



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

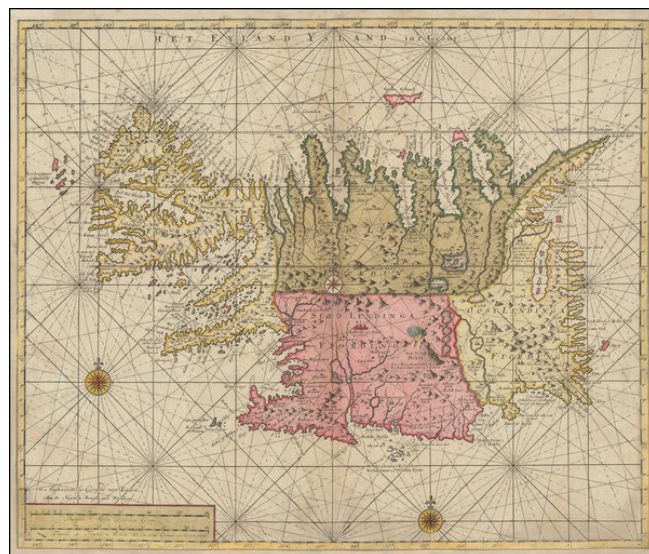
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Het Eyland Ysland in t'Groot

Stock#: 94820
Map Maker: Van Keulen
Date: 1720 circa
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: Good
Size: 24 x 20.25 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Het Eyland Ysland in't Groot, a rare sea chart of Iceland by Gerard Van Keulen in Amsterdam circa 1720, offers an intriguing representation of Iceland's geography and topography during the early 18th century. With substantial terrestrial detail, this chart offers more than a maritime guide; it serves as a comprehensive portrayal of the island's unique features.

Rendered in great detail, the chart divides Iceland into four major sections: West Lendinga Fiordung, Noord Lendinga Fiordung, Suyd Lendinga Fiordung, and Oost Lendinga Fiordung. Remarkably, the chart depicts the famed Hekla volcano, the "den Bergh Hekla," replete with the artistic representation of smoke and fire rising from its peak. This depiction encapsulates a significant historical event, as indicated by the note "deese Berg brand niet meer heest in 't Jaar 1692 opgehouden," which states that the mountain ceased to burn in 1692.

Van Keulen's work arises during the golden age of Dutch mapmaking, where the Van Keulen family was a dominant force. Their legacy, sustained from the late 17th century until 1823, produced an impressive output of sea charts. This particular map stands out for its departure from the sea chart tradition, basing its design on the land map by Joris Carolus. This chart, therefore, straddles the worlds of maritime and terrestrial mapping, incorporating elements such as rhumb lines, compass roses, and detailed shoreline depictions, while simultaneously presenting extensive inland features.

The chart displays various landmarks and settlements with striking accuracy, highlighting the bishoprics of Skalholt and Holar with triform cathedrals, and marking other geographical features such as fjords,



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rivers, and mountains. It even identifies numerous glaciers by name, a level of detail unusual for a sea chart. However, it also includes fantastical elements like the "Goubermans Eylanden of Klippen" in the west of Iceland, an imaginary landmass that does not exist in reality. The inaccurate drawing of the Arctic Circle adds a further element of cartographic eccentricity, indicating a continued reliance on imperfect information and maritime lore. Overall, *Het Eyland Ysland in't Groot* by Gerard Van Keulen is a masterwork of 18th-century cartography, a fusion of science and artistry, offering a compelling insight into early modern perceptions of Iceland.

Detailed Condition:

Expert restoration along centerfold and bottom edge, with some reinstatement of image at the bottom and lower right edges.