Early Modern books & prints

Many concerning spectacle

Golden Legend, Inc.
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[Architectural design for a theatre backdrop signed "Tasca"]. (lower left) pencil. Pen and black ink and grey wash, unframed 6 3/8 x 9 7/8 in. (16.3 x 25.1 cm).

Most likely done for *Monima e Mitridate*. Dramma serio per musical with music by Nasolini, performed in Venice in 1799 (Sartori 15899).

$3,000

Full Description:

http://www.abaa.org/books/498290406.html

Copy and paste the link into your browser if it doesn't open in three seconds.
Noi Macrobio Culaccione visitatore generale dell’ Università de Nasi Grossi indecenti nappioni smisurati dinutili difformati e sproportionati auditore di male lingue e maldicenti consultore della Congregazione de Gossi, protettore de buffoni magri, &. A curious popular print in two panels. The prints pictures, in the left panel, a man with a bulbous nose who is forced against a grinder to reduce the size of the nose, with a boy defecating above to lubricate the grinder.

On the right, are three professors, below which is an engraved decree stating that the University of Big Noses (Università de Nasi Grossi) orders the citizens with overlarge noses to go to the site Piazza Bottom, where a grinder had been set up to reduce and adjust all sorts of prohibited and disproportionate “conks” (nasazzi).

This print pokes fun at those who persons with thick, bulbous noses who are, by virtue of the size of their nose, thought to be insensitive or clumsy or brutish, this according the pseudoscience of physiognomy, then popular. It could also picture the stereotypical Jew with a freakishly large nose. Jews came to Milan (then a Spanish protectorate) from Spain under Philip II but were under stress from Christians throughout the end of the 17th Century.

Full Description:
www.goldenlegend.com/pdfs/nose.pdf
Copy and paste the link into your browser if it doesn't open in three seconds.

$1,000
This narrative describes the elaborate ceremony held in the Basilica of Saint Peter in Rome on May 18, 1716 as part of the elaborate ritual of beatification for Jean-François Régis. **The narration mentions the music composed by Domenico Scarlatti and the tapestries created by Raphael of Urbino.**
5 Amat, Joan Carles (1572?-1640). *Guitarra española, y v`andola en dos maneras de guitarra, castellana, y cathalana de cinco ordenes la qual enseña de templar, y tañer rasgado.* Gerona: Joseph Bró, (1745). 8vo, modern wraps. Uncut and unopened. 56pp., illustrated. Some mild browning. This is a supplement to the first treatise on Spanish Guitar. Topics covered include tuning, formation and fingering of chords, and how to accompany popular dances of the day. Notable for its forward-looking concept of harmony, Amat’s Guitarra española was one of the most influential treatises on the guitar.

$4,000

Full Description: [http://www.abaa.org/books/661232179.html](http://www.abaa.org/books/661232179.html)

Copy and paste the link into your browser if it doesn't open in three seconds.

6 Amigioni, Carlotta (artist). *Celebre Auretti, La*. Large engraving, printed on two sheets of laid paper. 12” x 18 3/8” plus wide margins. Untrimmed. Some darkening to margins from mat, and faint staining to upper right margin. Slight soiling. Tape on top margin, verso. A lovely impression.

Anonymous engraving (English? French? Ca. 1750) probably after a lost painting by Carlotta Amigoni with the face probably taken from a medal of Joanna Auretti. The subject of the print is either Anne or Janneton Auretti. One of three engravings most likely based on Amigoni’s painting.

$3,000

Full Description: [www.goldenlegend.com/pdfs/auretti_print.pdf](http://www.goldenlegend.com/pdfs/auretti_print.pdf)

Copy and paste the link into your browser if it doesn't open in three seconds.
7 Amoroso Antonio Mercurio (1660-1738). **The musician.** Engraved From the Original Picture painted by Amoroso, in the Collection of the Right Honble Lord Middleton. To whom this Plate is moft Humbly Dedicated, by his Lordship’: moft Obliged & most Obedt Servant. J. Boydell. Size of the Picture 2 F10 I by 3 F4 I in height. Published by J.Boydell Engraver in Cheapside London 1764.

**Fine mezzotint**

Large folio. 16 ½ x 21 5/16th”. Chaloner Smith’s #4. Later states are smaller or have scratched publisher’s name or have subject size of 14 x 18” [as opposed to 14 x 18 ¼” as ours].

$1,500

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**Original edition:** Not in Adams; EDIT 16; CNCE 2644; BM STC Italian, 1465-1600, p.38; Not in Clubb. Agnelli e Ravegnani pp 129-30; Very rare

**First edition of a five act comedy in verse written by Lodivico Ariosto until verse 14 of the fourth scene of the fourth act and then finished by his brother Gabriel.**

$6,000
9 Bella, Stefano Della. *Raccolta di Vasi Diversi*. Paris: F. Langlois, 1646. Complete set of six etchings (ca. 1646), all first state (of three) on laid paper, with margins (slightly uneven), occasional pale spotting and staining, stitching holes in the right margins, laid on the page of an album. Quarto, (plates: 3 1/2 x 7 1/4"; 90 x 185mm); (sheets: 5 x 10"; 125 x 250mm). Red half morocco rubbed, rebacked. De Vesme 1045-50; Berlin II, No. 1137.

A collection of 46 vases (whole or partial) etched on six sheets including title-page. These “capprichi” were done for the sake of experiment and invention with foliage, animal figures, grotesques, floral arrangements, ornaments, and satyrs.

$3,000

http://www.abaa.org/books/641283672.html

Copy and paste the link into your browser if it doesn't open in three seconds.


The most arresting of the three Della Bella etchings taken from the festival book Il mondo festeggiante (1661).

$2,000

http://www.abaa.org/books/283485802.html

Copy and paste the link into your browser if it doesn't open in three seconds.

Thomas wrote with great facility. He is credited with perfecting the French language, as can be evidenced by this translation of Ovid (begun shortly after he left school), his notes to Claude Favre Vaugelas *Remarques sur la langue Français* (1647), his compilation of a dictionary of arts and sciences for the Académie Française (1694), and his editorship of Mercure galant, with Donneau de Vise.

The artist of the two engravings fronting the books is the son of Hermann Weyen (or Weyher), Laurent Weyen (1643-1672), a Flemish engraver who died in Paris. Laurent also engraved illustrations for the works of Moliere.

Full Description:

[http://www.abaa.org/books/641283669.html](http://www.abaa.org/books/641283669.html)

Copy and paste the link into your browser if it doesn't open in three seconds.

$1,500

With plates in beautiful state, rich and sharp. “The two printings of this, the second, edition are important, because although the “early success of Ariane is implicit in the quarto editions of 1639 and 1643.”

$3,500


Copy and paste the link into your browser if it doesn't open in three seconds.

Mari-Anne de Chateauneuf Duclose (1668-1748). French actress who was accepted by the Comédie Française in 1693, where she acted in tragic roles, later replacing Mlle Champmesle and sharing feminine leads with Mlle Desmares. Her strength lay in declamation, and she was admired in the roles of Molière. Her great talent was eclipsed by her volatile temper and by the changing styles of acting best exemplified by that of Adrienne Lecouvrer, her young rival.

Duclos in the role of Ariane (by Thomas Corneille) is one of the grand portraits of the French baroque theatre and one of the treasures of Le Musée de la Comédie Française (Dacier, 20) $2,500

Full Description: [http://www.abaa.org/books/283485493.html](http://www.abaa.org/books/283485493.html)
Copy and paste the link into your browser if it doesn't open in three seconds.

A forgotten playwright who ought to be remembered, In his own time. Fagan was influential and celebrated even by Voltaire who thought Fagan’s La Pupille, 1734, was the most complete petite pièce on the French stage.

Les Caractères de Thalie consists of three one act plays, l’Inquiet, l’Étourderie, Les Originaux each with a different structure and theme, each played together to form a complete work.

Full Description:


Copy and paste the link into your browser if it doesn't open in three seconds.

$1,500
François l’Hermite (c. 1601 – September 7, 1655).

**Pantheé, Tragedie de Monsieur de Trista.**

Paris: Augustin Courbe, 1639. Priv 23 February 1638; Achevé 10 May 1639. Tragedy in five acts, verse. Tchemerzine X. P.417 for original 4to edition with same dates as this the 12mo edition. 12mo. 19th century vellum. Based on Xeonophon’s touching tale in the *Cyropadeia* books V-II, Tristan’s version finds Queen Pantheé of Susa (Assyria) captured by Cyrus King of Persia. Her poise and her beauty cause her to be discovered and spared. The play was popular enough to be mentioned as one of the 41 plays in Poisson’s *Baron de la Crasse* and in the preface to Corneille’s *Sophonsib*. It was reprinted three times after the author’s death. Durval published a *Panthée* at about the same time (Paris: Courbé, 1639). His was also based on Xeonphon’s *Cyropaedia*. This subject had also been treated by Alexandre Hardy.

$1,250

Full Description:


Copy and paste the link into your browser if it doesn't open in three seconds.

Original edition of Genest’s rare first play. Barbier 19559; Herissant, *Catalogue des livres de la bibliothèque de feue madame la Marquise de Pompadourean* (1765) 1045; Lancaster IV 212-214; Soleinne 1488.

Potential a major playwright in early modern France, What seems likely is that Genest’s dramatic gifts succumbed to the aesthetic requirements of the private theatricals when he became a fixture in planning and writing the theatrical entertainments for the Duchess of Maine at her private estate at Sceaux.

Full Description:  

Copy and paste the link into your browser if it doesn't open in three seconds.
La Calprenède [pseud. of Gauthier de Coste, Seigneur de la Calprenède] (ca. 1610-1663).

Recueil of four plays by La Calprenède, bound together, of which three are original editions. La Calprenède as a dramatist

This is a collection of four of La Calprenède’s early plays (he wrote nine), including three original editions, including his first play, Mithridate, and his masterpiece, Le Comte d’Essex, an English historical tragedy about Elizabeth I and the Earl of Essex. The collection should provide valuable information on La Calprenède’s early career as an author before he turned to the novel.


$3,500

Full Description: www.goldenlegend.com/pdfs/calpren.pdf
Copy and paste the link into your browser if it doesn't open in three seconds.

Height 17 ½" ie 1' 5 ½ 444.5m; Length 22" ie 17 ½ 558mm. Framed.

Sallé to front, feet in fourth position, arms à la seconde, elaborate ankle-length gown. Background left, trio of women dancing. Background right, four boys playing woodwind instruments in front of the Temple of Diana, heavy foliage. Engraved by L'Armessin, Nicolas de, 1684-1753.

ref: Bocher, Emmanuel, Nicolas Lancret, catalogue raisonné, Paris, 1877

Full Description:
http://www.goldenlegend.com/pdfs/salle.pdf

Copy and paste the link into your browser if it doesn't open in three seconds.

$3,000

Folio (9 1/2 x 13 3/8”). 19th-century patterned boards, calf spine, with raised band, decorated in gilt. Rubbed. Printed title restored. First eight leaves of dedication are water stained at lower right corner; occasional stains but clean overall. Complete with frontis and 21 full-page engravings trimmed at bottom with loss of publisher’s imprint. A few engravings have lost one (or two) lines of caption at bottom. Good condition with prints clean.

**La Gallerie des Femmes Fortes** (Paris, 1647) is the most significant example of the numerous galleries of women published during the first half of the 17th century. It presents a strong argument that femmes fortes (i.e. women who are strong, valiant, courageous, or fearless) could become heads of state. With this book, La Moyne contributed to the long running querelle des femmes concerning the abilities and status of women versus men, suggesting that the femme sauvante and the femme forte thus were interwoven (Gandolfo).

$2,500

Full Description: [www.goldenlegend.com/pdfs/gallerie.pdf](http://www.goldenlegend.com/pdfs/gallerie.pdf)

Copy and paste the link into your browser if it doesn't open in three seconds.
Molière and His Ballets:

Recueil of 12 Librettos for Ballets and Mascarades in Paris, 1645-1669. A collection of ballets and mascarades containing most of those created by Molière and published separately as itemized in Guibert*, Section II pp 490-548.


Provenance: Bookplate of Albert-Jean Guibert, the Molière bibliographer and winner of 1965 Prix Saintour, with his annotations in pencil and in pen, as well as, his

$12,500

www.goldenlegend.com/pdfs/Molrecu.pdf

Copy and paste the link into your browser if it doesn't open in three seconds.
21 Nilson, Johann Esaias. Catharina Helena Stöber. Catharina Helena Stöber 1775 or Stöberin (German model, 1721-1788)
etching with engraved text on laid paper; 230 x 166 mm (9 ⅜ x 6 ½ inches) Schuster 374

This is a rare souvenir portrait of Catharina Helena Stöber, who was only two foot four inches (ca. 70 cm) in height. She was exhibited at fairs all over Germany.

Full Description:  
http://www.goldenlegend.com/pdfs/Stober.pdf
Copy and paste the link into your browser if it doesn't open in three seconds.

22 Rameau, Pierre. Le maitre a danser: Paris: Ches Jean Villette Fils, rue S. Jacques, a Saint Bernard, 1734. "One of the most important books in the history of dance literature . . . it contains the clearest and most detailed descriptions available of the structure and execution of the basic steps used in social and theatrical dance,” (Hilton, 49). Rameau sets down for the first time, verbally and with illustrations, the five basic positions for the feet, which had been notated but not analyzed in his seminar work Chorégraphie (1700).

Full Description:  
www.goldenlegend.com/pdfs/Rameau.pdf
Copy and paste the link into your browser if it doesn't open in three seconds.

Pierre Paul Sevin was a painter, decorator, illustrator and scenic designer (b. Tournon 1650, d. Tournon 1710.) He was born into a family of painters and educated in the art of lettering and painting by his father Francois Sevin (1604-ca. 1666). Pierre Paul was established at the Jesuit College at Lyon after his father's death. At Lyon, he commanded recognition for his commissions and became the assistant of Claude Francoise Menestrier, whose scenic conceptions he executed. At the recommendation of Menestrier, and with the assistance of the Royal Painter Charles Le Brun, Sevin was appointed as a pensioner at the French academy of painting at Rome. He traveled widely before he settled in Lyon and then returned to Tournon, the city of his birth.

For those who are interested in the development of architectural design and festival decoration, this autobiography will be an important addition to scholarship, as it documents the actual design and planning of important public buildings and festivals during the high baroque period in France and Italy.

$30,000

“the most famous of all Schouwburg illustrations”, the magnificent series of thirteen etchings of the theatre’s scene published by J. Smit between 1738 and 1772

Full Description: $6,500

Copy and paste the link into your browser if it doesn't open in three seconds.

The career of Richard John Samuel Stevens (1757-1827) lasted from the late baroque to early romanticism. Trained as a choirboy, he was apprenticed at the age of eleven to William Savage, who undertook to instruct him in the "Science of Musick." After leaving Savage, Stevens pursued, somewhat unsuccessfully at first, a career as an organist. In 1782 his luck changed when he was elected an organist to St. Michael's, Cornhill. He spent the rest of his life earning his living as a composer, organist, and music teacher. He was the founder of the Harmonist's Society London (Robins).

$2,250

Full Description:
http://www.abaa.org/books/386639531.html
Copy and paste the link into your browser if it doesn't open in three seconds.
Recueil of 13 ballets performed at L’Académie Royale de Musique, 1737-1755, Paris. Bound in one volume, quarto, contemporary calf. With printed and corrected index tipped in to front pastedown. This is an important period for the development of ballet in France with the maturity of Jean-Phillipe Rameau’s music; the debate over French versus Italian musical forms; and the introduction of the “Danse d’Action,” precursor to Noverre’s reforms in movement; all of which are reflected in these ballet texts.

1. Les Amours du printemps. 1739
2. Les Fêtes d’Hébé. 1739. e.o.
3. Zaide, reine de Grenade. 1739
4. Dardanus. 1739
5. Nitetis. 1741. e.o.
7. Isbé, 1742. e.o.
8. Le Pouvoir de l’amour. 1743. e.o.
9. Les Caractères de la folie. 1743. e.o.
10. L’École des amans. 1745.
11. Zélindor, Roi des Silphes. 1745. e.o.
12. Les Augustales. 1744. e.o.
13. Les Festes de Polimnie. 1745. e.o.

Full Description:
www.goldenlegend.com/pdfs/ballard2.pdf
Copy and paste the link into your browser if it doesn't open in three seconds.

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$3,500

*Giustino* is a major opera. It shows Vivaldi on the verge of modernizing his style while summing up the most individual achievements of his earlier years. The rare libretto contains stage directions and much that is not in the original score.

$2,500  

**Full Description:**  
www.goldenlegend.com/pdfs/giustino.pdf  
Copy and paste the link into your browser if it doesn't open in three seconds.

28  "Voltaire" (François-Marie Arouet; 1694-1778). “Le heros de Ferney au theatre de Chatelaine—Ne pretens pas a trop, tu ne seaurais qu'ecrire, Tes vers forcent mes pleurs, mais tes gestes me font rire. [Ferny, ca. 1772] [Etching on paper] Size: 5 5/8" x 7 3/8", trimmed to platemark.

The subject of this anonymous satirical etching is Voltaire acting well past his prime

$750  

**Full Description:**  
http://www.abaa.org/books/601135002.html  
Copy and paste the link into your browser if it doesn't open in three seconds.
Vondel, Joost van den. *A collection of almost all the plays, over half in first editions; also the major poetry and translations*. 48 separate works bound in 12 vols, quarto. 11 in uniform contemporary vellum.

Joost van den Vondel (17 November 1587 – 5 February 1679) Dutch poet and playwright was considered the most prominent Dutch author of the 17th century. He passed away at the age of 91, writing until his last years. He is the greatest poet the Netherlands have produced, one who is distinguished in every form and who occupies a place among the best poet of all time.” (Petrus Henricus Albers in the Catholic Encyclopedia).

$10,000

www.goldenlegend.com/pdfs/Vondelfull_edited.pdf

Copy and paste the link into your browser if it doesn't open in three seconds.
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