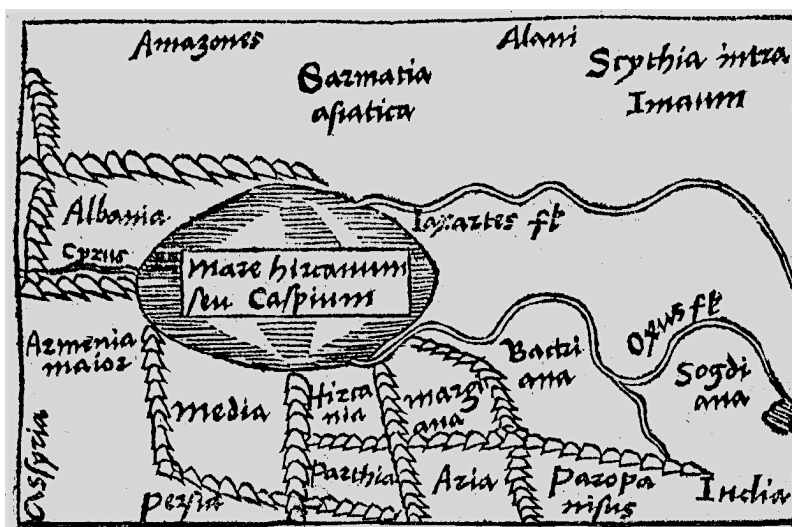


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An edition of Caius Julius Solinus' *Polyhistor*, printed together with Pomponius Mela's *De orbis situ*, is illustrated with twenty woodcuts, thought to be drawn by the editor, Sebastian Münster. The maps vary considerably both in size and in shape but almost half of them are miniatures, some with titles, some not:

Asia Minor; source of the Danube; *Morea*; Muscovy; *Figura Rhodi insule*; *Sicilia*; *Descriptio Rhetiae & Helvetiae*; lands bordering the Caspian Sea; lands adjacent to the Mediterranean/Black Seas. This last one (see above) appears in its first state on page 55; in its second state with some inset metal type names, on page 154 and again on page 148 of the 1543 issue; in its third state with changes to this type, on page 54 of the same one. In this second edition the Asia Minor block has a few inset type names too.



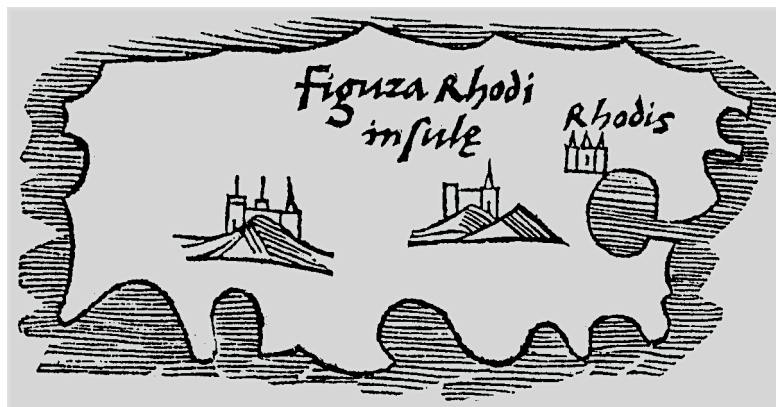
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Because of their lack of cartographical merit, these and other later woodcuts by Münster have been decried by various writers, but their rather primitive style has an undoubted charm. One of these critics, A.E. Nordenskiöld, did comment favourably on the Muscovy map's delineation of rivers (see above), on page 108 of his Facsimile-atlas, which was published in 1889 and reprinted in 1973.

*C. Julii Solini Polyhistor.* Basle, Michael Isingrinus & Henri Petri, 1538; Michael Isingrinus, 1543.



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