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Air France, de Jour et de Nuit, de Nuit et de Jour dans tous les Ciel. Nox Post Lucem Lux Post Noctem.

Stock#: 67809
Map Maker: Boucher
Date: 1938
Place: Paris
Color: Color
Condition: VG
Size: 37 x 23 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Spectacular Lucien Boucher vintage pictorial map poster, done for Air France in 1938 or '39. The map shows the airline's routes emanating across a thinly-outline world map superimposed over a dramatic celestial map.

The map was produced to emphasize that Air France could fly both day and night flights and therefore get one to their destination faster and more comfortably than if they flew only during the day. This is also alluded to in the subtitle of the map.

Air France (page 91) notes:

[Here] we have a genuine ellipse, the omission of the globe, just barely suggested by the names of the stops written next to the air routes. But if we stand back and look from a distance at this network drawn on the celestial chart, we have the strange impression of seeing the world projected onto the sky . . . The result is astonishing, this magnificent representation of the signs of the Zodiac becoming a mirror in which the earth suggested by Air France routes is reflected.

Rumsey (8096) estimates the date of the map to 1939, other sources say 1938.

Detailed Condition:

Minor dampstain at the margins. One or two repaired thin marginal tears barely into the image.