Altea Gallery Ltd. 35 Saint George St,London W1S 2FN info@alteagallery.com - www.alteagallery.com

Tel: +44(0) 20 7491 0010



New Spain from the first English Edition of the 'Atlas Minor'

HONDIUS, Jodocus. Hispania Nova.

London: Michael Sparke and Samuel Cartwright, 1635. Coloured. 140 x 190mm, set in English letterpress.

£220

A small format map of western Mexico, decorated with strapwork cartouches for the title and scale. It was published in the 'Historia mundi, or, Mercator's Atlas. Containing his Cosmographical Description of the Fabricke and Figure of the World', in which all the maps were printed laterally to the text. The 'Atlas Minor', the pocket version of the Mercator atlas, was first published in 1607, with several editions up to 1621. Soon afterwards the printing plates were sold to a London publisher, and were used to illustrate 'Hakluytus Posthumus, or Purchas his Pilgrimes' by Samuel Purchas in 1625. A decade later this 'Historia mundi' was the first English edition of the 'Atlas Minor'.

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