Les Métamorphoses du Tour

FRENCH ROMANTIC LITERATURE, ETC. Rare Books from the Library of Peter A. Wick



Concert vocal.

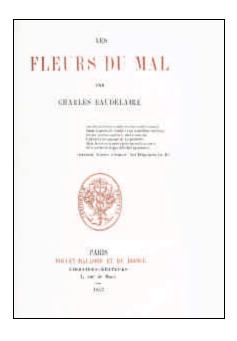
Vocal Concert.



This collection of some 234 books and albums is centered in one of the golden ages of French book illustration, the Romantic period, 1820-1850. Especially rich in the work of Jean-Jacques Grandville (some 50 items), it includes rarities also by Tony Johannot, Henry Monnier, Célestin Nanteuil, Honoré Daumier, Paul Gavarni, Gustave Doré and other artists and illustrators, and literary first editions. There are bindings by Balzac, Chamolle-Duru, Doll, Marius Michel, Simier, Thouvenin, and others. Provenances include Sir David Lionel Salomons; Henri Béraldi; Caroline Ferdinande Louis de Bourbon, Duchesse de Berry; Antoine Augustin Renouard; and Richard Wallace, Marquis of Hertford.









Highlights of the collection include:

Edmond Audoit. L'Herbier des demoiselles, ou traité complet de la botanique. Paris, 1847. This copy from the library of the Infanta Louisa Fernanda of Spain.

Honoré de Balzac. La comédie humaine. Paris, 1842-48, 1855. 20 vols. The first complete edition, and the first illustrated edition, of Balzac's works.

Charles Baudelaire. Les fleurs du mal. Paris, 1857. The first issue of the first edition, with the six poems suppressed in later printings.

Jacques-Henri Bernardin de Saint-Pierre. Paul et Virginie. Paris, 1806. The folio issue, with proofs before letters of the plates by Prud'hon, Girodet, Isabey and others, and typography by Didot.

Champfleury. Les chats. Paris, 1870. Illustrations by Manet and others. Fifth edition; tirage à part, limited to 18 copies on papier de chine, with doubles, finished in color. Jean-Jacques Grandville. Aventures de Robinson Crusoe. Paris, 1840. First printing.

Jean-Jacques Grandville. Les Métamorphoses du jour Paris, 1829. First printing. Georges Lesage. Histoire de Gil Blas de Santillane. London, 1809. A large-paper copy with India proofs, in a Simier binding with arms of the Duchesse de Berry. Sacre de Charles X dans la Métropole de Reims le 29 mai 1825. Paris 1825. The last festivity book on the coronation of a French ruler.

Further details and price on request.



Over the course of his career, the noted connoisseur and bibliophile Peter Arms Wick (1920-2004) held curatorial positions in the print departments of the Museum of Fine Arts Boston and the Fogg Art Museum, and in the Department of Printing and Graphic Arts of the Harvard College Library. Among his publications are the "Catalogue raisonné de l'oeuvre gravé et lithographié de Paul Signac" (1974), written in collaboration with E.W. Kornfeld; "The Arts of the French Book, 1900-1965" (1967), written in collaboration with Eleanor M. Garvey; the catalogue of the exhibition at the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, "Jacques Villon: Master of Graphic Art" (1964); and the catalogues of the exhibitions at the Harvard College Library, "The Turn of a Century, 1885-1910" (1970) and "Sixteenth-Century Architectural Books From Italy and France" (1971).

Also available from Ars Libri are individual drawings and watercolors from the Wick collection, including works by Mola, Parrocel, Cochin, Reynolds, Pillement, Augustin de Saint-Aubin, Desprez, Flaxman, Horace Vernet, Grandville, Gavarni, Forain, Signac, Vuillard, Rouault, Marquet, and Tchelitchew. Details on application.

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