



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

Orbis Terrarum Descriptio Duobis Planis Hemisphaeriis Comprehesa

Stock#: 25848
Map Maker: Van Geelkercken
Date: 1617 (1632)
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 23 x 16.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Extremely rare decorative double hemisphere map of the World by Nicholas Van Geelkercken, first published in 1610.

The cartographic detail is based upon Van Geelkercken's map of 1610, with dramatic additional decorative embellishment. The cartography follows the work of Willem Blaeu's wall map, except for North America.

As noted in the text, Van Geelkercken's map was published shortly after Spilbergen's passage around the strait of Magellan (which took place in January 1616), although the year is incorrectly noted as 1615. While Shirley concluded that the map was first published in 1616, no example is known to have survived with this date and only 2 known examples of the 1617 edition have survived.

Nicolas Van Geelkercken was active as draughtsman and engraver, working in Leiden, Amsterdam and Antwerp. Van Geelkercken's work is highly coveted, with Shirley noting:

The signatures on this vividly decorative map indicate the author as Nicolaes Geelkercken and the publisher as Jan Jansson. Geographically, the map is little different from Geelkercken's [1610 world map] . . . apart from a redrawn north-east coast of Asia and the omission of the lake in North America. However, the rich external decoration is quite new. In the corners there are rural scenes illustrating the four seasons, and, in the upper and lower center parts, panoramas of the Garden of Eden and the last Judgement. Some of the human details, milkmaids, reapers, skaters -- are particularly lively.

Shirley noted only 2 examples of the first state and 4 or 5 examples of the second state (1618). The 1632



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edition is also an exceptional rarity, with only 2 examples having been noted in dealer catalogues in the past 30 years and none since 1989. Hondius re-issued the map with some significant decorative changes in 1639 and later editions with significant changes have been noted by Muller in an 1872 catalogue, describing a copy of the 1657 edition of Jansson's *Waterwereldt*, and an even later example (dated 1676) was identified by Lasor a Varea in a reference work published in 1713.

Detailed Condition:

Remargined. Trimmed into the image on the left and right sides, as is frequently the case. Lost image on the left and right sides has been reinstated in facsimile.