



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard  
La Jolla, CA 92037

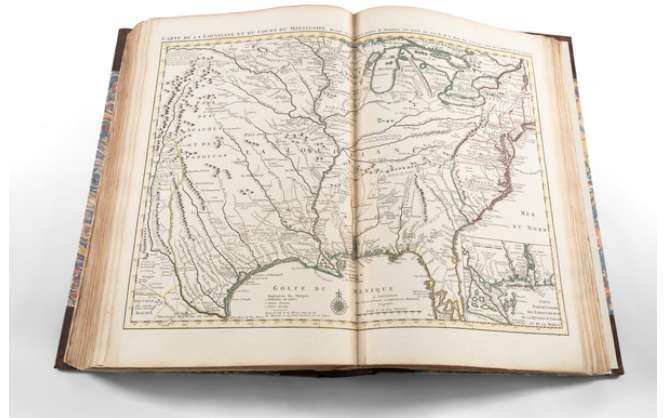
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## **Atlas Nouveau, Contenant Toutes Les Parties du Monde, Ou sont exactement Remarquees les Empires, Monarchies, Royaumes, Etats, Republiques &c.**

**Stock#:** 71340  
**Map Maker:** Covens & Mortier / Delisle  
**Date:** 1757 circa  
**Place:** Amsterdam  
**Color:** Outline Color  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 14 x 21.5 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



### **Description:**

#### ***A Massive World Atlas with Important American Maps.***

Fine, large edition of the *Atlas Nouveau*, one of the flagship publications produced by Covens and Mortier.

Published by the Covens and Mortier firm from 1730 onwards, the *Atlas Nouveau* inherited the great maps of Guillaume de L'Isle and was steadily updated with new maps being published throughout Europe. The atlas was notable for a number of reasons, and in particular, the section on the Americas was particularly well-developed. This example of the atlas has some twelve maps of the continent, including Covens and Mortier's editions of de L'Isle's revolutionary maps of Louisiana and Mexico. Other far-flung regions are equally well attended to, making this one of the most well-balanced 18th-century atlases.

The atlas begins with the elaborately illustrated allegorical title page by Romaine de Hooghe, the printed title for the *Atlas Nouveau*, and the printed title for Sanson's *Introduction*. The maps include a mappemonde, two polar maps, maps of the continents, and numerous regional maps of Europe (with a focus on France, including a beautiful folded plan of Paris), and towards the end of the atlas, maps of the ancient world.

The atlas was first published in 1730 with only some 48 maps, but a second edition also appeared that year with 56 maps. By 1733 it had 75 maps, but the maps of the Americas remained heavily focused on the maps inherited from De L'Isle. The c. 1741 edition saw the addition of many new maps, and the largest edition appeared in c. 1757, with some 138 maps. The next and final edition, in c. 1774, was reduced to a minuscule 43 maps.



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This example follows in this variable tradition. While it has the number of maps called for by Koeman C&M 6 (107), there are a number of features that show that it wasn't printed in that year. Most importantly, the world map shows the Sea of the West, a concept that wasn't introduced until after c. 1750. In addition, the title page for the *Introduction á la Geographie* by Sanson has the world map in a mirrored impression that first appears in c. 1757 according to Koeman. Also, the title page is undated, unlike for the 1741 edition. Thus, it is more probable that the atlas dates from c. 1757.

#### **Notable Maps**

##### ***Carte d'Amerique.***

Wagner describes this 1739 state of the map under as follows, while mentioning there was also a 1722 issue:

*The Mediterranean Sea of California has disappeared. Delisle retained Cabrillo's B. de Pinos and introduced a few, the I. Ste. Anne, the B. de St. Martin, and the B. de la Madelaine, from other maps. It seems likely that he had read the account of the Vizcaino expedition in Torquemada, as he corrected one of the Briggs names, the B. de las Arenas to B. de Belenas and inserted the Entrée decouverte par Martin d'Aguilar. On the Sonora coast the names are much the same as those on his 1700 map with a few additions from Kino's map and other sources in Sonora - Wagner, Cartography of the Northwest Coast of America.*

##### ***Carte de la Louisiane et du Cours du Mississipi.***

This is the Covens and Mortier edition of the most significant map of the Mississippi Valley and Great Lakes published in the early part of the 18th century. The map in the present atlas is a faithful copy of De L'Isle's second edition of the map (the first map to include New Orleans). De L'Isle's map was a towering landmark in the history of the mapping of North America. It significantly improved the depiction of the Mississippi River Valley and in its first edition was the first map to name Texas.

This map contains the first indications of the explorations of De Soto, Cavelier, Tonty, Moscoso, and Denis. It included the best depiction of the Mississippi River to date, for the first time presenting a roughly accurate delineation of its entire length as well as a semblance of accuracy about many of its tributaries. As mentioned above, it was also the first map to include the name Texas with the legend "Mission de los Teijas establee en 1716," indicating a Mission established in 1716.



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#### ***Carte du Mexique et de la Floride des Terres Angloises et des Isles Antilles du Cours et des Environs de la Riviere de Mississipi.***

This is an influential map based on Delisle's 1703 map. It shows the region from the Great Lakes south to the northern coast of South America, and New Mexico eastward.

#### ***Carte du Canada ou de la Nouvelle France et des Decouvertes qui y ont été faites.***

This is Covens and Mortier's edition of De L'Isle's seminal map of Canada, the Great Lakes and Upper Midwest. This was by far one of the most influential maps of Canada to appear in the 18th century.

De L'Isle's map is of seminal importance for a number of regions, including the Great Lakes and the Rocky Mountains. Kershaw states that the map is:

*One of the most outstanding maps of Canada of the 17th and early 18th Centuries . . . De L'Isle's careful research resulted in the first map of Canada to present the whole of the Great Lakes correctly. In addition, the position of the lakes relative to Hudson's Bay is also correct and the Avalon Peninsula is shown much more realistically than on previous maps of Canada. Of considerable significance, the geography of the coastal regions of James and Hudson Bays, together with their major rivers systems, is presented by De L'Isle with a surprising degree of accuracy.*

Of equal note, the map also includes one of the earliest references to the Rocky Mountains, the "Riviere Longue" and other features to the west, based on the reports of Louis Armand de Lom d'Arce, Baron de Lahontan. Lahontan (1666-1715) served in the French military in Canada where he traveled extensively in the Wisconsin, Minnesota and the upper Mississippi Valley. His *Nouveaux voyages dans l'Amérique septentrionale* (1703) was an immensely popular, if somewhat fanciful account, of his travels. While acknowledging the western terminus of his travels, Lahontan distilled Native American reports of a great river, flowing to high mountains, with a great body of salt water beyond the mountains. Lahontan's account of these reports convinced many of the world's greatest intellects of the existence of this mythical waterway, which resulted in his account being accepted and incorporated by most of the major mapmakers of the period.

#### **Conclusion**



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Remarquees les Empires, Monarchies, Royaumes, Etats, Republiques &c.**

In sum, the book represents a remarkable and massive collection of beautifully printed engraved maps by one of Amsterdam's premier cartographic publishers of the 18th century.

**Detailed Condition:**

Large thick folio. Antique style half calf and marbled boards. Engraved illustrated allegorical title-page, letter press title-page (printed in red and black, with engraved vignette), additional letterpress title-page for Introduction á la Geographie (which is also printed in red and black, and with an engraved map vignette), [2], 31, [3] pages plus 107 double-page or folding engraved maps on fine thick paper. Complete, with all the maps present as listed on the printed index leaf. The maps with nice outline color on thick paper. (Occasional fox mark to preliminary text pages. Maps 39 and 40 trimmed just inside neatline to right side. Title of map 97 partially trimmed. 3 x 2 inch stain to upper right marginal area of Santo Domingo map. Some centerfold toning. Overall condition is excellent.