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*...in the beautiful Wye Valley, into Wales and two miles upstream
from Tintern Abbey.*

Swan's Fine Books is delighted to present a short list of books from The Old Stile Press. Many great works of art and literature have been inspired by the idyllic landscape of Wales, so its no surprise to find a small press nestled in amongst those picturesque hills, producing some of the finest artist's books of the past fifty years. The press was founded in 1979 by husband and wife team Nicolas and Frances McDowall;

Nicolas working with the artists and Frances communicating with the outside world to organize distribution and exhibitions. Each title is sprung from a collaboration with a particular artist or printer, thus each edition is unique, favoring high quality materials and hand crafted workmanship. It's been a serene and joyous task to discover each of these sumptuous tomes, and we hope our friends can share in our pleasure.



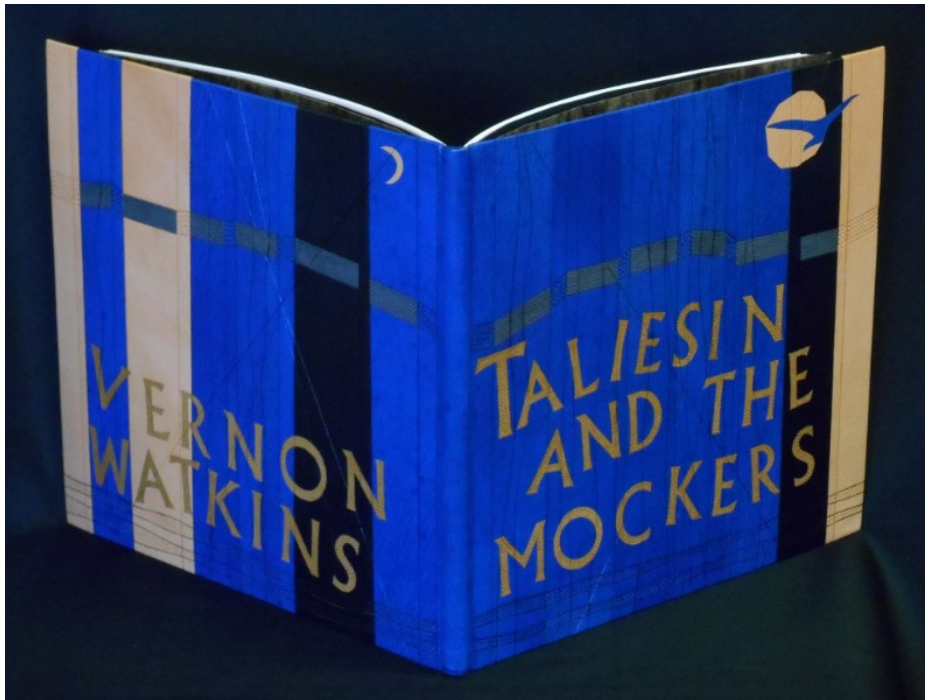
1. Balázs, Béla; Davies, John Lloyd (English Performing Version);
Adams, Susan (Illustrator).

**Duke Bluebeard's Castle; Libretto for the
Opera in One Act by Béla Balázs**

(Monmouthshire): The Old Stile Press, (2005). Limited Edition.
Number 7 of 150 copies, folio, [56] pp., signed by John Lloyd Davies
and Susan Adams. Fine. Hardcover.

A newly imagined performance of the chilling story of Bluebeard, in the form of an opera. The music and the libretto in their turn have drawn from Susan Adams a sequence of images. Each page evokes the unfolding pathos of the events that the walls of Duke Bluebeard's castle have witnessed. The opera had its original premier on May 24, 1918, in Budapest and continues to be performed today.

\$300.00



2. Watkins, Vernon (1908-1967); Watkins, Gwen (Afterword); Cour, Glenys (Artist); Delrue, Paul (Binder).

Taliesin and the Mockers

[Monmouthshire]: The Old Stile Press, [2004]. Limited Edition.
Signed by Author of Afterword, Artist, and Binder. Folio - over 12" to
15" tall. 56 pgs. Fine. Leather.

Limited edition of 225 copies, this no. 195, signed by both author of the afterword and by the artist. This copy in a custom binding by Paul Delrue, done in 2014, who also has signed on the colophon page. Glenys Cour's richly powerful collage images help to make a journey through this large format book an extraordinary experience. For the special edition, within the book, on every image-page, the artist has

made additions by hand in gold which, as admirers of her paintings will know, is one of her trademarks along with the colour ultramarine, which also plays a key role in this production.

\$3,500.00



3. Shaffer, Peter; Hicks-Jenkins, Clive (Artist).

Equus

Catchmays Court, Llandogo, Monmouthshire: The Old Stile Press, (2009). Limited Edition. Number I of X special edition copies (total edition 210), folio size, 124 pp., one original print, one maquette, both signed by Clive Hicks-Jenkins; laid in signature of Sir Peter Shaffer. Fine. Hardcover.

Like a Phoenix arising from ashes, the play Equus and, as a derivative, this work, arose out of a horrible crime committed by a 17-year old in England against six horses. As brutal as the

original act was, we can garner flashes of insight and, hopefully, wisdom through understanding the motivation behind the act. The characters navigate the mental world in which such a deed could be comprehensible, but the center of the play is the relationship of the young man and his psychiatrist.

\$1,000.00



4. Ralph Kiggell (Editor and Illustrator); Michael Moore, Nancy Campbell, William Baer, Rod Moran, Nancy Campbell, Emily Dickinson, D.H. Lawrence, Anna Zvegintzov, Francis Bacon, Padraic Colum, S.K. Kelen, Keith Lobban, John Masefield, and Thomas Vitayakul.

The Third Thing

[Monmouthshire]: The Old Stile Press [2013], 2013. Limited Edition.
Folio - over 12 - 15" tall. 52 p. Signed by Artist. Fine. Hardcover.

No. I of X of the Special Edition, signed (total edition 150). The special edition includes a separate suite of woodcuts, titled, numbered (1/10) and signed by Ralph Kiggell, in four colors, that complement but are different from the illustrations in the volume, and are printed on Japanese paper, with water-based inks and by hand. Both are encased in a custom clamshell box. The title comes from D.H. Lawrence's wonder at "the third thing" that binds an oxygen atom with two of hydrogen; along those lines, the poems selected are all picked around a theme of water.

\$2,000.00



5. [Norwegian Folk Song]; Wehrle, Pauline (Translator); Foa, Maryclare (Illustrator).

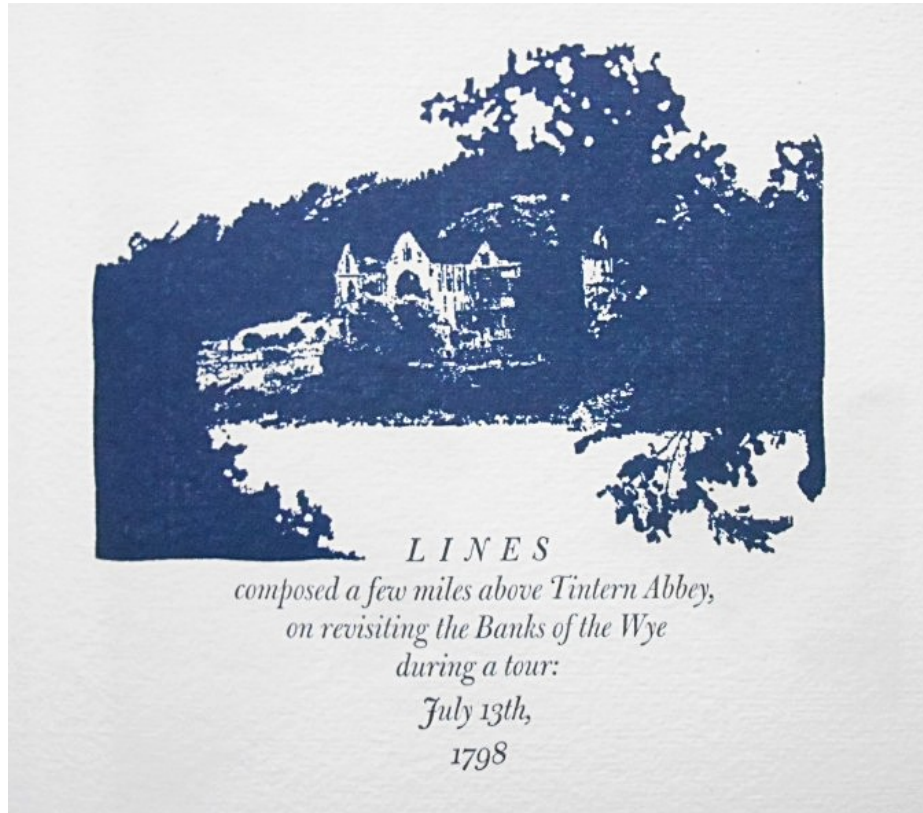
The Dream Song of Olaf Asteson

Llandogo, Monmouth: The Old Stile Press, 1995. Limited Edition.
Number 55 of 140 copies, quarto size, [75] pp., signed by Maryclare Foa. Fine. Hardcover.

A lovely re-telling of the medieval Norwegian ballad of Olaf Asteson, who falls asleep on Christmas Eve and has a sort of waking-dream

which lasts for thirteen days, through January 6, which in the Christian world was celebrated as Epiphany. Some say Olaf takes a journey within himself, others that he travels outside, into the macrocosm of space and time.

\$250.00



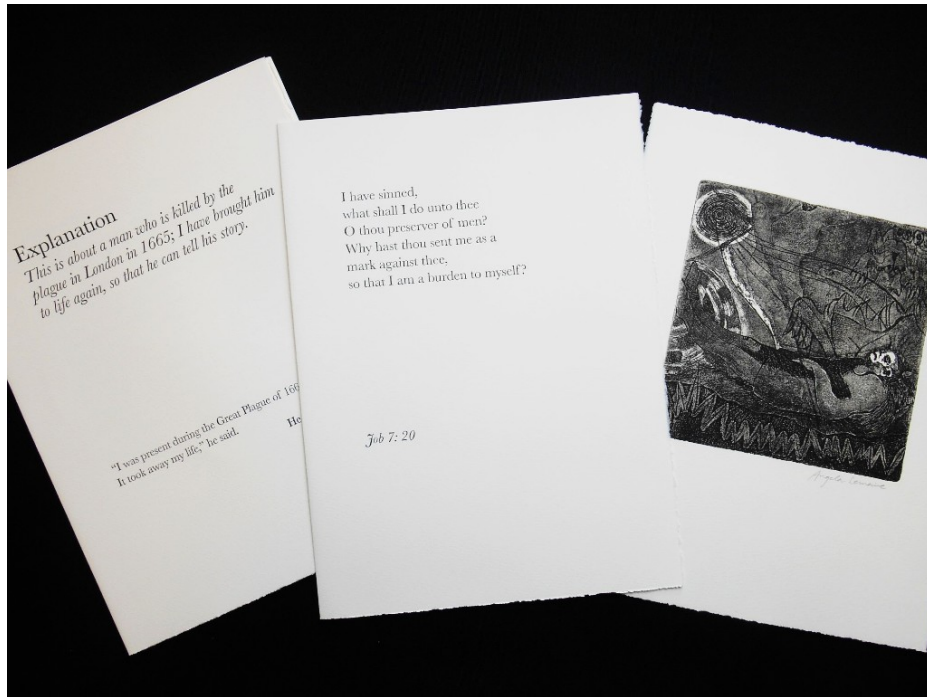
6. Wordsworth, William; Nicolas and Frances, McDowall
(Compilers/Printers)

Lines Composed a Few Miles Above Tintern Abbey; On Revisiting the Banks of Wye during a tour: July 13th, 1798

The Old Stile Press, 2002. Limited Edition. Number 39 of 150 copies, folio size, [24] pp., signed by Nicolas and Frances McDowall. Fine. Hardcover.

This poem by William Wordsworth (1770-1850) had special meaning to printers Nicolas and Frances McDowall, as it is about their homeland, the sublime landscape that surrounds their home and press. Wordsworth wrote the poem after a walking tour of this section of the Welsh Borders with his sister Dorothy. A beautiful edition of Wordsworth's famous poem, made with love by natives of the poem's scenic landscape.

\$300.00



7. [DeFoe, Daniel - Excerpts from "A Journal of the Plague Year"]; McDowall, Nicolas (Introduction); Dyson, Anthony (Essay); Lemaire, Angela (Artist, Afterword).

The Plague

[Monmouthshire]: The Old Stile Press, 2009. Limited Edition. No. 3 of 25 copies for sale. Folio - over 12" to 15" tall. 52 pgs. Fine. Unbound folios.

Per the artist, this work, originally produced by her in 1967, is "about a man who is killed by the plague in London in 1665; I have brought him to life again, so that he can tell his story." The story unfolds as a series of nine eerily wonderful etchings by Angela Lemaire, which were inspired by the sufferings of the plague victims. Each enclosed in a separate leaf and introduced with a quotation from scripture also dealing with suffering, with each plate numbered and signed by her.

\$1,100.00



8. Britten, Benjamin; Plant, Andrew, Dr. (Introduction); Lemaire, Angela (Artist).

A Christmas Sequence Chosen by Benjamin Britten from the Chester Mystery Cycle

Monmouthshire: The Old Stile Press, 2008. Limited Edition. No. II of X of the Special Edition, folio size, [80] pp., signed by Angela Lemaire. Fine. Hardcover.

A second opera-for-all by Benjamin Britten, written for the Pimlico School in London. The scenes included involve the Salutation – which introduces Gabriel, Mary and Joseph, Elizabeth and midwives who arrive for the birth; The Shepherds; the Magi; Herod and the Innocents and the knights who carry out the orders to kill. The language is wonderfully bucolic and designed to entertain in the rabble of medieval Chester and the surrounding towns.

\$1,500.00



9. Noel, Roden; Pitts, J. Martin (Artist); Delrue, Paul (Binder).

The Waternymph and the Boy

[Monmouthshire]: [The Old Stile Press, 1997], 1997. Limited Edition.
Folio - over 12 - 15" tall Signed by Artist and Bookmakers. Fine.
Leather.

Produced in an edition of 225 copies, this number 206. The Old Stile Press invited master binder Paul Delrue to bind ten copies in his style, known as Lacunose; this is no. IX of those X specially bound copies (with another six copies subsequently bound by Paul for his own use). Per Paul, each of the ten copies bound for the Old Stile Press were a little different, while the design was very much in keeping with the text.

\$2,400.00



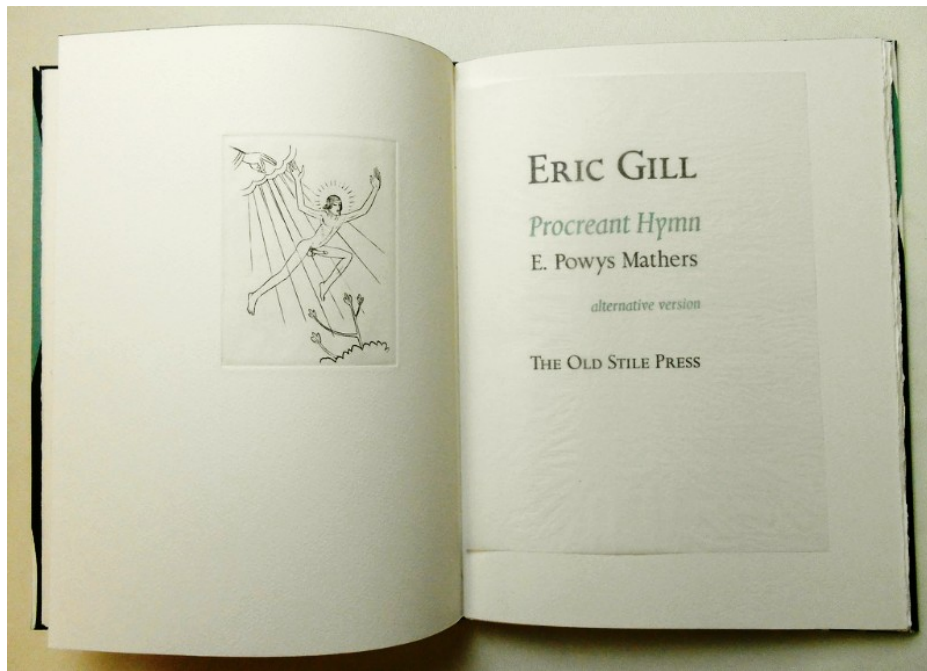
10. Nicolas McDowell (Author, Printer); Bill Garnett (Introduction); John Abell, Natalie d'Arbeloff, Harry Brockway, Clive Hicks-Jenkins, Ralph Kiggell, Angela Lemaire, Robert Macdonald (Artists).

Be Still ...the response of friends; being a suite of fourteen relief prints created by seven artists at the invitation of Bill Garnett...

A truly limited production of only 25 copies. An artistic response to a miniature book of haiku written by Nicolas McDowall and published in 2000.

ERIC GILL :: *Procreant Hymn* :: E. Poyts Mothers :: alternative version :: The Old Sile Press

ERIC GILL :: *Procreant Hymn* :: E. Poyts Mothers :: original version :: The Old Sile Press



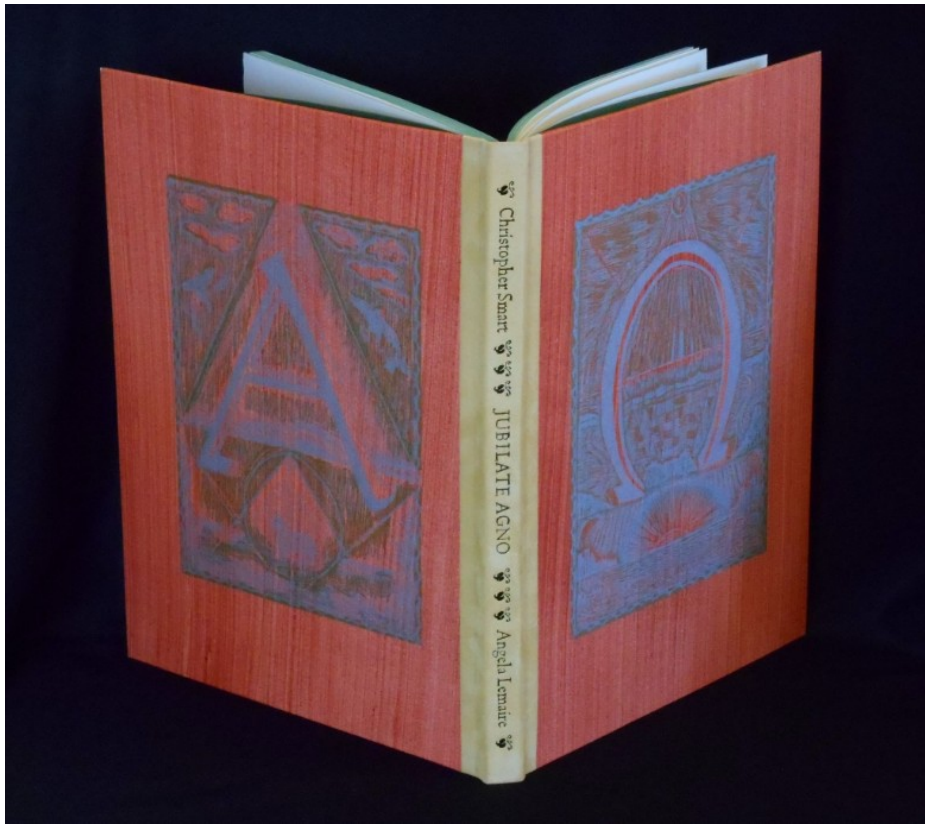
11. Mathers, E. Powys.

**Procreant Hymn
(Original Version / Alternative Version)**

[Monmouthshire]: The Old Stile Press, 2010. Limited Edition. No. 11 of 60 numbered copies, plus 15 copies hors commerce. Near Fine. Hardcover.

An innovative two-volume publication by The Old Stile Press, reprinting the original Golden Cockerel Press edition in one volume and printing for the first time an "alternative version" using Eric Gill's alternate illustrations, from his copper engravings.

\$1,100.00



12. Smart, Christopher; Lemaire, Angela (Artist, Afterword).

**Jubilate Agno / Rejoice in the Lamb Written,
between 1759 and 1763, by Christopher Smart
during his confinement in St. Luke's Hospital and
other private asylums, London.**

[Monmouthshire]: The Old Stile Press, 2012. Limited Edition. Number VI of X special editions (total edition 110), folio size, [72] pp., signed by Angela Lemaire. Fine. Hardcover.

A breathtaking work with hand-coloring by the artist in this, one of the ten deluxe copies. Christopher Smart's work from his incarceration in St Luke's Hospital for the Insane, a wild and wonderful hymn of yearning and adoration for Creation in all its multifarious detail.

\$2,000.00



13. Hardy, Thomas (Author); Cazalet, Mark (Artist).

**Green Blades, From Her Mound: Poems from
"Poems of 1912 - 1913" by Thomas Hardy, A
Selection by Mark Cazalet Who Also Made All the
Images**

[Monmouthshire]: The Old Stile Press, [2007]. Limited Edition. No. III of X of the special edition, total edition 210, Folio - over 12" to 15" tall, 46 pp., signed by artist. Fine. Hardcover.

Thomas Hardy's most lyrical and abiding collection of poetry. In this lovely version by The Old Stile Press, Mark Cazalet's images act as visual equivalents for the extraordinary insights Hardy found in the depths of his experience, with the sequence of poems arranged to suggest Hardy's gradual reconciliation to guilt and grief, resolving into a dawning sense of acceptance.

\$1,000.00



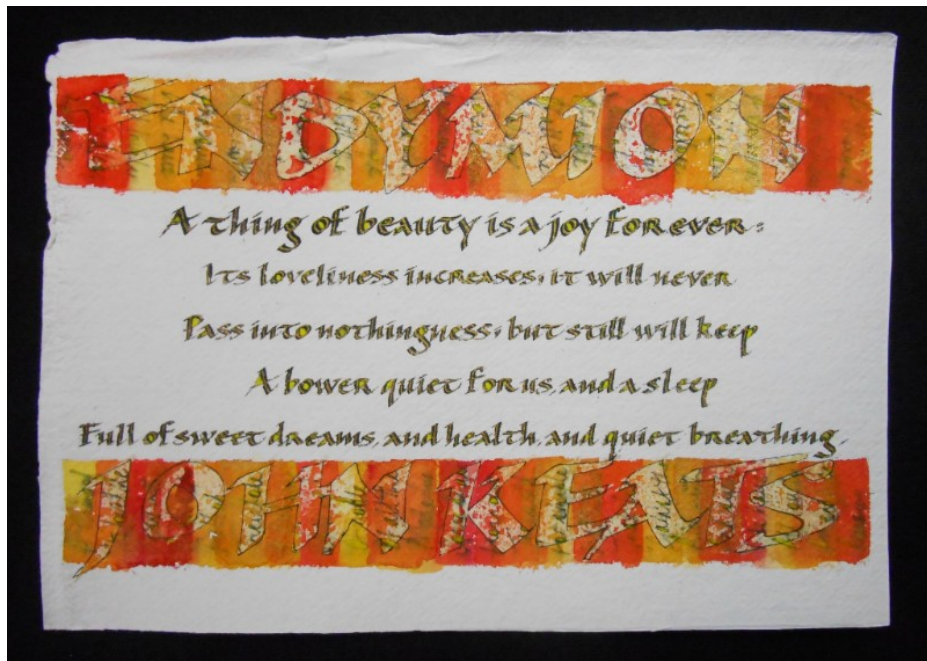
14. Gross, Philip; Reddick, Peter (Artist).

The Abstract Garden

Monmouthshire: The Old Stile Press, 2006. Limited Edition. Number III of X special edition copies (total edition 200), quarto size, [60] pp., signed by the artist and author. Fine. Hardcover.

A three-way collaboration between poet, engraver and printer, in which poems sometimes inform images and vice-versa, often both being redrafted once the printer sets them in place. The natural give-and-take of collaboration is all inspired by forms found in the natural world: poppies, fire, trees, water, rocks, landscapes and birds.

\$650.00



15. Keats, John; Moore, Andy (Artist).

A Song About Myself

Monmouthshire: The Old Stile Press, 2014. Limited Edition.
Deluxe Edition, number II of XII, folio size, [36] pp., signed by
Andy Moore, with an additional suite of prints and an original
piece of Moore's calligraphy. Fine. Stiff wraps.

*The Old Stile Press collaborated with Andy Moore, calligrapher,
on this lighthearted rendition of John Keats' (1795-1821) poem
for his younger sister, Fanny, written when Keats was hiking the
hills of Scotland at age 22. A charmingly distinctive style of
calligraphy, faithfully rendered by way of photopolymer plates,
together with a stunning piece of original calligraphy by Andy
Moore, being an excerpt from Keats' "Endymion".*

\$800.00



16. Campbell, Nancy; McDowall, Frances; McDowall, Nicolas.

The Old Stile Press ...the next ten years; A Bibliography 2000-2010

Montmouthshire: The Old Stile Press, 2010. Limited First Edition.

Special edition, number II of XV, of a total edition of 1,000,
quarto size, 136 pp., with a large portfolio containing numerous
specimens from the press, signed by Frances and Nicolas
McDowall. Fine. Soft cover.

The special edition of this Bibliography from The Old Stile Press, presented in a grand box, with a fine assortment of press ephemera, including pages or sections of books printed during 2000-2010, Christmas cards for the years 2000-2010, a booklet of handmade plant papers by Frances McDowall, printed papers used for binding, and handbills. A stunning selection of work from this period, accompanying a beautifully illustrated bibliography.

\$900.00



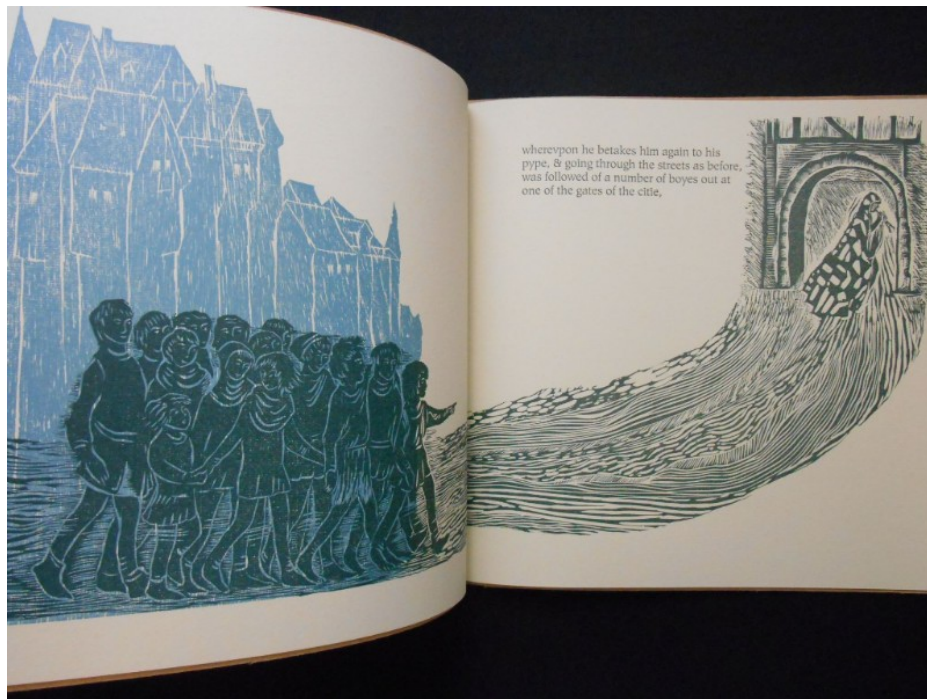
17. Graham, Rigby

Kippers & Sawdust

Llandogo: The Old Stile Press, 1992. Limited First Edition.
Number 146 of 150 copies, elephant folio size, 58 pp. Fine.
Hardcover.

The text of this volume was conceived in hospital during an extended treatment for cancer, where artist Rigby Graham (1931-2015) retreated into recollections of the past to escape the sterile detention of the infirmary; the overall structure of the book is built around that method of circumvention during a time of calamity.

\$1,000.00



18. Verstegan, Richard; Lemaire, Angela (Illustrator and author of Afterword)

The Pyed Pyper

[Monmouthshire]: The Old Stile Press, 2002. Limited Edition. Folio - over 12 - 15" tall. 24 p. Signed by Artist. Fine. Limp Leather.

Limited edition, this no. 35 of 175 copies. Richard Verstegan was the first (1634) to tell the story in English, of how the town of Hamelin was freed from rats by the playing of a piper, but in the process lose all their children. Newly heightened with images by Angela Lemaire, which evoke and re-enforce the powerful medieval story.

\$350.00



19. Waley, Arthur (Translator); Kiggell, Ralph (Artist)

Leading the Cranes Home

Llandogo, Monmouthshire: The Old Stile Press, (2006). Limited Edition. Number VI of X of the Special Edition, folio size, [56] pp., signed by Ralph Kiggell, together with a suite of four signed prints. Fine. Stiff wraps.

A selection of Chinese poems from "170 Chinese Poems" 1918, and "Chinese Poems" 1946, translated by Arthur David Waley (1889-1966). The poems that artist Ralph Kiggell selected for this work move in chronological order, dating from the Han Dynasty to the Sung Dynasty, and were chosen for their muse-like quality, which appealed to the artist.

\$1,000.00



20. West, Arthur Graeme; Abell, John (Linocuts, Text Selection, Afterword); McDowall, Nicolas (About this book)

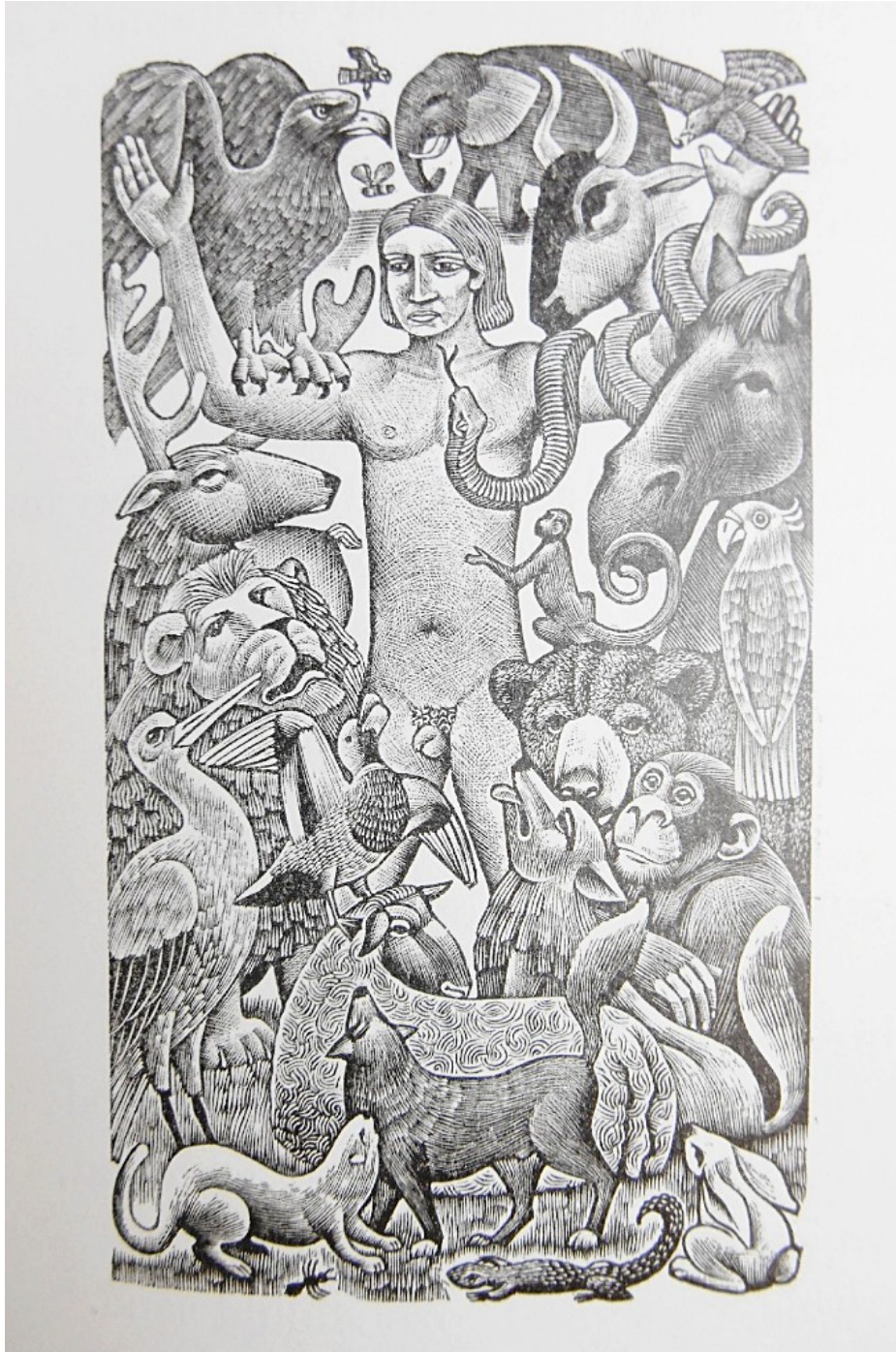
The Diary of a Dead Officer; Being the Posthumous Papers of Arthur Graeme West

Monmouthshire: The Old Stile Press, 2014. Limited Edition. Special Edition, number II of XII, of a total edition of 150, oblong elephant folio, [64] unnumbered pp., signed by John Abell, with a separate suite of prints and an actual linocut block. Fine. Hardcover.

The only book published by English author and war poet Arthur Graeme West (1891-1917). Being the grim journey of a young Balliol scholar who enthusiastically enlists in the army in 1914, who becomes quickly disillusioned when faced with the horrors of war, eventually losing his faith in both the army and God. Welsh artist John Abell's illustrations for this book evoke the overwhelming, gruesome

*intensity of the story in the form of intricate linocuts that fill the
pages.*

\$1,800.00



21. Sidney, Philip; Brockway, Harry (Illustrator)

**The Lad Philisides; Being a selection of Songs,
Pastoral Eclogues & Elegies from The Countess of
Pembroke's Arcadia**

Llandogo, Monmouthshire: The Old Stile Press, 1988. Limited Edition.

Number 167 of 225 copies, quarto size, [56] pp., signed by the artist.
Fine. Hardcover.

"The Countess of Pembroke's Arcadia" is a long or "epic" prose poem by Sir Philip Sidney (1554-1586), written in the sixteenth-century. It remains to this day one of the most important works of English literature. Printer/Publisher Nicolas McDowall cherry-picked a few choice poems from the larger work, which served as inspiration to artist Harry Brockway.

\$150.00



22. Donne, John; Macdonald, Robert (Artist)

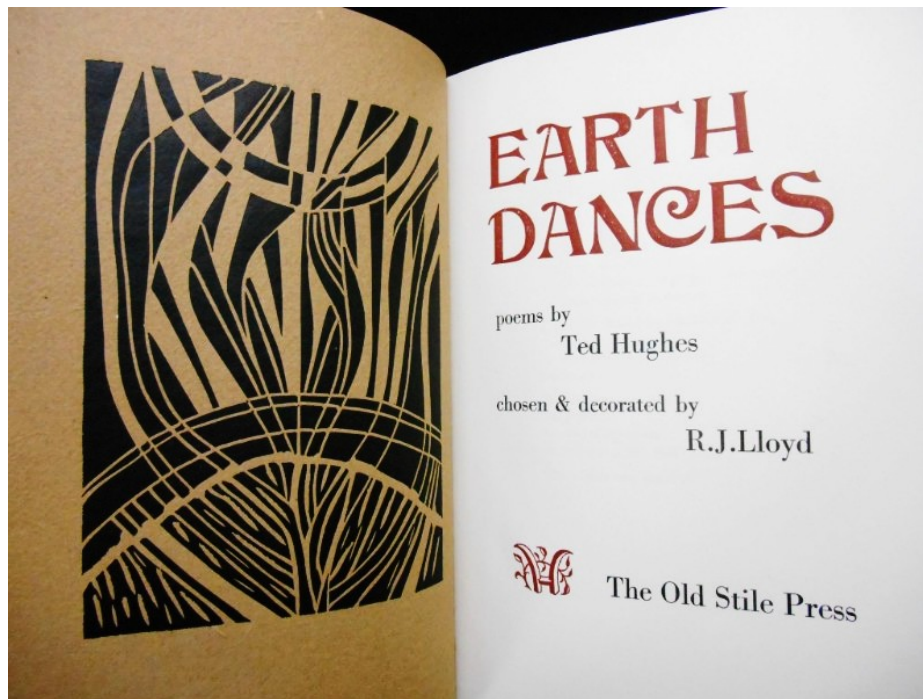
Where Many Shipwreck; Early Poems by John Donne

Llandogo, Monmouthshire: The Old Stile Press, 2004. Limited Edition. One of 26 Special Edition copies (lettered A-Z), this copy 'C', folio size, 78 pp., signed by Robert Macdonald, with an original watercolour painting and suite of four signed prints, with prospectus.
Fine. Hardcover.

A selection of poems from "Songs and Sonnets" and "Elegies", being the earliest writings of English poet and cleric John Donne (1572-1631). Robert Macdonald is a painter and printmaker from New Zealand; his woodcuts for Donne's poetry share the same fervor and immediacy, with a grounded and naturalistic, raw approach to

sexuality, both physical and emotional.

\$500.00



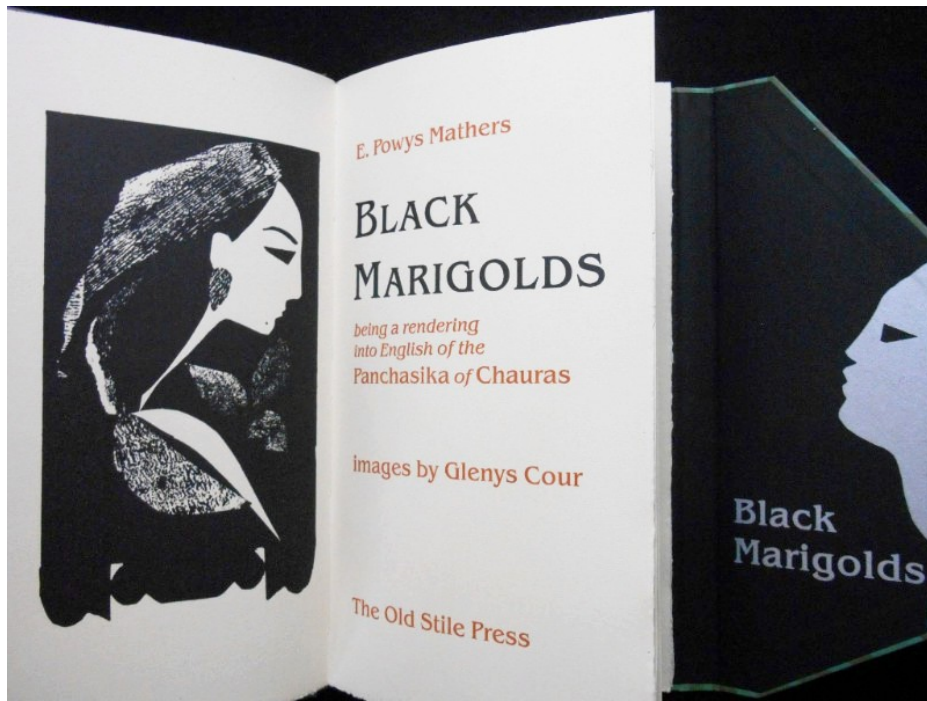
23. Hughes, Ted; Llyod, R.J. (Artist)

Earth Dances

Llandogo, Monmouthshire: The Old Stile Press, 1994. Limited Edition.
Number 111 of 250 copies, folio size, [48] pp., signed by Ted Hughes
and R.J. Llyod. Fine. Hardcover.

For this collaborative project R.J. Lloyd picked several poems by Ted Hughes (1930-1998) on the subject of landscapes. Ted Hughes also wrote the poem 'Epigraph' especially for this edition. The linocut illustrations are meant to evoke the moorland country which inspired both artists in much of their work.

\$450.00



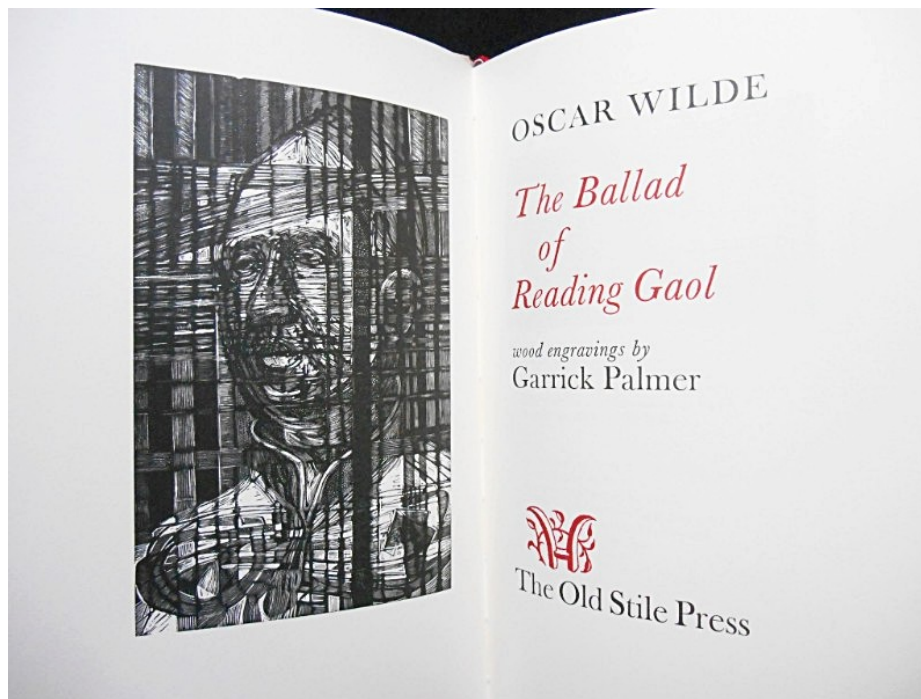
24. Mathers, E. Powys (Translator); Cour, Glenys (Artist)

Black Marigolds

Llandogo, Monmouthshire: The Old Stile Press, 2007. Limited Edition.
Number 10 of 200 copies, folio size, [72] pp., signed Glenys Cour. Fine.
Hardcover.

This work is a collection of love poetry, with the original Sanskrit having been translated and published by E. Powys Mathers in 1919; it became some of the most iconic love poetry of the twentieth-century. Welsh artist Glenys Cour (b. 1924) uses collage to build her striking images of black and white papers, textured with monotype stippling. A stunningly romantic presentation of these beautiful verses.

\$150.00



25. Wilde, Oscar; Palmer, Garrick (Artist)

The Ballad of Reading Gaol

Llandogo, Monmouthshire: The Old Stile Press, 1994. Limited Edition.
Number 181 of 225 copies, quarto size, [46] pp., signed by Garrick
Palmer. Fine. Stiff wraps.

"The Ballad of Reading Gaol" is a poem written by Oscar Wilde (1854-1900) in exile in Berneval-le-Grand, after his release from Reading Gaol on 19 May 1897, where he had been imprisoned for "homosexual offenses" (at that time, a crime). The poem describes the execution of fellow prisoner Charles Thomas Wooldridge as a means of symbolically identifying with the prisoners as a whole, highlighting the brutality of imprisonment.

\$250.00



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