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[Circle of Angels] In principio creavit deus celum et terra

Stock#: 81929
Map Maker: Schedel
Date: 1493
Place: Nuremberg
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 9 x 14 inches Including Text
Price: SOLD



Description:

Interesting example of Michael Wolgemut-Wilhelm Pleydenwurff's "The Heavenly Chorus" woodcut scene from Schedel's *Liber Chronicum* (Nuremberg Chronicle), one of the most famous and prolific works of the 15th century. A group of angels, with a dove at the top, encircle the letters "YLE", after the Greek word "hyle". The text above describes "YLE" as the "first shapeless mass out of which all things were created." "Hyle", from the Greek word for "wood", was used by Aristotle to denote matter in general, defining it in *Metaphysics* as, "that which in itself is neither a particular thing nor of a certain quantity nor assigned to any other of the categories by which being is determined;" there had been no word in Greek for the concept of matter.

On the verso, the image simply and abstractly depicts the separation of light from darkness on the first



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day of creation; the first line of the text states, "And God said let there be light. And there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness"

Detailed Condition:

Printer's crease in left of image (folium II). Some marginal soiling and foxing. Binding tab on left margin (folium II).