



## Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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### [ Grand Duchy of Tuscany ] Dominio Fiorentino

**Stock#:** 98624  
**Map Maker:** Blaeu  
**Date:** 1640 circa  
**Place:** Amsterdam  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** VG+  
**Size:** 19.5 x 14.75 inches  
**Price:** \$ 875.00



#### Description:

Gorgeous old color example of Blaeu's map of Fiorentina, centered on Florence. Includes a dedication to D. Theodoro Hasselaer.

The map covers the areas controlled by the Medici Family as part of the Grand Duchy of Tuscany. The Grand Duchy's territory comprised almost the entire region of present-day Tuscany, with the exception of the Republic of Lucca, the Principality of Piombino, the Duchy of Massa and Carrara and the State of the Presidi, each of which is shown on this map as a separate region.

Includes Siena, Perugia, Luca, and Pisa. Two large decorative cartouches. The map is dedicated to Pieter Pietersz Hasselaer (1582-1651), who served eight terms as the mayor of Amsterdam between 1635 and 1649.

Willem Janszoon Blaeu (1571 - 1638) was a Dutch map and globe maker, born in either Uitgeest or Alkmaar. He opted not to go into the family business (herring sales) and instead became a student of Danish Astronomer Tycho Brahe from 1594 to 1596, where he learned to make globes and instruments.

Blaeu began in the map and globe business after completing his education with Tycho Brahe and became one of the Low Countries premier globe, instrument and map makers. In 1633, he became the official mapmaker of the Dutch East India Company. In the same time period, he bought the plates used for the Mercator-Hondius Atlas and began publishing his own Atlas of the World (*Atlas Novus*), which he expanded and added plates to for the rest of his life. He passed on his business to his two sons, Johannes and Cornelis, who continued the business for the next three decades, until a fire destroyed their printing



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works in the 1660s. Before the destruction of the Blaeu printing house, the original one volume atlas grew to over 650 maps and was the most expensive book ever published during the time of its publication.

**Detailed Condition:**

French text on verso.