



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
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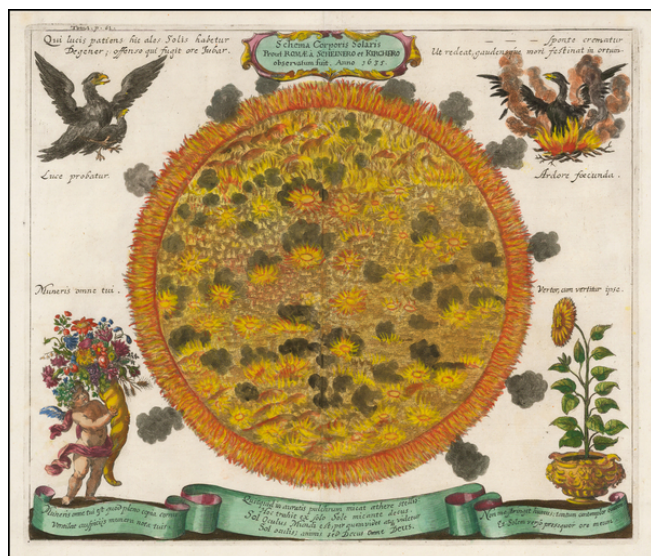
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**Schema Corporis Solaris prout Romae a Scheinero et Kirchero Observatum fuit Anno
1635**

Stock#: 43936
Map Maker: Zahn
Date: 1696
Place: Nuremberg
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 16.5 x 14 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Fascinating image showing the sun with solar flares and surface eruptions based on the observations of Athanasius Kircher and Christoph Scheiner in 1635, which appeared in Johannes Zahn's *Specula Physico-Mathematico-Historica Notabilium...*

This example is a very uncommon variant of Kircher's view of the sun, which was published in his masterpiece, titled *Mundus subterraneus* (The Underground World). This engraving was published in Zahn's rare encyclopedia of science, which included several engravings based on those by Kircher, and includes additional vignettes and Latin text surrounding the sun.

At top left is a mother eagle with her fledgling, and at top right is a phoenix voluntarily burning itself so that it can rise again from the ashes. At bottom left is a putto holding a cornucopia filled with flowers and fruits, representing the role the sun plays in creating the bounty of nature. And at bottom right is a sunflower, turning its head towards the sun.

A striking image, intended to inform an educated class of Europeans with respect to natural phenomenon described by one of the 17th Century's major scientific commentators.

Detailed Condition: