



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

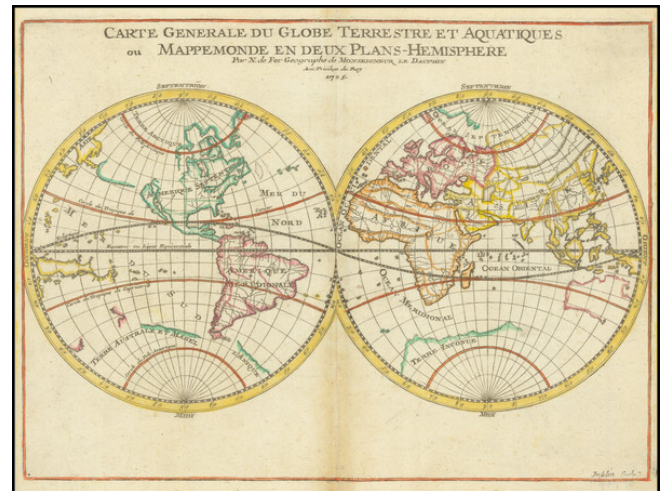
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Carte Generale du Globe Terrestre et Aquatiques ou Mappemonde en Deux Plans- Hemisphere

Stock#: 79671
Map Maker: de Fer
Date: 1705
Place:
Color: Outline Color
Condition: VG
Size: 11.25 x 8.2 inches
Price: \$ 750.00



Description:

The World at the Turn of the Eighteenth Century

Scarce double-hemisphere map of the world, published by Nicolas De Fer and based on the work of Pierre du Val.

In the eastern hemisphere, Europe, Asia, and Africa cluster together. Australia's coastline looks surprisingly complete for the time, based on the Dutch encounters with the western, southern, and northern coastlines in the early to mid-seventeenth century.

The Americas fill the western hemisphere. South America is recognizable, but North America lacks definition in the Pacific Northwest, where Europeans had not made considerable contact by the time this map was published. There are no Great Lakes, but there is a tantalizing passage from Hudson's Bay westward, one pathway for the elusive Northwest Passage. California is shown as an island.

In the Pacific are several partial coastlines. Some are identifiable, such as the cup-shaped coast of Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania), charted by Tasman during his 1642 voyage. To the east is another jagged shore, this one part of western New Zealand, which Tasman also saw on his first Pacific voyage in the 1640s.

Other landmasses are more fantastical. There is a shore running east to west in the North Pacific. This is Yesso, an exaggeration of Hokkaido common to maps of this period. The shores of New Guinea also extend



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very far east of their actual location, a mistake due to the inability of navigators to accurately calculate longitude.

Running across both hemispheres are unconnected, but related, coasts circling the South Pole. In the west, these are labeled as *Terre Australe et Magellanique*; in the east they are *Terre Inconue*, or unknown land. They are all attempts to map the mercurial southern continent, which had been hypothesized to exist for centuries. Geographers, informed by Ptolemaic ideas, thought that there needed to be a southern landmass to counter-balance the northern continents. Most also thought this continent would be temperate and a great prize for whichever nation could claim it first. The real continent of Antarctica would not be sighted until 1820.

On the verso of the map is an explanation of the basic geography of a world map, or of a three-dimensional globe made two-dimensional. De Fer also says that the map is based on the work of Pierre du Val. Du Val (1619-1683) was the son of Marie Sanson, sister to the famed cartographer Nicolas Sanson d'Abbeville. Du Val likely apprenticed with his uncle and then studied geography with Jean-Baptiste Gault in Paris. In the capital, Du Val was named *geographe ordinaire* in 1650; he compiled and sold atlases and sheet maps there until his death in 1683. After his passing, his wife and daughters continued the business until at least 1688.

Detailed Condition: