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 *for Books*

John Howell for Books
49th California International Antiquarian Book Fair
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John Howell for Books

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This list contains 26 books printed by or about Richard John Hoffman, Los Angeles printer.

Richard Hoffman, A Brief Life

During the twentieth century, Los Angeles produced a number of fine printers, Saul Marks and Ward Ritchie being familiar names. Perhaps not as well-known was Richard John Hoffman (1912-1989), a native of the city, with a massive output of printed work. Hoffman himself estimated his production at 15 to 20 items of printed material per week over a career spanning 66 years - that comes close to 50,000 items. Not all of it could be described as "fine printing." Hoffman worked at Los Angeles City College as a teacher and an academic printer from 1933 to 1959, and was an instructor in Graphic Design and Director of the Printing Management Program at California State University, Los Angeles from 1959 to 1978. Upon his retirement he continued to produce printed work of a very high caliber.

Hoffman was not a flamboyant character. In 1924, when he was 12, Richard Hoffman helped Francis C. Lofthouse install a printing press in the belfry tower of Trinity Baptist Church in East Los Angeles so that church bulletins could be printed. He married Lofthouse's daughter Ruth in 1934; they were married for 55 years. Hoffman's first employment was from 1925-1928, at the printing office of George Hillenbrand in Monterey Park, distributing type. He enrolled in Los Angeles Junior College in 1930, and began to work at the College Press as typographic editor for student publications, and edited the 1932 yearbook. Upon graduation in 1933 he became assistant manager of the College Press. At this time he was printing announcements, catalogs, forms, and other material needed in the operation of the college.

Hoffman's first book was issued in 1933, Cornel Lengyel's *Thirty Pieces*, a book of poetry by a student at Los Angeles Junior College, who would go on to become an important poet, playwright, and historian. Hoffman's work at this time was cautious and used traditional typefaces, with the occasional ornament. He published other books by teachers in the College, typically poetry, and these were often part of teaching assignments for students in the printing department. Now they are relatively scarce items through which one can trace the development of Hoffman's design sensibilities.

As a teacher, Hoffman developed a refined ability to express complicated elements of design and the finer points of press work in simple and direct language, and often with wry humor that was very attractive to students. Hoffman's teaching method included opportunities for students to produce a book or pamphlet by themselves. These projects were designed by the instructor and executed by the student. Because these works incorporated Hoffman's designs, they are often interesting specimens of

fine printing in their own right. The collector can study these productions over the years 1933 to 1959 to understand Hoffman's development as a printer and designer. An example of this type of publication is Nina Willis Walter's *Brush Strokes*, (1948).

Up until 1959, Hoffman's career was focused on three areas: 1) teaching in the Journalism and Graphic Arts Department at Los Angeles City College; 2) management of the College Press; and 3) his own private printing activities. When Hoffman left LACC, four different individuals assumed his responsibilities - one manager of the College Press; one teacher of Hoffman's typography classes; a new Chair of the Journalism and Graphic Arts Department; and a faculty advisor to the college newspaper.

In 1959, when Hoffman went to work at California State University, Los Angeles, his responsibilities included teaching, but he also began to focus his efforts at increasing the printing equipment available at the university in order to develop a program of fine printing to be taught to the students. Of special notice is the Columbian hand press - Number 415 in the Columbian series designed by George Clymer - that was purchased at auction in 1974 by Edward Petko and placed on loan at the CSULA Graphic Arts Laboratory. When the press arrived in Los Angeles from the London auction in 1975, it was unworkable due to poor packing for its journey. Five of Hoffman's students spent over one hundred hours each restoring the press for use. It was restored in time to produce by hand a facsimile edition of the Declaration of Independence for the 1976 Bicentennial. This project won local and national attention for the CSULA program and was covered in both professional and popular media.

From 1959 until his retirement from CSULA in 1979, Hoffman found his teaching duties allowed more time for a variety of printing projects. Hoffman could always be counted on to provide printing for a wide range of needs. Beginning in 1962, Dawson's Book Shop (continuing a relationship that dated back to 1957) engaged Hoffman to print the *California Famous Trials Series*, 10 volumes that Hoffman designed. Later, Dawson's began the *Los Angeles Miscellany Series*, which ran to sixteen volumes, twelve of which were designed and printed by Richard Hoffman and his students, each book with a distinctive design despite their uniform size.

Richard Hoffman never operated a printing press with an imprint that took in job work, with a paid staff, printing equipment, and a mortgage or rent on a building, as Saul Marks and Ward Ritchie had done. Instead, he informally took on work requested by others. Those who wanted the work done paid for the materials. Hoffman developed the graphic designs. But Hoffman recruited his students to do

the composition, press work, and binding. This was beneficial for the students because it gave them hands-on experience producing books and pamphlets. By these means, Hoffman could keep the costs down for his patrons, such as Dawson's, who in turn were able to make a wide range of limited edition publications affordable to the public, or allowed authors of modest means to publish their own books. Those who benefited from Hoffman's practice included libraries, churches, educational institutions, book clubs, and others.

Throughout his life, Hoffman printed material of a private nature, some for himself, and some for others. Hoffman produced private Christmas publications from 1929 to 1989. This involved the selection of copy, but Hoffman never repeated the content nor the form, producing everything from a simple card to elaborately decorated booklets. Hoffman printed announcements and other ephemera for the Rounce & Coffin Club from 1938-1989, designed and printed announcements for the Zamorano Club from 1970 to 1989, and designed and printed a series of 89 musical programs for Cora I. Upp, a local piano teacher, from 1946 to 1977. These items display the craftsmanship and imagination Hoffman brought to even the most routine jobs. Hoffman's Christmas publications and Upp's music programs now reside in the California State Library in Sacramento.

Some time around 1970, Hoffman suffered a tumor in his neck, and the radiation treatment of the time left him with impaired speech. While he continued to lecture for several years, his retirement came in 1978 at the age of 66. But his retirement did not mean that he slowed down. The *Columbian 415* which had been on loan to CSULA, came to his home in Van Nuys, as did the types gathered at the University. Hoffman spent many productive years at home, practicing his printing craft. But he was not alone. He formed the *Columbian 415 Chappel*, which brought his former students to his home on the first Sunday of the month for socializing and printing activities. He and John Urabec, a fellow member of the Zamorano Club, met every Friday to make by hand the Urabec-Hoffman all-rag paper that was used to print the books that Hoffman produced. "In the final decade of this life, RJH designed, composed and printed over 150 books, broadsides and pamphlets." (Petko, *Tribute*, p. 33).

In many ways, these years were the most creative and productive of Hoffman's life. During this time, Hoffman printed a miniature edition of Otto Ege's *The Story of the Alphabet* (1988). This book was outstanding for its use of metal type ornaments. Each opening contains Ege's text on the left page, and on the opposite page Hoffman used metal ornaments and flowers to decorate each letter of the alphabet. Their beauty and variety are exceptional.

Hoffman's own text, *Some Observations on Book Design* (1986), exemplifies his succinct teaching style. In 12 short pages, Hoffman lays out everything the reader needs to know about how to create a book. His words are so direct and convincing they even persuade this non-printer and non-designer that he could go out and make a book today. It also displays Hoffman's eye for color and the use of sixteenth- and seventeenth-century ornamental initial letters to open the first line of the text within a book, printed in contrasting colors.

Finally, his *magnum opus* is his *When a Printer Plays* (1987), a book upon which Hoffman lavished the utmost care upon every detail of typesetting, arrangement, margins, proportions, multi-colored patterns, and illustrations. It presents in a single volume the "history of fleurons and their usage, supplemented by over 200 of his own designs and inventions." Petko, *Tribute*, p. 33.

Petko's *Tribute* contains a bibliography of 640 carefully selected items printed by Richard Hoffman from 1927-1989, including 173 announcements printed for Zamorano Club Meetings, and 39 announcements of The Rounce & Coffin Club printed by Hoffman. Many of these items can be found at modest prices and can be a fun way to introduce the budding collector to the enjoyment of collecting books and printed ephemera.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

BOWER, Richard J., et al. *Celebrating the Life: Richard J. Hoffman*. [Los Angeles: Ruth L. Hoffman, 1994].

DOCTER, Richard F. *Impressions of a Printer: Richard J. Hoffman*. Los Angeles: Oral History Program, University of California, Los Angeles, 1989.

ENGEL, Dennis L. *The Presses and Printing of Richard J. Hoffman*. (Los Angeles): Graduate School of Library and Information Science, UCLA, 1977.

LIPTON, Ethan B., editor. *Richard J. Hoffman: Printer and Teacher of Printing*. Los Angeles: California State University, Los Angeles, 1978.

PETKO, Edward. *At Seventy: Richard J. Hoffman. Text by Edward Petko*. Los Angeles: Columbian 415 Chappel, 1982.

PETKO, Edward Repan. *A Tribute to the Work of Richard John Hoffman, Master Printer and Teacher.* Los Angeles: The Zamorano Club, 2002

ZARCOFF, Gregory and ZARCOFF, Wendy. *Richard J. Hoffman, 1912-1989.* Van Nuys: n. p., 1989.

1 LENGYEL, Cornel Adam (1914-2003). *Thirty Pieces.* Los Angeles: Richard Hoffman, 1933. 8vo. 9 1/8 x 6 inches. [vi], 41, [1 blank] pp. Half-title, title paged printed within ruled border with a typographic ornament; text clean, unmarked. Quarter black cloth, gray cloth over boards, front cover titled in black, added mylar dust-jacket; binding square and tight, light shelf wear. Ownership signature on the title page. INSCRIBED and DATED by the author on the half-title: "Cornel Lengyel, Nov. 11, 1933, San Francisco." Very Good.

\$ 650

LIMITED FIRST EDITION of 100 copies, this is number 46. Printed by Richard Hoffman in Los Angeles. This is Cornel Lengyel's first book of poetry, published when he was 19 years of age. When Lengyel was five years old, he spent 2 years living in Hungary with his family; at that time he became fluent in Magyar and English. When Lengyel was 8 years old, his family moved to Hollywood, California. Beginning in 1937, Lengyel worked as playwright for the Federal Theatre, and worked for the WPA from 1939 to 1940 on the History of Music in San Francisco series. Cornel Adam Lengyel was an American poet, historian, playwright, and translator. He received the Maxwell Anderson Award in 1950 for his play *The Atom Clock*. In 1969 Lengyel founded the Dragon's Teeth Press, publishing works of poetry, fiction and plays, where he continued to publish the work of other poets and writers. At the time this book was printed, Lengyel was a student at Los Angeles Junior College. It is the first book printed by Richard Hoffman, the important Los Angeles printer and teacher of printing. REFERENCE: Engel, *Presses and Printing*, No. 1; Petko: *Tribute*, No. 10.

2 WALTER, Nina Willis (b. 1900). *Brush Strokes.* Los Angeles: (College Press): 1948. 12mo. 5 1/4 x 4 inches. (xiv), 47, [3] pp. Title-page printed within a typographic border, text decorated with fleurons, a series of Nina Walter's haikus; text clean, unmarked. Gilt-stamped blue cloth; binding square and tight, covers lightly dust soiled. From Muir Dawson's personal collection. Very Good.

\$ 45

LIMITED EDITION of 150 copies. Contains Nina Walter's suite of haikus, printed by Raymond Garcia and Ronald Miller in handset Perpetua type as an instructional project in typography directed by Richard Hoffman, and printed at the College Press, Los Angeles City College, Spring Semester, 1948. In the Western Books Exhibit for 1949. REFERENCE: Engel, *Presses and Printing*, No. S1; Petko: *Tribute*, No. 77.

3 CARPENTER, Edwin H. (1915-1995). *Early Cemeteries of the City of Los Angeles*. Los Angeles: Dawson's Book Shop, 1973. Series: *Los Angeles Miscellany, No. 11*. 8vo. 9 1/2 x 6 1/4 inches. 49 pp. Half-title, black-and-white frontispiece, vignettes on title page and at chapter heads, 19 black-and-white illustrations; text clean, unmarked. Gilt-stamped black cloth spine, patterned paper over boards, maps on end-papers; binding square and tight. Glen Dawson's copy. Fine.

\$ 75

LIMITED EDITION of 300 copies printed by Richard J. Hoffman. Edwin Carpenter was a book collector, archivist, and Western American bibliographer at the Huntington Library. He wrote this account of early Los Angeles cemeteries, since "A few years ago I wanted to find out where a certain Los Angeles pioneer might have been buried, so I looked for the standard history of Los Angeles cemeteries, and found that there was none," from the Preface. REFERENCE: Engel, *Presses and Printing*, No. 79; Petko: *Tribute*, No. 220.

4 [The Fine Arts Press] CURTISS, Richard D. *Thomas E. Williams & The Fine Arts Press*. Los Angeles, CA: Dawson's Book Shop, 1973. 8vo. 9 1/2 x 6 3/8 inches. xvi, 119, [1] pp. Black-and-white frontispiece portrait of Thomas Williams, two-color title-page decoration, title page ruled in red, chapter heads and initials repeat the decoration on the title, 17 illustrations of title-pages, bibliography, index; the bibliography has some check-marks, otherwise text un-marked. Quarter gray cloth, patterned paper over boards, spine titled in gilt; binding square and tight. Fine.

\$ 40

LIMITED EDITION of 400 copies printed by Richard Hoffman. Based on personal interviews with close friends and former business associates of Thomas Williams, this book seeks to describe the professional career and personal life of Thomas E. Williams, a southern California fine printer and publisher of historical material. The primary focus is the Fine Arts Press, which Williams established when he was the printing instructor at the Santa Ana High School and the Santa Ana Junior College, 1929-1948. REFERENCE: Engel, *Presses and Printing*, No. 80; Petko: *Tribute*, No. 221.

5 [Robinson] POWELL, Lawrence Clark (1906-2001). *W. W. Robinson, 1891-1972. Eulogy Spoken by Lawrence Clark Powell*. Los Angeles: (Zamorano Club), 1974. Folio. 13 1/4 x 8 1/2 inches. (8) pp. Title-page printed within a decorative border, red initial letter; text clean, unmarked. White paper over boards, front cover and spine titled in gilt; binding square and tight, minor shelf wear. Very Good.

\$ 75

FIRST EDITION. Composed in Caslon types and printed on all-ray hand-made paper; paper making and printing by Richard Hoffman and John Urabec at California State University, Los Angeles, Project 7. Spoken at the memorial service for William Wilcox Robinson at the Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church September 6, 1972. Text reprinted from *Hoja Volante* for the members of the Zamorano and Roxburghe Clubs

at their biennial reunion in Los Angeles September 28-29, 1974. REFERENCE: Fuller, et al, *The Zamorano Club*, No. 469; Engel, *Presses and Printing*, No. 80; Petko: *Tribute*, No. 231.

6 WEST, Joan L. *The Bookplates of the Los Angeles Public Library*. Los Angeles: Los Angeles Library Association, 1971. 8vo. 9 1/2 x 6 1/4 inches. (30) pp. Half-title, bookplate frontispiece tipped in, engraved vignette on title page, 16 samples of bookplates, 2 vignettes, bibliography; text clean, unmarked. Full tan calf, front cover and spine titled in black; binding square and tight, light soiling to covers. SIGNED BY THE AUTHOR on the front free end-paper. Very Good.

\$ 50

LIMITED EDITION of 500 copies, printed by Richard J. Hoffman, California State College, Los Angeles. This volume traces not only the history of the Los Angeles Public Library through its book plates, but also earlier book plates and thus the history of California, dating back to the 1830s. Most of the copies were given free to new members of the Los Angeles Library Association. The book is printed with Mergenthaler Stuyvesant type which was not released for commercial distribution due to brass rationing during World War II. One book was printed in this face in New England, *The Shirley Letters*. It was then unknown until Richard Hoffman came upon a cache of it at a public auction and adopted it as his own private typeface. Hoffman renamed it "Los Angeles" and printed two other books using this type (Nos. 306A and 320 in the *Petko Tribute*). REFERENCE: Petko: *Tribute*, No. 207.

7 [Robinson] POWELL, Lawrence Clark (1906-2001). *W. W. Robinson, 1891-1972. Eulogy Spoken by Lawrence Clark Powell*. Los Angeles: (Zamorano Club), 1974. Folio. 13 1/4 x 8 1/2 inches. (8) pp. Title-page printed within a decorative border, red initial letter; text clean, unmarked. White paper over boards, front cover and spine titled in gilt; binding square and tight, minor shelf wear. Very Good.

\$ 75

FIRST EDITION. Composed in Caslon types and printed on all-ray hand-made paper; paper making and printing by Richard Hoffman and John Urabec at California State University, Los Angeles, Project 7. Spoken at the memorial service for William Wilcox Robinson at the Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church September 6, 1972. Text reprinted from *Hoja Volante* for the members of the Zamorano and Roxburghe Clubs at their biennial reunion in Los Angeles September 28-29, 1974. REFERENCE: Fuller, et al, *The Zamorano Club*, No. 469; Petko: *Tribute*, No. 231.

8 HOFFMAN, Richard John, editor. *Jubilee, 1925-1975. Panegyrics and Motley Digressions with Regard to Printers and Printing Gathered from Divers Sources and Privately Printed for Friends of Richard J. Hoffman*. [Van Nuys, CA]: (Richard J. Hoffman, 1975). 4to. 10 1/8 x 7 1/8 inches. (52) pp. Half-title, frontispiece quotation, title page printed in black

with 2 red fleurons, headpieces of typographic ornaments, decoration on the colophon; text clean, un-marked. Gild-stamped white paper over boards; binding square and tight. Fine.

\$ 275

LIMITED EDITION of 50 copies, celebrating 50 years of typographic adventures, printed by Richard J. Hoffman in Caslon types on hand-made all-rag paper made by John Urabec and Richard Hoffman. This book contains tributes and a few off-beat comments about printers and printing, "for fifty years my consuming life interest." From the foreword. Quotations from Giambattista Bodoni, Charles Dickens, Pierre Simon Fournier, Eric Gill, Ed Grabhorn, Samuel Johnson, Rudolf Koch, Mark Twain, Beatrice Ward, and many others. REFERENCE: Engel, *Presses and Printing*, No. 84; Petko: *Tribute*, No. 236.

9 [HARASZTHY] MCGINTY, Brian. *Haraszthy at the Mint.* Los Angeles: Dawson's Book Shop, 1975. Series: *Famous California Trials*, No. 10. 8vo. 9 1/2 x 6 1/4 inches. 60 pages. Red-and-yellow frontispiece initial and at chapter heads, 11 illustrations; text clean, unmarked. Gilt-stamped quarter red cloth, printed paper over boards; binding square and tight, light toning and soiling to covers. Glen Dawson's copy. Near Fine.

\$ 25

LIMITED EDITION of 300 copies, printed by Richard J. Hoffman. This is the first account based on original sources of the sensational 1853-1857 trial that ultimately vindicated Hungarian-born Agoston Haraszthy (1812-1869), assayer of the San Francisco branch of the United States Mint, from charges of embezzlement brought by J. Ross Browne (1821-1875). Haraszthy went on to become, if not the founder, then the "Father" of the Sonoma County wine industry. REFERENCE: Engel, *Presses and Printing*, No. 84; Petko: *Tribute*, No. 239.

10 [Zamorano Club] FULLERTON, George E., et al. *The Zamorano Club: The First Half Century, 1928-1978.* Los Angeles: The Zamorano Club, 1978. Folio. 12 3/4 x 9 5/8 inches. 99, [3] pp. Half-title, title page vignette printed in yellow inside a typographic border, Preface by Doyce Nunis, Introduction by George Fullerton, "Zamorano Club: Fifty Years," by Tyrus Harmsen, bibliography of Zamorano Club Keepsakes, images of some of the title pages throughout the text which is printed in black ink with red marginal notes, list of Zamorano Club members, indexes, colophon; text clean, unmarked. Quarter black cloth, patterned paper over boards, spine titled in gilt, dark gray end-papers; binding square and tight. Fine.

\$ 85

LIMITED EDITION of 200 copies printed by Richard Hoffman and bound by Bela Blau. The Zamorano Club of Los Angeles celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its founding on January 25, 1978. The Board of Governors authorized the publication of this volume to recognize this anniversary. The custom of giving and receiving keepsakes among members of a club dedicated to collecting and preserving books of worthwhile literature, fine printing and binding, and the graphic arts in general was a part of the Zamorano Club from the beginning. This volume is an attempt to

document the complete list of keepsakes done for the members of the Zamorano Club from the 1928 through 1978. REFERENCE: Petko: *Tribute*, No. 264.

11 ROBINSON, John W. *Southern California's First Railroad: The Los Angeles & San Pedro Railroad, 1869-1873.* Los Angeles: Dawson's Book Shop, 1978. Series: *Los Angeles Miscellany*, No. X. 8vo. 9 1/2 x 6 1/2 inches. 111, [3] pp. Half-title, black-and-white frontispiece, 16 illustrations (most photographed except one printed advert), bibliography; text clean, unmarked. Quarter black cloth, brown paper over boards, front cover titled in black, spine titled in gilt, maps in end-papers; binding square and tight. Fine.

\$ 100

FIRST EDITION, LIMITED to 300 copies printed by Richard J. Hoffman. The Los Angeles & San Pedro Railroad was built during 1868 and 1869. The 21-mile line connected Los Angeles to the San Pedro Bay. Entrepreneur and political operator Phineas Banning was the promoter, along with his other improvements to the harbor, including dredging a channel and building a wharf, and developing the port town of Wilmington. As one of Los Angeles' first modern links to the global economy, the railroad slashed the cost of transporting goods and passengers to and from San Pedro. Total commerce at the harbor more than doubled from 26,000 tons of freight in 1869 to 55,000 in 1871. REFERENCE: Petko: *Tribute*, No. 272.

12 Anonymous. & [Poem on the Ampersand]. [Van Nuys]: Richard Hoffman, 1979. Broadside. 11 7/8 x 5 1/2 inches. Printed on 1 side in purple ink, with a series of ampersand's within a typographic border at the head of the sheet; paper lightly toned and creased. SCARCE. Very Good.

\$ 15

FIRST EDITION, thus. Published originally in *Punch*, found in John Luther Ringwalt's *American Encyclopaedia of Printing*, 1871. Printed by Richard Hoffman on Urabec-Hoffman all-rag hand made paper for the Zamorano Club meeting, October 3, 1979. REFERENCE: Petko: *Tribute*, No. 273.

13 HOFFMAN, Richard J. (1912-1989). *A Decorative Divertissement. The Foundry and Monotype Typographic Piece Borders and Ornaments as Well as the Linotype Border Matrices and Border Matrix Slides that have been Accumulated Over Many Years Together with the First Supplement to A Gathering of Types Showing the Printing Types Recently Acquired by Richard J. Hoffman: Printer.* Van Nuys, CA: Richard J. Hoffman, 1980. 8vo. 212 x 146 mm. 103, [3] pp. Text printed in black and various colors with printer's specimens; occasional foxing. Quarter cloth, decorative paper over boards, gilt spine, no jacket as issued; binding square and tight, edges foxed. Very Good.

\$ 65

LIMITED EDITION of 150 copies. "The book begins with a double-page title format with glorious orange and green arabesques splashed across it. It displays 754 different

ornamental borders printed in multiple colors with different tint block backgrounds. A printer's specimen book unlike any other ever printed. Petko. Western Books Award, 1981. REFERENCE: Petko: *Tribute*, No. 290.

14 [WHITE] JOHNSON, Kenneth M. *Stephen Mallory White*. Los Angeles: Dawson's Book Shop, 1980. Series: *Los Angeles Miscellany*, No. 11. 8vo. 9 1/2 x 6 1/4 inches. 33, [3] pp. Half-title, black-and-white frontispiece portrait, title page printed in black and red with the title within a slate-grey typographic border, section heads and initials in red within grey borders, black-and-white illustration of White's statue in the Los Angeles Civic Center; text clean, unmarked. Quarter black cloth, decorative paper over boards, spine titled in gilt; binding square and tight, light shelf wear. Bookplate of James Strohn Copley, small pencil notation at lower corner of front free end paper and copyright page. Very Good.

\$ 45

LIMITED EDITION of 250 copies printed by Richard J. Hoffman. This book is a brief profile of Stephen Mallory White, based upon White's personal correspondence. White was a Los Angeles attorney and politician who served in various political offices, including Los Angeles County District Attorney, California State Senator, Acting Lieutenant Governor, and United States Senator. White was a leading figure in the Free Harbor Fight, a seven-year struggle to secure a deep-water harbor at San Pedro, now today's Port of Los Angeles. REFERENCE: Petko: *Tribute*, No. 292.

15 PETKO, Edward. *Fine Printing and the '80's*. Los Angeles: Columbian 415 Chappel, 1980. Miniature Book. 2 13/16 x 2 1/4 inches. (34) pp. Half-title, title page printed in blue and black, decorative initial in blue; text clean, unmarked. Marbled paper over boards, printed paper spine label; binding square and tight, lightly rubbed. Very Good.

\$ 150

LIMITED EDITION of 100 copies printed on Urabec-Hoffman all-rag handmade paper, designed and printed by Jack M. Conway, Michael Druyen, Richard Hoffman, Ruth Hoffman, David Moise, Tom Parker, Edward Petko, Gary Marc Remson, John Urabec, Clyde Stoneman, Gregory Zarcoff, and Ethan Lipton. Petko's essay first appeared as the introduction to the 1980 *Catalogue of the Western Books Exhibition*. The essay places the books in the 1980 Exhibition in the larger context of the fine press tradition. REFERENCE: Bradbury, *20th Cent. US Miniature Book*, No. 2317; Petko: *Tribute*, No. 294.

16 POWELL, Lawrence Clark (1906-2001). *Susanna's Secret, or The Lost Mozart Letters*. Tucson: Press of the Mesquite Harpsichord, 1981. 8vo. 9 1/2 x 6 1/2 inches. (54) pp. Half-title, title page printed in black, green and red including typographic ornaments, ornaments in the text in red and green; text clean, unmarked. Quarter black cloth, patterned cloth over boards, spine titled in gilt; binding square and tight. Compliments card from the author laid in. Fine.

\$ 25

FIRST EDITION. Printed by Richard J. Hoffman using types designed by Professor Emil Rudolf Weiss, bound by Bela Blau. Powell's imaginary work was intended as a chamber production with period sets, costumes and with music by Mozart and Hayden. It explores the relationships between Mozart, Mozart's father, the composer Franz Josef Hayden, and the soprano, Anna Selina Storace. REFERENCE: Petko: *Tribute*, No. 307.

17 [Hoffman] PETKO, Edward. *At Seventy: Richard J. Hoffman. Text by Edward Petko.* Los Angeles: Columbian 415 Chappel, 1982. Oblong 4to. 9 7/8 x 12 1/4 inches. [ii], (38) pp. Half-title, frontispiece portrait printed in blue ink SIGNED by the illustrator, title-page printed in black, blue, and red with the Columbian 415 Chappel printer's device in gilt, text printed in red, blue, and black, decorative initials, 9 photographs tipped-in (8 black-and-white, 1 color), colophon with Columbian eagle in blue; text clean, unmarked. Full beige linen, printed paper top cover and spine labels, marbled end-papers; binding square and tight. SIGNED by Ethan Lipton on the colophon. Fine.

\$ 150

LIMITED EDITION of 50 copies printed on Urabec-Hoffman all-rag handmade paper, designed and printed by Ethan B. Lipton, typesetting by Jack M. Conway, assistance by Gary Marc Remson, bound by Kater-Crafts Bookbinders. A loving tribute the Los Angeles' master-teacher of printing by Ethan Lipton and other students of Richard J. Hoffman.

18 POWELL, Lawrence Clark (1906-2001). *Ex Libris: Notes on My Family's Bookplates.* Tucson: Press on the Bajada, 1984. 12mo. 6 1/4 x 4 1/2 inches. (40) pp. Half-title, title page with a reproduction of a Powell printed in black and red with a yellow background, 17 reproductions of book plates throughout the text and a few scattered typographic ornaments; text clean, unmarked. Quarter maroon cloth, patterned cloth over boards, spine titled in gilt; binding square and tight. Fine.

\$ 30

FIRST EDITION. Printed by Richard J. Hoffman using types designed by Professor Emil Rudolf Weiss, bound by Bela Blau. Powell's imaginary work was intended as a chamber production with period sets, costumes and with music by Mozart and Hayden. It explores the relationships between Mozart, Mozart's father, the composer Franz Josef Hayden, and the soprano, Anna Selina Storace. REFERENCE: Petko: *Tribute*, No. 356.

19 [WEBER, Francis Joseph (b. 1933)]. *Fray Junipero Serra [1713-1784].* (Van Nuys: Printed by Richard J. Hoffman, 1984). Oblong Miniature Book. 2 7/8 x 2 5/16 inches. (32) pp. Postage stamp frontispiece, decorative initials in blue and red; text clean, unmarked. Quarter red leather, marbled paper over boards, gilt where the leather and paper join, spine titled in gilt; boards a bit bowed. Bookplate "Ex Mini-Libris Levitan" on front paste-down. Very Good.

\$ 45

NO LIMITATION STATED. Printed letter press by Richard J. Hoffman and bound by Bela Blau. The frontispiece is a commemorative postage stamp issued by Spain on October 12th, 1984 to honor Junipero Serra. The portrait of the Serra is superimposed on a map of California and a sketch of the bell tower at San Gabriel Mission. PROVENANCE: Rabbi Kalman L. Levitan was a founder and first Chairman of the Miniature Book Society of America. REFERENCE: Bradbury, *20th Cent. US Miniature Book*, No. 3107; Jones, *A Los Angeles Typesticker*, No. 82; Petko: *Tribute*, No. 361.

20 HAGER, Anna Marie. *Winged Mail: From Avalon to Bunker Hill [1894-1898]*. Los Angeles: Dawson's Book Shop, 1985. Series: *Los Angeles Miscellany*, No. 16. 8vo. 9 1/2 x 6 1/4 inches. 48 pp. Title page printed within typographic borders, initial and chapter head in blue, 17 figures, bibliography; text clean, unmarked. Blue cloth, white pigeons-over-waves design stamped on front cover, spine titled in gilt, end-papers with contemporary ads for the Santa Catalina Island Homing Pigeon Service; binding square and tight. Fine.

\$ 95

LIMITED EDITION of 300 copies printed by Richard Hoffman. During the heyday of the Santa Catalina Island vacation boom, it was deemed too expensive by the Banning brothers to lay a cable to provide communications between the Island and the mainland. Enter the Zahn brothers, Lorenzo, Otto Johann and Oswald, who created a passenger pigeon service to fill the void. REFERENCE: Petko: *Tribute*, No. 370.

21 HAGER, Anna Marie. *Winged Mail: Avalon to Bunker Hill - 1894 to 1898 - A Roxburghe-Zamorano Club Keepsake about Santa Catalina Island*. [Pasadena]: (Richard J. Hoffman for Everett G. Hager, Jerome R. Selmer, Anthony F. Kroll, Francis J. Weber, Richard J. Hoffman, and Bela Blau, 1986). 8vo. 9 1/4 x 6 inches. [16] pp. 16 illustrations; text clean, unmarked. White-stamped illustrated wrappers, stitched; binding square and tight. Fine.

\$ 50

Presented to the Roxburghe and Zamorano Clubs, printed by Richard J. Hoffman, cover hot-stamped by Bela Blau, cover drawing by Vance Gerry. Contains an excerpt from *Winged Mail: Avalon to Bunker Hill, 1894-1898* published by Dawson's Book Shop as Volume 16 of their *Los Angeles Miscellany Series*. Documents the need for communications with the mainland when Joseph Brent, William, and Hancock Banning were expanding their tourist resort on Catalina Island, but found that accidents, sudden illness or a need to communicate with the mainland was hampered by lack of infrastructure. This problem was temporarily remedied by the creation of a daily passenger pigeon mail service which was successfully utilized for 4 years at the end of the nineteenth century. REFERENCE: Petko: *Tribute*, No. 383.

22 HOFFMAN, Richard John. *When a Printer Plays: A Showing of Printer's Flowers and Typographic Fleurons Arranged in Arabesque Patterns with Notes and Arrangements by Richard J.*

Hoffman, Augmented with Excerpts from Traditional Sources Done in His Printing Office.... Van Nuys, CA: (Richard J. Hoffman, 1987. 4to. 12 1/2 x 9 5/8 inches. (56) pp. Half-title, title page printed in black, green, and red with borders both ruled and of ornaments, decorative initials and headpieces, text printed double column, with fleurons both in the text and within ruled borders in single columns; text clean, un-marked. Quarter green cloth, decorative cloth over boards, spine titled in gilt, decorative end-papers; binding square and tight. INSCRIBED BY RICHARD HOFFMAN on the colophon to Peter Mauk. Includes the original Prospectus and a sample leaf of pages 13 and 14 loosely laid in. Fine.

\$ 750

LIMITED EDITION of 200 copies, this is number 59. This book is the result of several years of planning, setting, and refining the arabesques, selecting reprint copy, writing the commentary, printing the sheets in different colors of ink. Text printed in Linotype Electra, Deepdene type for display. Designs made from individual pieces of foundry and monotype units, printed on Mohawk Superfine Letterpress paper, binding by Bela Blau. The text is illustrated with more than 260 separate arrangements printed in 14 colors. Every ornamented page went through the press a minimum of three times, many four times, and one press sheet nine times. The largest showing of printers' flowers ever published, produced with typographic material gathered over fifty years from foundry, Monotype, and Linotype sources. Writers whose words appear here include Francis Meynell, Beatrice Warde, William A. Dwiggins, Daniel Berkeley Updike, Bruce Rogers, and others. REFERENCE: Petko: *Tribute*, No. 397.

23 LEHMAN, Anothony L. *A Visit with William Everson. With an Introduction by William Everson.* Los Angeles: George Houlé, 1987. Pamphlet. 9 1/2 x 6 1/4 inches. 21, [3] pp. Half-title, title page printed in red ink, black-and-white photographic portrait of Everson by Leigh L. Wiener, fleurons at head of sections; text clean, unmarked. Printed stiff red wrappers, stitched; binding square and tight, light shelf / use wear. SIGNED by Anthony Lehman on the colophon. Very Good.

\$ 30

LIMITED EDITION of 300 copies printed by Richard J. Hoffman. Recounts the author's visit to William Everson in the summer of 1986 and the conversation they had. Written in prose with the eye of a poet, Lehman reveals the last struggles of California's poet and native son. REFERENCE: Petko: *Tribute*, No. 400.

24 HOFFMAN. *Some Observations on Book Design. A Commentary Written and Printed by Richard J. Hoffman at his Printing office in Van Nuys, California for Members of the Roxburghe Club of San Francisco and the Zamorano Club of Los Angeles.* Van Nuys, CA: Richard J. Hoffman, [1988]. 4to. 11 1/2 x 7 1/4 inches. 18, [2, last a blank] pp. Half title, title page printed in black and red with a green ornament, a few ornaments in the text, large initial B, 6 figures, 2 lines of type samples, foot piece in green at the end of the text; occasional foxing. Printed blue wrappers, stitched; binding square and tight, 3/4 inch of the top edge sunned. Very Good.

\$ 25

SECOND EDITION. Small insert with the dates 1986 and 1988 laid in, explaining that this keepsake was delivered two years late. "These observations represent the synthesis of many years of reading, careful study of examples of the printed work of the masters of the art, and the actual hands-on experience of printing many books.... This reader will thus find here, in a distilled form, a brief, but it is hoped, a fact-filled summary of good book design." From the Introduction. REFERENCE: Petko: *Tribute*, No. 384.

25 ZARCOFF, Gregory and ZARCOFF, Wendy. *To Remember Richard John Hoffman.* [Van Nuys: Gregory and Wendy Zarcoff, 1989] **WITH: ZARCOFF and ZARCOFF.** *Richard J. Hoffman, 1912-1989.* Van Nuys: n. p., 1989. Two items, issued together. # 1 is a Bifold. 10 x 6 inches. [4] pp. Large image of Christ on p. 1, large red initial T on p. 2, p. 4 blank, Psalm 23 forms the text on pages 2 and 3; small spot on front cover, rust in the gutter of the opening. # 2 is a Pamphlet. 9 x 3 5/8 inches. [16] pp. Half-title, black-and-white frontispiece portrait of Hoffman, typographic ornament on the title page, ornament on p. 5., the text lists Hoffman's personal information, education, employment, memberships, offices, awards, and a number of articles and books by and about Richard Hoffman; text clean, unmarked. SCARCE. Very Good.

\$ 35

LIMITED EDITION of 500 copies, designed, typeset and printed by Gregory and Wendy Zarcoff. An ephemeral publication on the occasion of Richard Hoffman's funeral, this little pamphlet provides an outline of the life and accomplishments of Richard John Hoffman.

26 BOWER, Richard J., et al. *Celebrating the Life: Richard J. Hoffman.* [Los Angeles: Ruth L. Hoffman, 1994]. 4to. 10 1/4 x 7 1/4 inches. Printed in green and black throughout; text clean, unmarked. Gilt-stamped green cloth; binding square and tight. Presentation card laid in. Fine.

\$30

LIMITED EDITION of 400 copies printed on Warren's Olde Style using Stuyvesant and Albertus types. Prepared and printed letterpress by members of the Columbian 415 Chappel, bound by Kater-Crafts Bookbinders. A keepsake presented by Ruth L. Hoffman on the occasion of the Joint Meeting of the Roxburghe and Zamorano Clubs, October 8, 1994 in Los Angeles. Contents: "Celebrating the Life of Richard J. Hoffman," by Ethan B. Lipton; "A Bookman's Bookman," by Doyce B. Nunis; "Richard J. Hoffman: The Printer," by Ward Ritchie; "Richard J. Hoffman: A Practical Printer," by Richard Docter; and "Richard J. Hoffman: A Brief History," by Clifford G. Dobson. With an Introduction and Conclusion by the Reverend Richard J. Bower.