



The World For a King: Pierre Desceliers' Map of 1550

By Chet Van Duzer

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This lavishly produced new study features a full-scale color reproduction and commentary on one of the British Library's greatest treasures, the manuscript world map of 1550 produced by Pierre Desceliers. The map is one of the most important of the "Dieppe School" of cartography that flourished in Normandy from the 1540s to the 1560s. Chet Van Duzer's fascinating text situates the map in context among Desceliers' other surviving works; analyzes the map's many illustrations of people, animals, and cities; discusses its curious hypothetical southern continent; and includes translations of all the long descriptive texts on the map. The text makes a major contribution to cartographic history and to our understanding of one of the most beautiful maps ever produced. Following a substantial introduction, the map is reproduced at real size in 42 sections, each accompanied by detailed explanatory notes, and a reduced-size removable reproduction of the entire map is inserted at the back of the book. The product of several years' research, this study follows the author's best-selling *Sea Monsters on Medieval and Renaissance Maps* and is sure to appeal to the same wide audience of map-lovers.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Chet Van Duzer is a cartographic historian and the author of numerous articles and three previous books. His most recent title is the highly acclaimed *Sea Monsters on Medieval and Renaissance Maps*.

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