

1775b

*Johann M. Sedelmair*

In December 2009, lot 137 at Dominic Winter's South Cerney sale-rooms was sold for eight times its estimate. This rare item was a set of German playing cards 'Fabricirt ben Joh. Math. Sedelmair', just eight of which featured maps. The catalogue entry read:

c.1770s, thirty-six copper eng(raved). playing cards with stencilled colours (complete), comprising four suits of nine (national suits), each with deuce, king, over-knave, under-knave, and pips 6-10, the sixes and sevens bearing maps of Eastern Europe, the court cards representing Africa, Germany, Russia, Turkey, the deuce cards showing a young bacchus sitting on a barrel, a boar, a soldier with a sword, and a figure with a medallion containing the imprint, pip cards with vign(ette)s., patterned versos, 97 x 58 mm (3.75 x 2.25 ins), contained in later cardboard box. Rare. An old catalogue slip loosely inserted has a manuscript note: 'Bt at Sotheran's, London. c.1936'.

pack of playing cards. Augsburg, Johann M. Sedelmair, (1775).

