

**Michael Pyron, Bookseller, ABAA/ILAB**

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**WOMEN IN PRINTING**

**A short list of books and ephemera printed by women from the 18th to the  
21st century including several items by Jane Grabhorn, Distaff Side,  
and The Janus Press.**

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[Bailey, Elizabeth, printer]

**CRUELTY DISARM'D AND INNOCENT TRIUMPHANT**

London: Mrs. [Elizabeth] Bailey's Printing-Office, the Ship and Crown, c. 1766.

12mo. 12 pp. Removed from volume with binding residue on the spine. Fore-edge has been trimmed tightly affecting the text of each line--a couple letters of each line are lost on 4 of the 6 leaves; early dampstain to the first and last leaf; others are fairly clean.

The *English Short Title Catalogue* cites an article by Nathan Garvey in which he suggests that Elizabeth Bailey ran her husband's printing office from his death in December 1764 to sometime in 1767 when it is thought a son took it over. This imprint bearing "Mrs. Bailey's" name much then have been printed in this narrow window. Uncommon and interesting artifact of a widow's work in 18th century printing. Scarce. ESTC T505420. OCLC identified only one library holding in England (OCLC: 1263744759).

7547 \$95

[Bailey, Lydia] calculated by William Collom

**KITE'S TOWN & COUNTRY ALMANAC, FOR THE YEAR 1813, Being the First after  
Bissextile or Leap Year**

Philadelphia: Printed by Lydia R. Bailey for Benjamin and Thomas Kite, [1812].

12mo. [48] pp. Stitched into self wrappers. Heavily worn with loss to the bottom of the cover title including, unfortunately, the imprint which bears Bailey's name. This same loss affects the note to the reader on the verso of this page; the second leaf containing an anatomical illustrations is quite ragged with a couple of large closed tears but all text is present; the balance of the almanac is in more stable if fair condition with dog-eared corners, early tidelines, an occasional closed tear, and one leaf that has an 1/8" tear in the center of a leaf with minor loss of text.

This is an early almanac printed by Bailey, who took over her husband Robert Bailey's print shop after his death in 1808 and ran in until she retired and closed the shop in 1861. Karen Nipps in her biographical sketch writes, "Bailey was the master printer of a shop that at its peak was one of the largest in the city, employing more than forty workers. . . . [S]he transformed her husband's floundering business into one of the busiest printing establishments in Philadelphia. Although previous generations of printers' widows had continued their husbands' careers, they had done so only long enough to remarry, have a mature son take over, or fold the business; Lydia Bailey made the business a success and never relinquished control of it" (*Oxford American National Biography*). For better than a half a century Bailey was a force with which to reckon. An imperfect, but important imprint that captures the mainstay of her print-shop's output. Shaw & Shoemaker 25797; Drake 10972; Nipps *Checklist*, 70.

7546 \$75

[Bailey, Lydia] calculated by William Collom

**KITE'S TOWN AND COUNTRY ALMANAC, FOR THE YEAR 1816. Being Bissextile, or Leap  
Year**

Philadelphia: Printed by Lydia R. Bailey for Benjamin and Thomas Kite, [1815].

12mo. [36] pp. illus. Stitched into self wrappers; title vignette and anatomical illustration. Final leaf is missing the bottom third of the leaf; otherwise generally worn with many folded corners; ragged page edges; early tidelines; some insect spotting, but complete except for this final leaf. An imperfect, but important imprint that captures the mainstay of her print-shop's output. Shaw & Shoemaker 51508; Drake 11094; Nipps *Checklist*, 125.

7553 \$95

[Blocker, Mare]

**BUG-EYED**

Jerome, AZ: The M Kimberly Press, 1994.

Octavo. [24] pp., illus. Limited edition, number 36 of 100 copies, signed by Blocker. As issued, sewn into printed wrappers. Printed in black with a marching ant motif in brown across the bottom margin of each page. A playful book with humorous anecdotes to accompany the linocut illustrations of desert insects and reptiles. Blocker has been an educator and book artist for decades. A very fresh copy with little wear to speak of. (OCLC: 35782969).

7564

\$75

[Distaff Side. Frederic Goudy]

**[Menu/Program] GOUDY 74. 1939 MARCH EIGHTH DISTAFF SIDE DINNER TO FRED W.  
GOUDY AT 74**

[New York]: hand composed by Florence Horn and printed by Earl H. Emmons at the Maverick Press, 1939.

Bifolium. 10.5" x 7.5." [4] pp. Printed in red and black in Goudy's Deepdene and Truesdell Italic type on specially made paper watermarked with Goudy's portrait. An additional horizontal fold through the program; toning to the front and some wear at this horizontal crease; paper is weakening but remains stable.

This event was accompanied by the second Distaff Side potluck book, *Goudy Gaudeamus: In Celebration of the Dinner given Frederic W. Goudy on his 74th birthday, March Eighth, 1939*. While the birthday was the event, it was actually a January 1939 fire that destroyed Goudy's Village Press (the second such fire in the Press's history) that prompted the event and such an outpouring. The book with more than two dozen contributors was pulled together in less than two months with one of the 195 copies presented to Goudy at this dinner. (Walkup p. 173-5). A remarkably uncommon piece of Distaff Side ephemera, rarely seen in commerce. OCLC identifies fewer than 10 institutional holdings. Walkup, Kathleen. "Potluck Books and the Women of the Distaff Side." *Making Impressions: Women in Printing and Publishing* (2020).

7597

\$125

[Distaff Side. Jane Grabhorn] Various.

**[Distaff Side] A CHILDREN'S SAMPLER, Selections form Famous Children's Books, Printed with Car & Solicitude by the Ladies of the Distaff Side**

Distaff Side, 1950.

Quarto. Limited edition, one of 375 copies. Yellow cloth with vignette title in red; wrapped in publisher's glassine and in slipcase. An extremely bright copy with just a trace of sunning to the spine; glassine is ragged at the spine; slipcase is solid with light shelfwear; contents clean.

This is the third book issued by the Distaff Side, a loose collective of women who come together on occasion to create what Kathleen Walkup describes as a "potluck book"--each section is printed independently by the contributors, size and topic being the only commonalities. These sections with varying paper type and color, typefaces, and design are brought together and bound. The first so issued by the collective is the now iconic and illusive *Bookmaking on the Distaff Side* in which dozens of the most accomplished women in print came together to recognize the ways in which women have historically been overlooked in this field. This present title, *A Children's Sampler*, was brought out "for the benefit of cardiac and other needful children." This copy is being offered with an additional copy of Jane Grabhorn's contribution--"The Fable of Esope." A quarto gathering trimmed at the top, but unbound. 8 page with four woodcuts from the Latin edition printed in Antwerp (1486). Bender *Catalogue*, 5c; Walkup, Kathleen. "Potluck Books and the Women of the Distaff Side." *Making Impressions: Women in Printing and Publishing* (2020).

7544 \$225

[Distaff Side] Dwiggin, Mabel; F. W. Goudy; Bruce Rogers; et. al.

**BERTHA S. GOUDY, FIRST LADY OF PRINTING: Remembrances of the Distaff Side of the Village Press**

Distaff Side, 1958.

12mo. [12], [8], [2], 8, [8], [8], [2], 6, [16] pp., port. Limited edition, numbered 100 of 200 copies for sale. As issued, marbled paper over boards with cloth spine; publisher issued glassine wrapper is present and edgeworn with some loss. A very attractive copy with light rubbing to the corners and a slight forward lean.

A very nicely printed appreciation printed in potluck fashion with sections (most unnumbered) printed by Emily Connor at the Marchbank Press, Jane Grabhorn. Unlike the three principle Distaff Side book, this appreciation includes contributions printed by men. Contributions by Mabel H. Dwiggin, Bruce Rodgers, George Macy, F. W. Goudy and others. Each contribution is printed in a different typeface, with a different design, and on different paper. A very homage to the woman who was instrumental in the successes of the Village Press.

7550 \$125

[Feathered Serpent Press] Franklin, Benjamin  
**[Keepsake] PRINTERS ARE EDUCATED IN THE BELIEF. . . .**

Susan Acker at the Feathered Serpent Press, 1978.

Bifolium. 5.5" x 7". Cover is blank. Opening is a woodcut of a type case with a quote from Franklin's *Apology for Printers* (1730): "Printers are educated in the Belief, that when men differ in Opinion, both Sides ought to have the Advantage of being heard by the Publick; and that when Truth and Error have fair Play, the former is always an overmatch for the latter: Hence they cheerfully serve all contending Writers that pay them well, without regarding on which side they are of the Question in Dispute." As pertinent today as it was in the 18th century.

7556 \$35

[Grabhorn, Jane. Colt Press]  
**[Cover Title] THE COLT SPRINGS HIGH FOR 1940**

San Francisco: Colt Press, [1940].

Small octavo. [16] pp. As issued, stapled into self wrappers. Lengthy introduction in Grabhorn's inimitable prose as well as upcoming books for 1940. Final leaf is a perforated order form. Soiling to the covers, but largely a clean, bright copy of an early piece of Colt Press ephemera. *Compleat Jane Grabhorn*, p. 36-38. Scarce in commerce and only a few copies in institutional hands according to OCLC (OCLC: 23844923).

7554 \$75

[Grabhorn, Jane. Colt Press]  
**[Cover Title] COLT PRESS FIRST ANNIVERSARY, 1939**

San Francisco: Colt Press, 1939.

12mo. [12] pp., illus. As issued, stapled into stiff, printed wrappers; loose order form laid in. Light soiling to the bright yellow wrappers; some faint wrinkling to the inner margin of the contents, likely from folding and binding; contents clean. A bright copy of an uncommon piece of early Colt Press ephemera with a brief history and current doings of the press as well as an annotated catalog of the works printed and forthcoming; illustrated throughout. Scarce in commerce and OCLC locates only a half dozen copies in institutional hands. (OCLC: 47974929).

7555 \$85

[Grabhorn, Jane]

**[Jumbo Press] A TREATISE AND SOME LETTERS**

San Francisco: Jumbo Press, 1937.

Folio. [20] ll. Limited edition, one of 40 copies. Signed and inscribed by Grabhorn. As issued, in printed paper-covered boards with cloth spine; printed in red and black and fibrous, handmade paper. Light edgewear, only. A remarkably nice copy of a vanishingly scarce early Jumbo Press title made all the more rare in commerce as more than half of the edition is held by institutions according to OCLC (OCLC: 8402612).

Though Grabhorn was deeply involved in her husband's and brother-in-law's Grabhorn Press, this is the second book printed by her under the Jumbo Press imprint, her first foray into her own private press. The book is wholly hers: she wrote, designed, set type, and printed it. It is a fascination and charming work comprising a humorous treatise "devoted to the policy of the Jumbo Press and a theory of printing" (Bender *Catalogue*, 2) and a dozen letters written by her eight year-old self from from the Convent of the Sacred Heart in Menlo Park, CA to family. Visually, it is engaging from start to finish and captures Grabhorn's capacity for fine printing and humor at taking printing too seriously. In short, it is a joy. This copy with an inscription to Lew and Dorothy Allen of the Allen Press, "from Old Jumbo / Christmas 1954." (*Compleat Grabhorn* p. 14-21).

7543 \$950

[Grover, Sherwood and Katherine]

**[Broadside] I'LL ASK BOB & JANE WHAT THEY THINK**

[San Francisco]: [Grace Hoper Press], (1973).

Bifolium. 10.5" x 7.5". Printed on the recto of the first leaf in black with a red title; all other pages blank. A bright, clean copy of this beautiful memorial to Robert and Jane Grabhorn by Sherwood and Katherine Grover who both worked at the Grabhorn Press for many years and had a decades-long friendship with and admiration of the Bob and Jane. "They were two of the best friends we ever had." Scarce with only one copy located in OCLC (OCLC: 1001950062).

7552 \$75

[Janus Press] Johnson, W. R.

**ANNO DOMINI**

West Burke, VT: Janus Press, 1970.

Square 12mo. [16] pp. Limited edition, one of 140 copies. As issued, sewn into red Fabriano wrapper and jacket; flyleaves with handcut star to match the silver printed star on the cover and the title page. Designed, set, printed, and bound by Claire Van Vliet. This is a beautiful if humble example of Van Vliet's sensibility, artistry, and skill that has garnered her the much deserved reputation as one of the most important artists and bookmakers in the United States. (Lehrer, *Janus Press 1955 -1975*, p. 39).

7557 \$60

[Janus Press] Kronfeld, Susan

**SPAGHETTIANA**

West Burke, VT: Janus Press, 1976.

Quarto. Single accordion-fold leaf. Limited edition, number 52 of 150 copies, signed by Kronfeld. Publisher's red cloth with purple corner; according fold leaf can be removed from the case. The book is comprised of a single continuous linecut printed in black; colophon text is violet, red, and silver. A very bright copy of this unusual and playful Janus Press title. (Fine, *The Janus Press 1975-1980*, p. 38).

7559 \$65

[Janus Press] O'Callaghan, Julie | lithographs by Susan Johanknecht

**WELL-HEELED**

London & West Burke, VT: Gefn Janus Limited, 1998.

16mo. [16] pp., illus. Half-sized facsimile. French-fold accordion book nestled in Thai gold-threaded burgundy paper in a white, lidded box with a pink sleeve titled in black. The original edition has hand-printed lithographs with rubber stamped text and shoe images drawn by Johanknecht. It was issued in 1985 in an edition of 30 copies. This is a bright, fresh copy of O'Callaghan's satirical monologue from the point of view of a shoe addict. Not in Fine, *Janus Press -- Fifty Years*. Details are taken from a 2006 Janus Press catalog.

7561 \$45

[Janus Press] Schumann, Peter

**BREAD AND PUPPET THEATER: THIS IS**

Newark, VT: Janus Press.

Quarto. [40] pp., illus. Limited edition, one of 3500 copies. As issued, in printed wrappers. Illustrated throughout with Schumann's bold illustrations, often repetitiously filling a full page. A striking production in exceptionally nice condition. One of four Bread and Puppets publication issued by Van Vliet. (*The Janus Press 1975-1980*, p. 48).

7562 \$35

[Janus Press] Snodgrass, W. D. | decorations by Dorian McGowan

**TRADITIONAL HUNGARIAN SONGS (w/Prospectus)**

Newark, VT: Printed by the Janus Press for Charles Seluzicki, Poetry Bookseller in Baltimore, MD, 1978.

Folio. [24] pp., illus. Limited edition, number 236 of 300 copies (15 of which are unnumbered, *hors commerce*). As issued, in heavy paper wrappers with decorations stamped in mauve. A bright copy with little in the way of wear.

Eleven Hungarian folk songs translated to be sung by Snodgrass with music and lyrics accompanied by masonite relief cuts by McGowan, these are printed in rose. title and text printed in black, spruce blue, and brown. A very nice and fairly early Janus Press production. Folded prospectus laid in. (Fine, *The Janus Press 1975-1980*, p. 43-44).

7560 \$45

[Janus Press] Van Vliet, Claire  
**GROUP OF JANUS PRESS EPHEMERA**

Newark, VT: Janus Press.

An assortment of correspondence from Van Vliet to "Standing Order Patrons." The group includes (8) typed letters signed by "Claire" that accompanied books, one with a customer invoice, the dates range from 1995-2003. (1) photocopied manuscript letter announcing a Galway Kinnell broadside, order slip not included; (3) holiday cards, two with envelopes and postmarks in 1998 and 2000, the third, without envelope is likely contemporary, all are signed and two have generalized well-wishing; (1) manuscript note related to account balances though the tone is very familiar and warm; (1) trifold exhibit mailer for a 2006 Grolier Club exhibition celebrating 50 years of Claire Van Vliet and the Janus Press.

7558 \$200

[Janus Press] Van Vliet, Claire  
**GROUP OF SIX JANUS PRES CATALOGUES AND PROSPECTUSES**

Janus Press.

(1) Janus Press catalog [2006] with publication from 1993-2006; three color illustrations pasted in; (2) Janus Press catalogues made up of broadside printing laid into printed wrappers, (c.1967 & 1977). Fairly early catalogues; the broadsides of the latter are folding and includes a note to the subscriber signed by Van Vliet; (2) Broadside prospectuses for Janet Nyholm's "From a Housewife's Diary" (1978) and Margo Lockwood's "Bare Elegy" (1980); (1) Beautiful folding broadside announcement, "Two Thirds of Nineteen Hundred & Seventy-Nine" with four titles, printed in three colors including the large woodcut header that though unattributed seems to be by Helen Siegl from Janus Press's "The Dialogues of Creatures Moralised." A very nice group of catalogues and prospectuses all in exceptional condition.

7563 \$250

[Wehr, Beata]  
**PASSING CONTINUED | PRZEMIJANIA CIAG DALSZY (Book 39)**

Warsaw, Poland | Tucson, AZ: [Beata Wehr], 2000-2001.

According fold. Approx 8" x 5". Limited edition, this is number 11 of 20 copies. Black canvas strip sewn to the covers with an rusted washer sew over the canvas to the front cover; the contents are a single accordion fold leaf; light wear and rubbing to the covers. There is no text in the book and the title is taken from the rear cover.

Wehr writes of herself on her website: "Most of my work relates to my experience as a European living in the U.S. . . . In my work I address the problems with complete understanding on both verbal and non-verbal levels, adaptation, nostalgia, isolation, dislocation and identity." This is an interesting artist's book containing a reproduction of the canvas on the covers that runs all along the folded leaf with images of various worn and rusted items sewn; all along, above and below the central line of canvas is a repeated photographic image of a smiling woman walking. A striking book with a remarkably small limitation made rare in commerce by the fact that nearly half the edition is held in institutions. (OCLC: 46828381).

7548 \$125