



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

(Danse Macabre or Dance of Death) Septimas etas mudi Imago mortis [The Seventh Age of the World: The Image of Death]

Stock#: 81174
Map Maker: Schedel / Wolgemut
Date: 1493
Place: Nuremberg
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size:
Price: SOLD



Description:

Fantastic hand-colored 15th-century woodcut of the dance of death by Michael Wolgemut, issued in the 1493 Latin first edition of Hartmann Schedel's *Nuremberg Chronicle*.

The image shows a band of dancing skeletons rising from the dead to play music and dance.

Below the festive-if-morbid image, is a caption in Latin of a verse from Petrarch's "Letter to Giovanni Colonna" (translation by Michael North):

Nothing is better than Death, nor anything worse than an unfair Life,



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**(Danse Macabre or Dance of Death) Septimas etas mudi Imago mortis [The Seventh
Age of the World: The Image of Death]**

*O great Death, you are men's eternal rest from labor,
You relax the yoke for the aged, God willing,
And remove the heavy fetters from the necks of the vanquished,
You lift exile and break open the doors of prison,
You rescue from indignities, assigning good things to the just by lots,
And you remain unmoved, implacable by any technique,
On that day preset from the beginning, all these things you command
the peaceful soul to bear, the end of its labors having been promised,
Without you the life of the suffering is a perennial prison.*

Detailed Condition:

Minor dampstain and soiling.