



*Planiglobii Terrestriis Cum Utroq; Hemisph'rio C'lesti*

55.8 × 58cm

1707

Johann Baptist Homann (1664-1724) was a German geographer and cartographer. Born in Bavaria, he was educated at a Jesuit school and prepared for a life in the priesthood, but he eventually converted to Protestantism. He began working as a civil notary in Nuremberg in 1687.

He quickly moved to engraving and mapmaking, founding his own press in 1702. Homann was renowned as one of the leading mapmakers in Germany, and was appointed Imperial Geographer by Charles VI in 1715. In the same year, he was also named a member of the Prussian Academy of Sciences in Berlin. Particularly important to cartography were the imperial printing privileges (*privilegia impressoria*) of Homann, which benefit the authors in all scientific fields such as printers, copper engravers, mapmakers and publishers.

This is a richly decorative map containing vivid depictions of natural phenomena, such as waterspouts, rainbows, earthquakes and volcanoes. Wind heads (cherubs

representing the direction of the wind) blow the wind under a star-filled sky as two angels hoist a great banner bearing the title of the map. This map is a classic example of the maps of the time, featuring an inaccurate portrayal of the North American west coast.