



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

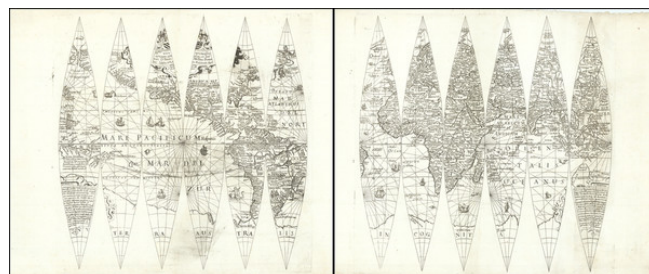
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## [World -- Terrestrial Globe Gores]

**Stock#:** 89195  
**Map Maker:** Hondius / Rossi  
**Date:** 1615  
**Place:** Rome  
**Color:** Uncolored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 18.5 x 13.5 inches (each sheet)



**Price:** \$ 28,500.00

### Description:

#### *Crafting the World in Miniature—Extremely Scarce Set of Italian Globe Gores*

Rare early set of Dutch globe gores, based on a 1601 globe by the influential Jodocus Hondius.

The present gores are by Giuseppe Rossi and intended to create a 19-centimeter globe, when assembled. They are dated 1615, making them some of the earliest known Italian gores.

Gores are seldom seen on the market and this set is a singular rarity, known in only one example at the Library of Congress.

The map includes Hondius' original cartouche in the Pacific Ocean, explaining his choice of meridian. He places it in the Azores, not in the Fortunate Isles, like Ptolemy. Rossi has added his own cartouche in the North Pacific, dedicating the globe to *D. Paulo Mellino*, a Roman nobleman.

Hondius' geography is remarkably up to date, including Barentsz' recent encounters with Nova Zembla in 1594 and 1596. However, there are also geographic myths like the chimeric island of Frisland, the island of Korea, and the Strait of Anian (see below).

In the west of North America is Quivira. This refers to the Seven Cities of Gold sought by the Spanish explorer Francisco Vazquez de Coronado in 1541. In 1539, Coronado wandered over what today is Arizona and New Mexico, eventually heading to what is now Kansas to find the supposedly rich city of Quivira. Although he never found the cities or the gold, the name stuck on maps of southwest North America, wandering from east to west.

The globe is embellished with sailing vessels and sea monsters.



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#### **Terra Australis**

One of the defining characteristics of this map is the massive southern continent that fills the southerly latitudes, *Terra Australis Incognita*. A peninsula juts up near southeast Asia. Place names there include Beach, Lucach, and Maletur. As with Anian, they would be familiar to anyone who has read Marco Polo's *Travels*. These three places were originally regions in Java. As can be seen, a *Java minor* is near to Maletur. This conflation of Java with the southern continent stemmed from an error. Initially, Polo used Arabic usage of Java Major for Java and Java Minor for Sumatra. After a printing mistake made Java Minor seem the largest island in the world in the 1532 edition of Polo's *Travels* (Paris and Basel), mapmakers started to make a landmass to accommodate Java Minor, Beach, Lucach, and Maletur.

Farther west is *Psitacorum regio*, which refers to an area densely populated with parrots. This place name appeared on Mercator's 1541 globe and his 1569 world map, as well as on the work of Hondius' contemporaries like Plancius. It was supposed to have been sighted by Portuguese sailors but was never verified in terms of size or location.

#### **Hondius and Dutch globemaking in the early-seventeenth century**

Hondius is best known for his map and atlas production, but he was also the head of one of three prominent globemaking families in the Netherlands at this time. The others were the Blaeus and the van Langrens.

While Hondius was exiled in London in the 1590s, he met with Francis Drake, Thomas Cavendish, and Walter Raleigh. This explains some of the innovative additions on this and his other globes, such as Raleigh's encounters with Guyana (here *Guiana*). In addition to conversing with explorers about the latest geographic knowledge, he also contributed to the creation of the first English globe. Hondius engraved the gores for the 1592 Molyneux, thus named for his collaborator, Emery Molyneux.

Hondius returned to Amsterdam in 1593. In 1597, he received a ten-year privilege to publish a terrestrial globe. In that year, he also published a Dutch translation of Robert Hues' *Tractatus de globis* (1594). Over the next two decades, he published a series of globes of increasing size.

Hondius' entrance into the globe market, of which the 1601 globe was a part, was not uncontested. Van Langren filed a suit against Hondius for copying his work. To counter this accusation, Hondius compiled a list of fourteen additions that appeared on his later state of the Molyneux globe that were not on Van Langren's. Such contention was typical of cartographic publishing in Amsterdam at this time, where rival firms sought to produce similar products.



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**Rarity**

The separate gores are known in a single example in the Library of Congress.

The assembled globe is known in several examples, including an institutional example at the Correr Museum in Venice and an example in the private collection of famed globe collector Rudolf Schmidt.

**Detailed Condition:**

Two sheets, unjoined.