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Coeli Stellati Christiani Haemisphaerium Posterius

Stock#: 66449
Map Maker: Cellarius
Date: 1660 (1708)
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 20 x 17 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Striking celestial hemispheric star chart by Andreas Cellarius and later re-issued by Schenk & Valk in 1708.

This spectacular celestial chart presents the constellations according to Christian symbolism. The view of the constellations is based on the work of the early 17th century astronomer, Julius Schiller, who sought to replace the traditional pagan symbols with ones derived from Judeo-Christian sources. Schiller replaced the zodiacal constellations with the twelve apostles, the constellations north of the zodiac by figures from the New Testament and the constellations south of the zodiac by figures from the Old Testament.

On this chart, the major constellations are represented as follows:

- Sagittarius = Matthew
- Aquarius = Judas Thaddeus
- Pisces = Matthias
- Aries = Peter
- Taurus by Andrew
- Cassiopeia = Mary Magdalene
- Orion = Joseph
- Cygnus = St. Helena, holding the cross.
- The River of Eridanus = The parting of the Red Sea



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The *Harmonica Macrocosmica* of Andreas Cellarius is widely regarded as the most beautiful and finely executed celestial atlas ever published. The atlas appeared in two early editions of 1660 and 1661, and was also intended as part of Jansson's *Atlas Maior*. Schenk & Valk re-issued the atlas in 1708, using the original Cellarius plates, without alteration, except for the addition of their names in the title cartouche.

Detailed Condition:

Top margin expertly replaced (outside the neatline) at an early date.