



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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**To His Most Serene and August Majesty Peter Alexovitz Absolute Lord of Russia &c.  
This map of Moscovy, Poland, Little Tartary, and ye Black Sea &c. is most Humbly  
Dedicated by H. Moll Geographer**

**Stock#:** 22285  
**Map Maker:** Moll  
**Date:** 1729 circa  
**Place:** London  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** See Description  
**Size:** 40 x 24.5 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



## Description:

Striking large format map of Russia, Ukraine, Poland, Finland and the Baltic Countries and extending south to the Black Sea and the Balkans, with an ornate dedication cartouche to Peter the Great, including a portrait of the Czar near the bottom of the cartouche.

The map includes a number of interesting annotations, most notably the note in the upper right above the cartouche which provides that Moll has drawn the map from a map prepared by Cornelis Cruys, John Thesing and Captain Pamburg, at the direction of the Czar, with improvement and corrections from Captain John Perry. The map also includes inset maps showing the course of the Wolga River, the mouth of the Don River and the area contiguous to the White Sea.

Cornelis Cruys (Cruys) (1655-1727) was Vice Admiral of the Imperial Russian Navy and the first commander of the Baltic Fleet. He was born as Niels Olsen (Olufsen) in Stavanger Norway, before changing his name. Cruys lived in Amsterdam for 18 years before joining the Russian Navy. Cruys introduction to the Russian Navy was as a direct result of Czar Peter the Great's Grand Embassy of 1697, which included a visit to Amsterdam to study shipbuilding and related arts. With the assistance of Nicolaas Witsen, Mayor of Amsterdam, the Czar gained access to the shipyard of the Dutch East India Company for 4 months, where he recruited Cornelis Cruys to join the Russian Imperial Navy as Vice Admiral, where he became the primary architect of the westernization of the Russian Navy. Among other accomplishments, he made the first maps of the Don River and the Azov Sea.

## Detailed Condition:



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Minor loss of image in the upper right corner and at the lower right fold (see area between 45 and 50 degrees, extending into the first line of text) and a tiny bit of loss at the outermost portion of the folds, as is frequently the case.