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Brasil

Stock#: 86930
Map Maker: Ramusio
Date: 1556
Place: Venice
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 14.5 x 11 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

The earliest obtainable separately issued regional map of Brazil, from Gastaldi's *Delle Navigazione e Viaggi*, published in Venice in 1606.

The map represents an extremely early and inaccurate depiction of Brazil, more pictorial than geographical. The inland area is virtually undescribed. The Amazon and the Rio de Plata originate from a volcano deep in the jungle. Beyond that is "Terra Non-descoperta" (an undiscovered land).

Along the coast, Portuguese and French visitors are seen together with local Indians and the ocean is filled with French and Portuguese ships with fish and with monsters. Modern Rio de Janeiro is south of C. frio (Cabo Frio), and Salvador or Bahia, at C. de todos Santos.

Suarez notes of this map:

"the vignettes include an early depiction of the hammock, for which the Brazilian Indians are famous, and the parrot. Hunting and domestic scenes abound, but Ramusio has spared the viewer the cannibal cliché already popularized on other maps."

This is an essential map for Brazil collectors.

States and Editions

Two woodblocks were used in the printing of this map. The first was used between 1554 and 1565 before being destroyed in a fire. This first edition is identifiable by the spelling "Discoperta" instead of



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"Descoperta".

The second block was reused in 1606, identifiable by the presence of wormwood damage.

Detailed Condition: