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Men of Modern Mathematics A history chart of mathematicians from 1000 to 1900

Stock#: 63350
Map Maker: Eames
Date: 1966
Place: Armonk, New York
Color: Color
Condition: VG
Size: 147 x 24 inches
Price: \$ 975.00



Description:

Charles Eames Graphic Time Line on the History of Mathematicians -- Prepared For IBM

A remarkable mathematical time line, designed for IBM by the Office of Charles Eames. As noted in the introduction:

This is a chronological view of mathematics as seen through the biographies of some great mathematicians . . . Pictures and words that surround the biographies give clues to the kinds of attitudes and events that influenced the development of mathematics and mathematicians.

Eames first major project of note for IBM was *Mathematica: A World of Numbers... and Beyond* (1961), which was sponsored by IBM, and is the only Eames exhibitions still extant. The *Mathematica* exhibition is still considered a model for science popularization exhibitions.

In 1966, five years after the opening of the *Mathematica* Exhibit, IBM published a 2-by-12-foot timeline poster, titled *Men of Modern Mathematics*. It was based on the items displayed on the exhibit's History Wall . . . The graphic featured biographical and historical vignettes, along with numerous pictures showing progress in various areas of science, including architecture. This poster is described in detail in "Eames Design" by John and Marilyn Neuhart and Ray Eames (page 311):

Produced for the IBM Corporation, the . . . timeline is a slightly modified, printed version of the History Wall from the Mathematica exhibition. It is printed on one wide 48- by- 73.5-inch perforated sheet, which was meant to be separated horizontally into two, attached together, and made into a wall chart 2 feet wide by 12 feet 2.875 inches long. Twenty color runs were



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required to print the chart.

The title graphic on the chart describes the printed timeline (in keeping with the original History Wall) as a 'chronological view of mathematics as seen through the biographies of some great mathematicians.' Its subject is the development of mathematics in the Western world from 1100 to 1950. The biographies, separated into life and work sections and include portraits and text, were adapted from the original History Wall. Illustrations and text blocks describing significant historical and cultural events surround the biographical panels, and illustrations with captions outlining major historical milestones are positioned on the lower section of the chart as a general reference.

As in the exhibition's History Wall, the biographies and mathematical notes were researched and written by Raymond Redheffer of the Department of Mathematics at UCLA. IBM has distributed the chart to schools since 1966.

An exceptional artifact from the days of one of the most successful Corporate Design Programs in history: when IBM decided they needed to update their look, they turned the work over to Paul Rand, Charles Eames, George Nelson, Edgar Kaufmann and Eliot Noyes. They did a good job.

In 2012, IBM Corporation released a free iPad application, Minds of Modern Mathematics, based on the poster but updated to the present, including expanded coverage of women mathematicians. The app was developed by IBM with the assistance of the Eames Office.

Detailed Condition:

Two sheets, unjoined. Minor tears, abrasions and some minor loss at the edges.