featuring themes such as past events in Japan and China, people's daily lives, landscapes, and bird and flower paintings. Both the quality and condition of the prints are very good. Basil Hall Chamberlain (1850-1935), whose ex-ownership stamp appears on the first page of volume two, was the most famous Japanologist of the late 19th century.

Original wrappers, with minor scrapes and soiling. Otherwise near fine to fine.

3 v., complete. 21, 21, 21 leaves. 22.7 x 15.8 cm. Text in Japanese.

US\$2,950 / £ 2,175



Hokusai's album for artists

41.

"Shin Hinagata" [新雛形]

Katsushika, Hokusai [illustrated by]

Tokyo: Yoshikawa Hanshichi [publisher]

Meiji Ca.1890-1900s

The book is a tutorial album for Hokusai's apprentices and followers, with instructions, samples and new designs. The most famous tutorial is the one with manga. This book includes shrine collection, including architecture, bells, sculpture-guardians, etc. A later printing of the first edition (1836), using the original colour woodblocks.

A later printing of the first edition (1836), using the original colour woodblocks. Original Japanese fukuro toji binding, with original title slip. Minor damage at the wrapper, otherwise near fine to fine condition. 23,8 x 16 cm. 26 leaves. One vol. complete. Text in Japanese.

US\$ 750 / £ 550

Precepts for Women, with illustrations by Hokusai

42. "Ehon Onna Imagawa" [絵本女今川]

Katsushika, Hokusai [illustrated by], Kyoto: Unsodo [publisher], Meiji 45 (1912).

Didactic stories for young ladies with "mannerist" Hokusai illustrations. Alongside predictable rules, such as "respect your husband as a God", the collection includes very unexpected don'ts. For example, "don't play music too much" or "don't go to the shrine". The didactic part is made up of the short version of the 24 virtues of Chinese women. The images are very controversial and ironic, as are most of Hokusai's works.

A later printing of the first edition (1844), using the original colour woodblocks.

Original Japanese fukuro toji binding, with original title slip. Minor scratchings on the wrapper. With tiny worm holes, the contents are in fine condition.

One vol. complete. 24 x 15,9 cm. 29 leaves. 13 double page illustrations. Text in Japanese.

US\$ 790 / £ 585



Folklore beasts of Snow Country by Hokusai

43. "Hokuetsu Kidan" [北越奇談]

Tachibana, konron [author], Ryutei, Tanehiko (1st) [corrected], Katsushika, Hokusai [illustrated by] Osaka: Fushimiya Kahei [publisher], Bunka 8 (1811) [at foreword].

Before the 1960s people called the prefecture of Niigata the "Backside of Japan". It was very hard to reach the Hokuetsu (Niigata) area. Being the main rice producer, the Hokuetsu area was very wealthy, but far from Edo. The book is an historical, economical and anthropological description of "Snow country".

The main part of the book is a compendium of mysterious folk legends of the region.

The author, an educated writer named Tachibana Konron collected the folklore in a modern way, describing it as an anthropologist or ethnographer. Hokusai was also operating at his highest level during that period. He expresses scenes freely, using abstract patterns in an impressionistic way, especially for atmospheric phenomena. All in woodblock technique.

Original Japanese fukuro toji binding, paper wrapper with original title slips. Minor wear on the wrapper. Chipping on the title slip. 19th century ex-owner's inscription at the back wrappers.

Owner's stamps on the last page of each volume. Very minor wormholes on volume 3. Otherwise very clean copy, fine condition. 6 volumes complete. 22.1x15.3cm, [26][23]27][23]26][20] leaves.

1 double page map, 21 double page and 16 single page illustrations. Comes with a custom made wooden box. Text in Japanese. **US\$ 7,900/ £ 5,850**

Ancient China through the eyes of Hokusai

44.

"Toshisen ehon (Gogon ritsu)"

[唐詩選画本 五言律]

Takai, Ranzan [author],

Katsushika, Hokusai [illustrator]

Edo (Tokyo): Kobayashi Shinbei,

Tempo 4 (1833).



A high-quality selection of Tang dynasty-era poems. The sixth of seven parts. A complete five volume set, with 44 single-page and 14 double-page black-and-white woodblock Illustrations by Katsushika Hokusai (1760-1849). The poetic compendium captures the baroque qualities of his blossoming artistry. The dynamic, rich and vivid images bear witness to the Japanese vision of China and its culture. For the landscapes, Hokusai uses techniques reminiscent of classical monochrome ink painting. For the seascape, he creates a depiction of a jonk, or a Chinese flat-bottomed sailing ship. Among the multiple genre scenes, one can see emblematic "Chinese" creatures: a peacock, a camel and a tiger, which Hokusai appears to never have seen in real life, but which are still recognisable and adorable in his rendering.

22,4 x 15,1 cm. 15, 15, 15, 15, 13 leaves. Original paper wrappers. Japanese fukuro toji binding.

Title slips are missing. Stains on the wrappers. Otherwise clean and nice copy. Text in Japanese. **US\$ 1,650 / £ 1.220**