



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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## Syria / Cypern / Palestina / Mesopotamia / Babylonia / zwey Arabia mit Bergen / Wassern und Stetten

**Stock#:** 59766  
**Map Maker:** Munster  
**Date:** 1588 circa  
**Place:** Basel  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 14 x 12.5 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



### Description:

Finely colored map of Cyprus, Syria, the Holy Land and contiguous regions, from an early edition of Munster's *Cosmographia*.

Munster's *Cosmographia* was one of the most influential geographical works of the 16th Century and had a profound impact on the European perception of the modern world during the 2nd half of the 16th Century.

The holy land, during the time of Munster, was under the hold of the Ottoman Empire. In 1486, hostilities broke out between the Mamluks and the Ottoman Turks in a battle for control over western Asia. The Ottomans proceeded to conquer Palestine. The conquest of Palestine was relatively swift, with small battles fought against the Mamluks. The region was divided into the five different states, all part of the larger eyalet of Damascus.

Munster's *Cosmographia* was one of the most influential geographical works of the 16th Century and had a profound impact on the European perception of the modern world during the 2nd half of the 16th Century. It is the earliest German description of the world. It had numerous editions in different languages including Latin, and French. The *Cosmographia* was one of the most successful and popular books of the 16th century. It passed through 24 editions in 100 years. This success was due to the notable woodcuts by famous artists such as Hans Holbein the Younger, Urs Graf, Hans Rudolph Manuel Deutsch, and David



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Kandel. In addition, it was also the first to introduce separate maps for each of the four continents known then: America, Africa, Asia and Europe. It was in part because of this book that geography was revived in 16th-century Europe.

His first geographic works were *Germania descriptio* (1530) and *Mappa Europae* (1536). In 1540, he published a Latin edition of Ptolemy's *Geographia* with illustrations. The 1550 edition contains cities, portraits, and costumes. These editions, printed in Germany, are the most valued of the *Cosmographies*.

**Detailed Condition:**