Barry Lawrence Ruderman
Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

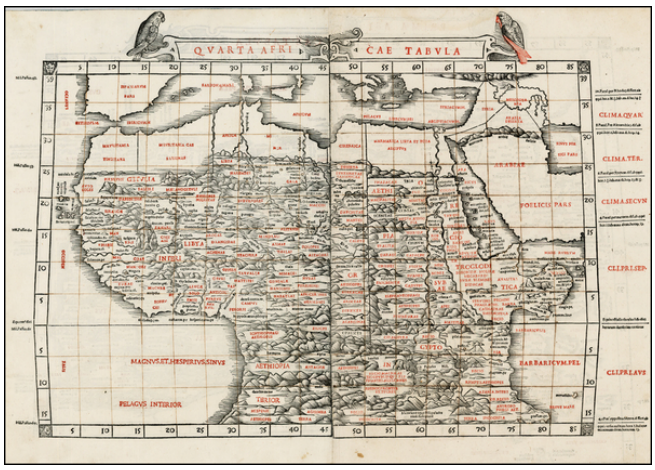
(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

Quarta Africae Tabula [Africa]

Stock#: 29231
Map Maker: Sylvanus

Date: 1511
Place: Venice
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 20 x 16 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

Fine example of Sylvanus' map of Africa, covering over half of the continent of Africa.

Sylvanus's map is one of the earliest obtainable maps to show a significant portion of the African continent. It provides a marvelously detailed look at the known parts of Africa based on Ptolemy's work, only 23 years after Bartolomeu Dias's rounding of the Cape of Good Hope.

The map appeared in Sylvanus' *Claudii Ptholemaei Alexandrini liber Geographicae . . .*, publish in Venice in 1511. The Sylvanus edition of Ptolemy is one of the earliest to include maps with modern geographical updates. The rich topographical style of the map is a marked deviation from earlier Ptolemy maps of the region. Sylvanus' work was also a landmark in the history of printed maps, being the first maps printed in two colors.

Sylvanus printed each of his maps using two plates, with each of the map sheets in the work printed on both sides, meaning that there are halves of two different maps on the back side of this example of the map. As a result, Sylvanus' maps are very rare on the market and certain maps virtually never appear on the market, where they appeared on the verso of maps which were more heavily sought after by collectors.

Detailed Condition:
Two printed plates, which have been joined, as usual.