

Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard La Jolla, CA 92037 www.raremaps.com

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Nova Totius Terrarum Orbis Tabula . . . 1660

Stock#: 37237 **Map Maker:** De Wit

Date: 1660

Place: Amsterdam
Color: Hand Colored

Condition: VG

Size: 22 x 17.5 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

Striking example of Frederick De Wit's first map of the World, which was engraved for Hendrik Doncker's *De Zee-Atlas ofte Water-Wereld*.

For his first World map, De Wit draws on the cartographic features of Johannes Blaeu's Wall map of 1648. This is one of the very few maps to which De Wit adds a date. California is shown as an island, with no information given in the northwest part of America and no signs of the Great Lakes. South America is oversized and wide.

Only a single coastline is shown for New Zealand, while the discoveries of Tasman and others are reflected in the depiction of Australia. Korea is correctly shown as a peninsula, although Borneo and the Philippines are curiously configured.

The space between the hemispheres is richly adorned with celestial spheres, north and south polar projections, and astronomical diagrams. Representations of the four elements (air, water, fire and land) are shown, with the remaining areas embellished with garlands of fruits and flowers.

The map is dated in the lower neatlines, to the right of the centerfold.

This is the rarest of De Wit's maps and possibly the most decorative.

Detailed Condition:



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Old Color, recently refreshed. Expertly repaired fold split, with minor restoration at the centerfold where the hemispheres meet. Minor restoration to weak spot below California on the equator. Minor restorations to the blank margins, just touching entering the neat line near the lower centerfold.