



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

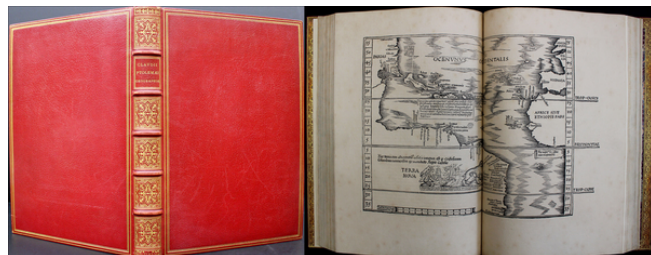
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Geographicae Enarrationis, Libri Octo.

Stock#: 55475
Map Maker: Fries / Ptolemy / Villanovanus
(Servetus)
Date: 1541
Place: Vienne, Dauphiné
Color: Uncolored
Condition: Fine
Size: 11 x 16 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Folio. Full late-19-century French red morocco bound and signed by Lortic Fils, covers ruled in gilt, spine in six compartments separated by raised bands, gilt-lettered "CLAUDII PTOLEMAEI GEOGRAPHIAE" in the second compartment, dated 1541 at the base, the other compartments with elaborate gilt geometric device, gilt-tooled dentelles, marbled endpapers, gilt edges (fine).

149, [1] pages, 1 leaf; 50 woodcut maps, all but one double-page; [avi], [bvi], [cvi], [dvi], [evi], [fvi], [gvi], [hvi] (i.e., complete).

A Handsomely-Bound, Near-Fine Example of the 1541 Edition of Fries' Adaptation of Waldseemuller's Ptolemy.

A very clean and attractive example of Fries' 1541 edition of Ptolemy, including the first map in a Ptolemy atlas to name "America" and the suites of ancient and modern maps.

The so-called "Fries Ptolemy" was first published in 1522 by Johann Koberger. Fries is generally thought to have edited the maps. The 1522 edition of Fries' work is very rare, suggesting that the work was not commercially successful. In 1525, an improved edition was issued, with a re-edit of the text by Willibald Pirckheimer, from the notes of Johannes Regiomontanus. After Grüninger's death in 1531, the business was continued by his son Christoph, who seems to have sold the materials for the Ptolemy to two Lyon publishers, the brothers Melchior and Gaspar Trechsel, who published a joint edition in 1535, before Gaspar Trechsel published an edition in his own right in 1541.

In addition to the books complement of maps, it also includes a full-page armillary sphere showing the inhabited earth by Albrecht Dürer (Meder 262).



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The Ancient Maps

Fries' work follows the typical cartographic tradition in Europe in the 15th and early 16th centuries in that it reproduces the maps of Claudius Ptolemy, the famous Greco-Roman mathematician, astronomer, geographer who was active in the 2nd Century AD.

The Modern Maps

Generally, the maps in the modern section are reduced copies by Lorenz Fries of the modern maps that appeared in Waldseemüller's Ptolemy of 1513, *Geographie Opus Novissima*. To that group Fries has added a map of Southeast Asia, East Asia, China and Japan, and a navigational map of the world.

Detailed Condition:

Small repair to the blank area in the lower right on the Arabia map.