

Some Recent LGBT Acquisitions

in the Rare Book and Special Collections Division at the Library of Congress

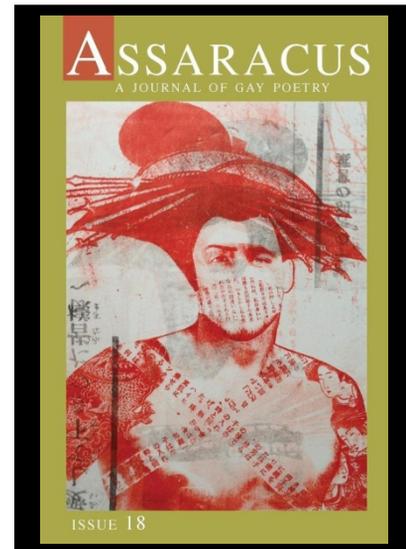
No. 3



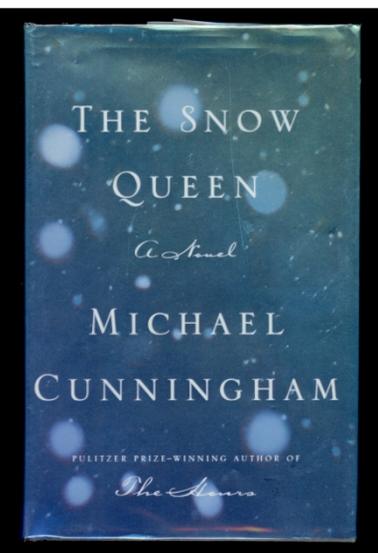
Spring 2015



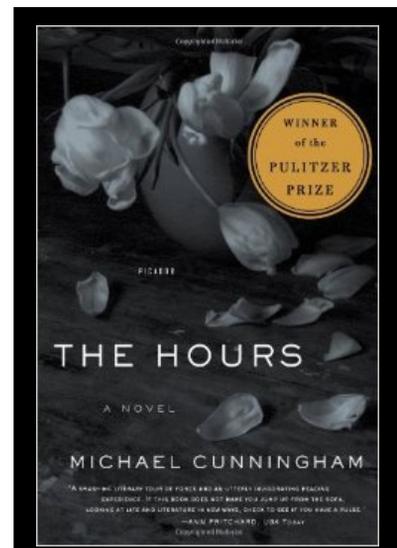
Adrienne. A literary journal featuring poetry by self-identified queer women. Named for Adrienne Rich, this journal is published intermittently by Sibling Rivalry Press of Little Rock, Arkansas.



Assaracus. Named after Ganymede's brother, *Assaracus* is the world's only print journal of gay male poetry and one of *Library Journal's* "Best New Magazines." Published by Sibling Rivalry Press of Little Rock, Arkansas.



Cunningham, Michael. *The Snow Queen, a Novel.* New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2014. Signed by the author. A gift of Gene Berry and Jeffrey Campbell.

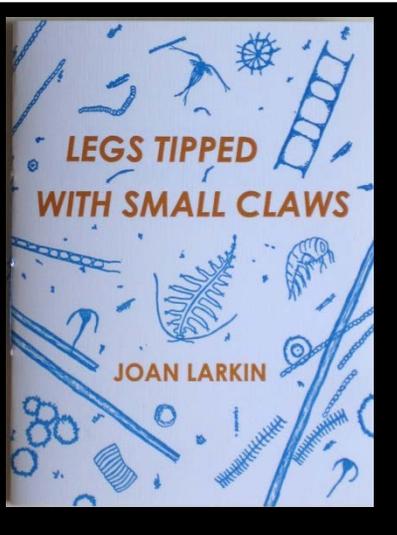
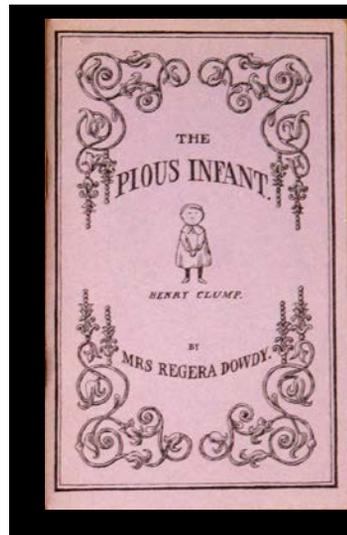


Cunningham, Michael. *Hours.* New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1998. Inscribed by the author on the title page "To Gene, Peace. Michael Cunningham." A gift of Gene Berry and Jeffrey Campbell.



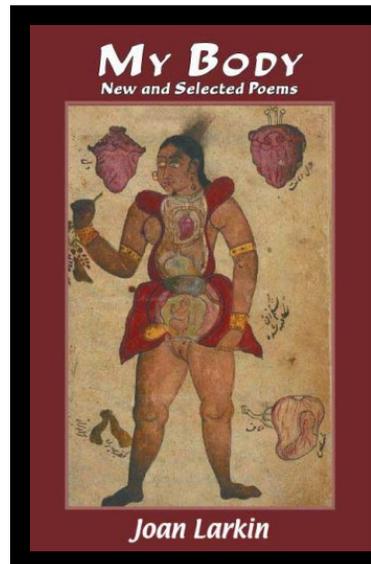
Gorey, Edward. *The Evil Garden*. New York: Fantod Press, 1966. A gift of Glen Emil.

Gorey, Edward. *The Pious Infant*. New York: Fantod Press, 1966. A gift of Glen Emil.



Larkin, Joan. *Legs Tipped With Small Claws*. Brooklyn: Argos Books, 2012. Presented to the Library of Congress by Joan Larkin on June 3, 2014, following an LGBT Poetry Celebration.

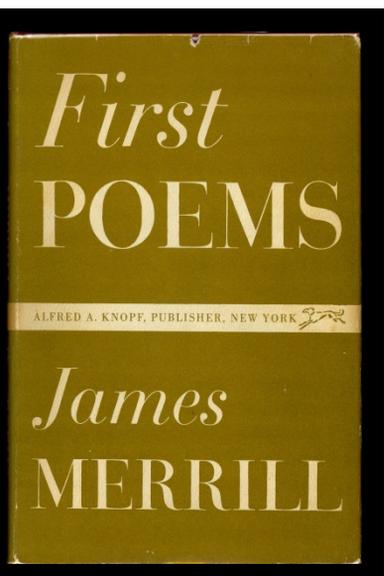
Larkin, Joan. *My Body: New and Selected Poems*. Brooklyn: Hanging Loose Press, 2007. Inscribed on title page: "With gratitude to the Library of Congress Rare Book and Special Collections Division, J. L. 9 June 2014. Signed. A gift of Joan Larkin.





Merrill, James. *The Black Swan*. Athens: Icaros, 1946. One of 100 copies produced. Published privately by Kimon Friar, one of Merrill's teachers at Amherst College. Friar wrote: "I took with me the manuscripts he [Merrill] had written under my tutelage, and published them at the Icarus Publishing Company in Athens under the title of *The Black Swan and Other Poems*, with a cover drawing by the eminent Greek painter Ghika, who was later to draw thirty-five illustrations for my translation of *The Odyssey*. Since I was positive that Merrill would one day be acknowledged as one of America's foremost poets, I deliberately published the book privately (for \$100) in a 'limited edition of one hundred copies not for sale,' knowing that one day it would be a rare item. I gave Merrill Copy No 1 and kept Copy No 2; most of the other copies we gave away to friends." (excerpt from *For James Merrill, a Birthday Tribute*, compiled by J. D. McClatchy and printed in 1986 by Jordan Davies). This copy bears Merrill's presentation: "For Quentin Keynes on the hottest day in July. James Merrill (30th, '47)." Keynes, who was the nephew of economist John Maynard Keynes, was a book collector and Merrill's friend for five decades. Signed by the author.

Note: On the dedication page is an acrostic poem in two five line stanzas that spells Kimon Friar's name when read vertically.

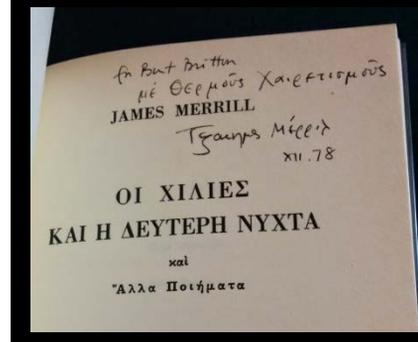


Merrill, James. *First Poems*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1951. A4. One of 990 copies. This is copy 3.

Merrill, James. *Οι Χίλιες και Δεύτερη Νύχτα και Άλλα Ποιήματα* = *A Thousand and Second Night; and Other Poems*. Athens: Ekdoseis 8 1/2, 1966. D14. Includes inscription by Merrill: For Burt Britton / με θερμούς χαιρετισμούς / Τζαϊμς Μέριλ / XII.78 = For Burt Britton / with kind regards / James Merrill / 12.78. One of 300 copies.

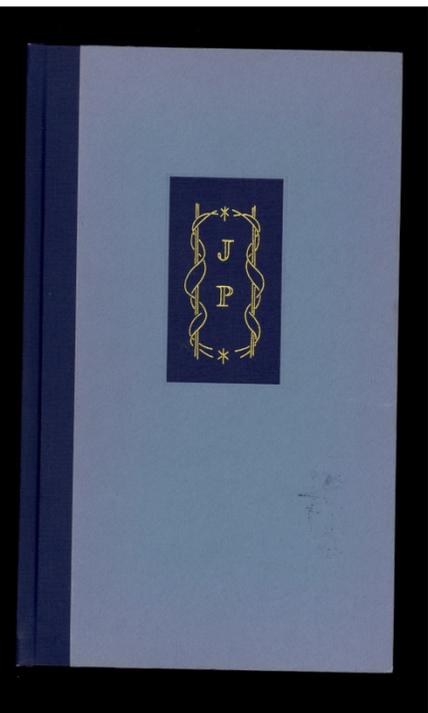


ΟΙ ΧΙΛΙΕΣ ΚΑΙ Η
ΔΕΥΤΕΡΗ ΝΥΧΤΑ ΚΑΙ ΑΛΛΑ ΠΟΙ
ΗΜΑΤΑ ΤΟΥ JAMES MERRILL
ΜΕΤΑΦΡΑΣΗ ΒΑΣΙΛΗ ΒΑΣΙΛΙΚΟΥ
ΕΚΔΟΣΕΙΣ 8 1/2



for Burt Britton
με θερμούς χαιρετισμούς
JAMES MERRILL
Τζαϊμς Μέριλ
xii.78

ΟΙ ΧΙΛΙΕΣ
ΚΑΙ Η ΔΕΥΤΕΡΗ ΝΥΧΤΑ
και
Άλλα Ποιήματα



Purdy, James. *Proud Flesh*. Northridge: Lord John Press, 1980. Copy number nine from a deluxe edition of 50 numbered copies printed by Vance Gerry with binding by Bela Blau. A gift of Gene Berry & Jeffrey Campbell.

OF FRIENDSHIP AT CHRISTMAS

We have boarded ships with our hearts cold,
Aware of the hard geography of distance
And how little we knew or had been told,
How much might still depend on wind or chance.

May Sarton
Christmas — 1952

Sarton, May. Broadside: Of Friendship at Christmas.
Cambridge: Privately Printed, 1952. Purchased through the
LC-GLOBE Rare Book Fund.

THE HOUSE IN WINTER

The house in winter cracks like a ship,
Snow-lashed to the efts, and harbored snug
In soft white meadows, it is not asleep,
When ticks peep on the low roof's lip.

Christmas, 1963

May Sarton
Nelson, R.D. Mansfield,
New Hampshire

Sarton, May. Broadside: A House in Winter. Nelson, New
Hampshire: Privately Printed, 1963. Purchased through the LC-
GLOBE Rare Book Fund.

A RECOGNITION

For Perley Cole

I wouldn't know how rare they come these days,
But I know Perley's rare. I know enough
To stop fooling around with words, and praise
The man who brings a word to solid words.

Christmas, 1962

May Sarton
Nelson, New Hampshire and
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Sarton, May. Broadside: Recognition. Nelson, New Hampshire:
Privately Printed, 1962. Purchased through the LC-GLOBE Rare
Book Fund.

THE INVISIBLE BRIDGES

"Ainsi du temple où l'ami entre,
mais inoubliable"
St. Exupéry

Let us forget these principalities,
Nations, governments, these mythical powers,
These real walls, these beleaguered cities,
We are theirs perhaps, but they are not ours.

Let us forget these principalities, these powers,
We are theirs perhaps, but they are not ours.
Turn toward each other quietly and know
There are still bridges nations cannot overthrow.

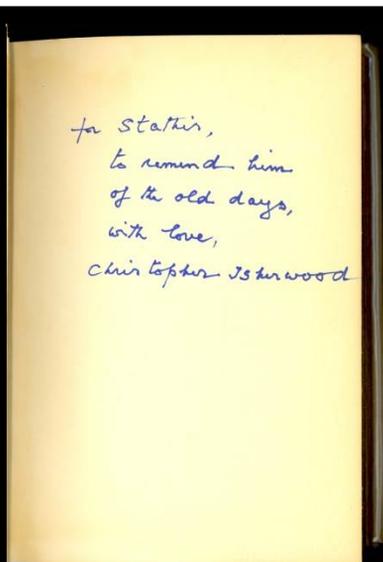
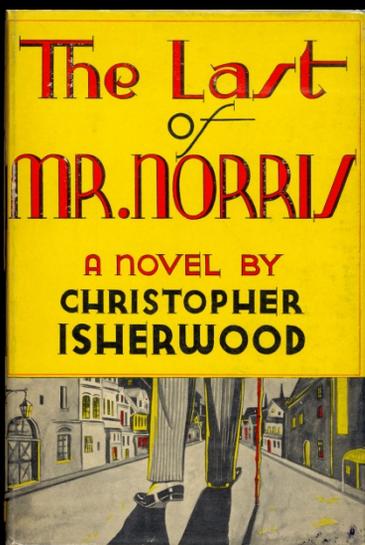
May Sarton

Handwritten notes and signatures at the bottom of the page.

Sarton, May. Broadside: Invisible Bridges. Cambridge:
Privately Printed, 1948. Purchased through the LC-
GLOBE Rare Book Fund.

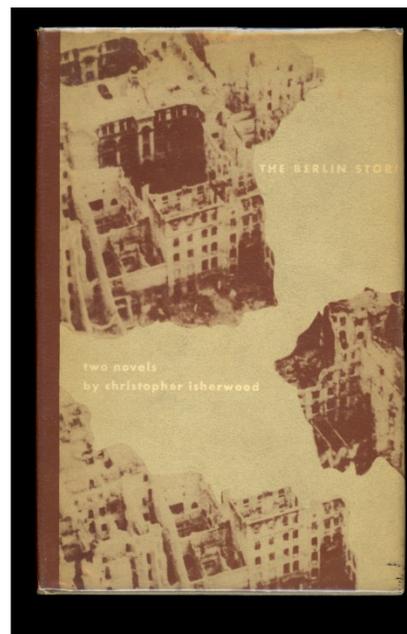
Stathis Orphanos Christopher Isherwood Collection

One of the major collections we acquired this year is Stathis Orphanos' own Christopher Isherwood Collection. Isherwood was a prolific writer and is probably best known for his books, *A Single Man*, *Christopher and His Kind*, and *The Berlin Stories*. The Berlin Stories served as inspiration for the Broadway musical *Cabaret*. Orphanos and Isherwood met in 1967 and became fast friends. Over the years Isherwood gifted many first editions of his works to Orphanos, who then kept those, along with other memorabilia until last year, when the Library of Congress acquired the collection. This collection includes 452 items. Of those, 377 items are signed and/or inscribed by Isherwood. Of the 256 monographs, many include long, 1-3 page inscriptions to Orphanos, giving the reader special insight into the author's thoughts



Isherwood, Christopher. *The Last of Mr. Norris*. New York: William Morrow and Company, 1935. Includes inscription from Isherwood and a letter laid in from Isherwood to Gerald Hamilton, the inspiration for Mr. Norris..

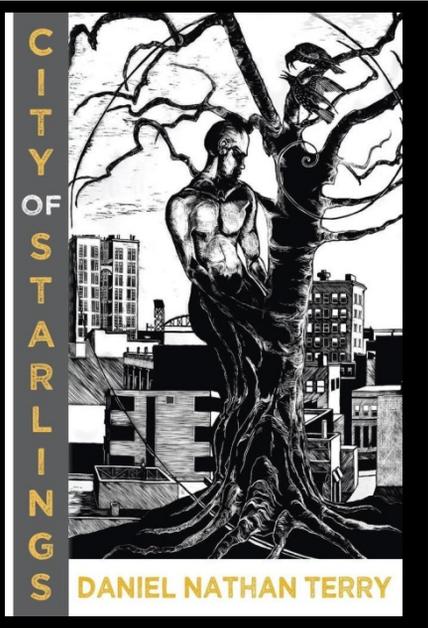
Isherwood, Christopher. *The Berlin Stories*. New York: New Directions, 1945. Includes inscription.





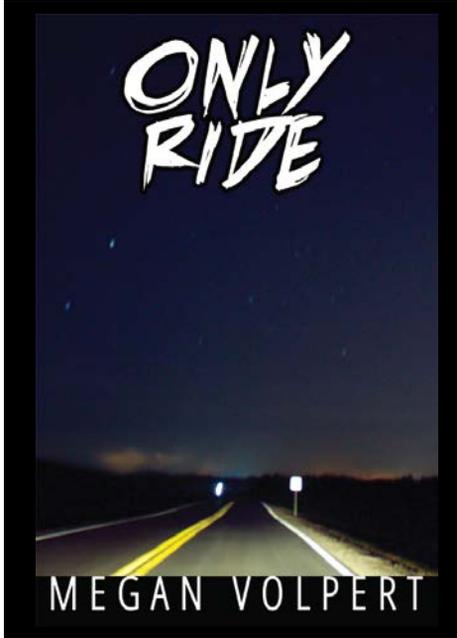
Sylvester & Orphanos Archive.

Sylvester & Orphanos are Ralph Sylvester and Stathis Orphanos. Together, they produced 25 beautifully printed and bound editions of works by noted 20th-century authors, such as Christopher Isherwood, Graham Greene, Paul Bowles, Nadine Gordimer, Tennessee Williams, James Merrill, John Cheever, Margaret Drabble, John Updike, Reynolds Price, Gore Vidal, and many others. These are all authors whose works we collect in the Rare Book and Special Collections Division. The volumes themselves are works of art, with illustrations by noted designers and illustrators and bound by master binders. The archive includes correspondence between the printers and authors, original type-written and hand-written manuscripts, author corrected proofs, and copies of the finished works. Most notable among the hand-written manuscripts is one by Graham Greene for his "A Quick Look Behind." This collection complements and adds research value to our Sylvester & Orphanos Collection, which includes all 25 of their books, as well as our other printers' collections, including Goudy, Victor Hammer, Bruce Rogers, Claire Van Vliet, and Russell Maret. It also has the value of documenting the operations of a small LGBT press.



Terry, Daniel Nathan. *City of Starlings*. Little Rock: Sibling Rivalry Press, 2015. The world of Daniel Nathan Terry's *City of Starlings*, which is our world, is "disastrously beautiful." That's how he describes a camelia blooming beside a condemned house just across the street.

Volpert, Megan. Little Rock: Sibling Rivalry Press, 2014. These tiny essays carefully detail how to avoid becoming one's parents, how to manage a body addled by disease, and how to keep having the best possible time in life.



Woolf, Virginia. *Lepidoptera, the Death of the Moth*. With etchings by Sarah Horowitz.. Los Angeles: Wiesedruck Press, 2014. One of 40 copies. Thirty-two moth etchings, plus a thistle in the colophon, are accompanied by Virginia Woolf's non-fiction essay 'The Death of the Moth' in which she muses on the moth both as an insignificant creature and, as she says, "a tiny bead of pure life and decking it as lightly as possible with down and feathers."