



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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Stock#: 26882
Map Maker: Mercator
Date: 1606
Place: Duisberg
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 18 x 14 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Important early map of the Straits of Magellan, predating the discovery of the Straits of Le Maire.

A classic early Mercator map, featuring 3 large strapwork cartouches, one of which includes a profile view of the entrance to the Strait, in the style of Waghenauer and the Dutch Rutter books of the late 16th Century. The ornate compass rose point downward, indicating North is at the bottom of the map. 6 sailing ships and both land and sea creatures are illustrated. The Southern Land is identified as Tierra Del Fuogo. In the Strait, there are approximately 20 place names identified, along with 30--40 soundings. Rhumb lines emanate from the compass rose.

The coast line of Tierra del Fuego quickly turns from charted lands to conjecture, trailing off to become a part of the unknown southern continent. One of the most fascinating and decorative of all regional American maps, illustrating an important period in the history of the discovery of the Americas and water routes from the Atlantic to the Pacific, predating the discovery of Cape Horn in 1616.

Detailed Condition:

Minor soiling. Tear in upper left corner, just touching printed image.