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A scarce World War II serio-comic map of Europe

VLAANDEREN, Cornelis André.

L'Europe en Sept 1939. Ille terrarum mihi angulus ridet.

Bruges: Leon Burghgraeve, 1939. Chromolithograph, no 9 of a limited edition of 150. Sheet 615 x 855mm.

£11,000

A serio-comic map of Europe at the start of the Second World War inspired by the maps of Frederick W. Rose. It depicts stereotypes of 31 countries, as listed in the key lower right, including: Britain as a woman with battleships on leads; France as Marianne, leading her troops into battle; Germany, with a swastika sash, stabbing a female Poland; and Russia as a Cossack holding a hammer and sickle, his arm around a large brown bear. Around the title is a vignette of a skeleton with a German helmet, holding a bloody scythe and a flaming torch. A Dutch graphic artist and typographer, Cornelis André Vlaanderen (1881-1955), specialised in book illustrations, book plates and posters. A scarce caricature map: the only institutional example we can trace is in the University of Alberta Library.

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