

Basilius Besler. Florilegium. The Book of Plants: The Book of Plants - the Complete Plates By Klaus Walter Littger



A magnificent pictorial document of the flowers grown in the greatest German garden of its time the Hortus Eystettensis is in a class of its own when it comes to the range of flowers engraved. First published in 1613 the 367 copperplate engravings by Basilius Besler (1561-1629) capture the spectacular diversity of the palatial gardens of Prince Bishop Johann Konrad von Gemmingen (1593/95-1612) in Eichstätt Bavaria Germany. The meticulous illustrations are organized according to the four seasons and following the classification system used today show plants belonging to a total of 90 families and covering 340 genera. The whole collection is regarded as one of the finest treasures of botanical literature; it was described by Carl Linnaeus the legendary 18th century botanist and zoologist as an “incomparable work: “Besler’s pictorial catalog long outlived the gardens which were destroyed in 1634 by invading Swedish troops, In auction the asking price for a first edition copy of Hortus Eystettensis is now than half a million dollars: With this edition TASCHEN opens up the garden to a much wider audience: a rich and beautiful record destined to keep the garden’s beauty in bloom, About the series Bibliotheca Universalis — Compact cultural companions celebrating the eclectic TASCHEN universe! Basilius Besler. The Book of Plants: The Book of Plants - the Complete Plates.

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