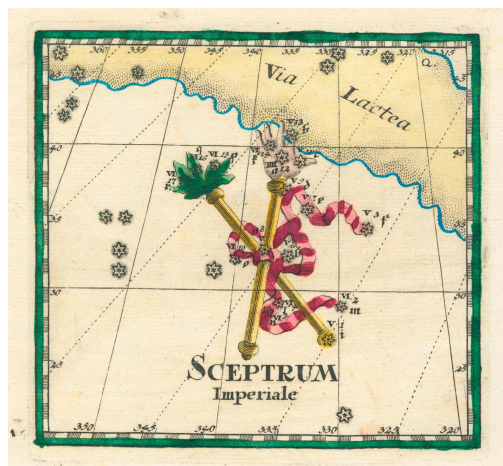




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18TH CENTURY ILLUSTRATION OF THE CONSTELLATION SCEPTRUM IMPERIALE

£280.00

Sceptrum Imperiale. Via Lactea.

Cartographer	THOMAS, Corbinianus.
Date	1730
Stock #:	21410
Publication:	Frankfurt, 1730. Fine original hand colour.
	135 x 130mm.
Condition:	A good example.

DESCRIPTION:

A chart of the 'Sceptrum et Manus Iustitiae' constellation with the Milky Way above, engraved by Johann Christoph Berndt for the celestial atlas 'Mercurii Philosophici Firmamentum Firmianum', named for Thomas's patron, Leopold Anton von Firmian, Archbishop of Salzburg. The constellation was created by Augustin Royer in 1679 to honour king Louis XIV of France.

Corbinianus Thomas (1694-1767), a Benedictine monk, was Professor of Mathematics and Theology at the University of Salzburg. His star atlas was first published in 1730 at Frankfurt, with a second edition at Augsburg the following year. He used an odd system for nomenclature: Greek letter for the star, Roman numeral for the magnitude and Arabic numeral for the star catalogue reference.