SYMONDS RARE BOOKS

Catalogue of Magic and Occult Books and Drawings





Foreword

Please, take a moment to look at our new catalogue of books and artworks of magic and the occult. The catalogue is divided in three parts: Printed books from the sixteenth to nineteenth centuries, here you will find a variety of rare and fine books on witchcraft and witch-trials, Satanic possession and magic, including works by Ficino, Iamblichus, Sinclair, Mather and Hutchinson; Modern editions, including the Golden Hind signed by the editors Clifford Bax and Austin Osman Spare and a rich and varied selection of books by Aleister Crowley and John Symonds; Drawings by Aleister Crowley, Austin Osman Spare and James Boswell.

Thomas J. Symonds June 2020



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Instagram: @symonds rare books



SIXTEENTH TO NINETEENTH CENTURIES

1. FICINO, Marsilio. *De Vita Libri tres, quorum Primus, de studiosorum Sanitate tuenda. Secundus, de Vita producenda. Tertius, de Vita coelitus comparanda.*

Lyon, Gulielmum Rouillium, 1560.

£2,000

16mo, pp. 461 (iii), a-z A-F8. Three works in one volume. Roman letter, some Italic. Title page with woodcut vignette of an eagle standing on a globe placed on a plinth and sided by two snakes; motto: "in virtute, / et fortuna." Floriated initials, meanders, head- and tailpieces. Early ms. autograph in capital letters on front cover, twice, and in cursive on t-p: "Laurens Viguier", who is probably the same person who underlined and wrote marginalia throughout the book. Stamp of the library of Saint Peter ad Vincula (Rome) on t-p and library shelf-mark label on front pastedown. Some slight marginal spotting and light age browning to page edges. In a fine contemporary blind-ruled calf binding with gilt-tooled fleurons at centre of covers and towards corners; skilfully rebacked. An excellent copy.



'De vita libri tres' (Three Books about Life) was written between 1480 and 1489 by Italian philosopher Marsilio Ficino. This famous essay first circulated as a manuscript. After its publication in 1489, the book was regularly reprinted throughout the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. The first book deals with healthy living; the second is about longevity and the third focuses on astral influences. This work analyses the relationship between the human soul and the body as well as dwelling on the notion of "spiritus". Taken from classical authors, Ficino considers that certain things are always beneficial to the spirit: wine and aromas, odours, clean air and music.

Ficino's 'De vita' is an amalgam of philosophy, medicine, magic, and astrology. As well as passages on the immortality of the soul is a miscellany of astrological charts, philosophical digressions, medieval prescriptions; attempts at reconciling

the Neoplatonism of Plotinus with Christian Scriptures; magical remedies and talismans. Besides being one of the main philosophers of the Renaissance, Ficino was also the son of a physician and a physician himself. His 'De vita' gives an example of medical theory in the Renaissance, which took its tenets from Galen's theory of the humours and other qualities. However, this essay also reflects on a new awareness of the role of pagan gods in the wake of the rediscovery of Plato's dialogues and the 'Corpus Hermeticum'.

Bibliography: Gültlingen X p. 128: 470; FB 70552; USTC 152867.





2. PORTA, Giambattista (della). Joh. Baptistæ Portæ ... Magiæ naturalis libri viginti. Ab ipso ... authore adaucti ... repurgati, etc.

Lugd. Batavorum: Apud Petrum Leffen, 1651.

£ 1,250

12° (14 x 8.5), [ix], 670 pp., [xii]. Additional engraved title page, dated 1650 with small handwritten inscriptions of previous owner; title page with Pierre Leffen's printer's device; dedicatory letter and preface; index at the end of the volume. Printer's device of Philippe de Croy on final index page. Roman letters, in Latin. Numerous woodcut illustrations and tables in the text and floriated initials at the beginning of each book. Right margins trimmed with occasional loss of word in the preface [vii, viii]; small tears on upper and right margins of engraved title page, title page and dedicatory letter. Tightly bound in dark calf, slightly cracked; simple gilt decoration on the front and back and on the spine; edges in red. A fine and very clean copy.

Giambattista della Porta (1535 –1615) was an Italian philosopher, alchemist, comedy writer, scientist and polymath. He was the author of a number of works on memory, physiognomy, philosophy and magic.

The Magiae Naturalis, or Natural Magic, was originally composed of four books and it was first published in 1558. It was then expanded to twenty books in 1589. The work was popular in Europe and it was translated in modern European languages (Italian, French, Dutch and English).

The work deals with popular science, cosmology, geology, optics, plant products, medicine, poisons, cooking, alchemy, distillation, glass colouring, glazes and ceramics, magnetic properties, cosmetics, gunpowder and cryptography. Giambattista della Porta draws both on the works of Ancient authors, such as Aristotle and Theophrastus, and contemporary works on magic and science but avoids discussing religion and ceremonial magic.

Porta defends natural magic, distinguishing it from the superstitious he deems of demonological origin, by extending its field of investigation to philosophy, hoping to translate it into action. For Porta, magic was not a way to improve one's self and to communicate with the divine, but a means to manipulate both men and things with crafty tricks. The natural magus is described by Porta as a trickster with the experience of the alchemist, with the education of a humanist and with a strong command of mathematics and astrology. According to Porta, as outlined in the second chapter of the first book of the Magiae Naturalis (Quid fit Magia) the magus must be rich, well-educated and hard working. In this work, we find points of contact with Agrippa von Nettesheim's De occulta philosophia.

Bibliography: Ferguson, II, 216. Duveen 481. Caillet 8852.







3. WEBSTER, John. The Displaying of Supposed Witchcraft Wherein is affirmed that there are many sorts of Deceivers and Impostors . . . But that there is a corporeal league made betwixt the Devil and the Witch . . .

London, Jonas More, 1677.

£ 4,250

FIRST EDITION. Quarto, pp. (16) 346 (4). Roman letter with italic. Slight tear to corner of Bb1 with no text loss, hole Cc4 with minor text loss, but still an excellent and clean copy. Bound in contemporary brown calf, red gilt title piece, slightly worn. Ex-libris Spottiswoode, 1900.



Dedicating the work to neighbours in Yorkshire, as a placatory text to halt spurious rumours and misunderstanding concerning devilish matters, Webster provides an overview of censure concerning the treatment of apparitions and witchcraft and describes witches and their deeds. He adopts a rational approach and insists that all evidence in support of sorcery should be subjected to the same scientific scrutiny as employed by the likes of Newton and Locke. After all, what need was there to suspect the handiwork of the devil in any miracle, when 'Mr Boyle' . . . was able . . . 'to manifest the great and wonderful virtues that God had endowed stones, minerals, plants and roots withal'.

Bibliography: Wing W 1230.







4. IAMBLICHUS; GALE, Thomas, (tr.). IAMBΛΙΧΟΥ ΧΑΛΚΙΔΕΩΣ ΤΗΣ ΚΟΙΛΗΣ ΣΥΡΙΑΣ ΠΕΡΙ ΜΥΣΤΗΡΙΩΝ ΛΟΓΟΣ.= Iamblichi Chalcidensis ex Coele-Syria, De mysteriis liber. Præmittitur epistola Porphyrii ad Anebonem Ægyptium, eodem argumento.

Oxford, E Theatro Sheldoniano, 1678.

£1,250

FIRST EDITION. Folio, pp. (xl) 316 (viii), *-2*2 a-h2 A-Z4 Aa-Zz2 Aaa-Nnn2. Roman and Greek letter, some Italic; Greek and Latin in parallel columns. Large title-page vignette of the Sheldonian Theatre. Some light browning and spotting throughout. Ex libris on front pastedown of Richard Fort, Lord of Read Hall, Lancashire, during the beginning of C19th; another unidentified bookplate, probably French, with initials "C. E. De M. K.". In early gilt-ruled polished calf over boards, joints (especially the upper one) somewhat worn and rugged, gilt lettering to decorated spine in compartments with raised bands, marbled pastedowns and fore-edges. Covers and corners a little rubbed, leather repair to lower corner of rear board. An excellent, crisp and clean copy.

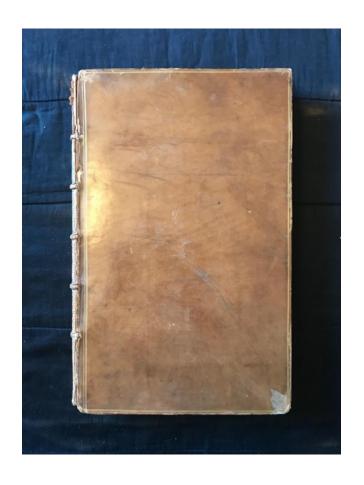


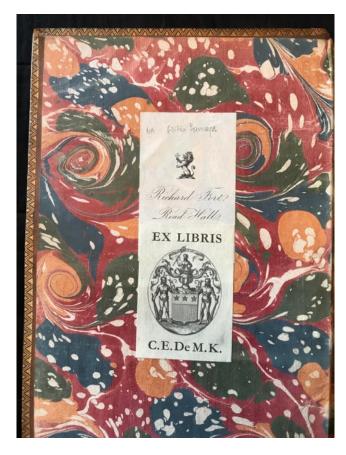
This is the first English edition of Iamblichus's 'De mysteriis', by scholar Thomas Gale (1636-1702). Iamblichus (c. A.D. 250one 325) was the important so-called Neoplatonic philosophers and a disciple of Porphyry. His influential treatise 'Theurgia', or 'On the Mysteries of Egypt' dealt with *'higher* magic' operating through the agency of the gods.

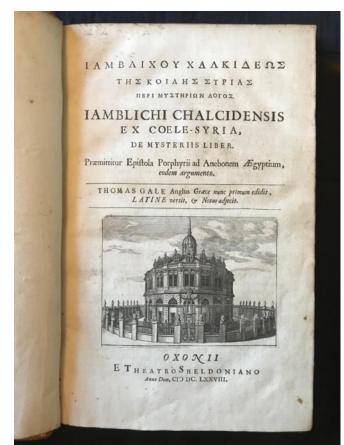
Besides the influence he has had on Medieval thought,

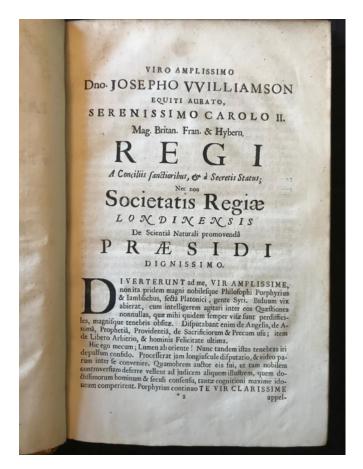
Iamblichus strongly influenced authors like Ficino, Pico della Mirandola, and Giordano Bruno.

Bibliography: ESTC R13749; Wing (CD-ROM, 1996), I26, Madan, III, 3179. Clarke, E. (tr.) Iamblichus: De mysteriis, translated 2003, p. xiv.







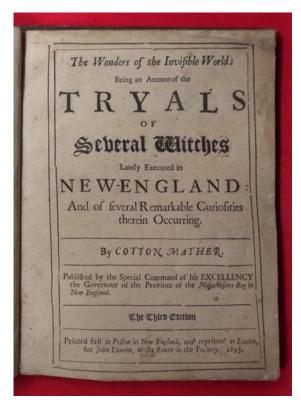


5. MATHER, Cotton. The Wonders of the Invisible World: Being an Account of the Tryals of Several Witches Lately Executed in New-England and of several Remarkable Curiosities therein Occurring.

London, John Dunton, 1693.

£16,000

Third London Edition. 4to., (194 x 141mm.), A2, B2, B4– [H]4, pp. [8], 9 – 64. Title page backed, half-title including imprimatur on verso; Author's Defense and Presentation Letter by Chief Justice William Stroughton. Roman letter with some Italic and Gothic type at headings and occasionally within the text. Several small repairs throughout. Lower margins trimmed with occasional loss of catchwords; minimal loss at right margin of G2. Damp staining visible on upper-right corner of a few leaves at beginning and end; mild marginal foxing throughout; browning on initial and final leaves. Bound in fine modern calf, all edges in red. Overall, an excellent copy.

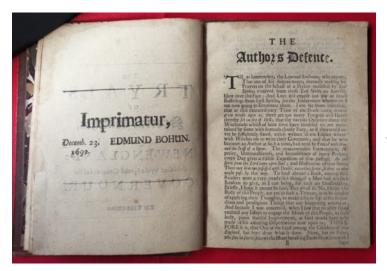


The trials of 'witches' that were carried out within the community of Salem in 1692, are among the best-known examples of this infamous social practice of the 17th and 18th centuries. This book contains the first account of these trials written by Cotton Mather (1663 – 1728), one of the leading religious authorities of the second generation of Puritan settlers in Boston. Cotton's father Increase, was a respected judge in the same community. Although not directly involved in the trials which led to the execution of 19 people, Increase wrote in defence of one of the judges, albeit criticising the importance that the court as a whole had placed on dreams and visions as evidence in the trials.

Cotton Mather, in the preface, presents himself as a simple chronicler of the facts. However, he had

been a central figure in the events that led to the staging of the 1692 trials. He had previously written 'Remarkable Promises' (1688), an essay against medical materialism and exalting the

power of prayer and penitence in the healing of the body and mind.* In this essay, Mather passionately defended the existence of witchcraft as a way for evil spirits to harm both the body and the mind of people through humans endowed of "preternatural" powers. However, he later supported his father's opinion, according to which a too great use had been made of dreams and apparitions as evidence during the trials.



Overall, Mather's influence in the 1692 trials has been seen by scholars as ambiguous. Although he publicly condemned the frenzied population and tried to dissuade the judges from using visions as evidence, it is also believed that he encouraged acts of violence against those who were found guilty. This is particularly manifest in the case of George Burrough, whose trial is described in the book. In spite of his

political influence, he supported the judicial killing of innocent people. However, his call to moderation in carrying out death penalties to the accused has been seen as possibly attenuating the religious hysteria of the times.

Besides being a first-hand account of the trials, this book also contains a wealth of information about the judiciary practices of the English colonies of North America. Furthermore, the book describes the spiritual world of Puritan settlers, in search of a balance between religious and communal zeal on the one hand, and the extreme conditions and fear of the unknown on the other. Through the live voices of the accused, emerges the dissent that the religious and civil authorities were trying to repress. Individuals who refused to conform to the strict rules of the community, were often accused of witchcraft and accused of being responsible for any disgrace or illness that befell the settlers.

This is the third London edition, which was printed by John Dunton the year after the events took place. It is a complete and excellent copy of a very rare edition of this book, which is of paramount importance for researchers.

Bibliography: BL T.1693.(4.); Holmes, 1241; Howes M399; Sabin 46605; Wing M1175.

*Curiously, Mather was in favour of the inoculation of smallpox, a medical procedure that predated vaccine and which had been criticised by many Puritans. The criticism did not stop him to support this procedure, the efficacy of which was later recognised and widely adopted.

6. DUNTON, John (ed.). *The Athenian Mercury*. Volume 11, Number 22, Saturday, September 23, 1693.

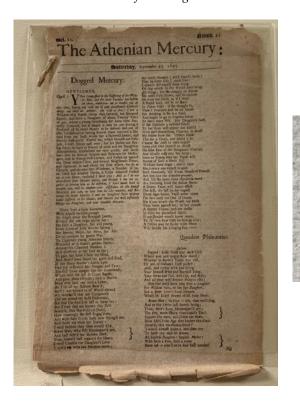
London: Printed for John Dunton at the Raven in the Poultrey, 1693

£ 1,000

Folio (32 cm). Single sheet printed on both sides; double column. With advertisements. Top and bottom edges slightly torn, not affecting the text. Slightly browned, overall in good condition.

The Athenian Mercury was a periodical written by the Athenian Society and published in London twice weekly between 17th March 1690* and 14th of June 1697. The publisher John Dunton was the editor in chief. The magazine, a remarkable example of one of the earliest coffeehouse periodicals, was originally titled The Athenian Gazette or The Casuistical Mercury. The magazine included miscellaneous information on a wide-ranging variety of subjects, and it was also one of the first to employ the Question and Answer format. A spin-off magazine, The Ladies' Mercury, was also published by The Athenian Society starting in 1693 which ran for four weeks. This was the first periodical specifically designed just for women. However, already The Athenian Mercury, can be considered in the context of gender representation as many questions regarded courtships and gender relations, as in the case of this issue in which the first question is posed by a woman regarding the courtship of her daughter. The Athenian Mercury also included advertisements for a variety of items, including elixirs, medicines and books. In this issue, amongst advertisements for books, microscopes and an elixir against ague, we find the advertisement for Cotton Mather's book on the Salem witch-trials (no. 5 of this catalogue) which was published by Dunton in 1693.

*1691 of the Gregorian calendar.



A Further Account of the Tryals of the New-England WITCHES, with the Observation of a Person who was upon the Place several Days, when the suspected Witches were first taken into Examination: To which is added Cases of Conscience concerning Witchcrafts and Evil Spirits personating Men. Written at the Request of the Ministers of New-England. By Increase Mather, President of Harvard-Colledge Price 1 s.

All five Printed for John Dunton at the Raven in the Poultrey.

7. HUTCHINSON, Francis. An historical essay concerning witchcraft. With observations upon matters of fact; tending to clear the texts of the Sacred Scriptures, and confute the vulgar errors about that point. And also two sermons: one in proof of the Christian religion; the other concerning good and evil angels. by Francis Hutchinson, D. D. Chaplain in Ordinary to His Majesty, and Minister of St. James's parish in St. Edmund's-Bury.

London: printed for R. Knaplock, at the Bishop's Head, and D. Midwinter, at the Three Crowns, in St. Paul's Church-Yard, MDCCXVIII

£2,000

FIRST EDITION. 8° (19.5 x 12 cm); [ii], pp. v-xv, [ii], pp. 270, [i, adv.]. Rare. Title page; dedicatory letter by the author to RH Thomas Lord Parker, Lord Chief Justice of England, RH Sir Peter King, Lord Chief Justice of Common Pleas and RH Sir Thomas Bury, Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer; table of contents; one page of advertisement of books published by the author and books printed by the printers at the end of the book. Latin script, in English. Floriated initial and two ornamental decorations. Dampstain on lower margin of pp. 237-257 and on last flyleaf and back pastedown; small tear on upper margin of first contents page. Apart from some minimal staining, the pages are fresh for their age and the text reads well. Bound in contemporary blind-stamped dark tan calf with tulip-like flowers on front and back; rounded corners with some minor damage; a.e r. Spine in six compartments with blind-stamped decoration. Ex-libris of David Laing Philips on front pastedown; handwritten inscription of earlier owner's name on first flyleaf, otherwise internally unmarked. A fine copy.



Francis Hutchinson (1660-1739) was a British minister in Bury St Edmunds and, subsequently, in 1721 was made Bishop of Down and Connor in Ireland. He studied at Katharine Hall, Cambridge where he earned a B.A. in 1681 and an M.A. in 1684. In 1698 he also received a D.D. from Cambridge.

The writing of An Historical Essay Concerning Witchcraft stemmed from contemporary events that occurred during the author's life, such as the infamous witch-trials that occurred in Bury St Edmunds between 1599 and 1694 and the 1712 trial of Jane Wenham. A draft of this book had been circulating since 1706, but Hutchinson was discouraged from publishing it. Hutchinson finally decided to publish the book in 1718.

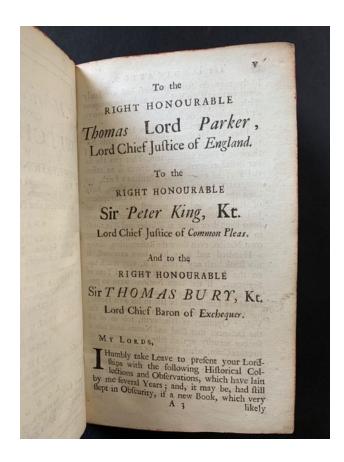
In An Historical Essay Concerning Witchcraft Hutchinson rationally approached witchcraft and deconstructed and dissected

the witchcraft persecutions that had taken place in East-Anglia and New-England in the years prior. Hutchinson met, not only with Jane Wenham, but also with other survivors of the witch-hunts and regarded their persecution as the result of superstition. Historian Wallace Notestein has described Hutchinson's work as 'epoch-making' and noted that it 'levelled a final and deadly blow at the dying superstition'.

Bibliography: Cambridge Alumni Database <u>"Hutchinson, Francis (HTCN677F)"</u>; Ian Bostridge. Witchcraft and its transformations, c.1650–1750, Oxford: Clarendon Press. 1997; Wallace Notestein, A History of Witchcraft in England from 1558 to 1718, preface, ix-xii.





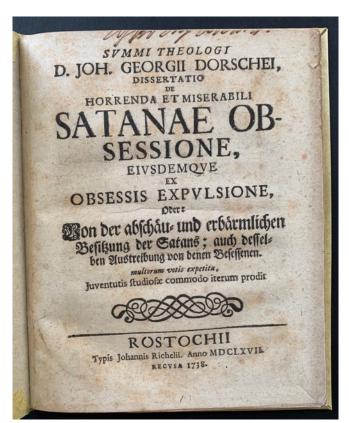


8. DORSCHE (or DORSCHEUS), Johann Georg. Summi theologi D. Joh. Georg Dorschei ... Dissertatio de horrenda & miserabili Satanae obsessione, ejusdemque ex obsessis expulsione : multorum votis expetita, cujus nunc in juventutis studiosae commodum prodit. Oder Von der abschau und erba: der: von der abschäu- und erbärmlichen Besitzung der Satans, auch desselben Austreibung von denen Besessenen...

Rostochii: typis Johannis Richelii 1738.

£ 1,200

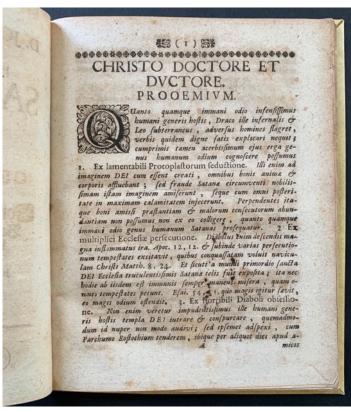
8vo (19.5x15.5 cm); [i], A¹-F³, pp. 46. Title page; preface by the author. Roman letter with Gothic and Italic; in Latin. Trimmed upper margin of title page; small tear on upper right margin of title page. Floriated initial. Some browning and foxing throughout that do not affect the text. Modern limp vellum binding. A reprint, with addition of German title and minor differences, of the edition of 1667.

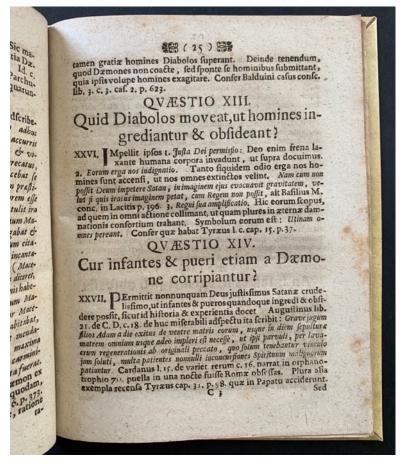


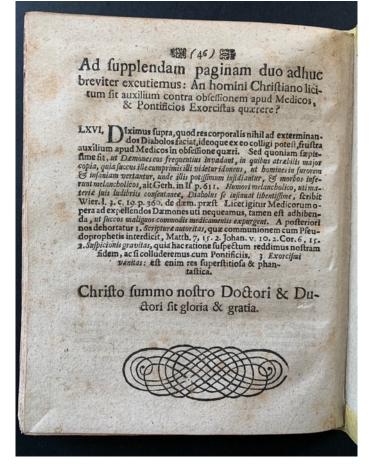
Johann Georg Dorsche was a leading representative of Lutheran orthodoxy in the 17th century. He was a Professor at the Universities of Tübingen, Strasbourg and Rostock. The Dissertatio de horrenda & miserabili Satanae obsessione was first presented by Dorsche at the University of Rostock in 1654 when he was a Professor there.

Bibliography: Not in Caillet; Clark, S., Thinking with demons: the idea of witchcraft in early modern Europe Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1997, pp. 405, n. 14.







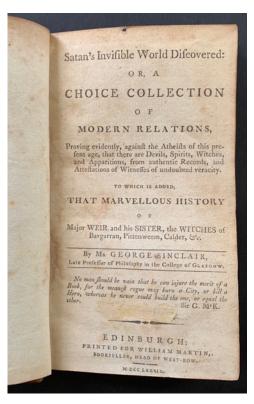


9. SINCLAIR, George. Satan's Invisible World discovered: or, a Choice collection of modern relations, proving ... that there are devils, spirits, witches, and apparitions ... To which is added, that marvellous history of Major Weir and his sister, etc.

Edinburgh: William Martin, 1789.

£ 500

Sixth edition. 8° (10 x 16.5 cm), [ii], pp. 174, [ii]. Title page, table of contents, 42 chapters. Initial flyleaf with small tear. Insignificant wormhole on upper margin of title. Slight foxing and browning throughout, not affecting text. Contemporary calf, slightly darkened. Spine in compartments with raised bands; gilt label. Date at foot of the spine. Ex-libris of Sir James Buller East, 2nd Baronet on front pastedown. A fine copy.



George Sinclair (d. 1696) was the first Professor of Mathematics at the University of Edinburgh, an engineer and demonologist. In 1666 he was removed from his post at the University for being a Presbyterian and thus started working as a surveyor and engineer, particularly for Sir James Hope. He was eventually reappointed Professor of Mathematics in 1691.

An author of many books on different subjects, Sinclair's most famous book is undoubtedly Satan's Invisible World Discovered, first published in 1685. In this work Sinclair describes the poltergeist incident of the Devil of Glenluce, which was alleged to have terrified the household of the weaver Gilbert Campbell between 1654 to 1655. Alexander Agnew, a beggar who was refused a handout by Campbell, promised to cause the family harm and since then strange phenomena started happening in the house. These included demonic

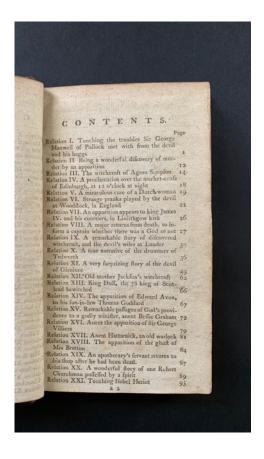
voices, strange whistling sounds, stones being thrown, and warp thread being cut. Sinclair described the incidents as having a usefulness for refuting atheism, as evidenced by the title page of the book itself.

Sinclair's source for this story was Thomas, a philosophy student at Glasgow University and son of Gilbert Campbell. It was later suggested that it was Thomas who had produced the supernatural phenomena through fraudulent means.

Satan's Invisible World Discovered was very well received and was extremely popular, especially in Scotland, with editions of the full text published in Edinburgh in 1709, 1746, 1769, 1779, 1780, 1789 and 1808, and in London in 1814, as well as an abbreviated chapbook selection from Stirling in 1807 and at least three Glasgow chapbooks between 1830 and 1840.

Bibliography: This edition not in Ferguson; *Sinclair, George (d.1696)* in Dictionary of National Biography. London: Smith, Elder & Co. 1885–1900; Barry J., *News from the Invisible World: The Publishing History of Tales of the Supernatural c.1660–1832*. In: Barry J, Davies O, Usborne C, editors. *Cultures of Witchcraft in Europe from the Middle Ages to the Present*. Cham (CH): Palgrave Macmillan; 2017. Available from: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK513557/ doi: 10.1007/978-3-319-63784-6_9





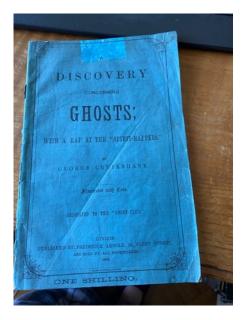
10. CRUIKSHANK, George. A Discovery concerning Ghosts; With a Rap at the "Spirit-Rappers". Illustrated with cuts. Dedicated to the Ghost Club.

London: Frederick Arnold, 1863

£ 600

FIRST EDITION. 8vo; 48 pp. 9 woodcuts of varying size in text excellent condition. Slight tear at the foot of spine and paper covers slightly worn. Overall excellent condition for a pamphlet, uniformly yellow aged, no foxing.

The author of this pamphlet was George Cruikshank (1792 –1878), the famous British caricaturist and book illustrator, who illustrated books for many celebrated British authors, such as Charles Dickens, and who was described as the "modern Hogarth" during his life.









11. BUDGE, E.A. Wallis. The Book of The Dead. The papyrus of the Ani in the British Museum

Published by the British Museum 1895, London

£ 500

FIRST EDITION of Text volume. Large 4° (33 x 25.4 cm), clv, p. 377. Original half green morocco covers detached. Discreet library stamp on title "presented by the trustees of the British Museum". Internally very clean with occasional minimal foxing only.



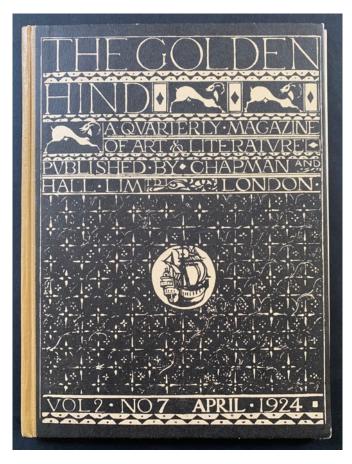
The Papyrus of Ani is a papyrus scroll manuscript dated to c. 1250 BCE with cursive hieroglyphs and colour illustrations. According to Ancient Egyptian customs an individualised book was compiled for high ranking individuals upon their death, commonly known as the Book of the Dead, which contained spells and declarations that would help in the afterlife. The Papyrus of Ani was compiled for a Theban scribe named Ani. Sir E. A. Wallis Budge discovered the scroll, stole it from an Egyptian government storeroom and sent it to the Principal Librarian of the British Museum.

TWENTIETH CENTURY

12. SPARE, Austin Osman; BAX, Clifford (eds). *The Golden Hind: A Quarterly Magazine of Art & Literature Vol. 2 No. 7, April 1924*London: Published by Chapman and Hall, 1924

£ 500

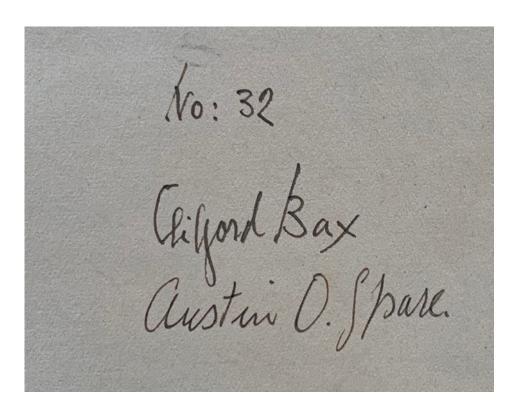
4to (28.5 x 21 cm), [i], pp. 48, [i] + Table of contents; advertisement; includes poems, writings and art works by Clifford Bax, Dorothy Richardson, H. Graham Green, John Austen, Evelyn Waugh, Nora Wright, Sidney Hunt among others. Decorated tick card binding; edges very slightly scratched. Ex-libris of Pickford Waller on front pastedown; autograph signature of Austin Osman Spare and Clifford Bax (who also numbered it) on the first flyleaf. An excellent copy.

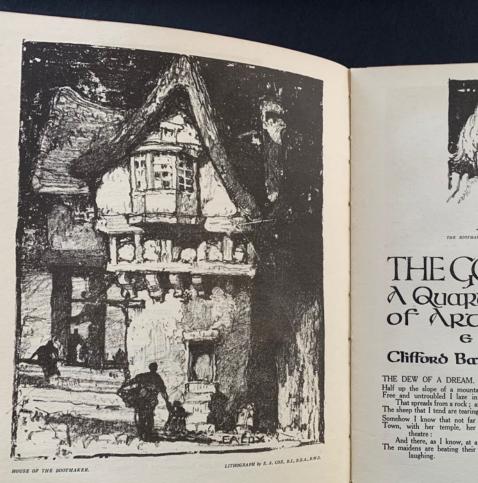


The magazine of art and literature The Golden Hind was edited by the writer and poet Clifford Bax and by the artist and occultist Austin Osman Spare. The Golden Hind appeared from October 1922 to July 1924. As well as Bax and Spare, numerous other writers, poets and artists contributed to the magazine, including John Nash. Jack B. Yeats, Edith Sitwell, Evelyn Waugh and John Austen.

Austin Osman Spare (1886-1956) was a great artist, influenced by symbolism and art nouveau his art which was known for its clear use of line, and its depiction of monstrous and sexual imagery. He was a student of the occultist Aleister Crowley and a friend and mentor to the Thelemite author and ceremonial magician Kenneth Grant. One of Spare's patrons was the wealthy property developer Pickford Waller, whose ex-libris is in this copy of the Golden Hind.

Clifford Bax (1886-1962) was a prolific writer, playwright, poet and translator. He also worked with his brother, the composer Arnold Bax, who set some of his words to music. His circle of friends included Aleister Crowley, the composer Gustav Holst (whom he introduced to astrology), the critic James Agate, the artist Frieda Harris and the writer John Symonds.







THE GOLDEN HIND A Quarcerly Magazine of Arc and Leccers

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Clifford Bax and Austin O. Spare

13. CROWLEY, Aleister et al. *The Equinox* (Vol. I, Nos I-X).

London, 1909 - 13.

£ 5,500

FIRST EDITION. 4to, Vol. I: No. 1: Spring 1909. Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent & Co., Ltd; No. 2: Autumn 1909. Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent & Co., Ltd; No. 3: Spring 1910. Privately published, London; No. 4: Autumn 1910. Privately published, London; No. 5: Spring 1911. Privately published, London; No. 6: Autumn 1911. Wieland & Co.; No. 7: Spring 1912. Wieland & Co.; No. 8: Autumn 1912. Wieland & Co.; No. 9: Spring 1913. Wieland & Co.; No. 10: Autumn 1913. Wieland & Co. Ex libris of Leon M. Hurtado. Occasional pencil underlining. Light toning, browning and age yellowing. Bound in quarter linen and paper over boards. Nos I, III and X rebacked preserving the original fragile spines. Some minor wearing and rubbing on covers and corners. Titles on paper label to spine, some small fragments torn. An excellent and complete set.

Volume number one of 'The Equinox' or the Review of Scientific Illuminism, a series of publications that served as the official organ of the A: A: (a magical order founded by Aleister Crowley), and it was published twice a year between 1909 and 1913. This is the "Standard" issue, which comprised an edition of 1,000 copies for the early numbers, and about 500 for the later dates. Crowley was the editor and principal author of most of the "The Equinox", a compilation of esoteric poetry, fiction, and reviews, alongside a number of articles about occultism. This collection is widely acknowledged as one of the landmarks of occult literature and includes numerous colour and black and white illustrations, tables etc.

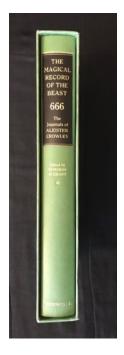


14. CROWLEY, Aleister (SYMONDS, John and Kenneth GRANT, Eds). The Magical Record of the Beast 666 * The Diaries of Aleister Crowley 1914–1920

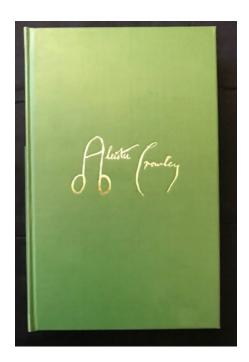
London, Duckworth, 1972.

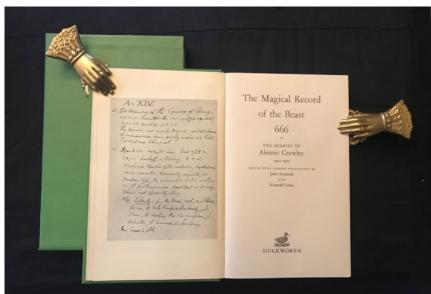
£1,200

FIRST EDITION ("250 numbered copies of this Limited Edition containing as frontispiece three holograph pages from Rex De Arte Regia and signed by the editors have been printed. This copy is number 42"). Title-page, dedication leaf to Karl Johannes Gremer, Contents and pp. 326. Printed on fine paper, marbled pastedowns. Bound in green buckram over thick boards, Crowley's autograph reproduced as gilt-stamped on centre of left cover. Spine with black title label and gilt lettering. A fine copy in green slipcase. a.e.g.





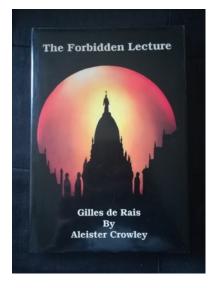




15. CROWLEY, Aleister. The Forbidden Lecture. Gilles De Rais

Thame, Mandrake Press Ltd, 1990

£ 100

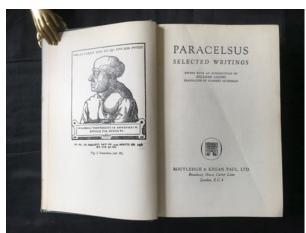


8vo, limited ed. (n. 17/1000), [9], 61 pp., title with half-title, title and table of contents. Introduction by Keith Richmond. Buckram with gilt title on spine. Original dust jacket. A fine copy. It contains the revised text of Crowley's conference about French black magician Gilles De Rais, which never happened due to the ban of the author from Oxford. It also includes a previously unpublished article by Crowley titled 'How I came to be banned at Oxford' and an introduction by Keith Richmond.

16. PARACELSUS; JACOBI, Jolande, (Ed.) Guterman, Normann (tr.). *Paracelsus: Selected Writing*

London, Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1951.

£ 175



8vo. 346 [1] p., with 148 reproductions of woodcut illustrations throughout, some full-page, and frontispiece portrait of Paracelsus. From the library of Gerald Yorke (autograph and address in blue pen on recto of front free endpaper), whose Crowley collection was donated to the Warburg Institute. Yorke's note in blue pen at the end of the book on verso of rear free endpaper. Underlined in red

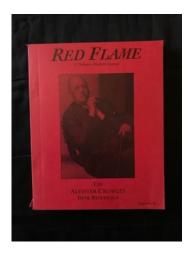
by the author John Symonds. Hinges a little worn, especially at head and foot of spine. Some general light wear to binding. A good copy.

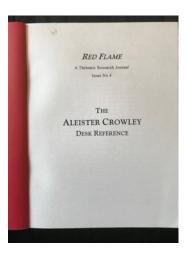
17. RED FLAME. A Thelemic Research Journal: The Aleister Crowley Desk Reference

Berkeley, J. Edward & Marlene Cornelius, (1997).

£200

Large 4to. viii, 215 pp.. Red wrappers. An excellent copy. Issue No. 4. "Limited to 156 copies."





18. SYMONDS, John. The Great Beast. The Life and Magick of Aleister Crowley

London, Macdonald, 1971.

£500

FRIST EDITION. 8vo, pp. 413. Bound in paper over boards with gilt title to spine. Original dust jacket in very good condition. Inscribed by the author on front endpaper: "photos of AC, pre 1914, by Arnold Gerte". Annotated and underlined throughout by Symonds. Verso of rear free endpaper and part of pastedown annotated with reference to p. 153. An excellent copy.



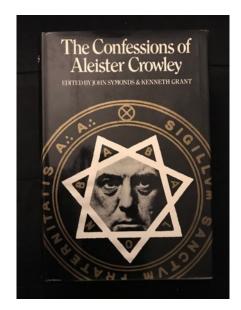


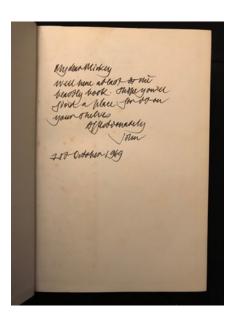
19. CROWLEY, Aleister (SYMONDS, John and Kenneth GRANT, Eds). *The Confessions of Aleister Crowley*

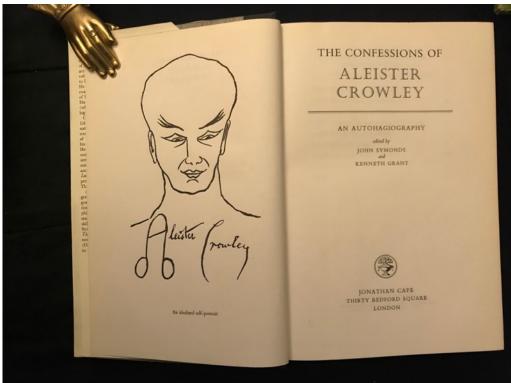
London, Jonathan Cape, 1969.

£750

FIRST EDITION. 8vo, pp. 960, with illustrated frontispiece and 10 b&w plates of photographic reproductions. Presentation copy inscribed by one of the editors, John Symonds, on the front free endpaper with a dedication to his friend scholar and poet Michael Hamburger: "My dear Mickey / Well here at last is my / beastly book. Hope you'll / find a place for it on / your shelves / Affectionately / John / 18th October 1969". Bound in quarter cloth over boards covered in grey marbled paper, gilt title to spine, and original dust jacket. A fine copy.





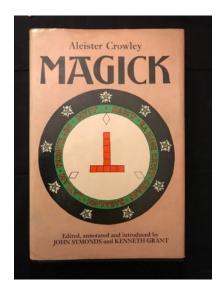


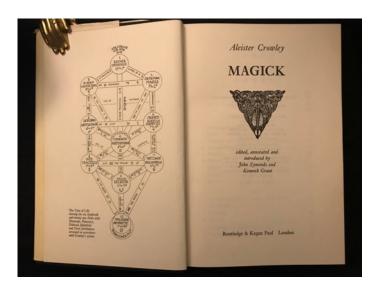
20. CROWLEY, Aleister (SYMONDS, John and Kenneth GRANT, Eds). Magick

London, Routledge & Keegan Paul, 1973.

£400

FIRST EDITION. 8vo, pp. 511. Blue cloth over boards, gilt title on spine, original dust jacket in perfect condition. Annotated and underlined by the editor, t.e. green. A fine copy.





21. SYMONDS, John. La Grande Bestia. Vita e Magia di Aleister Crowley

Roma, Edizioni Mediterranee, 1972.



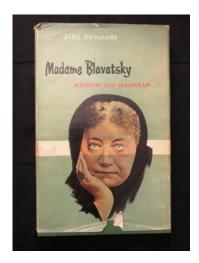
£250

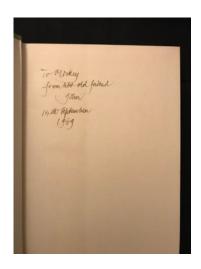
8vo, pp. 483 (5). Paperback. Inscribed by the author on half-title, presentation copy dedicated to a couple of friends: "To Ursula and Patrick / from the author / Spring 1973". Ursula was the granddaughter to D. H. Lawrence. A fine copy.

London, Odhams Press Limited, 1959.

£250

FIRST EDITION. 8vo, pp. 254, frontispiece, several illustrations in text and 4 b&w photographic reproductions. Inscribed on front endpaper by the author and dedicated to his dear friend the scholar and poet Michael Hamburger: "To Mickey / from your old friend / John / 14th September 1959". Green buckram and original dust jacket, slightly damaged along edges. An excellent copy.



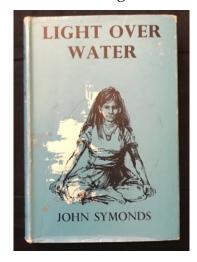


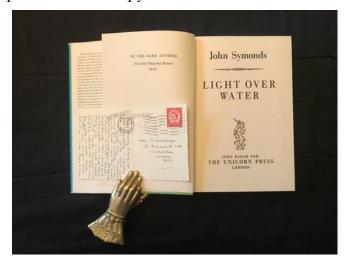
23. SYMONDS, John. Light Over Water

London, John Baker for The Unicorn Press, 1963.

£175

FIRST EDITION. 8vo, pp. 208. Green buckram with silver lettering to spine. Original dust jacket. Loosely insert postcard from the author to his friend the scholar and poet Michael Hamburger, dated 24 April '68. A fine copy.



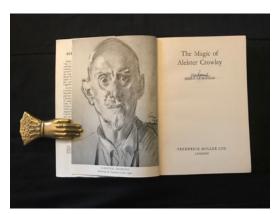


Aylesbury and Slough, Frederick Muller Ltd, 1958.

£250

8vo, pp. 209, frontispiece portrait of the author; plus 4 plates of photographic reproductions. Bound in buckram over stiff cardboards with gilt lettering to spine. Original dust jacket in very good condition. Inscribed by the author in blue pen with dedication: "To Eleanor / with love from / John / 23rd Feb 1958". Eleanor was Symonds' sister. Printed name of author on title-page struck out and autographed. An excellent copy.

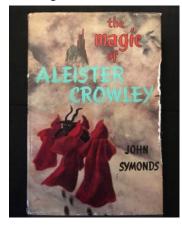




25. SYMONDS, John. The Magic of Aleister Crowley Aylesbury and Slough, Frederick Muller Ltd, 1958.

£425

8vo, pp. 209, frontispiece portrait of the author; plus 4 plates of photographic reproductions. Buckram with gilt lettering to spine. Original dust jacket lightly worn. Inscribed by the author on front endpaper and dedicated to his friend the scholar and poet Michael Hamburger: "For my old friend & companion / Michael Hamburger / with much love / form the author / John Symonds / 11th of March / 1958." Hamburger accompanied Symonds to visit Aleister Crowley in Netherwood in 1947. Thus, this is an important association copy.

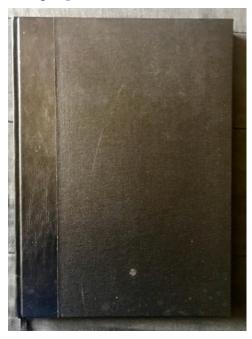


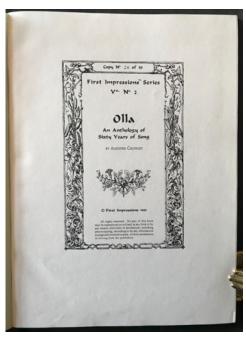


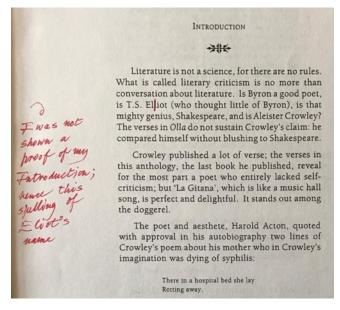
26. CROWLEY, Aleister. *Olla: An Anthology of Sixty Years of Songs.* London, First Impressions Series, 1992

£850

Limited Edition (copy No. 26 of 50). Folio, pp. 128, first title within floral border and vignette, second title reproduced from the first edition. Quarter black morocco, buckram over boards, marbled pastedowns. A reprint of Olla with an introduction by John Symonds and the latter's corrections in red pen to his preface. Olla is a limited edition of Crowley's poems (only 500 copies and 20 on mould-made paper); first published by the O.T.O. in 1946 in London with "a dust-jacket by Frieda Harris and a frontispiece by Augustus John, R.A.". As Symonds states in his foreword, "I played a small part in the production of Olla for I read the proofs, and I urged the Master to expunge one poem which I thought in bad taste: he agreed to remove it. And I played a larger part in the sale of the work...", a.e.g.



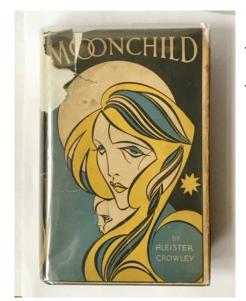




London, The Mandrake Press, 1929.

£ 6,000

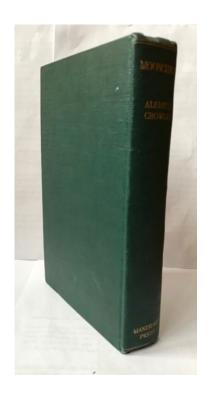
FIRST EDITION. 8vo. Original sea-green cloth, titles to spine gilt. Text clean and crisp, flawless. A perfect copy without dust jacket.



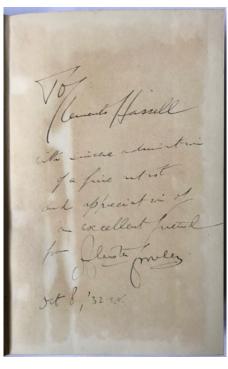
An important presentation copy inscribed by the author on front endpaper: "To Clements Hassell with sincere admiration of a fine artist and appreciation of an excellent friend, from Aleister Crowley, Oct 8, '32 e.v.". This "Clements Hassell" person is likely to be identified with Hilary Clements Hassell (1871-1949), who was a British painter of interiors and landscapes. 'E.v.' stands for 'era vulgaris', which is a Latin expression for 'common era'. This is placed after the date to differentiate it from Crowley's Thelemic calendar, which starts in 1904 (the year the author claimed he had received the 'Book of the Law'). On the rear endpaper, very presumably in Crowley's own handwriting, appear details of a two-day schedule accompanied by planetary symbols. These symbols represent days of the week (Mars, i.e. Tuesday, and Mercury, i.e. Wednesday). Crowley

mentions Foyle's "lunch at Grosvenor House", where it is known he gave a lecture on Magick in 1932.

Bibliography: Marlene Peckwood, The Feng Shui Journey of Mr Aleister Crowley, 2012, P. 205; J. Cowper Powys, Letters to Glyn Hughes, p. 13; Symonds, John. The King of Shadow Realm, pp. 308, 516. Churton, T. Aleister Crowley: The Biography, pp. 357-8.





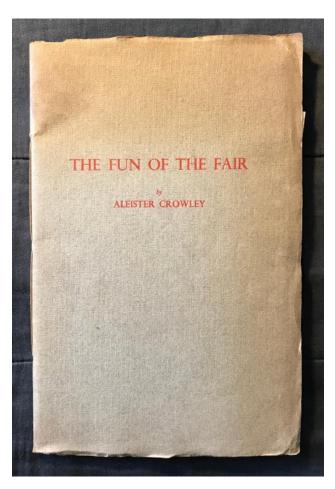


28. CROWLEY, Aleister. The Fun at the Fair (Nijni Novgorod, 1913 e.v.).

Barstow and London, 1942.

£ 500

8vo, pp. 24. FIRST LIMITED EDITION, no. 169 of 200 copies. Original grey wrappers lettered in red. Light marginal toning to covers. Frontispiece portrait of the author by Cambyses Daguerre Churchill. A fine copy, complete with errata slip and the final mimeographed poem 'Landed Gentry'.



The Fun of the Fair is Crowley's vibrant poem describing the Nizhni Novgorod Fair, a famous yearly major trade event held from mid-C16th up to about 1929 in Russia, which attracted merchants from India, Iran and Central Asia. "Crowley ceremoniously published The Fun of the Fair at 11.31 a.m. on 22 December [1942]. One of its first Ivan buyers was Maiskii, Soviet ambassador. The Fun of the Fair's publication nearly thirty years after the composition in 1913 was apparently an attempt to persuade people that the new Russian ally was not going to eat them. Or was it published to persuade others that Crowley was sympathetic towards Russia? The Fun of the Fair had a sting in its tail. Having failed to get Britain's only communist MP, George Gallagher, to read it in the House, Crowley put his scathing attack on the snobbish hypocrites who obstructed victory at the end of the booklet: 'The "Landed" Gentry'." (Churton, p. 399).

Only a few copies were issued with this poem, which, with its virulent anti-establishment aim was rebuffed by a number of printers. Crowley then hit upon the idea of having a mainstream printer – the Chiswick Press – produce the book, while having a jobbing printer produce "The Landed Gentry". He then had the poem tipped-in to the back cover of some copies.

Bibliography: Churton, Tobias. Aleister Crowley The Biography", 2011; Symonds, John. The Great Beast.

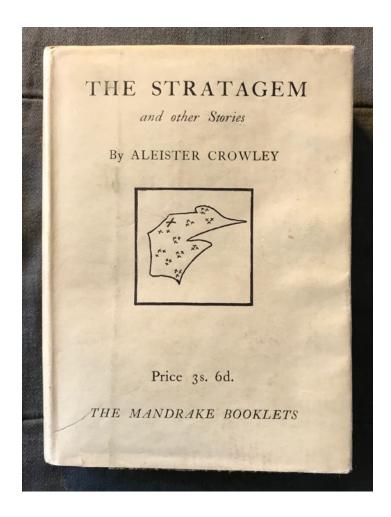
29. CROWLEY, Aleister. The Stratagem and Other Stories.

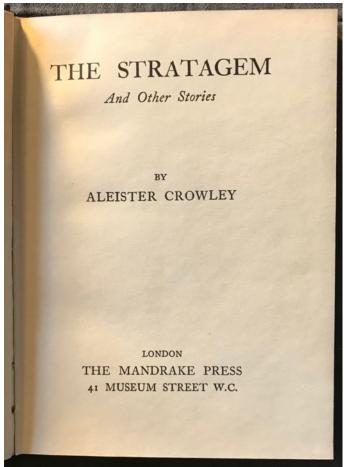
London, The Mandrake Press, [1929].

£ 500

FIRST EDITION. Small 8vo. Original boards decorated with gold and black scales in a snake-skin pattern.

This is Crowley's only collection of short fictions, which includes 'The Testament of Magdalen Blair': "a description of after-death experiences as the brain decays. One of the most horrible stories ever written." Sullivan (ed.), The Penguin Encyclopedia of Horror and the Supernatural, pp. 106-07; "a remarkable achievement, as one of the most unpleasant stories in the genre." Bleiler, The Guide to Supernatural Fiction, p. 457.





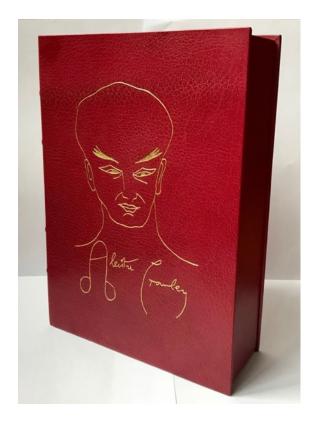
30. SYMONDS, John. The King of Shadow Realm.

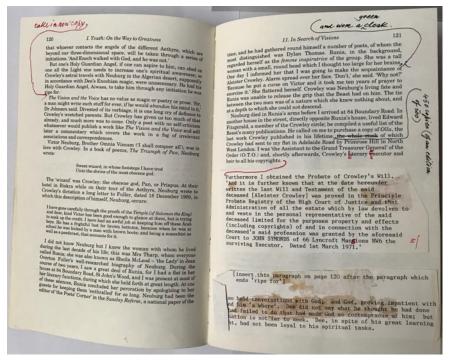
London, Gerald Duckworth & Co. Ltd, 1989.

£ 12,000

8vo, pp. x [ii] 558. Paperback, worn. Copy with author's revisions of "The King of the Shadow Realm", to be retitled "The Beast 666" (1996). Symonds' pen notes, corrections and typed paste-ins found extensively throughout. A magnificent Solander box, sumptuously bound in full red morocco with a stylised portrait of Crowley and his signature gilt on front cover. Spine in 5 compartments with raised bands, stamped title and the unicursal hexagram, one of the important symbols in Thelema, probably derived from Blaise Pascal's Hexagrammum Mystichum.

John Symonds' own corrected copy for the fourth edition of his biography of Aleister Crowley, to be entitled "The Beast 666". The first and second editions (1951 and 1971) had been called "The Great Beast", while the third (1989) was titled "The King of the Shadow Realm". The work was described by Colin Wilson as "a kind of appalling classic", as it illustrated Crowley's absolute depravity.

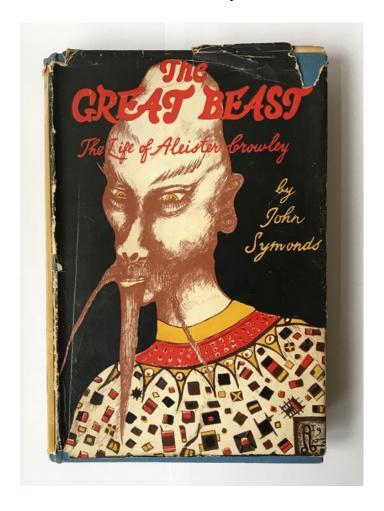




London: Rider and Company, 1951

£1,500

FIRST EDITION. 8vo, pp. 316, ill. AUTHOR S PRESENTATION COPY inscribed on verso of front flyleaf: For Michael Hamburger, / the fruit of our many discussions, from / John. Oct 26, 51. Bound in blue cloth, gilt title to spine. Original dust jacket overall in good condition: edges, hinges lightly rubbed and worn, just a few little marginal tears. This is the first of four biographical books by John Symonds (1914-2006) on the notorious English occultist Aleister Crowley: the man who inspired the Beatles, the beat generation and fostered Western magic and Eastern esotericism. It was Symonds who introduced readers to The Great Beast. The writer met Crowley shortly before he died and was named his literary executor. He was fascinated, yet quite critical of his subject, leading Crowley's personal secretary Israel Regardie to label him that most hostile biographer. The present work has an inscribed dedication to Michael Hamburger OBE (1924-2007), a noted translator, poet, critic, memoirist and academic of German literature. Inscribed by the author.

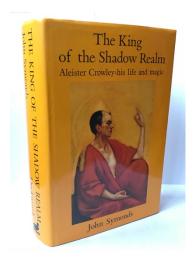


32. SYMONDS, John. The King of the Shadow Realm.

London, Gerald Duckworth & Co. Ltd, 1989.

£300

8vo; (xii) pp. 588. Small dogears on top and bottom corners of right margin. Hard cover. Fine condition.



This copy of The King of the Shadow Realm bears the following dedication to Hamburger: Michael / in memory of our visit to the Beast 666 / John / September 1989.

33. SYMONDS, John. Conversations with Gerald

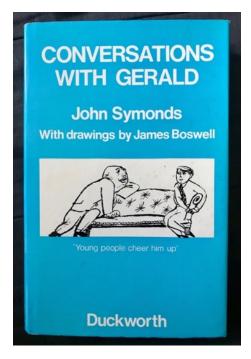
London, Gerald Duckworth & Co., 1974.

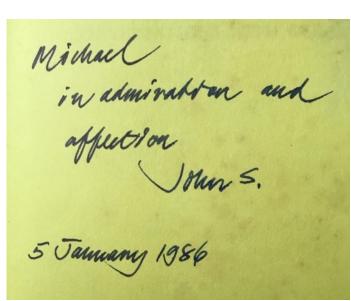
£300

FIRST EDITION. 8vo, pp. 211; ill. (10 full-page illustrations, 4 small vignettes). Original illustrated dust jacket. Inscribed by the author and dedicated to the scholar Michael Hamburger on the front fly: "Michael / in admiration and affection / John S. / 5 January 1986".

Biography of Gerald Hamilton, once described as "the wickedest man in Europe". Hamilton shared accommodation in Berlin with Aleister Crowley ("the wickedest man in the world") in 1931. Hamilton is well known for his exploits as an undercover agent for several communist organisations, and Christopher Isherwood based the character of Arthur Norris in Mr Norris Changes Trains (1935), on Hamilton's life. Hamilton's memoir Mr Norris and I was published in 1956. During Symonds' interview, Hamilton spoke about his relationship with Crowley and other lesser-known anecdotes.

Conversations with Gerald is illustrated with a set of 13 captivating drawings: 1. Gerald as Mr Norris (p. ii, frontispiece); 2. Gerald and Crowley with the Scarlet Woman (p. vii); 3. A visit to the Master (p. 17); 4. Gerald as a Wine and Food man (p. 21); 5. Gerald and his decorations (p. 25); 6. Gerald with cona (p. 39, small vignette); 7. Gerald Pasha (p. 51); 8. Gerald with Georg Skrzydlewski (p. 65); 9. "Young people cheer him up" (p. 117, small vignette); 10. At Genoa station (p. 127); 11. Le Chambertin de Gerald Hamilton. Brixton (p. 145, small vignette); 12. Gerald chez Dahlberg (p. 155); 13. Gerald as cook (p. 175).

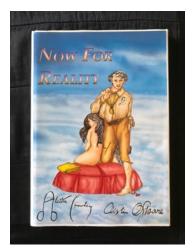




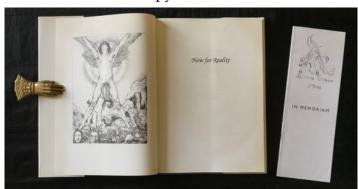
34. CROWLEY, Aleister and SPARE, Austin O. Now for Reality. The Focus of Life: The Mutterings of Aãos: written and illustrated by Austin Osman Spare. Poems by Aleister Crowley.

Mandrake Press Ltd., 1990.

£ 200



Folio. Limited edition of 1000 copies (No. 17). 78 p., with frontispiece, half-title, illustrated title-page, and 12 other illustrations. Black buckram over boards, gilt title to spine and original illustrated dust jacket. With a booklet in memory of Spare, published by the Atlantis Bookshop for an exhibition held there in 2006, on the 50th anniversary of the artist's death. A fine copy.

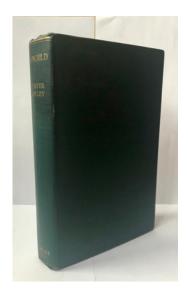


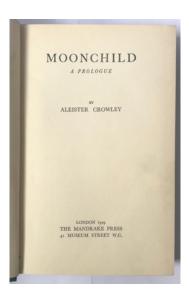
35. CROWLEY, Aleister. Moonchild. A Prologue

London, The Mandrake Press, 1929.

£ 500

FIRST EDITION. 8vo. Original sea-green cloth, titles to spine gilt. Text clean and crisp, flawless. A perfect copy without dust jacket.





36. The Fernando Pessoa Auction. Handwritten and Typewritten Manuscripts, Books, Art and Literary Magazines, Photographs and other Personal Items from His Estate.

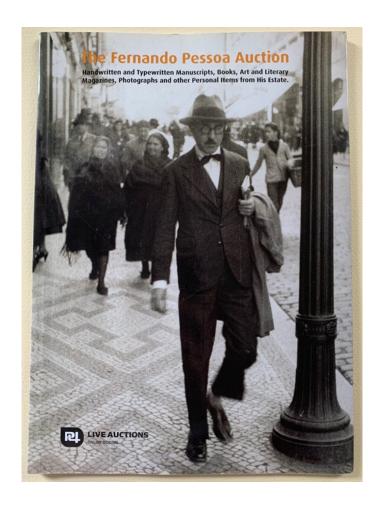
Lisbon: P4 Live Auctions: 2008

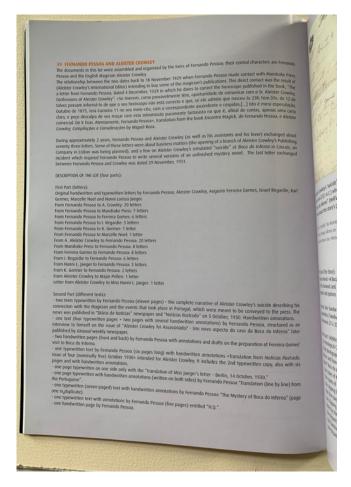
£ 150

4to; pp. 42. Auction catalogue, 70 lots. Copiously illustrated in colour; black and white lettering. Softcover. Excellent condition.

Amongst the lots at auction are documents, including letters, annotated texts and autographs, which testify to the friendly relationship between Aleister Crowley and Fernando Pessoa (lot 39). The friendship between Crowley and Pessoa started in 1929, after Pessoa first contacted Mandrake Press (Crowley's international editor) as he intended to buy some of Crowley's publications. In the next two years Pessoa and Crowley exchanged more than seventy letters

about business matters and about Crowley's simulated "suicide" at Boca do Inferno in Cascais which inspired Pessoa to write an unfinished mystery novel which survives in several versions.





37. BETA, Hymenaeus (ed.); with STARR, Martin P.; NIE, Karl. *An Old Master: the Art of Aleister Crowley*

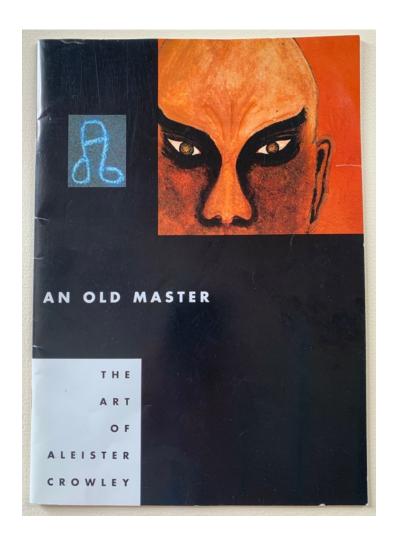
London: The October Gallery in association with the O.T.O.I., 1998.

£ 175

First Edition. 4to; pp. 31. Catalogue for the exhibition held at the October Gallery (London), April 7-18 1998. Two essays; abundantly illustrated in colour and black and white throughout; lettered black and white. Small tear on right margin of cover and title page. Soft cover, paperback staple bound. A fine copy.

The exhibition held at the October Gallery in London in April 1998 featured over forty of Aleister Crowley's works and two by Frieda Harris.

Lot n. 14 in this catalogue (Royal Leamington SPA 1875-1947 Hastings) was sold at a Christie's auction in 2016. The painting was owned by Cecil Williamson, a Neopagan Witch and founder of the Witchcraft Research Centre and the Museum of Witchcraft in Boscastle (Cornwall). As Williamson was a friend of Crowley's it is probable that he acquired the lot directly from the artist.

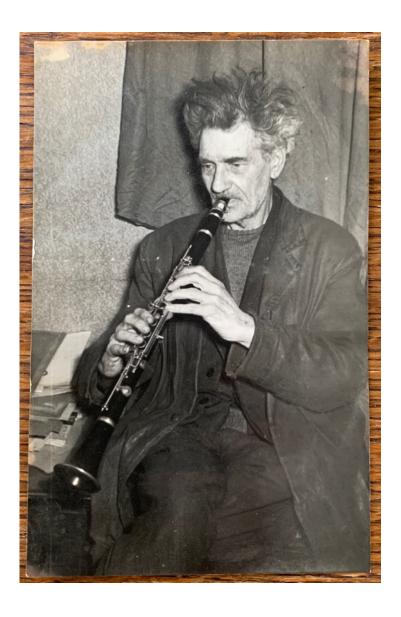




£ 350

13.5 x 8.5 cm. Photographic portrait of Austin Osman Spare playing the clarinet. Photographer unknown. Excellent condition.

This photograph was used a frontispiece to From the Inferno to Zos vol.I (Seattle, First Impressions, 1993).



DRAWINGS

39. CROWLEY, Aleister. *View of the Tyrrhenian Sea from Thelema Abbey*. Cefalù, 20th March to 21st April 1921.

£ 22,500

Charcoal drawing, ca. 51×34 cm. View of the Tyrrhenian Sea, probably from the hill behind the abbey of Thelema, Cefalù, Sicily, 1921. Signed with Crowley's phallic initial A, the number 17 and the astrological symbol of Aries. According to the Thelemic calendar, the year 1921 was the 17th year of the Aeon of Thelema. Therefore, these symbols allow dating this work between March 20th and April 21st.



40. SPARE, Austin O., *Drawing of a Faunus*. London, late 1920s

£ 10,000

SIGNED WATERCOLOUR ON PAPER. A figure of a faun with a background in an intense blue tempera paint on recto; a profile of a man on verso. Signature 'AOS' on lower margin.

This drawing relates to Spare's 'grotesque' mode, which was used in his 'Book of Ugly Ecstasy' and 'A Book of Automatic Drawings' (1925). Crowley was an admirer of Spare's art and commissioned him to execute a number of illustrations for his own publications. Remnants of some minor water staining on lower part of watercolour. Fine.

Bibliography: Baker, P. 'Austin Osman Spare: the Life and Legend of London Lost Artist' (2012).



£7,500



Ink drawings, most on hand-made paper, in a large and elegant green Solander box lettered in gilt on front cover. A collection of 7 out of the 13 original drawings (nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 13), plus a few preparatory sketches and one unpublished drawing. 6 large drawings (ca. 17×11 inch.); 4 medium-sized drawings (ca. $15 \times 1/2 \times 11 \times 1/2$ inch.); 1 medium-sized drawing on standard paper (ca. $9 \times 14 \times 1/2$ inch.); 1 small drawing (ca. 7×11 inch.); 1 small drawing on standard paper (ca 8×8 inch.); two photographic reproductions.

Artist James Boswell (1906-71) made these drawings shortly before his death. Boswell "became a leader of a school

of social satirists, whose influence is still felt today. He was a founder member of the Artists International Association, and of the artists who gave Left Review its cutting edge. Throughout his creative life he exercised a gift for satiric comment, comic invention, and the recording of the passing moment. Some of his vivid drawings of army life are in the Imperial War Museum and the British Museum." (Conversation with Gerald, pp. 210-11). Moreover, he was art editor of Lilliput.



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