Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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Carta particolare del mare Mediterraneo che comincia con Budua in Dalmatia e Finisce con Corfu nelo Stato Venetiao . . .

Stock#: 24812
Map Maker: Dudley

Date: 1661
Place: Florence
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 17 x 13 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

Nice example of Robert Dudley's finely engraved sea chart of the southern part of the Adriatic Sea.

The map extends from Budua and the Dalmatian coastline in the north to Corfu and Otranto in the south.

The chart appeared in Dudley's *Arcano del Mare*, one of the rarest and most highly sought after sea atlases of the 17th Century. Dudley, an Englishman, produced this equisite work while living in Florence. Dudley, who was believed to have received some of his information directly from Sir Francis Drake, labored for decades before finally releasing the first edition of this work when he was 73 years old. Dudley's atlas is of the utmost importance, being the first Sea Atlas published by and Englishman and the first Sea Atlas to treat the entire world (not just Europe). It is also the first atlas to utilize the Mercator Projection on a uniform basis and included significant advances in "Great Circle" navigation (shortest circle around the Globe). Its inclusion of winds and currents was also a monumental first. Completed in

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Manuscript form in 1636, it is among the most important works in the history of European Cartography.

Robert Dudley (1574 - 1649) was the illegitimate son of Robert Dudley, 1st Earl of Leicester. In 1594, Dudley led an expedition to the West Indies, of which he wrote an account. In 1605 ,he tried unsuccessfully to establish his legitimacy in court. After that he left England and converted to Catholicism, taking up residence in Florence where he served the Grand Dukes of Tuscany in their efforts to rid the Mediterranean of Piracy. There he worked as a noted shipbuilder and designed and published *Dell'Arcano del Mare*, the first maritime atlas to cover the whole world. He was also a skilled navigator, mathematician and engineer. In Italy, he styled himself Earl of Warwick and Leicester as well as Duke of Northumberland. He was a friend of Sir Francis Drake and relative of Thomas Cavendish, both of whom corresponded with Dudley and likely supplied some of the information for his Atlas.

Detailed Condition: