



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
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[Russia] Generalis Totius Imperii Moscovitici Novissima Tabula Magnam Orbis Terrarum partem a Polo Arctico usq[ue] ad mare Iaponicum, et Chinae Septentrionalis confinia exhibens cum Viz Czaricae nuper Legationis ex urbe Moscu[a] per universum Tartariam ad magnu[m] Chinae Imperateruem ex conatibus . . .

Stock#: 41353
Map Maker: Homann
Date: 1728
Place: Nuremberg
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 22 x 19 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Imperial Russia and the Lev Vasilyevich Izmailov Embassy to China

Decorative map of Russia and Central Asia, showing the Northeast Passage.

The map is a remarkable cartographic artifact from the early 18th century, providing a detailed view of Russia at the beginning of the 18th Century. The map covers the entirety of the Russian Empire at the time, stretching from the Arctic Circle in the north to the "Oceanus Orientalis" and the northern parts China (Chinae Septentrionalis confinia), Mongolia and India in the south. This extensive geographical coverage includes Siberia, Mongolia, and parts of Central Asia, illustrating the vastness of the Russian Empire and its neighboring territories.

The map is embellished with fine engraving, depicting intricate geographical details like mountain ranges, forests, rivers, and settlements. The cities, towns, and other landmarks are labeled in Latin, with Moscow (Moscu[a]) prominently marked as the starting point of the Russian embassy to the Chinese emperor (1719-20), led by Lev Vasilyevich Izmailov. The route of this diplomatic mission is traced across the vast expanses of Tartary and into China, finally crossing the Great Wall and arriving in Beijing.



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The cartouche is an exemplary piece of the baroque artistry typical of Homann's works, adorned with allegorical figures and decorative embellishment, projecting the land, sea and technical strength of Czarist Russia.

Detailed Condition: