



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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## (Crete) Creta Iovis magni, medio jacet insula ponto

**Stock#:** 98214  
**Map Maker:** Jansson  
**Date:** 1650 circa  
**Place:** Amsterdam  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 19 x 15 inches  
**Price:** \$ 345.00



### Description:

*Creta Iovis magni, medio jacet insula ponto*, produced by Jan Jansson in Amsterdam around 1650, is an evocative engraved map of Crete, showcasing the combined efforts of renowned cartographers Ortelius and Jansson. Drawing from the original work of Ortelius, the map is adorned with a decorative cartouche, maritime vessels, and even a sea monster along its shores.

The map intriguingly highlights the island's mythological significance, suggesting the central placement of Jupiter within the island's geography, hearkening back to the tales of the deity's birth and upbringing. This intertwining of cartography and mythology is further emphasized by inscriptions, detailing names of locales, populations, rivers, mountains, lakes, temples, and islands.

The map's detail is further enriched by the listing of various place names, people, and natural features. While some of these names, like Adrafus and Athroua, are presented with relative certainty, others are labeled as being of uncertain position or origin, indicative of the challenges faced by cartographers of the era. This candid acknowledgment of the limits of knowledge underscores the evolving nature of geographical understanding in the 17th century.

### Detailed Condition:

Centerfold toning. Mild foxing by neatlines as pictured.