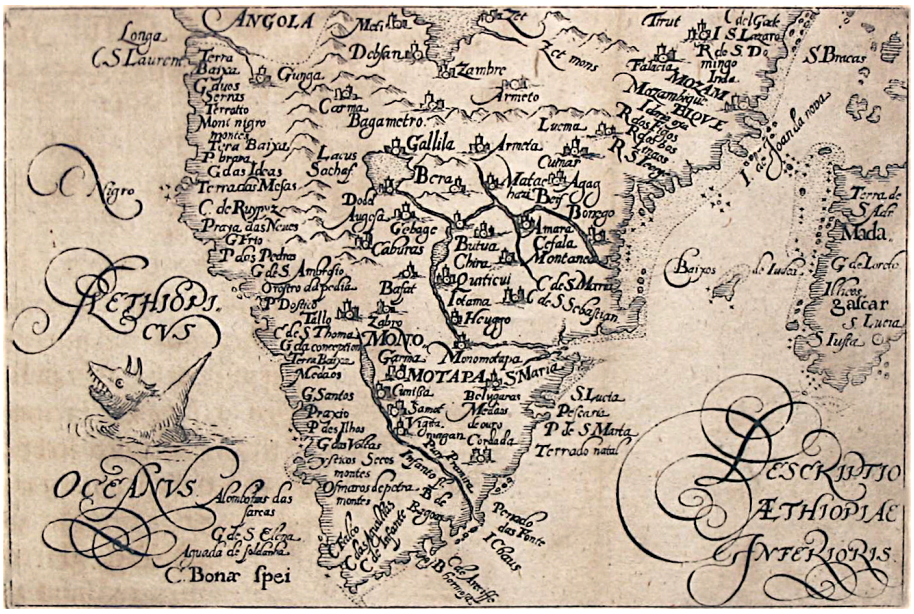
1608 *Henning Grosse Junior*

Lodovico Varthema of Bologna travelled extensively in the Orient from 1503 to 1508: Egypt, Syria, Arabia, Persia, and the Indies, returning to Italy by circumnavigating Africa. His account of his voyages, *Itinerario de Ludovico de Varthema Bolognese*, was first published in Italian in Rome in 1510. It subsequently appeared in many editions and different languages.



Roger Stewart

Almost a century later a German edition appeared, translated by Hieronymus Megiser, and illustrated with a series of plates which are all folded in half. They include a set of fourteen miniature maps and plans, mostly derived from the plates of Pieter van den Keere which he engraved for Cornelis Claesz a decade earlier. They are all 110/120 x 75/80 mm. in size, with several of them signed by the publisher, H. Grosse Junior, and doubtless they are all his work:

Alexandria HG Iunior Exc Lipsiae; Cairo HGI Excudit; Damasco HG Exc; Arabia; Aden in Arabia H. Gross Exc; Ormvs; Cambaia; India Orientalis; Narsinga et Ceylon; Calicvt HG Iun Excud; Descriptio Æthiopiae Inferioris; Sumatra Insula; Borneo; Iava Maior.

Grosse had already produced a miniature map of Malta for Hieronymus Megiser's *Propugnaculum Europae*, published from 1606: *Malta Insula HGIun Exc.* He later published another of Megiser's works which included some bird's-eye plans (see 1610).

Hodeporicon Indiae orientalis. Leipzig, Henning Grosse Junior, 1608, 1610.

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