



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

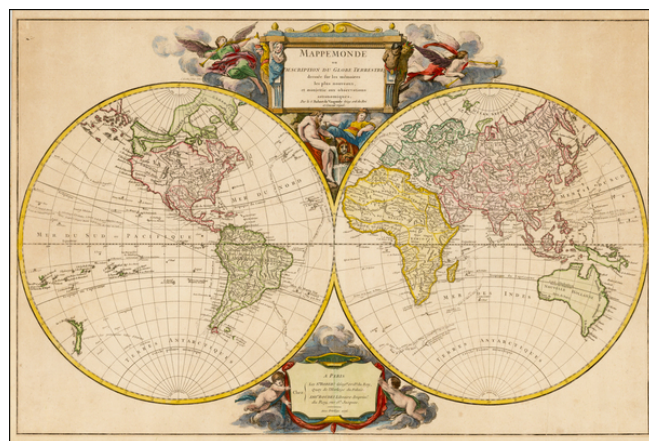
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Mappemonde ou Description Du Globe Terrestre dressee sur les memoires les plus nouveaux, et assujettie aux observations astronomiques . . . 1776

Stock#: 41924
Map Maker: de Vaugondy
Date: 1776
Place: Paris
Color: Hand Colored
Condition:
Size: 31 x 19 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Striking double hemisphere map of the World, published in Paris in 1776.

This remarkable map, originally published by De Vaugondy in 1752 and here updated with significant revisions and updates.

The map notes the routes of the Manila Galleon Trade, as well as recent French discoveries in the Southern Atlantic. The map shows route of the 1738-9 voyage of Jean-Baptiste Charles Bouvet de Lozier (1705-86), commanding the ships *Aigle* and *Marie*, undertaken at the behest of the French East India Company. Bouvet's mandate was to find the apocryphal great southern continent. The map notes Bouvet's discovery of icebergs between two and three hundred feet high and half a league to two or three leagues in circumference. On January 1, 1739, Bouvet encountered an icy promontory, which he named Cap de la Circoncision, at 54° South, below Africa, supposedly located next to one of the openings of his polar sea, where he had recorded his many great icebergs .

Importantly, this was the first time land had been spotted beyond the 50th parallel South in the Eastern Atlantic. Bouvet, spotted Cap Circoncision, but severe fog and ice ensured that he was unable to explore the area further, and thus he was unaware that the landmass was part of an island, and not a southern continent. Bouvet lost sight of the cape and was unable to relocate it in the days that followed. For many decades after this map was printed, it remained a mystery as to the true nature of this discovery. Bouvet's plotting of his course was innacurate, and in spite of several attempts, the cape was not encountered again until 1808, when it was proven to be an island. Named Bouvet Island, it is one of the World's most isolated points of land, very distant from both Africa and Antarctica, and is today administered by Norway.



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Detailed Condition: