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Auction Guide
A Day in the Life

Letters at Forum’s September sale offer a rare look at the Beatles’ time in India.

Every other month, London-based Forum Auctions hosts a Fine Books, Manuscripts, and Works on Paper sale at the Westbury Hotel in Mayfair. Since 2016, Forum has curated fine books sales both in place and online, specializing in antiquarian books and manuscripts, as well as old master prints, drawings, and other works on paper. The company’s September 26 sale will feature a wide array of books across collecting spectrums, as well as some very interesting manuscripts and letters.

A highlight, according to Forum’s deputy chairman and head of books Rupert Powell, is a group of letters, which paint a vivid picture of life around the Beatles, the Maharishi, and a coterie of other celebrities who spent time together in India in 1968.

“The Beatles traveled to Northern India early that year to study transcendental meditation,” Powell says. “The visit had a varied effect on them—Ringo Starr and Paul McCartney left early, but George Harrison and John Lennon stayed at an ashram in Rishikesh until April, when they left following rumors of the Maharishi propositioning women, including actress Mia Farrow.”

According to Powell, Harrison and Lennon maintained an interest in meditation and Indian culture that would later influence their personal lives and their works. “Although these letters aren’t written by any of the Beatles themselves,” he says, “the content is extremely interesting, as it contains first-hand accounts of what they were doing in India—and there are signatures from George and John. It’s a great lot for collectors interested in pop culture.”

Presented in its original cloth binding and in fine condition, the book has an estimated value of £5,000-£7,000. “The visit had a varied effect on them—Ringo Starr and Paul McCartney left early, but George Harrison and John Lennon stayed at an ashram in Rishikesh until April, when they left following rumors of the Maharishi propositioning women, including actress Mia Farrow.”

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In addition to the letters, which have an estimated value of £5,000-£7,000, Forum has also confirmed for the sale a first edition of James Joyce’s Dubliners, Presentation Copy, inscribed to Beatrice Randegger, one of his pupils in Trieste, where he lived and taught English from c.1905-15.

“This work is one of only four inscribed copies of Dubliners to appear at auction in the last fifty years,” Powell says. “That makes it highly desirable and collectable, even if the book itself isn’t considered especially rare.”

Presented in its original cloth binding and in fine condition, the book has an estimated value of £100,000-£150,000.

These items will feature alongside many others in Forum’s September sale, including a letter from a World War I surgeon, a 19th century Japanese watercolor scroll, and a first English edition of Friedrich Nietzsche’s Thus Spake Zarathustra (1896).

Fine Books, Manuscripts and Works on Paper
Auction: Thursday 26th September | The Westbury Hotel, 37 Conduit Street, London, W1S 2YF

Bidding and information: info@forumauctions.co.uk | +44 (0) 20 7871 2640

For more details, full viewing times and catalogues, please visit: forumauctions.co.uk

Buyer’s premium (plus VAT if applicable) applies to all lots at 25% of the hammer price.
Born a Quaker in North Carolina, Zachariah Taylor Shugart (1805-1881) spent most of his life in the Midwest, by way of Indiana, Michigan, and Iowa, according to Rick Stattler, director of the Books and Manuscripts department at Swann Galleries. A known and active participant in the Underground Railroad and abolitionist causes, it is reported that Shugart led more than 1,500 escaped slaves through Cass County, Michigan, and into Canada, with a fine team of horses and wearing a signature white hat. During his lifetime, Shugart kept a number of diaries and ledgers which detail his work on the Underground Railroad, many of which list the names of individuals and families who traveled through his train. Sixty-three of those documents—which have an estimated collective value of $50,000 to $100,000—will be available together as one lot at Swann Galleries’ upcoming Printed and Manuscript Americana sale, to be held September 26 in New York. The central item in this lot is a 10-page account book kept by Shugart from 1838 to 1852, which details most of his involvement. In addition, the lot features various other family papers, including a letter written to Shugart from his son Joseph—then a soldier in the Union army—in 1864, two days prior to the Battle of Cedar Creek, where he was fatally wounded. Enclosed with the letter is a swatch of fabric described as “a piece of our old banner.””

“This substantial archive of the salt works’ records is important in three ways,” Stattler says. “First, for its thorough documentation of a large industrial enterprise in a time, place, and industry that is rarely studied. Second, for the thousands of documents relating to enslaved people who operated the company’s furnaces and wagons. And third, for the plant’s numerous connections to Booker T. Washington, who lived near the salt works after abolition.” Perhaps most remarkable, according to Stattler, is a letter sent by “yo slave boy John Hand”—written on his own
At the Center of Power
The Dodge Family Autograph Collection spans centuries of American culture.

Some families have become so influential in American politics and culture they are almost synonymous with the country itself—the Rockefellers, the Roosevelt, and the Kennedys, to name a few. Though a bit lesser known, the Dodge family also served as advisors to iconic leaders. Over the last two centuries, the Dodge family served as advisors and played a part in the country’s development, spanning centuries of American culture. Generous philanthropists, friends of politicians and titans of industry, members of the Dodge family also served as advisors to iconic leaders.

Their collection will be featured in Bonhams’ Natural History, Travel, and Americana sale on October 23.

Highlighting the family archives will be a collection of five letters from Albert Einstein to Cleveland E. Dodge (1888-1952) written in 1946-1952. The letters contain important firsthand accounts of the earliest meetings of the Emergency Committee of Atomic Scientists and are estimated at $30,000-$50,000.

Another key item is a 1764 letter from John Adams, which he wrote while in the hospital in Boston recovering from smallpox inoculation. The letter, estimated at $30,000-$50,000, discusses his recovery and praises the science of inoculation.

A significant portion of the collection is made up of presidential correspondence, both collected and added from the family’s own correspondence with the nation’s leaders.

“The family was at the center of power during this period, and the collection contains correspondence ranging from Washington to Nixon,” Sutherland said. “The Dodge family served as advisors, both formal and informal, to numerous presidents. Cleveland Dodge and his siblings were also playmates with the young Theodore Roosevelt, so there is a trove of Roosevelt letters, before, during, and after his presidency. There are also important collections of other Americans, including Booker T. Washington, Mark Twain, Andrew Carnegie, and John D. Rockefeller.”

The sale also includes many items outside of the Dodge collection, including a very rare three-page letter by Jesse James dated from 1875 and estimated at $200,000-$300,000. It is one of only three James letters known to exist in private hands, outside of his family. Highlights of the travel books in this sale include a collection of books on Greece and the Ottoman Empire including works by Louis Dupré, de Bruyn, Friedel, Dodwell, and others.

“This is a wonderful sale covering the early years of travel and exploration, including a fine collection of plate books,” Sutherland said. “And culminating in a fresh, and important private collection of American letters and documents.”

Bonhams is pleased to be offering this sale of the Dodge Family Autograph Collection. The sale is filled with items ranging from Washington to Nixon, with many items from the nation’s leaders.

Some highlights include:

- A 1946 letter from Albert Einstein to Cleveland E. Dodge about the Emergency Committee of Atomic Scientists, estimated at $30,000-$50,000
- A 1764 letter from John Adams, estimating his recovery from smallpox inoculation, $30,000-$50,000
- A letter written in 1813 by Jane Austen to her sister, Cassandra, $80,000-$120,000
- An 1816 letter by President James Madison, $200,000-$300,000
- A 1947 letter from Albert Einstein to Cleveland E. Dodge about the Emergency Committee of Atomic Scientists, estimated at $30,000-$50,000
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- A 1764 letter from John Adams, estimating his recovery from smallpox inoculation, $30,000-$50,000
- A 1813 letter by Jane Austen to her sister, Cassandra, $80,000-$120,000

The sale will be held on October 23, 2019, at 1pm at Bonhams New York. The preview will be held October 19-20 from 12-5pm and October 21-22 from 10am-5pm.
High Spots from a Highlight Sale

Hindman Auctions’ November sale promises fascinating finds.

It’s not often auction houses can claim nearly every lot in a sale will be a high point, but that’s precisely what Gretchen Hause, director and senior specialist of fine books and manuscripts at Hindman Auctions said about the house’s November 5 “Library of a Midwestern Collector” sale. “A lot of these books are what we would call PMM books, or books listed in Printing and the Mind of Man, a catalogue published in 1967 that developed from a 1956 exhibit which explored the history of printing as it influenced the development of Western civilization and thought,” Hause said. “Many collectors specifically seek out PMM books, so this promises to be an exciting sale.”

Though it’s hard to choose a few items to showcase in a sale made up almost entirely of what would be highlights of any other sale, a few touchstones do stand out, including a first edition two-volume copy of The Federalist by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay (estimated at $70,000–90,000), a 1687 copy of Sir Isaac Newton’s Philosophiae Naturalis Principia Mathematica (estimated at $150,000–250,000), and a first edition, presentation copy of Charles Darwin’s On the Origin of Species (estimated at $120,000–180,000).

One unique lot is a first edition, presentation copy of ENIAC and Comments on Electronic Digital Computing Machines by J. Presper Eckert and company. This is the first report on the first electronic general-purpose computer, and the copy is signed by Herman H. Goldstine (estimated at $55,000–75,000).

Not only did PMM say that Darwin “revolutionized our methods of thinking and our outlook on the natural order of things,” with this book, but this copy is also the superb Garden Copy, sold during the auction of the collection of the Garden Ltd. in 1988, and was also previously owned by American philanthropist Paul Mellon.

Even aside from PMM books, this sale will feature other highlights, including a superlative first edition of Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone signed by J. K. Rowling in the year of publication (estimated at $80,000–120,000). Another prized find is a first edition of James Joyce’s Ulysses. It is a limited edition, number 74 of only 100 copies signed by James Joyce (estimated at $170,000–180,000).

Computing also features heavily in the sale, with works by Alan Turing and Charles Babbage. One unique lot is a first edition, presentation copy of Description of the ENIAC and Comments on Electronic Digital Computing Machines by J. Presper Eckert and company. This is the first report on the first electronic general-purpose computer, and the copy is signed by Herman H. Goldstine (estimated at $55,000–75,000). The sale is an exceptional opportunity for bidders to have the chance to acquire some of the most important works representing a number of collecting categories,” Hause said. “It’s a truly exceptional collection which includes very nice copies of numerous high spots, which we’re thrilled to bring to market in one sale.”

On November 5th, Hindman will offer a remarkable single-owner collection, including fine examples of works which have influenced the development of western thought and civilization. The sale will feature high spots in the fields of science, technology, math and statistics, literature, Americana, and the social sciences, many with extraordinary provenance. Highlights include works by Charles Darwin, Isaac Newton, Galileo, Alan Turing, Euclid, James Joyce, J. K. Rowling, Thomas Jefferson, Adam Smith, and John Maynard Keynes.

HindmanAuctions.com

3900 Ridge Road | Columbus, OH 43221
319.377.1841 | hindman@hindman.com

Upcoming Auctions

LIBRARY OF A MIDWESTERN COLLECTOR

NOVEMBER 5, 2019

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Fine Books & Collections

Auctions

NOVEMBER 4, 2019

On November 4th, Hindman will offer a remarkable single-owner collection, including fine examples of works which have influenced the development of western thought and civilization. The sale will feature high spots in the fields of science, technology, math and statistics, literature, Americana, and the social sciences, many with extraordinary provenance. Highlights include works by Charles Darwin, Isaac Newton, Galileo, Alan Turing, Euclid, James Joyce, J. K. Rowling, Thomas Jefferson, Adam Smith, and John Maynard Keynes.

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Fine Books & Collections

Auctions

NOVEMBER 6, 2019

On November 6th, Hindman will offer a remarkable single-owner collection, including fine examples of works which have influenced the development of western thought and civilization. The sale will feature high spots in the fields of science, technology, math and statistics, literature, Americana, and the social sciences, many with extraordinary provenance. Highlights include works by Charles Darwin, Isaac Newton, Galileo, Alan Turing, Euclid, James Joyce, J. K. Rowling, Thomas Jefferson, Adam Smith, and John Maynard Keynes.

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Fine Books & Collections

Auctions

NOVEMBER 12, 2019

On November 12th, Hindman will offer a remarkable single-owner collection, including fine examples of works which have influenced the development of western thought and civilization. The sale will feature high spots in the fields of science, technology, math and statistics, literature, Americana, and the social sciences, many with extraordinary provenance. Highlights include works by Charles Darwin, Isaac Newton, Galileo, Alan Turing, Euclid, James Joyce, J. K. Rowling, Thomas Jefferson, Adam Smith, and John Maynard Keynes.

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Fine Books & Collections

Auctions

NOVEMBER 19, 2019

On November 19th, Hindman will offer a remarkable single-owner collection, including fine examples of works which have influenced the development of western thought and civilization. The sale will feature high spots in the fields of science, technology, math and statistics, literature, Americana, and the social sciences, many with extraordinary provenance. Highlights include works by Charles Darwin, Isaac Newton, Galileo, Alan Turing, Euclid, James Joyce, J. K. Rowling, Thomas Jefferson, Adam Smith, and John Maynard Keynes.

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Fine Books & Collections

Auctions
Collecting with Substance

This insightful collection of the arts, humanities, and sciences is up for auction on September 4.

It’s no secret a collection is a labor of love driven by the passions or interests of the collector. Some collectors, however, have a different kind of eye. Like many, Maurice Car was a dedicated collector of the arts, sciences, and humanities, but his training and work as an engineer helped him bring a precise scientific eye to his collection. “Though many collectors pick up odds and ends that fit within the categories they collect, Maurice Car was different,” said James Gannon, director of rare books at Heritage Auctions. “He really went after material with substantive content.”

From Sir Isaac Newton’s “New Theory of Light and Colors,” handwritten in 1672, to correspondence of scientific luminaries, Car’s collection contains materials relevant to findings from ages of human discovery. It contains items such as Andree Marie Ampere’s revelations on the human nervous system, Antoine Lomet’s letters to correspondence of scientists, and paintings by artists such as Auguste Renoir, Edgar Degas, and Paul Cezanne.

Maurice Car was a dedicated collector of rare books, manuscripts, and drawings by astronomers such as John Herschel, physicist such as James Clerk Maxwell, and artists such as Pablo Picasso. He was friendly with many artists represented in the collection, “which included forty-five pages of manuscript poems, illustrated limited editions of Les Arts en Feu and Les Pelican, and a collection of correspondence.”

The Car Collection also contains Dada artist Tristan Tzara, including correspondence and manuscripts called “Documents, Autographes Sir Dada.” Some of the correspondence is on Dada Institute letterhead, and there is a collection of 3 x 5-inch Cubist and Dadaist sketches bound in an exceptional Paul Bonet binding. Also included in the collection is Paul Gauguin’s Tahitian and French letters written while he lived in Tahiti. Other major French impressionists are also represented, including Henri Matisse, Auguste Renoir, Edgar Degas, Paul Cezanne, and Julie Laurencin. Also along with more art and artistic writings. A collection of Ezra Pound’s letters and manuscript works written in 1916-1922 are also represented in the Car Collection, along with other items representing the humanities.

The Car Collection also includes major insights into the worlds of science, art, and the humanities. With ground-breaking material and unique pieces, collectors can find these works and more on sale at Heritage Auctions’ September 4 sale.

Peggy Carouthers lives in California and is the custom content manager at Journalskim Inc.


Mer Nicolas Louis de Lacaille, a letter from Augustin-Jean Fresnel to Francois Arago developing a “mechanical theory of light,” and letters from Louis Pasteur relating to experiments and the rabies vaccine.

Car and his artist wife, Fanny, lived in Paris and then moved to Washington, D.C., in 1940. Even after this transition, the Cars maintained relationships within the Parisian art community and built much of their collection through their friendships, as well as auctions.

“Maurice and Fanny Car were friendly contemporaries with many artists represented in the collection,” Gannon says. “Due to their personal relationships, some material in the collection came to them directly from the artists. Spanning the breadth of early 20th century art movements, "Trent Neuf Poèmes," which includes forty-five pages of manuscript poems, illustrated limited editions of Les Arts en Feu and Les Pelican, and a collection of correspondence. The Car Collection also contains Dada artist Tristan Tzara, including correspondence and manuscripts called “Documents, Autographes Sir Dada.” Some of the correspondence is on Dada Institute letterhead, and there is a collection of 3 x 5-inch Cubist and Dadaist sketches bound in an exceptional Paul Bonet binding. Also included in the collection is Paul Gauguin’s Tahitian and French letters written while he lived in Tahiti. Other major French impressionists are also represented, including Henri Matisse, Auguste Renoir, Edgar Degas, Paul Cezanne, and Julie Laurencin. Also along with more art and artistic writings. A collection of Ezra Pound’s letters and manuscript works written in 1916-1922 are also represented in the Car Collection, along with other items representing the humanities.”

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Earnest Works

Photos of Oscar Wilde and Thomas Edison, plus an interesting collection of maps, round out Skinner’s diverse November sale.

In March 1882, author and playwright Oscar Wilde visited San Francisco to deliver two lectures on aesthetics—at art for art’s sake—including one on interior design, which was a particular pet interest of Wilde’s. Part of a larger North American tour, Wilde’s visit to California was the subject of many vicious caricatures in the press, but was widely regarded as a commercial success.

At Skinner’s November 17 sale, a previously unknown signed photograph of Wilde will be on offer. Taken in San Francisco during the author’s tour, the photo is inscribed on the back in pencil with the photographer’s name—Norman H. Reed—and is dated 1882. Appearing in its original oak frame, which bears the ticket of E. B. Courvoisier, this item comes from a consignor who purchased the photograph in 1969 at John Howell Books, a rare book shop on Bush Street in San Francisco. It is estimated to sell at $15,000 to $25,000.

“We’re very excited to offer this piece,” says Devon Eastland, director of books and manuscripts for Skinner. “It was seemingly unknown to the market until now.”

In addition to this and other photographs—including one of Thomas Edison inscribed “to Mrs. Blauvelt from a believer in woman suffrage”—the November sale in Boston will feature significant documents, printed books, natural history prints, and a strong selection of maps.

One of several photographs that will be available at Skinner’s November sale.

Photograph of Thomas Edison, signed by the inventor.

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In March 1882, author and playwright Oscar Wilde visited San Francisco to deliver two lectures on aesthetics—at art for art’s sake—including one on interior design, which was a particular pet interest of Wilde’s. Part of a larger North American tour, Wilde’s visit to California was the subject of many vicious caricatures in the press, but was widely regarded as a commercial success.

At Skinner’s November 17 sale, a previously unknown signed photograph of Wilde will be on offer. Taken in San Francisco during the author’s tour, the photo is inscribed on the back in pencil with the photographer’s name—Norman H. Reed—and is dated 1882. Appearing in its original oak frame, which bears the ticket of E. B. Courvoisier, this item comes from a consignor who purchased the photograph in 1969 at John Howell Books, a rare book shop on Bush Street in San Francisco. It is estimated to sell at $15,000 to $25,000.

“We’re very excited to offer this piece,” says Devon Eastland, director of books and manuscripts for Skinner. “It was seemingly unknown to the market until now.”

In addition to this and other photographs—including one of Thomas Edison inscribed “to Mrs. Blauvelt from a believer in woman suffrage”—the November sale in Boston will feature significant documents, printed books, natural history prints, and a strong selection of maps.

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