



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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(First state!) *Lacus Constantiensis XX Tab Nova* [The Bodensee]

Stock#: 94703
Map Maker: Munster
Date: 1540
Place: Basle
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 13.5 x 11 inches
Price: \$ 875.00



Description:

The Earliest Obtainable Modern Map of the area around Lake Constance.

Lacus Constantiensis XX Tab Nova, produced by Sebastian Munster and published in Basel in 1540, represents a pioneering cartographic depiction of the area surrounding Lake Constance. As the earliest obtainable modern map of this region, its importance in the annals of cartographic history is significant, offering a window into the geographical understanding of this European locale in the mid-16th century.

In the 1540s, Europe was in the throes of the Renaissance, a period characterized by rapid advancements in art, science, and knowledge. The spirit of exploration and discovery was pervasive, influencing diverse fields including cartography. The publication of maps such as *Lacus Constantiensis XX Tab Nova* was emblematic of the time's insatiable thirst for accurate geographical information. The Lake Constance area, encompassing parts of modern-day Germany, Switzerland, and Austria, held strategic and commercial significance, making accurate mapping of this region all the more crucial.

Sebastian Munster, a renowned cosmographer and Hebrew scholar of his time, was at the forefront of this cartographic renaissance. The map's intricacies and attention to detail embody the shift from medieval to modern cartography, where the emphasis increasingly rested on precision and direct observation. Coming from Munster's 1540 *Geographia*, this map was more than just a representation of topography; it was a testament to the evolving relationship between humans and their understanding of the world around them.

The features delineated in *Lacus Constantiensis XX Tab Nova* offer invaluable insights into the physical and political landscape of the Lake Constance region during the Renaissance. The various townships,



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waterways, and natural landmarks suggest an intricate mesh of human activity and natural beauty. The map, in essence, stands as both an artifact of Renaissance scholarship and a beacon illuminating the rich history of the Lake Constance area.

Detailed Condition:

Cut a little close at the top and bottom. Expert leafcast stabilization of the centerfold.