Martin Frobenius LedermuumIIIer Adam Wolfgang Winterschmidt - Amusemens Micr



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Edition

Luogo Sardegna, Sassari https://www.annuncici.it/x-328554-z



RARE ILLUSTRATED BOOK AND COMPLETE, "Amusemens Microscopiques" (Microscopic Amusements) by Martin Frobenius Ledermüller (1719-1769), with 50 HAND-COLOURED ENGRAVED PLATES by Adam Wolfgang Winterschmidt and other artists, after drawings by Ledermuller. This is volume II of the first edition in French (1766) after the famous first edition in German a few years earlier (1759-1763) of Ledermüller's microscopic investigations. A FINE NATURAL HISTORY BOOK with all 50 numbered illustrations and hardcover in perfect condition. The complete French edition in 3 volumes is on sale for between €8,000-12,000, here only the second volume is offered at a fraction of that price. All illustrations are in excellent condition, with good colouring and definition and have all been photographed.

One of the most beautiful works on microscopy issued during the 18th century, containing remarkable coloured plates of magnified insects, flowers, coffee, butterflies, human anatomy (eyes, fingers, skin), shells, snails, fish, plants, marine animals, amphibians, cattle anatomy, bugs, flies, fungi, plankton, metals and the crystallization of minerals in solution etc...This "highly estimated work" (Brunet), was published in installments from 1759 onwards, this is the complete second part with 50 plates (1766). The middle and upper classes, took an interest in microscopy as an educational and leisure pursuit in the eighteenth-century, and beautifully illustrated books such as this were intended to delight as well as educate the reader. The illustrations are well defined, with excellent detail and beautiful colours.

RARE BOOK, sought after by the beauty of the engravings with 50 beautifully hand coloured illustrations (all full page). The progress of botany, entomology and microbiology was greatly assisted by the



and sharpness. Modern hardcover in fine condition and intact, author, date and title of the work on spine with floral motifs.

References: Brunet III, 918-919: "Ouvrage très estimé"; Graesse IV, 139; Nissen, BBI 1156; British Museum (Natural History), III, p. 1077; Horn & Schenkling 13091-3092 and 3093; Hünersdorff, Coffee, pp. 862-63; Stafleu & Cowan 4288; V.d. Velde, Mikroscoop IV, p. 213; Hagen I, 464; Poggendorf, I, col. 1403; Hirsch, III, pp. 645-646; Wellcome, III, p. 472.

Author & Illustrator: Martin Frobenius Ledermüller (1719-1769) was a German lawyer, naturalist, illustrator, microscopist and botanist. He has enriched and developed microscopic morphology with a multitude of significant results. Ledermüller was a son of the Nuremberg rug writer Balthasar Ledermüller (1685–1748) and his wife Helena (1692–1776), née Burckhardt. Ledermüller was taught by private tutors and attended the Latin school in Nuremberg. He started his valuable microscopical observations under the protection and direction of the Christoph Jakob Trew (1695-1769). Ledermüller dedicated this book, which was later translated into French and Dutch, to the Frederick, Margrave of Brandenburg-Bayreuth (1711-1763), who appointed him Justice Council in December 1760 and in 1761 as assistant and later also as inspector of the natural history cabinet in Bayreuth, which was headed by Privy Councilor Peter Christian Wagner.

Engraver & Illustrator: Adam Wolfgang Winterschmidt (1733-1796), was an artist, engraver and illustrator specialized in natural history. He worked also as a music publisher and art dealer.

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