



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

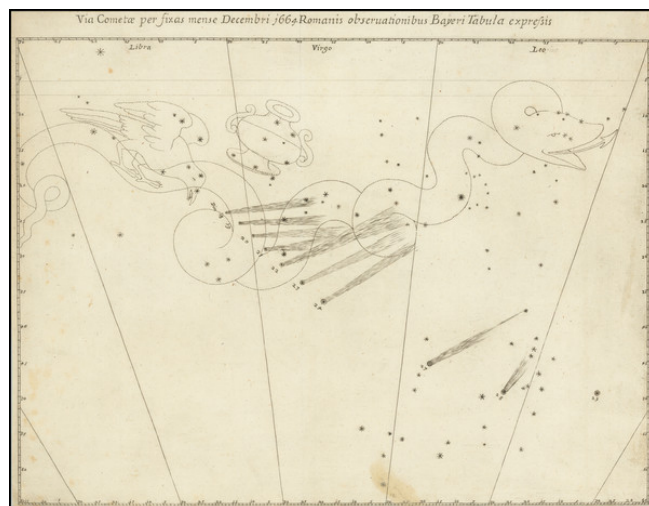
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Via Cometae per fixas mense Decembri 1664 Romanis observationibus Bayeri Tabula expressis

Stock#: 70032
Map Maker: Cassini
Date: 1665
Place: Rome
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 14.5 x 11.3 inches (Including text)
Price: \$ 1,200.00



Description:

Cassini's Mapping of the Comet of 1664-65

Finely engraved image of the comet which passed through the European skies between December 1664 and January 1665, which appeared Giovanni Domenico Cassini's rare *Theoria Motus Cometae Anni MDCLXIV* . . .

The map is centered on Argo Navis, Canis Major, Hydra and Orion, with an arc tracking the transit of the comet across the main map from left to right beginning on December 18, 1664 and ending December 29, 1664.

Cassini's observations of the comet led to his formulation of a new theory (in agreement with the Tychoonian system) in which the orbit of the comet is a great circle whose center is situated in the direction of Sirius and whose perigee is beyond the orbit of Saturn. Cassini's detailed observations of the comet were made with a powerful new telescope constructed by Roman lensmakers Giuseppe Campani and Eustachio Divini. Beginning in 1664, Cassini was able to obtain powerful celestial telescopes of great focal length.

The large engraved plate depicts the course of the transit of the comet between December 18 and December 29, 1664. It also shows the appearance and direction of the comet's tail in a series of nightly dated observations. The great comet of 1664-5 was observed by many astronomers, including Newton, Auzout, Borelli, Fabri, Hooke, Hevelius, Huygens, Hooke Montanari and Petit.



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Rarity

Cassini's *Theoria Motus Cometae Anni MDCLXIV* . . . is very rare on the market. This individual plate is even rarer in commerce.

Detailed Condition: