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Cetus

Stock#: 76198
Map Maker: Thomas
Date: 1730
Place: Frankfurt & Leipiz
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 5 x 4.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

"One of the Unsung Treasures of Celestial Cartography"

Fine old color example of Corbinianus Thomas's remarkable depiction of the constellation Cetus.

In western celestial myths, Cetus is interpreted as a sea monster or whale and appears in the center of other constellations with water-based myths. In Greek mythology, Cetus was understood to be a sea monster sent by Poseidon to punish the peoples of Ethiopia. As told in Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, Andromeda was chained to a rock along the coast and sacrificed by her people to appease Cetus, but she was rescued by Perseus, the founder of Mycenae. Andromeda and Perseus would each get their own neighboring constellations.

Thomas's work is remarkable for its detailed treatment of single and small groups of constellations, the meticulous detail in which these fine images are engraved, and the exceptional detail of the color work. Among its contemporaries, it is unquestionably a visual masterwork of great note.

Detailed Condition:

Original hand-color.