



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

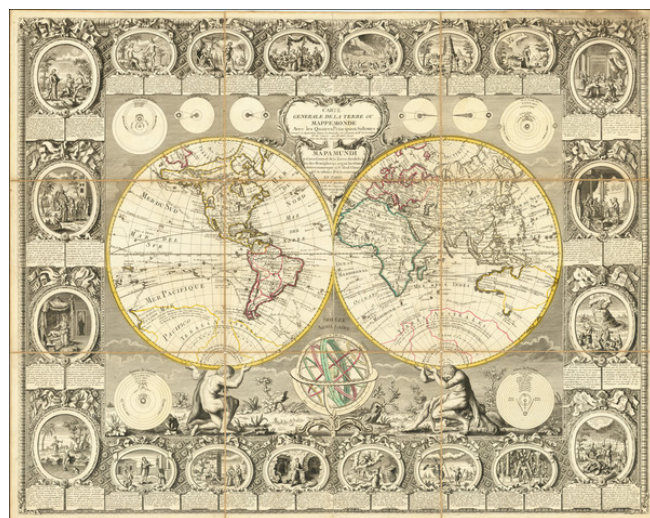
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## Carte Generale de la Terre ou Mappe Monde avec les Quatres Principaux Sistemes . . . 1776

**Stock#:** 81663  
**Map Maker:** Clouet - Mondhare  
**Date:** 1776  
**Place:** Paris  
**Color:** Outline Color  
**Condition:** VG+  
**Size:** 48.5 x 38.5 inches  
**Price:** \$ 21,500.00



### Description:

#### *Stunning World Map Showing the Sea of the West*

Fine example of the Clouet-Mondhare double-hemisphere world map, showing the Sea of the West, as well as an inland Antarctic Sea and an unusual eastern shoreline of Australia.

This is a rare first edition of this decorative map. The map was reprinted in at least one other state, in 1785, with some additional ship's tracks added.

World maps featuring ornate borders like this one are uncommon for the late-eighteenth century; they were more typical in the seventeenth century. This map combines a large border with Biblical vignettes, an interior border with astronomical models, and the inner geographic hemispheres.

The twenty images ringing the map are vignettes of Old Testament stories. They are explained in both French and Spanish, a reflection of Clouet's international business, with shops in both Paris and Cadiz.

Moving inward, in the corners are the solar system models of Tycho Brahe, Descartes, Ptolemy, and Copernicus. They are interspersed with slightly smaller models of solar and lunar eclipses, while at bottom center there is a large armillary sphere. Supporting the geographic hemispheres are two Atlases, straining to hold up the cosmos.

The geography of the map is intriguing; [it is based on an updated Guillaume De L'Isle world map modified](#)



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[by Philippe Buache](#). The map includes the routes of a number of important explorers and voyages, showing the routes of Magellan (1520), Mendaña (1595), Quiros (1605), Le Maire (1615), Tasman (1642), Halley (1700), the *St. Louis* (1709), the *St. Antoine* (1710), and Bouvet (1738-9).

It also incorporates the Russian discoveries in Alaska, as well as Buache's ideas about the interior geography of the Pacific Northwest. The first (1728-30) and second (1722-41) Bering Expeditions redrew the known features of the far northern Pacific by encountering and charting the Alaskan mainland and islands, as well as the Bering Strait. Buache merged this information, as well as that of more dubious sources, like the Admiral de La Fonte's letters, in a [series of maps produced in the early 1750s](#). The speculative geography is repeated here, including Fonte's far northern inlet and lakes, as well as the findings of Juan de Fuca and Martin Aguilar.

Near the Sea of the West is the label, "*Foussang des Chinois*." This note stems from the work of French Orientalist Le Guignes, who hypothesized that the Chinese arrived in the New World over a millennium before the Europeans in his 1761 work, *Recherches sur les Navigations des Chinois du Cote de l'Amerique, et sur quelques Peuples situés a l'extremite orientale de l'asie*. Le Guignes was named a fellow of the Royal Society of London in 1752 and his work was well known across Enlightenment Europe and integrated into the maps of Buache and others.

The map also includes allusions to enduring discussions that involved Buache and which entranced French savants in particular. The first of these was the aforementioned Sea of the West, which had sparked controversy in the 1750s and continued to be a bone of contention for geographers in France and Britain especially. The second was the inland sea of the *Terres Australes*, based on conjectural work by Philippe Buache. The third was the assumed eastern coastline of Australia.

**Quiros and Espiritu Santo**

Despite the findings of Cook's first voyage that were published in the early 1770s, the map adopts a particular and somewhat peculiar configuration for Australia that includes a prospective eastern coastline which extends all the way to 180°E. Two rivers flow to that far shore, the Jordan and the St. Salvador.

These rivers are part of *Terre du St. Esprit*. This toponym connects the speculative coastline to the voyages of Pedro Ferdinand de Quiros at the turn of the seventeenth century. Quiros was a skilled pilot who accompanied Alvaro de Mendaña on his second voyage to the Solomons in 1595-6 (the first voyage took place in 1567-9).

After returning to Spain, Quiros convinced authorities that he could find *Terra Australis*, the southern



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continent, if they gave him ships and supplies. He set out in 1605 and eventually landed in Vanuatu. He mistook one of the islands for the fabled continent and called it *Australia de Espiritu Santo*. The largest island in the chain is still called *Espiritu Santo* today.

Quiros intended to set up a colony on the supposed continent. He performed a series of elaborate possession rituals and founded a city he called *Nueba Hierusalem*. The "city" was nestled between two rivers which Quiros called the Jordan and the San Salvador (likely today's Jordan and Vitthié Rivers). However, his crew forced him to leave. Quiros returned to Mexico, but his second-in-command sailed west, through the strait now bearing his name. Due to state secrecy, however, the strait remained largely unknown until the 1760s.

Upon his return, Quiros revved up his campaign, lobbying once again for a voyage to return to his supposed southern continent. To gain support, Quiros wrote at least fifty memorials to advertise his successes and lay out his plans. Fourteen of these were printed between 1607 and 1614.

The most widely circulated was the *Eighth Memorial*. In it, he describes *Australia de Espiritu Santo* to be as wide as Europe, Asia Minor, the Caspian Sea, and Persia combined, "in its outline it quarters the entire Globe." Printed in Madrid in 1608 and Seville in 1609, the *Eighth Memorial* was reprinted in 1612 by Dutch cartographer Hessel Gerritsz in his *Detectio Freti Hudson*.

Quiros' discoveries remained tantalizing and would be revived by geographers for the next two centuries. They were part of the Abbe de Paulmier's 1664 plan to convert the citizens of the Southern Continent. In the mid-1740s, in his reissue of Harris' *Navigantium atque Itinerantium Bibliotheca*, John Campbell explained that it was likely that New Guinea and Van Diemen's Land were all disparate parts of a large *Terra Australis* that connected to New Holland. His main source to back up this theory was Quiros' memorials.

Quiros also featured in other prominent voyage collections of the mid-eighteenth century, namely Charles de Brosses' *Histoire des Navigations aux Terres Australes* (Paris: Durand, 1756) and Alexander Dalrymple's *An Historical collection of the several voyages and discoveries in the South Pacific Ocean* (London, 1769-71).

**A hypothetical eastern coastline for Australia**

Cartographically, there was variation in the placement of a hypothetical eastern coastline that included *Espiritu Santo*. One of the earliest maps to show this depiction seems to have been [Guillaume Delisle's 1714 map of the southern hemisphere](#). The map shows *Espiritu Santo* with the Jordan and San



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### **Carte Generale de la Terre ou Mappe Monde avec les Quatres Principaux Systemes . . . 1776**

Salvador rivers at roughly 185°E (from an Atlantic prime meridian), but it is not connected to New Holland. Others also adopted the idea of an Australian continent stretching to Espiritu Santo, including Richard Cushee in his 38 cm. diameter terrestrial globe of 1731.

The idea of a hypothetical eastern coast, evident in the famed Bonaparte Tasman map, was revived in the 1740s and 1750s. One of the [world maps in Campbell's collection, by Emmanuel Bowen](#), shows *T. de St. Esprit* at 150°E (Greenwich meridian) as part of a suggested eastern coastline for Australia.

In [1753, Bellin](#) connected Van Diemen's Land to Espiritu Santo (145°E, Paris meridian), but added a note explaining the link as unproven. [Robert de Vaugondy's map of 1756](#) also connects the two into a large continent with New Holland (Espiritu Santo at 170°E, with an Atlantic meridian). Interestingly, the latter map was included in De Brosse's voyage collection, wherein De Brosse expressed his belief that Espiritu Santo was insular.

The most extreme example of the connection of New Holland and Espiritu Santo is seen here on this map, after Buache. In his update of his father-in-law's world map of 1720, Buache connected the western Dutch discoveries, Van Diemen's Land, Carpentaria, New Guinea, and Espiritu Santo, which was located at 180°E (Ferro meridian).

#### **Detailed Condition:**