

PAN

AMSTERDAM

ANTIQUARIAAT DE ROO



A pair of extremely rare Valk table globes

Publisher: Gerard & Leonard Valk
Place / Date: Amsterdam, 1700/1750
Size: Diameter globe 39 cm. / Totale hoogte 59 cm.
Price: € 275.000,-

A pair of extremely rare Valk table globes [GLOBES – TERRESTRIAL & CELESTIAL].

VALK, Gerard and Leonard. [Terrestrial globe:] Cosmotheore, caelesti nostro globo, par, et plane novus, hic terrestris ut existeret, certo scias, errore veterum sublato, non tantum utriusque orbis, longitudines ac latitudines, par reiterates neotericorum observationes, hicce esse restitutas, sed et nullum typis emendatiorem prodiisse, hoc igitur novissimô tam diu fruire, donec sub majori forma, meô aere alios excudam Gerardus Valk calcographus, Amsterdami, A[nn]o 17[50] cum privilegio. Amsterdam, [Maria Schenk, widow of Leonard Valk], 17[50]. And: [Celestial globe:] Uranographia, caelum omne hie complectens, illa pro ut aucta, et ad annum 1700 competum, magno ab hevelio, correctâ est, ita, ejus ex prototypis, sua noviter haec ectypa, veris astronomiae cultoribus, exhibit et consecrate, Ger. et Leon. Valk, Amstelaedamenses. Amsterdam, Gerard and Leonard Valk, [ca. 1711].

A pair of rare Valk table globes published by Gerard and Leonard Valk at Amsterdam ca. 1711 and their heirs in 1750. The Dutch globe makers Gerard Valk (1652–1726) and his son Leonard Valk (1675–1746) were the most important, indeed the only significant, publishers of globes in the Netherlands in the eighteenth century. The design of their globes was completely new and incorporated the latest geographical and astronomical discoveries, making them the most accurate globes of their time. Valk completed his present 15 inch (39 cm) globes in 1707 and the copper plates

went through several states over the years. The terrestrial globe is here in what Van der Krogt calls state 3 (with the date changed to 1750 by pasting a slip over the "45" of the "1745" in state 2). Leonard Valk made the most important revision to the 1707 topographic image sometime between 1730 and 1745 when he revised the Caspian Sea and Aral Sea based on a new mapping. The celestial globe, is in state 2 (as published ca. 1711, when Leonard's name was added to his father's, but it was not further revised until 1745). The Valks apparently numbered each globe they made, stamping the number on the back of the brass meridian ring near the north pole and beginning a new series when the plate was revised. The present terrestrial globe is numbered "3"; the meridian ring of the celestial globe is not original and bears no number. They apparently made very few of these globes, for in the present states Van der Krogt records no numbers higher than 10 for the terrestrial globe or 7 for the globe. By contrast, for the 12 inch celestial globe in state 2 he records a globe number 45 and for several others he records numbers in the 20s and 30s. The present pair form a beautiful example of the outstanding work of the Dutch Valk family as globe makers. Each globe made up of two hollow paper-maché hemispheres joined at the equator and covered with a layer of plaster, the whole covered with eighteen engraved gores and two polar calottes, the celestial calottes on the ecliptic poles. The equator is graduated in individual degrees, the ecliptic in individual days of the houses of the Zodiac with sigils. Each globe has a brass meridian ring and hour dial with a hand-coloured printed paper ring on the wooden horizon ring, showing degrees and the days of the houses of the Zodiac. Each globe supported by four columns with bun feet on a Dutch-style oak stand connected by cross-stretchers supporting a circular base plate, with a support for the meridian ring at its centre. Including the oak stand, each globe has a height of 59 cm (23 inches). The last two digits of the year on the terrestrial globe have been nearly obliterated, but one can see that they were formerly covered with a slip, as expected in state 3. Both stands are new and the celestial globe has a later hour dial and brass meridian ring and its paper horizon ring is in facsimile. Some minor paper repairs in Ethiopia (terrestrial globe) have been professionally restored. Overall in good condition. An extraordinary, eye-catching set of these rare globes.

Van der Krogt, *Globi Neerlandici*, pp. 313–331, 555–557, globes VAL III T state 3 (4 copies: numbered 2, 4, 8 & 10) & VAL III C state 2 (4 copies, numbered 2, 6, 7 & one unnumbered).