



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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## (View of the Rocky Mountains) Ansicht der Rocky Mountains | Vue des montagnes rocheuses

**Stock#:** 94992  
**Map Maker:** Bodmer  
**Date:** 1839 - 1842  
**Place:** Paris, Coblenz and London  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** VG+  
**Size:** 17 x 13 inches  
**Price:** \$ 2,800.00



### Description:

*Ansicht der Rocky Mountains* | *Vue des montagnes rocheuses*, an aquatint etching by Karl Bodmer, provides a striking representation of a Western American landscape, capturing the expansive vistas characteristic of the region. Contrary to its title, the image does not depict the famed Rocky Mountains as Prince Maximilian thought, but instead depicts a smaller Western range.

The early 19th century witnessed increasing European and American interest in the West, driven by exploration, expansionism, and the ever-present allure of the unknown. This period saw numerous explorations into uncharted territories, resulting in a variety of documentation from journals to artistic representations. Bodmer's rendition stands as a testament to this era, offering viewers a captivating blend of geographical detail and ethnographic insight.

In the piece, the distant mountains provide a serene backdrop, establishing a profound sense of depth. This depth is further accentuated by the meandering river valley in the middle ground, replete with clusters of trees, a gathering of teepees, and the dynamic portrayal of four riders energetically galloping across the dry riverbed. Such elements not only illuminate the region's physical attributes but also gesture towards the intricate relationships between the land and its inhabitants.

The delicate use of aquatint, etching, and roulette brings forth the image's vivacity, with each technique lending a distinct texture and tone to the work. The addition of hand-coloring, augmented by the luminescence of gum arabic, imbues the scene with a palpable atmosphere. This atmospheric depth, particularly evident in the cloud formations, contributes to the viewer's immersion, allowing them to almost feel the vastness of the landscape.



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rocheuses**

Foregrounding the panorama, the hills adorned with groups of Native Americans serve as a poignant reminder of the region's indigenous heritage. Through their inclusion, Bodmer acknowledges the intrinsic connection between the land and its inhabitants and emphasizes the importance of capturing holistic narratives, encompassing both the natural world and its diverse populace.

**State**

Ruud's first state (of 3) without the English title added.

**Detailed Condition:**

Aquatint, etching, and roulette, hand-colored and heightened with gum arabic. With the Bodmer blindstamp below center imprint line.