



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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Nova Totius Terrarum Orbis Geographica Ac Hydrographica Tabula...

Stock#: 77366
Map Maker: Blaeu
Date: 1660 circa
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 21.5 x 15 inches
Price: \$ 12,000.00



Description:

A Supreme Example of the Mapmaker's Art.

Finely colored example of Guillaume Blaeu's classic world map on Mercator's projection, one of the most iconic maps of the Golden Age of Dutch Cartography.

One of the finest and most famous world maps to appear in an atlas during the Golden Age of Dutch cartography. The map became Blaeu's standard world map in his atlases until 1662, when he added a double hemisphere map of the world and later a double hemisphere polar projection, which was apparently not issued during his lifetime, but was later issued by Valck.

The map's rectangular shape and regular grid of latitude and longitude lines reflect Blaeu's use of Gerard Mercator's projection which Mercator first introduced in 1569. Blaeu's map is essentially a reduced-size version of his wall map of 1605, with basically identical geographical information. As is characteristic of the Mercator projection, the sizes and shapes of landmasses in the polar regions are greatly exaggerated. The map is now famous for its elaborate ornamentation, embellished with ships, sea monsters, compass roses, and ornate border panels. Across the top are allegorical representations of the sun and moon and the five known planets - Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn. The four basic elements, Fire, Air, Water, and Land are illustrated on the left panel, while the four seasons are depicted on the right panel. The seven wonders of the ancient world are displayed in the bottom panels.

The map incorporates some of the classic early 17th Century cartographic misconceptions, including the elongated NW Coast of America, massive southern hemisphere with narrow strait between it and South



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America, incomplete New Guinea attached to large southern continent, etc.

States of the Map:

The present example is the fifth and final state of the map. The states can be determined as follows:

- State 1. The image does *not* include the signature "Ja. vanden Ende sculpsit." to the lower left of the South Pole projection. Shirley says "possibly a proof".
- State 2. With signature of Josua van den Ende: "Ja. vanden Ende sculpsit"
- State 3. As state 2, but *Terra del Fuego* is now an island and *Fretum le Maire* has been added. Probably issued in 1617, as a companion map of Europe bears this date.
- State 4: "Gul. Janssonius 1606" removed and replaced with "Guil. Blaeuw". "Gulielmus Janssonius" replaced with "Gulielmus Blaeuw"
- State 5: Confusingly, this final state, unrecorded by Shirley, adds back the connection between *Terra del Fuego* and the Southern Continent and some of the coastline erased in the third state.

Detailed Condition:

Engraving on 17th-century laid paper. Farthest part of lower right corner reinstated with expert facsimile on laid paper. Lower left corner with small section of paper replaced not touching image.