



Engraved map.

## THE FIRST MAP TO ACCURATELY DEPICT LUZON IN THE PHILIPPINES

**Asiae Nova Descriptio.**

### Author

MAZZA, Giovanni Battista

### Publication date

[c1589].

### Publisher

Donati Rascicotti formis. Giovanni Battista Mazza fece.,

### Publication place

Venice,

### Physical description

Engraved map.

### Dimensions

335 by 460mm (13.25 by 18 inches).

### Notes

Extremely rare map of Asia by the Venetian engraver Giovanni Battista Mazza.

Mazza's work is notable as the first map to accurately depict and name Luzon.

"Ortelius flourished just a bit too early to have mapped the 'true' island of Luzon. That omission was

subsequently corrected by the Italian geographer Giovanni B. Mazza on a separately published adaptation of Ortelius' map of the Asian continent. Probably dating from around 1590. Mazza adds 'Luconia' (Luzon) in a roughly recognizable shape" (Suarez)

The map was published as part of a set of the four continents. Although none of the extant examples bear a date; a date of circa 1589 has been convincingly suggested for the map of America by Suarez and Casten in their 1995 article published in issue 70 of *The Map Collector*.

Little is known about Giovanni Battista Mazza an engraver working in Venice at the end of the sixteenth century. He is known to have engraved a magnificent world map for Giuseppe Rosaccio in 1597, and the present map is part of a set of the four continents.

Rare; we are unable to trace any institutional examples, with only two examples appearing on the market in the last 30 years.

### **Bibliography**

Suarez, Thomas, 'Early Mapping of South East Asia', p.170.

### **Provenance**

### **Price:**

**Inventory reference:** 12790