



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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America (Decorative Frontispiece - Atlas Major) (Heightened in gold)

Stock#: 37075
Map Maker: Blaeu
Date: 1662
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 11.5 x 17 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Fine example of the allegorical frontispiece to Volume 11 of Blaeu's Atlas Maior, by Falck, which appeared only in certain deluxe editions.

The image depicts Indians, one being the traditional allegorical representation of the continent of America, shown in a headdress and with a bow and arrow standing on a European man's dismembered head. The others are shown at work mining and sifting for gold. The figures are surrounded by New World flora, fauna, and riches, including vegetation, a snarling reptile, and gold bars, with mountains, ocean, and a ship in the background.

At the lower right, two European ships are shown along the coastline, likely waiting to load the gold,



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representations of the Spanish Gold trade of the mid-17th Century.

In the sky, there are a number of allegorical figures in the clouds, including a priest, Indians, a soldier, an angel, and two putti bearing a banner titled "America."

This deluxe frontispiece does not appear in most examples of Blaeu's *Atlas Maior*, Volume 11 and when it does, it is typically heightened in gold.

Detailed Condition:

Old Color. Heightened in gold.