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[Western Africa, North Africa, Spain, Balearic Islands-- Globe Gore]

Stock#: 34757
Map Maker: Coronelli
Date: 1692
Place: Venice
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 11 x 18 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

A fine full color example of the Southwestern Europe and West Africa globe gore from Vincenzo Maria Coronelli's 42 inch Terrestrial Globe.

The globe gore embraces France, Iberia and all of Africa west of a line running from Algeria down to the Bight of Benin, as well as the Canary Islands and Madeira. One of the most accurate and finely engraved cartographic depictions of its era, the coastline of Africa appears in well-formed detail. The interior, which was an almost complete enigma, is adorned with mythical mountain ranges and exotic animals such as giraffes, elephants, lions and strange giant birds. The Gambia River is erroneously shown to connect to the headwaters of the Niger River. The cartography of the gore is very similar to that depicted in the



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appropriate maps which appeared in Coronelli's great atlas, the *Atlante Veneto*, and there is some question as to which was published first.

Vincenzo Maria Coronelli (1650-1715) apprenticed as a xylographer, before joining the Franciscan Order in 1665. After studying astronomy, philosophy and mathematics, in 1678, he was commissioned to make a set of terrestrial and celestial globes for Ranuccio II Farnese, the Duke of Parma, that were 5 feet in diameter. From 1681 to 1683, Coronelli was summoned to Paris by the 'Sun King' Louis XIV. There he constructed the legendary 'Marly Globes'. At over 10 feet in diameter and nearly 4000 pounds in weight, they were the grandest globes ever constructed and today reside at the Bibliothèque nationale in Paris.

The fame and importance of the Marly Globes led Coronelli, who had since returned to Venice, to produce a 42 inch diameter globe in 1688, of which complete examples reside in a number of major institutional collections around the world. Separate globe gore sheets from this famous globe periodically appear on the market. During this period Coronelli published his *Atlante Veneto* and founded the 'Accademia Cosmografica degli Argonauti', the world's first geographical society.

Detailed Condition:

A fine full color example, with wide margins and strong, dark engraving impression.