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(The Virginians' Manner of Dancing at their Religious Festivals) *Virginienſium ſaltandi ratio ſolemnibus ſeſtis XVIII*

Stock#: 97433
Map Maker: De Bry
Date: 1590
Place: Frankfurt
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: Good
Size: 14 x 11 inches
Price: \$ 2,800.00



Description:

Virginienſium ſaltandi ratio ſolemnibus ſeſtis by Theodor De Bry, published in Frankfurt in 1590, offers a vivid representation of Algonquian-speaking Indians from the Outer Banks region of what is now North Carolina. Based on John White's watercolor painting, this hand-colored engraving delves deeper into the dance and rituals of the native people, providing crucial insights into the cultural and religious practices of not only these Indians but also their linguistic kin in Tidewater Virginia.

In the latter part of the 16th century, European expeditions to the New World increasingly sought to document indigenous cultures. White's initial sketches acted as direct visual accounts of the native tribes, but De Bry's adaptations expanded upon them. He introduced elements such as a blue sky and green grass, and emphasized certain details, like the branches held by the dancers. His interpretation of the central figures as exclusively female aligns with Thomas Hariot's descriptions.

The illustrations of De Bry were paired with Thomas Hariot's *A briefe and true report of the new found land of Virginia* (1588), a book detailing Hariot's experiences in Roanoke. This work, supported by De Bry's illustrations in the 1590 Latin edition, provides context to the indigenous societies of the time, while also shedding light on European perspectives and interests in the region.

Detailed Condition:

Trimmed at the left edge with some loss of text. The edge reinstated with leafcasting.