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(Savoy) Descrittione Del Ducato Di Savoia Novamente Posto In Luce In Venetia L'Anno M.D. LXII

Stock#: 75043
Map Maker: Forlani / Bertelli
Date: 1580 circa
Place: Venice
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 17.25 x 12.75 inches
Price: \$ 3,800.00



Description:

The First Obtainable Map of Savoy.

Rare and finely engraved map of the region around the Duchy of Savoy, published in Venice by the important Lafreri School mapmaker Paolo Forlani, and reissued here in a second state by Ferrando Bertelli. This is the first obtainable map of Savoie, showing the region now split between France, Italy, and Switzerland.

The map is highly detailed, naming cities, and covers a vast swath of territory. The map is oriented with east towards the top. Strasbourg appears in the upper left, Bourgogne and Auvergne in the lower part of the map, and Turin in the upper right. The map is centered on Lake Geneva. The Val d'Aosta appears in the upper right. Grenoble, Geneva, and San Moritz are all named.

The map was long believed to be the earliest modern map of the Duchy of Savoy, until the discovery of a 2 sheet map by Gilles Boileau de Bouillon entitled *Nova et exactissima Sabaudie Ducat Descriptio*. This French-published map was issued in 1556 and copied by Forlani. Forlani has left the toponyms on the map in French, although he has changed the cartographic indicators to Italian. Boileau de Bouillon's map would be later copied by Ortelius in his 1570 *Theatrum*.

The Venetian mapmaker Paolo Forlani is one of the best-known and most prolific of the Venetian mapmakers of the period. Forlani and Ferrando Bertelli were two of the most important of a group of 16th-century Italian mapmakers often referred to as "Lafreri School," named for the Roman mapmaker and



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publisher Antoni Lafreri, who assembled composite atlases of maps published by himself and other Italian mapmakers and added his title page to some examples.

The map carries all the decorative hallmarks of a Lafreri School publication, with its rounded hills, stippled hydrography, and decorative geometric cartouches.

States

The map is known in four states:

1. No imprint underneath the scale bar. Known in one example.
2. Imprint *Ferando Berteli libraro exc.* added.
3. Imprint changed to *Donato Rasciotti forma*
4. Imprint changed to *F. Vallengio forma*.

Detailed Condition:

Nice wide margins. Very minor loss and wear along centerfold. Hand-colored to style in a later hand.