



Rumold Mercator's important world map

MERCATOR, Rumold.

Orbis Terrae Compendiosa Descriptio Quam ex Magna Universali Gerardi Mercatoris Domino Richard Gartho, Geographiae ac ceterarum bonarum artium amatori ac fautori summo, in veteris amicitiae ac familiaritatis memoria Rumoldus Mercator fieri curabat A.o M.D.LXXXVII.

Amsterdam, 1606. Coloured. 285 x 515mm.

£4,500

A fine example of the atlas version of Gerard Mercator's great modern world map, condensed by his youngest son, Rumold. A double-hemisphere map within an ornate frame, it shows California as part of the mainland and gives the west coast of South America the same second bulge as the Ortelius map. In the north are the islands of Gerard Mercator's 'North Pole'; in the south the kingdoms of Beach, Lucach and Maletur are named on Terra Australis. The map was first issued in an edition of Strabo's Geography in 1587, and this example comes from a 1606 edition.

SHIRLEY: World 157, 'a model of clarity and neatness'.

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