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Quicksand
Larsen, Nella

New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1928. First edition, first printing. Bound in publisher’s orange cloth ruled in dark blue and lettered in gilt. Near Fine with light fading to spine cloth, light crease to top corner of rear board, gilt on spine is oxidized and top edge is a little dust-soiled. Foxing to textblock edge. In a Near Fine unclipped dust jacket, spine toned and lightly soiled, a thumb-nail chip and crimping to the crown, a short tear to the top end of the front flap fold, and several small nicks along the spine joints.

The most obviously autobiographical of Larsen’s two novels, Quicksand is the story of a bi-racial young woman who sets out on a mission to find the people among whom she will feel she belongs. In a letter to close personal friend Carl van Vechten, Larsen referred to the emotional experiences of the novel as “the awful truth”, as she herself struggled with finding a sense of belonging between the worlds of her Danish mother and African American father. Larsen’s first of two novels fell out of print from until the ’70s and is now considered a major work of the Harlem Renaissance and of 20th century African American literature. Item #140944908

$85,000
Blues for Mister Charlie
Baldwin, James


First edition. xviii, 121, [3] pp. Bound in publisher’s black cloth with blue lettering. Former owner’s name on front free endpaper, else Fine in Very Good dust jacket with rubbing and edge wear, unclipped ($3.95). Item #140945234

$200

Going to Meet the Man
Baldwin, James


$250
If Beale Street Could Talk
Baldwin, James


$1,250

Go Tell It on the Mountain
Baldwin, James


$9,500
**God Sends Sunday**  
Bontemps, Arna  

New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1931. First edition, first printing. [vi], 199 pp. Noel Sullivan’s copy with his bookplate to the front paste down. Sullivan was a wealthy concert singer and philanthropist who took a great interest in the welfare of African Americans, befriending many African American artists and writers and supporting those including Langston Hughes, Marian Anderson, William Lawrence and Marcus Hall. Bound in publisher’s original light pinkish-brown cloth with black lettering. Very Good with lean to binding, fading to spine, browning and foxing to cloth. Pages tanned and lightly foxed at textblock edge, small vintage bookseller ticket to rear paste-down. The first novel by the Harlem Renaissance writer with an interesting provenance. Item #140945171

$1,250

**Black No More**  
Schuyler, George S.  

New York: The Macaulay Company, 1931. First edition, first printing. Bound in publisher’s beige cloth stamped in black, lacking the dust jacket. Near Fine with light fading to spine and light softening to spine ends, large rubber stamping to front free endpaper and pages toned. A satirical novel of the Harlem Renaissance in where an African American scientist invents a process that can transform Black people into white people. Those who have internalized white racism, those who are tired of inferior opportunities socially and economically, and those who simply want to expand their sexual horizons, undergo the procedure. As the country “whitens”, the economic importance of racial segregation in the South as a means of maintaining elite white economic and social status becomes increasingly apparent, as the South relies on Black labor through sharecropping. Item #140944972

$3,500

**Slaves Today: A Story of Liberia**  
Schuyler, George  

New York: Brewer, Warren and Putnam, 1931. First edition, first printing. Bound in publisher’s original orange-red cloth stamped in black, lacking the dust jacket. Paper residue to edges of front free endpaper and ink spots to front pastedown. Pages toned and sporadically soiled, corners creased, some heavily so. A controversial novel from the Harlem Renaissance writer, centered about the slave trade created by freed American slaves who settled in Liberia in the 1820s. Item #140944970

$1,500
Annie Allen
Brooks, Gwendolyn


In 1950 Brooks won the Pulitzer Prize for this book, making her the very first African American person to win the award. Item #140945263

$7,500
CHAPTER I

Plum Bun
Fauset, Jessie Redmon

New York: Frederick A. Stokes Company, 1929. First edition, first printing of this major contribution to the Harlem Renaissance. Bound in publisher’s canary cloth lettered in plum. Very Good with soiling and wear to cloth, cup-ring stains for upper board and fading to the lettering on the spine, pages toned and lightly thumbed. In a supplied unclipped dust jacket, Near Fine or better, with light wear at the extremities, a small corner crease to the front flap and a small closed tear to the rear panel near the bottom edge. Jessie Redmon Fauset was an editor, poet, essayist, novelist, and educator. During the 1920s, she was the literary editor of the NAACP’s official magazine The Crisis. Her literary work helped sculpt African-American literature in the 1920s as she focused on portraying a true image of African-American life and history. Her black fictional characters were working professionals which was an inconceivable concept to American society during this time and her story lines related to themes of racial discrimination, “passing”, and feminism. Item #140945027

$125,000
Black Man’s Verse
Davis, Frank Marshall


In Obama’s 1995 memoir Dreams from My Father, Davis is referred to only as Frank, a friend in Hawaii of Obama’s maternal grandfather Stanley Dunham; Obama later identified the man as Davis. Obama said Davis recounted that he and Stanley Dunham had grown up 50 miles apart in Kansas, near Wichita, although they did not meet until living in Hawaii. Davis described the way Kansas race relations were back then, including Jim Crow restrictions, and his belief that there had been little progress since then. As Obama remembered, “It made me smile, thinking back on Frank and his old Black Power, dashiki self. In some ways he was as incurable as my mother, as certain in his faith, living in the same sixties time warp that Hawaii had created.” Obama also remembered Davis after taking a job in South Chicago as a community organizer. One day Obama visited areas where Davis had lived, writing, “I imagined Frank in a baggy suit and wide lapels, standing in front of the old Regal Theatre, waiting to see Duke or Ella emerge from a gig.” Item #140945006

$1,800

I am the American Negro
Davis, Frank Marshall

Chicago: The Black Cat Press, 1937. First edition, first printing. Signed by Frank Marshall Douglass on the title page. Bound in publisher's original cloth. Near Fine with light fading to cloth at edges, toning to pages. In a Fair unclipped dust jacket which is chipped, toned and soiled, with mending tissue to the blindside repairing a split to the front spine joint and the ends of the front flap fold. This was the second of Davis' three books of poetry, all of which were published during his Chicago years. Item #140945190

$1,800
Harlem Shadows  
McKay, Claude; Max Eastman [Introduction]  

First edition, first printing. xxii, 95 pp. Bound in publisher’s crimson-brown cloth with paper spine label, variant with no known priority. Very Good+ with a little bubbling to cloth, toning to spine label and a tiny bit of biopredation to spine, in a Fine example of the scarce dust jacket, crisp and unfaded. An uncommon work of Harlem Renaissance poetry in its dust jacket in stunning condition.

In The Guardian Carol Rumens writes of this collection, quoting from its titular poem at the end, “Like other poets of the Harlem Renaissance, McKay, though a powerful advocate of black liberation, took the dominant ‘voice’ of traditional culture, mastered it and made it accommodate his different ways of seeing, his visions and his anger. The fusion of urban realism with more traditional Romantic tropes in Harlem Shadows still leaves room for clear blasts of rage against “the wretched way / Of poverty, dishonor and disgrace.” Item #140945278

$18,000
Banjo
McKay, Claude

New York: Harper & Brothers Publishers, 1929. First edition, first printing. Bound in publisher’s original orange and blue patterned paper-boards over black spine cloth lettered in gilt. Near Fine with two small holes to cloth rear spine joint. In a Near Fine unclipped dust jacket with fading to the spine, chipping at the spine ends and light edge wear. With the scarce original belly-band, with an extra vertical crease at the front, rear and spine panels. A nice example of the dust jacket, which was designed by Aaron Douglas, very rare in the original belly-band. Item #140945325

$7,500
**Home to Harlem**
McKay, Claude

New York: Harper and Brothers, 1928. First edition, first printing. Bound in publisher’s original patterned paper-covered boards over black spine cloth, lacking the dust jacket. Very Good with rubbing to covers heaviest at edges, wear to spine cloth with fraying at ends, slight loss at tips. Pages toned and sporadically soiled. Clipping from dust jacket tipped in at front paste down with small check mark, and book plate mostly removed from rear paste down. Short tear to edge of title page and hinge there is slightly over-opened. Harlem Shadows was among the first books published during the Harlem Renaissance and was a watershed contribution to its fiction. Item #140944941

$8,500

**Banana Bottom**
McKay, Claude

New York: Harper & Brothers, 1933. First edition, first printing. [viii], 317 pp. Bound in publisher’s floral patterned yellow cloth with paper title label to spine; lacking the dust jacket. Very Good with fading to spine; toning, soiling and wear to title label. Former owner name and address to front free endpaper, pages toned, light and sporadic notations to text, glue repair evident to rear inner hinge.

McKay is most often thought of as a Harlem Renaissance writer, however, he can be viewed with much more complexity as a colonial representative of the black Diaspora, with roots divided between three homelands--his native Jamaica, his colonial mother-country England, and his land of emigration, the United States. Item #140942227

$2,800

**Gingertown**
McKay, Claude

New York: Harper & Brothers, 1932. First edition stated, first printing. Bound in publisher’s original patterned red and blue paper over black cloth spine titled in red; lacking the dust jacket. Very Good with rubbing to covers with wear heavier at corners, soiling to rear cover; pages toned, former owner rubber stamp to front and rear endsheet and shallow edge chipping to front free endpaper. Item #140941691

$1,500
Song of Solomon
Morrison, Toni

New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1977. First edition stated, first printing. Signed by Toni Morrison on the front free endpaper; ink of signature is lightly smudged. Publisher’s black cloth binding, with titles stamped in blind on the front cover and in gilt on the spine, top edge stained red. Near Fine with slight lean to binding, light fading at spine, light general wear and light toning to pages. In a Near Fine unclipped dust jacket with sunning to the spine, light edge wear and a short tear to the top edge of the front panel, and a vertical crease to the front flap. Item #140944205

Song of Solomon
Morrison, Toni

New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1977. Advance uncorrected proof of the first edition. Signed by Toni Morrison on the half-title page. Bound in publisher’s beige wraps printed in black, with publication information handwritten on the front cover, and photocopied publisher’s material stapled inside front cover. We have had a different variant of this proof in the past, that one having blue wraps, a different layout to the front cover and being taller. Very Good with toning and light wear to wraps. A very scarce format of one of the author’s most beloved books (pun intended). Item #140944653

$1,750

$4,800
The Bluest Eye
Morrison, Toni

New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1970. First edition stated, first printing. Signed by Toni Morrison and inscribed to a former owner on the title page. Bound in publisher’s original paper boards over blue cloth spine lettered in silver. Near Fine with light toning and several small nicks to the edges of the binding. In a Near Fine unclipped dust jacket with streaks of browning as typically seen with this dust jacket, trivial edge wear, several small indentations to the front panel and a faint crease to the front flap. A much nicer copy than normally encountered of the author’s scarce first novel. Item #140944652

$12,500
**The Bluest Eye**  
Morrison, Toni  

London: Chatto & Windus, 1970. First British edition, first printing. Bound in publisher’s blue cloth-affect paper-covered boards with titles printed in gilt on the spine. Near Fine with slight lean to the binding, light wear to spine ends, former owner name to front free endpaper and pages lightly tanned. In a Near Fine price-clipped dust jacket with light toning and light edge wear, foxing to the flaps and blindside. Item #140945169

$1,000

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**Tar Baby**  
Morrison, Toni  


$3,500
Sula
Morrison, Toni

New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1973. First Edition, First Printing. Bound in publisher’s original orange cloth boards stamped in gilt. Near Fine with light toning to pages and corner creases to the last two leaves. In a Near Fine unclipped dust jacket with light toning and light edge wear, a short tear to the top of the front panel and a crease to the front flap. Item #140944106

$450

Corregidora
[Morrison, Toni]; Jones, Gayl

New York: Random House, 1975. First edition, first printing of the Gayl Jones’ debut novel which was published when she was 25. The publication of this was shepherded by Toni Morrison, who was working then as an editor at Random House dedicating herself to publishing black authors, and in particular black women authors. Bound in publisher’s original brown paper-covered boards over brown spine cloth lettered in metallic green. Near Fine with light spotting top of textblock edge and former owner details written small to front free endpaper. In a Near Fine unclipped dust jacket, a bit toned, lightly shelf-worn and with gentle creases to the front flap.

“Gayl Jones’s powerful debut novel, examining womanhood, sexuality, and the psychological residue of slavery. Jones masterfully tells the story of Ursa, a Kentucky blues singer, who, in the wake of a tragic loss, confronts her maternal history and the legacy of Corregidora, the Brazilian slave master who fathered both her mother and grandmother. Consumed and haunted by her hatred of the man who irrevocably shaped her life and the lives of her family, Ursa Corregidora must come to terms with a past that is never too distant from the present.” Item #140943037

$2,000
The Fire in the Flint
White, Walter F.

New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1924. First edition, first printing. Bound in publisher’s decorated magenta cloth covered boards. Near Fine with slight lean to binding, light wear to spine ends, slight musty odor to pages and evidence of erased heavy penciling of a previous bookseller to the half-title page (hey, let’s stop writing in books, okay?). In a Near Fine unclipped dust jacket with toning, light soiling and edge wear, wear to the spine ends. A very nice copy, scarce in the dust jacket. The first novel by the noted Harlem Renaissance figure and leading civil rights activist, who led the NAACP from 1929-1955. Item #140945051

$8,500

The Fire in the Flint
White, Walter F.

New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1924. First edition, first printing. Signed by Walter White on the half-title page. Bound in publisher’s decorated magenta cloth covered boards. Slight fading to cloth at crown, light wear to spine ends, and toning to pages, else Fine, in a Fair unclipped dust jacket with large chips to the spine ends and rear panels, tissue mends to the blindside repairing a full split to the front spine joint and a large but incomplete tear to the bottom of the rear panel. Item #140944836

$7,500
Uncle Tom’s Cabin; or, Life Among the Lowly  
Stowe, Harriet Beecher

Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin and Company, 1886. Signed by Harriet Beecher Stowe on the front free endpaper and inscribed “To the Good Will Club with the best wishes of H. B. Stowe April 16 1886.” The Goodwill Club of Hartford, Connecticut was the very first Boys & Girls Club in America, founded in 1860. Bound in publisher’s russet cloth stamped in black and gilt. New edition. Very Good. Cloth lightly soiled and worn. Good Will Club rubber stamp and inked number to front paste down and ink to top margin of introduction. The gutter at the front free endsheet has been repaired. Hinge at rear also repaired, pages toned, light edge wear to several leaves and several hinges slightly exposed. A signed copy of the Connecticut author’s famous novelistic expose of the evils of slavery. Item #140945060  

$11,000
Zami: A New Spelling of My Name
Lorde, Audre

Watertown, MA: Persephone Press, 1982. First edition, first printing. Signed by Audre Lorde and inscribed to a former owner on the title page. Bound in publisher’s wraps printed in red and purple. Very Good with fading to spine, toning to rear cover, light wear and light creases to wraps, foxing to textblock edge, hinge at title page is slightly over-opened. Lorde was a self-described “black, lesbian, feminist, socialist, mother, warrior, poet,” who “dedicated both her life and her creative talent to confronting and addressing injustices of racism, sexism, classism, and homophobia.” Zami was published in 1982 and labeled by the author as a biomythography, kicking off a new genre combining history, biography, and myth. First printings are scarce and even more so signed. Item #140944943

$3,500

The Dark Land
Young, Kathleen Tankersley

Ithaca, NY: The Dragon Press, 1934. First edition, first printing. Bound in publisher’s original cream wraps with yapped edges stamped in black. Near Fine with light wear to the extremities and light soiling to wraps. A beautiful copy. Literary scholar Eric White has written of Young: “Almost forgotten by literary history, Kathleen Tankersley Young’s name appears like a cipher through little magazines of the late 1920s and early 1930s, and in anthologies of Harlem Renaissance and American women’s poetry.” According to the Princeton University Library Manuscript Division citation for their Kathleen Tankersley Young correspondence, Young was an African American poet, however, census and death records found on Ancestry.com list Young and both of her parents as “white” Item #140945247

$2,000
Cane
Toomer, Jean; Waldo Frank [Foreword]

New York: Boni & Liveright, 1923. First edition, first printing of the classic Harlem Renaissance novel. Extremely rare, signed by Jean Toomer and inscribed to a former owner on the front free endpaper, “To Fay De Frantz with warm regards for one who feels so warmly about this book and its author [signed] Jean Toomer”. Bound in publisher’s buff cloth stamped in yellow and black; lacking the scarce dust jacket. Very Good with light lean to binding, light soiling and wear to cloth. Pages tanned, small tear and crease to the top of the front free endpaper, several margins show chips or short mended tears at the fore edge. Glue repair to hinge at rear pastedown and evidence of removal of an old bookseller ticket with offsetting to the rear free endpaper.

The first appearance of a classic of modern American fiction and pinnacle of the Harlem Renaissance. In his foreword Waldo Frank dubs it “a harbinger of the South’s literary maturity: of its emergence from the obsession put upon its mind by the unending racial crisis—an obsession from which writers have made their indirect escape through sentimentalism, exoticism, polemic, ‘problem’ fiction, and moral melodrama. It marks the dawn of direct and unafraid creation.” Signed copies are incredibly scarce. Item #140944578

$65,000
Historical Romance of the American Negro
Fowler, Charles H.


Jonoah & the Green Stone
Dumas, Henry; Eugene B. Redmond [Editor]


An attractive copy of scarce novel that never progressed beyond a draft in the author’s lifetime, as he was killed in 1968 on a subway platform by a cop under mysterious circumstances often oddly referred to as “a case of mistaken identity.” In his “Blacklist” column for Catapult reviewing out-of-print books by African American authors, Michael Gonzales called this “a hallucinatory, brutal and, as fellow Arkansas native Al Green once sang, simply beautiful book.” Item #14094512
Negro: Anthology made by Nancy Cunard: 1931-1933

Cunard, Nancy [Editor]; Langston Hughes; Zora Neale Hurston; Arthur A. Schomberg; W.E.B. Du Bois; Walter White; Countee Cullen; Alain Locke; John Spivak; George Padmore; Ezra Pound

London: Nancy Cunard at Wishart & Co., 1934. First edition, first printing. viii, 856 pp. Bound in publisher’s black cloth stamped in red, with black topstain, issued without a dust jacket. Very Good+ with rubbing to cloth along edges, worn at head and tail, small bookplate to front free endpaper, a few spots of foxing to edges, vertical creases and two tiny tape mends to title page.

An ambitious compilation all aspects of history and culture of the African in Africa, or the diaspora featuring contributions from an impressive array of leading lights of the Harlem Renaissance, such as Langston Hughes, Zora Neale Hurston, Arthur A. Schomberg, W.E.B. Du Bois, Walter White, Countee Cullen and many others. A definitive work on the growth and development of Black culture of the early 20th century. One-thousand copies were originally printed, though many remained unsold and were destroyed when the warehouse they were stored in was bombed during the Blitz. Item #140944379

$20,000
Kindred
Butler, Octavia E.

Garden City, New York: Doubleday & Company, 1979. First edition, first printing. Signed by Octavia E. Butler on the title page and inscribed to former owners. Bound in publisher’s brown paper-covered boards over black spine cloth lettered in gilt. Near Fine with wear to rear cover, two diagonal creases to the front free endpaper and half-title page, slight odor to pages. In a Near Fine unclipped dust jacket with light soiling, toning, light worming and light edge wear. An extremely scarce title, even more so signed. Item #140944384

$15,000

Survivor
Butler, Octavia E.


Bound in publisher’s original yellow leatherette boards. Near Fine in a Near Fine unclipped dust jacket with light toning, a short closed tear to the top of the front panel near the flap fold and light foxing to the blindside. A beautiful copy of Butler’s rarest novel, which after a few early editions she would not allow to be reprinted. Item #140943999

$5,500
Bronze: A Book of Verse
Johnson, Georgia Douglas; W.E.B. Du Bois [Introduction]


Near Fine, with light rubbing to cloth at corners and spine ends, light spotting to top of top edge of textblock, paper spine label and pages toned, hinge following front free endpaper is slightly exposed. Scarce.

The second book of poetry by the influential Harlem Renaissance figure and one of the earliest female African American playwrights, in which she explores motherhood and being a woman of color. Johnson’s husband did not approve of her literary ambitions and insisted she focus on domestic affairs. He died three years after the publication of this book; Johnson was left a widow at age 45, struggling to support two teenage boys. She wrote an estimated 28 plays, most of which were unpublished during her lifetime due to her gender and race, as well as her refusal to give the plays what she considered unrealistically happy endings. Item #140943853

$35,000
The Heart of a Woman and Other Poems
Johnson, Georgia Douglas; William Stanley Braithwaite [Introduction]


The very first book by the Harlem Renaissance poet and playwright. “Georgia Douglas Johnson not only contributed to the New Negro Renaissance as a playwright and poet but she also offered her home on S Street in Washington DC as a meeting place for numerous black artists of the period. [...] Johnson helped to nurture and sustain creative activity by providing a casual setting for Black artists to meet, socialize, discuss their work, and exchange ideas” writes Judith L. Stephens, “The Harlem Renaissance and the New Negro Movement” in The Cambridge Companion to American Women Playwrights (1999). Item #140945368

$12,500
The Conjure Woman
Chesnutt, Charles W.

Cambridge, MA: Printed at the Riverside Press, 1899. First edition, large paper issue. copy number 27 of a limited 150. Signed by Charles Chesnutt on the title page, with an inscription reading “Sincerely Yours, Chas. W. Chesnutt.” Bound in publisher’s original brown cloth with printed paper title label on the spine. Very Good with slight lean to binding, a bit of soiling and darkening to cloth at edges, shallow chipping at spine ends, toning and some loss to title label on spine, contemporary former owner name to the front paste down.

A collection of short stories as told in dialect by Uncle Julius, a freed slave, in antebellum North Carolina. Signed copies of this book are incredibly scarce, with one copy of the first trade edition appearing at auction in 2013 and a second printing appearing in 2004. Item #140943990

$32,000
African American Father and Son letters home from World War I and World War II and family photographs
Kennedy, Wilbur E.; Wilbur W. Kennedy Jr.

1919-1944. Twenty-five photographs (several are photo postcards), and 24 signed letters, some hand-written and some typed, dated 1919-1944. The letters were written during the military services of an African American father and son--the father during WWI and the son during WWII. All letters were addressed to Sophia Williams Kennedy, the wife of the World War I soldier and the mother of the World War II soldier, and the family photographs (all African American) also appear to have been kept by her.

The father, Wilbur E. Kennedy was born in 1890 in Nashville, TN and prior to his military service was a farmer and truck driver for a coal and ice company. Wilbur and Sophia married in 1919 and appear to call each other “Jack” and “Billie.” Kennedy died in 1972, and there are four handwritten letters and a handwritten postcard from him. The postcard was send from Paris, France in 1919 and shows American soldiers on parade and what appears to be an Kennedy holding the American flag and a handwritten notation at the bottom indicates it is him. Another letter written in 1918 from Funston, Kansas: “I am not doing nothing. This Morning walking around here dress up all shark as a tack and no where [sic] to go but Juncton [sic] City three miles from here there is a few browns out there but I have nor seen none can take the place of you.”

Theit son Wilbur W. Kennedy Jr. was born in 1922 in California, Missouri. After attending two years of college he enlisted in 1942 at Jefferson Barracks, MO. While in the military he married a woman named Beryl, which he mentions in his letters home. Later in life he moved to Kansas City where he was a police officer. Item #140945270

$4,500
Life in the Army.

Civilians—WILBUR KENNEDY, NED COLE, & OTHERS WHO WORK AT THE ICE PLANT.

Late Civilians;

We don’t know what you are doing, but we’re just starting work at five o’clock in the morning. We have to get up at five, shave, comb our hair, have a few minutes exercise, and then we go to work. We peel potatoes, wash clothes, and do a lot of other work. Our days are quite exhausting.

Rosalie

War Department

Mr. Wilbur W. Kennedy Jr.,
Warrant Officer
2400 Washington Ave.
New Orleans, La.

2400 Washington Ave.
New Orleans, La.

March 12,

Dear Mom,

I am fine and hope you are the same. I have not heard from you for a while, and also some news that will please you. I will be transferred to the 43rd Division, and I will be with you in a month. I will be busy with my work, and I will see you soon.

With love,

[Signature]
Large archive of fashion photographs of black women by African American photographer Arthur E. Grobes
Grobes, Arthur E.

[Philadelphia]: [No Publisher], 1970s-1980s. Ca. 1970s-1980s. A large archive of fashion photography of Black women by African American photographer Arthur E. Grobes (1931-2020). 153 loose photographs, 107 of them shot in color and measuring 9.75” x 8, and 46 in black and white measuring 7”x5. Most with a single mount remnant on the verso, otherwise very nice. Images depict women in a range of clothing from business wear, evening wear, club wear, gowns, dresses and fashion to swim wear. Most bear no stamping or credits, but several show inked rubber stamps of Grobes. A image shot in color shows a woman reading the 30th Anniversary issue of Playboy, which first appeared in 1953. It is assumed the images shot in black and white are from a slightly earlier time (1970s) based on fashions and hair styles. A fantastic collection. Item #140945216

$9,500
Roll, Jordan, Roll (Julia Peterkin’s copy)
Peterkin, Julia [Text]; Doris Ulmann [Photographs]

New York: Robert O. Ballou, 1933. Signed limited first edition. Author Julia Peterkin’s own copy, number #3 of only 350 copies, of which 327 were offered for sale, signed by both photographer Doris Ulmann and Peterkin on the limitation page. Presumably as custom the first few copies were given to the publisher, author, and photographer. Letter of provenance from a descendant of Peterkin laid in.

Printed by letter press and with 90 superb tissue-guarded full-page copperplate hand-pulled photogravure plates and with an additional original signed photogravure. 342 pp. Bound in publisher’s original brown paper boards over half cream cloth with spine lettered in gilt. Lacking slipcase. Near Fine with light rubbing and soiling to boards, front hinge a bit free, light foxing to contents, typical offsetting from photos. A very clean, attractive copy.

“Ulmann’s photographic collaboration with Julia Peterkin focuses on the lives of former slaves and their descendants on a plantation in the Gullah coastal region of South Carolina. Peterkin, a popular novelist who won the Pulitzer Prize in 1929, was born in South Carolina and raised by a black nursemaid who taught her the Gullah dialect before she learned standard English. She married the heir to Lang Syne, one of the state’s richest plantations, which became the setting for Roll, Jordan, Roll. Ulmann’s soft-focus photos-rendered as tactile as charcoal drawings in the superb gravure reproductions here-straddle Pictorialism and Modernism even as they appear to dissolve into memory” (Roth, 101 Books). Item #140945369

$65,000
Exhibition of Productions by Negro Artists, Presented by the Harmon Foundation at the Art Center 1933
Locke, Alain


Negro Artists: An Illustrated Review of Their Achievements, Including Exhibition of Paintings by the late Malvin Gray Johnson and sculptures by Richmond Barthe and Sargent Johnson. Presented by the Harmon Foundation in cooperation with the Delphic Studios April 22 - May 4 1935, inclusive.
Johnson, Malvin Gray [Artist]; Richmond Barthe [Sculptor]; Sargent Johnson [Sculptor]

New York: Harmon Foundation Incorporated, 1935. First edition. 60 pp. Bound in publisher’s illustrated stapled self-wraps. Very Good+ with scuffing and light soiling to wraps. A rare guide to an important African American art and sculpture exhibit with many black and white photos of the work as well as the artists (Harlem Renaissance painter Malvin Gray Johnson, sculptors Richmond Barthe and Sargent Johnson) as well as news and notes. Item #140945022

$2,500
Art in East Africa
Msangi, K. F.


$350

Negro Art: Past and Present (Bronze Booklet No. 3)
Locke, Alain


Called the “philosophical architect” and “ideological genius” of the Harlem Renaissance, in this booklet Howard University professor Alain Locke traces the history of art by and about African Americans. Item #140944642

$2,800
Negro Folk Songs as Sung by Lead Belly
Lomax, John A.; Alan Lomax

New York: The Macmillan Company, 1936. First edition, first printing. Signed by blues legend Lead Belly, AKA Hugh Ledbetter, on the front free endpaper, inscribed to "Marge and Lewis." Author and bookseller Larry McMurtry's copy with his bookplate on paste down. xiv, 242 pp. with frontispiece portrait. Bound in publisher's coarse ochre cloth stamped in red; lacking the dust jacket. Good+ with damp-staining to spine and along top edge of text block, occasionally intruding into top margins of pages with light associated soiling. Additional bookplate on paste down above McMurtry's, other former owners' inscriptions on verso of front free endpaper, a few marginal notations in pencil, a few tiny stains and slightly dog-eared pages.

A classic of American folk and roots music, features annotated songs and an oral biography of the iconic blues legend Lead Belly, transcribed by the folklorist father-and-son duo John and Alan Lomax. This work brought subject Huddie “Lead Belly” Ledbetter (1888-1949) to fame, having first been discovered by father-and-son folklorists the Lomaxs at Louisiana’s Angola Prison Farm in the summer of 1933. Quite rare signed by him. Item #140945309

$12,500
Toop, David; Patricia Bates [Photography]


An early history of hip-hop culture and music in America, photo-illustrated in black-and-white. Among the book’s strengths, Toop covers a lot of the DJ culture of the late ‘60s and ‘70s that other, later hip-hop histories have glossed over, as well as continuities between the then nascent hip-hop scene and earlier cultures of doo-wop, funk, and soul. Item #140945284 $500

For the Love of the Game: My Story
Jordan, Michael; Mark Vancil [Editor]


A signed copy of an oversize photographic memoir by the basketball legend. Item #140945232 $2,500
The Heliocentric Worlds of Sun Ra II
Sun Ra

New York: ESP-Disk, 1966. Signed by Sun Ra on the front sleeve on the right side margin in blue ink, inscribed “To Dana, Dawn and Jodi from Sun Ra.” Original pressing with “156 Fifth Avenue” address on the back cover. ESP-DISK 1017 Stereo LP. Fair album, with deep scratches to both side, in a Good sleeve with wear and chipping along seams, dampstain to rear sleeve. Modern 8” x 10” photo of Sun Ra laid in.

A signed record of a major free jazz work by the eccentric jazz band leader, composer, and poet who maintained that he was from Saturn. Item #140944607

$3,500

The Immeasurable Equation
Sun Ra

Chicago: Ihnfinity Inc. / Saturn Research, 1972. First edition, first printing. Though not marked as such, this copy is from the estate of Pat Patrick, longtime saxophonist for the Arkestra. Bound in publisher’s original pale blue wraps stamped in dark green. Top corner of title page is creased in a binder’s error, else Fine. A work of poetry by the composer, bandleader, and pianist known as Sun Ra, a man in a class of his own because, according to him, he was from Saturn. His music spanned a wide variety of genres from free jazz to proto-hip-hop, bebop, funk, and noise. The true first printing is scarce. Item #140944969

$4,500
Archive of personal photographs, negatives, and slides taken or developed by jazz legend Dizzy Gillespie
Gillespie, Dizzy

[Various Places]: [No Publisher], [1951-1985]. A substantial collection of personal photos from the estate of the famous trumpet player John Birks “Dizzy” Gillespie (1917-1993). Approximately 3000 items. They show his travels around the world playing music, and occasionally his artistic side as a photographer. Most notable are his personal snapshot photographs circa 1966-1985, approximately 850 of them plus many of the accompanying negatives and original processing envelopes. These are not formal promotional photographs created for public use; we would be surprised if any substantial number were ever published. Gillespie was likely the photographer for many of the shots; some are taken of fans and paparazzi aiming their own cameras at him. He appears in many other shots, presumably taken by a manager or member of his entourage. A substantial number show him performing in concerts or rehearsals. Almost all of them were developed for him in his home town of Englewood, NJ.

Contents include:

Approximately 400 photographs (mostly black and white) and accompanying negatives are in 19 identical packets with a continuous run of receipt numbers from the Englewood Camera Shop near his New Jersey home, each set aside for “Gillespie,” most of them bearing a development date of 29 August 1980. They show Gillespie at the Kool Jazz Festival in New York (some with Mayor Ed Koch), in France(?) and Greece, in Spokane, WA for an 18 May 1980 gig, in Brookings, SD for a 1 November 1980 gig, and in various backstages, a golf course, and airport, and even a zoo--where he apparently took a “selfie” with a golden
eagle. A few photos of a trip to Hawaii show Dizzy at the National Bahá'í Center of the Hawaiian Islands; Bahá’í was his faith. About 200 other photos and 8 contact sheets are from the same processor, and circa the same general time period.

A packet of about 75 3” x 4” black and white shots shows Gillespie on tour in Chicago in 1966, with shots of iconic Chicago scenes: drawbridges, Jay’s Potato Chips signs, and even several shots of the Cubs playing the San Francisco Giants at Wrigley Field. The photos were developed in Englewood, NJ July 1966. Gillespie opened a stand at Chicago’s Plugged Nickel jazz club on 15 June 1966, and the Giants visited Chicago from 21 to 23 June.

Another pair of packets with about 40 small black and whites was also developed for Gillespie in Englewood. One shows a Rikers Island parking pass; Gillespie played several shows at the New York prison between 1966 and 1972.

Approximately 125 color Polaroid instant photographs date from circa 1985. Gillespie captioned 15 of them, including 4 from a visit with Bill and Camille Cosby, one with fellow trumpeter Freddie Hubbard, one flanked by James Moody and Miles Davis, and one showing Gillespie at the head of the table at a grand banquet, captioned simply “Me eating Italy.” One cap-
tures Gillespie holding his own Polaroid camera. One he has signed for some friends (but never sent) “To Jenny, love, Dizzy Gillespie ‘85.”

Also included is a large collection of perhaps 2000 of Gillespie’s color transparency slides, which have not been analyzed to the same degree. They have no unified filing scheme—perhaps 450 are loose, 75 are inserted into a projection carousel, and the remainder are stored in a variety of 78 small cases. Many of the small cases have labels, some tracing his travels as the “Ambassador of Jazz”: Japan, Jamaica, Australia, Belgrade, Dakar, East Berlin, Warsaw, “Puerto Rican School.” “A “Diz 4 Prez” box from 1975 shows him posing with a “Dizzy Gillespie for President” sign. One small group appears to show Thelonious Monk and his wife Nellie. Perhaps the earliest are a group of 22 stereo slides. Two are of Gillespie at the Sky Bar in Cleveland, OH in August 1951.

A smaller collection of film includes one reel of 8mm film developed for Gillespie—we don’t know what’s on it. Also included are 9 cartridges of Kodachrome Super 8 or Ektachrome 160 cartridges, apparently used but undeveloped. One is labeled “Samba School / Ipanema Beach.” We cannot guess whether they could be developed.

Finally there are 24 boxes of apparently unopened, unused home movie film in various formats. Provenance: purchased via auction, earlier part of Dawson & Nye’s Dizzy Gillespie estate sale, 14 September 2005 (copy of the catalog included with the lot).

An enjoyable, extensive glance at the second half of a jazz legend’s life, up close and personal. Item #140945334

$45,000
San Francisco: Acme Publishing Co., 1952. First edition, first printing. A fantastic association copy signed by Sue Bailey Thurman in the year of publication and warmly inscribed “For Alfred G. Fisk, native son and pioneer, for whom I am indebted for my deep love of California.” Alfred G. Fisk was the catalyst for Sue Bailey Thurman’s time spent living in California. Fisk, a white philosophy professor at San Francisco City College (now SF State) and a local Presbyterian minister, started to meet with colleagues to discuss how they could best bridge the divide “of understanding among the varied races, cultures, and faiths presented in American society.” He envisioned a church where both black and white could pray together seamlessly as equals and reached out to Sue Bailey Thurman’s husband Howard, a Black theologian who was the Dean of Chapel at Howard University in Washington, D.C. Fisk asked if Thurman could recommend a student or colleague for a co-pastor role at the church he was envisioning.
“We don’t want [the church] to be in any sense run by whites ‘for’ Negroes,” Fisk wrote to Howard Thurman on Oct. 15, 1943. “It should be of and by and for both groups. [...] We are committed to a real equality between the races in all aspects of church organization,” Fisk continued. “The boards of the church, the choir, the Sunday School and its staff will all be of mixed character. The co-pastors will have absolutely equal status and will alternate Sundays in preaching and in taking other parts of the service.”

Ultimately, it was Howard himself who filled that role as preacher at what would be called The Church For the Fellowship of All Peoples. And it was with his prominence that the church quickly gained popularity, and even gained members from afar who couldn’t attend services, including former First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt.

While in San Francisco, Sue Bailey Thurman led the church’s Intercultural Committee and co-led a delegation to one of the earliest UNESCO conferences, convened in Paris in 1949.

Publisher’s original comb-bound yellow stiff wraps printed in brown. Near Fine with light wear and toning to wraps. Item #140944939

$4,500

The Historical Cookbook of the American Negro
Thurman, Sue Bailey

Washington, D.C. Corporate Press, 1958. First edition, first printing. Signed and inscribed by Sue Bailey Thurman and warmly inscribed to a former owner. Original publisher’s stiff orange wraps printed in black, with black plastic comb binding. Good with soiling and wear to wraps, paint stains to front cover and plastic comb. One tooth is broken on the comb binding, and the wraps are detached edges at several teeth. Pages toned and with occasional creases. Instead of being arranged by course for the chef, recipes are instead arranged according to the calendar year, linking dishes with famous people and African American traditions, celebrating black culture, and foreshadowing the notion of “black pride” for up-and-coming authors. A project by the National Council of Negro Women whose mission was to “encourage and effect the participation of Negro women in civic, political and economic, and educational activities and institutions.” The NCNW compiled the favorite recipes of members from seven regional councils. Signed copies are very scarce. Item #140944938

$5,500
What Mrs. Fisher Knows About Old Southern Cooking, Soups, Pickles, Preserves, Etc.

Fisher, Abby


Fisher, born a slave in Mobile, Alabama, moved to San Francisco after the Civil War and became a successful caterer, known for her recipes like oyster pie and pepper mangoes. She and her husband owned a pickle factory in San Francisco, where she won numerous awards for her preserves at county fairs. Mrs. Fisher was illiterate, and had a friend help her write her book. [...]

A Domestic Cook Book by Mrs. Malinda Russell
From the author’s preface: “The publication of a book on my knowledge and experience of Southern Cooking, Pickle and Jelly Making, has been frequently asked of me by my lady friends and patrons in San Francisco and Oakland, and also by ladies of Sacramento during the State Fair in 1879. Not being able to read or write myself, and my husband also having been without the advantages of an education – upon whom would devolve the writing of the book at my dictation – caused me to doubt whether I would be able to present a work that would give perfect satisfaction. But, after due consideration, I concluded to bring forward a book of my knowledge – based on an experience of upwards of thirty-five years – in the art of cooking Soups, Gumbos, Terrapin Stews, Meat Stews, Baked and Roast Meats, Pastries, Pies and Biscuits, making Jellies, Pickles, Sauces, Ice-creams and Jams, preserving Fruits, etc. The book will be found a complete instructor, so that a child can understand it and learn the art of cooking.”

One of the rarest American cookbooks, as many copies were destroyed in the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and subsequent fires. Bitting, p. 158; Culinary America, 29. Item #140944660

$22,000
Lena Richard’s Cook Book
Richard, Lena

New Orleans: Rogers Printing Co., 1939. First edition, first printing. Signed by Lena Richard below her frontis portrait in blue ink.139pp. Bound in publisher’s original blue cloth titled in gilt; without a dust jacket, as one was almost certainly not issued. Very Good or better with some bubbling to cloth and tanning at the edges of the covers, light rubbing to extremities. Pages tanned and with several small stains at the textblock edge, several light pencil notations throughout. A scarce book privately printed by Lena M. Richard, an African-American cook from New Orleans who had a long and successful career in the culinary arts. She operated several local restaurants and a catering business beginning in the 1920s, and in the 1930s ran a cooking school. From 1947-49 she hosted a television cooking show on WDSU in New Orleans. The self-published edition of this book is very scarce—in 1940 on account of intervention from James Beard, Houghton Mifflin Company republished this book as the New Orleans Cook Book. Item #140944957

$9,500
Good Things to Eat: As Suggested by Rufus, A Collection of Practical Recipes for Preparing Meats, Game, Fowl, Fish, Puddings, Pastries, Etc.
Estes, Rufus

Chicago: Published by the Author, 1911. First edition of one of the first cookbooks published by an African American author. 142 pp. Bound in publisher’s original white pebbled cloth stamped in black. Good with wear at the extremities, foot of spine heavily worn. Soiling. Price in marker to front free endpaper and hinge there slightly tender; rear inner hinge is exposed and there is some worming there as well. Foxing to textblock edges, preliminary and terminal sheets, contents tanned, offsetting to frontis portrait. Rare.

A self-published cookbook by an African-American chef who was born into slavery in Tennessee. Later, Estes worked for many years as a chef for the Pullman Private Car Service railway company, serving luxurious meals to industry barons and even American presidents. In the 590+ recipes herein Estes was able to take Southern cuisine (back in vogue at the time) with its African roots and add a hearty dollop of French sophistication. Recipes include Squash Flower Omelet, Beef Marrow Quenelles, Turkey Truffles, Pineapple Parfait, Stuffing for a Suckling Pig and Possum, “Japanese Sandwiches” made from flaked left-over fish, Metelote of Haddock, and more. Tipton-Martin The Jemima Code, 29. Culinary America, 786. Item #140945322

$12,500
Melrose Plantation Cookbook
Mignon, Francois; Clementine Hunter

New Orleans: Francois Mignon, 1956. First edition. Signed by the authors beneath a rubberstamp that states: “Neither of us can write much but we sure can mark our initials: “C.H. / F.M.” Publisher’s original yellow plastic comb-bound wraps printed in brown. Very Good with moderate wear to wraps and fading to comb binding. A book co-authored by Francois Mignon and the renown African-American folk artist Clementine Hunter. Mignon was the first chronicler of Hunter’s career. A related pamphlet is laid in. Item #140944956

$2,000
Plantation Recipes
Bowers, Lessie

New York: Robert Speller and Sons, 1959. First edition, first printing. Signed and dated by Lessie Bowers on the front free endpaper. Bound in publisher’s original red cloth stamped in white. Near Fine with tanning to pages, in a Good unclipped dust jacket with toning, a snag to the top edge of the front panel with two chips and light overall wear. Born in the South, the author was the grandchild of slaves, and as the youngest of nine children learned early the benefits of fresh produce in the garden and farm kitchen. She graduated from Claflin College in Orangeburg, SC, went north in the midst of the Great Depression to study dietetics, and with customary spirit and determination eventually co-owned the very popular Virginian Restaurant in Bronxville, NY. Item #140944955

$1,750

A Book of Recipes for the Cooking School
Lyford, Carrie Alberta


A textbook designed to educate African American college students in the fundamentals of cooking and housekeeping while they were learning basic academic skills, reflecting the educational mission and uplift goals at the Hampton Normal and Agricultural School. Notable for being the first African American cookbook to include a table of contents. Item #140944811

$2,500
The Young Abolitionists; or Conversations on Slavery.

[Brown, William Wells]; Jones, J. Elizabeth


William Wells Brown was an American abolitionist, novelist, playwright, and historian. Born into slavery near Mount Sterling, Kentucky, he escaped to Ohio in 1834 at the age of 19. He settled in Boston, Massachusetts, where he worked for abolitionist causes and became a prolific writer. While working for abolition, Brown also supported a number of causes including temperance, women’s suffrage, pacifism, prison reform, and an anti-tobacco movement. His first novel, Clotel, published in 1853, is considered by most scholars to be the first novel published by an African American.

Bound in publisher’s original brown cloth ornately stamped in blind and decorated in gilt. Near Fine with light wear and soiling to cloth, rubbing at corners and spine ends. Pages tanned, sporadically foxed and with a light cigar-smoke odor. A didactic novel for children about a Northern white family and their experiences with slavery and the abolition movement. Jones was known for her abolitionist views and traveled throughout New England, Pennsylvania, and Ohio as a lecturer in support of Garrisonian abolitionism. Item #140945313

$24,000
Biographical Sketches and Interesting Anecdotes of Persons of Color. To Which is Added, A Selection of Pieces in Poetry.
Mott, Abigail

New York: Mahlon Day, 1837. Second edition. [2], 257-260, [3]-253 pp. (index, i.e. pages 257-260 bound following title page). Bound in publisher’s diapered reddish purple cloth with gilt spine lettering. A completely unsophisticated copy in wonderful shape for an American imprint of its age. Tight binding. Stain to front board, sunning along bottom edge of front board and to back board, moderate foxing to text, a few horizontal production errors. Rare in the original binding. An excellent copy, easily the best on the market at present.

Early owners of this copy were Deborah Howland (1795-1876) and her sister Anna (1801-1865) of East Greenwich, Quaker women just like the author. Their family was heavily involved in the pacifist and abolitionist movements. Their names are handwritten on the label on the paste down, dated 1845.

The preferred, enlarged edition of an early compilation of biographies of prominent and noteworthy African-Americans including Olaudah Equiano (AKA Gustavus Vassa), Toussaint L’Ouverture, Phillis Wheatley, and Solomon Bayley. It also features anecdotes and poetry about African-Americans. An important antebellum work of Black History. Sabin 51111. LCP Afro-Americana 6901. Item #140944603

$5,000
Deeper Wrong; Or, Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl. Written by Herself
[Jacobs, Harriet]; Linda Brent [Pseudonym]; Lydia Maria [Editor]


A truly scarce landmark of American literature, many times more rare in commerce and at auction than many of the 19th century ex-slave narratives with which is often compared such as Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass.

It was long thought to be fictional, utilizing the narrative techniques of the sentimental novel as it does and published under a pseudonym, until the 1980s when historian Jean Fagan Yellin established it was Harriet Jacobs’ autobiography. In particular, the attention Jacobs called to the sexual abuse and exploitation of female slaves was quite ahead of its time, not to mention effective at making her abolitionist and feminist argument in a visceral way readers could not ignore. One of the major documents with which we understand the 19th century American experience. Item #140945321

$85,000
“The Slave-Wife” in Liberty Chimes
Whipple, Frances Harriet Green; Wendell Phillips; James Russell Lowell; Adin Ballou; Sarah Helen Whitman; Ahmed el Korah; Nathaniel Peabody Rogers; John Brown; Frances Whipple

Providence, RI: Ladies’ Anti-Slavery Society, 1845. First edition. [5]-148 pp. Bound in publisher’s cream-colored ribbed cloth, original yellow endpapers. A Good copy with staining to cloth, cloth chipped at head and tail, bumped corners, foxing to cloth and edges, hinges starting, top edge of front free endpaper torn off, contemporary bookseller’s label to paste down. Rare in commerce.

A collection of abolitionist essays, stories, and poems. Perhaps most significant is the long story “The Slave-Wife” by Frances Harriet Green née Whipple (Eleanor Eldredge’s ghostwriter), which was a predecessor to Uncle Tom’s Cabin by seven years. Includes a letter from John Brown, an essay on “Reform” by Wendell Phillips and another by Christian anarchist Adin Ballou, the poem “The Contrast” by James Russell Lowell, the poems “Lines Written in November” and “The Golden Ball” by Sarah Helen Whitman (Edgar Allan Poe’s fiancé); a long letter on slavery in Texas by Ahmed el Korah; and more. Item #140945036

$8,500
New Illustrated Lecture: The Rise of the Black Republic
Hopkins, Pauline; W. Alexander Hopkins

Boston: [No Publisher], [1889].

Pauline Elizabeth Hopkins (1859-1930) of Boston was an important Black literary figure in the late 19th and early 20th century: playwright, novelist (best known for Contending Forces published about ten years after this lecture), editor of Colored American Magazine and New Era Magazine, and active lecturer. This pamphlet from early in her career promotes her illustrated historical lecture on Haiti and the Dominican Republic. It begins with a long introduction by William Alexander Hopkins (1835-1906), her stepfather and manager. He boasts of her “genius and culture, a fine presence and a beautiful voice” adding that “all races love to be judged by the great men they produce. Let no man, woman, or child with one iota of race price fail to hear this Lecture and see these Views.” Pages 3 and 4 contain several endorsements of the lecture from June and September 1889. Inserted is a one-page addendum with more endorsements from October to November 1889, including a long review translated from a Santo Domingo newspaper and an introduction in Spanish.

An important ephemeral item by one of the most prominent Black female authors of the late 19th/early 20th centuries, connecting the struggle of African Americans with Haitians’ historical fight for freedom and dignity. Item #140945046

$18,500
William Lloyd Garrison: The Abolitionist. [American Reformers]
Grimke, Archibald

New York: Funk & Wagnalls, 1891. First edition, first printing. Inscribed by Archibald Grimke in the year of publication. Bound in publisher’s original crimson cloth stamped in gilt; a volume in the American Reformers series, edited by Carlos Martyn. Near Fine with bruising to spine ends, slight fading to spine cloth, corners pushed in and contents tanned; a sharp copy.

Grimke was an African American lawyer, intellectual, journalist, diplomat and community leader in the 19th and early 20th centuries. He was born into slavery as the son of a slave and her white master, Henry W. Grimke. Grimke was the half-brother of noted abolitionists and feminists Sarah and Angelina Grimke. He served as the national vice-president of the NAACP, as well as president of the Washington, D.C. chapter. In his notable career as an activist, he worked worked with Frederick Douglass, William Monroe Trotter, and W. E. B. Du Bois and many others. Signed. Item #140945301

$4,800

Carte-de-visite portrait of Frederick Douglass
[Douglass, Frederick]; [George Kendall Warren] [Photographer]

Boston: [No Publisher], ca. 1879. The classic Carte-de-visite portrait of Frederick Douglass and perhaps the best-known image of him, as it was used for the frontispiece of this third autobiography, Life and Times of Frederick Douglass, which was published in 1881. Albumen photograph measuring 3 3/4” x 2 on original mount with photographer’s backmark on mount recto, partly obscured by a manuscript catalog label. Near Fine with later inscription to verso, tiny chip to one corner, two faint indents along top right edge and slight surface wear. This image is listed in Picturing Frederick Douglass as image 96, with a circa 1879 date, although the 19th-century label on verso reads “Fred’k Douglass, Colored Lecturer &c, 1874.” Item #140945094

$9,500
Narrative of Sojourner Truth, A Northern Slave, Emancipated from Bodily Servitude by the State of New York in 1828.

Truth, Sojourner; Olive Gilbert [Editor]

Boston: Published for the Author [by J.B. Yerriton and Son], 1850. First edition, first printing. 144 pp. with author’s portrait frontispiece. Bound in publisher’s original green cloth stamped in blind with gilt title to front board. About Very Good with staining to cloth, wear and chipping along edges, front hinge starting, missing first of two front free endpapers, foxing and staining throughout contents. Quite rare in the original cloth.

Originally a Dutch-speaking slave in New York, Truth escaped to freedom with her infant daughter in 1826. Two years later, she sued her former owner to recover her son and became the first black woman to sue a white man and prevail. After gaining freedom, she would preach about abolition and human right for all. “A legend in her own time, Truth’s indomitable will has won her a permanent place in American history. Her evangelic fervor and plain wit helped to advance the causes of emancipation and women’s rights” (Blockson 29). Item #140945366

$75,000
Narrative of Sojourner Truth, A Northern Slave, Emancipated from Bodily Servitude by the State of New York in 1828
Truth, Sojourner; Olive Gilbert

New York: [Boston: Published for the Author, 1854]. Second edition, early issue with title page dated 1853 with a New York imprint, and front wrapper resetting title page within an ornamental border dated 1854 and with a Boston imprint. BAL 19381 describes an 1853 dated title like the present but dated 1855 on the front wrap—that issue, however, has different pagination as it includes a new introduction by Harriet Beecher Stowe. Bound in publisher’s original wraps; front wrap is detached and rear is started, spine is fragile, barely visible erased name at top of front wrap, Very Good. Item #140941958

$25,000

Narrative of Sojourner Truth; A Bondswoman of Olden Time
Sojourner Truth

Battle Creek, MI: Published for the Author, 1881. Reprint. Bound in publisher’s original green cloth stamped in gilt. Very Good, with sloth lightly soiled and worn, frontis removed. Foxing to early and terminal leaves. Several leaves toward the front are slightly sprung with the binding a little tender there and the foreedges slightly frayed. Item #140945091

$6,000
Catalogue of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Tuskegee, Alabama. 1898-99.
[Washington, Booker T.]


A photo-illustrated register outlining the 1898-99 academic year. The Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute inculcated Booker T. Washington’s principles of providing practical training for African Americans and helping them develop economic self-reliance through the mastery of manual trades and agricultural skills. Washington founded the school in 1881 and served as its principal until his death in 1915. Item #140945273

$3,500
An Open Letter to the Louisiana Constitutional Convention, February 19, 1898 [cover title]
Washington, Booker T.


The first text is a letter written to the constitutional convention in Louisiana supporting a test for voting so long as “no one clothed with State authority will be tempted to perjure and degrade himself, by putting one interpretation upon it for the white man and another for the black man.”

The second piece printed here is the text of an article that ran in the Atlanta Constitution newspaper in 1900 expressing Washington’s opposition to a bill pending in the Georgia state legislature that aimed to disenfranchise black citizens. 8 pages. OCLC records about a dozen copies. This is possibly the copy sold at Swann in 1997. Item #140944465

(Broadside) Booker T. Washington Principal Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute Will Speak in ______________ at __ o’clock __________ 1913. All Are Invited.

[Washington, Booker T.]; [Mohonk Mountain House]

[New Paltz, NY]: [Mohonk Mountain House], 1913. Broadside measuring 14” x 11”. Time and date left blank. Fine. Bright with trivial wear. An unused copy of a broadside prepared by or for Mohonk Mountain House in connection with African American educator and author Booker T. Washington’s more or less annual appearance/ fundraising speech at this venerable Hudson Valley Resort in 1913. Mohonk Mountain House is a Victorian castle resort, founded in 1869. Its founder, who died in 1912, and Washington were good friends and correspondents. Item #140943101

$2,500
Sowing and Reaping
Washington, Booker T.


Black-Belt Diamonds: Gems from the Speeches, Addresses and Talks to Students
Washington, Booker T.; Victoria Earle Matthews [Editor]

New York: Fortune and Scott, 1898. First edition, first printing of the author’s second book. Bound in publisher’s green cloth lettered in gilt. Near Fine with light soiling and light wear to cloth. Pages lightly toned with light foxing to endsheets. One inked bracket to the margin of quotation reading “Where Resistance Beings: As long as the Negro will be about the streets drunk, lazy and shiftless there is no resistance to him. The resistance comes when he begins to move forward.”

A collection of Washington’s early speeches compiled and edited by the prominent activist for African American women’s rights, Victoria Earle Matthews. A lovely copy. Item #140944350

$2,800

Daily Resolves
Washington, Booker T.


$2,500
Up From Slavery: An Autobiography
Washington, Booker T.

New York: Doubleday, Page and Company, 1901. First edition, first issue; in the original dust jacket with the “Second Edition” plug at the bottom of the front panel. Bound in publisher’s ribbed maroon cloth stamped in gilt, gilt topstain. Very Good with Cloth a little darkened at spine end edges, edge-worn and lightly marked. Boards a bit splayed, contemporary former owner name to front free endpaper and hinge there slightly exposed. Pages toned. In the very scarce dust jacket, of which the extant portions have been laid down on similarly colored paper which replaces most of spine, lower edge of rear panel and flap edges. The famous African American educator, orator, and author’s autobiography. Item #140942997

$12,000

Working with the Hands
Washington, Booker T.

New York: Doubleday, Page and Company, 1904. First edition, first printing of Booker T. Washington’s sequel to Up From Slavery in the exceedingly scarce dust jacket. Bound in publisher’s ribbed maroon cloth with titles stamped in gilt. Near Fine with slight oxidation to gilt lettering and several hinged throughout slightly over-opened. Minor binding error beginning as a crease to the front paste down and progressively diminishing until about page 40. In a Near Fine dust jacket with wear at the extremities, small chips, trivial stains to top edge of front panel, toning and small abrasion to the spine panel. Item #140944347

$15,000
Short Biographical Sketches of Eminent Negro Men and Women in Europe and the United States, with Brief Extracts from their Writings and Public Utterances
Bruce, John Edward


A rare, noteworthy work by the African American journalist, historian, and civil rights activist John Edward Bruce. Bruce’s uncompromising radicalism set him apart from his contemporaries; he advocated armed self defense (rather than pacifism) and a prototypical Pan-Africanist version of Black Power. Late in life he became a supporter of Marcus Garvey and a mentor to Hubert Harrison. Item #140942243

$2,500

The Embryo of the Voice of the Negro: A Magazine Struggling to Be Born
Harrison, Hubert H. [Editor]

New York: The Voice of the Negro, 1927. Vol 1, No. 1. February, 1927. 4 pp. A single sheet folded once, 9.25” x 12.5”. Very Good+ with light wear. This scarce publication served as a proposal for a new magazine Harrison wished to found, The Voice of the Negro, for his organization, The International Colored Unity League. Harrison died after its first issue was completed, less than a year after this was published. Includes articles such as “What This Race Really Needs is a Good Magazine,” “Lincoln and Douglass,” “On Reading Negro Books,” and a critical piece on Lincoln titled, “Martyred President was Not an Abolitionist…”

Considered “The Father of Harlem Radicalism,” the author had worked as an editor for New Negro magazine and Marcus Garvey’s newspaper, Negro World. Item #140944336

$7,500
The Negro and the Nation
Harrison, Hubert H.


The African American radical activist and author’s first book, one of 5,000 copies. It collects his essays and pieces from 1910-1914 for the first time including his essay response to Rudyard Kipling’s poem “The White Man’s Burden,” “The Black Man’s Burden.” (A poem by that title also by Harrison was published some time around this.) Includes “Socialism and the Negro,” “What Socialism Means to Us,” “Conservatism and Negroes,” “The Negro and the Newspapers,” and “The Real Negro Problem.”

Harrison (1883-1927) was a West Indian and American writer, intellectual, and tireless activist. In later life, Harrison also wrote extensively for other newspapers, including the New York World. He founded the Liberty League and Voice: A Newspaper for the New Negro. Item #140944311

$15,000
supervision by which the welfare of the native populations might be more effectively guarded and protection ensured against any possible abuse.⁵ But with this dual control, Mr. Beer, strongly opposed to any course which might end to make the League of Nations a “Super-State,” whether in reality or in appearance, clearly saw, and in private conversation repeatedly stressed, the necessity of safeguarding.

African Questions at the Paris Peace Conference: With Papers on Egypt, Mesopotamia, and the Colonial Settlement (Hubert Harrison’s copy)
[Harrison, Hubert]; George L. Beer; Louis Herbert Gray [Introduction]

New York: The Macmillan Company, 1923. West Indian-born journalist and Black Power activist Hubert Harrison’s signed and extensively annotated copy of a work by a white historian of the “Imperial school” on the close of World War I and its implications for Africa and other colonized lands. The book’s author, George L. Beer, was a racist opponent of both colonialism and African self-govern-ment, writing that “the negro race has hitherto shown no capacity for progressive development except under the tutelage of other peoples.”

The book’s owner, though, is considered “The Father of Harlem Radicalism.” He worked as an editor for New Negro magazine and Marcus Garvey’s newspaper, Negro World. Ownership inscription to front free endpaper, “Hubert Harrison / New York Feb. 29th 1924 / - The New York World - “; another inscription to title page partially effaced. This copy represents him talking back to G.L. Beer and imperialist ideology, a candid rejoinder and critique. [...]

Husband Harrison

Feb. 29th 1924

New York

- The New York World -
Harrison’s notes are very revealing and insightful, and are certain to reward scholars of his thought. For instance his annotation to a passage about Germany’s battles with the subjects of its African colonies, Harrison notes, “The Belgian victims in the Congo at the same period was over five million.” He critiques all colonial powers as well as the United States for its hypocrisy and the brutality of its treatment of its Black citizens. He’s erudite and occasionally funny too. For instance, a passage in the introduction mentioning the author’s aversion to a League of Nations (a proto-U.N.) for fears that it will become a global super-state is simply annotated by Harrison in the margin, “Rats!” Readers can see his uncensored opinions and personal observations throughout this copy.

First edition. xliv, 628 pp. with folding color map, six map plates and one map textual illustration. Bound in publisher’s dark crimson cloth with spine lettered in gilt. Good with stained cloth, especially back board; fraying to ends, light dampstaining to contents.

This copy offers unique insights into Hubert Harrison’s politics and personality. His early death and a lack of critical attention to his work have made him an unjustly obscure figure in the history of African American political activism and journalism. Item #140944393

$20,000
The Man: The Hero: The Christian! A Eulogy of the Life and Character of Thomas Clarkson: Delivered in the City of New-York; December, 1846. by Rev. Alexander Crummell, Rector of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Messiah; Together with Freedom: A Poem, Read on the Same Occasion by Mr. Charles L. Reason
Crummell, Alexander; Charles L. Reason
New York: Egbert, Hovey & King, Printers, 1847. First edition. 44 pp. Bound in publisher’s blue wraps over string binding. Rear wrap gone. Ink notation to front wrap, corners bumped and creased, light foxing to contents. Rare in commerce.

The African American minister Alexander Crummell’s first work, printed with Charles Reason’s abolitionist poem “Freedom.” Crummell’s eulogy of English abolitionist Thomas Clarkson is a detailed biography of the man and his successful efforts to put an end to the slave trade.

In his biography of Crummell Jeremiah Wilson describes this work as “not the typical black abolitionist address. There were no striking firsthand accounts of life on the plantation, no harrowing descriptions of lashings [...] The eulogium was a philosophical piece. It contained a theory of history and civilization dominated by the idea of progress. It revealed a belief in the power of ideas and a concept of Christian modernism.” Item #140944389

$4,500

The Relations and Duties of Free Colored Men in America to Africa. A Letter to Charles B. Dunbar, M.D., Esq., of New York City.
Crummell, Alexander
Hartford, CT: Press of Case, Lockwood and Company, 1861. First edition. 54 pp. Publisher’s brown wrappers over string binding. Very Good+ with small tears and chips to fragile wraps, some separation to wraps along folds (rear wrap barely holding on), bump to upper edge of entire volume. Still a very clean, attractive copy; uncommon in commerce.

An important work by the African American Episcopalian minister and “Back-to-Africa” advocate who rallied support for Liberia. Item #140944320

$1,200
Marcus Garvey: Is He the True Redeemer of the Negro?
Mudgal, Hucheshwar

New York: H.G. Mudgal, 1932. First edition, one of an unspecified limitation signed by H.G. Mudgal on the verso of front wrapper, numbered 32. 15 pp. Bound in publisher’s stapled wraps. Good+ with wraps starting to separate along spine, tiny chips and some staining to wraps as well. Rare, with only two institutional copies located in OCLC.

Published eight years before the death of the controversial Black nationalist leader by the Indian-born, profusely educated editor of Garvey’s weekly newspaper, The Negro World. Here Mudgal answers his rhetorical question in the affirmative: “The only effective way American can achieve social peace, as far as the race question is considered, is by aiding the American Negroes to establish a large enough government somewhere in Africa and repatriate them...Mr. Garvey’s program...will bring peace and contentment to both the Negroes and the whites of America.” Mudgal would leave America for India where he became a member of parliament only to resign due to scandal in 1951. Item #140945099

$2,000
THINK AND DO
To think the thoughts of men of might,
To act the deeds of heroes all,
Will make you victor in the fight
Of things most great and even small.

Look up, and think as great men do,
Then pitch right in and boldly win,
You then can to yourself be true,
And show the world just how
You've been.
—M. G.

THE NEGRO LOOKS.
To sit and watch the deeds of men,
In ages past without dispute,
But keeping record with the pen,
Is work of Negro who seems mute.
The Negro makes his notes to-day,
As cool as you would have him be;
He has no weapon, neither say,
He looks, then hopes, and will be free.
He stores at things from angles true,
He counts the weapons of all men,
And then he turns to me and you,
And we respond "it's true" "just when."
The Negro's battles will be fought,
By means not known as yet to all,
His lessons he has calmly bought,
And he thus waits the timely call.
—M. G.
Garvey, Marcus [Editor]

London: The Black Man Publishing Co., 1937. 20 pp. Bound in publisher’s wraps. A Fair copy with wraps detached and chipped along edges, old tape on rear wrap, two smaller archival tissue pieces holding on chips, vertical crease throughout magazine, cup stain to front wrap, soiling to wraps. A scarce publication by Jamaican-born pan-African political activist Marcus Garvey and his Universal Negro Improvement Association. Item #140945021 $8,500

Garvey, Marcus [Editor]


A scarce publication by Jamaican-born pan-African political activist Marcus Garvey and his Universal Negro Improvement Association. The front cover features Garvey’s poem “The Negro Looks,” as well as a focus on Africa with essays like “The Negro and Africa” and “Mr. Chamberlain’s Methods.” Item #140945044 $8,500

Constitution and Book of Laws, Made for the Government of the Universal Negro Improvement Association, Inc., and the African Communities League, Inc., of the World
[Garvey, Marcus]; Universal Negro Improvement Association, Inc.; African Communities’ League, Inc.

New York: [No Publisher], 1920. 40 pp. Bound in publisher’s pale green stapled wraps. Near Fine, rear wrap toned along upper edge, staples slightly rusted. A bright, attractive copy of the guidelines of Marcus Garvey’s pan-African, Black Power UNIA organization. Revised and amended as of August 1920 according to front wrap. Uncommon. Item #140945266 $1,250
Black Reconstruction
Du Bois, W.E.B.

New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1935. First edition. Review copy with publisher’s stamp on front free endpaper with publication date and price, in very rare possible review version of the dust jacket without price. [viii], 746 pp. Bound in publisher’s black cloth with gilt spine lettering. Very tiny wormhole in front gutter cloth, else Fine in a Near Fine dust jacket, spine panel dulled, worn at head, a few paint flecks on back panel. Scarce in jacket.

One of Du Bois’ major works, a revisiting of the reconstruction period as a critical time of Black advancement in American society and a near-revolution of anti-racism and societal change. In portraying the period in this way he was clashing with the academic orthodoxy and popular conceptions of the time. In the 21st century it has been given renewed attention and called “the foundational text of revisionist African American historiography.” Item #140943735

The Souls of Black Folk
Du Bois, W. E. B.

London: Archibald Constable & Co., 1905. First British edition, first printing. Signed by W.E.B. Du Bois on the front free endpaper. Bound in publisher’s black cloth ruled in blind and lettered in gilt on the spine. Very Good with gouge to spine affecting title, rubbing to cloth at extremities. Toning to pages, with foxing at preliminary and terminal leaves and light offsetting to front and rear free endpapers. A seminal work in the history of sociology and a cornerstone of African American literature, in which Du Bois discusses “double consciousness”—the idea that African Americans have two fields of vision, one how they see themselves, and the other how others view them. Item #140940092

$20,000

$12,500
In an effort to portray the genius and humanity of the black race, Du Bois published The Souls of Black Folk, a collection of 14 essays. James Weldon Johnson said the book’s effect on African Americans was comparable to that of Uncle Tom’s Cabin. The introduction famously proclaimed that “the problem of the Twentieth Century is the problem of the color line”. Each chapter begins with two epigraphs – one from a white poet, and one from a black spiritual – to demonstrate intellectual and cultural parity between black and white cultures.

A major theme of the work was the double consciousness faced by African Americans: being both American and black. This was a unique identity which, according to Du Bois, had been a handicap in the past, but could be a strength in the future: “Henceforth, the destiny of the race could be conceived as leading neither to assimilation nor separatism but to proud, enduring hyphenation.” Item #140945367

$30,000
The Fire Next Time
Baldwin, James

New York: The Dial Press, 1963. First edition, first printing. Signed by James Baldwin on the half-title page, the author has also written his New York City address on the facing page. Bound in publisher’s original cream cloth stamped in red. Near Fine with light wear to corners, a few small spots to the topstain and tanning to the pages, in a Very Good+ unclipped dust jacket with wear to the extremities and creases to the rear flap, fading to the red print on the spine. The African-American novelist’s powerful thoughts on race in the U.S. in two essays, an instant bestseller. Signed first printings are scarce. Item #140945185

$9,500
Notes of a Native Son
Baldwin, James


$1,400

Nobody Knows My Name: More Notes of a Native Son
Baldwin, James


First edition. xiv, 241 pp. Publisher’s cloth and boards. Pages toned with age, else Fine in a Near Fine dust jacket with only a little sunning to spine panel, light wear. A follow-up to Notes of a Native Son, the African American expat’s prescient thoughts on race in America. Item #140945235

$300
From Slavery to Freedom: A History of American Negroes
Franklin, John Hope

Franklin, the grandson of a slave owned by Native Americans, wrote this landmark survey of the Black experience in America which has sold more than three million copies and remains in print today. Item #140945272

$3,600

The Echo from Dealey Plaza: The True Story of the First African American on the White House Secret Service detail and His Quest for Justice After the Assassination of JFK
Bolden, Abraham
New York: Harmony Books, 2008. First edition. Signed by Abraham Bolden on the half title with a warm, lengthy inscription to the former owner, dated April 26, 2010. Fine in Fine dust jacket. The autobiography of the first Black Secret Service agent on the White House detail, who faced a lot of racism and vitriol from other agents during his time in JFK’s White House. After helping to foil a plot against President Kennedy’s life in Chicago in October 1963, mere weeks before the Dallas assassination, Bolden was forced into silence about the events in Chicago (which remain completely unknown and obscure even to most historians of the era) and eventually railroaded into jail on trumped-up charges. In 2022 he was officially pardoned by President Biden. A rare signature from one of the unsung heroes of the Kennedy assassination milieu. Item #140945289

$750
Black Education: Myths and Tragedies
Sowell, Thomas

New York: David McKay Company Inc, 1972. First edition. x, 338 pp. Bound in publisher’s black cloth with silver lettering. Very Good+ with foxing and a little staining to edges, pages toned with age, in About Very Good dust jacket with triangular chip in top of front panel, associated creasing; rear panel chipped along top edge; a little staining to spine panel. Uncommon.

A major work by the prolific Black conservative economist, his second published book. Item #140945267

$750

A Conflict of Visions: Ideological Origins of Political Struggles
Sowell, Thomas


An uncommon signed book by the African American economist and conservative political thinker. Item #140945288

$2,000
Shirley Chisholm was the first Black woman elected to the United States Congress. This poster was created for her 1972 presidential campaign, in which she was the first Black candidate to seek a major party’s nomination—a story told in the recent miniseries Mrs. America. From the estate of Etta Moten Barnett (1901-2004) of Chicago. Item #140945218
**Instructions to Porters, Attendants and Bus Boys**

The Pullman Company


Shortly after the Civil War, The Pullman Company became notable for hiring thousands of African American men—including many former slaves—to serve white passengers traveling across the country on the company’s luxury railroad sleeping cars. Following meticulous rules and procedures as evident by those in this guidebook, these men became pillars of the African-American community who as a result of their training maintained the highest standards of personal and professional decorum. Though they were underpaid, overworked and endured never-ending racism on the job, the Pullman porters would eventually help to fuel the Great Migration, shape a new Black middle class and help launch the civil rights movement. Item #140944975

$1,500

*Dear Friend: Our national government is playing Russian roulette with riots* (Fundraising letter for SCLC, April 1968)

King, Martin Luther, Jr.

Atlanta: [SCLC], 1968. 8.5” x 11” fundraising letter printed on both sides. Vert Good, folded in thirds for mailing. A rare piece of MLK ephemera.

This SCLC Poor People’s Campaign fundraising letter was written by King in March of 1968. He would be assassinated on April 4th, and it would be one of the last, if not the last, fundraising appeals to go out in his name. It uses much of the same language as the final piece he published before his assassination, “Showdown for Nonviolence” in Look magazine, published two days before his death. King looks with fear to the violence he anticipates in the summer of 1968, and chides the Johnson administration for not heeding the advice of the Kerner Commission it appointed. Item #140945323

$2,000
Christ, the Church and Race
King Jr., Martin Luther

Detroit, MI: Dept. of Christian Social Relations, Episcopal Diocese of Michigan, 1958. First edition. The text of King’s keynote speech, which he delivered on May 16, 1958 at a Detroit conference entitled “Christ, Church and Race” before an audience of roughly 260 Episcopal priests and laymen. In which, he encourages his church leaders to be like Christ and challenge the status quo, and engage in direct action instead of merely ideological action in regards to racial equality. 9pp. In publisher’s original printed staple-bound wraps. Near Fine with rusting to staples and toning. An uncommon MLK item, with only one copy found in OCLC. Item #140942252

$3,500

The Civil Rights Struggle in the United States Today: An Address Delivered at the House of the Association on Wednesday, April 21, 1965
King, Martin Luther, Jr.

New York: The Association of the Bar of the City of New York, 1965. Supplemental offprint from The Record of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, Vol. 20 Number 5. Stapled wraps. 24 pp. First edition. Near Fine with faint creasing along binding, tiny staple rust transfer on back wrap. Transcribes the introductory remarks of the Honorable Samuel I. Rosenman, Dr. King’s full address, and the audience question and answer session moderated by Judge Rosenman afterwards. Rare, with only six copies located in an OCLC WorldCat search and no copies in the trade. Item #140940831

$750
Letter from Birmingham City Jail
King, Martin Luther, Jr.

Philadelphia: American Friends Service Committee, 1963. First edition, first printing dated May, 1963. Bound in publisher’s original printed stapled wraps, 16 pp., including wrappers. Near Fine with light wrinkling toward bottom, light creasing and light wear. King was imprisoned for participating in non-violent demonstrations against segregation. From his jail cell in Birmingham, while the situation intensified outside on the city streets, he composed a letter in response to the city’s local religious leaders’ criticism of the campaign. Mimeographed copies of the letter were originally circulated, and papers such as the New York Times declined to print it. However, within days, several papers ran excerpts of the letter without King’s consent, and shortly after the American Friends Service Committee received permission from King to publish this here first separate edition. Item #140941981

$7,200

Strength to Love
King, Martin Luther, Jr.

New York: Harper & Row, 1963. First edition, first printing. Signed by Martin Luther King on the front free endpaper. Very Good with owner name effaced and taped over above King’s signature, abrasion to front and rear pastedowns. Former ownership stamp and handwritten date to half-title page. In a Very Good unclipped dust jacket with rubbing, light wear and some small areas of discoloration. A collection of sermons by the civil rights leader centering around racial segregation, with a focus on permanent religious values. Item #140942245

$17,500
Stride Toward Freedom
King, Martin Luther

New York: Harper & Brothers, 1958. Advance uncorrected proof of the first edition. 5-3/4” x 7. Bound in publisher’s stiff blue and white wraps with plastic comb-binding. Very Good. Half-title page with publisher’s review slip glued to the top edge is detached from the binding. Rusty paperclip to top of one page, sporadic marking (mostly underlining and marginal brackets) throughout. MLK’s first book, recounting his nonviolent, successful organizing of the Montgomery bus boycott and the beginning of the Nonviolent Civil Rights Movement. Item #140945324

$11,000
Archive of Documents Pertaining to the Publication of Martin Luther King Jr.’s Books “Stride Toward Freedom” and “Strength to Love”, and the State of Alabama’s Audit of MLK for Tax Violations
[King, Martin Luther, Jr.]

1957-1968. An archive of fourteen documents of various sizes, mostly pertaining to the publication of Martin Luther King Jr.’s Stride Toward Freedom which was published September 17, 1958, several documents regarding the State of Alabama’s audit of King, and one document pertaining to “Strength to Love”. Very Good overall. One document (Remittance Advice, December 23, 1953) with a 1”x3 area of loss from the publisher’s letterhead.

Stride Toward Freedom is King’s historic account of the 1955–1956 Montgomery bus boycott. The book describes the conditions of African Americans living in Alabama during the era, and chronicles the events and participants’ planning and thoughts about the boycott and its aftermath. The boycott sparked Rosa Parks’ refusal to give up her seat to a white rider, and catapulted King to the prominent leadership position of the civil rights movement.

Shortly after the end of the boycott, King hired two literary agents, Marie F. Rodell and Joan Daves of the first Marie Rodell and Joan Daves, Inc. Rodell and Daves would soon sign a contract with Harper & Brothers for King to write his memoir or the Montgomery Bus Boycott, with a working title of A Moment in History. The book would be published under the title Stride Toward Freedom.

The archive contains:

-A carbon copy of the ‘Remittance Advice’ from
Harper Brothers to Rodell and Daves in the amount of $2,000 payable on signing. This was an advance against all monies accruing under the terms of the contract signed October, 17, 1957 for A Moment in History; this is dated December 23, 1957.

-A typed letter signed by Eugene Exman of Harper & Brothers to Marie Rodell dated May 21, 1958 regarding the first carbon of the “edited” first chapter.

-A typed letter signed by Frank Elliot of Harper & Brothers to Joan Daves dated May 21, 1958 in regarding the selection and clearance of photographs to be used in Stride Toward Freedom. Elliot concludes the letter by stating that Daves should be receiving galley proofs of the book next Monday. Elliot was an editor for the Religious Books Department at Harper & Brothers.

-A Photostat copy of a contract dated May 22, 1958 from Frank Elliot at Harper & Brothers to Jay Leviton for the rights to use one of Leviton’s photographs in the publication of Stride Toward Freedom. Leviton was paid $50 for use of his image.

-A typed letter, unsigned, dated June 9, 1958 from Frank Elliot to Joan Daves regarding the final revision of the last chapter and when page proofs could be expected. The letter includes several manuscript notes in an unknown hand.

-A small handwritten note from Rodell and Daves used to write text for a congratulatory text to King on the publication of the book, care of the Statler Hotel. “Congratulations on your publication day & yours marathon radio & TV performances We’ll have to see you tomorrow or Friday Joan & Marie” followed by “Sent 9/17/58 3:10 pm”. Three days following this, King was stabbed with a letter opener at a book signing; it was then from his hospital bed he confirmed his belief in the “redemptive power of nonviolence.”

-A typed unsigned letter dated June 19, 1959 from the Editorial Dept. at Samuel French to Marie Rodell rejecting the dramatization rights for Stride Toward Freedom as they feared there would not be much of a market for it among the amateur producing groups.
A two-page-typed contract dated August 14, 1965 for the Japanese rights to Stride Toward Freedom, with Kinseido, Ltd. Signed by the publisher only, likely Joan Daves’ retained copy. Staple no longer holding at top corner.

A carbon copy of a typed unsigned letter sent to Martin Luther King dated April 13, 1960 from Dolores Gentile of Marie Rodell and Joan Daves, Inc. This was the cover letter for a carbon copy of the Marie Rodell and Joan Daves, Inc.’s report of King’s 1958 earnings for Stride Toward Freedom to the State of Alabama.

A photostat on State of Alabama letterhead dated January 4, 1960 with signatures from Martin Luther King, Jr. and his wife Coretta S. King addressed to “All Banks and Banking Institutions” giving them authority to allow Lloyd D. Hale, Agent, State Department of Revenue, Income Tax Division to inspect all the King’s records in their possession.

A typed letter signed by Lloyd D. Hale on State of Alabama letterhead dated April 12, 1960 addressed to Marie S. Rodell and Joan Dandes Inc. requesting King’s literary agency’s records of the date and net amount received by King for the years 1956, 1957, and 1958. The letter references the authorization from the Kings noted above as an attachment.

A typed unsigned letter dated April 19, 1960 from Joan Daves to Lloyd D. Hale outlining a report of payments made to King. The general consensus was that the State’s audit was largely a sham in an effort to legally prosecute MLK and defeat the civil rights movement.

A typed letter signed by E. N. Brandt of The Saturday Evening Post dated December 22, 1960 written to Marie Rodell stating that Martin Luther King declined to write a piece entitled “Is It Moral To Break An Unjust Law?” King used this theme extensively in his Letter From a Birmingham Jail in 1963.

A retained contract for Strength to Love for British publisher Hodder and Stoughton Limited, dated August 1th, 1968, signed by the publisher. Item #140945217

$6,500
[Civil Rights] Eleven Candid Snapshot Photographs of Coretta Scott King
[King, Coretta Scott]

[no place]: 1964. ca. 1964. Eleven black and white silver gelatin photographs of Coretta Scott King. 3.5”x5. Very Good, lightly toned, all but two appear to have been removed from an album with a spot of glue remnant or loss to the verso. These images appear to be from at least two different events. Coretta was the wife of Martin Luther King Jr., and often called the “First Lady of the Civil Rights Movement.” She played a prominent role in the movement in the years after her husband’s assassination in 1968 and worked to make MLK’s birthday a national holiday. Item #140945221 $850
[Civil Rights]; [Martin Luther King Jr.]


An historic event in the battle for civil rights, when an estimated 250,000 people showed up to this iconic event demanding civil and economic rights for African Americans. There Dr. Martin Luther King delivered his famous “I Have a Dream” speech in front of the Lincoln Memorial. Item #140945155

$7,500

[Civil Rights]; [Martin Luther King Jr.]


Original felt pennant from the March on Washington, August 28, 1963. White felt printed in red and blue measuring 11.5” x 26.25 with a 36” dowel. Very Good with soiling, browning, foxing and light creases. A historic event in the battle for civil rights, an estimated 250,000 people showed up to this iconic event demanding civil and economic rights for African Americans. Item #140945156

$6,500
HUEY MUST RESIGN

THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY FOR SELF DEFENSE

EDITORIAL:

THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY FOR SELF DEFENSE

THE BLACK PANTHER NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON CHILDREN

VOICES OF NOVEMBER'S ELECTION ENDORSEMENTS - VOTE THRU COMMUNAL NEWS SERVICE
Black Panther Party; Emory Douglas [Artist]; Huey Newton; Bobby Seale; Eldridge Cleaver, et al.


Contents: Volume 1, Number 6; Vol. 2, Nos. 1-3, 5-7, (15-17), 18, 19, 21; Vol. 3, Nos. 1, 3, 6, 7, 9-12, 16, 17, 19-21, 26, 27, 29, 29 [sic], 31; Vol. 4, Nos. 3, 3 [sic], 4, 7, 8, 8 [sic], 9, 12-15, 17, 18, 18 [but 19], 20, 21, 22, 22 [sic], 27, 28, 28 [sic], 29; Vol. 5, Nos. 4, 12, 13, 15-18, 20-25, 27, 30; Vol. 6, Nos. 1-6, 10, 11, (13-14), 16, 18, 21, 23-30; Vol. 7, Nos. 1, 3, 8, 19-27, 29, 30; Vol. 8, Nos. 1-25, 28-30; Vol. 9, Nos. 1, 3-8, 10, 12-15; Vol.10, Nos. 15, 18, 23, 25, 27, 28, 30; Vol. 11, Nos. 12, 14, 15, 21, 23, 26, 29; Vol. 12, Nos. 1, 7, 12, 15, 16, 30; Vol. 13, Nos. 2, 7, 11, 12, 19, 20, 21, 29, 30; Vol. 14, Nos. 4, 8, 11-13, 15, 17, 18, 28; Vol. 15, Nos. 3, 10-15, 26-30, 30 [sic]; Vol.16, Nos. 4, 5, 8-11, 13, 18, 27-30; Vol. 17, No. 29; Vol. 18, Nos. 1, 3-9, 11, 16-19, 22-26, 28, 29, 29 [sic]; Vols. 19, Nos. 3, 5-7, 7 [sic], 8, 9; Vol. 20, Nos. 1, 3; Extra, Saturday, October 5th, 1968 [Unnumbered].

A well-preserved and very substantial run of the Black Panther Party’s official newspaper, with the issues representing a large swath of the paper’s content, circulation, and overall aesthetic. In terms of content, Huey Newton was acknowledged as the chief theoretician of the Party and its newspaper, though in terms of generating mass-appeal, much of the credit goes to Emory Douglas: “Douglas’s work on the Black Panther newspaper and for the party was fearless in content and style. He was the party’s Revolutionary Artist, graphic designer, illustrator, political cartoonist, and the master craftsman of its visual identity. His distinctive illustrations styles, cartooning skills, and resourceful collage and image recycling made the paper as explosive visually as it was verbally...Part of Douglas’s genius was that he used the visually seductive methods of advertising and subverted them into weapons of the revolution. His images served two purposes: to illustrate conditions that made revolution a reasonable response and to construct a visual mythology of power for people who felt powerless and victimized” (Durant, Sam (ed.). Black Panther: The Revolutionary Art of Emory Douglas, pp.95-96).

Contains an over-arching glimpse of the art, layout, production and content of the newspaper as well as the rise and fall of the Black Panther Party, with issues ranging from the earliest days through 1980. Visually stunning and innovative in its design and layout, they tell the story of the Black Panthers’ struggle fighting racism and institutional violence and oppression. A key publication responsible for shaping African American revolutionary thought in the twentieth century; runs this extensive are very uncommon in commerce. Item #140945081

$65,000
[Black Panther Party]; [Lyons, Lisa]

California: [No Publisher], 1968. Original silk-screen poster, black and pink printed on white, measuring 17.5" x 23; Good+ with surface loss where rolled, light wrinkling and wear, staple holes to corners.

Organizing poster advertising a joint effort of the Black Panther Party and the left-wing Peace and Freedom Party, to free BPP leader Huey Newton. The artwork is attributed to Lisa Lyons, the graphic designer for the Panthers during this period, on account that she consigned her personal copy of this poster with auction house in 2016, where she was credited as the artist. Item #140945159

$4,500

[Black Panthers] The People Will Free the Panther 21, By Any Means Necessary
[Black Panther Party]


The Panther 21 was a group of twenty-one Black Panther members who were arrested and accused of planned coordinated bombing and long-range rifle attacks on two police stations and an education office in New York City in 1969, who were all acquitted by a jury in May 1971, after revelations during the trial that police infiltrators played key organizing roles. A very scarce poster with none traced in a recent OCLC search, though two holdings list a smaller poster with the same title with the credit line of the Committee to Defend the Panthers. Item #140945158

$5,500

[Black Panther Party] Revolution in Our Lifetime
Emory, Douglas

San Francisco: [Black Panther Party] Ministry of Information, [ca. 1970]. Original poster measuring 20.5” x 13.75. White heavy stock offset printed in black. Very Good with some foxing heaviest to the rear, light tanning. Douglas was the primary illustrator and revolutionary artist for the Black Panther Party, serving as its Minister of Culture from the group’s inception in 1967 through its disbanding in the 1980s. His illustrations ran frequently in the Black Panther newspaper and he also designed many posters for the group. This image first appeared in the Black Panther newspaper on November 8, 1969. In many of Douglas’ illustrations and posters, the central figures are wearing buttons whose messages or text contain an additional element of protest. Item #140944990

$4,500
A Rule of Thumb of Revolutionary Politics is That No Matter How Oppressive the Ruling Class May Be, No Matter How Impossible the Task of Making REVOLUTION May Seem, the Means of Making That REVOLUTION are Always Near at Hand, ELDRIDGE CLEAVER for President (Original poster)
[Black Panther Party]

San Francisco: Guerilla, 1968. Two-sided broadsheet, 22 1/2" x 16 1/4". Very Good with two mailing folds, light toning, minimal wear, pencil on verso. Volume 2, issue 3 of the radical periodical Guerrilla. Stored folded-up. Item #140945295

$1,200

May Day / May 1, 1969 10:00 a.m. / Free Huey Day / Mass Rally, Federal Building, 450 Golden Gate, San Francisco, Calif. (Black Panther Party Poster)
[Newton, Huey]; [Black Panther Party]

San Francisco: [Black Panther Party], 1969. Original poster printed in black and red, measuring 17 1/2” x 21 3/4”. Untrimmed at left and right edges (register marks still present). Near Fine, very bright and clean, with faint corner crease at bottom left. From the collection of a journalist/acivist who was involved in the defense of the Black Panthers.

A visually striking poster announcing a May Day rally to force the US government to grant Black Panther Party co-founder Huey P. Newton release on bail. The text at the bottom reads: “Exhausting all legal means. Federal Judge Alfonso J. Zirpoli has set May 1st for a hearing to make the Reagan-Alioto power structure show why it will not release the Minister of Defense, Huey P Newton on bail, which Huey has a right to, while pending his appeal.” Item #140945163

$2,500
Sweet Sister Courage Angela. [Poster]
[Black Panther Party]; [Angela Davis]

[no place]: [No Publisher], [ca. 1971]. Rare original poster depicting African American activist and Black Panther Party member Angela Davis, measuring 19.25" x 24. Near Fine with light wear to bottom edge. No copies traced in OCLC, though one is held at the Oakland Museum and an April 18, 1971 Los Angeles Times article mentions one hanging on the wall of basketball great Bill Russell's home. Item #140945160

$4,000

Free Angela Davis & All Political Prisoners (Poster)
[Davis, Angela]; [Black Panther Party]

Los Angeles: California Regional Committee to Free Angela Davis, [1971]. Original black and white poster, measuring 21 3/4” x 15 3/4”. Near Fine, minimal wear. Rare. While the title of this poster was publicized, we could not locate this exact poster at auction previously or in OCLC. Item #140945161

$3,500
James Baldwin's Statement to Angela
[Davis, Angela]; Vinton Kirk; [James Baldwin]

Buffalo, NY: Buffalo Committee to Free Angela Davis / October Graphics, [1971]. Silkscreen poster measuring 29" x 22.5, in black on white. Near Fine with minimal wear. Printed by October Graphics designer Vinton Kirk, using the concluding lines of James Baldwin's "An Open Letter to My Sister, Angela Y. Davis": "The enormous revolution in black consciousness which has occurred in your generation, my dear sister, means the beginning of the end of America. Some of us, white and black, know how great a price has already been paid to bring into existence a new consciousness, a new people, an unprecedented nation [...] For, if they take you in the morning, they will be coming for us that night." Item #140945157

$3,500
Free the Seattle Eight: Free Bobby Seale (Original handbill)
Anonymous
[No Place]: [No Publisher], [1970]. 4.25" x 5.5", single-sided handbill flyer. Good, horizontally creased, missing triangular chips at corners, wrinkled, toned. No other copies located in commerce or in institutional collections such as University of Washington's Vietnam War Era Ephemera Collection.

A scarce piece of propaganda from the American anti-Vietnam War movement, demanding the freeing of the protestors that would become famous as The Seattle Seven. On February 17, 1970 the Seattle Liberation Front organized a protest of about 2,000 people against the imprisonment of the Chicago Seven including Black Panther Bobby Seale, converging on the Seattle federal courthouse. About 200 protestors chanting “Free Bobby!” attacked the building with rocks and paint and were reputedly tear-gassed by Seattle Police. Eight protestors would later be indicted: Jeff Dowd, Michael Abeles, Joe Kelly, Michael Lerner, Susan Stern, Roger Lippman, Chip Marshall, and Michael Justesen. Justesen skipped town and was never found, so the group became known as The Seattle Seven. Most of the charges would eventually be dropped.

Jeff Dowd, though, would become a film producer and later gain cult fame as an inspiration for “The Dude” in The Coen Brothers’ 1998 film The Big Lebowski. Hence The Dude’s lines, “Ever heard of the Seattle Seven? That was me. Well, me and six other guys.”

One was actually a lady, but otherwise the reference was quite real. Item #140943566

$1,500
Collection of nine Black Power posters featuring the artwork of George 8X Stewart
Stewart, George 8X [Artist]

Washington, D.C. E.B. Wash Art Gallery, 1971 and undated. Group of nine posters featuring the artwork of Black Muslim artist George 8X Stewart, sold as a lot. Each 25" x 20" or slightly smaller; minor wear including a few short tears in margins. Poster of Malcolm X shows some horizontal creases, curling. Rare in commerce.

George 8X Stewart was born circa 1937 as George E. Stewart. He was raised in Washington and became entangled in drugs, spending much of his early life in reformatories and prisons. While serving a 20-month sentence in the District of Columbia Jail on a narcotics charge, he discovered a talent for drawing. After his August 1967 release, he began drawing portraits of people in his neighborhood, and then in May 1968 joined the caravan of the Poor People's Campaign as its official portrait artist. See the Pittsburgh Courier, 1 June 1968. All but one of the posters in this group are credited "Copyright 1971 George Stewart. . . E.B. Wash Art Gallery, 3220 Georgia Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20010. Phone RA 6-5106." Some offer a Mrs. Minor as an alternate contact, and two name Mrs. Isabelle Stewart. The artwork shows the printed signature of either George E. Stewart or George 8X Stewart, in 1968 or 1971.

Included are:

1. A variant printing of Stewart's best-known image, showing Angela Davis in the center, surrounded by various other figures in the black power struggle: Huey Newton, Malcolm X, Martin Luther King, and more, together with a quote from the Declaration of Independence and a quote from Che Guevara. Later variants of the poster include one issued without a title or publication credit; and one titled "Endurance," printed in Huntsville, AL and New York by Blackness Incorporated, circa 1975. The present version is untitled, printed in sepia tones, and measures 22 1/2" x 17 1/4", with the 1971 copyright statement.

2. Untitled portrait of a woman wearing a Poor People's Campaign pin with a portrait of Elijah Muhammad in the background, 25" x 19", 1971.


7. "They Need Our Help Now! We Stand Tall When We Stoop to Help a Child," 22 1/2" x 17 1/4", 1971.

8. Untitled portrait of a woman in African garb, 25" x 20", undated with no credit line.

9. Untitled portrait of a nursing mother, 22 1/2" x 17 1/4", 1971. Item #140945162

$9,500
Black Power in the Urban Ghetto: An Intercollegiate Conference Nov. 10-12, 1966 Oberlin College Oberlin, Ohio
Wachtel, Alan [Editor]; Bonnie Beshears [Editor] Robert Goertz [Editor]; Margaret Eckel [Editor]; Bernie Arons [Editor]


A mimeographed booklet civil rights for a conference on civil rights at Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio. Includes “Notes from an Alienated White,” quotes from Langston Hughes and “Negro Churchmen.” The uncredited cover image is the famed Danny Lyon photograph from the March on Washington, best known from the SNCC “Now” poster. A program for the conference is not included, but according to the college’s annual report, Jesse Jackson and Floyd McKissick were among the speakers. Scarce, a single copy located in OCLC search. Item #140945016

$2,500

The 1619 Project
Hannah-Jones, Nikole [Editor]; Caitlin Roper [Editor]; Ilena Silverman [Editor]; Jake Silverstein [Editor]; Ibram X. Kendi; Rita Dove


The long-form journalism project on slavery and race in American history created by Nikole Hannah-Jones and The New York Times organization (both in magazine and paper forms), which developed an educational curriculum for American schools. Hannah-Jones would win the 2020 Pulitzer Prize for Commentary for her introductory essay to The New York Times Magazine series. Item #140944947

$400
Black Power: The Politics of Liberation
Ture, Kwame; [Stokely Carmichael]; Charles V. Hamilton

New York: Vintage, [1990s].

Signed by Kwame Ture (formerly known as Stokely Carmichael) on front free endpaper, inscribed “To My Brother Dann, struggle, like the Great Spirit, is eternal - keep on Kwame Ture.” xx, 230 pp. Bound in publisher’s wraps. Fourth printing of 1990s/early 2000s paperback edition with new afterwords by both authors. Very Good+, wraps slightly curled. A major work of the late ‘60s-’70s Black Power movement. Item #140944979

$2,250
The Black Jacobins
James, C. L. R.


Beyond a Boundary
James, C.L.R.

London: Hutchinson & Co., 1963. First edition, first printing. Signed by C.L.R. James on the front free endpaper. Bound in publisher’s original black cloth-affect boards with spine stamped in gilt and white. Near fine with slight splaying to boards, light soiling. In a Very Good unclipped dust jacket with sunning, soiling and wear, tape repairs made to the verso at the ends of the spine and flap folds.

One of the best books ever written on the sport of cricket and also an important work in the development of post-colonial studies. James was a former cricketer and also a Marxist/anti-Stalinist philosopher, decades ahead of his time with his bottom-up approach to popular culture and the political realm. Item #140945299

$4,500

$8,500