ONE MANUSCRIPT & 20 BOOKS, 1456-1850

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Fine, 15th-century Florentine vernacular manuscript of Giovanni Boccaccio’s (1313-75) renowned treatise De mulieribus claris (On Famous Women), “the first collection of biographies in Western literature devoted exclusively to women” and a work considered to be “the fountainhead of the European tradition of female biography” (V. Brown).
BODIES: THE 17TH-CENTURY EXHIBITION
SAMMELBAND OF FOUR ANATOMICAL WORKS

2. BILS, Lodewijk de. Specimina Anatomica, cum clarriss. doctissimorumque virorum epistolis aliquot & testimoniiis. Rotterdam, Arnoldus Leers, 1661. 4to. Four engravings. Bound with three other contemporary medical pamphlets by Bils, one with an engraving, and another medical work. Ownership inscriptions dated 1694 and 1699 by Andreas Smissaert. Original marbled paper over thin pine boards. $4500

Sammelband of four medical pamphlets in their first Latin edition by the Flemish Lodewijk de Bils (1624-1670), who advertised a method of turning bodies into transparent teaching tools preserved and embalmed in a wax-like substance. The sammelband includes his treatises on the dissection of a pair of siamese twins (Specimina Anatomica) and on the gall bladder (Epistolica Dissertatio), as well as a letter (Epistola Apologetica, penned under another name) to his major detractor, Thomas Bartholinus. The final work, Omnibus verae Anatome studiosis, refers to the specimen museum Bils planned to erect in Rotterdam using these methods, and the particular glands and veins he intended to display.
EXPERIMENTAL DRUGS IN 17th TH CENTURY ROME ARSENIC, VITRIOL AND HELLEBORE SAMMELBAND OF FIVE PHARMACOLOGICAL TEXTS

3. CASTELLI, Pietro. Chalcantium Dodecaporion sive Duodecim Dubitationes in usu olei Vitrioli et defensio Antiquorum in Arsenici... ad Raymundum Minderum. Rome, Mascardi, 1629. 4to. Bound with four other pharmacological works by Castelli. Contemporary vellum. $4450

Sammelband of five very rare first-edition pharmacological works by the Italian physician and pharmacologist Pietro Castelli (1570-1657), including the very rare first edition of a polemical treatise advocating the controlled use of sulfuric acid (or “oil of vitriol”) and arsenic in lieu of liquid salts. All five works are rare in U.S. institutions.
THE BIRTH OF THE ABOLITIONIST MOVEMENT IN FRANCE


First edition published in France of this seminal text advocating the abolition of slavery, issued by the Société de la morale chrétienne, an anti-slavery organization founded in France in November 1821 that counted Tocqueville, Thiers and Lamartine among its members. With the iconic folding engraved plate representing the section of the slave ship *Brookes* that became notorious for its role in the transatlantic slave trade.

Only edition of this unusual volume surveying the wooded holdings of the Count of Eu in Upper Normandy, entirely engraved, including a pictorial title page, 13 calligraphic plates of text, charts and tables, five botanical and industrial images, and 21 handsome, precise maps of the woods, and forests within the County of Paire d’Eu. “This volume, evidently not intended for general sale, is a great rarity” (Thiébaud, 155).
6. GARCAEUS, Johannes. Tractatus brevis et utilis, de erigendis figuris coeli, verificationibus, revolutionibus et directionibus. Wittenberg, G. Rhaus Erben, 1556. 8vo. Two folding tables. Rubricated vellum (music manuscript) with title on spine. $18,500

Rare first edition of the Tractatus de erigendis figuris coeli, documenting Copernican influence on 16th-century astronomical literature, with two ex dono dedications to the Wittenberg mathematician and physician Jacob Milich indicating that Milich, whose numerous collaborations with Melanchthon are already well-documented, was a heretofore unknown member of the Wittenberg Circle, the informal group of Copernicans centered around Rheticus and Reinhold. Bound with two other works, including Reinhold’s Themata (1541).
THE ILLUSTRATED GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH


First and only edition of the first fully-fledged study of the Greek Orthodox Church, extensively illustrated with images of religious costumes, artifacts and architectural renderings. It an important addition to the nascent German tradition of studying the history of religious traditions without partisan intent.
EXTREMELY RARE SEPARATELY PUBLISHED CAHIERS FOR ARTISTS PRINTED IN SANGUINE INK

8. JANINET, Jean-François / BONNET, Louis-Marin / LE CLERC, Pierre Thomas. Cahier de Principes de Desseins d’après nature, faits par Le Clerc. Paris: Le Père et Avaulez or Bonnet, c. 1773. Folio. 12 cahiers, each comprising six crayon-manner engraved plates printed in sanguine colored ink including title page, for a total of 72 engraved plates. Contemporary mottled calf, with doodles and four small pencil and wash drawings. $9850

A genuine example of this remarkable gathering of 12 separately published “cahiers” intended for artists and students, designed by Pierre Thomas Le Clerc. They are engraved in sanguine ink using the “manièr de crayon” chalk-manner technique by two major innovators in color engraving, Jean-François Janinet (1752-1814) and Louis-Marin Bonnet (1736-1793). This volume was most likely a student or artist copy, with evidence of use and occasional oil and ink stains. An extremely rare survival: no institutional U.S. copy traced, and to our knowledge no complete copy in France; some U.S. libraries report a few loose engravings.
GYNECOLOGICAL UROLOGY

9. MASOTTI, Domenico. *La Litotomia delle donne perfezionata...* Faenza, Presso l’Archi, 1763 [i.e., 1764]. 4to. Two folding engraved plates, four engraved plates of calculi in text. Original vellum. $1450

Scarce second edition, second issue of a work on extracting stones from the female bladder. Masotti’s work is considered a precursor to laparoscopy. He comments on the methods and instruments of earlier lithotomists, reports on four procedures that he performed, and describes, along with two illustrations, an instrument he designed to remove stones without surgery. “Masotti fitted his forceps with a blade which could be projected as far as the size of the stone warranted” (Murphy, *History of Urology*).
First royal octavo edition and an exceptional copy of this work of Native American history and ethnography, "one of the most important [works] ever published on the American Indians" (Field), containing "the most colorful portraits of Indians ever executed" (Howes). The wildly popular work was printed in folio from 1836-44 and then in royal octavo, 1848-50. Though the octavo was reissued numerous times, the present edition remains unsurpassed in its fidelity to the original folio, both for printing quality and for plate color.

First complete edition of Michel de Montaigne’s (1533-92) Essais, one of the most influential and profound works of world literature. The volume contains the first appearance of the third book, printed from Montaigne's manuscript copy. This is the last edition printed during the author’s lifetime and the definitive text on which all later editions are based.

SEE FULL DESCRIPTION

Rare first edition, second issue of this understudied work, “apparently the earliest Italian imprint to depict and discuss the Copernican system” by the Cologne-born Professor of Mathematics at Padua (Gingerich). The work includes a printed diagram of the geo-heliocentric system of Martianus Capella as well as a diagram and exposition of the Copernican system.
FROM PEKING TO PRAGUE
THE CHINESE ASTRONOMY OF FRANÇOIE NOËL
WITH A LARGE FOLDING STAR CHART
OF THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE

13. NOËL, François. Observationes Mathematicae, et Physicae in India et in China Factae à Patre Francisco Noël Societatis Jesu, ab anno 1684. usque ad annum 1708. Prague, Joachim Joannes Kamenicky, 1710. 4to. Full-page engraved Chinese Calendar, numerous woodcut diagrams and tables with woodcut Chinese letters, full-page engraved plate of astronomical observations, and large folding engraved star chart. Contemporary calf. $28,500

Rare first and sole edition by the Belgian-born polymath François Noël (1651-1729) of one of the few works published in Europe to record detailed, first-person observations made at Jesuit astronomical observatories in China in the 17th century, and one of the first works to convey information on Chinese observational data and astronomical traditions to a Western audience.

SEE FULL DESCRIPTION
ONE OF THE OUTSTANDING WORKS ON
ARTISTIC DECORATION OF 17TH CENTURY FRANCE

14. PERRAULT, Charles. Le Cabinet des beaux arts ou recueil
d’estampes gravées d’après les tableaux d’un plafond où les beaux arts
sont représentés. Paris, G. Edelinck, 1690. Oblong 4to. 13 leaves of
plates. Contemporary mottled calf, slightly worn. $2850

First edition of this fully engraved work, which illustrates the decorations
of the ceiling of Perrault’s study in his residence in the Faubourg Saint-
Jacques, Place de l’Estrapade. Perrault, the Controleur general des
bâtiments to the King of France, called on no less than 11 painters to
execute this splendid ceiling from 1680 to 1693.
Sammelband of Obstetric and Cardiology Books

How to Determine Virginity


Medical anthology containing the first published description of an important observation by Gassendi on the anatomy of the heart, along with reprints of three other gynecological and obstetrical works. Pineau’s work treats the anatomical signs of virginity and related gynecological matters. Bonacciuoli’s tract is devoted to the formation of the foetus in the womb, with Platter’s treatise taking up two specialized problems in developmental anatomy: the origin of arteries, veins and nerves from the brain and the relation of the veins to the heart and liver.

The large number of illustrations for a duodecimo and the sensational title page accompanying the first work—comparable to the eye-catching jacket-covers of contemporary novels—suggest a highly deliberate attempt to ‘market’ texts for medical students.

SEE FULL DESCRIPTION
WITH 194 ILLUSTRATIONS OF MACHINES
A LANDMARK OF RENAISSANCE TECHNOLOGY


First and sole edition of this profusely illustrated landmark on early technology, and along with Agricola’s De Re Metallica (1556), the most influential and copied of all the early illustrated manuals of inventions and machines. Its influence was felt in such later works as Böckler’s Theatrum machinarum (1662), Grolier de Servière’s treatise (1719), and it was even copied in China, where it had been taken by Jesuit missionaries.
Enlarged edition (first ed. 1678) of what is believed to be the first printed monograph on the invention of eyeglasses. Francesco Redi, head physician of the Medici court and superintendent of the ducal pharmacy and foundry, was one of the great experimentalists of his time. His stature as a scientist was such that this thesis on the origin of eyeglasses was accepted for over two centuries.
DEVOTION TO THE BLACK VIRGIN OF OROPA
AT THE SANCTUARY OF SACRO MONTE DI OROPA
A UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE


Rare (and likely first edition) guide to the Marian sanctuary of Sanctuary of Oropa, located near Biella, Piemonte in an idyllic mountainous landscape. The entire Sacro Monte—the sanctuary complex and the surrounding chapels—is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. OCLC records only two U.S. copies of this 1659 edition (the Getty and the University of Dayton).
FIRST EDITION ITALIAN LANGUAGE SACROBOSCO
INCLUDING A POINTER & SECRETS OF THE ART OF NAVIGATION
ILLUSTRATED WITH 90 WOODCUTS, MANY FULL PAGE


First edition of the first Italian-language Sacrobosco. The work is further augmented by Mauro’s “additioni” to the basic text of Sacrobosco and several appendices for the benefit of his vernacular reader, including the “secrets of the art of navigation”. The globes are notable for early depictions of South America, duly noted by Harisse.

SEE FULL DESCRIPTION
FIRST EDITIONS OF TWO IMPORTANT
ANATOMICAL WORKS OF THE FRENCH RENAISSANCE
BOUND TOGETHER IN ORIGINAL REVERSE CALF


A handsome sammelband of the two important anatomical works of the French Renaissance, both in their first French editions. Estienne’s superbly illustrated Dissection is bound here after Jacques Grévin’s adaptation of Vesalius’ De Humani Corporis Fabrica, the first appearance of Vesalius in the French language. Together these two spectacularly illustrated works present the pinnacle of 16th-century anatomical illustration, the Estienne in woodcut and the Vesalius in copperplate engraving.

SEE FULL DESCRIPTION
WITH OVER 300 ENGRAVINGS OF SEALS (“SIGILLA”)

21. VREDIUS, Olivarius. *Sigilla Comitum Flandriae et Inscriptiones Diplomatatum ab iis editorum cum expositione historica*. Bruges, Jan van den Kerckhove, 1639. 4to. Contemporary vellum. $2450

First edition Olivier de Vrée’s (1596-1652) compendium of seals of the Counts of Flanders, a volume notable both for its antiquarian rigor—the work remains a standard reference on the subject—and for its some 300 copperplate engravings (some repeats) meticulously cataloguing the development of seals from the establishment of Flanders as a country in the ninth century (the 878 A.D. seal of Count Baldinus) to the time of the book’s publication (the seals of Philip IV).