

FineBooks & COLLECTIONS

ISSUE 23.4 // AUTUMN 2025

FB&C

**AUCTION
GUIDE**

AUTUMN 2025

POTTER & POTTER

**Book Illustrators,
Americana, and
Modern Literature**

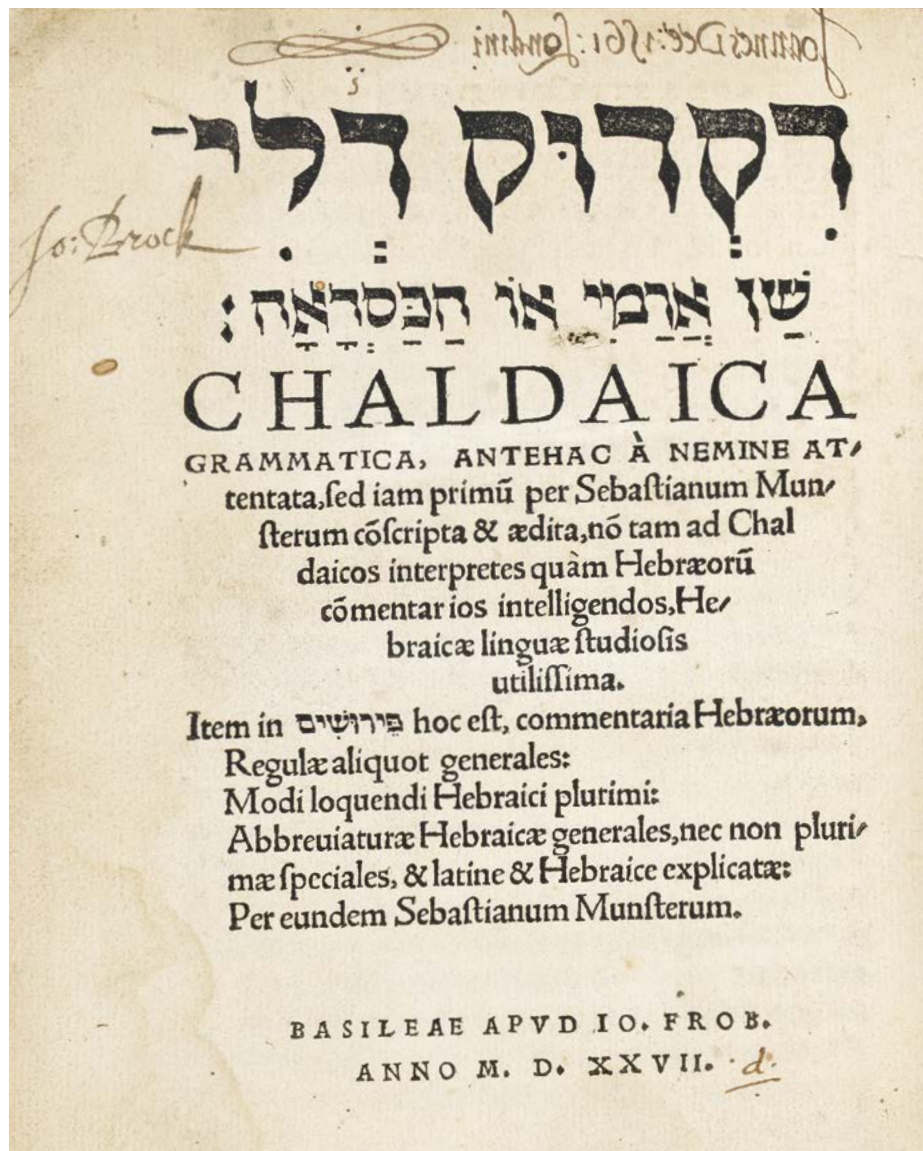
SWANN GALLERIES

Time-travel Diaries

FREEMAN'S | HINDMAN

**To Ruth,
With Much Love**





Sebastian Munster, *Chaldaica Grammatica*, first edition, John Dee's Copy, Basel: Apud Io. Frob., 1527. Estimate \$10,000 to \$15,000.

Fine Books

October 23

Featuring books from Professor Owen Gingerich's collection of early astronomy.

Devon Eastland • deastland@swanngalleries.com

EDITORIAL & ADMINISTRATION

100 Europa Drive, Suite 290
Chapel Hill, NC 27517-2310
TEL: (800) 662-4834
FAX: (919) 945-0701

PUBLISHER

Webb C. Howell
WHowell@FineBooksMagazine.com

ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER

Kimberly Draper
Kimberly@FineBooksMagazine.com

EDITOR

Allison C. Meier
Allison@FineBooksMagazine.com

ART DIRECTOR

Rosie Rosenbrock
Rosie@FineBooksMagazine.com

ONLINE EDITOR

Alex Johnson
Alex@FineBooksMagazine.com

COLUMNISTS

Nicholas Basbanes
Nick@FineBooksMagazine.com

Jeremy Dibbell
Jeremy@FineBooksMagazine.com

IT MANAGER

Jason Purdy
JPurdy@FineBooksMagazine.com

CIRCULATION

Nancy W.
circasst@FineBooksMagazine.com

CONTACT INFORMATION

Fine Books & Collections (USPS 22753)
(ISSN 1551-5001) is published quarterly by
Journalistic, Inc., 100 Europa Drive, Suite
290, Chapel Hill, NC 27517-2310. Periodicals
Postage Paid at Chapel Hill, NC and at
additional mailing offices.

Domestic subscription rates:
US: 1 year, \$25; 2 years, \$45; 3 years, \$60.

Canada & Mexico: 1 year, \$32; 2 years, \$55.
International: 1 year, \$55; 2 years, \$110.
FineBooksMagazine.com/Subscribe

BACK ISSUES

To order back issues of *Fine Books &
Collections*: store.FineBooksMagazine.com/
Back-Issues

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Submit letters to the editor and other
editorial inquiries to:
Letters@FineBooksMagazine.com

WRITER'S GUIDELINES

FineBooksMagazine.com/Writing

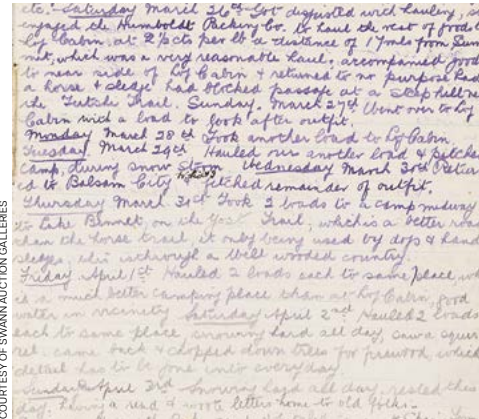
FINE BOOKS & COLLECTIONS

Fine Books & Collections (FB&C) is copyright
©2025 Journalistic, Inc. All rights reserved.
No part of this magazine may be reprinted,
photocopied, or distributed in any manner
without the express written consent of
Journalistic, Inc. Printed in the United States.

The opinions of the authors appearing in
Fine Books & Collections do not necessarily
reflect those of Journalistic, Inc.

Auction Guide

Contents • Autumn 2025 • FineBooksMagazine.com



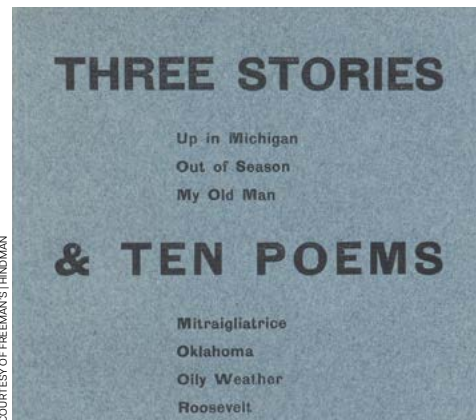
COURTESY OF SWANN AUCTIONS GALLERIES

SWANN GALLERIES

2

Time-travel Diaries

Manuscript diaries
spanning American
history heading to auction
at Swann Galleries



COURTESY OF FREEMAN'S | HINDMAN

FREEMAN'S | HINDMAN

4

To Ruth, With Much Love

Rare presentation copy of
Hemingway's *Three Short
Stories and Ten Poems*
comes to Hindman



COURTESY OF SWANN AUCTIONS

POTTER & POTTER

6

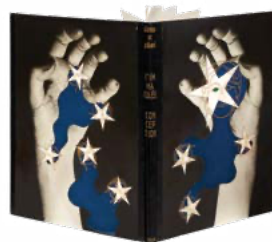
Book Illustrators, Americana, and Modern Literature

The Louis A. Irmo and Dr.
George D. Lacy collections
available at Potter & Potter

ON THE COVER

André Breton and Paul
Éluard's *L'Immaculée
Conception*
(1930) in a striking
photographic binding
by Paul Bonet, sold at
auction by Christie's
Paris on May 22.

COURTESY CHRISTIE'S IMAGES
LTD. 2025



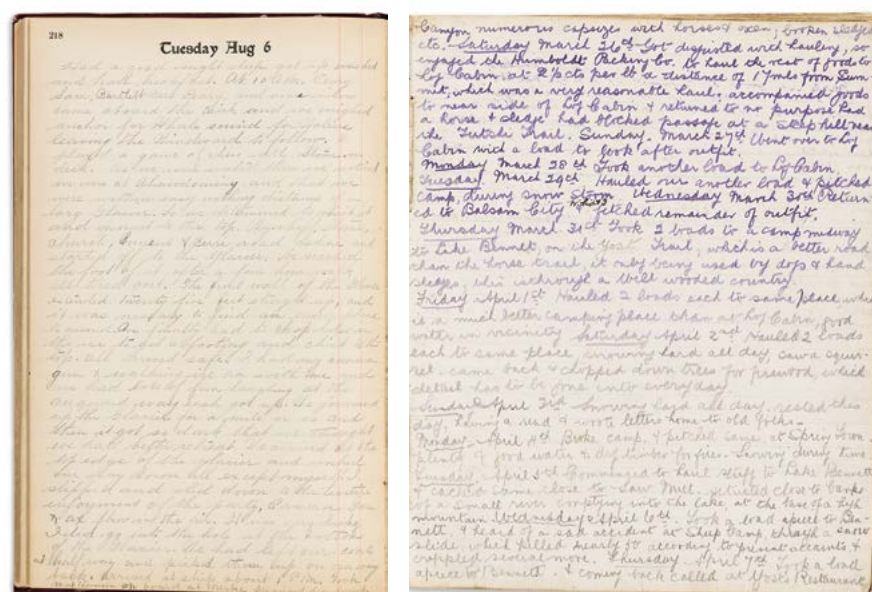
8

Sold@Auction

A roundup of rare books,
photographs, ephemera,
and more

Time-travel Diaries

Manuscript diaries spanning American history heading to auction at Swann Galleries



LEFT: Herbert Berri, diary of the Peary Relief expedition, with related papers. 1901. Estimate \$5,000 to \$7,500. RIGHT: Arthur, Maurice, and Sidney Robinson, diary of three English brothers seeking their fortune in the Klondike gold rush, 1897-1898. Estimate \$2,000 to \$3,000.

“While the power of time travel remains beyond the capability of science, nothing comes closer than a good manuscript diary,” said Rick Stattler, Books & Manuscripts Director at Swann, referring to several diaries illustrating critical moments in American history that will be on offer at Swann’s Printed & Manuscript Americana auction on November 20.

The Revolutionary War diary of Benjamin Beal, a lieutenant from Hingham, Massachusetts, is one of the diaries on offer. Beal

narrates the journey north in 1776 with his regiment to reinforce the Invasion of Quebec, only to find the shattered patriot army preparing for retreat, nearly ruined by a smallpox epidemic. Beal suffered from smallpox himself during the retreat, barely escaping with his life.

“Beal was usually hungry, usually cold, and often quite ill, so this is a time travel adventure perhaps better enjoyed from a comfortable chair than in person,” said Stattler. “It is a bracing reminder of the sacrifices made for Amer-

ican liberty almost 250 years ago.”

Another war diary, from the American Civil War, will also be on offer. Written by Lieutenant Martin Andrews during his travels in East Tennessee with the Signal Corps in 1864, the diary includes eyewitness accounts of two lynchings and soon-to-be president

includes bite marks from a small dog, an incident Brooke comments on in the manuscript. Another diary, written by Mariano Floresca, a United States Navy mess steward, details a luxury cruise in 1935 with President Franklin D. Roosevelt and friends.

Three English brothers seeking their fortune in the Klondike gold fields in 1898 compose another of the diaries on offer in the November sale. After meeting a diverse group of fellow fortune-seekers, the trio, overwhelmed by logistical problems and with only a small take of gold to call their own, returned to England.

Perhaps the crème de la crème of the diaries on offer in November is Herbert Berri’s diary of his role in the 1901 expedition to deliver supplies to Robert Peary’s party in northern Greenland. Berri sailed under Dr. Frederick Cook and went on a walrus hunt with Perry’s assistant Matthew Henson, renowned as the first great Black polar explorer. Berri was only a 19-year-old college student at the time but was witness to history in the making when the supply expedition met with Robert Peary and compatriots. By that time, Peary’s expedition had almost gone a year without interacting with the wider world. Berri’s diary is sure to attract the attention of collectors because “the Arctic always has a special romance,” said Stattler.

All six diaries will feature in the November book auction at Swann. ●

Nate Pedersen is a writer in Savannah, Georgia. He is the co-author of *Quackery* (2017) and *Patient Zero* (2021).

Andrew Johnson delivering a patriotic oration.

Two diaries illustrating international travel with the rich and famous will also be offered for sale. The first is the diary of young Brooke Astor, later famous as a New York philanthropist, writing about her time in Peking, China, circa 1913. Her father had been stationed there as commander of the Marine Corps and the young Brooke was able to visit the Winter Palace and attend the funeral of Chinese Empress Dowager Longyu. Her diary even



Ansel Adams, *Winter Sunrise, Sierra Nevada, from Lone Pine, California*, silver print, 1944; printed April 1978. Estimate \$25,000 to \$35,000.

Upcoming Auctions

OCT 7 African American Art

OCT 16 Fine Photographs

OCT 23 Fine Books

OCT 30 Old Master Through Modern Prints

NOV 6 Autographs

NOV 13 Contemporary Art

NOV 20 Printed & Manuscript Americana

NOV 25 Rare & Important Travel Posters

To Ruth, With Much Love

Rare presentation copy of Hemingway's *Three Short Stories and Ten Poems* comes to Hindman

To call this book exceptional would be an understatement," said Christopher Brink, Senior Specialist in Books & Manuscripts at Hindman, referring to a presentation copy of Ernest Hemingway's *Three Short Stories and Ten Poems* coming up for auction at the Fine Printed Books & Manuscripts, Including Americana sale on November 13. (\$60,000-\$80,000).

Hemingway's first published book contains the stories "Up in Michigan," "Out of Season," and "My Old Man," along with ten poems—six of which had appeared in *Poetry* in January 1923. The remaining four poems and all three stories made their debut in this volume, published by Contact Publishing Co in an edition of 300 and printed in Dijon by Maurice Darantiere, the same printer Sylvia Beach used for *Ulysses* the year prior. While the book did not sell well, it introduced the world to a major new literary voice and marked an early critical success for Hemingway when his story "My Old Man," a tale of a boy's disillusionment with his corrupt jockey father, was selected for *The Best*

Short Stories of 1923.

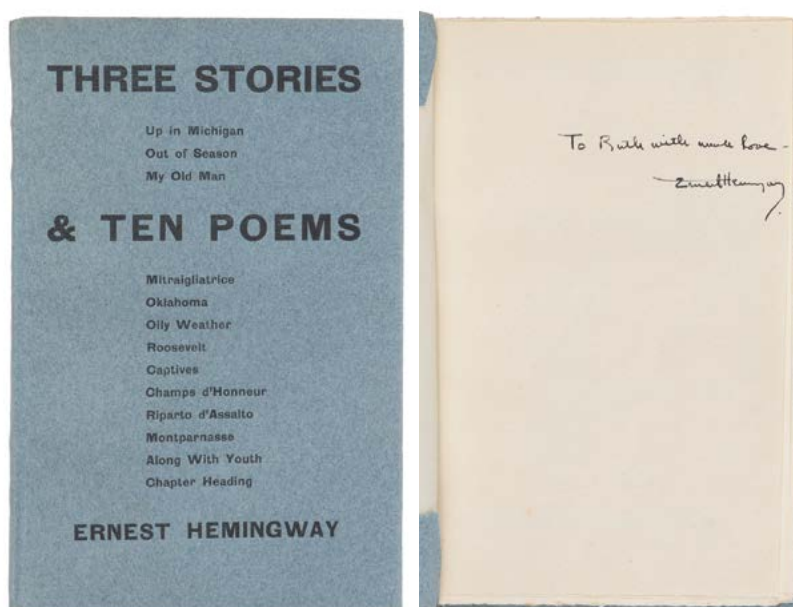
As one of only 300 copies, Hemingway's first book is already rare and extremely collectable, but what makes this copy so

unread, with unopened pages, still in its original glassine wrapper, and inscribed to Hemingway's cousin, Ruth Lowry. This association is remarkable: Hemingway stayed with her in Kansas City while writing several of his major novels during the births of his first two children."

Hemingway inscribed the front free endpaper, "To Ruth, with much love - Ernest Hemingway." The writer and his second wife Pauline, pregnant with their first son, Patrick, arrived in Kansas City in 1928. They lived with Ruth,

with Ruth and Malcolm in Kansas City in 1931 while preparing for the birth of their second child. The Hemingways eventually moved into the Rivera Apartments before the birth. During that Kansas City visit, Hemingway completed *Death in the Afternoon*. Hemingway later wrote a note to Ruth informing her that the "best parts" of *Death in the Afternoon* were written in her house.

As host to one of the greatest writers of the 20th century during critical times in his life, Ruth



Hemingway inscribed the book to his cousin, Ruth Lowry

exceptional are its flawless condition and the unique provenance.

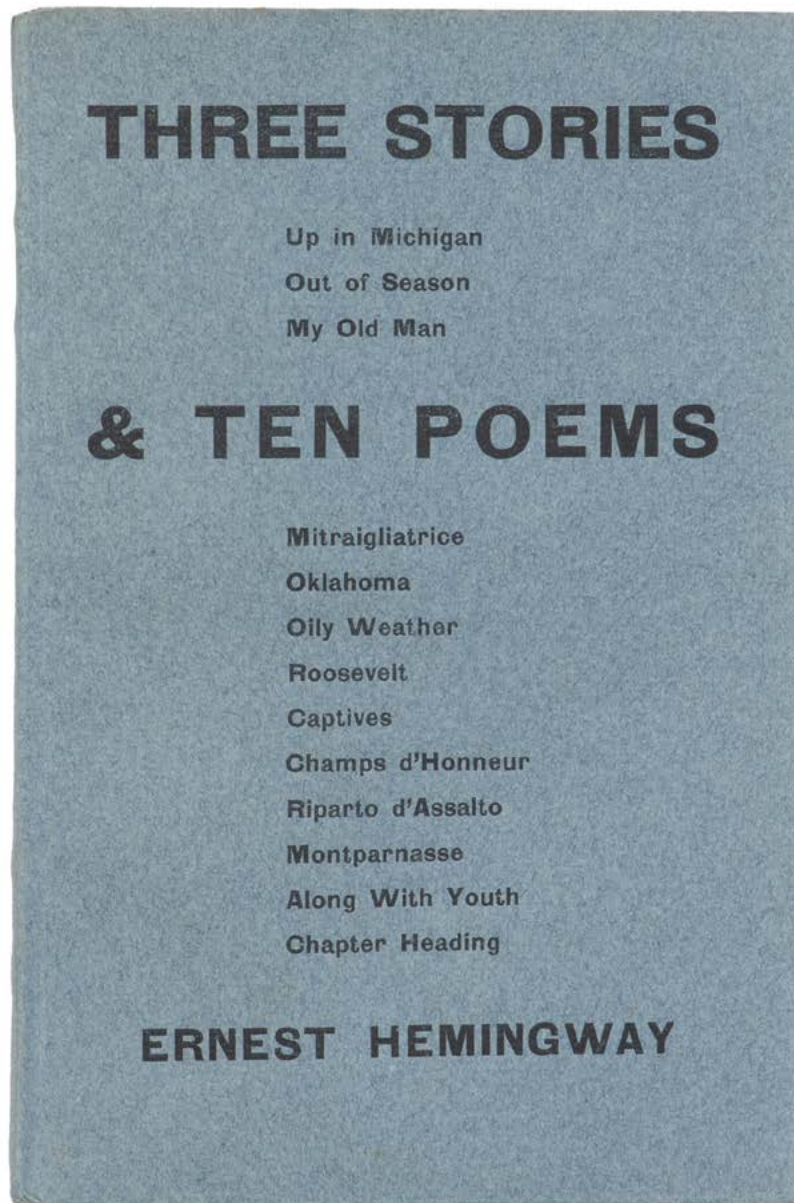
"For modern first editions, condition is one of the most important factors in determining value—followed closely by whether the book is inscribed by the author," said Brink. "The copy of Hemingway's *Three Stories* in our November sale is one of the finest we've seen come to market. It appears

and her husband William Malcolm Lowry, while awaiting the birth of Patrick. While the birth was successful, it required a life-threatening cesarean section. Pauline subsequently needed a lengthy recovery period in the hospital, time that Hemingway put into writing his first novel, *A Farewell to Arms*.

Hemingway and Pauline again returned to stay

contributed to the production of two literary classics. Hemingway's concise and meaningful inscription in *Three Short Stories and Ten Poems* demonstrates his love and appreciation for Ruth and will surely elevate this copy in the eyes of Hemingway collectors. ●

Nate Pedersen is a writer in Savannah, Georgia. He is the co-author of *Quackery* (2017) and *Patient Zero* (2021).



UPCOMING AUCTIONS

**AMERICAN HISTORICAL EPHEMERA & EARLY PHOTOGRAPHY,
INCLUDING THE LARRY NESS COLLECTION OF NATIVE
AMERICAN PHOTOGRAPHY**

October 24 | Cincinnati

**FINE PRINTED BOOKS & MANUSCRIPTS,
INCLUDING AMERICANA**

November 13 | Chicago

FREEMAN'S | HINDMAN
AUCTIONS & APPRAISALS SINCE 1805

Katie Horstman | 513.666.4958
katiehorstman@hindmanauctions.com
Cincinnati

Christopher Brink | 312.334.4217
christopherbrink@hindmanauctions.com
Chicago

HINDMANAUCTIONS.COM

HEMINGWAY, Ernest (1899-1961). *Three Stories and
Ten Poems*. Paris: Contact Publishing Co., 1923.
\$60,000 - 80,000
To be offered in Fine Printed Books & Manuscripts,
Including Americana, November 13

Book Illustrators, Americana, and Modern Literature

The Louis A. Irmo and Dr. George D. Lacy collections available at Potter & Potter

Potter & Potter's November 2025 auction will be a two-consignor sale, offering simultaneously two major book and art collections from Louis A. Irmo and Dr. George D. Lacy.

"Louis A. Irmo collected some wonderful artwork by some of the finest modern book illustrators, including Norman Lindsay, Fortunino Matania, Austin O. Spare, and others," said Chad S. Reingold, Director of Rare Books at Potter & Potter. "This extensive collection also includes numerous beautifully illustrated books, with illustrations by Lindsay, Arthur Rackham, Russell Flint, and others."

Book highlights from Irmo's collection include a rare first edition of *Die Bucher der Chronica der drei Schwestern*, illustrated by Heinrich Lefler and Joseph Urban, considered a "Jugendstil" masterpiece and printed in small edition for the Paris World Exposition of 1900 (\$1,000/\$1,500); a morocco-bound copy (#188 out of 1,000) in a limited edition of Motte Fouqué illustrated by Arthur Rackham and bearing his signature



Die Bucher der Chronica der drei Schwestern



The Passionate Neatherd

(\$800/\$1,000); copy number 7 of 60 of *Propertius in Love*, translated from Propertius by Jack Lindsay and illustrated by his father Norman Lindsay, signed by Jack and bound in vellum; and a copy of the scarce true first edition of Jack Lindsay's *The Passionate*

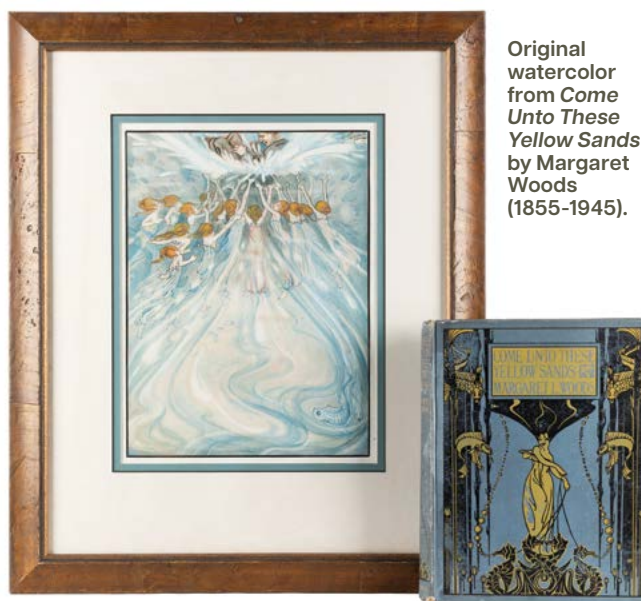
Neatherd, signed by Jack and illustrated by his father. (\$2,000/\$3,000)

Artwork highlights from the Irmo sale include Norman Lindsay's watercolor *The Sinking Gal- leon*, expected to exceed \$20,000 at auction, and Gustave Surand's oil painting of wild animals, *Orpheus charming the animals* (*Out of Competition*), considered one of Surand's greatest works from his "wild animals period," and a regular subject for reproduction. (\$10,000/\$15,000)

Also on offer is an orig-

inal watercolor by John Hancock, a mysterious poet, illustrator, and mystic whose watercolor paintings are of imagery given to him in a vision. Hancock was diagnosed with Bright's disease and died by suicide at 22. With his early death, his artwork is exceedingly rare, with this watercolor expected to exceed \$1,000 at auction.

In addition to the Irmo collection, the Lacy collection offered concurrently at the same November auc- tion contains many items sure to be appealing to col- lectors. "Dr. George D. Lacy assembled one of the fin- est collections of Ameri- cana, world history, and modern literature that we've seen," said Rein- gold. Highlights include autograph letters or doc- uments by Frederick Dou- glass, Jefferson Davis, Ulysses S. Grant, and oth- ers. Also included are rare cartes de visite of John Wilkes Booth, Abraham Lincoln (photographed by Matthew Brady), and



Original watercolor from *Come Unto These Yellow Sands* by Margaret Woods (1855-1945).

inal watercolor by John Hancock, a mysterious poet, illustrator, and mystic whose watercolor paintings are of imagery given to him in a vision. Hancock was diagnosed with Bright's disease and died by suicide at 22. With his early death, his artwork is exceedingly rare, with this watercolor expected to exceed \$1,000 at auction.

In addition to the Irmo collection, the Lacy collec- tion offered concurrently at

Mary Todd Lincoln, as well as one of the only views taken of notorious Ander- sonville prison during the American Civil War.

"This collection may be one of the only chances for collectors to acquire this rare and unusual material," said Reingold.

The auction is sched- uled for November 2025. ●

Nate Pedersen is a writer in Savannah, Georgia. He is the co-author of *Quackery* (2017) and *Patient Zero* (2021).

POTTER & POTTER AUCTIONS

FINE BOOKS AND ARTWORK

FROM THE GEORGE D. LACY AND
LOUIS A. IRMO COLLECTIONS

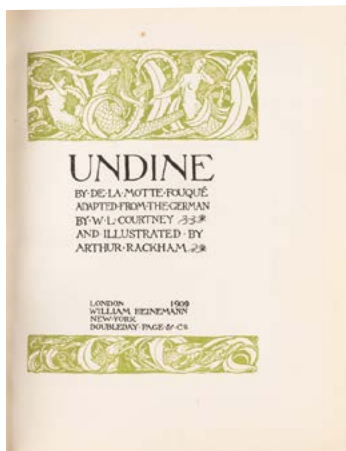
NOVEMBER 20, 2025



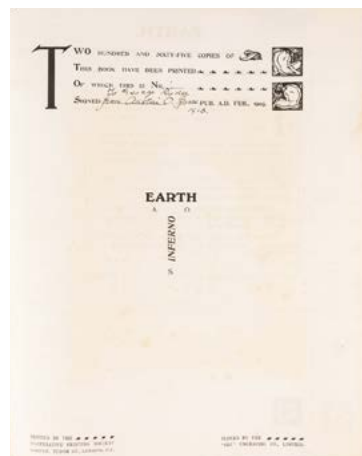
Fortunino Matania. "Saturnalia"
Original Drawing from *Christmas Ancient and Modern*.
est. \$1,500-3,000



Robert Lawson. Original Drawing of an Ancient
Scene with a Mysterious Woman and a Boatman.
est. \$1,500-2,000



Arthur Rackham & Friedrich
de la Motte Fouqué. *Undine*.
est. \$800-1,000



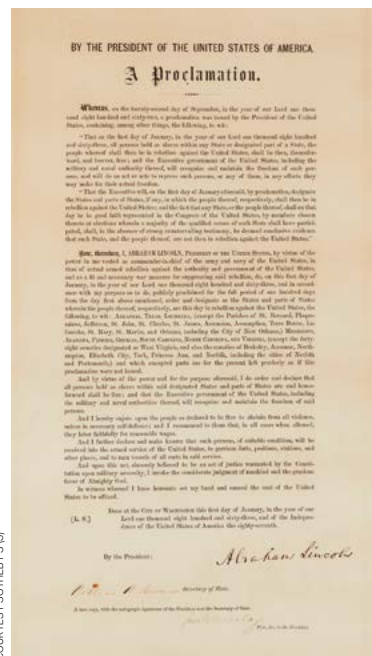
Austin Osman Spare.
Earth Inferno.
est. \$700-900



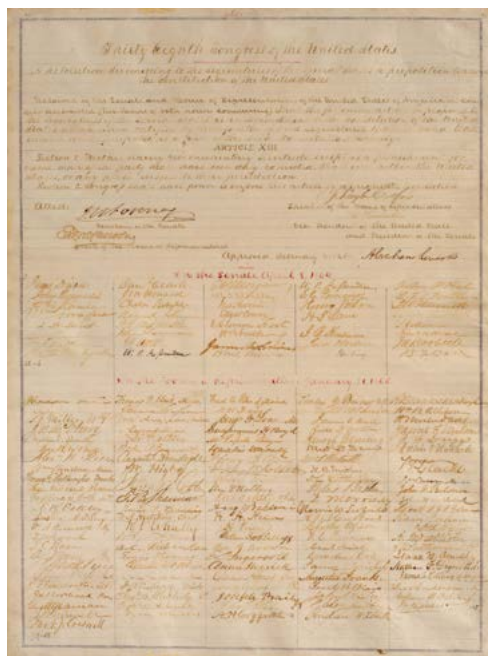
Norman Lindsay and Jack Lindsay
Propertius in Love.
est. \$1,000-1,500

Sold@Auction

BY JEREMY DIBBELL // A WIDE WORLD OF BOOKS, MANUSCRIPTS, EPHEMERA, AND FINE ART RECENTLY SOLD AT AUCTION



COURTESY SOTHEBY'S (8)



Records Set for Americana

Two historic US documents signed by Lincoln had shattering summer sales.

Hedge fund founder and collector Kenneth Griffin was the successful bidder for two major lots at the June 26 Sotheby's sale of fine books and manuscripts in New York. An 1864 copy of the Emancipation Proclamation signed by President Abraham Lincoln, Secretary of State William Seward, and Lincoln's secretary John Nicolay, one of an edition of forty-eight copies printed to benefit the Sanitary Commission's Great Central Fair in Philadelphia, sold for \$4,442,000. A manuscript copy of the Thirteenth Amendment signed by Lincoln, Vice President Hannibal Hamlin, and nearly all of the senators and representatives who voted in favor of the amendment sold for \$13,697,500.

Both of these prices are new auction records. Griffin plans to loan the documents to an American institution and said in a statement after the sale, "As America approaches its 250th anniversary, we all have a part to play to strengthen and renew the promise of our nation. Each generation must experience the sacred documents of our democracy—to learn from them and be inspired to carry our country forward."



Dialogue on the Stars

Recently rediscovered, a landmark work by Galileo was the first such copy to come to auction in over a century.



COURTESY CHRISTIE'S IMAGES LTD. 2025

An exceptionally rare copy of Galileo's first published book, *Dialogo in perpusito de la stella nuova* (1605), co-authored with his student Girolamo Spinelli, made £1,129,000 (\$1,499,425) at Christie's London on July 9. This is one of just eight known complete copies and the only one in private hands (four incomplete copies have also been identified).

The work is a dialogue written in a Paduan dialect between two peasants about the appearance of the 1604 supernova now known as Kepler's Supernova; it was written as a response to an essay by Cesare Cremonini, which maintained the Aristotelian view of astronomical immutability.

RARE BOOKS, AUTOGRAPHS & MAPS

DOYLE

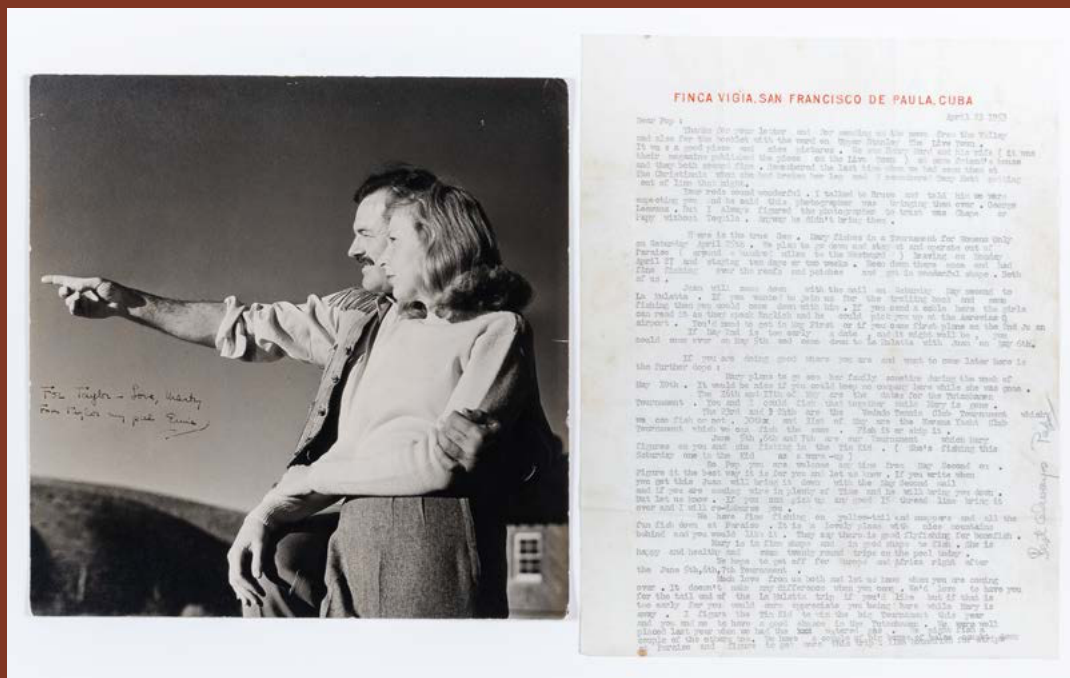
AUCTION
Tue, Nov 25 at 10am

EXHIBITION
IN NEW YORK
Sat, Nov 22, Noon – 5pm
Sun, Nov 23, Noon – 5pm
Mon, Nov 24, Noon – 5pm

INFORMATION
& APPOINTMENTS
Peter Costanzo
Edward Ripley-Duggan
Kevin McKinney
Books@Doyle.com
212-427-4141 ext 234



Hardouyn, Gilles, printer
Book of Hours. A la louenge de Dieu...
Paris: almanac dated 1508–24 (likely 1507). A-L in 8s, 88ff. 19th century brown velvet with gilt brass fittings. Printed on vellum, metalcuts hand-illuminated throughout. Estimate \$12,000–18,000



Ernest Hemingway and Martha Gellhorn, Sun Valley, circa 1940.
Inscribed for guide and Hemingway friend Taylor Williams.
Estimate \$2,500–3,500

Ernest Hemingway
Typed letter signed. Finca Vigía, San Francisco de Paula, Cuba: 23 August 1953. Signed "Papa" in the margin. Folds and creases
Estimate \$3,000–5,000

NEW YORK BEVERLY HILLS BOSTON CHARLESTON
CHICAGO CONNECTICUT NEW JERSEY NORTH CAROLINA
PALM BEACH PENNSYLVANIA WASHINGTON D.C.
DOYLE.COM

ASSASSINS WANTED

A broadside printed after the murder of President Abraham Lincoln is considered one of the most famous reward posters ever issued.

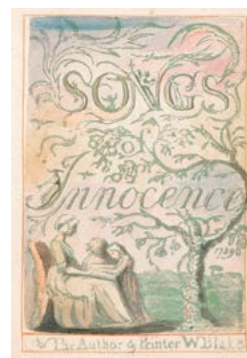


COURTESY OF FREEMAN'S | HINDMAN 2025

Among the material sold by the Lincoln Presidential Foundation at Freeman's | Hindman in Chicago on May 21 was a Lincoln assassination reward poster. It is believed to be from the first issue of the second printing, with affixed carte de visite photographs of John Wilkes Booth as well as his accomplices, John Surratt and David Herold. Estimated at \$80,000–120,000, the poster realized \$762,500.

This version of the reward poster was issued on April 20, 1865, and included a more thorough description of Herold than earlier printings. It advertised the War Department's rewards of \$50,000 for the apprehension of Booth and \$25,000 for Surratt and Herold.

The lots sold in the May auction represented some of the 1,500 items from the collection of historian Louise Taper purchased by the Lincoln Presidential Foundation for \$23 million in 2007. The collection was loaned to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Illinois, with the intention that the material would be donated to the museum once the purchase had been paid off. Following a string of leadership changes and various controversies—including a lengthy debate about the provenance of a stovepipe hat from the collection—the foundation and museum dissolved their partnership in 2021, and the collection was removed in October 2022. Foundation leaders announced this year that they would sell select lots in order to retire the remaining debt from the purchase, which amounted to nearly \$8 million.



COURTESY CHRISTIE'S IMAGES LTD. 2025 (2)

Songs of Sendak

Maurice Sendak called the artist and poet William Blake “my teacher in all things.”

Christie's New York sold fifty-eight lots from the collection of author and illustrator Maurice Sendak on June 10, including several important William Blake works. The only copy in private hands of the first-issue version of Blake's *Songs of Experience* (and one of just four printed) realized \$1,865,000; this is the sole copy that remains untrimmed in its original paper wrappers. It originally belonged to Blake's patron, the portrait painter Ozias Humphry. Sendak acquired it from bookseller Justin Schiller in 1994. Similarly, one of the first five copies of Blake's *Songs of Innocence* (1789), the only copy printed in green ink in private hands, sold for \$1,260,000. This had previously been in the collections of fine press printer Edwin Grabhorn and collector Abel Berland.

The Sendak materials were sold by the Maurice Sendak Foundation to support the Sendak Fellowship, a residency for illustration artists.



COURTESY SOTHEBY'S

A Pocket-Sized Marvel

Published by Aldus Manutius, this classical work was a blockbuster in a series of sales from a major rare book library.

At the third and final sale of T. Kimball Brooker's Aldine collection at Sotheby's New York on June 25, a copy of the 1501 Virgil—the first of Aldus's “pocket classics” that offered a then-novel portable format and the first book printed in italic types—sold for \$1,041,400 over estimates of \$150,000–200,000.

This copy, with an illuminated border and a painted owl on the first page, was among the early printed books acquired by dealer Hans P. Kraus from Martin Bodmer in Geneva in 1970, as recounted in Kraus's 1978 autobiography, *A Rare Book Saga*. In it, he describes his purchases from Bodmer as “certainly among the most notable transactions ever to take place in the book trade” (see pages 282–284). Brooker acquired it from Kraus the following year.



COURTESY CHRISTIE'S IMAGES LTD. 2025

A large-format photogravure of Alfred Stieglitz's iconic 1902 rail yard photograph "The Hand of Man" sold for \$176,400 in the Christie's online sale of photographs on April 17. Printed about 1910, this copy is annotated by Stieglitz in the margin as a "very rare proof" and is titled, signed, and dated twice in pencil. On the verso, Stieglitz inscribed the print "For D.S.N." and described it as an "original photogravure."

The recipient was photographer and activist Dorothy Stecker Norman, who met Stieglitz in 1927 and would go on to assist with the establishment and operation of Stieglitz's third gallery, An American Place, located in New York. The pair soon began an affair, which continued until Stieglitz's death in 1946. Norman's biography of the photographer, *Alfred Stieglitz: An American Seer*, was published in 1973.

This photograph, previously sold at Christie's in the 2019 sale of the Michael Scharf Family Collection for \$118,750, was estimated at \$70,000–90,000.

Industrial Beauty

Alfred Stieglitz wrote that this photograph of a locomotive was meant to capture how "we are apt to lose sight of the pictorial possibilities of the commonplace."

A CHALLENGE ACCEPTED

This letterpress notice promised to put the great escape artist Houdini to the test.



COURTESY POTTER & POTTER AUCTIONS

At the April 26 Potter & Potter Auctions sale of Houdiniana and magic memorabilia in Chicago, a challenge broadside promoting a January 20, 1925, event at B. F. Keith's New York Hippodrome sold for \$9,600, well surpassing the estimate of \$600–900. The poster includes the text of the challenge to Houdini from six "carpenters, packers and shippers" of the Gimbel Brothers department store firm,

who offered to "construct a strong wooden packing case of heavy timber, and we believe that we can so nail and rope you in this box that you will be unable to escape therefrom."

Houdini's acceptance of the challenge also appears on the poster and notes that it comes "under the condition that the box most [sic] not be air-tight." Seems reasonable.

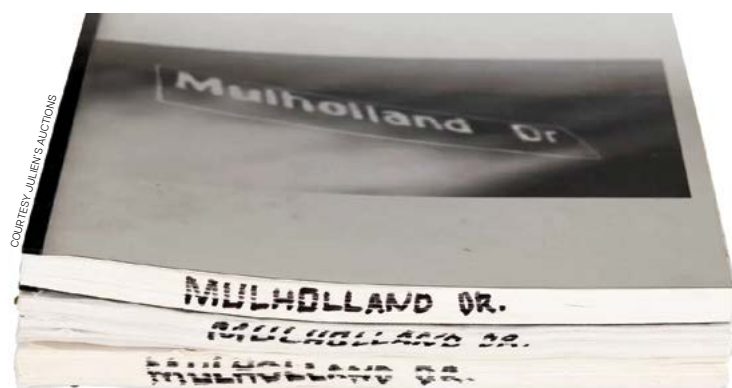


COURTESY SWANN GALLERIES

Bats over Broadway

Pen-and-ink drawings recall the gothic aesthetic of the 1970s revival of the play version of *Dracula* as envisioned by Edward Gorey.

At the Swann Galleries sale of illustration art on June 17 in New York, a group of vampire bat sketches by Edward Gorey for the 1977 Broadway production of *Dracula* sold for \$13,750, over estimates of \$2,500–3,500. Gorey's set and costume designs for the play were first used for the 1973 Nantucket Stage Company revival produced by John Wulp and again for the Eugene Wolsk-developed Broadway production starring Frank Langella as Dracula. One of the sixteen bat designs is inscribed "For Alex, Edward Gorey."



From the Mind of David Lynch

An auction of 450 items from the personal collection of the visionary of American cinema made \$4.25 million.

Many lots of books and scripts were included in the sale of material from the collection of the late filmmaker David Lynch at Julien's Auctions in Gardena, California, on June 18, with nearly all selling quite strongly.

A group of eleven scripts from the unfinished film project *Ronnie Rocket: The Absurd Mystery of the Strange Forces of Existence*, dating from 1988, 1991, and 2012, and including one annotated script, sold for \$195,000; they had been estimated at just \$200–300. Selling for the same price was a production script from *Lost Highway* (1997). Its title page has a coffee stain and typed text from Lynch, including the lines “A world where time is dangerously out of control. / A terrifying ride down the lost highway.” Three *Mulholland Drive* scripts made \$104,000, and two copies of the script for the pilot episode of *Twin Peaks* (under the original title *Northwest Passage*) realized \$91,000.

Bound for Glory

This elegant book originated from the library of a legendary bibliophile.



Forum Auctions in London sold a Grolier binding on May 29 for £36,000 (\$47,812): a 1521 edition of Greek authors translated into Latin, dedicated to Jean Grolier de Servières, known for his expansive library with its meticulous bindings. (His legacy would later be celebrated through the naming of the Grolier Club in New York.) The volume was bound for him by Jean Picard of Paris in the 1540s.


After Jean Grolier, its owners included the famous bibliomaniac Richard Heber, collectors Sydney Richardson Christie-Miller and A. Edward Newton, and “An Argentine Lady.” The book also passed through the hands of well-known booksellers Gabriel Wells, Herbert Reichner, Lathrop C. Harper, and Bernard H. Breslauer.



THE SURREALISTS' BOOKBINDER

A Paris auction featured work by Paul Bonet, who collaborated with artists and writers on sumptuous bindings involving unconventional materials and dazzling gold tooling.

At Christie's Paris on May 22, the library of Lyon businessman Pierre Brossette sold for more than €6 million (\$6.9 million). Among the top lots was a remarkable copy of André Breton and Paul Éluard's *L'Immaculée Conception* (1930) in a striking photographic binding by Paul Bonet. This is copy #1, being one of just three copies printed on China paper and inscribed by both authors to Belgian collector and early Surrealist patron René Gaffé.

The book also contains a frontispiece etching by Salvador Dalí. It fetched €365,400 (\$423,628). Similar Bonet photographic bindings on Breton's *Nadja* (1928) and Éluard's *L'Amour, la poésie* (1929) sold for €352,800 and €151,200, respectively. 

Jeremy Dibbell is a special collections librarian at Binghamton University. His rare book auction previews are available on the *Fine Books & Collections* blog.

POTTER & POTTER AUCTIONS

FINE BOOKS AND ARTWORK

FROM THE GEORGE D. LACY AND
LOUIS A. IRMO COLLECTIONS

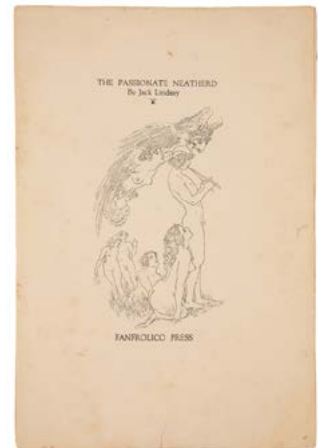
NOVEMBER 20, 2025



David Butcher. *Pages from Presses.*
Kelmscott, Ashdene, Doves, Vale,
Eragny, and Essex House.
est. \$800-1,200



Norman Lindsay. "The Sinking Galleon"
Large Original Signed Watercolor.
est. \$20,000-30,000



Norman Lindsay and Jack Lindsay
The Passionate Neatherd.
est. \$2,000-3,000



Heinrich Lefler, Joseph Urban, and Johann Musaeus.
Die Bücher der Chronika der drei Schwestern.
est. \$1,000-1,500

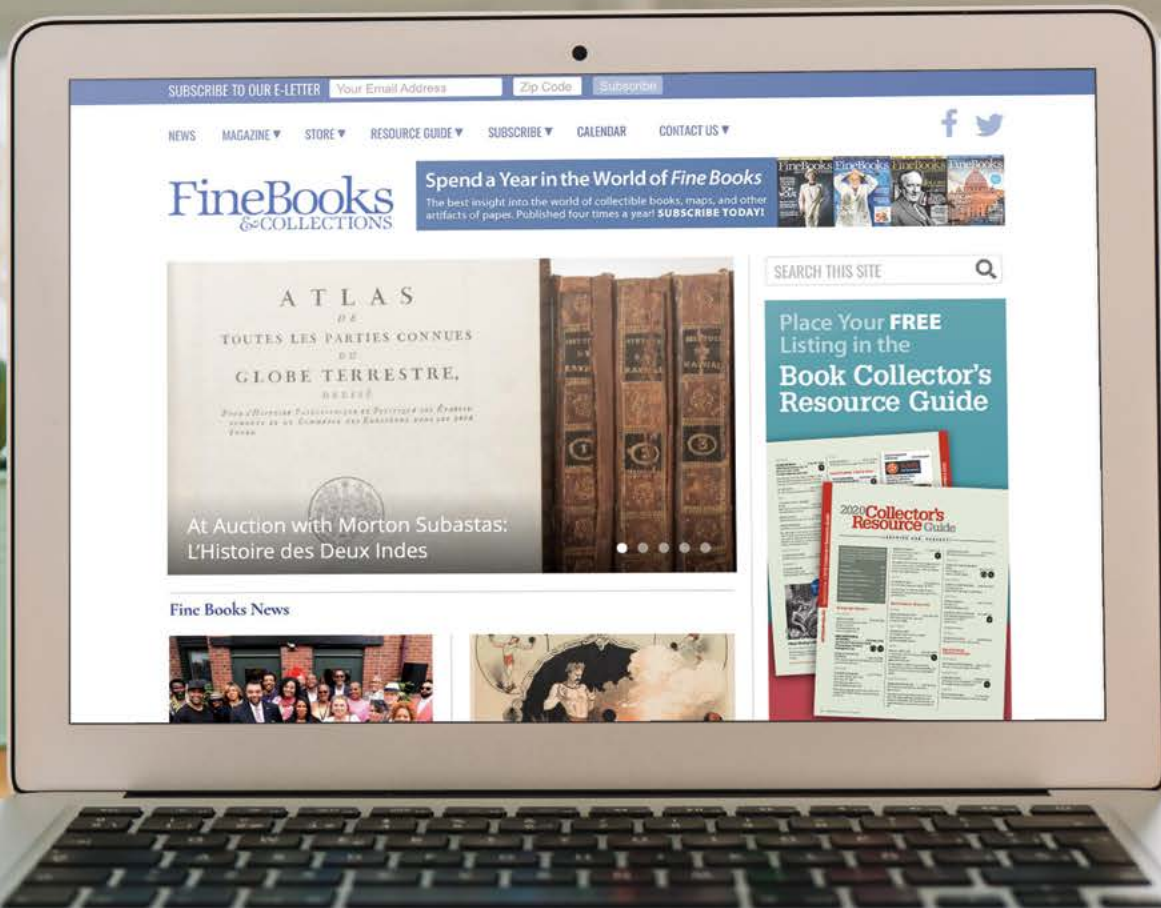


Gustave Surand. Original Oil Painting,
"Orpheus [sic] charmant les animaux (Hors Concours)".
est. \$10,000-15,000

Spend Every Day with *Fine Books*

The *Fine Books* website is updated daily with current news from the world of book collecting.

Read original stories and learn about upcoming events and auctions. **Visit Daily.**



FineBooksMagazine.com