



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

VI. Ursa Major, Leo

Stock#: 75912
Map Maker: Bode
Date: 1801
Place: Berlin
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 30 x 22.5 inches
Price: \$ 2,800.00



Description:

A magnificent hand-colored engraved celestial plate from "the most elaborate atlas of stars and constellations published to date and perhaps the last great star atlas." - David Rumsey

Impressive celestial engraving from the large folio 1801 first edition of Johann Elert Bode's *Uranographia*.

The plate depicts the constellations of Ursa Major and Leo Minor.

Ursa Major, the Great Bear of the northern sky, likely dates back to pre-history. It was one of the 48 original constellations described by Ptolemy in the 2nd century. It is now commonly called the Big Dipper and appears on the state flag of Alaska. Leo Minor, on the other hand, appeared in an area classified by Ptolemy as *amorphotoi*, that is, not belonging to a constellation outline.

Numerous background constellations are also wonderfully depicted, including Canis, Cancer, Leo Major, Lynx, and Coma Berenices.

Detailed Condition: