



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

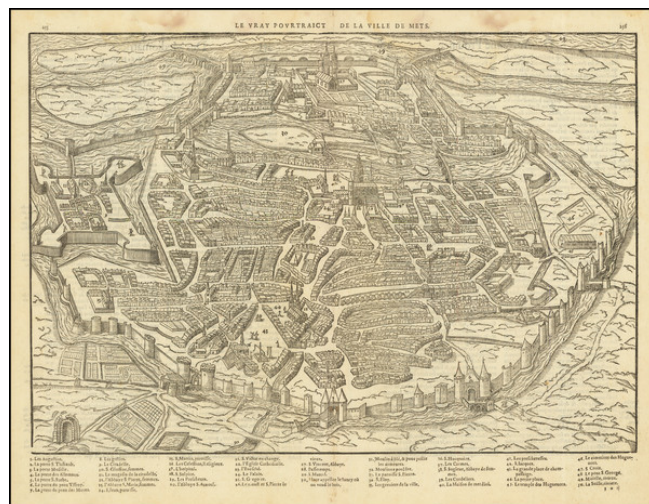
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## [Metz] Le Vray Pourtraict de la Ville de Mets

**Stock#:** 74161  
**Map Maker:** De Belleforest  
**Date:** 1575  
**Place:** Paris  
**Color:** Uncolored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 16 x 12 inches  
**Price:** \$ 345.00



### Description:

Scarce view of the city of Metz, from De Belleforest's French edition of Sebastian Munster's *Cosmographia*.

A rare and early woodcut view of Metz at the confluence of the Moselle and the Seille in Lorraine.

In 1544, the scholar and geographer Sebastian Munster published his *Cosmographia*, one of the most important and influential works of its type in the 16th century.

Belleforest's work is an adaptation of Sébastien Münster's *Cosmographia* first published in Basel in 1544. As Münster had been mainly concerned with Germany, the chapters on France had to be rewritten in order to make the work more interesting to a French audience. Belleforest had sent local elites in major cities across the country a request for information on regional history and geography. As a good philologist, he relied above all on recognized textual authorities, which set him against André Thevet, who published his *Cosmographie universelle* in 1575. In the vehement controversy between the two authors, Thévet says of Belleforest that he "never traveled by name more "Than the Owls who repaired in the Aqueduct of Athens, or at the Byzantine Hippodrome". Belleforest replied to the accusations by arguing that a single man could never visit all regions of the earth and that a traveler could easily lie, for lack of possibilities to verify the veracity of his account "

### Detailed Condition:

Minor soiling in top margin.