1. Calligraphic Scroll by Fu Baoshi [傅抱石書幅]
Signed and stamped by the artist. Painted in Chinese ink with brush on paper. Dated 1934. Paper size 130x15.5cm, scroll size 148x21.5cm. Comes with wooden box.
A scroll by celebrated painter Fu Baoshi (1904-1965), who went to Japan in 1933 to study the history of oriental art at the Tokyo School of Fine Arts. He stayed in Japan from August 1933 to June 1935 and cultivated friendships with many Japanese artists. This scroll was painted in the spring of 1934, and was possibly a made for a Japanese friend of his. A small and lovely literary work by a great painter, with good provenance.

US$22,000  (HK$172,000)
A first edition of the first book in English written on Chinese grammar, by Robert Morrison (1782-1834), the first Protestant missionary to China. Morrison, considered largely responsible for introducing Western printing with movable metal type to China, is perhaps best known today for his Chinese translations of the Bible and his comprehensive Chinese dictionary. His lesser-known ‘Grammar’ was written to help Westerners (and more specifically, missionaries) with the basics of Chinese. Published slightly before his dictionary, in 500 copies, it is considered today ‘an important work in the history of missionary activity in China’ [Ma, 2015].

Morrison purportedly started work on his ‘Grammar’ in 1807, and completed the manuscript in 1811, sending it off to Joshua Marshman at the Serampore Mission Press in India for printing soon afterwards. After a miscellany of dubious delays and a four year wait on Morrison’s part, it was finally printed in 1815, a year after Marshman had printed his own grammar book (‘Elements of Chinese Grammar’) on the same press – making Morrison’s Grammar the first written book on Chinese grammar in English, but not the first published.

Whether Marshman copied Morrison’s work or not remains a highly contended issue amongst scholars of missionary history and the Chinese language, many of whom share the view that ‘it is very hard to believe that Marshman had not consulted Morrison’s manuscript during the period of about a year before his book was published’ [Su, 1996]. Morrison, justifiably, was furious that after waiting four years for his book to be printed, Marshman, to whom he had sent his manuscript and who ran the press, had decided to publish his own book on the same topic first. In a letter to the directors of the press Morrison complained that Marshman’s text was ‘a Grammar, compiled chiefly from mine, which [Marshman] kept lying by him in MS. whilst he took the substance of it, dressed it up, with other examples, and a few alterations, and gave it to the world as his own’ [Su, 1996]. Nevertheless Morrison’s book, covering verbs, nouns, numbers, pronouns, syntax, provincial dialects, etc., was a hit, and was considered by his contemporaries ‘a valuable work short and comprehensive’ [Lowndes, 1834].

US$12,000  (HK$93,870)
3. `An Historical and Geographical Description of Formosa, an Island Subject to the Emperor of Japan. Giving an Account of the Religion, Customs, Manners &c. of the Inhabitants. Together with a Relation of What Happen'd to the Author in his Travels...`

By George Psalmanaazar.


Eighteenth century blind-stamped calf boards, rebacked, five raised bands and title gilt in red compartment to spine. General wear, spine weak. Occasional marks and foxing to contents. Small hole to p.226 through to last page, slight tear to folding alphabet plate. Includes 16 plates (2 folding), erroneously numbered 1-8, 11, 9-10, 13-16 + 1 unnumbered pl. Illustrations show the inhabitants, currency, alphabet, and buildings of Formosa [Taiwan], as fabricated by Psalmanazar. First edition of the famous hoax on the customs, history, people and language of Taiwan by Frenchman Psalmanazar, who claimed to be the first native of Formosa to visit Europe. Unlikely though it may seem, Psalmanazar later became very good friends with Samuel Johnson. Includes an early example of a constructed language. Text in English. Extremely rare with 16 plates (two folding) intact.

US$8,050  (HK$62,800)

4. `The World in Miniature, or Entertaining Traveller...`

By John Fransham.

London: Published by S. Birt. (et al.), 1752. H.C. 17x10cm. 3rd edition. A 1700s best-selling travel guide to many countries. Includes 5 leaves of folding maps and 12 leaves of engravings. Hand-written inscription and ex-ownership stamps to endpapers. Raised bands and gilt title to spine. General wear to boards, remainder of a sticker to lower pastedown of v.2, lower endpaper of v.1 coming away from binding. Small tears and light browning to some illustrations. A little wormholing to the last few pages of v.2. Nevertheless in remarkably good condition for age. Includes the American continent, Brazil, Chile, Peru, Porto Rico, the Bahamas, Barbados, New York, New England, Canada, Mexico, Siam, Japan, China, Europe, and so on. Very good. Text in English.

US$1,375   (HK$10,800)

5. `Ressen Zenden` [列仙全傳 / All Legends of the Liexian Zhuan]

By Oosetei (Shizhen Wang) ; Yun-p'eng Wang ; Liu Xiang.


US$945  (HK$7,400)
6. ‘Vue Perspective de la Grande Ceremonie du Couronnement de l’Empereur de la Chine’
A Paris chez Mondhare rue St. Jacques a l’Hotel Saumur, ca.1770. 26x39cm. Copperplate engraving, hand-coloured, showing the coronation of the Emperor of China. Fine condition. Text in French. US$545 (HK$4,280)

7. ‘13e Vue d’Optique nouvelle representant le Temple de Kekia, un des plus Gds. Prophètes de la Chine qui naquit dans les Indes, environ mil ans avant Jesus-Christ’
A Paris chez J. Chereau rue St. Jacques au defous de la Fountaine St. Severin No.257, ca.1770. 27x41cm. Copperplate engraving, hand-coloured, showing a Chinese temple and statue of Buddha. Light foxing to margins, print itself in nice condition. Text in French. US$475 (HK$3,720)

8. ‘Morokoshi Kinmo-zui’ [ 唐土訓蒙図彙 / Illustrated Encyclopedia on China]
By Ansen Hirazumi, ill. by Morikuni Tachibana.
Osaka: printed by Maekawa Zenbei, preface dated 1799, printed ca. 1860-70s. 15 v., complete, bound in 7. 22.5x15.4cm. Ex-ownership stamps and a little wormholing to a few volumes, otherwise in nice condition. An illustrated encyclopedia by the celebrated artist Morikuni Tachibana, influenced by Chinese knowledge of astronomy, geography, natural science, and so on. With many illustrations including maps, legendary Chinese figures, monsters, animals, etc. Includes a map based on an original by Matteo Ricci. Text in Japanese. US$2,050 (HK$16,000)

9. Enroku [ 煙録 / Notes on Tobacco]
By Otsuki Gentaku.
[Edo]: Shirando, [1809]. 27.2x16.8 cm. First ed. 3 v., complete. On the origins, required ‘tools’, health benefits, dangers, and ways of enjoying smoking tobacco. Including numerous illustrations of smoking-pipes from different countries. Cataloguing information pasted to verso of front cover. Binding thread cut on v.2. Occasional browning/stains to contents of v.1 and 3. Title plate missing from the front cover of v.1. Occasional wormholing, mostly repaired. With the ex-lib stickers of ‘Bibliotheca Japonica, W. Braumuller, Wien’. In nice condition, and scarce. US$5,750 (HK$45,000)
10. ‘Inu Oumono’ [犬追物 / Hunting for Dogs]  Possibly copied by Kazuki Sogou (a member of a master horseriding clan), ca. late 17th to early 18th century. 29.5x20.5cm. 9 v. S.C.  Original title slips and Japanese watoji bindings. With very minor wormholing, else in fine condition. A set of 9 manuscript books, ‘Mano Inu Oumono’ (16 l.), ‘Inu Oumono Noki’ (10 l.), ‘Nawaya Sata Ki’ (8 l.), ‘Uchitegusoku-otekumi’ (17 l.), ‘Baha Nawaya Sata’ (9 l.), ‘Nikki’ (9 l.), ‘Uchite Gusoku’ (v.2)(16 l.), ‘Kamakurajidai – Kojitsu Kakugo Jojo’ (11 l.), and ‘Hinkisei’ (v.1)(23 l.). ‘Inu Oumono’ (hunting dogs) was a Japanese traditional sport and ceremony for demonstrating archery and horse riding skills. Dating from the 13th century, it eventually went out of fashion in the 18th century because of its brutality. The last recorded hunt was in 1891, for Nicholas II of Russia. The original version of this book was written by Sadahira Ise in the early 17th century. It is extremely rare to find a collection of volumes on this topic copied in the same hand. A very scarce large 9 volume set of books on Japanese hunting, archery, and horse riding rules and manners, with numerous illustrations.  

US$5,450 (HK$42,500)

11. ‘Seiyo Ganka Shinhisho Gankyu-setsu’ [西洋眼科真秘書眼球説 / The Secrets of Western Ophthalmology, a Study of Eyeballs]  Manuscript scroll by Shigemitsu Isaji (伊佐治重光), as requested by Taian Sakiyama (崎山大庵), ca. 1830s. 18x265cm, plus a 90cm description written on the verso on Japanese paper. Some minor wormholing and rubbing, else fine. The author Isaji was a famous medical historian of the late Edo period, and this scroll is an early reference to western ophthalmology. Includes 29 illustrations of eyeballs and 7 illustrations of medical equipment.  

US$1,625 (HK$12,800)


US$545 (HK$4,280)
13. ‘Kaigai Shinwa’ [海外新話 / News from Abroad (Opium War)]
Published Kaei 2 (1849). S.C.
Uyusei (v.1) / Shusai (v.2) ; Fuko, Mineta (preface). Illustrated by Utagawa Sadahide. An extremely rare first edition 10 v. set of books on the First Opium War between China and Britain in 1839-42. ‘Kaigai Shinwa’ (originally 5 v.) was filled with information on the Opium War and was so popular that a second ‘part’ also in 5 v. was released later the same year. Illustrated, with woodblock prints of maps, weaponry, sea battles, and so on, occasionally coloured. Text switches between Japanese and Japanised Chinese. A little wormholing, slight rubbing to wrappers, part 2, v.1 & 3 title slips missing. Nevertheless unusual in such nice condition.
US$3,450  (HK$27,000)

14. ‘Dattan Shohaiki Kaigairo-kosetsu’ [鞑靼勝敗記 : 海外路巷說 / Tales from Abroad of the War of the Qing and Ming Dynasties]
Author unknown. Osaka: printed by Bokuteisha, ca. 1850s. 5 v., complete. 25.5x17.8cm. S.C.
Stains and rubbing to covers, very minor wormholing to contents, otherwise in fine condition. Contains records of rumours heard from abroad about China - especially about the Taiping Rebellion, which was, in Japan, mistakenly believed to be a war between the Qing and Ming Dynasties. Probably published in 1854, when Japan was particularly nervous about the Opium war and was interested in any news on China. Text in Japanese. US$945  (HK$7,400)

15. ‘Dainihon, Igirisu, Tsuon Iroha Gana’ [大日本イギリス通音いろは仮名 / Japanese and English Alphabet Sound Characters]
Ca. Bakumatsu [1840-50]. 36x47.5cm. A large double-leaf woodblock print showing the way of writing and sounding out the Japanese alphabet in English. Slight wormholing, margin stained. US$270  (HK$2,100)

16. ‘Kaigai-Yowa’ [海外餘話 / Strange Tales from Abroad]
By Suimu Chijin.
Gyoyo-do, 1855. 5 v., complete. 25.8x18cm. S.C. Slight rubbing to covers, light stain to last few pages of v.5, otherwise in fine condition, with original title slips. A set of books on the Opium War, with numerous woodblock-printed illustrations of the Qing Dynasty army fighting the British Navy for their freedom. The rare first illustrated edition of the original 1851 book by the same author. It is hard nowadays to find anything other than the original, non-illustrated edition. Text in Japanese. US$2,050   (HK$16,000)

17. ‘Gaikoku Kannin Orai no Zu’ [外国官人往来之図 / Illustration of Foreign Officials in the Street]
By Utagawa Yoshikazu.
Marujinban, Mannen Gannen [1860]. 1 printed leaf (nishiki-e). Very lightly foxed and with a few small repairs. A woodblock-printed illustration of three foreigners outside the foreign consulate in Yokohama. US$375  (HK$2,950)
18. Anti-Christian Decree [きりしたん制札]
Otsumura, Aichi Prefecture, [Keio 4 [1868]].
A Keio era (1865-7) wooden placard banning Christianity, originally used in a town called Otsumura, Aichi Prefecture (this town no longer exists). From 1612 to 1872 Christianity was banned by the government in Japan, and it was only in Meiji 6 [1873] that boards such as this were ordered by the Meiji government to be destroyed. This particular board reads: ‘Law: 1. We strictly condemn Christianity, just as before. 1. Heretic religions we also strictly condemn. Keio [4], third month, Daiyokan [Government]. The above laws must be obeyed. Aichi Prefecture.’ Placards which have both the date and town recorded are rare, as most were made without either. The board itself was made in the Keio period (apparently Keio 4) but it is possible it was altered in the Meiji period as the word ‘Keio’ has been partially rubbed out. There are a few small holes to the board and a few cracks, otherwise it is in very nice condition for age. A rare and fascinating piece of cross-cultural history. US$2,700  (HK$21,000)

19. ‘Kikai Kanran Kogi’ [気海観瀾広義 / Kikai Kanran Enlarged]
By Johannes Buys, trans. by Kawamoto Komin.
Izumiya [et al.], Ansei 3 [1856]. 5 v., complete. 25.8x17.7cm. S.C. Original large format Japanese binding, slight staining and wear to covers. An illustrated guide to western physics theories for Japanese readers. An enlarged version of ‘Kikai Kanran’ (1825), the first book of physics in Japan, which was in turn based on Johannes Buys’s ‘Natuurkundig schoolboek’. Text in Japanese. US$675  (HK$5,280)

20. ‘Dai Shushin Gokui Tai Satsu’ [大拾身極大殺 / Secrets of the Weaknesses of the Human Organs]

21. ‘Kokokan Gayo’ [畑香館畫譜 / Painting Manual from the Hall of Cultivating Fragrance]

22. ‘Yokohama Ohige Dodoitsu’ [横浜お髭都々逸 / Yokohama Bearded ‘Dodoitsu’ Songs]
Unknown author and publisher, published ca.1858 according to the ex-ownership inscription on the flyleaf. 17.5x11.5cm. Japanese watoji binding, 8 leaves. S.C. Wrappers slightly rubbed and stained, occasional browning to contents, otherwise in nice condition. A Japanese limerick, or ‘dodoitsu’, book about foreigners in Yokohama. Such types of popular song book were usually abandoned soon after losing popularity, thus making them particularly scarce. An extremely rare comical song book satirizing foreigners, with numerous illustrations. US$945  (HK$7,400)
23. *Seiyou Moji Chieka* [西洋文字稚絵解 / Western Writing for Children]
By unknown author and publisher, almost certainly published in 1871 from its censorship seal. Oblong folding album. S.C. 17.4x156cm, coloured woodblock printing, with original title slip. Paper a little browned, otherwise amazingly in fine condition. A pictorial guide to western writing ‘for Japanese ladies and children’ who wanted to learn with lovely illustrations. Coloured editions are very rare. Not in OCLC. Only two copies of the same book known in Japanese libraries. US$2,050 (HK$16,000)

24. *Oyucha-san* [おゆちゃさん]
By F.M. Bostwick ; ill. by Okada Baison.

25. *Shochu Yogaku Dojikun* [掌中洋学童子訓 / Handbook of Western Knowledge for Children]
By Isshi Shoun.
[Tokyo?] [s.n.], 1871. Oblong folding album. 16.8x6.5 cm. Total length 345cm. S.C. Ex-ownership stamp to title, small stain to foot, general wear and marks, a few wormholes. Unique pictorial book about western knowledge, English and French spelling and words, western clocks, etc. Copperplate-engraved, which is rare for Japan in this period. Includes interesting map with Antarctica and Australia at the top and Europe at the bottom. US$1,625 (HK$12,800)

26. *Peking Yume Makura* [北京夢枕 / Peking Dream Pillow]
Illustrated by Ippyou Inmaizumi. Tokyo: Megobei Okura, 1884. 2 l., complete, attached. A satirical ukiyo-e woodblock print about the Opium War, with China painted as a giant ‘Gulliver’-type figure smoking opium, attacked by tiny French soldiers. Light staining to extremities, margins trimmed. Fine. US$2,050 (HK$16,000)

28. ‘The Flowers of Remembrance and Forgetfulness’
Told in English by Mrs. T.H. James.
Tokyo: T. Hasegawa, c1896. First ed. 1 v., complete. 19.2x13.5cm. 11 l. (including covers). S.C. Front and back covers, worn & soiled, may have been detached once and then glued back on. Back wrapper with repair to the inner margin and some soiling. Contents slightly browned. A Japanese folk-tale of two brothers who treat their father’s passing very differently. Fair condition only. However, rare in any condition. Text in English.
US$120  (HK$940)

29. ‘Yamato Nishiki’
[大和錦 / Japanese Patterns]
By Suzuki Mannen.
Kyoto: Tanaka Jihe, Meiji 21-24 [1888-1891]. First ed. 5 v., complete. 11.7x17.9cm. 70 l. (continuously paginated). S.C. Original bindings, title slips a little worn. Some small stains to the bindings, as usual. Small ink notation to right margin of upper board of v.1 and 4. Small hole to page 53. All volumes complete with red front pastedowns (6 cm loss to front pastedown of v.1). Otherwise in very nice condition, and a clear printing. Suzuki Mannen’s first collection of colour woodblock prints of birds, flowers, insects, humans, scenery, patterns, etcetera, all captioned. Near fine. Text in Japanese.
US$550  (HK$4,300)

30. ‘John Orr Ewing & Co. Best Turkey Scarlet’ Label
Yedo, Yokohama & Hiogo: H. Ahrens & Co.; John Orr Ewing & Co., ca. mid-Meiji period [1870-80s]. 16.7x13.3cm (printed section). Lithograph. Three sides of a box, the printed advertisement tipped-in to the upper board. Some discoloration and creases to design, otherwise in surprisingly good condition for age. An extremely scarce example of a label from a foreign-run firm in Meiji Japan.
US$445  (HK$3,480)

31. ‘Chiri Shoho’ [地理初歩 / First Steps in Geography]
US$160  (HK$1,250)

32. ‘Office Book of S. Andrew’s Mission, Tokyo’
Tokyo, The Tokyo Tsukiji Type Foundry, 1896.
First ed. 1 v., complete. 16.2x10.5cm. 47 p. S.C. Original black cloth binding. ‘Office Book. S. Andrew’s Mission Tokyo’ to upper board, gilt, St. Andrew’s emblem and borders blind-stamped. Green silk ribbon intact. Binding in delicate condition, almost loose, spine missing. An extremely rare prayer book used by a missionary at the St. Andrew’s Mission in Tokyo in the 1890s, with numerous fascinating notes and prayers in a contemporary hand. Published and printed at the Tokyo Tsukiji Type Foundry, founded by ‘Japan’s Gutenberg’ Shozo Motogi. The St. Andrew’s Mission was established in 1879 by Alexander Shaw (1846–1902), a Canadian missionary and member of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts (S.P.G.). The handwritten notes record the movements of the owner, like the names of the missions he visited on different days of the week, and also include his own prayers and corrections to the text. The book itself records the way the Mission was run, and includes a form of sext with intercessions, proper antiphons and chapters, missionary psalms, a missionary litany, and a form of compline. Sir Ernest Satow is known to have attended some services at the Mission as well. It is possible that the handwritten notes could belong to Edward Bickersteth (1850–1897) Bishop of South Tokyo). Near fine. Text in English.
US$1,800  (HK$14,100)
33. ‘Tomon Hyakka’ [都紋百華 / Collection of 100 Patterns from Kyoto]
By Adachi Shinsoku.
Kitamura Shirobe, Meiji 24 [1891]. 1st ed. 2 v., complete. Japanese S.C. binding, 26x17cm. Slight wear to wrappers, ex-ownership stamps. All pages colour woodblock-printed, includes a total of 100 beautiful dyeing and weaving patterns. US$945 (HK$7,400)

34. ‘Dogan Manshi’ [童顔満誌 / Baby Face Match Labels]
1870-1900. 11.7x8.3cm. H.C. A silk-bound accordian-style book, all 4 edges gilt, with 66 tipped-in coloured matchbox labels made in Japan, made for sale in Asia, particularly China. The labels date from the early Meiji-Taisho periods and mainly depict children playing. Endpapers are flecked with gold. Never published - was made by a collector. Some wear to the edges and corners, minor foxing to the margins, and a small dent to the bottom text block edge, but silk title plate intact and contents and labels very clean and bright. US$645 (HK$5,050)

35. ‘Nihon Hyoryu-tan’ [日本漂流譚 / A History of Japanese Castaways]

36. ‘Beisen Manyu Gajo’ [米僊漫遊画乗 / Beisen China Travel Album]
By Kubota Beisen. Tokyo: Jihei Tanaka, 1889-1890. First edition. 2 v., complete. S.C. Was originally published as one volume, but due to incredible popularity a second volume was published the next year (1890). Coloured woodblock prints of 25 scenes of Beisen’s trip to Shanghai and Hong Kong, including images of birds, scenery, people smoking opium, buildings, and so on. Binding string cut, but plates bright and clear. US$3,250 (HK$25,500)
37. Fete Japonaise Crepe Paper Poster
[Belgium: A. Siffler, ca.1880s?]
Colour woodblock-print on crepe. Colours printed fairly roughly, crepe flattened in a few places, otherwise in nice condition for age. A crepe paper poster in French and Dutch advertising a Japanese Fete, with attractions, games, a theater, waffles, a buffet, etc., at the Place du Lion d’Or. The poster was printed by Siffler, a Prussian publisher with a shop in Belgium, although it is difficult to know whether the paper was creped at his workshop or specially imported from Japan. In the 1880s-90s Japanese crepe paper books (chirimenbon) and ephemera were extremely popular as souvenirs due to the delicate and beautiful nature of the paper and woodblock printing. This is an extremely rare example of the use of crepe paper for ephemera outside of Japan in the same period. Text in French and Dutch.

US$2,500 (HK$19,500)

38. `Shokoku Rokujyu-hakkei: Tsushima Kaigan`
[諸国六十八景の内: 対馬海岸 / Sixty-Eight Views of the Various Provinces: The Coast of Tsushima Island]
By Hiroshige II.
Bunkyu 2 [1892]. 18.4x25.3cm. A print showing a foreign ship on the coast of Tsushima Island, from Hiroshige II’s ‘Sixty-Eight Views of the Various Provinces’ series. A clean and bright print. Hiroshige II (Utagawa Shigenobu (1826-1869)) was the chief student of Hiroshige I, and, as he only produced works for ten or so years, his prints are rare. Tsushima Island was a midway point for trade between Japan, Korea and China. Comes in passepartout.

US$545 (HK$4,280)

By Karl Florenz.
Leipzig ; Tokyo: C.F. Amelang ; T. Hasegawa, Meiji 28 [1895].
First edition. 1 v., complete. 19x15cm. 79, 4 p. S.C. In original colour woodblock-printed slipcase, both ivory clasps and silk ties present, minor wear to extremities (as usual), spine title strip pasted on. One slipcase hinge starting. Book itself near fine, contents beautifully printed and only with a little wear and two creases to lower wrapper. This copy includes the extremely rare ‘Korrektur’ [errata], colour woodblock-printed on crepe paper. A first edition of Florenz and Hasegawa’s ‘Japanische Dichtungen. Weissaster [Japanese Poems. White Aster]’, colour woodblock-printed on crepe paper (chirimen). Near fine. Text in German.

US$750 (HK$5,850)

40. `Cho Senshu` [蝶千種 / Collection of a Thousand Butterflies]
By Kamisaka Sekka.

US$2,975 (HK$23,200)
41. `Kyo Moyo` [京都模様 / Kyoto Patterns], Volume 1
Preface by Meiji-period journalist and novelist Kaneko Shizue [Kaneko Kinji].
Kyoto: Unsodo; Kyoto Koekai Ishobu, Meiji 39 [1906]. 37.3x23.5cm. S.C.
A book of 30 stunning colour woodblock-printed kimono designs published jointly by the famous printing house Unsodo and the Kyoto affiliate of the department store `Takashimaya`, the Kyoto Koekai Ishobu. No records in OCLC or Japanese library databases, so it is possible that only volume 1 was ever published.
US$805 (HK$6,300)

42. `Nihon Daishori Makero Ponchi` [日本大勝利 まけ露ポンチ / Japan’s Great Victory: Comic on the Defeat of Russia]
US$1,080 (HK$8,450)

43. `Nichiei Doumei Ponchi Yukai` [日英同盟ポンチ愉快 / Amusing Comic on the Anglo-Japanese Alliance]
By Okamura Shoubi (author & publisher). Tokyo: Okamura Shobei, 1902. First ed. 11.5x16.8cm, S.C., 10 leaves, contents copperplate-engraved. Chipping & rubbing to cover, pages slightly stained/browned, otherwise in surprisingly nice condition for the type of paper used. Japanese comic influenced by British satirical magazine `PUNCH`. In 1902, the United Kingdom and Japan created an alliance protecting their respective interests in China, and the Japanese were very pleased with their first military alliance with a western country. Includes comical illustrations of a sumo wrestler in a bout with an English man, Japanese people becoming `westernised`, and so on. Very scarce and unique, not in OCLC or any Japanese library record.
US$1,080 (HK$8,450)
44. *I am a Cat* (Chapter I, Chapter II) [吾輩は猫である]
By Natsume Kinnosuke [Natsume Soseki]; trans. by Ando Kannichi; ill. by Hashiguchi Goyo.
Tokyo: Y. Okura, 1906 [actually 1908]. First edition, later printing. 18.7x12.4 cm. 3, 133 p. H.C.. Original thin boards, spine chipped. Minor browning to margins of binding and spine, as usual, not affecting design. Endpapers browned, otherwise contents in nice condition. Several pencil inscriptions. Includes 1 pl. colour illustration (with tissue guard), and a smaller black and white cut on the last page. Tokyo: Okura Shoten, Meiji 41 [1908] in the Japanese colophon, Tokyo: Y. Okura & Co., 1906 on the English title page. The first English translation of Natsume Soseki’s classic of modern Japanese fiction. While this volume states only Okura as the publisher, other slightly earlier copies of the same book were published by Hattori Shoten. Okura and Hattori had jointly published the first Japanese edition of Soseki’s book, Hattori being a branch of the bigger Okura publishing company. The Hattori printing seems to have been earlier than the Okura printing, therefore making this copy a later printing of the first edition, or the first ‘Okura’ edition. It is also unknown how many copies were printed, although it is assumed there were not many, as publication stopped after Chapter III. Near fine. Text in English.
US$3,800  (HK$29,700)

45. ‘Nihon Gangu-shu’ [日本玩具集 / Japanese Traditional Toys]
By Jido Yohin Kenkyukai (Shiniichi, Takeda).
Kyoto: Unsodo, 1915. First ed. 2 v. + explanatory booklet, complete. Comes in original slipcase. Oblong folding album, 25x18cm. H.C. In 1911, traditional Japanese toys were exhibited at the International Hygiene Exhibition in Dresden, Germany. The toys had a great reception at the fair, and this book was published as a result. Contains 76 woodblock-printed illustrations of toys, lavishly coloured. A beautiful collection of examples of Japanese folk toys, in nice condition.
US$2,050  (HK$16,000)

46. ‘Jou Jou’ [寿々 / The Children’s Friend]
By Yamanouchi Gohachi.
Kyoto: Unsodo, Taisho 7 [1918]. 1st ed. 28x18cm. 2 v., complete. S.C. A first edition 2 volume set of ‘Jou Jou’, on rare toys from around the world, including shadow puppets from islands in the Southern Ocean, Chinese papier-mache items, bird whistles of the Barbizon, Parisian carnival masks, Russian dolls, and so on. Each volume includes 50 pages of stunning coloured woodblock prints. Some scratches, minor wear, and ex-library stickers to bindings, occasional browning/offsetting to contents, foxing and ex-library stamps to text pages. Illustrations beautiful and bright. With original title slips. One of a limited edition of 100 copies published in 1918.
US$805  (HK$6,300)
47. ‘The Great Festivals of Japan: Calendar for 1912’
First edition. 1 v., complete. 14.7x9.7 cm. 7 l. (including covers). S.C. Original Japanese fukurotoji stab-binding, silk ties intact. Book colour woodblock-printed on crepe paper (chirimen). Minor wear to binding, small loss to bottom right corner of upper cover. Front hinge of fukurotoji starting. One of Hasegawa’s rarer chirimenbon calendars featuring Japan’s most famous festivals, ordered by season. The illustrator is most likely to be Sensai Eitaku, who illustrated many other of Hasegawa’s publications. Rare, and beautiful. Not mentioned by Baxley and no copies found in OCLC. Near fine. Text in English. US$780  (HK$6,100)

48. ‘Orienta Azio’ [2 v.]
By Harada Takeyoshi.
Original quaint colour hectographic wrappers, bindings hand-sewn. Two issues, December 1913 and May 1914. Includes numerous hectographic illustrations, possibly hand-coloured. The journal ‘Orienta Azio’, printed in Esperanto and Japanese, was published monthly between 1911 and 1916 in Tokyo. The journal was advertised as ‘the only beautiful magazine with colored illustrations published in Japan, China and Korea’. One issue in the Bodleian, otherwise no records in OCLC or Japanese databases. Fine. Text in Japanese and Esperanto. US$650  (HK$5,100)

49. An Original Portrait Photograph of Korean Imperial Prince Yi Yun [李垠・肖像写真]
Ca. 1920s, taken by the Ashikaga Omote Studio, Tochigi Pref., Japan. 18x26cm albumen print mounted in an original album. Album boards stained, print itself in fine condition. Yi Yun (1897-1970) was the 28th Head of the Korean Imperial House. He married Japanese Imperial Princess Masako in 1920 and became an Imperial Japanese Army General. He was the last crown prince of Korea, and this rare photograph was taken during his early days in Japan.
US$2,050  (HK$16,000)

50. Four ‘Asahi Caramel’ Posters (アサヒキャラメルポスター)
[Tokyo: Asahi Caramel, circa early Showa [1930s]]. 38.2x13cm. Possibly silkscreen printing. Slight creasing, occasional marks, otherwise fine for age. US$230  (HK$1,800)

51. ‘Bulletin de la Societe des Mission-Etrangere de Paris’
Imprimerie de Nazareth, Hong Kong: Paris Foreign Missions Society, 1922-1923. 21x13.5cm. 712 & 816 p. Includes issue no 1 (1922) to issue no.24 (1923). Occasional minor rubbing and foxing to contents, tape repair to one page. Includes reports and photographic illustrations of missionary activities in China, Asia, and Japan. A full two-year set (24 issues) of the Bulletin, bound in 2 v. Text in French. US$1,080 (HK$8,450)
52. Two NYK Cruise Ship Woodblock-Printed Menus from 1928
[Japan]: Nippon Yusen Kaisha, 1928. 26.3x19.5cm.
Two one-leaf menus, colour woodblock-printed on both sides, from the S.S. Hakozaki Maru and the Taiyo Maru. A little foxing to the verso of the Hakozaki menu, slightly visible from the recto. Otherwise fine. While the artist of the Taiyo Maru menu is unknown, the Hakozaki menu is stamped (in the block) Watanabe Kazan. Both beautiful menu designs in a decidedly oriental (as opposed to Japanese) style. Fine. Text in English. US$245  (HK$1,910)

53. 'Moyo Zushiki: Monyo-sen' [模様図式:紋様選 / Pattern Illustrations: Selection of Designs]
By Mori Kyokurei.
Kyoto: Okuue Shoshi, 1930. First edition. 1 v., complete. 25x18.5cm. H.C. Unpaginated.

54. 'Kindai Soka Zushu' (近代挿花圖集 / A New Selection of Modern Flower Arrangements)
Arranged by Teshigahara Sofu ; explained by Mieri Shigemori (explained by) ; retold in English by Mitsuharu Hashizume.

55. 'Tanoshimi-Bukuro' [Fun Pouch] Label, featuring Mickey and Minnie Mouse [玩具：タノシアミ袋]
[Japan, circa early Showa period [1930s]]. 14.4x8.5cm.
Offset printing. Some tears, minor browning. Front wrapper only of an envelope which would have contained toys. An early example of Japanese commercial advertising featuring Disney characters. US$120  (HK$940)


US$220 (HK$1,720)

57. ‘Peking Studies’

By Ellen Catleen; ill. by F.H. Schiff. Shanghai: Kelly & Walsh, 1934. 37.5x26 cm. H.C. Folio. 87 p. A first edition of this early 20th century guide to Peking by Ellen Catleen (wife of the Dutch ambassador to China in the ’30s), with many illustrations (by F.H. Schiff) and photographic illustrations. Very occasional foxing, small brown stains, and offsetting. Some illustrations in colour. Some small stains and marks to binding and wear to edges/corners. Otherwise in very good condition.

US$1,175 (HK$9,180)

58. ‘Hokuman Isai [北満異彩 / The Distinctiveness of North Manchuria]’

By Nishimura Makoto. Privately published ca.1936. S.C. 86 l. A woodblock-printed 50-day diary of the author’s time in Manchuria, where he volunteered at a free hospital as a doctor. Nishimura Makoto was originally a researcher studying marimo (Aegagropila linnaei) at Hokkaido University and lecturing on biology. He was most famous for his invention of Gakutensoku, Japan’s first robot. Both covers woodblock-printed (one of a dragon (front cover) and one of a tiger (back cover) from the zodiac). On top of some prints inside the book the author has written captions (manuscript) and has stamped the page with circular woodblocks (in orange, brown, or black). Most text is accompanied by orange vertical lines, either manuscript or woodblock/offset printed. Front cover with title plate, with a small tear. Edges with some minor wear and chipping. Brown water stains throughout, and minor foxing present on the prelims. Otherwise in nice condition, and extremely rare. Includes an afterword explaining about the February 26 Incident (Ninrioku Jiken) and showing the author’s opposition to war with China, inserted into the book after publication (presumably the incident happened shortly after publication). Privately published. Very few copies made. Text in Japanese. Super rare, not in OCLC.

US$2,050 (HK$16,000)
59. 麦し図案精華大成 [Manchurian and Chinese Textile Patterns]
US$4,050 (HK$31,600)

60. 支那事変写真全集 / Complete Photography Collection of the Second Sino-Japanese War
Edited by Asahi Shinbunsha; Hoshino Tatsuo. Tokyo: Asahi Shinbunsha, 1937-1940. First edition. H.C. 6 v., complete. Original bindings, all volumes complete with slipcases (some browning to spines and extremities). Occasional very minor foxing to slipcases and book bindings. Some small tears to the extremities of the slipcases. Maps to endpapers. Very minor browning/foxing (mostly to endpapers), occasional marks, and offsetting. Nevertheless extremely rare in such nice condition. A six volume set of black and white photo-journals about the Second Sino-Japanese War. The editors intended to publish only three volumes, thinking that Japan would win the war early on, after the Battle of Shanghai. Volume one covers the Marco Polo Bridge Incident in 1937 and the battle front in Northern China, volume two the Battle of Shanghai, volume three the Battle of Nanking, volume four Wuhan and Canton (Guangzhou), volume five Hainan Island and Nanchang, and volume six is a special feature on bombing and aircraft. Together the 6 volumes covers the years 1937-1939. Text in Japanese. In fine condition.
US$3,750 (HK$29,300)

61. 揚子江案内 / A Guide Book to the Yangtze River
Edited by Okino Matao.
Published by the Japanese Navy Headquarters in China, 1940. 5th ed., rev. and enl. S.C. 26x38cm. 9 l. of photographic plates + 75 l. of maps. Includes 59 black and white photographic illustrations of Shanghai, Nanjing, Yichang, Chongqing, etc. The coloured maps explain how to cruise down Chang Jiang River. Rare in fine condition.
US$1,080 (HK$8,450)
62. ‘The South Manchuria Railway, Tourist Guide Pamphlet Collection’ [南満洲鉄道・旅行案内小冊子]
An extremely rare set of Manchurian tourist pamphlets in fine condition. The pamphlets cover places like Dairen (大連), Mukuden (Shenyang 奉天), Port Arthur (旅順), Chungchun (新京), and the Fushun Coal Mines (撫順炭鉱). Each booklet has numerous photographs, and the leaflets have maps.
US$2,150 (HK$16,800)

63. ‘Hokushi’ [北支 / North China]
Edited by Kahoku Kotsu Kabushiki Gaisha, Peking. Tokyo: Daiichishobo, 1939-1943. A 45 (of a total of 52 originally published) issue set, lacking only nos. 11, 21, 26, 31, 38, 51, and 52. A pictorial magazine for propaganda about the culture and customs of Northern China when occupied by Japan. Numerous black and white photographic illustrations showing street views, merchants trading, the life of farmers, and so on, this magazine focused on the daily customs of the working class. A rare collection of 45 (of 52) issues. The first several issues are particularly hard to find.
US$3,450 (HK$27,000)