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Samson Rending The Lion

Stock#: 46347
Map Maker: Durer
Date: 1497
Place: Nuremberg
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 15.5 x 11 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Fine example of Albrecht Durer's *Samson Rending The Lion*.

As noted by the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art:

Dürer elevated the medium of woodcut to an unprecedented level of technical virtuosity. In Samson Rending the Lion, he achieved striking pictorial effects that vie with those created in contemporary engravings. Remarkable gradations of tone were realized in the lion's mane—all the more amazing if one considers that each tapered black line in the print was formed in the woodblock by chipping away the wood on either side of the intended line. Such expert and self-assured handling is particularly characteristic of Dürer's early woodcuts, dating to the 1490s.



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Samson Rending The Lion

Durer's work is based upon a print engraved about twenty years earlier by Israel van Meckenem, showing Samson, "suddenly seized" by the spirit of God, "tore the lion to pieces as if it were a kid" (Judges 14:6). The weaponless Samson is here shown on the lion's back, one foot pressed into its neck as he forces open its mouth.

Detailed Condition:

Narrow margins.