



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

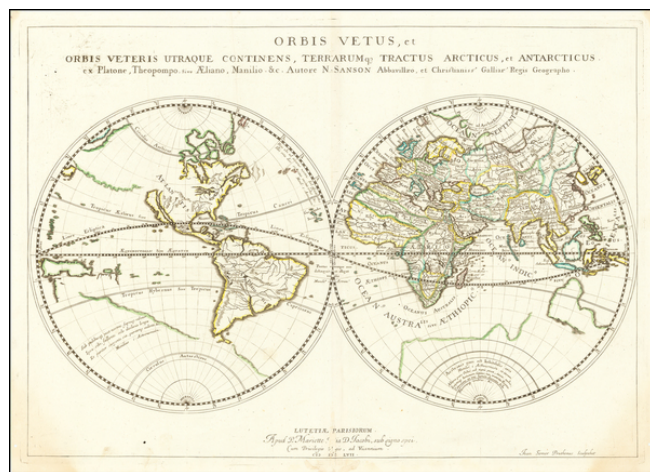
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Orbis Vetus, et Orbis Veteris, utraque Continens, Terrarumq; Tractus Arcticus, et Antarcticus ex Platone, Theopompo sive Aehano, Manilio . . . MDCLVII

Stock#: 62023
Map Maker: Sanson
Date: 1657
Place: Paris
Color: Outline Color
Condition: VG
Size: 21 x 15 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Nicolas Sanson's 1657 double-page engraved historical map of the world, in two hemispheres.

While styled as an ancient map, Sanson's world map of 1657 provides a fine depiction of the most up to date cartographic information as of the middle of the 17th Century. California is shown as an island. A massive unknown southern continent is still shown, with only the earliest hints of the outlines of Australia. A large land bridge extends from Japan to the Northwest Coast of America. While Sanson is relatively conservative in omitting information along the Northwest Coast of America, the prospect of a watercourse across the top of North America is still quite plausible. The depiction of the Great Lakes is based upon Sanson's map of North America, the first printed map to depict the Great Lakes. The North Polar information is also very accurate for the period.

A curious and oft-overlooked feature of this map is the second potential northwest passage, which is shown in the upper left corner of the Western Hemisphere, above Japan, which would in fact ultimately be a more accurate reflection of the location and geography of the Bering Straits than most other models of the period.

The map was first issued separately in 1657 and thereafter in Sanson's atlases for the next 20 years.

Detailed Condition: