

HORDERN HOUSE

RARE BOOKS · MANUSCRIPTS · PAINTINGS



Ein noch versprochenes Africanisches
Stier. Eine Art Raub Pferde oder
Dachmatten.

Ane africanam promis
Un cheval velu

Familia I. Entusfig

Rehner 3



Der Kranich zu Oldenburg
in Ost-Friesland.

Cheval d'Ostfriesland
nommé la Grue.

Familia I. Einhufige.

RIDINGER, Johann Elias (1698-1767).

Représentations des animaux selon leur grande variété et leurs belles couleurs suivant des desseins originels...

Two volumes bound together, large folio (433 x 281 cm); each volume with engraved frontispiece printed in red (vol. 1 without title showing a medallion portrait of the artist on a plinth, surrounded by wild animals in a sylvan background; vol. 2 with title showing a bear, 3 dogs, a hunting rifle and other equipment before a monument with "2ter Theil." in a sylvan background) and variously 63 and 64 engraved plates (plate size 315 x 215 mm; not numbered, but each volume with a hierarchical table giving the number of plates in each group and the totals 64 and 65 including the frontispieces); also with an engraved tailpiece, 4 woodcut tailpieces and decorations made from typographic ornaments; the German text set in fraktur type and the French in roman with italic headings; the 127 plates coloured by an early hand; near-contemporary half calf, spine panelled in gilt, gilt morocco spine label, with a lion device in the top panel and a small vignette (a mother holding a child, flanked by a pelican and stag, with 2 birds in the air) in the bottom panel, the others with a single decoration (incorporating a shell and two asterisks); sprinkled-paper sides and marbled endpapers. Augsburg, Martin Elias Ridinger & Johann Jacob Ridinger, 1768.

RARE COMPLETE COPY OF ONE OF THE FINEST WORKS ON QUADRUPEDS, WITH 127 LARGE PLATES, BEAUTIFULLY COLOURED AND IN FINE CONDITION

Rare complete first edition of Ridinger's great series of quadrupeds, in the original German with French translation. This is a classic of zoological illustration, its 127 large and beautifully coloured plates showing wild and domestic quadrupeds, with a few of the plates depicting two or more animals, sometimes from different species. The south German painter, engraver, draughtsman and publisher Johann Elias Ridinger (1698-1767), born in Ulm, was educated and worked in Augsburg. His beautiful and by turns charming, grotesque or amusing animal plates in the present series are finely engraved and intended for colouring. The plates show the animals in characteristic poses, sometimes in motion, in (mostly natural) landscapes. A few show animals in captivity or otherwise reveal interactions between humans and animals.

Among all Ridinger's works the plates of the present series are the most sought-after and are considered his finest work. Ridinger had set up his own art publishing house in 1723 and later brought his sons Martin Elias (1730-1780) and Johann Jakob (1736-1784) into the business; Martin drew and engraved some of the plates in the present book. Ridinger himself died in 1767 with the book still unfinished, but his sons continued the firm, completed the book, signed its texts and published it themselves. A second edition appeared at Augsburg in 1786 under the title *Naturhistorisches Original Thierwerk*, with smaller uncoloured plates and an unreliable text. Reprints of the series continued to appear well into the 19th century and served as models for animal images in wall decorations, porcelain and ceramics.

The animals illustrated are classified into ten families, numbered I-V in each volume, while the text covers them in numbered groups: 1-23 in vol. 1 and 1-40 in vol. 2 (though these numbers do not appear in the tables). Each plate gives the Latin name above and the German and French names below and gives the numbered family in the book's hierarchical classification. The tables of the animals shown and described follow this classification.

Of the major bibliographers, the Ridinger authority Thienemann (1856) described the book as virtually impossible to find ("vollständig wohl nirgends mehr zu finden") and never managed to see three of the plates (I/15 and II/18 & 32), while Schwerdt (1928) knew only two complete copies: his own and that of Baron Rudolf Ritter von Gutmann (1880-1966) described by Schwarz (1910), with the 18th-century bookplate of Henricus Le Couvreur. There appears to be a complete copy

at the Austrian National Library in Vienna. The title of plate 44 in vol. 2 agrees with Schwerdt (*Tamandua Phatagin*), not with Thienemann (*Myrmecophaga; omnium maxima. Phatagin...*).

Collation:

Engraved frontispiece + 24, [2], 20 pp. + 63 plates; engraved frontispiece + 20, [2], 17, [1 blank] pp. + 64 plates; text: (vol. 1): A-C2 D1 E-G2 2A2 B1 C2 D1 E-F2 = 13, 10 ll.; (vol. 2): A2 B1 C-F2 2A-D2 [E]1 = 11, 9 ll., each volume with the first series of signatures (for the German text) in fraktur and the second (for the French text) in roman. The German table of plates for each volume appears on the last recto in the German series with the French table on the verso, facing A1 in the French series. While the plates are bound after the text of each volume, they don't always appear in the order given in the tables or texts.

\$84,000

PROVENANCE: From the renowned hunting collection of Marcel Jeanson (1885-1942), with his bookplate numbered 1622 (sale Sotheby's Monaco, 28 February 1987); James Fairfax (from his library at Retford Park, Bowral NSW, with bookplate).

Jeanson, 1622 (the present copy); Nissen, ZBI 3408; Schwerdt III, pp. 145-146; Thiébaud, col. 785 (citing Brunet); Thienemann, Johann Elias Ridinger 974-1102 (pp. 197-232, perversely numbering the plates 1-62, 69-133); Schwarz, Katalog einer Ridinger-Sammlung, I, pp. 125-140 (Gutmann copy); St. Morét, "Wer hat das Thierreich so in seines Pinsels Macht?", in: Die Tierdarstellungen von Johann I Elias Ridinger (exhib. cat. Museum Jagdschloß Kranichstein, Darmstadt) (1999).

[4505145 at hordern.com]



Maul-Bsel,
beladenes Maulthier.

Le Mulet-
charge.

Q. D. s. IV.
Familia I. Einhufige.

SIMIA SATYRUS VEL HOME SILVESTRIS.
COAITA SIMIA NIGRA CAUDATA.



1. Gibbon, aufrecht gehender Affe mit lan-
gen Armen oder Wald Mensch - genannt.
2. Coaita, der Schlange u: besondere lang ge-
schwänzte schwarze Sapaious mit 4 Finger.
3. Dumbt, noch einer kleinen Meer Katzen art.

Gibbon ou l'homme sauvage
Signe araignée genannt
avec une petite guenon.

CAMELUS Bactrianus.



Bactrianisches Kamel.

Chameau Bactrien.

Q. D. S. XVI.

Familia I. Lurijzähige.



Ein Elefant.

Familia V.

Tab. XI. Gröndel D. von Del. St. Petersburg

PHIAS.



Ein Elefant.
funf-Rufige.

H. C. Adams. Sculp.

SIMIA BARBATA
CEBUS BARBATUS



Ein bartiger Affe.
Eine bartige Meer-Lake.

Singe barbu.
Le Marmot barbu.

Familia IV. Fünfzählige.

CERVUS nobilis.



Der edle Hirsch.

Cerv.

Familia II. Zweyhufsig.

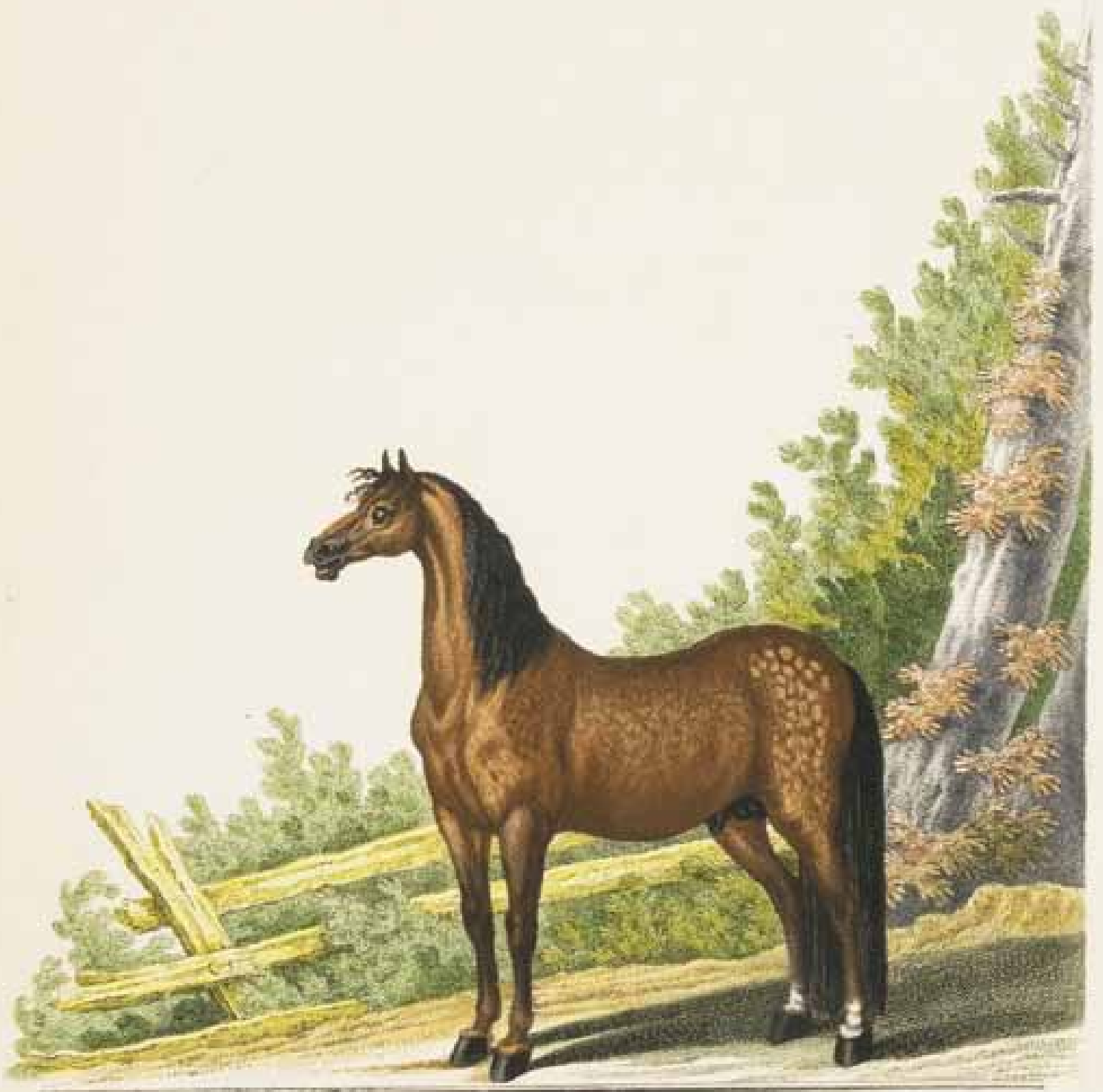
Röttinger fecit.

LEO FUSCUS.



Ein Löwe dunkler Art, Un Lion, d'une couleur brune.
Familia IV. Fünffzähige.

Ad. B. Kütinger sculpit et incidit. A.D.



Das Pferd.

Le Cheval.

L. Meunier, Maître de la Gravure, 2 D. S. M.

Samuel I. C. de la Haye.

Das nach Original Zeichnungen abgebildete Thier Reich.
Les Animaux representés suivant des Dessins Originels.



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