



## Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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### Byzantium Nunc Constantinopolis

**Stock#:** 23429  
**Map Maker:** Jansson  
**Date:** 1660 circa  
**Place:** Amsterdam  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** VG+  
**Size:** 19 x 13 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



#### Description:

Rare map / birdseye view of Istanbul, from Jansson's monumental town book.

Jansson's view is one of the finest and most sought-after views of Istanbul. Viewed from the village of Scutari, the City is shown with all its fortifications, the original Genouse district of Galata on the opposite bank of the Golden Horn to the right.

European galleons and Turkish galleys fill the seas of the Bosphorus and Golden Horn. The great buildings of the 16th Century Istanbul during the reign of Suleiman the Magnificent can be clearly seen, including the "Suleymaniye Mosque" and the "Topkapi" palace. The lower center is filled with a parading Turkish horseman and troop of Janissaries.

The view is the third state of the engraving, with the roundels present in the earlier Braun & Hogenberg editions removed. Jansson's view is much rarer than the first two states by Braun and Hogenberg.

Jansson's 8 volume *Theatrum Urbium* was the most comprehensive Dutch townbook of the 17th Century. While similar in format to Braun & Hogenberg's *Civitates Orbis Terrarum*, Jansson's was in many respects a significant improvement, both in the scope of the towns depicted and the quality of the views. Moreover, it was perhaps the only work by Jansson which surpassed the comparable work of the Blaeu Family, whose own atlas of town views was never completed.

In 1653 Jansson acquired the nearly 500 plates of the *Civitates Orbis Terrarum* from Abraham Hogenberg, of which 232 were adapted and incorporated into the town books. For many plates of the cities of the Netherlands, Jansson ordered new copperplates, many of which were engraved after works by his rival, Blaeu.



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**Detailed Condition:**