



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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(Mexican-Aztec Paintings) Mexican Painting. Codex Telleriano Remensis. 14 Reg 1616 Aglio 1 Vol Page 9 seq

Stock#: 103003
Map Maker: Shippard
Date: 1834 circa
Place: London
Color: Pen & Ink with Wash Color
Condition: Good
Size: 10 x 15.7 inches
Price: \$ 4,500.00



Description:

Aztec Calendar Months and Festivals

A visually stunning original early 19th-century watercolor depicting several Aztec deities. Based on the Codex Telleriano Remensis, the deities shown are connected to specific festivals or representations of months in the Aztec calendar. The watercolor drawing was created by Capt. William H. Shippard, a British artist who was also a pioneer researcher of early Mexican civilizations. Each of the five figures has identifying annotations in Shippard's distinctive handwriting, including references to the Codex Telleriano Remensis and to Agostino Aglio, the artist who produced the lithographs for Lord Kingsborough's massive



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collection of Aztec codices: *Mexican Antiquities*:

Codex Telleriano Remensis preserved in the Royal Library at Paris. Aglio Mexican Antiquities. Vol. 1st.

The figures shown in the watercolor, all brilliantly colored are as follows:

- Panquetzalitzli (XV): Fifteenth month of the Aztec calendar, also a festival dedicated to Huitzilopochtli.
- Atemoztli (XVI) : Sixteenth month of the Aztec calendar, also a festival dedicated to Tlaloc, god of rain or water.
- The Five Dead Days (Nemontemi, or "extra days") - centerpiece of the sheet. Represents the "five dead days on which there were no sacrifices."
- Tititl (XVII): Festival of weaving.
 - *This feast was an observation of Ilama tecutli. The person imitating her (ixiptla) wore a white skirt (cueitl) and a white shift (huipilli). Over this she wore a star skirt (citlalli icue) with small seashells that jingled. Her sandals had white toes, woven with cotton threads. She had a shield (chimalli) covered with white clay and pasted over with eagle feathers and heron feathers, and in her other hand she held a weaving stick (tzotzopatzli).* - Fr. Bernardino de Sahagún. Florentine Codex: General History of the Things of New Spain, Book 2 -- The Ceremonies, no. 14, Part III, translated by Arthur J. O. Anderson and Charles E. Dibble (Santa Fe and Salt Lake City: School of American Research and the University of Utah, 1951), 143.
- Yzcalli [Izcalli] (XVIII): Eighteenth and last month of the Aztec calendar, and a festival related to Xiuhtecuhtli, the fire god. A feast of rejuvenation.
 - *....black line at the eye, painted black jaw, blue costume, blue stepped chest ornament, blue ear pegs... define this figure as an impersonator of the patriarchal old fire god Xiuhtecuhtli. The emphasis on the color blue relates to his name, Turquoise Lord. The yellow skin and hair may be related to his role as a fire god, or they may allude to his other name and aspect, Ixcozauhqui (Yellow Face) - Quiñones Keber.*

Detailed Condition:

Original pen and ink drawing with watercolor. Sheet age-toned. Some staining and foxing.