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Typus Orbis Terrarum

Stock#: 32349bpw
Map Maker: Ortelius

Date: 1608
Place: Antwerp
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 19.5 x 14 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

Nice example of Ortelius' map of the World, from Abraham Ortelius' *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum*, the first modern World Atlas.

The map includes a massive Terra Australis Nondum Cognita, distinctive northwest passage below the Terra Septemtrionalis Incognita, and other early cartographic misconceptions. The western bulge South America has been removed, but there is still only the Straits of Magellan separating the continent from the unknown southern continent. The early misprojection of Japan is prominent, as is the equally erroneous depiction of Nova Guinea and the Solomon Islands. North America is a study in early conjecture and mythical cartography, including a projection of the St. Lawrence reaching to the middle of the continent and a similar river running from the Gulf of Mexico to the same vicinity. Nova Francia is shown, although well prior to the visits of Champlain and the Jesuits. Quivira and Anian appear. Many other wonderful early configurations. The map is embellished with sea monsters and sailing ships.

This is the third state of the map, which first appeared in 1589 and adds the new embellishments, including the strapwork around the image and the medallions with quotes from Cicero and Seneca. The map is based upon Mercator's map of 1569, Gastaldi's map of 1561 and Diego Gutierrez' portolan map of the coastlines of the Atlantic.

Ortelius' *Theatrum* was perhaps the single most influential set of maps published in the 16th Century. First issued in 1570 and expanded over the next 42 years to this final Vrients edition of Ortelius' masterwork, the *Theatrum* revolutionized the presentation of maps to an increasingly educated classes of Renaissance Europe and became the standard from which most cartographic works of the period were copied.



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Ortelius meticulously searched the Europe for the best available regional maps, constantly compiling, adding and updating his work. It is through Ortelius that the works of many regional mapmakers, whose works are virtually unobtainable to modern collectors, can be studied and appreciated.

Detailed Condition: