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[Black Sea / Turkey / Ukraine / Georgia / Russia] Tabula Asiae II

Stock#: 95433
Map Maker: Ruscelli
Date: 1574
Place: Venice
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 10 x 7.5 inches
Price: Not Available



Description:

The Tabula Asiae II, part of the 1574 edition of Girolamo Ruscelli's edition of Ptolemy's Geographia, is a noteworthy example of Renaissance cartography inspired by ancient geographical knowledge. This particular map displays various key features and geographical locations, merging historical understanding with the cartographical techniques of Ruscelli's time.

On the lower left side of the map, the Black Sea or 'Mae Otis Palus' is featured, connecting to the Bosphorus Straits. The representation of this strategic waterway demonstrates its importance in facilitating connections between the East and West.

In contrast, the northeastern Caspian Sea or 'Hyrcean Maris' is represented on the lower right corner of the map. Its depiction on the boundary underlines the limited knowledge of this region during the time. Surrounding areas are indicated with gentle lines, potentially implying a hilly or mountainous landscape.

Moving northward, the map extends to 'Hyperborei monte,' likely referring to a mountainous region beyond the North Wind according to Greek mythology. Its representation seems to symbolize the unexplored and mythical aspects of geographical knowledge during the era.

There are several distinct locations mentioned on the map, such as 'Arae Caesaris,' and 'Arae Alexandri,' which refer to the altars of Caesar and Alexander respectively. The 'Alexandri Columnae,' or Pillars of Alexander, offer a historical dimension to the map, possibly indicating sites of military victories or constructions.

'Pilae Albaniae' and 'Porte Sarmaticae' are also named, suggesting these could be important geographical



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or man-made features of the period. Their presence provides valuable insights into the local geography and possibly trade routes or boundary demarcations.

The map is centered around 'Hippici montes,' or the horse mountains, indicating the cultural or economic significance of horses in this region during the period.

Detailed Condition: