

After JEAN DAMASCÈNE

Died 1781, Italy

Etched by AUGUSTINUS ST. AUBIN

1736–1807, France

The Grand Victory of Kurman

From the Series, *Les Conquêtes de l'Empereur de la Chine*

Sketched in China 1765

Etched in Paris 1770

Gift of S. & G. Gump, 1939 (11,156)

This etching is one of a rare set of sixteen etchings depicting the military victories of the Qianlong emperor, the third Qing dynasty emperor who ruled from 1736–1795. The original drawings were produced by a group of French, Italian and Czech Jesuit priests who were active at the Qing court in the Forbidden City as technical and scientific advisors.

The actual etchings were created in Paris, and the entire project took from 1765 to 1775 to complete. The etched set of prints is notable for its use of such Western techniques as shading and one-point perspective.