

## Lux Mentis, Booksellers

Lux Mentis specializes in fine press, fine bindings, and esoterica in all areas, books that have been treasured and will continue to be treasured. As a primary focus is the building and/or deaccessioning of private collections, our selections is diverse and constantly evolving. If we do not have what you are seeking, please contact us and we will strive to find it. All items are subject to prior sale. Shipping and handling is calculated on a per order basis. Please do not hesitate to contact us regarding terms and/or with any questions or concerns.

### Post-Boston Book Fair List

1. Ansell, Robert. **The Bookplate Designs of Austin Osman Spare.** United Kingdom: The Bookplate Society in association with Keriwen Press, 1988. Limited Edition. Near fine copy in original laid paper pictorial wraps. This edition limited to 500 copies; 330 for the Bookplate Society, and 140 only for private circulation, hand numbered and signed by the author, this being copy 10. Small 8vo, 35 pages, illustrated. Near Fine in Wraps. Original Wraps. (#9752) \$275.00

*Austin Osman Spare – One of the most recognized occult artists who elicited emotion under the occult umbrella. In a purposeful way, he left a legacy of existentialism, perhaps the macabre, but more so rather appropriated his psychic and magical abilities to conjure thought-forms to visible and tangible appearances. In this case of [artist] designer and collector, he's pretty singular, in that he illustrated the proportion of the power of belief into the sigils, by revealing the clarity of the image, which it evokes. This attests to an unusual example of how invocation manifests into the physical and transferred to print, in this case bookplates. These bookplates were designed between 1904-1945, for such folks as journalist Dennis Bardens and patron Pickford Waller.*

*What is unusual here, but not out of the ordinary for a magician like Spare, is the element of confrontation. He's invoked a particular trait about his identity (however self-*

*absorbed that he was) as a magician and infused it graphically into the design. This is something different than we might see in mass commercialization of the bookplate, which normally emphasize the collector, Spare has really infused his own likeness magically. His work illustrates, an aggressive fusion of magick and design.*

2. Beckett, Samuel; O'Kane, David (illus). **Imagination Dead Imagine.** Dublin: The Salvage Press, 2015. Limited Edition. Bright and unmarred. Black cloth drop spine box, loose fo sheets. fo. np. Illus. (b/w plates). Numbered limited edition. Signed by the artists. Fine in Fine Archival Case. (#8779) \$2,250.00

*"No trace anywhere of life, you say, pah, no difficulty there, imagination not dead yet, yes, dead, good, imagination dead imagine..."*

*So begins Beckett's 'Imagination Dead Imagine', a short prose text first published in French in Les Lettres nouvelles in 1965. Its first English publication was in The Sunday Times that same year.*

*This new edition is a collaboration between typographic designer and book-maker Jamie Murphy & renowned Irish visual artist David O'Kane. The work is introduced by foremost Beckett scholar Stanley E Gontarski.*

*The text has been hand-set & letterpress printed by Jamie Murphy in 18 point Caslon Old Face, supported by newly drawn ten line grotesque characters by Bobby Tannam, cut from end grain maple by Tom Mayo.*

*David O'Kane has supplied two lithographs inspired by the text, editioned by Thomas Franke at Stein Werk Lithography studio in Leipzig. The sheets are printed on 250 gsm French made Venin Cuve BFK Rives mouldmade.*

*The edition is limited to 50 copies, 40 of which make up the standard format, ten accounting for the de luxe. The bindings were executed by Tom Duffy in Dublin. The standard is housed in a cloth covered portfolio, protected inside a slipcase. The de luxe is presented in a clamshell box accompanied by a typographic triptych based on the text. The standard copies are numbered 11 – 50, the de-luxe are numbered 1 – 10. Each copy will be signed by*

## POST-BOSTON BOOK FAIR LIST

*the collaborators."* (from the press  
[N.B. Six sheets are still being printed: frontis graphic introduction by Stanley Gontarski three sheets containing the typographic triptych (de luxe only) about the project The de luxe is presented in a solander box. The finished piece measures 23.5 inches x 15.5 inches. The deluxe contains 12 printed sheets.]

3. Belloff, Mindy. **A Golden Thread**. New York: Intima Press, 2018. Limited Edition. Tight, bright, and unmarred. Endsheets letterpress printed, front and back uniquely illustrated; two gilt edges on head and tail in 23-karat gold, with cover design and label in gold foil on leather (gilded by Peter Geraty); hand sewn on linen tapes with cover in quarter leather Pergamena blue calf skin with white Canal paper, housed inside a gold cloth clamshell box with gold foil stamped leather label (bound by Celine Lombardi). Fo (14.75x11"). 92pp [28 blank]. Illus. (color plates). Numbered limited edition of 32, with 8 additional Deluxe Editions (with design bindings, additional loose copies of various prints, and fore-edge painting (this last is TBD). Fine in Fine Archival Box. Hardcover. (#9771) \$6,500.00

*Includes one hundred original drawings and approximately two hundred press runs. Cotton rag papers in ivory, tan, and white, made at St. Armand Paperie, Canada. Letterpress printed from photopolymer plates produced at Boxcar Press, NY.*

"A Contemporary Illumination  
*The Minotaur short story by Nathaniel Hawthorne, from Tanglewood Tales, 1853. Additional text includes quotes of Carl Jung and text from Lorem Ipsum. Mindy Belloff, artist, designer, printer, and publisher.*

*Released May 2018, A Golden Thread is a new tour de force edition from Intima Press. This livre d'artiste focuses on the classic Greek tragedy of Theseus, the brave son of King Aegeus, who ventures into Daedalus' labyrinth with his sword at the ready, and a silken thread in hand held by the heroine, Ariadne, who awaits at the entrance to the maze. Composed of 100 original drawings, each page is meticulously designed and letterpress printed in multiple press runs with an elegant*

*color palette. With inspiration from historic illuminated manuscripts, the pages in the first and third sections are adorned with hand drawn initial caps, ornate borders, and lively calligrams. A selection of the exquisite illustrations are hand painted with watercolor and gouache. Elegantly typeset in Adobe Garamond with additional type faces, the text comes alive, as it gradually becomes larger and more animated with each page, as Theseus bravely winds his way through the dreaded labyrinth to confront the bull-headed monster. The dynamic typographic designs of the middle section of the book become more frenzied and chaotic as the narrative describes the fight between the beast and the hero. The pages are printed on lush cotton rag papers with deckled fore edge. The story unfolds on ivory colored pages which darken to tan as our hero enters the mizmaze, and transitions to bright white as he emerges victorious. The St. Armand paper fibers are made of offcuts from the clothing industry (T-shirts, denim) and flax straw sourced from farms."*

4. Berrigan, Daniel; Ely, Timothy [illus]. **Lost & Found [Extra-Illustrated]**. [Montclair, NJ]: Caliban Press, 1989. Limited Edition. Tight, bright, and unmarred. Planetary Collage Standard binding structure, leather over wood boards, rivets, pigments, resin, gold, and wax; Spanish handmade paper with relief block illustrations (as issued) with extensive over painting and embellishment; one extra, unique fold-out drawing in the rear; endpapers are Ely standard graph paper he printed in 1987. Housed in a felt-lined, handmade paste paper and custom cloth covered dropback box by the artist. 8vo. np. Illus. (color plates). Bound by Timothy Ely in 2016. Signed [by both author and illustrator] limited edition. Fine in Fine Archival Box. Hardcover. (#9755) \$9,800.00

*This is an out-of-series copy (not numbered) signed by both Berrigan and Ely on the colophon at the time of publication. It has been in Ely's possession, in unbound sheets, until being offered here. In 1989, Mark McMurray wrote to Berrigan, who he knew slightly and admired greatly, asking the priest if he had any manuscripts that he might like to have published by McMurray's Caliban Press. As McMurray recalled recently, Berrigan was very kind, invited him to meet in the city, and gave him a*

## POST-BOSTON BOOK FAIR LIST

handful of manuscripts to read. *Lost & Found* was the story that really resonated. McMurray showed it to Ely, with whom he was studying bookbinding. Ely, whose art frequently incorporates maps of non-physical locations, was intrigued by the story and agreed to illustrate it for the Caliban Press limited edition.

*Lost & Found* was originally issued by Caliban Press in an edition of 125 numbered copies with 3 full page and two smaller relief block illustrations by Ely, printed and hand-colored by Mark McMurray, and bound by McMurray with silk-backed boards illustrated on the upper board with the Ely frontispiece print.

In the summer of 2015, after a conversation about altered books, Ely had the idea of "altering" a copy of *Lost & Found*. Thus, twenty-seven years after the initial printing, Ely completed a unique, lavishly illustrated copy of the book, significantly altered from the original publication. Unlike the case with many "altered books," these illustrations are not a violation of the artist's original intent. Rather, this copy, both book and binding, is an elaboration of Ely's work as the original illustrator. As is typical in his life full of strange coincidences, Ely finished binding this very special copy of *Lost & Found* the day before Berrigan died (d. April 30, 2016).

5. Bureau, Luc [text], Bureau, Ghislaine [illus]; Fletcher, Erin [binding]. **Chemins de Traverse [Design Binding]**. Quebec: Les Giboulées, Ghislaine Blais, 2017/2018. Limited Edition. Tight, bright, and unmarred. Bound as a Tue-mouche binding; case constructed with granite Cave Paper and sewn with black linen thread, text block sewn with red linen thread; title is partially gilt in palladium and Caplain gold leaf; remaining lines hand embroidered with cotton thread in dark grey and olive green; cover decorated with pastels in peach, scarlet and raw sienna; dots hand tooled in red foil scattered across both covers and spine. 8vo. [25.1x17.5]. Illus. Numbered limited edition, this being 8 of 45. Fine. Hardcover. (#9766) \$1,400.00

*"This fractured poem about Quebec explores the contrasting landscape, culture and history. My design for this binding is meant to amplify the overall feeling emoted by these comparisons. The harshness of the textured*

*paper and the metal leaf is a stark contrast from the soft embroidery floss and chalky pastels. The red dots mark locations within Quebec specifically named in the text."* [artist statement]

6. Campbell, Ken. **Tilt: The Black-Flagged Streets**. London: Ken Campbell, 1988. Limited Edition. Minimal shelf/edge wear to slipcase, else tight, bright, and unmarred. Quarterbound, black cloth spine, printed paper boards, non-square boards and square textblock; slipcase matches boards. 8vo. np [62pp]. Illus. (color plates). Numbered limited edition of 80, this being VI of VI [AP copies. Signed by the artist. Inscribed to family member in 2008]. Fine in Fine Slipcase. Hardcover. (#9565) \$1,750.00

*"Letterpress composed of Albertus type, found lino blocks and handmade zinc blocks. Many passes including metallic dusting and handwork. Black cloth binding with decorative paper boards in trapezoid shape. Printed slipcase. 'Tilt' was the widest-cast net so far, bringing the most disparate things together. I wrote a poem called 'Storm Song' in Canada in 1981, after listening to a sung account of a maritime disaster on one of the Great Lakes (The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald, I think it was). I also had in mind the vertiginous steps of flagstones up to the old cathedral at Whitby and the black flag of anarchy and disturbance. I had found some old mounted lino blocks which were random-sized squares, black flags of different sizes, and some Albertus type, rather beaten up.*

*While in Zürich I walked into the Museum Rietberg and up to a statue of Shiva, with limbs hanging out in funny angles, and lightning in his/her hair, all in a big wheel of fire. I can remember the statue saying to me, 'I'm coming into your book.' I thought, what the hell has Shiva got to do with this book about a 'Storm Song' and the Whitby steps and black flags? And I thought, well, I'll do as I'm told, as ever. The following morning at breakfast I drew the figure of Shiva, with breasts, and realised it was a puppet that I was going to dismantle. I made a puppet out of zinc pieces; it is disassembled from the right-hand page by repeatedly having a piece of its body nominated by a decorative silver star. Each piece is removed and*

## POST-BOSTON BOOK FAIR LIST

replaced on the left-hand page. Alongside this cycle of nomination, removal and redispotion, the poem accumulates line by line. In this way Shiva is removed from the wheel of fire of the material world on the right, and repositioned and rebuilt in a calmer place on the left.

Each new line of the poem is revealed between black flags, the flags being arranged to suit the disposition of the line that they enclose. A decorative border is used to re-affirm the rectilinear nature of the page to counter what I did to the cover, which was to make it tilted and disturbed.

A line in the poem refers to 'the kingly fisher of men'. A Christ or Osiris figure perhaps, but I discovered that Halcyon, the kingfisher, mythically made its nest on stormy waters, thus calming them. This seemed to complete the circle proposed by the poem.

I also discovered, as an act of necessity, an odd process which I have called offset letterpress. To enable a previously printed coloured element to show better through a recently-applied dark solid, I immediately ran the wet page through the press again after having wiped the solid plate clean. This removed ink from where it sat on the underlying image but not from where it was sitting in the virgin paper.

The statue of Shiva that spoke to me had, unbeknownst to me at the time, been a childhood obsession of our Zurich hostess. The statue in the Museum Rietberg was accompanied by a dancing girl, who appears at each end of this book."

7. Croze, Austin de [1866-1937]. **La Lumière Magique. [13 poèmes magiques et poème en épilogue]** [Manuscript]. Paris: mss, 1920. Unique. 4to. 92pp. 37pp. text and illustrations, distributed over 92pp. overall. Various papers and media utilised running the gamut from heavy card to glassine via what appears to be brown wrapping paper and other diverse elements. Bound in later full burnt yellow morocco gilt, black title labels to spine, embellished with pentagrams to both boards. A beautiful volume, strong, clean and clearly well looked after. Original cover and spine bound in. Filled with numerous pen, ink and watercolours designs with the

unpublished poems in typescript. Near Fine. Hardcover. (#9640) \$25,000.00

*To all intents, purposes, appearances and instincts this volume is a detailed artist\author's mock up or "maquette" for an occult poetic collection that was never published but that looks very much like (well, clearly is) a follow up to the legendary Calendrier Magique that de Croze created years earlier in collaboration with Manuel Orazi and which is now hailed as one of the greatest and most desirable depictions of the fin de siecle art occult pre-occupation. Intended far more as an artistic romp through the lush and shadowy landscape of decadent Parisian occult excesses than an actual handbook for magical practice (despite being issued in a rather tongue in cheek limitation of 777 copies), it's a thing of great beauty and renown, and highly sought after by both those who are interested in fin de siecle art, and by those who are interested in fin de siecle occultism.*

*This volume, which positively reeks of an attempt to expand upon the Calendrier artistically, has its scope broadened to encompass practical witchcraft (there is a beautifully illustrated section on the gathering of magic herbs), talismans, the construction of magic circles, a striking section on the zodiac, an incantation for summoning the devil, a variety of magical formulas, "Le Chanson du Sabbat" and a poetic piece entitled "Le Vampire" all decorated and embellished in gorgeous colour and detail. A favourite image has to be a striking full colour illustration of the elements of some sympathetic magic ritual consisting of pierced portraits, hearts with nails through them, the head of a very unhappy looking owl and a suspended series of small wax figurines illustrated in detail bearing the names of people with whom the practitioner clearly has a problem; Andre Gide (depicted during his beard and moustache period) is one of the suspended voodoo dolls, along with de Fouquieres, two unfortunate ladies named Yvone and Aurel, and a mutilated doll labelled Sacha, that has already been divested of its hands and feet.*

*At this point in the 1920's, Austin de Croze was an*

## POST-BOSTON BOOK FAIR LIST

enthusiastic and roving food writer, soon to pen his "Plats Regionaux de France," a deep and sultry homage to the culinary joys of rural France. It is almost certainly for his exploits as a food writer that he is better known, but *La Lumiere Magique* is a clear indication that his interests in the occult and esoteric underside of life had not abated, but merely been simmering for a while.

One of the most notable things to take away from this volume, aside from its beauty, the obvious fascination of it being a lost book, a work in progress and a previously unconsidered addition to an area of study and fascination that is

growing on swift wings; lies in the fact that it highlights just how much of the *Calendrier Magique* was Austin de Croze, and how much was Orazi. *La Lumiere Magique* has fewer of the gorgeous and mysterious depictions of lust and occult dissipation seen in *La Calendrier* (although gaps exist in the text, possibly suggesting that this volume would have been handed over to Orazi for further embellishment if the two of them decided to go all out on duplicating their previous successes), but de Croze's typography, pen embellishments, watercolours and layouts contain numerous repeated motifs from the previous work, and it requires little more than a couple of Orazi's shadowy confections to become a fully grown sibling. Wondrous, beautiful and unique.

8. Cummins, Maureen. **Secretary**. Park Slope, Brooklyn: Maureen Cummins, 2018. Limited Edition. Tight, bright, and unmarred. Quarterbound, blue paper boards, black leather spine, black ink lettering, cave paper endpages. 4to (8.5x14.5). np. Illus. (b/w plates). Numbered limited edition, this being 19 of 30. Fine in Fine Portfolio. Hardcover. (#9750) \$2,500.00

*Typographic assistance by K. McMillian and binding by Lisa Hersey. Letterpress printed on Asian paper, titling redacted by hand in graphite. All photos reproduced from original 35mm film. Bound in the form of a stenographer's notepad.*

*The work "deconstructs the life and death-by-suicide of her mother, Dolores Bodkin, an aspiring artist who was*

*forcibly committed in 1963 after attempting to leave her violent and abusive husband. Using language that is factual and at times chilling, the artist plays upon the original meaning of the word secretary--"secret keeper"--to allude to the secrecy and shame that existed in her household, as well as the cultural silencing of women around the experience of sexualized violence. Cummins uses several layers of information to tell this story: her own memories; excerpts from a diary her mother kept for two years before her suicide; a list of roles that Bodkin embodied, all crossed on the final page; and most dramatic of all--photographs taken by her father that span the period 1956-1975.*

*These images, reproduced in ghostly silver ink and retaining film-strip terminology such as "Hypersensitivity" and "Kodak Safety Film," are both beautiful and deeply disturbing. Repeatedly the subject is photographed without her consent: while angry, while sleeping, while contemplating the dilemma of her broken leg. Viewed together, and with the accompanying text, these portraits serve as a documentation of Bodkin's destruction. By bringing a critical female gaze to bear upon classic examples of the male gaze, Cummins invites her audience to become aware of, and truly see, multiple forms of invisible violence. By the end of the book, an act that many call "senseless" makes perfect sense." [artist's statement]*

9. **The Daily Citizen [Union Response Wallpaper Edition]**. Vicksburg, MS: Daily Citizen, July 4, 1863. First Edition Thus. Light even toning, fold marks (12 panels), cello-tape professionally removed from back lateral folds and folds supported with Japanese mending paper, small bit of cello at top, several small pinholes, printing poorly registered (last line of text at bottom of sheet), else clean and bright. Pale blue floral wallpaper print at rear, black ink text at front. Approx. 11.5x19" Very Good. Broadside. (#9679) \$7,500.00

*The most famous edition of the Daily Citizen was its last, June 2 \*and\* 4, 1863. The publisher, J. M. Swords, was confident that while General Grant had besieged the city for weeks, it would not fall to him and, moreover, that he*

## POST-BOSTON BOOK FAIR LIST

and the Union would soon be forced into ignominious retreat by the arrival of General Joseph Johnston and the Confederate army. Swords, in an effort to rile up his Vicksburg readership and embolden them to stand strong, issued a snarky rebuke of General Grant in the July 2 edition of the paper:

*On Dit.--That the great Ulysses--the Yankee Generalissimo, surnamed Grant--has expressed his intention of dining in Vicksburg on Saturday next, and celebrating the 4th of July by a grand dinner and so forth. When asked if he would invite Gen. Jo. Johnston to join he said 'No! for fear there will be a row at the table'. Ulysses must get into the city before he dines in it. The way to cook a rabbit is 'first catch the rabbit' &c. When Vicksburg fell, two days later on June 4th, Union soldiers found the June 2 copy still locked in the press, they famously added a small note and printed a handful of a 'new edition'. The Library of Congress describes the work and its significance as follows:*

*"The Daily Citizen was edited and published at Vicksburg, Mississippi, by J.M. Swords. Like several other Southern newspapers of the Civil War period its stock of newsprint paper became exhausted and the publisher resorted to the use of wallpaper. On this substitute he printed the following known issues: June 16, 18, 20, 27, 30, and July 2, 1863. Each was a single sheet, four columns wide, printed on the back of the wallpaper.*

*On July 4, Vicksburg surrendered, the publisher fled, and the Union forces found the type of the Citizen still standing. They replaced two-thirds of the last column with other matter already in type, added the note quoted below, and started to print a new edition. Evidently, after a few copies (how many is unknown) had been run off, it was noticed that the masthead title was misspelled as "CTIIZEN." The error was corrected, although the other typographical errors were allowed to stand, and the rest of the edition printed.*

*"NOTE*

*July 4, 1863*

*Two days bring about great changes, The banner of the*

*Union floats over Vicksburg. Gen. Grant has "caught the rabbit:" he has dined in Vicksburg, and he did bring his dinner with him. The "Citizen" lives to see it. For the last time it appears on "Wall-paper." No more will it eulogize the luxury of mule-meat and fricassed kitten -- urge Southern warriors to such diet never-more. This is the last wall-paper edition, and is, excepting this note, from the types as we found them. It will be valuable hereafter as a curiosity."*

*The prophecy contained in the note has been fulfilled. The original copies are treasured, and there have been over 30 reprints of this issue. Since many copies of the reprints exist, they have little monetary value. The genuine originals can be distinguished by the following tests:*

*Single type page. 9 1/8 inches in width by 16 7/8 inches in length.*

*Column 1, line 1, title, THE DAILY CITIZEN, or THE DAILY CTIIZEN in capitals, not capitals and lowercase, or capitals and small capitals.*

*Column 1, line 2, "J.M. Swords,.....Proprietor." Notice the comma (or imperfect dot) and six periods.*

*Column 1, last line, reads: "Them as they would the portals of hell itself."*

*Column 3, line 1, reads: "Yankee News From All Points."*

*Column 4, line 1, reads: "tremity of the city. These will be defended."*

*Column 4, paragraph 3, line 7, first word is misspelled "Secossion."*

*Column 4, article 2, line 2, word 4 is spelled "whistle."*

*Column 4, last article before Note, final word is printed with the quotation mark misplaced, 'dead' instead of dead".*

*Column 4, Note, line 1, comma following the word "changes" rather than a period."*

*The Library of Congress identifies 5 known copies of the issue printed on June 4th, 1865, and we are very pleased to offer this one. Though reprints are widely available (and often misrepresented in the market as 'true'), those original to the press are genuinely rare.*

## POST-BOSTON BOOK FAIR LIST

*Provenance: acquired the Civil War collection of John N. Rathmell.*

10. Drescher, Henrik. **COMEUNDONE**. [New York]: Pooté Press, 1989. Limited Edition. Printed and bound in the form of the Swiss cross (6 x 6"; 155mm x 155mm). Open-sewn between water-colored boards with pictorial onlay on upper boards. Illustrated throughout. Very fine, enclosed within a similarly shaped sheet metal case, with manuscript label and postage stamp affixed to lid. First edition. One of 100 numbered copies printed letterpress from line engravings onto stenciled handmade paper by Ruth Lingen, signed by the artist. Subtitled in printed facsimile of the artist's holograph: "Being a Complete and Reliable Descriptive Collection of the Perilous Explorations and also Important Discoveries made in the Wildest Territories upon The Face of the Earth Encountering Savage men, Ferocious Beast[s], and Poisonous Reptiles ... Covering a Period of Twelve Months 1988 - 1989." An aggressive and occasionally discomfiting collection of images by the award-winning Norwegian-born illustrator. Numbered limited edition, this being 8 of 100. Fine in Fine Metal Box. Stiff Boards. (#9554) \$1,750.00

*"Henrik Drescher, born 1955, is known mainly as a commercial illustrator, working for Rolling Stone, Time, etc., and an illustrator of children's books, Simon's Book and McFig and McFly. However, throughout his career he has, and continues to, produce an immense body of work spanning painting, printmaking, book works and installation works. He describes his work as a "junkyard of the imagination." In particular his artist book Comeundone: being a complete and reliable descriptive collection of the perilous explorations and also important discoveries made in the wildest territories upon the face of the earth, encountering savage men, ferocious beasts, poisonous reptiles etc. etc. Et al. Covering period of twelve months 1988-1989 stands out as a prime example of Drescher's often cryptic, loose line drawings with text and photographic elements that emanate from his unconscious imagination.*

*Comeundone was letterpress printed on handmade paper*

*by the Pooté Press in 1989 and utilized pulp painting to create the colorful forms that spill out from the black line drawings. This non-typical book was constructed as a stubby cruciform and is encased within a metal tin, evoking the feeling of opening a time capsule or a long lost 1950's era tin. The pages within vary from simple, light pages, such as a face surrounded by what appear to be tents, to pages seemingly neurotically covered with text or drawings, and to simple, dark pages depicting vortices, piles and skulls. I am particularly drawn to the conical piles used as they take on a representation of a being or a body. Drescher even labels one of such piles "body" and another "visceral." These piles present themselves as bodily masses or bodies without structure. These two cone piles are also interesting, as Drescher has removed the visceral organs from the body and placed them into separate piles, effectively separating the body from its automatic inner workings. Throughout the book many of these signs and symbols repeat to create a strong sense of bodily experience, through their reference to the body and by creating a vortex or hole one could slip into and arrive within the mind of Drescher.*

*Along with symbols whose meaning is created within Drescher, text makes up a large portion of Comeundone. Many of the pages are littered with what appear to be automatic writings, saying things like: murder burgers, mad dogs, barefoot pilgrims, vey dovey. Within these pages Drescher appears to be constructing an almost sketchbook like quality through these freely associated words strewn across the surface, without making logical connections to the images and the surrounding texts. However, he does provide more complete, although still freely associated sentences such as, "Fuck me dead dog" and "I hope that I will never die." These thoughts along with the more automatic writings outline the random thoughts that creep up from within one's unconscious mind.*

*Drescher also grapples with issues of religion and the seven deadly sins. He scattered the seven sins throughout the book, and these appear to be Drescher's conscience creeping up to remind him the difference between right and wrong. One page depicts two hands clasped together in prayer. These hands are surrounded by a multitude of the word pray written over and over, showing an almost*

## POST-BOSTON BOOK FAIR LIST

*neurotic need to pray or feeling that one should be praying. However, on a following page the word pay falls directly above pray, showing Drescher's questions of religion.*

*At first glance Comeundone appears to be neither a complete or reliable description of any event, as the title implies it would be. However, upon closer inspection this book appears as a collection of fleeting illogical thoughts translated into images. Henrik Drescher's Comeundone creates a complete and reliable collection of lush landscapes of experience that is the interior of one's mind." [exhibition description]*

*Increasingly scarce and having grown in stature and importance, we are pleased to be presenting this pristine copy.*

11. Ely, Timothy. **Isometria [Unique Manuscript Book and Binding]**. Colfax, WA: Timothy Ely, 2005. Unique. Tight, bright, and unmarred. Arc-spine drum-leaf mixed media binding with fully articulated joints and hematite/graphite endpapers; manuscript frontispiece, manuscript and letterpress title page signed by the artist; one double-page manuscript illustration. Housed in a custom clamshell box by the artist. Small fo. [21cm x 32cm.] np. [5 leaves]. Manuscript book and binding signed by the artist. Fine in Fine Archival Box. Hardcover. (#9759) \$7,000.00

*"Some months ago, several books on drawing projection systems came into my collection. Just as with my bookbinding collection, each book contributes some glimmer of insight or a method of describing an object or idea in the 4-D space in which we exist. This is why I collect.*

*I have posed a problem to drafters, engineers and artists on/off for over 15 years- the problem being how to describe lines on a warped surface, a sphere to be specific. No answers were forth coming. Finally, in one of the books, was the answer I sought.*

*Isometria begins to describe the solution. The paper of the book, in places barely apprehensible, locates an isometric expression. Over this, "a warped surface" is delineated and abstraction of an idea is newly formatted.*

*Isometria is part of the TXC\* system of experimental tomes. It is made up of essentially one elaborate drawing, housed between carefully articulated endpapers which most aptly demonstrate my theory of dust and its application.*

*The book paper is deep treated with scoring and gelatine chemical preparation before being surfaced with the formal drafting materials of my craft." [Timothy C. Ely, Colfax, WA 2005]*

*"\*“TXC” refers to any experiment either in structure or system and usually lies outside the conventions in which I work. These books are usually made to test fly a solution to a vexing problem."*

12. Frech, Karl Hugo. **Ex Libris "Occultis" bookplate collection**. Bratislava, Slovakia, c.1922. First Edition. Collection of 12 large handpress printed "Occult" Ex-Libris bookplates, of which 8 are signed by the artist and 3 bear his address stamp on verso. Bratislava, Slovakia, 1922. Various dates (early 1920s), various sizes, ranging from 177 x 140 mm down to 113 x 75 mm. Printing processes vary: some are woodblocks printed in b/w or color, another hand-colored aquatint (?); four Exlibris pasted onto green card. Very good. Unbound. Very Good+. (#9660) \$1,250.00

*Excellent series of highly original, signed Exlibris prints by painter and graphic illustrator Karl Hugo Frech, [Karl Naughty] (1883-1945). While Frech's are probably the most notable Slovakian bookplates ever produced, they remain almost completely unstudied and unknown. Frech's bookplates received numerous commissions from many important figures of Bratislava (formerly Pressburg), among them being Dr. Ovidius Faust, archivist and museum director and Karl Benyovszky. Incredibly, in bookplate scholarship, Frech's name is virtually unrecorded.*

*Frech was born in Stuttgart, Germany. He studied lithography at G.F. Schreiber Art Institute in Esslingen, and between 1903 and 1905 he attended the Academy of Applied Arts in Stuttgart, where he later worked as an illustrator and graphic artist. In 1914 he married and moved to Bratislava (formerly Pressburger), where he*



## POST-BOSTON BOOK FAIR LIST

spent most of his life. He made his living as a painter and a graphic artist; he was also member of the Pressburger Kunstverein. Although he contributed illustrations to the Pressburger Zeitung newspaper and numerous books, his exlibris designs are particularly prolific due to the occult and esoteric themes and unusual size. While bookplates are generally reflections of the unique eccentricities of collectors, the occult themes in the art are reflected of the Occult Revival and metaphysical interest in the Art Nouveau periods. There is scarce literature published in English to support any of Frech's individual interest in the occult, however, given the time period and clients, it is possible the commissions were specific. The symbolism in the bookplates range from esoteric, Hermeticism, Eastern philosophies, Mesmerism, and astrology.

Frech died on 27 July 1945 while trying to escape from a camp for displaced Germans near the Austrian town of Steyr. Sadly, many of the books in Dr. Faustus' personal library, assuming with his bookplates were looted and destroyed during World War II.

13. Henningham, David. **An Unknown Soldier**. London: Henningham Family Press, 2011. Deluxe Limited Edition. Bright and unmarred. Screen-printed wooden box, loose printed sheet, bound pamphlet. Oblong 8vo. Illus. (b/w plates). Edition of 30 (first 10 are in screenprinted oblique wooden box including 13 screenprints and two pamphlets) Fine in Fine Box. Mixed Forms. (#9426) \$1,250.00

*"Henningham's mordant wit and avant-garde flair is part of another poetic tradition stretching back to Wyndham Lewis, Ezra Pound and the Dada pranksters of Zurich, although the first truly modernist treatment of the conflict in English emerged only in 1937 with the publication of David Jones's In Parenthesis."* – David Collard, *The Times Literary Supplement*

*"Scientists have recently identified First World War casualties using saliva gleaned from the postage stamps on their letters home. Samples taken from their teeth, cross-referenced with a simple swab taken from living relatives, are also identifying soldiers' remains. These events mean that DNA technology has unintentionally*

*transformed the memorial to the Unknown Soldier in Westminster Abbey forever. This unidentified casualty was greeted by thousands of mourners in 1920, aware that he might be their loved-one, and that in his anonymity he stood for all of the lost. For these mourners he represented the hubris of industrial war, which has destructive power beyond our comprehension as the phrase 'Known Unto God' testifies. Yet now, thanks to DNA science, he can be known to us again, which means he is the only soldier we would deliberately refrain from identifying.*

*Does this mean that the Unknown Soldier has become a symbol for our failure to learn from the past? Do rituals of Remembrance actually enable us to forget? The million that marched through Westminster in 2003 to protest against the proposed Iraq War may well agree with that. Yet nobody is exempt from the difficulties and ironies that surround Remembrance. The politicians who lead us in Remembrance rites seem to be the first to forget. Often the rough sleepers who are shifted from the pavements before the parade takes place are, in fact, veterans. And there are people who cannot forget even if they want to, caring as they do for the wounded and missing their dead. These Unknown Soldiers continue to be a 'regiment of warning' stationed all around the world.*

*Military technology was not the only thing that caused the First World War to become so destructive. Such a vast body of men could not have been collected without advances in print technology and propaganda. In the light of this, Henningham Family Press created An Unknown Soldier in the form of printed poetry. Our generation only has third-hand knowledge of the First World War. The text of An Unknown Soldier includes many anecdotes passed down through the family, but many horrors were never put into words. There is a void at the heart of these stories like no-man's land itself. Therefore the poem is interrupted by distorted letter forms that cut through the page like trenches in a battlefield. They allude to the dazzle camouflage created by Modernist artists like Edward Wadsworth. This was a war that artists of every stripe were a part of, from Kipling to Wyndham Lewis via the Artist Rifles. These screenprints*

## POST-BOSTON BOOK FAIR LIST

*shout dumbly from the wall. If only all propaganda were this difficult to read.*

*An Unknown Soldier is composed of three documents housed in an oblique wooden box. It begins with a book containing a screenprinted poem of instruction, Preparatory Oratory, which satirises official Remembrance with a voice like the bastard-child of BLAST and The Book of Common Prayer. The second part is a screenprinted text of thirteen panels. This body of text is An Unknown Soldier himself. His dialect is from no-man's-land, it is corrupted, the conjunctions decaying to leave the more solid vocabulary like disjointed bones. The lines of poetry never make it to the other side of the page, it is typeset like a body superimposed on a battlefield. The position of the stanzas on the wall reflects the human frame like a mirror. The poem has a head, a footnote and the phrase 'Red Giant' where his heart used to be. Yet the poem also resembles a network of trenches seen from the sky, and the soldier takes the reader on a walk through 'The Capital' at his belly, then to 'The Nobiskrug' in his stomach, which is the tavern on the road to hell. This is where he spent the ferryman's wages. Then on to the 'Semen's Mission', where we hear about a lost generation, and finally the 'Labour Exchange' where Miners exchanged pits for trenches for a period.*

*Part three, Funeral, March, is a triptych of verses that reflect on the author's family on the home front and in peacetime, bound as a small Order of Service. It concludes with an affirmation of enduring hope in technology; the tale of Grandad Jack, a veteran, making a copying machine. [artist statement]*

14. Mauro, Melanie. **All Disease**. Easton, PA: Heirloom Press, 2018. Limited Edition. Tight, bright, and unmarred. Black quarter leather book with the inkblot lithographs and letterpress printed text from 19th century medical journals; made entirely of handmade cotton rag paper (including watermarks, formed shapes, and pulp painting); sewn on double raised cords and bound in quarter leather with hand-marbled sheets. fo. np. Illus. (b/w plates). Numbered limited edition of 6 copies. Fine. Hardcover. (#9769) \$750.00

*"All Disease is an exploration of hysteria in women. Images of inkblots invoke interpretive psychological tests and are paired with images of pelvic bone and language from 18th and early 19th century medical texts. The conclusion presented by the male-dominated voices in the text is that women are bound to irrationality, emotional instability, and insanity on account of the womb."*

15. Robe, Jim [illus]. **John A. Spenkelink Execution Illustrations by Noted Courtroom Illustrator [Original Art]. "Capital punishment -- Them without the capital get the punishment."** Starke, FL, 1979. Unique. Minor toning and wear, else bright and clean. Six original pen and watercolor sketches, numbered and bearing notation. Various sizes, approx. 14x20". Illus. (hand colored).

- 1: Execution scene as Venetian Blind went up.
- 2: Witnesses including prisoner's lawyer and minister.
- 3: Last view of prisoner while alive.
- 4: Prisoner's headpiece adjusted while masked executioners look on
- 5: 'Filipino' doctor pronounces prisoner dead
- 6: Spenkelink minutes from death. Near Fine. Loose Sheets. (#9397) \$3,250.00

*Original art from a well known courtroom illustrator of Florida's first execution after reinstatement of the death penalty. While Robe worked for a Tampa paper, these were done for television (WFLA/NBC).*

*"John Arthur Spenkelink (1949–1979) was a convicted American murderer. He was executed under controversial circumstances in 1979, the first convict to be executed in Florida after capital punishment was reinstated in 1976, and the second (after Gary Gilmore) in the country. Spenkelink's case became a national cause célèbre, encompassing both the broader debate over the morality of the death penalty and the narrower question of whether the punishment fitted Spenkelink's crime. His cause was taken up by former Florida Governor LeRoy Collins, actor Alan Alda, and singer Joan Baez, among many others. Also at issue was the assertion that capital punishment discriminated against the poor and underprivileged. (Spenkelink often signed his prison*

## POST-BOSTON BOOK FAIR LIST

correspondence with the epigram, "Capital punishment means those without capital get the punishment.")  
The execution was finally carried out on May 25, 1979, in Old Sparky, the Florida State Prison electric chair.  
The controversy did not end with Spenkelink's execution: When the blinds covering the windows of the execution chamber were opened to the witnesses, Spenkelink had already been strapped into the chair, gagged, and blindfolded. Since the witnesses had not seen the prisoner brought into the chamber, rumors later spread that he had fought the guards, that his neck had been broken in the altercation, and that he was dead before the execution took place. Spenkelink's corpse was eventually exhumed by a Los Angeles coroner, who determined that the cause of his death was in fact electrocution. To prevent similar future controversies, prison officials removed the window blinds to allow witnesses to view the entire execution procedure from beginning to end."

"On May 25, 1979, Spenkelink, 30, was given two shots of whiskey, then executed in front of 32 witnesses, including 10 reporters. It took three jolts to kill him. But because the venetian blinds separating the witness section from the death chamber were closed until Spenkelink was strapped in, witnesses did not get a good look. Spenkelink had straps drawn tightly across his mouth and was denied a final statement by prison officials."

Spenkelink's last words were, "Capital punishment -- Them without the capital get the punishment."

Citations:

*Spinkellink v. State*, 313 So.2d 666 (Fla.1975) (Direct Appeal). *Spinkellink v. Florida*, 428 U.S. 911, 96 S.Ct. 3227 (1976) (Cert. Denied). *Spenkelink v. State*, 350 So. 2d 85 (1977) (State Habeas).

*Spinkellink v. Florida*, 434 U.S. 960 (1977) (Cert. Denied).

*Spinkellink v. Wainwright*, 578 F.2d 582 (5th Cir. 1978) (Habeas). *Spinkellink v. Wainwright*, 442 U.S. 1301 (1979) (Stay).

James T. Robe: American 1928-2000

Born in Michigan, studied design at the University of Cincinnati. Acclaimed Florida artist who painted

*Impressionist and Modernist views of rural genre, cityscapes and beach panoramas in the Post WWII era beginning at the same time as the Florida Highwaymen and continuing throughout the 20th century both at his Meadowbrook Studio and en plein air on the Gold Coast, Treasure Coast and Gulf Coast. For many years he was retained as a staff artist for the Tampa Tribune and he illustrated a 1997 book on Florida history in conjunction with his wife Jackie, an award winning landscape photographer. These images appear to have been created for WFLA TV & NBC News (per notation).*

16. Shakespeare, William; Gill, Eric (illus); Richards, Sean [binder]. **The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark [Art Binding]**. London: Limited Editions Club/High Wycombe, 1933. Limited Edition. Rebound, else tight, bright, and unmarred. Unique art binding, brown leather boards, gilt lettering and decorative elements, black ink decorative elements, sculptural skull (split in center) incorporated into the binding, teg, beg; custom wooden slipcase. 8vo. 149pp. Illus. (b/w plates). Numbered limited edition of 1500, this being 85. Signed by Gill. Fine in Fine Wooden Slipcase. Hardcover. (#8119) \$7,500.00

*An extraordinary binding by Sean Richards of Byzantium Studios. The skull is constructed by over 200 leather onlays.*

17. Simpson, James [text]; Trant, Carolyn [art]. **The Untenanted Room**. London: Parvenu Press, 2018. Limited Edition. Tight, bright, and unmarred. Black leather spine, textured cloth boards, black endpages. fo. np. Illus. (colored and handcolored plates). Fine. Hardcover. (#9578) \$6,500.00

*"These books I am printing are trying to combine being painted and printed; I always print like a painter anyway – the blocks are just another way of getting colour and image onto the paper – and each book, of a very small edition will be slightly different.*

*I want it to be quite rough and immediate, not pretty at all – I am not sure my skills stretch to tragedy so rough and raw will have to do....*

## POST-BOSTON BOOK FAIR LIST

*The text flickers between current events and concerns, structured around the medieval story of Perceval, The Holy Fool, and yes – The Ruin. I am trying to mirror the metaphors of the writing with the way I print – shreds of allusions and references in the imagery, cut shapes. Fragmented printing styles. The covers, if I ever get them dry in time, are trying to gather up and meld some of the whirling detritus of the world, both natural and man made – and compact it into a surface; I did this once for a unique volume, The Artists Book, done for a Millennium exhibition in 2000, which is now in the USA and I never took a photo of the cover, so it is an idea revisited from memory nearly two decades on.*

*‘Current events and concerns’ are the perennial ones – man’s inhumanity to man and the continual degradation of the planet. The first image is of an unspecified bombed building, in the Middle East maybe; later bodies hang like meat from the trees, the woodcuts try to flicker like TV screens, dead birds are strung up, trees look blasted. But art ultimately makes things look aesthetic, cosy: I try to be raw but pages inevitably become cooked – our conscience and consciousness makes things acceptable so that we can carry on. I hope this is an angry book all the same.” [artist statement]*

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

**Ian J. Kahn**

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