



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

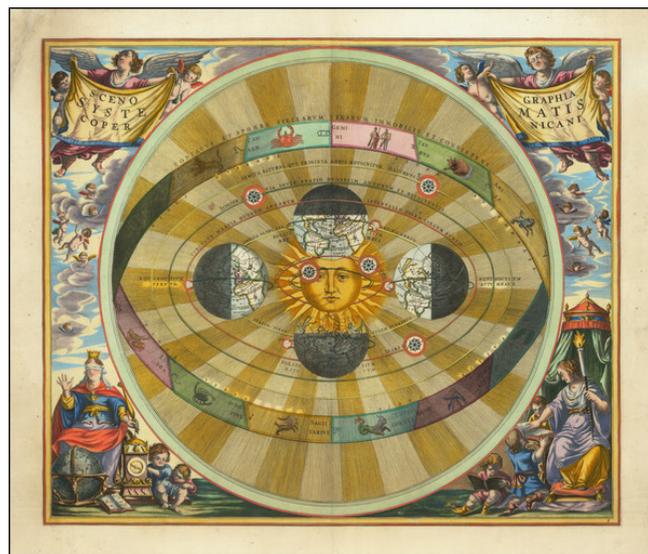
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Scenographia Systematis Copernicani

Stock#: 78918
Map Maker: Cellarius
Date: 1661
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 20 x 17 inches
Price: \$ 8,500.00



Description:

The Revolutionary Copernican Conception of the Solar System. Possibly the Most Iconic of Cellarius's Plates.

Nice hand-color example of Cellarius's chart illustrating a heliocentric model of the universe, as proposed by the Polish astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus in the first half of the 16th century.

It represents Plate 5 in the volume and is the second Copernican representation included.

The "scenographic" representation attempts to place the objects in a three-dimensional viewpoint. This globe shows the rotations of the Earth, with a display of the solstices and equinoxes shown. The seasonality of the angles of insolation are demonstrated by illustrations of the Earth for Northern Hemisphere winter (top), Northern Hemisphere summer (bottom), and spring and fall (at the sides).

Surrounding the six concentric orbits shown are the signs of the Zodiac, placed just outside of the Solar System and representing the realm of the stars. The blindfolded woman in the lower left likely represents Astraea, daughter of Zeus. Like her mother Themis, she is also a symbol of justice. At the bottom left is Calliope, the muse of poetry.

Copernicus's heliocentric model, with the Sun at the center of the universe, demonstrated that the observed motions of celestial objects can be explained without putting Earth at rest in the center of the universe. His work spurred further scientific investigations, becoming a landmark in the history of science



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that is often referred to as the Copernican Revolution.

Cellarius's charts are the most sought after of celestial charts, blending the striking imagery of the golden age of Dutch Cartography with contemporary scientific knowledge.

Detailed Condition:

Repair in the blank margin to the upper-left corner.