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Stock#: 54288
Map Maker: Ariosto

Date: 1568
Place: Venice
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 8.5 x 5.5 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

Finely engraved image of mounted and unmounted soldiers.

The image appeared in the 1568 Venice edition of Ludovico Ariosto's Orlandi Furioso, which first published in 1515, but not completed until 1532.

Orlando furioso (the Frenzy of Orlando) is an Italian epic poem by Ludovico Ariosto which has exerted a wide influence on later cultur *Orlando Furioso* is a continuation of Matteo Maria Boiardo's unfinished romance *Orlando Innamorato* ("Orlando in Love", published posthumously in 1495).

In its historical setting and characters, it shares some features with the Old French *Chanson de Roland* of the eleventh century, which tells of the death of Roland. The story is also a chivalric romance which

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stemmed from a tradition beginning in the late Middle Ages and continuing in popularity in the 16th century and well into the 17th.

Orlando is the Christian knight known in French (and subsequently English) as Roland. The action takes place against the background of the war between Charlemagne's Christian paladins and the Saracen army that has invaded Europe and is attempting to overthrow the Christian empire. The poem is about war and love and the romantic ideal of chivalry. It mixes realism and fantasy, humor and tragedy. The stage is the entire world, plus a trip to the moon. The large cast of characters features Christians and Saracens, soldiers and sorcerers, and fantastic creatures including a gigantic sea monster called the orc and a flying horse called the hippogriff. Many themes are interwoven in its complicated episodic structure, but the most important are the paladin Orlando's unrequited love for the pagan princess Angelica, which drives him mad; the love between the female Christian warrior Bradamante and the Saracen Ruggiero, who are supposed to be the ancestors of Ariosto's patrons, the d'Este family of Ferrara; and the war between Christian and Infidel.

Detailed Condition: