



Classic carte à figure map of Europe

BLAEU, Willem Janszoon.  
Europa recens descripta.

Amsterdam: Johannes Blaeu, Latin text edition. Original colour. 410 x 540mm.

£3,250

A very fine example of Blaeu's 'carte à figure' map of Europe, with ten costume vignettes and nine city views around the edges and galleys, galleons, sea monsters, bears and lions spread around the map. While most of Europe is recognisable, Blaeu still shows the phantom island of Frisland to the west of Iceland, based on an account of a supposed voyage by the Venetian brothers, Nicolò and Antonio Zeno, in the 1390s.

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