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[Allegorical Scene of the Republic of Venice at War]

Stock#: 35665
Map Maker: Coronelli

Date: 1690 circa
Place: Venice
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 24 x 17 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

A finely engraved allegorical scene depicting the Republic of Venice at War, by the eminant cartographer Vincenzo Maria Coronelli.

This attractive compostion features the figure of the Dogressa (the wife of the the Dogge, or elected head of state of Venice), who also personifies Athena (the Goddess of War), being armed by her maidens. The Venetian Lion prances confidently in the foreground. The panoramic tableau in the background shows an epic battle scene where the Venetians are taking a walled port city from the forces of one of their antagonists, perhaps the Ottoman Turks. During the time that this print was made, Venice controlled a large maritime empire, that not only included the Veneto in Italy, but extended down the coast of the Adriatic to include Istria, Dalmatia, and then parts of Greece.

Vincenzo Maria Coronelli (1650-1718) was one of the leading cartographers and globe-makers of the Baroque era. Born in Venice, he apprenticed as a xylographer, before joining the Franciscan order in 1665. Around 1678, after studying Astronomy, Coronelli began working as a geographer and was commissioned to make a set of Terrestrial and Celestial Globes for Ranuccio II Farnese, the Duke of Parma, which were 5 feet in diameter. Coronelli was next invited to Rome to construct a similar pair of Globes for Louis XIV. From 1681 to 1683, Coronelli lived in Paris, where he constructed a pair of 10 foot diameter globes for the King that weighed 4000 pounds. These spectacualr globes are today on display at the Bibliotheque nationale de France (Paris).

Coronelli then returned to Venice where he published his great atlas, the *Atlante Veneto* (1698) and founded the *Accademia Cosmografica degli Argonauti*, the world's first geographical society.

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Detailed Condition: