



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

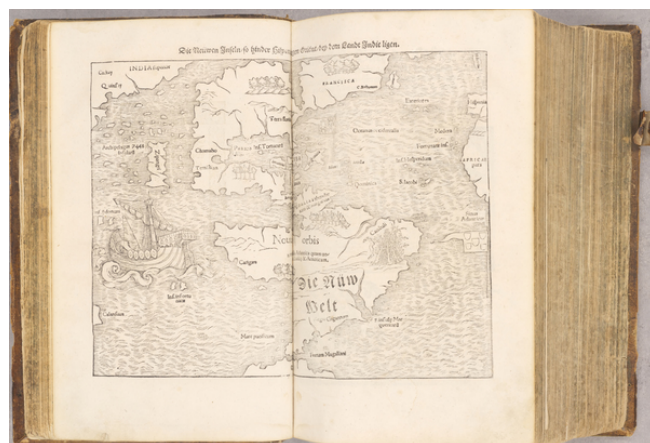
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Cosmographie: oder Beschreibung aller Länder herrschaften vnd fürnembsten Stetten des gantzen Erdbodens ... /

Stock#: 68312
Map Maker: Munster
Date: 1578
Place: Basel
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 9.5 x 14 inches Book Size
Price: SOLD



Description:

The Enlarged 1578 Edition of Munster's Cosmographia in a Contemporary, Unrestored Binding. The work that "sealed the fate of 'America' as the name of the New World."

An excellent example of Munster's *Cosmographia*, one of the most successful and influential descriptions of the world published during the Renaissance, here in the 1578 edition (first issued in 1544). Munster's *Cosmographia* was published alongside his *Geographia* (first issued in 1540) and grew to include numerous city views and other maps over its publication run. This edition of the *Cosmographia* includes numerous double-page woodcut views of cities, as well as some folding city views. This represents a major augmentation of the compliment of double-page maps that occurred in the early editions of *Cosmographia* and Munster's *Geographia*.

The work includes a suite of modern maps as well as traditional Ptolemaic cartography. The book includes a modern and Ptolemaic world map, both highly prized as individual maps, and the first modern map of Asia.

According to Burden (12), Munster's *Cosmographia* more than his *Geographia* was the book that sealed the fate of "America" as the name of the New World.

Munster's Map of the Americas

Munster's map of America is the earliest map to show all of North and South America in a true continental form. The first edition of the map appeared in Munster's *Geographia*, first published in 1540. However, it was the map's inclusion in the 1544 edition of Munster's *Cosmographia* that forever caused America to be



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the name of the New World, perpetuating Waldseemüller's choice of names in a popular and widely disseminated work.

Münster's map is the earliest map to show all of the continents of America and the first to name the Pacific Ocean (Mare Pacificum). The depiction of North America is dominated by one of the most dramatic geographic misconceptions to be found on early maps—the so-called Sea of Verrazzano. The Pacific cuts deeply into North America so that the part of the coastline at this point is a narrow isthmus between two oceans. This was the result of Verrazzano mistaking the waters to the west of the Outer Banks, the long barrier islands along North Carolina as the Pacific. The division of the New World between Spain and Portugal Spain and Portugal is recognized on the map by the Castille and Leon flag planted in Puerto Rico, here called Sciana.

The map includes a host of firsts, too many to include in this description. Includes a very early appearance of the Straits of Magellan, along with his ship *Victoria* in the Pacific. The earliest appearance of Japan on a map, predating European contact and based solely legends, such as Marco Polo. The Yucatan Peninsula is shown as an island. Lake Temistan empties into the Caribbean. The map depicts cannibals in South America and names Florida. The misinformation provided by Verazanno is perpetuated. The map depicts cannibals in South America and names Florida.

Conclusion

Overall an incredible work of craftsmanship and science, a representation of the Renaissance worldview and known world in the 16th century.

Collation:

Complete: a6, a6, 26 double-page woodcut maps, A-E8, F6, G2, H4, I-O2, P4, Q8, R4, S2, T-X8, Y4, Z2, Aa2, Bb8, Cc4, Dd6, Ee4, Ff-Ii2, Kk6, Ll-Mm8, Nn-Oo2, Pp-Yy8, Zz4, AA4, BB-CC8, DD6, EE2, FF-GG4, HH6, II8, KK6, LL-MM8, NN4, OO-PP2, QQ4, RR2, SS4, TT-ZZ2, AAa8, BBb4, CCc2, DDd-EEe8, FFf4, GGg6, HHh-KKk4, LLl-MMm8, NNN6, OOO8, PPp-RRr4, SSS2, TTt8, UUu6, XXx2, YYy6, ZZz4, Aaa6, Bbb2, Ccc-Ddd8, Eee4, Fff2, Ggg6, Hh2, Iii4, Kkk-NNn8, Ooo-Ppp6, Qqq4, Rrr2, Sss8, Ttt6, Uuu4, Xxx-Zzz8, AAA-CCC8, DDD4, EEE2, FFF-GGG8, HHH6, III4, KKK-NNN8, OOO2, PPP8, QQQ6, RRR4, SSS6.

Detailed Condition:

Quarto. Contemporary full blindstamped pigskin (some scrapes and searches, metalwork and clasps



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lacking). 26 woodcut maps. Three supplied double-page spreads: Kkiii-Kkiiii, NNniii-NNniiii, Zzziiii-v. Few tears and a few leaves with small parts torn away, but overall Very Good.