



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

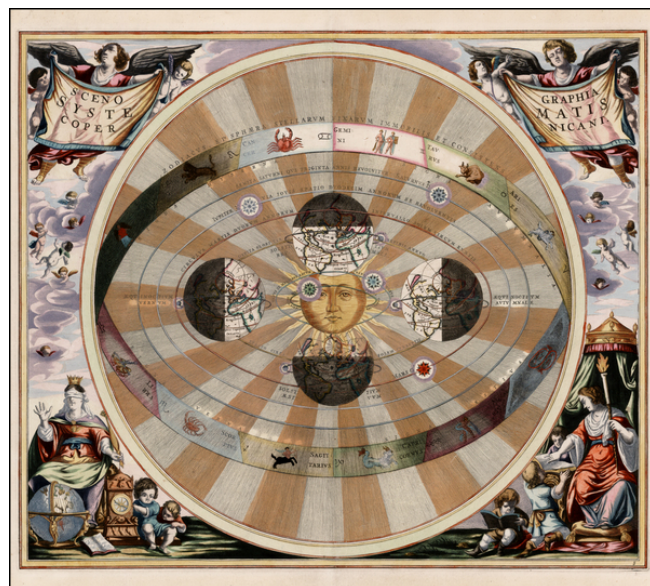
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Scenographia Systematis Copernicani (Heightened with Gold Leaf!)

Stock#: 30064
Map Maker: Cellarius
Date: 1661
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 20 x 17 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Fine old color gold heightened example of Cellarius's chart illustrating a heliocentric model of the universe, as proposed by the Polish astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus in the first half of the 16th Century.

The map illustrates the Copernican system of the Universe, as described by Copernicus in his *De revolutionibus orbium coelestium* (On the Revolutions of the Celestial Spheres), published in 1543. His heliocentric model, with the Sun at the center of the universe, demonstrated that the observed motions of celestial objects can be explained without putting Earth at rest in the center of the universe. His work spurred further scientific investigations, becoming a landmark in the history of science that is often referred to as the Copernican Revolution.

Copernicus' heliocentric model of the Universe perhaps the single most iconic and sought after of the charts published by Cellarius. The present example is from the 1661 edition, and can be distinguished by the addition of a plate number at the bottom right corner of the chart, just inside the neat line.

Andreas Cellarius was born in 1596 in Neuhausen and educated in Heidelberg. He emigrated to Holland in the early 17th Century and 1637 moved to Hoorn, where he became the rector of the Latin School. Cellarius' best known work is his *Harmonia Macrocosmica*, first issued in 1660 by Jan Jansson, as a supplement to Jansson's *Atlas Novus*. The work consists of a series of Celestial Charts begun by Cellarius in 1647 and intended as part of a two volume treatise on cosmography, which was never issued.



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Cellarius' charts are the most soughtafter of celestial charts, blending the striking imagery of the golden age of Dutch Cartography with contemporary scientific knowledge.

Detailed Condition:

Old Color. Heightened with gold. Wide clean margins.