



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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(India) Decima Asiae Tabula

Stock#: 79959
Map Maker: Waldseemüller
Date: 1513
Place: Strassburg
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 23 x 14.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Finely colored example of Waldseemüller's map of India, one of the earliest obtainable maps of the region. This woodblock was printed in Strasbourg, an important early center of secular printing. The first map appeared in Martin Waldseemüller's *Geographiae opus novissima traductione e Grecorum archetypis castigatissime pressum*.

The depiction of India is stunted, and shows the subcontinent from the Indus in the west to the Ganges in the East. In the south, an oversized Taprobana (Sri Lanka), is half-shown. Large mountains in the north source the many Indian rivers, reflecting the Himalayas. Ancient towns and regions are named.

Waldseemüller's *Geographiae* is often referred to as the first modern atlas, incorporating twenty new modern maps. The twenty-seven maps of ancient geography that constitute the first part of the work are copied from the 1482 Ulm edition of the Ptolemy, one of the finest editions of the work and the first printed outside Italy. The supplement of twenty maps represents the first complete series of "modern" maps, produced by Martin Waldseemüller at Saint-Dié. The new Latin translation of the text that accompanies the maps was produced by Mathias Ringmann and is based on D'Angelo's text and edited by Jacob Aeschler and Georg Uebelin.

This geography includes many important maps, including the first map exclusively devoted to America ("Tabula terre nove"); Lorraine, one of the earliest color printed maps; as well as the first published maps for many other countries. Waldseemüller's maps made considerable geographical advances, basing their information on material in the Basel and Strasbourg university libraries, as well as reports of Spanish and Portuguese voyages. No better assemblage of maps was issued until Ortelius's *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* of 1570.



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Original Hand-Coloring

It is very rare to encounter Waldseemuller's 1513 maps in original hand-color; this being one of the few times we have offered any of the maps for sale. See Chet van Duzer's work on the subject for an in-depth discussion of the coloring of the 1513 Waldseemuller.

Detailed Condition:

Original hand-color.