MUSINSKY RARE BOOKS

Boston International Antiquarian Book Fair

November 6-8, 2026

Booth 308: selected short list

No. 27

1) ALDINE IMITATION —GAGNY, Jean de. *Psalmi Davidici septuaginta quinque*. Paris: Nicolas Le Riche, 1547.

8vo. Italic types copying the Aldine italic. Contemporary calf gilt.

Only edition. This translation of selected Psalms from the Hebrew into Latin verse, by the philologist, theologian, and bibliophile Jean de Gagny, was PRINTED ON HIS OWN PRESS, BY HIS NEPHEW, IN "ALDINE-STYLE" TYPES COMMISSIONED BY HIM. $5,500

2) BALZAC, Honoré de — [BRISMONTIER, G. L.] *Petit Dictionnaire Critique et Anecdotique des Enseignes de Paris*. Paris: (Imprimerie de H. Balzac for) les Marchands de Nouveautés, 1826.

16mo. Original printed wrappers.

FIRST EDITION OF A WITTY ANNOTATED LIST OF PARISIAN COMMERCIAL SIGNS AND SIGNBOARDS, PRINTED ON BALZAC'S SHORT-LIVED BUT PRODUCTIVE PRESS. $1,750

3) BOULANGER, publisher. *Almanach galant moral et critique en Vaudevilles*. Paris: Boulanger, [1789].

24mo. 12 etched plates, first state before added engraving. Contemporary morocco.

Almanac with genre scenes of idealized Parisian life after François Marie Isidore Queverdo, the sought-after illustrator of *almanachs galants*, by the (unrecognized) engraver Jean Dambrun. THIS COPY HAS AN UNRECORDED EARLY STATE OF THE PLATES IN PURE ETCHING, rarely found in almanacs. $1,250

4) BRIFFAULT, Eugène Victor. *Paris dans l'eau ... Illustré par Bertall*. Paris: Hetzel, 1844.

First Edition of a "*physiognomie*" of Parisian aquatic life. This humorous account of *le tout Paris* bathing, boating, fishing and swimming is illustrated with 124 wood-engraved vignettes after the caricaturist and illustrator Bertall. Surprisingly scarce in US libraries; I locate only the Morgan copy. $650

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5) BURIED ALIVE — [ECK, von?]. *Wirkliche und wahre mit Urkunden erläuterte Geschichten und Begebenheiten von lebendig begrabenen Personen* .... Frankfurt & Leipzig, 1798.

8vo, boards.

ONLY EDITION OF A COLLECTION OF 25 CHILLING ACCOUNTS OF PEOPLE MISTAKENLY JUDGED DEAD AND BURIED WHILE STILL ALIVE. $1,250

6) CASSIANUS, Johannes. *De institutis coenobiorum. - Collationes patrum XXIV*. Basel: [Johann Amerbach, after 24 September], 1485.

[Bound with:] **THOMAS À KEMPIS**. *Opera*. Nuremberg: Caspar Hochfeder [for Peter Dannhauser], 29 November 1494.

2 volumes in one, folio. 17th-century blind-stamped pigskin with device of the Salzburg Benedictines.

TWO FOUNDATIONAL WORKS OF WESTERN CHRISTIANITY, bound together by the Benedictine monks of Salzburg: FIRST EDITION of the fifth-century hermit Cassian's treatise on the rules of and psychological obstacles to monastic life, with the second edition of his *Collationes* or conversations with other Desert Fathers on asceticism; bound with the FIRST EDITION OF THE WORKS OF THOMAS À KEMPIS TO INCLUDE THE *IMITATIO CHRISTI*, the work that personalized religious devotion on the eve of the modern era, sowing the seeds for both the Protestant Reformation and the Counter-Reformation. $12,500

7) CESARI, Domenico. *Epistolarum selectarum Centuriae II*. Bologna: Bonomi for Tamburini, 1621.

8vo. Engraved title. Contemporary parchment.

First Edition of a collection of 200 NEO-LATIN LETTERS by a professor of literature (*umane lettere*) at the University of Bologna, addressed to (male) members of the local intelligentsia, most from Bologna or nearby. $700

8) CLASSICAL ONOMASTICON — *Vocabularius variorum terminorum: ex poetis et historiographis congestus.* Strassburg: Johann Prüss, "MCCCCII" (i.e., 1502).

4to. Two large woodcuts. Parchment.

FIRST EDITION, FIRST ISSUE, of an index for students of places and people in classical history, literature and mythology. Boiled down to basics, the one- or two-line definitions provided the busy student all he needed to know, with no sources or cumbersome notes. The woodcuts are from Prüss's stock. The cut of the Virgin and Child enthroned, representing Strassburg, has been tentatively ascribed to the young Hans Wechtlin.

$5,500

9) COURT LIFE — *Catéchisme des courtisans ou les Questions de la cour et autres galanteries*. "Cologne," 1680.

12mo. Morocco by Duru.

Expanded edition of a *Mazarinade*, probably printed in Holland, containing dialogues defining the seat of power as a pit of corruption: "What is Money? - That which one loses when young and hunts for when old, and the prime mover of the world"; What is the sign of Mazarin? - The sign of the Cross, printed on gold and silver. How is it made? - By taking with both hands in the name of the King," etc. $2,200

10) DEATH — ALLEGORICAL ENGRAVING. Death as the grim reaper, turning its back. [Italy, 17th century].

Engraving with etching, only recorded state.

Anonymous allegory of death, showing a blindfolded, skinny and muscular reaper scything in a field. Twisted in the action of harvesting, he turns his back to the viewer, who hopes to escape his notice. Italian verses below the image reinforce the theme of Death's blind relentlessness. $4,200

11) DESIGN — FASHION — WOMEN'S CRAFTS. A woman's gold-embroidered headdress. [Southern Germany, Eastern Switzerland, or Austria, 19th century].

A gilt metallic half-wheel shaped headdress, with black ribbons (torn).

A glittering example of a traditional women's craft, this gold-lace headdress would have been part of a traditional costume in the southern German-speaking lands. Generically called *Radhaube* or wheel hoods in German, each area had its own style and its own name for these delightful hat-like objects. $1,000

12) FAN — SEX & DEATH. *Ronde joyeuse des fagotiers*. [France], 1786.

Hand-colored etched folding paper fan, showing couples and a fire-lighting ceremony, with etched verses.

A slightly licentious pre-Revolutionary printed fan, possibly commemorating a real event, with verses celebrating the pleasures of love, while toasting Charon, whose "boat may lead to the devil." Carpe diem is the message: heavy sentiments for a feather-light fan. $2,500

13) FEAR AND TREMBLING — *Tromba sonora per chiamar i morti viventi dalla Tomba della colpa alla vita della Grazia*. Turin: Giuliano, [ca. 1772].

12mo. 26 half-page woodcuts.

Rare edition of a popular devotional work intended to terrify readers away from sin, illustrated with nightmarish, expressionistic woodcuts. $3,850

14) FESTUS. *Libro di Sexto Ruffo huomo consulare, a Valentiniano Augusto, della historia de Romani*. Venice: Agostino [Bindoni] Milanese, 1544.

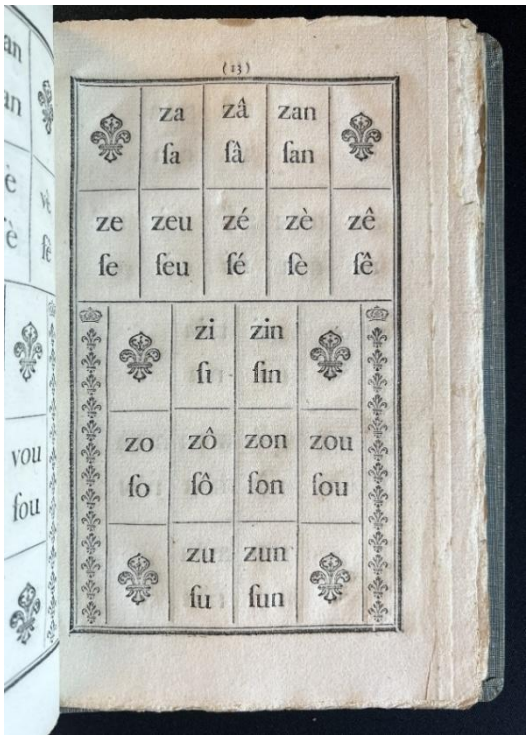
Small 8vo, woodcut title border.

First Edition in Italian of the *Breviarium rerum gestarum populi romani*, a brief and flawed epitome of Roman history written for the emperor Valens (who may have been illiterate), by Festus (Sextus Rufus), usually identified as the senator from Tridentum "who won notoriety for his execution of the Neoplatonist Maximus and persecution of intellectuals generally" (*Oxford Classical Dictionary*). This is the only edition of this translation. $1,750

15) FIRE SCREENS. A pair of embroidered silk fire screens. [France?, ca. 1800-1830].

Two oblong octagonal screens of silk over scaleboards, with matching embroidered design of a large flowerpot within a decorative border, in metallic thread sequins, and couched gilt leaves.

A handsome pair of embroidered hand-held fire screens, in fine condition. $3,000



16) FRESNEAU, Pierre. *ABC, ou Jeu des lettres des enfans des deux sexes de la République françoise. Présenté à la Convention Nationale & aux autorités constituées*. Paris: for the author and widow Hérissant, l'an II [1793-94].

8vo, modern cloth.

ONLY KNOWN COPY? of a reading manual for children, A UNIQUE REVOLUTIONARY REISSUE, intended for "young people of the less fortuned classes," of a text that the author originally formulated for the most upper of upper classes, aristocratic young ladies of Paris and Versailles. The original title, from 1788, is preserved. THE TEXT IS FILLED WITH VARIOUSLY SIZED TYPOGRAPHIC FLEURS-DE-LIS, symbol of the monarchy. Year 2 spanned the Terror; it is not clear whether the author survived it. $3,800

17) GAZET, Nicolas. *Le Grand palais de la Miséricorde*. Douai: Baltazar Bellere, 1606**.**

8vo, two parts, ten full-page engravings by Jean Valdor. Contemporary alum-tawed sheepskin.

FIRST EDITION of a Counter-Reformation devotional on the works of charity, ironically dedicated to an arms dealer (the Liège industrialist Jean Curtius, principal armorer of the Spanish army), and illustrated by the Liège engraver Jean Valdor the elder (ca. 1580-1632), a student of Jérôme Wierix. The only other North American copy, at McMaster University, contains the first part only. $3,600

18) GOLD-EMBROIDERED AND PAINTED BINDING. *Étrennes plaisantes, ou Almanach nouveau contenant les plus jolies Chansons sur différens sujets comiques et sérieux*. "Au Parnasse," et se trouve à Paris: Cuissard, [1762].

24mo. Contemporary gold-embroidered case binding with two original watercolor drawings.

A superb example, beautifully preserved, of one of the earliest and most sought-after types of French luxury almanac bindings, on an unrecorded almanac. $12,500

19) [HOCQUART, Édouard Auguste-Patrice]. *Le Maître de Miniature, de Gouache et d'Aquarelle, ouvrage dédié à la jeunesse*. Paris: Lecerf, engraver, and P. Blanchard, [between 1819 and 1828].

Oblong 16mo. 14 plates. Original illustrated boards.

FIRST EDITION of a pocket guide to drawing and painting for children, illustrated with etchings, aquatints, and mezzotints, with two plates of color guides. $2,600

20) HOW-TO FOR PRIESTS — *Cura clericalis. Lege Relege*. [Lyon: Claude Nourry, called le Prince, ca. 1524].

Small 8vo. Title woodcut, gothic types. 19th-century morocco.

Rare Lyonese edition of a popular pocket guidebook for priests. Dozens of editions are recorded, most surviving in one or two copies. Much of the printer Claude Nourry's output was unsigned, unlocalized, and undated, as here. $3,800

21) IMPRIMERIE DES FEMMES — PHILIPPEAUX, Pierre. *Réponse de Philippeaux A tous les Défenseurs officieux des Bourreaux de nos Frères dans la Vendée*. Paris: de l'Imprimerie des Femmes, L'An III.

8vo. Stab-stitched as issued, uncut, deckle edges.

ONLY EDITION OF THE POSTHUMOUS DEFENSE OF A GUILLOTINED REVOLUTIONARY, published by his widow. IT WAS PRINTED AT THE IMPRIMERIE DES FEMMES, A REVOLUTIONARY-ERA PRESS WHOSE WORKERS WERE ALL WOMEN. I know of no comparable printing press from the hand-press period. $3,750

22) JOULLAIN, Jean. A manuscript prayer book illustrated with Flemish hand-colored prints. [Saumur, France, ca. 1680].

Illuminated manuscript on vellum. 61 leaves, complete. Illustrated with 11 mounted prints, most on vellum and hand-colored. Contemporary goatskin.

A small-format vernacular manuscript of personal devotion by a merchant from Saumur, containing ORIGINAL EVIDENCE OF THE USES OF PRINTS AND OF THE GEOGRAPHICAL REACH OF SOUTH-NETHERLANDISH POPULAR RELIGIOUS IMAGERY. A vade mecum, assembling various prayers, poems & litanies, the text is illustrated with engraved "holy cards" (*sanctjes*) from Antwerp. $9,500

23) LEU, Thomas de, publisher. *Miracula et Beneficia SS. Rosario Virginis Matris a Deo Opt. Max Collata*. Paris: Thomas de Leu, 1611.

15 engraved leaves, all with ornamental borders and engraved text.

First French Edition of this suite of Rosary engravings, copied from the suite by Theodoor Galle, published by Plantin the previous year. Now far scarcer than their Flemish originals, such early 17th-century Parisian copies are significant witnesses to a surge in French copperplate production, which undercut their Flemish rivals in the lucrative international and particularly Spanish market for popular religious imagery. $4,000

24) LIBRARY, ITALY — [APROSIO, Angelico]. *La Biblioteca Aprosiana*. Bologna: li Manolessi, 1673.

12mo. Engraved frontispiece of the library. 18th-century calf.

First Edition of the first catalogue of the first public library of Liguria, comprising the letters A-C (no more published). Biblioteca Aprosiana was named after its founder, an erudite and temperamental Augustinian monk whose (adopted) name is disguised in the title in an anagram. Although its organizational principles are eccentric, the detailed entries make this catalogue one of the earliest and most thorough bibliographies of Italian literature. $1,950

25) LITURGY, BOHEMIA — *Directorium cathedrali ecclesiae Litomericensi*. Prague: Hraba, 1777

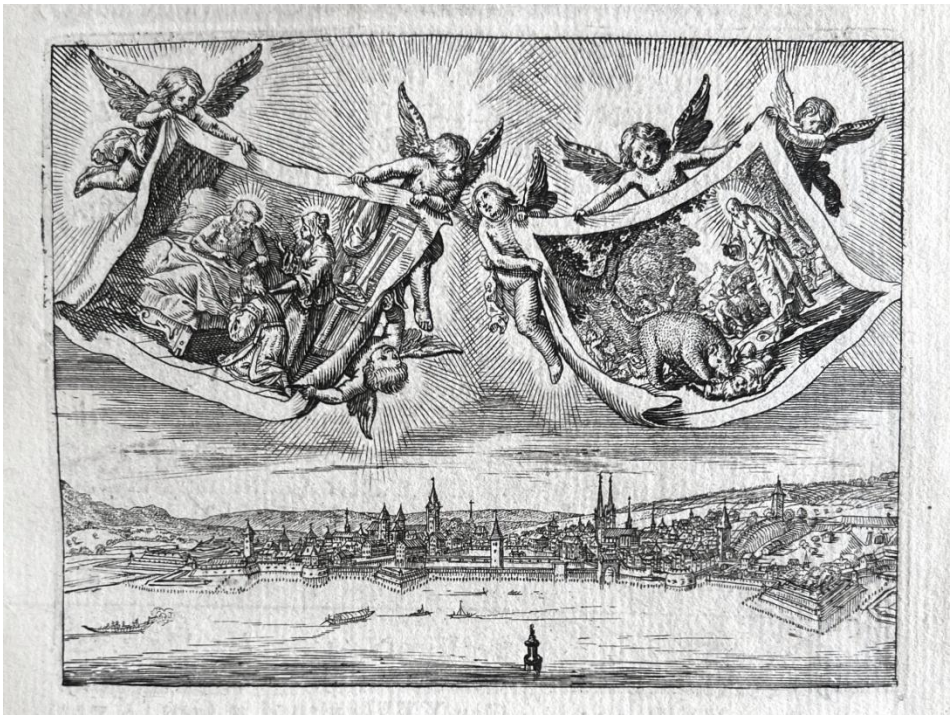
4to. Contemporary morocco gilt with the Bishop's arms. Interleaved. Lavish pastepaper endleaves, made by the Herrnhuter nuns.

Liturgical guide for the Litoměřice cathedral, owned by Bishop Emmanuel Ernst von Waldstein, IMPORTANT PATRON OF CZECH SCIENCE AND BOOK COLLECTOR. $3,900

26) MALFILÂTRE. *Narcisse dans l'Isle de Venus*. With: **IMBERT**. *Le Jugement de Pâris*. Paris: Chaignieau aîné, 1797.

18mo. 10 engraved plates after Eisen & Moreau. Contemporary green morocco gilt.

A lovely copy of an 18th-century classic, bound by Jean-Frédéric Doll. Active from ca. 1796/98 to after 1830, he was reputed to be Napoleon's favorite binder. This binding probably dates to his early career, when he was still strongly influenced by Bozérian jeune, with whom he apprenticed. $2,800



27) MEYER, Conrad, illustrator — **JACOB CATS**. *Kinder-Lustspiele*, 1657.
Bound with: [**GEORG MÜLLER**]. *Christen-Spiegel*, 1657.
Bound with: *Fünff und zwenzig bedenkliche Figuren mit erbaulichen Erinnerungen*, 1674.
All Zurich: Conrad Meyer. 3 volumes in one, 4to.

A SUPERB SAMMELBAND, CONTAINING A TOTAL OF SEVENTY ETCHINGS BY THE ZURICH ARTIST CONRAD MEYER, ONE OF THE GREATEST EARLY MODERN BOOK ILLUSTRATORS.

Meyer's illustrations of the celebrated *Kinder-Lustspiele* are the EARLIEST REALISTIC DEPICTIONS OF CHILDREN'S GAMES, while each scene is freighted with allegorical meaning. The second work, the "Mirror of a Christian," describes the duties of the pastor and his flock, the powerful and their subjects, merchants, artisans, married couples, parents, teachers, children, unmarried and widowed people, servants, etc. Meyer's unconventional illustrations contain an "astonishingly heterogenous juxtaposition of profane and sacred imagery" (M. Oberli). His quintessentially Swiss etched title visually compares these various stations of man to tiny wheels within a great clock. The circular emblems of the *25 Figuren* display his characteristic depth of vision, most showing multiple scenes and including distant landscapes. $22,000

28) MICHEL, Guillaume, called de Tours. *La Forest de conscience contenant la chasse des princes spirituelle*. Paris: Michel Le Noir [for the author], 30 September 1516.

8vo. 24 nearly full-page woodcuts. Jansenist morocco.

FIRST EDITION OF A VAST ALLEGORY IN VERSE AND PROSE, IN WHICH THE HUNT SERVES AS A METAPHOR FOR THE DRIVING AWAY OF SINS, EMBODIED AS ANIMALS. Lettered banderoles identify the figures in the woodcuts, original to the edition and linked to the text. Michel published the book at his own expense. He was one of the first French authors to receive a privilege protecting his work from pirate editions. $15,000

29) MODENA FESTIVAL PROGRAM. *Decorazioni a trasparenti nella Facciata del R. Palazzo di Finanza per festeggiare l'arrivo della Eccelsa Coppia Imperiale*. Modena, 1857.

Small oblong folio. Lithograph text, "candy-box" cartonnage.

A festival program describing the emblematic scrim decoration of the royal palace of finances in Modena for the passage of Austro-Hungarian Emperor Franz-Josef I and his wife Empress Elizabeth. $950

30) PAPERCUT — Devotional papercut with embroidery. [France or Belgium, 19th century].

Created by a woman or young girl, possibly in a convent, this large papercut incorporates five embroidered corner- and centerpieces, all with manuscript ink lettering. They depict the gifts and fruits of the Holy Ghost.

Papercuts or *Spitzenbilder* including embroidered sections appear to be unusual. I locate only one other example, which interestingly also represents the seven gifts of the Holy Ghost. $2,500

31) PARIS — *Paris et ses modes ou les Soirées parisiennes, par L****. Paris: Michelet & Ponthieu, An XI — 1803.

12mo. Hand-colored folding frontispiece.

Only Edition of a collection of vignettes conveying the flavor of bourgeois life at the end of the first French Republic, with much on women, in-groups, books, booksellers, printers, and changing vocabulary. $2,100

32) PATTERN BOOK FOR STUDENTS — HAGENAUER, Johann Baptist, artist. Album of designs of decorative objects, lamps, clocks, architectural elements, cartes-de-visite, and ornaments. [*Nouveaux Desseins de Differens Ornemens de Meubles Inventés et composés par Jean Baptiste Hagenauer*]. [Vienna, 1783].

Thick 4to. FOUR HUNDRED AND THIRTY-TWO ETCHED AND/OR ENGRAVED PLATES OF DECORATIVE OBJECTS, by various engravers after Hagenauer.

EXTREMELY RARE SUITE OF MOST OF THE EXTANT DESIGNS FOR ORNAMENTAL DECORATIVE OBJECTS BY THE AUSTRIAN SCULPTOR JOHANN BAPTIST HAGENAUER (1732-1810). The collection was produced for the benefit of his students at the Viennese Academy of engraving and related applied arts, who may have used these models to oblivion. Apparently the only complete copy of the suite recorded (containing 474 plates) is held by the Victoria and Albert Museum. Our copy appears to be a close second; it contains 36 of the 42 *cahiers* published, each with 12 plates. In the US, we locate only 18 plates at Winterthur and 12 plates at the Getty Research Institute. $14,000

33) [PLATO]; CICERO. *De universitate sive de origine mundi libellus*. Cologne: Quentel heirs, 1520.

4to. Later pasteboards painted in imitation of a Renaissance binding.

FIRST SEPARATE EDITION of Cicero's translation of part of the *Timaeus*, possibly the sole survivor of this edition, which does not appear in the standard bibliographies or online catalogues. The pasteboards of the curious binding were carefully painted by an unknown 18th- or 19th-centuy amateur in imitation of a luxurious Renaissance gold-tooled and paneled binding. $13,000

34) POMPADOUR, Jeanne Antoinette Poisson, Marquise de — *Portrait de Madame la Marquise de Pompadour fait par elle-même*. Paris, 1756.

12mo. Extra-illustrated. 19th-century morocco.

First and apparently only edition of a mildly satirical erotic poem, purportedly a self-description by Madame de Pompadour, mistress, friend, and influential advisor of Louis XV. An enlightened patron of literature and the arts, Mme. de Pompadour would have scoffed at this silly though flattering composition. The Parisian bibliophile Jules Noilly had this copy bound by Marius-Michel with three states of a small oval stipple-engraved portrait of its subject. $2,100

35) RELIQUARY, PORTABLE. An ornate cut-parchment and textile devotional image and reliquary. [Italy (Pavia or Rome?), 18th century].

An UNUSUALLY LARGE AND COMPLEX DEVOTIONAL IMAGE: a dazzling painted parchment cut covering a portable reliquary with a central dressed painting of Saint Cecilia, and colored textiles with symbolic appliqués. $4,900

36) ROSA, Salvator. *Serie di LXXXV disegni*. Rome: Casaletti, 1780.

Large folio. 89 etchings by Carlo Antonini after Rosa, printed in red. Original boards.

ONLY EDITION, LUXURY ISSUE WITH THE ETCHINGS PRINTED IN SANGUINE, of a magnificent suite of etchings after the Neapolitan Baroque artist Salvator Rosa, intended as a drawing manual for the use of amateurs of design and students of art. Antonini's skills as a reproductive engraver maintained the impact of Rosa's etchings, from the small *figurine* of soldiers in their everyday life to the vast, dreamlike etchings of historical or mythological scenes. $11,500

37) ROYAL MINIATURE CALENDAR. Engraved calendar for 1775, bound for the Comtesse de Provence. Paris: Boulanger, [1774].

Oblong format, printed on a single sheet that was cut into strips, creating 12 page-openings, each month with an etched genre scene.

Contemporary gold-tooled morocco with arms of MARIE THÉRÈSE DE SAVOIE AS COUNTESS OF ARTOIS.

A FINE ASSOCIATION COPY OF A MINIATURE "STRIP" CALENDAR, PROBABLY PRINTED FOR AND DEFINITELY BOUND FOR MARIE-ANTOINETTE'S SISTER-IN-LAW. The verse text honors the charms of a princess who is "well worthy to be Queen," and who is named at the end as Thérèse. (At this time Marie-Antoinette was still childless, making Louis XVI's brothers the next heirs to the throne.) The calendar was thus appropriate for Marie-Thérèse and may have been printed for her. One nude scene was partially erased and bears traces of green and ink wash coloring, perhaps by Marie-Thérèse herself, who was said to have been a religious "bigote." This seems to be the only known copy of this edition. $4,800

38) SALOMO III, Bishop of Constance and Abbot of St. Gall. *Glossae*. [Augsburg: Monastery of Saints Ulrich and Afra, ca. 1474].

Royal folio. 44 large woodcut white-vine capitals, Contemporary blind-stamped calf (old restorations).

ONLY EDITION OF A MASSIVE THESAURUS OF ALL DOMAINS OF MEDIEVAL KNOWLEDGE, PRINTED AT THE AUGSBURG MONASTERY OF SAINTS ULRICH AND AFRA, FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF THE MONKS. The approximately 35,000 lemmata derive from classical, biblical, and early Christian sources, and include many obscure Latin terms as well as ca. 2,400 one-word translations into Old High German. The book is ornamented with a full alphabet of large woodcut interlace initials, reproducing the Romanesque white-vine illuminated initials of a lost 12th-century manuscript copy-text. $35,000

39) SERGENT-MARCEAU, Émira. *Tableaux de l'univers et des connoissances humaines, représentés par des gravures en couleur; avec une explication en cinq langues*. Paris: C. Crapelet (for Sergent-Marceau, Antoine-Augustin Renouard, et al.), An X - 1802.

Oblong 8vo, 7 plates of color aquatints. Later half morocco.

ONLY EDITION OF AN INSTRUCTIONAL BOOK FOR YOUNG CHILDREN BY A FEMALE ARTIST AND ENGRAVER, ILLUSTRATED WITH HER TECHNICALLY SOPHISTICATED MULTIPLE-PLATE COLOR AQUATINTS. This is one of the only independent works of Sergent-Marceau, who, unlike many female artists of the time, is well-known, thanks to her famous husband and brother (a military hero), but it has been overlooked by both earlier biographers and modern scholars. $4,000

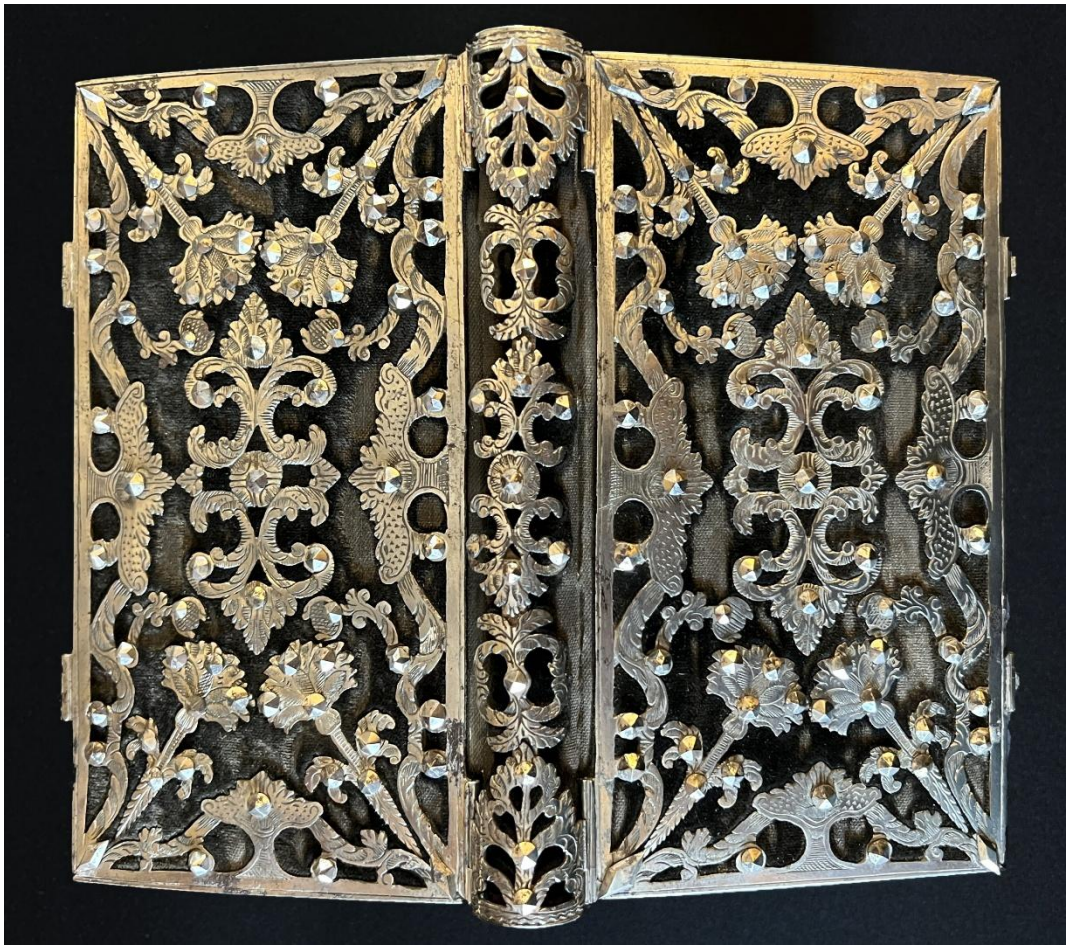
40) SILK INDUSTRY, PORTUGAL — SÁ, José Antonio de. *Dissertações philosophico-politicas sobre o trato das sedas na comarca de Moncorvo*. Lisbon: Royal Academy of Sciences, 1787.

4to. Folding engraved plate of a loom; title-leaf present in duplicate. Contemporary cat's-paw sheep.

Only Edition of a comprehensive overview of the Portuguese silk industry. Because of the lack of government support, frequent wars, and ABOVE ALL THE PERSECUTIONS OF THE INQUISITION, WHICH DECIMATED AN INDUSTRY IN ALL SECTORS OF WHICH JEWS OR CONVERTED JEWS (*CRISTÃOS-NOVOS*) PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE, Portuguese silk production suffered from intermittent crises. The author, judicial magistrate of the Moncorvo district, was an important proponent of modernization of the industry, and later served as director of the Royal Silk Factory, founded in 1802 in Lisbon. From the collections of the late and regretted Richard Ramer. $1,450

41) STEEL-PLAQUE BOOKBINDING — BIBLE, NEW TESTAMENT. *Das gantze Neue Testament*. [With:] **LOBWASSER, Ambrosius**. *Die CL. Psalmen Davids.* [With:] *Die kleine Bibel: oder: der Psalter Davids*. Zurich: David Gessner, 1730-1727-1733.

3 works in one volume, 8vo. CONTEMPORARY SWISS BINDING OF STEEL AJOURÉ PLAQUES OVER BLACK VELVET-COVERED PASTEBOARDS, COMMISSIONED BY THE PUBLISHER. This is the most richly decorated and



best preserved of the four examples of "Gessner's" steel bindings that I have located. The covers include stylized carnations, providing a luxurious decorative element, as well as ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SEVEN FACETED DIAMOND-LIKE BOSSES. THESE LITTLE-STUDIED BINDINGS CONSTITUTE A SINGULAR PHENOMENON IN BIBLIOPEGIC HISTORY. $8,000

42) THEOPHILUS à Sancto Alberto. *Der unbefleckte Ehe-Spiegel, abgebildet in der edlen, tugendsamben Frauen Susanna*. Salzburg: Melchior Haan, 1699.

4to. Engraved frontispiece. 18th-century boards covered in manuscript waste from a 15th-century missal.

Only Edition of a collection of sermons containing entertaining stories for Lent, expressly intended for lay sisters. The Susanna story from the Book of Daniel serves as a departure point for the sermons, which provide a plainly written Biblical exegesis. This copy was owned by the nuns of the Servite convent of Kötschach in Carinthia, Austria. $1,500

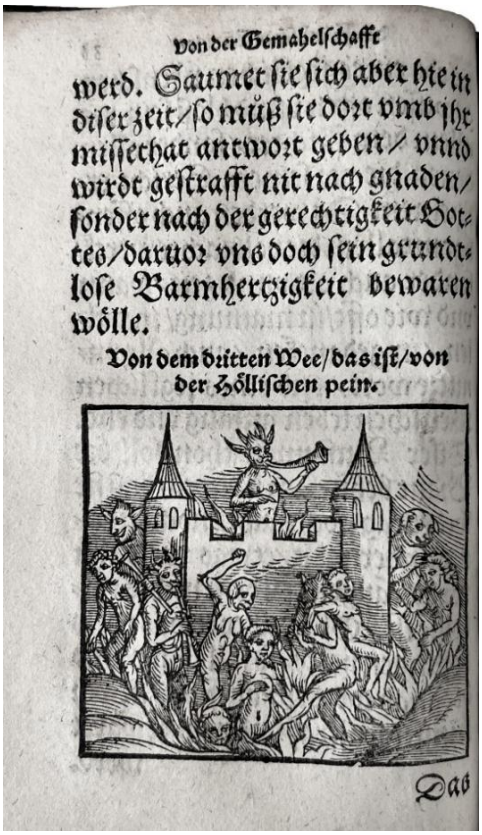
43) TROMPE-L'OEIL — BRUIN, D., artist. A trompe-l'oeil pen-and-ink and wash drawing showing letterpress and engraved sheets. [Netherlands], 1782.

An 18th-century Dutch *quodlibet,* this illusionistic drawing shows several overlapping fragments of reading material: two leaves from an almanac, a fragment torn from a newspaper, and pages from a prayer book and a psalter, as well as an oval "engraved" portrait in monochrome wash of a bewigged gentleman. Each of these sheets has one folded-over corner, adding to their verisimilitude. Other realistic details include A FLY PERCHED ON THE NEWSLETTER FRAGMENT. $3,500

44) VIENNA, SHOOTING FESTIVAL — *Beschreibung des Kaiserl. Gnaden- und Frey-Schiessen*... Vienna: von Ghelen, [1739].

Folio, 10 engraved plates, including fold-out frontispiece and 9 full-sheet engravings, showing the shooting range, attendees, and emblematic targets. Contemporary sheep.

ONLY EDITION OF A LAVISHLY ILLUSTRATED MEMORIAL OF A RIFLE-SHOOTING FESTIVAL held in 1739 by Holy Roman Emperor Karl VI for the citizens of Vienna. Among the many celebrations a Germanic monarch was expected to sponsor to keep his citizens happy were elaborate target-shooting games, a diversion that dated back to the Middle Ages. This is a fresh, unsophisticated copy of the record of this event, which was so massively attended that fourteen days were required. $7,500



45) WALASSER, Adam, editor. *Von der Gemahelschafft des himlischen Künigs. Ein wunnigklich schöns Kunstbüchlin*. Dillingen: Sebald Mayer, 1572.

8vo. 121 woodcuts. Contemporary blind-tooled calf(?) over wooden boards.

FIRST EDITION OF A PREVIOUSLY UNRECOGNIZED IMITATION OF AN AUGSBURG INCUNABLE. For his modernized adaptation of a medieval allegorical romance of the soul's marriage to Christ, Walasser adapted a tale last printed nearly a century earlier: comparison of the illustrations shows that he used one of Johann Bämler's two incunable editions as copy-text. I locate no copies of any edition of this popular work in US libraries. $6,800

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