



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

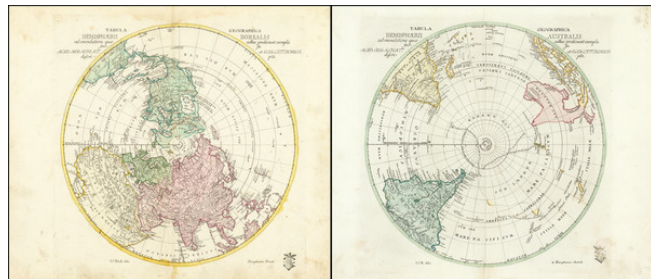
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Tabula Geographica Hemisphaerii Borealis ad emenatiora quae adhuc prodierunt exempla jusque Acad. Reg. Scient. et Eleg. Litt. Boruss. descripta [with:] Tabula Geographica Hemisphaerii Australis...

Stock#: 81806
Map Maker: Rhode / Euler
Date: 1753 circa
Place: Berlin
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 12 x 12 inches Each
Price: \$ 1,100.00



Description:

This scarce pair of maps titled "Tabula Geographica Hemisphaerii Borealis" and "Tabula Geographica Hemisphaerii Australis," published circa 1753 by Leonhard von Euler, a renowned mathematician based in Berlin, offers intricate depictions of the Northern and Southern Hemispheres. Compiled by Johann Christoph Rhode, these maps are notable for their speculative geographic features, such as the sizable Sea of the West, along with the hypothesis of the existence of a large, hitherto unknown continent to the east of Australia.

In the mid-18th century, the European Enlightenment, with its emphasis on empirical observation and intellectual rigor, paved the way for significant advancements in cartography. Leonhard von Euler, a prominent figure in this movement, applied his mathematical expertise to the field, resulting in these maps. He included unverified geographic details, like the supposed discovery of the Straits of Juan de Fuca in 1592 and the claimed discoveries of Martin D'Augilar in 1603, reflecting the ongoing quest for exploration and discovery during the era.

The maps' most striking feature is the conjectural Sea of the West, a grand body of water postulated to exist in the western parts of North America. This hypothesized sea reflects the ongoing speculations about the region during the 18th century, when parts of the North American west coast were still being explored and charted.

The "Tabula Geographica Hemisphaerii Australis," depicting the Southern Hemisphere, presents an intriguingly speculative continent east of Australia. This hypothetical landmass combines elements of known New Zealand with conjectured coastlines farther east and north, along with initial inklings of what would later be recognized as Antarctica. The presence of this speculative continent represents the



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synthesis of observable data with scientific conjecture, marking an era of exploration and curiosity about the world's uncharted regions.

In essence, these maps are notable both for their cartographical details and their reflection of the Enlightenment era's spirit of exploration and scientific inquiry. They embody the era's quest for knowledge, combining empirical data with educated speculation to provide a fascinating glimpse into the world as it was understood in the mid-18th century.

Detailed Condition:

Original hand-color. Minor dampstain. Ink stamps of the Prussian censor in the lower right corners of both sheets.