Barry Lawrence Ruderman
Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

Tab. VIII. Europae, in qua Sarmatia, Maeotis palus ac Germaniae, Daciaque pars . . .

Stock#: 58839
Map Maker: Mercator

Date: 1578 (1695)
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 16.5 x 13.5 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

Finely colored example of Mercator's regional map of the area between the Baltic and the Black Seas, based upon the writings of Claudius Ptolemy, from a later edition of Gerard Mercator's *Tabulae geographicae CI. Ptolemaei ad mentem autoris restitutae et emendatae per G. Mercatorem,* first published in 1578.

While Mercator is perhaps best known for his modern maps and the map projection which bears his name, one of his life goals was to produce his own version of Ptolemy's *Geographia*. As a second installment of his *Atlas sive Cosmographi a . . .*, Mercator published an authentic version of Ptolemy's seminal work, deliberately devoid of the distracting interpretations and misinterpretations by earlier editors intent on improving the Egyptian geographer's seminal work. Mercator's goal was an accurate portrait of Ptolemy's second-century view of the world. To understand the present, the mapmaker believed, one must appreciate the past.

The atlas, published in 1578, included Ptolemy's twenty-seven maps, handsomely engraved, and supplemented by an index of place names and an enlarged boundary map of the Nile Delta. A total of 8 editions were published between 1578 and 1730.

Detailed Condition: