Barry Lawrence Ruderman
Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

[Cosmographia. 1478.]

Stock#: 50084
Map Maker: Ptolemy

Date: 1478
Place: Rome
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size:

Price: SOLD

Description:

AN EXTREMELY IMPORTANT INCUNABLE; THE SECOND EDITION OF PTOLEMY WITH MAPS. THIS EDITION OF PTOLEMY OWNED AND USED BY CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS.

The second Ptolemy with copper-engraved maps, preceded only by the 1477 Bologna edition of the Cosmographia, an example of which was sold in Lord Wardington's sale for GBP £2,136,000.

Rome: [Conradus Sweynheym, succeeded by] Arnoldus Buckinck, 1478

Late-19th- or early-20th-century full calf, gilt extra, with elaborate rectilinear strapwork devices in red, black, and gold; the spine in six compartments separated by raised bands; inner dentelles gilt; bound by Guerin (signed).

Detailed condition report:

All sheets mounted on modern tabs. Rather inconspicuous dampstain in lower margin proceeding from front end papers to roughly leaf [59]. Some of the maps have very small wormholes not mentioned individually in the description.

Collation: 27 COPPER-ENGRAVED MAPS. 69 (of 70, final blank supplied) initial leaves, without title, signatures, or pagination, as issued; i.e., 123 (of 124) total leaves (wanting only 8/10 blank). Additionally bound with 23 double-page woodcut maps from the modern section of Fries's 1541 Ptolemy.

[1r] blank; [1v] dedication to Sixtus IV; 1/2r-8/9r text; 8/9v colophon; 8/10 blank [supplied]; 9-15 copperplate maps printed on one side only. Type 1:115R. 50 lines. Double-column. 2-, 3- and 7-line initial

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037
www.raremaps.com
(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

[Cosmographia. 1478.]

spaces, mostly with printed guide letters.

[1]: Moderately wormed. Outer and inner margin damaged with losses reinstated.

[2]: Moderately wormed. Outer margin damaged with losses reinstated. Large initial letter "C" excised and reinstated in facsimile. Facsimile is heavily wormed.

[3]: Minor worming. Outer margin damaged with losses reinstated, not affecting printed image. Blue-ink manuscript initial letters are washed out.

[4-8]: Few small worm holes. Lower right corner damaged with slight loss reinstated, not affecting image. Blue-ink manuscript initial letters are washed out.

[9v]: Early manuscript annotations to woodcut projection illustration.

[10]: Woodcut illustrations on recto and verso, early ink annotations on both.

[11]: Upper right corner reinstated, not coming close to affecting text.

[25v]: Blank surface slightly dirty.

[26r]: Blank surface slightly dirty.

[36]: Upper blank margin with cleaned spot.

[37r]: Gutter with minor soiling. Upper blank margin with cleaned spot.

[41v / 42r]: Very minor soiling.

[44v]: Minor soiling in blank gutter.

[61r]: Soiling to blank gutter.

[70]: Supplied.

[World]: Reinstated triangular paper loss (2x1.5 inches) in lower left corner. Not affecting image. Separate paper tear (1.25 inches) from lower left edge; not affecting the image. Very small amount of loss in gutter, in some places resulting in minor loss of image; in no place does the loss extend to more than 1/8 inch into the image. 1-inch reinstated loss at bottom edge and centerfold. Repair around the final "S" in "SINUS

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037
www.raremaps.com
(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

[Cosmographia. 1478.]

BARBARICUS". Overall a sharp, very good impression.

[Spain]: The temple associated with "VENERIS TEMPLUM" in the Pyrenees has been defaced with early ink manuscript; the title has been crossed out. An annotation in the same hand reads "Laudau Dei" above the temple.

[France, right leaf]: Several long, intersecting tears through image, all of which skillfully repaired. 2 x .5 inch loss on right side of centerfold at the bottom edge.

[Sardinia and Sicily]: Small repair to thin vertical loss (1.5 inches) in gutter.

[Greece]: Title barely shaved at top edge.

[Western North Africa]: Light wear in gutter.

[Central North Africa]: Light wear in gutter. Thin, cleaned stain through Mediterranean with obverse stain on facing leaf.

[Holy Land / Middle East]: Cleaned 1-inch stain around Duraba.

[Septima Asiae Tabula]: Text barely shaved at right edge.[Nona Asiae Tabula: Scant pink soiling.

Decima Asiae Tabula]: Scant pink soiling.

Undecima Asiae Tabula: Cleaned stain in blank margins of lower left and right corners. Barely shaved at top edge, not affecting image.

Duodecima et Ultima Asiae Tabula: Long repaired tear from left edge and right edge.

Detailed Condition:
See detailed report in the description.