

Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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(Allegorical Map of Desire) Charte Von dem Quelle der Wunsche und den Landern welche dessen Strome durchfliessen. . . [Chart of the source of desires and the countries which its currents flow through. . .]

Stock#: 78210 **Map Maker:** Breitkopf

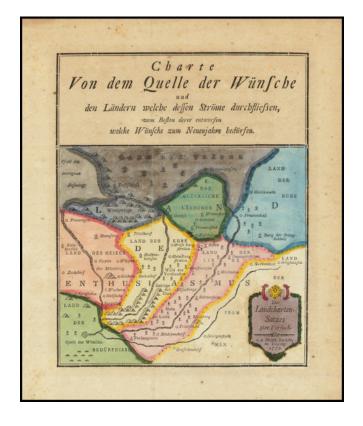
Date: 1779
Place: Leipzig

Color: Hand Colored

Condition: VG+

Size: $6 \times 7.5 \text{ inches}$

Price: SOLD



Description:

One of Three Maps Printed by Breitkopf Using Movable Type

Fantastic and uncommon map of the "Source of Wishes," a watershed map showing how fantastical streams from the same source flow to a "quiet, happy country" and through the "land of avarice." This map was printed as part of a project undertaken by Johann Breitkopf between 1777 and 1779 that produced maps using a type-set rather than a copperplate engraving.

The map is a rare example of the short-lived phenomenon of "typometry," a map-printing technique that meshes movable type with movable linework and map symbols. While some typography had been used since the 16th-century to print small letters on otherwise copperplate-engraved maps, the idea of making a map exclusively using this technique had not developed until the late 18th century. Two separate inventors had come up with the concept at nearly the same time. While Breitkopf, a music publisher, had invented the methodology first, he held off printing his maps until 1777 and was beaten by William Haas, a

Drawer Ref: Small Maps Stock#: 78210



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Basle type-founder who published his typeset maps in 1776. This printing method proved more time-consuming than copperplate engraving, and died out quickly, remaining a curiosity into the 19th century.

The map itself is mainly a proof-of-concept work and shows various tools that can be used in mapmaking. It shows a mystical land of mountains, rivers, and cities, all of which relate to the fulfillment of wishes and desires in life.

Detailed Condition:

Full original hand-color. Printer's creases.