

OCCULT EX LIBRIS

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.

Ex Libris, Hex Libris



[Occult Ex Libris] Ex Libris Occulta for Gino Sabatini. Italy, c.1950s. Small format printed "occult" ex-libris bookplate for Gino Sabatini. Woodcut design, printed in b/w, unbound on white paper in black. Unidentified edition. Artist unknown. 8x11cm. Near Fine. (#10014) \$50.00

One of many occult themed bookplates designed for Gino Sabatini. Many of his bookplates feature devils, astrology, or other esoteric themes. Mechanical print from woodcut. Scarce.

Morisot, Jean. **[Occult Ex Libris] Ex Libris for Lili Morisot by Jean Morisot.** c.1940s. Small format printed

"occult" ex-libris bookplate for Lili Morisot. Etching design, litho printed, unbound on white paper in blue. Unidentified edition. 10x13cm. Near Fine. (#10015) \$50.00



Dr. Jean Morisot (1899-1967) aka Jean de Sauteval was a French artist known for his erotic and voyeuristic book plate art featuring illustrations of devils, nuns, witches, and provocative sexual scenes. His work is featured in "Les ex-libris erotiques et singuliers du Dr. Jean Morisot." Lili Morisot's ex libris features a young nude witch performing a love spell. Rare blue print on white, normally printed brown ink on tan, with backing board.

Hradečn, Bohumil. **[Occult Ex Libris] Ex Libris for Bohumil Hradečný.** Czech Republic, c.1920-1930. Small



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format printed "occult" ex-libris bookplate for artist Bohumil Hradečný. Etching design, litho printed, unbound on tan paper in black. Unidentified edition. 8x12cm. Near Fine. (#10016) \$75.00

Created by Czech artist HRADECNY BOHUMIL, 1876–1960. Another artist and occultist participating in Ibing's Mystic Circle was "Bohumil Hradečný" (1876 -1960). Later, both Rudolf Adámek and Hradečný became founding members of Universalia, an important Czech esoteric society started in 1920 and legally incorporated in 1930. He was a known occultist, as his bookplate illustrates the truth of esoteric knowledge seeking and ritual purpose, very much in the Czech design style.



[Occult Ex Libris] Ex Libris for Ritva Ristolainen. Finland, c.1960s. Small format printed "occult" ex-libris bookplate for composer, author Ritva Ristolainen. Woodcut design, litho printed, unbound on tan paper in black. Unidentified edition. 10x15cm. Near Fine. (#10017) \$50.00

Ritva Heikkilä was born on January 12, 1920 in Terijoki, Finland as Aira Ritva Ristolainen. She is a writer, known for Mieliroolini (1964), Voimakas kuin meri (1959) and Novellin ja näytelmän mestari (1960). Her ex libris illustrates an angelic figure ascending from a piano with a book to celestial levels. Rare.

Vermeylen, Antoon. **[Occult Ex Libris] Ex Libris for Mich de Mey by Anton Vermeylen.** c.1975. Small format printed "occult" ex-libris bookplate of artist Antoon Vermeylen for Mich de Mey. Woodcut design,

printed in b/w, unbound on white paper in black. Unidentified edition. Signed by artist in pencil. 9x12cm. Near Fine. (#10013) \$25.00

Antoon Vermeylen (Antwerp, 27 July 1931 - Budapest, 19 February 2012) was a Belgian draftsman, stained-glass artist and graphic artist. Vermeylen produced dozens of ex-libris, book illustrations and other small graphics and was recognized for his woodcut work. This woodcut design print features a figure with a spirit behind them illuminating the person reading. Most of Vermeylen's designs are reproduced and printed mechanically.



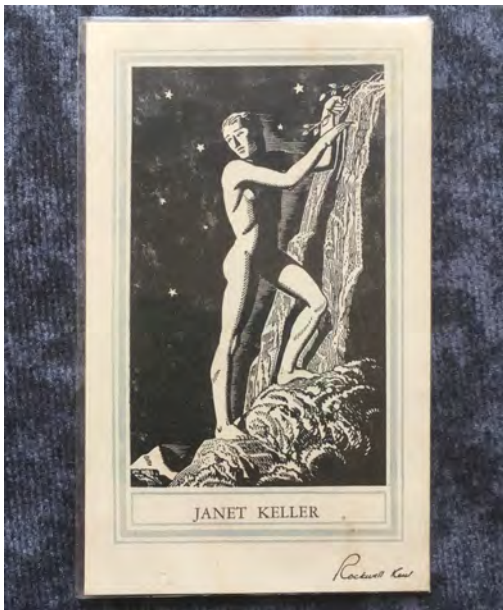
Frech, Karl Hugo. **[Occult Ex Libris] K. Frech Botanical Astrology/Alchemy bookplate.** Bratislava, Slovakia, c. 1920-1930. Small format printed "occult" ex-libris bookplate of artist K. Frech. Etching, printed in b/w, unbound on cream colored paper in black. Unidentified



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edition. 8x12cm. Signed by the illustrator/former owner.
Near Fine. (#10012) \$100.00

Highly original, ex libris print 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) and mostly known for depicting esoteric and occult topics. Incredibly, in bookplate scholarship, Frech's name is virtually unrecorded. Rare.



Kent, Rockwell. **Bookplate [Ex Libris] for Janet Keller.** [1950s]. Unmounted bookplate measuring 6x10cm. Printed in black with blue border and with printed autograph and name plate. Very Good+. (#9924) \$50.00

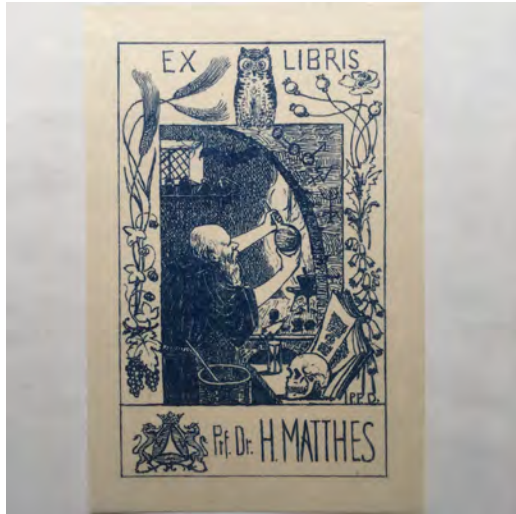
Known printer, book designer, and artist, Rockwell Kent started designed bookplates in 1929 throughout the 1950s. Antioch Company started printing his bookplates in sets beginning in the 1950s. The image of the nude figure is quite iconic for Kent and highly recognizable for his style and part of the Starry Night series.

Morisot, Jean. **Criminalia: Ex Libris.** Jean Morisot, nd. Discrete pencil notations, else bright and clean. Nine hand press bookplates (engravings) on various papers and ink colors. Near Fine. (#9041) \$750.00

A set of bookplates designed by Morisot for his crime library featuring a human skull. Morisot was best known for his erotic engravings.



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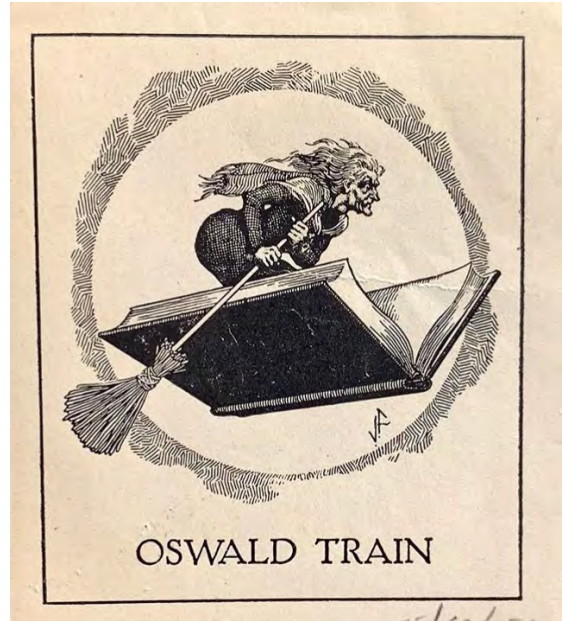


Bookplate for Professor Dr. H. Matthes by Peter Paul Draewing. Mounted bookplate on three hole punch notebook paper, printed in blue ink on cream colored paper. 9x14cm. Near Fine. Initials P.P.D lower right. (#9947) \$100.00

Peter Paul Draewing, 1876-1940, was a German artist and teacher was mostly recognized for his French Impressionist style landscape paintings. Bookplate depicts an alchemist or a wizard with a long white beard formulating a potion or some chemical concoction in a laboratory with alchemical symbols, hourglass, skull, book, mortar and pestle decorated with grapes, poppies, wolfbane and an owl at the top. Other copies known printed in brown on yellow paper.

Finlay, Virgil. **Bookplate for Oswald Train [Image of witch riding a book with a broom].** c.1959. Unmounted with pencil inscription (5/14/59) in the lower right margin, small crease on left edge with slight discoloration on left side. Scarce, in books, hard to find loose and unmounted. Approximately 2x3" Very Good+. (#9693) \$100.00

British born Oswald Train (1915-1988) became involved in the nascent Philadelphia Science Fiction Society in 1935, also attending the first (highly informal) Convention in 1936. A significant Small-Press publisher, he was the main figure behind Prime Press. In 1968 he founded Oswald Train: Publisher, which specialized in detective fiction.



Virgil Finlay (July 23, 1914 – January 18, 1971) was an American pulp fantasy, science fiction and horror illustrator. He has been called "part of the pulp magazine history ... one of the foremost contributors of original and imaginative art work for the most memorable science fiction and fantasy publications of our time." While he worked in a range of media, from gouache to oils, Finlay specialized in, and became famous for, detailed pen-and-ink drawings accomplished with abundant stippling, cross-hatching, and scratchboard techniques. Despite the very labor-intensive and time-consuming nature of his specialty, Finlay created more than 2600 works of graphic art in his 35-year career. [Biographical snippets quoted from SF-encyclopedia].

Frech, Karl Hugo. **Ex Libris [bookplates] collection.** Bratislava, Slovakia, c.1920-1930. Collection of one large format handpress printed "Occult" Ex-Libris bookplate of Wilhelm Regius and two individual bookplates, bearing his address stamp on verso: Bratislava, Slovakia. Printing processes are woodblocks printed in b/w or color, unbound. One on cream colored paper in brown, other two in black on tissue stock. Unidentified edition. Very Good+. (#9735) \$150.00

Excellent small collection of highly original, stamped Ex Libris prints by painter and graphic illustrator Karl Hugo

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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). 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 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 ex libris 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.

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.

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

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