

JOHN HOWELL
 *for Books*

Recent Acquisitions

Marbled Paper: History, Techniques, Bibliography

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John Howell for Books

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We actively solicit offers of books to purchase, including estates, collections and consignments. Please inquire.

This list of recent acquisitions includes 7 items on the history and technique of marbled paper.

1 EASTON, Phoebe Jane (1916-2006). *Marbling: A History and a Bibliography*. Los Angeles, CA: Dawson's Book Shop, 1983. 4to. 11 1/4 x 8 3/4 inches. (xiv), 190, [4] pp. Half-title, color frontispiece, title page printed in blue and black inks, 4 marbling samples tipped-in, color and black-and-white illustrations, appendices, index; text clean, unmarked. Beige cloth, inset in front cover has a marbled sample, spine titled in brown, added clear plastic jacket; binding square and tight, covers with a few spots of foxing. GD325-004. Else Fine.

\$ 150

LIMITED EDITION of 850 copies, designed and produced by Joseph Simon and Lillian Marks, printed on Natural 80ob Permalife Text paper with illustrations on 80 lb Natural Karma, bound by Kater-Crafts in Rohhalbleinen 401 cloth, marbled inset by Norma Rubovits. This is an authoritative text on the subject of marbled papers. Chapters include: Suminagashi; The Near East; Europe; America; Marbling: Past & Present Uses; Resources for the Study of Marbled Papers; Bibliography. The paper sample on the front cover was created by Norma B. Rubovits, a Chicago-based marbled paper artist. Easton, p. 90 has information on Rubovits' career as a marbler. 227 copies OCLC.

2 EASTON, Phoebe Jane (1916-2006). *Marbling: A History and a Bibliography*. Los Angeles, CA: Dawson's Book Shop, 1983. 4to. 11 1/4 x 8 3/4 inches. (xiv), 190, [4] pp. Half-title, color frontispiece, title page printed in blue and black inks, 4 marbling samples tipped-in, color and black-and-white illustrations, appendices, index; text clean, unmarked. Beige cloth, inset in front cover has a marbled paper sample, spine titled in brown; binding square and tight, covers with finger soil, top edge dust-stained. Includes the original prospectus. Mel Kavin's copy without distinguishing marks. LJH1123-028. Very Good.

\$ 100

LIMITED EDITION of 850 copies, designed and produced by Joseph Simon and Lillian Marks, printed on Natural 80ob Permalife Text paper with illustrations on 80 lb Natural Karma, bound by Kater-Crafts in Rohhalbleinen 401 cloth, marbled inset by Norma Rubovits. This copy is out of sequence. It belonged to Mel Kavin of Later-Crafts Bookbinders, the outfit that bound this edition. This is an authoritative text on the subject of marbled papers. Chapters include: Suminagashi; The Near East; Europe; America; Marbling: Past & Present Uses; Resources for the Study of Marbled Papers; Bibliography. The paper sample on the front cover was created by Norma B. Rubovits, a Chicago-based marbled paper artist. Easton, p. 90 has information on Rubovits' career as a marbler. 227 copies OCLC.

3 HALFER, Josef (1846-1916). *The Progress of the Marbling Art*. Taos, NM: Fresh Ink Press, 1989. 8vo. 8 1/2 x 4 3/4 inches. [viii], 240, [4, ads from 1894] pp. Introduction by Phoebe Jane Easton, a few text figures, 10 color plates with marbled paper samples, index, ads; text clean, unmarked. Illustrated and gilt-titled boards, decorative end-papers specially designed for this edition by Polly Fox; binding square and tight, covers scuffed, tail of boards worn. SIGNED by Polly Fox on the copyright page. GD325-001ab. Very Good.

\$ 100

FACSIMILE OF THE FIRST ENGLISH-LANGUAGE EDITION of this classic European work on marbling which is a cornerstone of marbling literature. Contains an Introduction by marbling authority Phoebe Jane Easton and original marbled end-paper created especially for this edition by Polly Fox, who has SIGNED her name on the copyright page. Josef Halfer (1846-1916) was active in Budapest in the last quarter of the nineteenth century as a book binder and paper marbler. His improvements in marbling took advantage of recent advances in chemistry, biochemistry, and bacteriology to solve problems that had long prevented progress in the marbling art. His techniques allowed more detailed patterns, and the most delicate, intricate, and beautiful forms up to his time. See: Wolfe, p. 112. REFERENCE: Wolfe, *Marbled Paper: Its History, Techniques, and Patterns*, *passim*. 49 copies OCLC.

4 SUMNER, James (fl. 1854-1880). *The Mysterious Marbler. With an Historical Introduction, Notes on the English Marbling Tradition, and Thirteen Original Marbled Samples by Richard J. Wolfe*. New Castle, DE: Oak Knoll Books, 2009. 8vo. 8 1/8 x 5 1/2 inches. 131 pp. Title page with 2-color decorative border, wood engraved illustrations from Jacob Abbott's *The Harper Establishment* (New York 1855), 13 marbled paper samples mounted on so many pages, with a new Preface and "A Further Note on the English Marbling Tradition and on the Samples Illustrating this Reprinting" by Richard J. Wolfe which is added to this reprinting; text clean, unmarked. Gilt-titled black cloth spine, the marbled paper over boards is a facsimile of an original nineteenth-century English marbled paper; binding square and tight, minor bumping and a scratch to the boards. GD325-002ab. Else Fine.

\$ 200

SECOND REPRINTING, of 300 total copies (250 for sale). First published 1854, the first reprint was issued by Bird & Bull Press in 1976. Reprinted with additional contents by Richard J. Wolfe by Oak Knoll Books in 2009. Richard Wolfe here reprints the scarce James Sumner pamphlet of 1854 because he felt that his skills as a paper marbler justified a new edition with improved marbled paper samples, and because of Wolfe's greater knowledge of the art and craft of paper marbling gained over the intervening decades. James Sumner's *The Mysterious Marbler* was the third British marbling manual to appear in the nineteenth century; it was a slender pamphlet and is very scarce in the market in the twenty-first century. Wolfe, pp. 80-81. REFERENCE: Wolfe, *Marbled Paper: Its History, Techniques, and Patterns*, *passim*. 67 copies OCLC.

5 WEIMANN, Christopher (1946-1988). *Marbling in Miniature*. Los Angeles, CA: Dawson's Book Shop, 1980. Miniature Book. 3 x 2 1/4 inches. Unpaginated. [36] pp. 12 marbled paper samples tipped-in; text clean, unmarked. Marbled paper over boards with printed title on front cover; binding square and tight, light toning to the marbled paper over the boards. SIGNED by the author on the colophon. GD125-001. Else Fine.

\$ 325

LIMITED EDITION of 350 copies printed and bound by Christopher Weimann with assistance from Muir Dawson, Stephen Tabor, Ingrid Weimann, René Patron, and Pall Bohne. Asked by Glen Dawson to write this book because of the demand for miniature marbling papers, Christopher Weimann found that the challenges of making smaller patterns actually allowed for more creativity and personal expression in a field that up until then was dominated by traditional patterns. Christopher Weimann had an 18-year career as a marbler; he was one of the twentieth century's most important artists, researchers, and historians of the art of marbling. REFERENCES: Bradbury, *20th Cent. US Miniature Book*, No. 3183; Easton, *Marbling*, p. 92; Weimann and Sönmez, *Christopher Weimann*, pp. 50-51. 48 copies OCLC.

6 [Weimann] WEIMANN, Ingrid and SÖNMEZ, Nedim (b. 1957). *Christopher Weimann (1946-1988). A Tribute*. Tübingen: Jäckle-Sönmez, (1991). 4to. 11 1/4 x 8 7/8 inches. 107 pp. Half-title, frontispiece, marbled paper sample tipped-onto the title page, more than 90 illustrations (38 color), 8 marbled samples tipped-in; text clean, unmarked. Blind-stamped dark grey cloth, spine titled in black, added plastic dust-jacket; binding square and tight. Comes with the original prospectus and the original owner's receipt. GD325-005. Fine.

\$ 125

FIRST EDITION, LIMITED to 300 copies, this is copy number 135 (there was also a *de luxe* edition of 100 copies issued with a slip case and additional marbled samples). Christopher Weimann, a celebrated master American paper marbler, was "a pioneer of marbled designs and also scholarly researcher who research historical pieces and technical methods, Weimann most notable investigated a number of rare marbled drawings, attributed to the 17th-century Deccan Sultanates in India." From: cweimannmarbledworks.blogspot. Accessed 3/7/2025. 34 copies OCLC.

7 WOLFE, Richard J. (1928-2017). *Marbled Paper: Its History, Techniques, and Patterns, With Special Reference to the Relationship of Marbling to Bookbinding in Europe and the Western World*. Philadelphia, PA: University of Pennsylvania Press, (1990). 4to. 12 1/4 x 9 1/8 inches. xvi, 245 pp. Half-title, 49 figures, 38 plates, index; text clean, unmarked. Navy cloth, spine titled in gilt, dust-jacket with plastic cover; binding square and tight, lower corners lightly bumped. GD325-003. Else Fine.

\$ 125

FIRST EDITION. "In *Marbled Paper*, Richard J. Wolfe, a rare book librarian and practicing marbler, reconstructs the rise and fall of the craft and offers the most comprehensive written account available of its history, techniques, and patterns. He has personally tracked down and sorted out historical records of marbling from their original sources, and he draws on his own extensive experience as a practitioner to speak eloquently on technical and stylistic questions. This book is the result of more than twenty-five years of research and practical experience that puts all aspects of this fascinating craft into proper perspective for the first time. With over 350 color and 80

black-and-white illustrations, it will be an invaluable reference work.” Jacket flap.
More than 450 copies OCLC.

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