



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

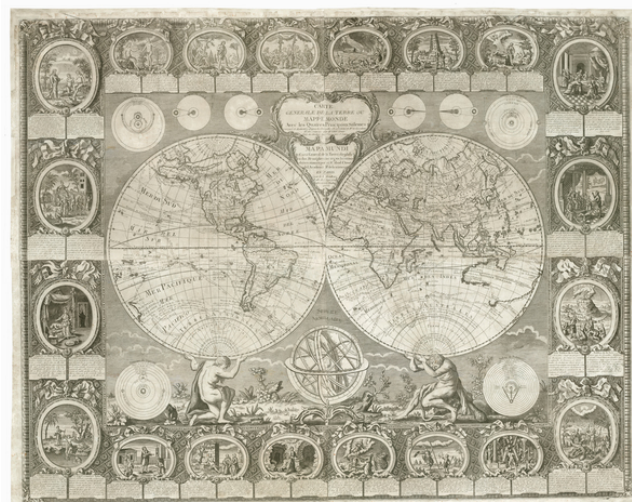
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Carte Generale de la Terre ou Mappe Monde avec les Quatres Principaux Systemes . . . 1788

Stock#: 23460
Map Maker: Clouet - Mondhare
Date: 1788
Place: Paris
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 48.5 x 38.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Fine uncolored example of Clouet's beautifully engraved large scale double-hemisphere map of the World, updated by Mondhare.

The Clouet / Mondhare double hemisphere map of the World is one of the most decorative double hemisphere wall maps of the world published in the second half of the 18th Century. The map continues the French Aristocratic tradition popularized during the reign of Louis XIV. In this grand tradition, the Clouet / Mondhare map serves the dual purpose of being both a spectacular object, utilized by the French Aristocracy of the 18th Century in decorating libraries and salons, and a statement of the worldliness of the owners, depicting the progress of the exploration of the world and scientific models of the known universe, in a perfect marriage with imagery from the classical world and scenes from the lives of key figures of the Old Testament.

The map's cartographic component provides a fine depiction of the most up to date information derived from modern explorer's most notably the routes of Captain James Cook and his discovery of Hawaii and the southeastern coastline of Australia, which has been added in a recent update to the map. The earlier routes of numerous 17th and 18th Century explorer's are noted, with particular emphasis given to the explorations of Abel Tasman in the southern hemisphere, both in New Zealand and Australia.

While the routes of many major explorers are depicted, Mondhare has retained the mythical depiction of the Sea of the West in North America and offers a number of tantalizing options for a northwest passage,



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while also including a massive nascent depiction of Alaska and the Aeulutian Archipelago, which was then at the end of a 40 year period of debate between the theories of the De L'Isle family of mapmakers, Thomas Jefferys and the Russian Academy. In fact, Cook's exploration along the northwest coast of America had foreshadowed the end of this myth, which would be finally resolved in the next 20 years by the explorations of La Perouse, Vancouver and Lewis & Clark.

The map is embellished with eight small circular astronomical diagrams including images of lunar and solar eclipses and the known solar system. Supporting each hemisphere is an image of Atlas. On the outer edge of the printed images are twenty vignettes from the Old Testament showing Biblical scenes with descriptive text in French and Spanish. Below the cusp is an armillary sphere.

A very complex and quite handsome map, in unusually good condition for a wall map.

Detailed Condition:

Some of paper in the blank margins (replaced) including a tiny area of image replacement in the upper right corner.