

MUSINSKY RARE BOOKS

RBMS Conference

Booksellers' Showcase

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*Hotel Vetro,
Iowa City*

TABLE 6

A chronological short-list

Full descriptions of all items are available



No. 10

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◆ MUSINSKY RARE BOOKS ◆

1) **GRITSCH, Conrad.** *Quadragesimale*. [Nuremberg]: Anton Koberger, 27 February 1479.

Royal folio. Rubricated. Contemporary blind-stamped alum-tawed skin over wooden boards, from the monastic bindery of the Lambach Benedictines, spine leather extending into perforated tabbed caps, an early textile ribbon bookmark attached to the top flap. Vellum manuscript spine liners from a fifteenth-century rubricated Bible.

The first of three Koberger editions of a popular handbook for preachers, containing 50 Lenten sermons filled with exempla from medieval, classical, Biblical and patristic sources. This copy was bound at the Lambach Abbey bindery for the local parish priest Conrad Loher, who donated the book to the Abbey in 1499. Goff G-494. **\$30,000**

2) **MARCHESINUS, Johannes.** *Mammotrectus super Bibliam*. Venice: Nicolas Jenson, 23 September 1479.

4to. Contemporary manuscript register on first blank leaf. Contemporary South German blind-stamped calf over wooden boards.

Jenson's edition of a popular Franciscan Biblical and liturgical aid for less educated clerics, containing hundreds of short entries providing definitions and grammatical explanations of terms found in the Vulgate and in liturgy. Goff M-239. **\$30,000**

3) **KUNSTBÜCHLEIN** – *Stahel und Eyssen, künstlich weych und hart zu machen ...* Mainz: Peter Jordan, 1534.

4to. Woodcut title vignette. Disbound.

The first printed book on iron and steel technology, including chapters on etching and on gold and silver varnishes. The second part contains the first book on dyeing cloth and coloring wood, ivory, and other materials, and on removing spots and stains from textiles. This pair of colloquial German technological manuals, known as *Kunstbüchlein*, would have been used by

metalworkers, goldsmiths, silversmiths, dyers, cloth workers, and other artisans. This was the fifth (known) edition of part 1, following four editions printed in 1532, and the second edition of part 2. All the early editions survive in 1 to 3 copies each, of which none in American libraries. VD16 R506. **\$17,000**

4) **LA PERRIÈRE, Guillaume de.** *Les Considérations des quatre mondes*. Lyon: Macé Bonhomme, 1552.

8vo. Woodcut author portrait and grotesque page borders. 16th-century calf, covers with interlacing strapwork panel stamp (overpainted). From the libraries of Louis de La Saussaye, William Loring Andrews, and Cortlandt F. Bishop.

First edition of a collection of four hundred French hermetic and emblematic quatrains, an unillustrated "para-emblem book" (A. Saunders). The author praises mathematics as the only path to the understanding of the incomprehensible. The panel stamp is recorded on several other bindings. Harvard / Mortimer *French* 339. **\$6500**

5) **CREUTZER, Peter.** *Planeten Büchlin*. Frankfurt: Weigandt Han, [not before 1556].

4to. Red & black printing. Woodcuts. Contemporary German laced-case dark red dyed parchment binding with envelope flap.

An illustrated calendar and astrological handbook in a typical German cheap, functional and durable parchment binding. VD16 C 5822. **\$12,000**

6) **PATTERN BOOK** – *Modelbuch aller Art Nehwens unnd Stickens*. Frankfurt: heirs of Christoph Egenolff, 1593.

A superb pattern book for lace and needlework: 63 pages of geometric, arabesque, floral, figural, and classical designs; a few patterns inspired by Middle-Eastern models. This copy was evidently never used. VD16 M 5714. **\$25,000**

7) **DIETTERLIN, Wendel.** *Architectura und Ausstheilung der V. Seuhn.* Stuttgart: s.n., 1593. [Volume 2:] *Architectur von Portalen unnd Thürgerichten mancherley arten.* Strassburg: Bernhardt Tobin heirs, 1594.

Two volumes in one, folio. Etched titles, 95 etched plates. Contemporary German silver-gilt tooled parchment.

FIRST EDITION, first issue, with the text in German, of Books I and II of Dietterlin's fantastical, at times sinister, and highly influential visual exposition of architecture and ornament. Dietterlin's "column" books were heavily used by artists and even a few architects. Unsophisticated sets of even the 1598 edition are scarce, while complete copies of the first edition, especially retaining early bindings, appear very rarely on the market. VD16 D 1691. **\$32,000**

8) **[WAFLART, Claude].** *La Ivstification dv moyen le plvs favorable, pour abreger Les Trauaux des Longues Estudes.* Paris: L'Ermite, 1638.

12mo, contemporary sheep.

Only edition of an educational treatise by a tutor or *régent*, proposing radical pedagogical reform to an educational system still mired in the medieval Latin curriculum. The author advocates the integration of French into primary education and opposes the tradition of sending young boys away to the sleep-away *collèges*. No other copies located. **\$3200**

9) **PASSE, Crispijn van de, the younger.** *Les vrais pourtraits de quelques unes des plus grandes dames de la chrestiente, desguisees en bergeres.* Amsterdam: for the author, 1640.

Oblong 4to. 72 engraved medallion portraits on 38 leaves. Later parchment.

Only edition of a celebrated series of pastoral portraits of real women, dressed as shepherdesses and disguised under fictitious names. Franken 1371. **\$16,000**

10) **EMBROIDERED BINDING** – *Les Saints Devoirs de l'Ame devote.* [Part 2:] *Office de la Vierge Marie pour tous les temps de l'année.* Paris: Sebastien Feugé, 1648.

12mo. Contemporary French embroidered binding of ivory silk over pasteboards, each cover with a different floral design.

A MID-SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY PARISIAN EMBROIDERED BINDING on a popular devotional work. French embroidered bindings from this period survive in far fewer numbers than their English counterparts. (See cover illustration.) **\$15,000**

11) **LUYKEN, Jan.** *Lof en Oordeel van de Werken der Barmhertigheyt.* Amsterdam: Nicolaus Visscher II, [ca. 1695].

4to. Engraved title and 7 full-page etchings. Later boards.

First edition, first issue, of one of Jan Luyken's cheerfully devout illustration suites, this one on acts of Mercy. One other copy located. Van Eeghen & van der Kellen 1499-1506. **\$2800**

12) **[COQUELET, Louis].** *Eloge de la méchante femme.* Paris: Antoine de Heuqueville, 1731.

12mo. Later calf.

IN PRAISE OF NASTY WOMEN: First Edition of a very funny semi-feminist encomium of mean b***hes. The author explains why scolding shrews make the best wives. OCLC locates one copy in a US library (Houghton). Gay-Lemonnyer II:88. **\$2950**

13) **ALMANAC** – *Etrennes mignonnes curieuses et utiles.* Paris: Jouenne, [1742/43].

24mo. 3 engraved plates including double-page map. Contemporary emblematic binding of gold-blocked goatskin.

A long-running Paris almanac in a rococo binding with an unusual asymmetrical decor incorporating *chinoiserie* elements (monkeys) and Western *memento mori* motifs. **\$1750**

14) [LUBERT, Marie-Madeleine de, attributed to]. *Histoire secrette du Prince Croque'Etron et de la Princesse Foirette*. "A Gringuenaude [i.e., Paris?]: chez Vincent d'Avalos & Fleurimont Mordant," [mid-18th-century].

12mo. Citron morocco, vellum flyleaves, by Koehler.

First Edition of a scatological parody of the fairy tale writer Mlle. Lubert. The tragic love story is filled with Rabelaisian epithets. Gay-Lemonnyer II:581. **\$1350**

15) **RELICS – EMBROIDERED BINDING**. A collection of printed and manuscript documents relating to religious relics in the private chapels of the Durazzo family. Genoa, Rome and other places, 1661-1794.

12 printed and 2 manuscript relic authentications, with related manuscript descriptions and documentation, stitched into a small folio-sized silk binding, **SPLENDIDLY EMBROIDERED**.

This unusual volume is both an exceptional book object and a window into a routine but largely ignored aspect of Catholic religious life. **\$22,000**

16) **FALCONI, Niccolò Carminio**. *Ad Capponianas Ruthenas tabulas commentarius*. Rome: Salomoni [for the author], 1755.

4to. Title in red and black, five engraved plates. Contemporary Roman presentation binding of gold-tooled red goatskin with the arms of the dedicatee, Cardinal Giovanni Giacomo Millo.

Only edition, the dedication copy, of a privately printed treatise on a Russian wooden icon in the shape of a Greek cross, bearing a visual calendar of Orthodox saints based on manuscript *menologia*. The 17th-century icon (misdated by Falconi to the 12th century) was bequeathed to the Vatican Library, along with his vast library, by Alessandro Gregorio Capponi, founder of the Capitoline Museum. **\$7500**

17) **ALMANAC – Etrennes mignones, curieuses et utiles ... pour l'année mil sept cent soixante-dix**. Paris: Durand, 1770.

24mo. Two engraved maps. Publisher's embroidered binding of blue faille silk with floral and bird decor.

A striking embroidered almanac binding with a decor built up almost entirely of strands of purl on sequins and metallic thread, with a few strategically placed colored threads. **\$3400**

18) **MANUSCRIPT ORNAMENT PATTERN BOOK – RANCILIO, Luigi**. *Raccolta di Trofei Sacri*. [Italy, late 18th or early 19th century].

Oblong 4to. 103 pencil drawings. Early 19th-century boards.

An album of rococo ornament drawings by an otherwise unknown Italian artist. The album may have been intended as a source-book for book illustrations. **\$7500**

19) **ALMANAC – Le Triomphe d'Apollon ou les chefs d'oeuvres de ses favoris**. Paris: Jubert [for] Bailly, [1785/1786].

24mo. Hand-colored engraved title & 9 engravings, fold-out calendar. Contemporary embroidered binding.

A rare *almanach galant*, printed by the founder of the genre, the stationer and binder Jean-Pierre Jubert. **\$3000**

20) **CHODOWIECKI, Daniel**, artist. *Almanac Généalogique pour l'an 1787*. Berlin: (Decker), [1786].

24mo. 12 engraved plates after Chodowiecki, illustrating scenes from a popular play. Embroidered binding.

Chodowiecki made the fortunes of the Berlin almanac publishers. **\$3000**

21) **SCHREIBKALENDER**. *Grätzerischer Schreibkalender, auf das Jahr ... 1795*. Graz: Leykam, [1794/95].

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4to. Red and black printing, Interleaved with manuscript notes. Publisher's wrappers incorporating the arms of the Emperor.

One of the longest running *Schreibkalender*, in its original printed armorial publisher's wrappers. \$2750

22) [CHEVALIER, P. João]. *Dialogo da Esfera Celeste, e Terrestre para uso das escolas da Congregação do Oratoria na Real Casa de N. S. das Necessidades*. Lisbon: Royal Press, 1807.

8vo, IN SHEETS.

Astronomy and geography for religious schools: dialogues on the earth and solar system, printed for distribution to pupils in the schools of the Oratorians in Lisbon. \$875

23) NUMAN, Hermanus. *De Beoefening der Teekenkunde, door de eerste gronden der Meetkunde gemakkelijk gemaakt*. Amsterdam, 1807-1812.

4to. 80 engraved plates of which 64 crayon manner engravings, 6 folding line-engraved perspectival diagrams, and 11 aquatints or engravings with aquatint. Contemporary half calf.

Only edition of a Dutch artist's beautifully illustrated drawing manual, noteworthy for its use of aquatint. OCLC locates 2 copies outside the Netherlands. \$5800

24) STUDENTS' CALLIGRAPHIC ALBUM – *Cahier d'écriture et de dessin linéaire. Dédié au cher F[rè]re Aphrodise D[oc]teur de la Communauté par les Elèves de la 6ème Classe de Carcassonne l'an 1838*. Carcassonne, 1838.

Folio. 59 leaves of calligraphic exercises and drawings. Contemporary sheep-backed boards.

Manuscript album composed by a group of pupils for a beloved teacher, containing accomplished calligraphic and ornamental exercises, and architectural & botanical drawings. \$4750

25) ABC – REBUS. *Les Rébus de l'enfance ou Abécédaire en Estampes d'un genre nouveau*. Paris: Lehubey, [1840].

Oblong 12mo. Engraved title, 13 hand-colored etched plates. Publisher's printed boards.

Only edition of an attractive and off-beat rebus-book for children, with alphabets in large and bold types, syllabaries, and 26 short instructive tales. \$1600

26) DU BARRY, Madame – UZANNE, Octave, editor. *Anecdotes sur la Comtesse du Barry*. Paris: Quantin, 1880. [Bound with:] LACROIX, Paul. Annotated proof sheet from his *Catalogue des Livres de Madame du Barry* (Paris: Auguste Fontaine, 1874).

8vo. Unique copy *hors commerce* of Uzanne's bibliophile edition of a scandalous biography of Louis XV's mistress by the gutter journalist Pidansat de Mairobert. This copy printed for Uzanne on blue paper, with extra features including a plate in sanguine, two extra copies of the half-title and title-leaves, a publisher's broadside *Vient de Paraitre* announcement on green paper, and a heavily marked up page-proof by Paul Lacroix of the preface to his edition of Madame du Barry's library catalogue, containing unpublished variant readings. \$2500

27) LEGRAIN, Pierre, binder. MAILLOL, Aristide, artist. VERGILIUS MARO, Publius. *Les Églogues*. Weimar: Cranach Press, 1926.

Large 4to. 44 woodcuts by Aristide Maillol, 16 initials designed by Eric Gill. Copy no. 74 of the regular issue of 250. Morocco by Pierre Legrain, overall geometric decor of parallel arcs in gold and clusters of palladium circles.

A superb geometric binding by Pierre Legrain on one of the most celebrated 20th- artists' books. This beautiful copy, bound soon after publication, was exhibited in Paris at the Bibliothèque nationale in 1947. \$21,500