



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

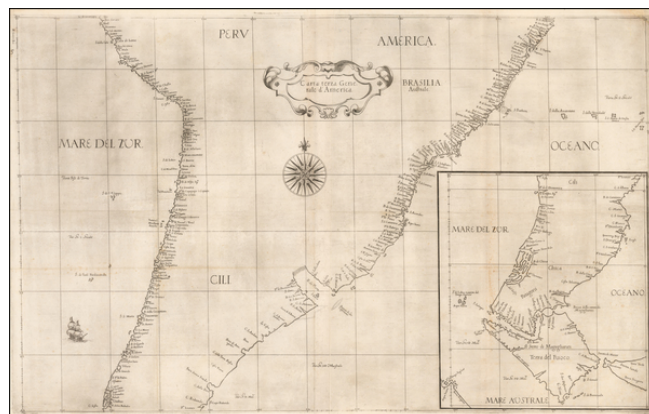
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(Southern Part of South America) Carta terza Generale d'America

Stock#: 54267
Map Maker: Dudley
Date: 1646
Place: Florence
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 29 x 18 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

One of the Earliest Obtainable General Sea Charts of South America

Nice example of the first state of Robert Dudley's general chart of the southern part of South America.

The chart provides an exceptional overview of the Coasts of Argentina, Chile, Brazil, and Uruguay, with a large inset chart detailing Patagonia, Tierra del Fuego and the Straits of Magellan, along with the Staten Island and the land to the west discovered by Sir Francis Drake.

The map extends north to just beyond Lima, Peru and north to the area of Salvador in Brazil.

The chart appeared in Dudley's *Arcano del Mare*, one of the rarest and most highly sought after sea atlases of the 17th century. Dudley, an Englishman, produced this exquisite work while living in Florence. Dudley, who was believed to have received some of his information directly from Sir Francis Drake, labored for decades before finally releasing the first edition of this work when he was 73 years old. Dudley's atlas is of the utmost importance, being the first Sea Atlas published by an Englishman and the first Sea Atlas to treat the entire world (not just Europe). It is also the first atlas to utilize the Mercator Projection on a uniform basis and included significant advances in "Great Circle" navigation (shortest circle around the Globe). Its inclusion of winds and currents was also a monumental first. Completed in Manuscript form in 1636, it is among the most important works in the history of European Cartography.

Robert Dudley (1574 - 1649), was the illegitimate son of Robert Dudley, 1st Earl of Leicester. In 1594, Dudley led an expedition to the West Indies, of which he wrote an account. In 1605, he tried unsuccessfully to establish his legitimacy in court. After that, he left England and converted to Catholicism, taking up residence in Florence, where he served the Grand Dukes of Tuscany in their efforts



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to rid the Mediterranean of Piracy. There he worked as a noted shipbuilder and designed and published Dell'Arcano del Mare, the first maritime atlas to cover the whole world. He was also a skilled navigator, mathematician and engineer. In Italy, he styled himself Earl of Warwick and Leicester, as well as Duke of Northumberland. He was a friend of Sir Francis Drake and relative of Thomas Cavendish, both of whom corresponded with Dudley and likely supplied some of the information for his Atlas.

Detailed Condition:

Minor soiling at top right corner, just touching printed image. Minor soiling at centerfold.