



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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## Du Destroit de Magellan

**Stock#:** 93710  
**Map Maker:** Mercator / Cloppenburg  
**Date:** 1630 circa  
**Place:** Amsterdam  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 10.25 x 7.5 inches  
**Price:** \$ 675.00



### Description:

#### ***An Early Golden Age Depiction of the Le Maire Strait and Adjacent Strait of Magellan***

Fascinating representation of the early exploration of South America's southern tip, titled "Du Destroit de Magellan" from the Mercator Hondius *Atlas Minor*, showing the iconic Strait of Magellan and Le Maire Strait, critical milestones in the history of maritime exploration.

The map is not only rich in detail, but it also is aesthetically pleasing, featuring rhumb lines and a prominent compass rose at the center. The rhumb lines serve both a practical and aesthetic purpose, illustrating lines of constant bearing that are invaluable for navigation, while also embellishing the map with a sense of antiquity. The compass rose serves as the centerpiece, a tribute to the remote seas and treacherous waters surrounding the Straits.

The map depicts Staten Lant (Staten Landt) and the Le Maire Strait, both significant geographical features linked to early Dutch exploration. Jacob Le Maire and Willem Schouten, Dutch explorers, discovered the Le Maire Strait in 1616 during their quest for a new route to the Pacific, challenging the monopoly held by the Strait of Magellan. This discovery is documented on the map shortly after its occurrence, marking a significant advancement in early 17th-century maritime knowledge.

The Strait of Magellan itself, named after the Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan, is shown in remarkable detail. Magellan first navigated these treacherous waters in 1520 during his famous circumnavigation of the globe, providing the first viable sea route connecting the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. This discovery, transformative for world trade and exploration, remains a testament to human



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determination and ingenuity.

Numerous place names are meticulously documented in Dutch, providing a cultural and historical snapshot of the period. These annotations, reminiscent of the Dutch Golden Age's cartographic prowess, give us unique insights into the place names as understood and recorded during that era.

**Detailed Condition:**