

## THE BOOKPLATE SOCIETY'S WEB AUCTION #2 - BOOKPLATES FOR SALE DURING FEBRUARY 2015

For the second time we are running a web-based auction. The arrangements for this are described below. Please take time to read these explanatory notes carefully, because there are some unusual features.

### What is for Sale

On offer are bookplates from a collection formed by the late Brian and Stephanie Schofield. They were particularly interested in the bookplates of ladies, both British and American, and of notable people. There is an especially large number of works by the WPB engravers (Harrison, Osmond, Bird, Syson, & Vize), Gordon Craig (see caveat below), Sherborn, Eve, Anning Bell, plus the American engravers Spenceley, French, Macdonald, Fisher and many others. Look out for royal bookplates and one by Jessie M King.

Also on offer are many Continental European exlibris. There is a batch of fine works by Alfred Cossmann and his school of Austrian engravers, plus an assortment by other artists of bookplates dating mainly from the period 1880-1960. We have not attempted to indicate the artist in all cases, so look out carefully for material by important designers.

The Schofields built up a library of books about bookplates, and this is a good opportunity to acquire volumes that you may be lacking.

Also added to this auction are some widely ranging bookplates from other sources.

### Condition

The majority of these bookplates were mounted very carefully in the albums which you see pictured at the head of each page of this auction. In these albums, most of the bookplates have been individually held in place by plastic corner mounts, so these bookplates can be easily detached from the albums. The scanned images have been made with the bookplates *in situ*, so in the images you will see the corners covered by the plastic, but rest assured that the original exlibris are free from mounting material (with the exception of a relatively small number which were mounted with the use of stamp hinges).

Each of the twelve web pages presents 200 or more small images. Click on each image to open a separate web page displaying a higher resolution colour scan. You will be able from this to judge the size and condition of each plate. ANNEX 1 gives you an overview by page of lot numbers and type of material.

You may request fuller information on condition. The general principle is that these bookplates are sold "not subject to return". However, Brian Schofield sometimes collected images and illustrations, so it is conceivable that a few items may prove not to be original bookplates.

Please read ANNEX 2 in regard to (a) the books and (b) Gordon Craig "bookplates".

### Listing, Description and Image Quality

There is no listing or description of each bookplate. You will see Brian Schofield's notes reproduced with the 200dpi image of each item. It is not intended to supply these notes to the purchasers, so you will have to make your own record if you wish to preserve this information. The name of the designer or engraver is mentioned in many cases, but this is not guaranteed to be either consistent or comprehensive. Images are of variable quality and cannot show online the correct size, colour, paper quality, verso of item etc.

### The Bidding Process

We do not have software able to run this auction real-time. So it is being run in slow motion over a period during which participants can send in bids by email. Our first web auction ran on a weekly cycle over a period

of ten weeks. This time, there is no weekly cycle but there are constraints on bidding to ensure that you do not overload the auctions secretary by sending in bids at the last moment.

1. You must first register with the auctions secretary. He will assign to you a four-letter codename. This will later be used to indicate against each lot the codename of the highest bidder for the time being. Non-members will need to supply full details of themselves (please see ANNEX 3).

2. Once the expected people have registered, you will be advised by email that you can start sending in bids. You can email your bids at any time prior to the FIRST CLOSURE DATE. This date will be sometime in February and will be advised to you. Your bid should be for the maximum sum you are willing to pay for each item. There is a benefit in sending in your bids quickly, because bids will be recorded in order of when received, so if there are two bids in the same amount for the same lot, then the bid received earlier will take precedence.

3. Once bids are received for one-third of the material, the web pages will start to be updated. Depending on the volume of bids to be handled, there may well be a delay in this updating, given that this is a largely manual process. We do not guarantee that bids will be acknowledged, so you must check the web pages to ensure that these accurately reflect your bids.

4. After the FIRST CLOSURE DATE there will be a SECOND CLOSURE DATE. The time in between the two will allow you to increase your bids, if you wish to do so, based on the status of bids on each item. The unusual feature of this SECOND CLOSURE DATE is it will not necessarily be announced in advance. This is to ensure that after the FIRST CLOSURE DATE you enter any revised bids **without delay** prior to the sudden cut-off.

5. In the second round of bidding it will be possible for you to enter a limited number of bids on lots for which you did not bid in the first round. However, the auctioneer reserves the right not to accept bids for the second round of bidding if he judges your number of newly-bid lots to be disproportionate.

### **Bid Increments and the Bidding Procedure**

Bids will increase according to set increments: 50p up to £5, £1 up to £20, £2 up to £50, £5 up to £100, and £10 above £100.

#### **To explain how the bidding will work, here is an example:**

Suppose you are the first bidder and your codename is "Fred" and you bid £5 on Lot A003 for which the minimum price is £3. When your bid is received, the web page will be manually changed to read:

Current bid: £3 Bids: 1 Bidder: Fred

If a second bidder, named "Xray" then bids £4, this is insufficient to avoid being overbid by Fred's existing bid of up to £5, so the web page will be manually changed to read:

Current bid: £4 Bids: 2 Bidder: Fred

A third and final bidder, offering £5, would not get the item, because the earlier bid by Fred would win, giving as the final position:

Current bid: £5 Bids: 3 Bidder: Fred

When sending in a small number of bids, your email should list one bid to each line, in rising sequence of lot numbers, followed by the sum offered, eg:

A009 £5

A043 £12

P108 £7

R017 £55

For numerous bids, please use a spreadsheet with all the lot numbers listed. This will be sent to you after registration. You will then be able to enter your maximum bids against each lot number (leaving blank the lots on which you are not bidding).

## Reserves

Some lots may be subject to reserves.

## Contact

The auction secretary is Anthony Pincott. Send bids, or questions, to him at:

**members@bookplatesociety.org**

Write to him also if you discover any errors in the web presentation, or if you consider that a particular minimum price should be reduced.

## Non-commercial status of this auction

The Bookplate Society is a not-for-profit organisation. It does not own the material being sold. This auction is undertaken primarily to assist the estate of the former owners of these bookplates and to stimulate interest in the study and collecting of bookplates. Brian Schofield's executors wish the material to be recirculated among collectors of bookplates, and the spirit of this auction is that items should be acquired for personal purposes rather than commercial resale. However, we are not making this a condition of purchase.

## ANNEX 1

To help you find your way around the web pages, here is a listing of lot numbers by page.

PAGE 1 <a href="http://www.bookplatesociety.org/WebAuction2.html">www.bookplatesociety.org/WebAuction2.html</a>	A001-A058 Ladies Bookplates B001-B132 Ladies Bookplates C001-C010 Ladies Bookplates
PAGE 2 <a href="http://www.bookplatesociety.org/WebAuction2A.html">www.bookplatesociety.org/WebAuction2A.html</a>	C011-C128 Ladies Bookplates D001-D067 Ladies Bookplates F001-F015 Ladies Bookplates
PAGE 3 <a href="http://www.bookplatesociety.org/WebAuction2B.html">www.bookplatesociety.org/WebAuction2B.html</a>	F016-F081 Ladies Bookplates G001-G065 Ladies Bookplates H001-H069 Ladies Bookplates
PAGE 4 <a href="http://www.bookplatesociety.org/WebAuction2C.html">www.bookplatesociety.org/WebAuction2C.html</a>	H070-H111 Ladies Bookplates K001-K061 Ladies Bookplates L001-L075 Ladies Bookplates
PAGE 5 <a href="http://www.bookplatesociety.org/WebAuction2D.html">www.bookplatesociety.org/WebAuction2D.html</a>	M001-M022 Ladies Bookplates M023-M095 Ladies Bookplates P001-P110 Ladies Bookplates
PAGE 6 <a href="http://www.bookplatesociety.org/WebAuction2E.html">www.bookplatesociety.org/WebAuction2E.html</a>	R001-R017 Ladies Bookplates R018-R064 Ladies Bookplates & Royals S001-S095 Ladies Bookplates
PAGE 7 <a href="http://www.bookplatesociety.org/WebAuction2F.html">www.bookplatesociety.org/WebAuction2F.html</a>	T001-T058 Ladies Bookplates T059-T063 Ladies Bookplates W001-W079 Ladies Bookplates
PAGE 8 <a href="http://www.bookplatesociety.org/WebAuction2G.html">www.bookplatesociety.org/WebAuction2G.html</a>	Q001-Q069 British Bookplates X001-X047 Modern British Bookplates X048-X056 Modern British Bookplates
PAGE 9 <a href="http://www.bookplatesociety.org/WebAuction2H.html">www.bookplatesociety.org/WebAuction2H.html</a>	X057-X091 Wolbrand & Blaesbjerg Z000-Z030 Books AK001-AK125 Assorted British E001-E200 European Exlibris
PAGE 10 <a href="http://www.bookplatesociety.org/WebAuction2J.html">www.bookplatesociety.org/WebAuction2J.html</a>	N001-N220 Cossmann and Followers
PAGE 11 <a href="http://www.bookplatesociety.org/WebAuction2K.html">www.bookplatesociety.org/WebAuction2K.html</a>	E201-E260 European Exlibris GW001-GW065 Assorted Modern British Z031-Z040 Books AK126-AK135 Assorted British JH001-JH006 JAC Harrison Y001 Booksellers & Libraries (2 albums)
PAGE 12 <a href="http://www.bookplatesociety.org/WebAuction2L.html">www.bookplatesociety.org/WebAuction2L.html</a>	J001-J061 Fine British & Notables J062-J261 Fine British & Notables & Royals

Using the links at the top of each page causes a new window to be opened.

Clicking on the links at the foot of each page takes you to that page without opening a new window.

When you click on a small image, a new window opens. Close this after looking at the larger image.

**(a) Brian Schofield’s books**

Books published in soft covers were routinely bound by him, sometimes very attractively, sometimes in a fairly basic quarter cloth and paper binding. The covers were mostly discarded rather than being bound in. In terms of durability, there is a definite advantage in having these bound books. The images appearing in this web auction show part of the binding, part of the title-page and sometimes some illustrations. Brian sometimes added manuscript notes. Many of the books will be familiar to longstanding members of The Bookplate Society, but this is a good opportunity to acquire texts that are missing from your shelves, especially since some of them are now hard to obtain.

**(b) Gordon Craig “bookplates”**

Edward Gordon Craig’s bookplates are highly sought after, but in 1924 Chatto & Windus published *Nothing or the Bookplate* with 50 bookplates tipped in. John Blatchly’s 1997 book *The Bookplates of Edward Gordon Craig* explains that these tipped-in plates were not printed from the original blocks but are in fact reproductions produced by a block maker for the 1924 book. Blatchly notes (page 10) that “the block maker’s efforts to reproduce the plates did not satisfy Craig at all. He felt that every line had been slightly thickened”. Nevertheless, Craig had not been willing to undertake the task of himself printing original bookplates. In 1925 there was an edition of the book with 25 tipped-in plates, reissued in 1931 by JM Dent with the same 25 illustrations.

Brian Schofield’s “bookplates” by Craig seem mostly to come from the 1925 or 1931 books. Craig items in Schofield series have the signs (verso at top edge) of having been tipped in. The match between the numbering of plates in the 1931 book and the auction lots is given below.

1.	C123	5.	T030	10	C122	15.	S079	20.	-
2.	R057	6.	L062	11.	J036	16.	J025	21. 22.	-
3.	C121	7.	K027	12.	J099	17.	F029	23.	F074
4.	T027	8.	T038	13.	P101	18.	J049	24.	-
4A.	T029	9.	K002	14.	J098	19.	D055	25.	J045

Bidders must decide whether or not these Craig items have value in their own right. Other Craig material in this auction – K003, P086, R047, T068, T031 and D027 – may or may not be reproductions.

**(c) Process plates**

We cannot guarantee that items were printed from original copper plates or woodblocks.

### ANNEX 3

If you are not a member of The Bookplate Society, you first please copy these twelve points into an email, and then complete the information in full and send it to the above email address:

1. NAME:

2. ADDRESS:

3. TELEPHONE NUMBER:

4. MOBILE / CELLPHONE:

5. OF WHICH OTHER EXLIBRIS SOCIETIES ARE YOU A MEMBER?:

6. ARE YOU KNOWN TO SOMEONE WHO IS A MEMBER? Please give details.

7. YOUR COLLECTING INTERESTS:

8. YOUR AGE BAND: 20-30, 30-40, 40-50, OVER 50

9. IF SUCCESSFUL WITH BIDS, WE EXPECT YOU TO SEND PAYMENT WITHIN 7 DAYS OF BEING SENT A STATEMENT OF YOUR PURCHASES. WILL YOU PAY THE BID PRICE AND POSTAGE BY:

YOUR PAYPAL ACCOUNT (plus 3% surcharge to cover PayPal fees)

BANK TRANSFER (all charges paid)

UK CHEQUE ?

PERSONAL CHECK IN US DOLLARS DRAWN ON US BANK?

(Note that it will take us time to get confirmation of clearance of your dollar check before we are able to mail your purchases. We shall also have to make a wide allowance for the exchange rate when transferring your funds to the UK in £ sterling ).

10. DO YOU ACCEPT THAT, IF PURCHASES ARE SENT UNINSURED, ANY LOSS IN THE MAIL IS AT YOUR RISK? (The maximum compensation given by Royal Mail without charge is £20 when we obtain a proof of posting. We shall automatically insure all mailings to a value over £100).

11. DO YOU ACCEPT THAT, IN EVENT OF ANY PROBLEM, THE SOCIETY'S DECISION IS FINAL?

12. FOR OUR INFORMATION, ARE YOU A DEALER IN BOOKPLATES/EXLIBRIS?

**Please note:**

We shall send you prompt confirmation of receipt of your email, and may then invite you to participate.

The Society reserves the right to seek additional information and/or not to admit you to participation.

By applying to participate you undertake to settle within 3 days any sum due and payable.

The Society is not running this auction commercially for profit, but rather for the interest of its members who collect, and as a way of bringing the Society's activities to the attention of non-member collectors.