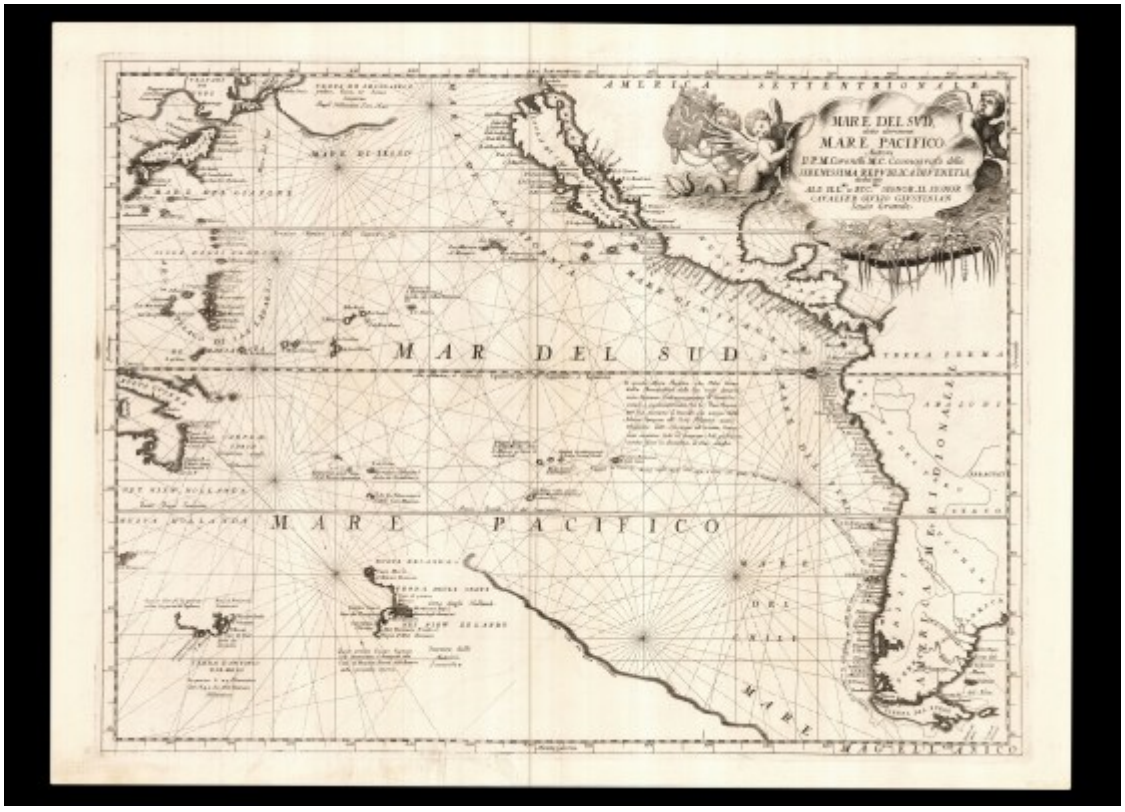


Double-page engraved map.

CORONELLI'S MAP OF THE PACIFIC

Mare del Sud, detto altrimenti Mare Pacifico. Auctore, Il P.M. Coronelli M.C. Cosmografo della Serenissima Republica Divenetia dedicato All' Ill.mo et Ecc.mo Signor, Il Signor Cavalier Giulio Giustinian Sauio Grande.

Author
CORONELLI, Vincenzo Maria

Publication date
1696.

Publisher
Girolamo Albrizzi,

Publication place
Venice,

Physical description
Double-page engraved map.

Dimensions
452 by 605mm (17.75 by 23.75 inches).

Notes
Published in Vincenzo Maria Coronelli's magnificent atlas 'Atlante Veneto, nel quale si contiene la descrittione… degl' Imperii, Regni, Provincie, e Stati dell' Universo', Venice 1696.

Coronelli's detailed chart of the Pacific Ocean, illustrates the route of the voyage of Jacob Le Maire (1615-1616) – around Tierra del Fuego to the East Indies. Although, Le Maire's voyages gave decisive evidence against the supposed existence of a massive southern continent, Coronelli persists in showing a hazy diagonal line across the lower half of the chart, a remnant of the mythical island chain of Johannes Janssonius's chart of 1650, labelled, "Piaggie non per anco conosciute" – beaches not yet known.

However, the coastline of Australia is accurate for the time, extending to include the discoveries of Willem Janszoon's voyage in the 'Duyfken' (1606) down the south coast of New Guinea and along the west coast of the Cape York peninsula; adding the discoveries of Jan Carstensz in command of the 'Pera' during his voyage of 1623, which followed the route of the 'Duyfken', and continued into the Gulf of Carpentaria; as well as including some of the discoveries of Abel Tasman in 1642 and 1644 of the coastlines of New Zealand and Tasmania.

This way, Coronelli has avoided adding the note, found in the middle of his other depictions of Australia, that says that some think this land is Marco Polo's "Lochac", because Polo had reported that "it was on "terra firma" (i.e. continental), it was isolated, and because his text, particularly Ramusio's edition, implied a southerly location" (Suarez), which Coronelli had been repeating on his maps and globe-gores since 1688.

The mapmaker
Vincenzo Coronelli (1650-1718) was an Italian cartographer and globe maker. He was apprenticed to a woodcut printer at ten years old, but then entered the Franciscan Order as a novice at thirteen.

In 1701, he was made Father General of the Order, but was removed from office by the Pope three years later after complaints from fellow clerics. Coronelli mainly lived and worked in Venice, but an opportunity arose to make his name when an early commission for two globes for the Duke of Parma brought him to the attention of the Cardinal d'Estrées, who summoned him to Paris to create two huge globes for Louis XIV. They each had a diameter of fifteen feet, and were built with trapdoors so they could be worked on from the inside. He was made royal cartographer to Louis XIV in 1681 as a result, and worked in Paris for two years. He collaborated with Jean Baptiste Nolin, who went on to become the French publisher for all of Coronelli's work.

On his return to Venice, Coronelli was made cosmographer to the Republic, and granted a stipend of 400 florins a year. He printed globe gores in the 'Libri dei Globii' as well as producing pocket globes, and his large globe over a metre in diameter was owned by royalty across Europe. He issued the 'Atlante Veneto' in 1691, which was intended to be an extension of Blaeu's atlas in three parts, covering hydrography and ancient and modern geography. One of the volumes was an isolario.

Coronelli was known as a careful scholar, and his work across Europe gave him access to the latest information. For example, he produced the first widely published European map of settlements in New Mexico, 'America Settentrionale' (1688), after being given the information by a former governor of New Mexico, Diego de Peñalosa.

Coronelli also founded the world's oldest surviving geographical society, the Accademia degli Argonauti, who produced a printed version of the Paris globes. They were named for Jason and the Argonauts, the adventurers who set out to find the golden fleece; their symbol was the globe surmounted by a ship in full sail. A list published in the 'Epitome cosmografica' in 1693 reveals that the society counted princes, ambassadors and cardinals amongst its members. They were to receive a minimum of six copper engravings a month, creating a a guaranteed market for his productions. Before his death, he had managed to produce six volumes of what he hoped would be a comprehensive encyclopedia, the 'Biblioteca universale sacro-profana'.

Bibliography
Literature: Clancy, ‘The Mapping of Terra Australis’, 6.20; Saurez, ‘Early Mapping of the Pacific’, 90; Tooley, ‘The Mapping of Australia’, 350.

Provenance

Price: £4000

Inventory reference: 23005

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