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Mappemonde a l'usage du Roy Par Guillaume Delisle Premier-Geographe de S.M. . . . 1720 (Shows De Gama Land)

Stock#: 55439
Map Maker: De L'Isle
Date: 1720
Place: Paris
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 25.5 x 17 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Decorative example of Guillaume De L'Isle's double hemisphere map of the World, published in Paris in 1720.

The map is a marvelous depiction of the routes of a number of important explorers, showing the routes of Magellan (1520), Le Maire (1615), St. Louis (1708), Halley (1700), Mendana (1595), St. Antoine, (1710), Tasman (1642), and Quiroz (1605).

This edition predates the addition of the Russian discoveries, first added to this map after 1741. Interesting incomplete New Zealand, mythical hint of the unknown Southern Continent and incomplete coast of Nouvelle Hollande (Australia).

Includes the mythical Juan De Gama's Land, east of Yeso and Japan. De Gama land seems to be a part of the pre-history of the Northeast Coast of America, which would soon be laid to rest by the voyages of Bering, Cook and others in the region. In the early 17th century rumors began to circulate that a Spanish ship, traveling east from the Philippines to Mexico, had been blown off course and discovered a land in the north rich in gold and silver as all unreachable lands were. In later versions, the ship became Portuguese with a captain named Juan de Gama. In some geographer's minds, de Gama's land and Ezo were one and the same. In others, Ezo was a part of the Asian mainland and De Gama's land was a separate land in the North Pacific.

From the 1720s to 1740s, De Gama Land was a source of intellectual debate, not as to its existence, but its exact location, with such important mapmakers and explorers as De L'Isle, de la Croyere and Tchirikow



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each opening as to its location.

Detailed Condition: