

Some Recent LGBT Acquisitions

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

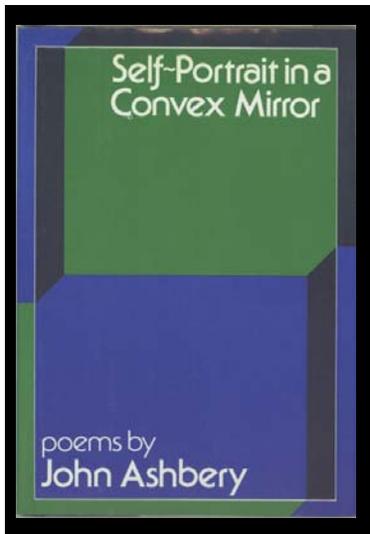
No. 4



Spring 2016

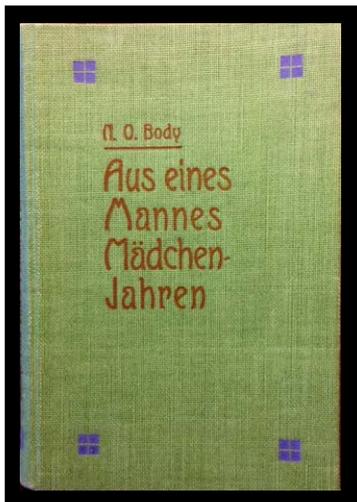
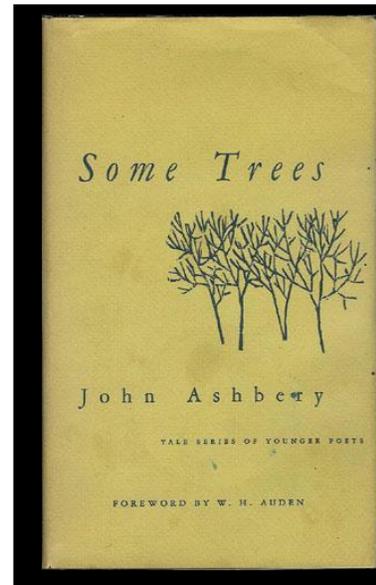
John Ashbery Collection

John Ashbery is recognized as one of the greatest twentieth-century American poets. He has won nearly every major American award for poetry, including the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Award, the Yale Younger Poets Prize, the Bollingen Prize, the Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize, the Griffin International Award, and a MacArthur "Genius" Grant. Ashbery's first book, *Some Trees* (1956) won the Yale Younger Poets Prize. *Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror* (1975), considered by many to be Ashbery's masterpiece, won the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Award, and the National Book Critics Circle Award, an unprecedented triple-crown in the literary world. The Rare Book and Special Collections Division acquired this collection in 2015. The collection includes most of Ashbery's first editions, along with presentation copies, advance reader review copies, broadsides, and a limited amount of manuscript material.

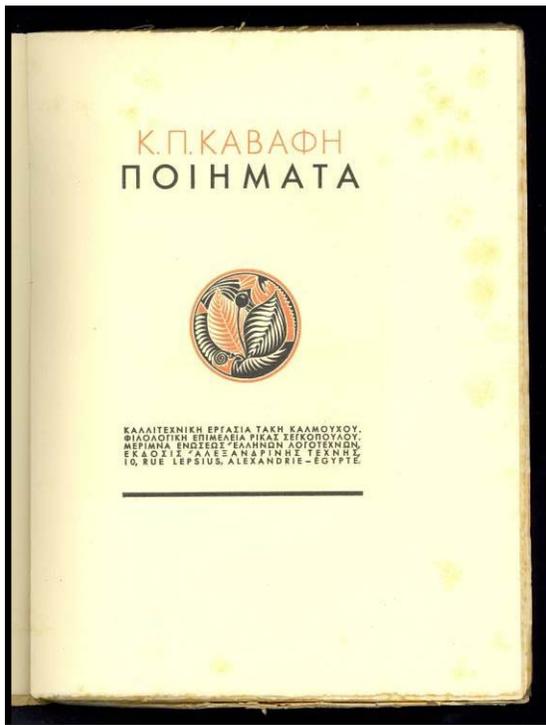


Ashbery, John. *Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror*. New York: Viking, 1975. First edition. Inscribed by Ashbery to a collector on the title-page in 1977. One of 3,500 copies printed.

Ashbery, John. *Some Trees*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1956. First edition of Ashbery's first regularly published book, winner of the Yale Younger Poets prize. One of only 817 copies printed.

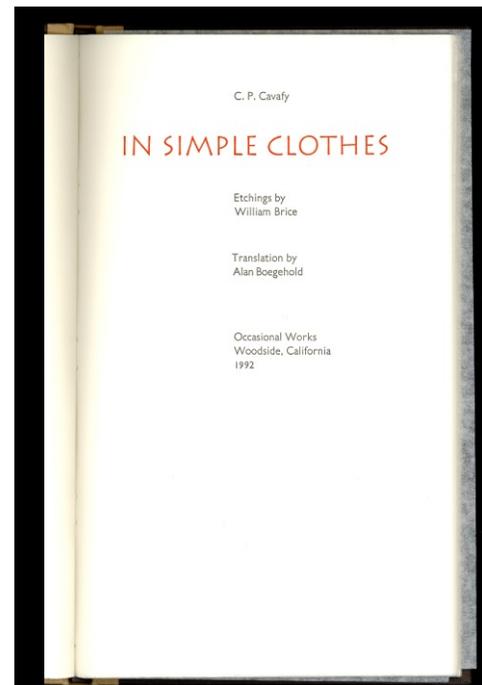


Body, N. O. [Baer, Karl M.]. *Aus Eines Mannes Mädchenjahren* [*Memoirs of a Man's Maiden Years*]. Berlin: Gustav Rieckes Buchhandlung, 1907. Foreword by Rudolf Presber. Afterword by Magnus Hirschfeld. "Karl M. Baer (20 May 1885, Arolsen, Germany - 26 June 1956, Bat Yam, Israel) was a German-Israeli author, social worker, reformer, suffragette and Zionist. Born female and named Martha Baer he became, in December 1906, one of the first people to undergo sex-change surgery, and one of the first, in January 1907, to gain full legal recognition of his gender identity and to have a new birth certificate issued reflecting his new gender.



Cavafy, C. P. *Poimata*. Alexandria, Egypt : Ekdosis Alexandrines, 1935. First edition. One of 1,800 numbered copies, from a total edition of 2,030, printed after a design by the influential Greek artist, Takis Kalmouchos. Text edited by Rika Sengopoulou. The posthumously published first collective edition of Cavafy's poems, preceded by the scarce privately printed booklets and broadsides undertaken by the author for distribution to friends.

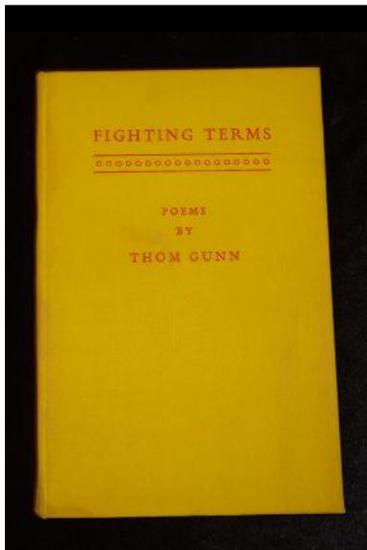
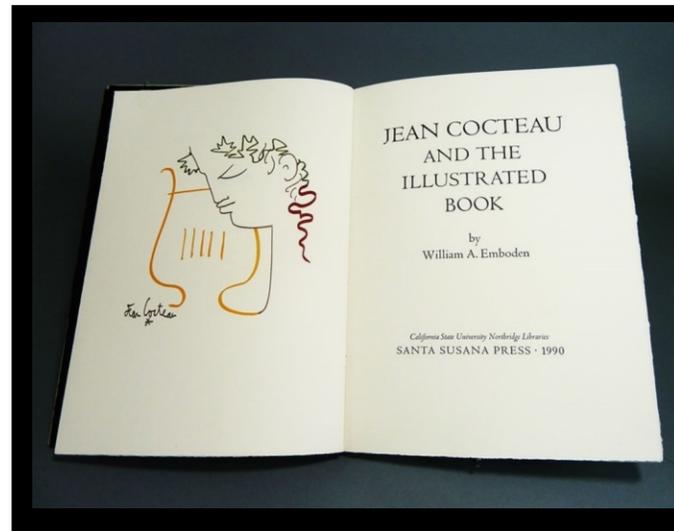
Cavafy, Constantine. *In Simple Clothes*. Woodside: Occasional Works, 1991. First edition. Half leather and cloth over boards in publisher's slipcase. One of 65 numbered copies on Arches Velin signed by William Brice who illustrated these 11 Cavafy poems with four original etchings. Translations by Alan Boegehold.



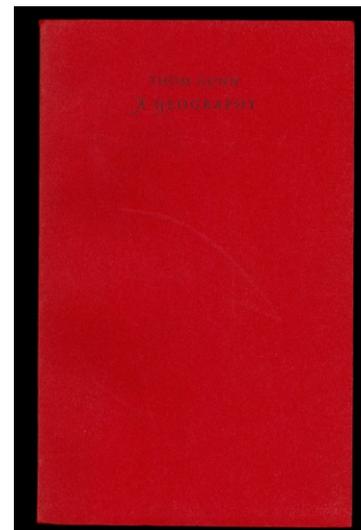
Cavafy, C. P. *Ten Lithographs Designed by Manfred Ibel and Alexander Tzonis on Ten Poems by Constantinos Cavafy*. Translated by Nikos Stangos. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1967. Text of ten poems, each with a corresponding lithograph printed on nine sheets (on one particular sheet there are two lithographs-one printed on the recto and the other on the verso). Although the colophon states that 100 copies (plus the one proof copy) were printed, no copies can be located anywhere.



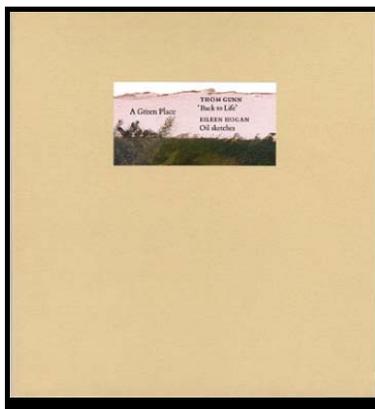
Jean Cocteau & the Illustrated Book. Northridge: Santa Susana Press, 1990. Cocteau, Jean (illustrator). Copy 61 of a total edition of 226. 125 of which contain an original leaf of the 1923 first issue of Cocteau's illustrated book *Dessins*. This copy is one of these. Numbered and signed by Editor Norman Tanis and William Emboden. Narrative account of Cocteau and the illustrated book with a number of unpublished illustrations by Cocteau. Printed on French mold-made Arches paper by Patrick Reagh, color illustrations tipped-in. Bound in quarter leather, gilt stamped in slipcase.



Gunn, Thom. *Fighting Terms. Poems.* Swinford: Fantasy Press, 1954. First edition, first state with the error on p. 38. One of approximately 305 copies of the first issue. A fine copy of Gunn's scarce second book, formerly Nathaniel Tarn's copy

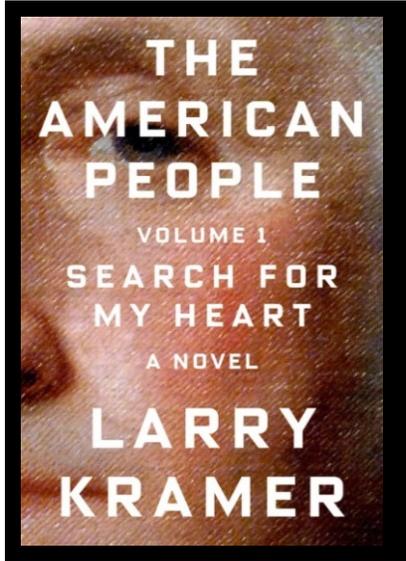
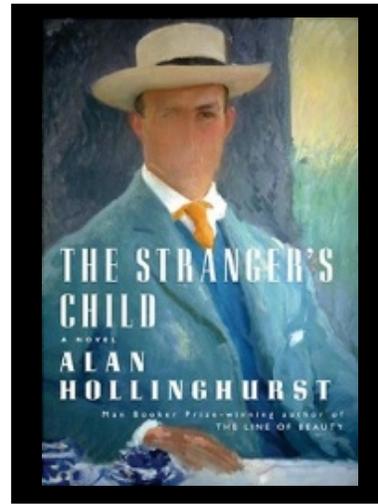


Gunn, Thom. *A Geography.* Iowa City: Stonewall Press, 1966. First edition. One of 220 copies signed by Gunn. Small 8vo, original red wrappers.



Gunn, Thom. *Green Place.* Menlo Park: Occasional Works Press, 1999. First edition. Gunn's poem 'Back to Life' bound with oil sketches by Eileen Hogan. Hand-set type, composed in monotype Bembo. Sixteen pages printed by letterpress on mould-made archival Somerset. Eight color plates tipped onto seven accordion-panels. Hand-bound in quarter leather with cloth sides. One of 26 lettered copies accompanied by an original monoprint signed by Hogan. Signed by Gunn and Hogan.

Hollinghurst, Alan. *The Stranger's Child*. NY: Alfred A. Knopf, 2011. First North American Edition. A gift of Gene Berry and Jeffrey Campbell.



Kramer, Larry. *The American People: Volume 1-Search for my Heart*. NY: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2015. A gift of Gene Berry and Jeffrey Campbell.

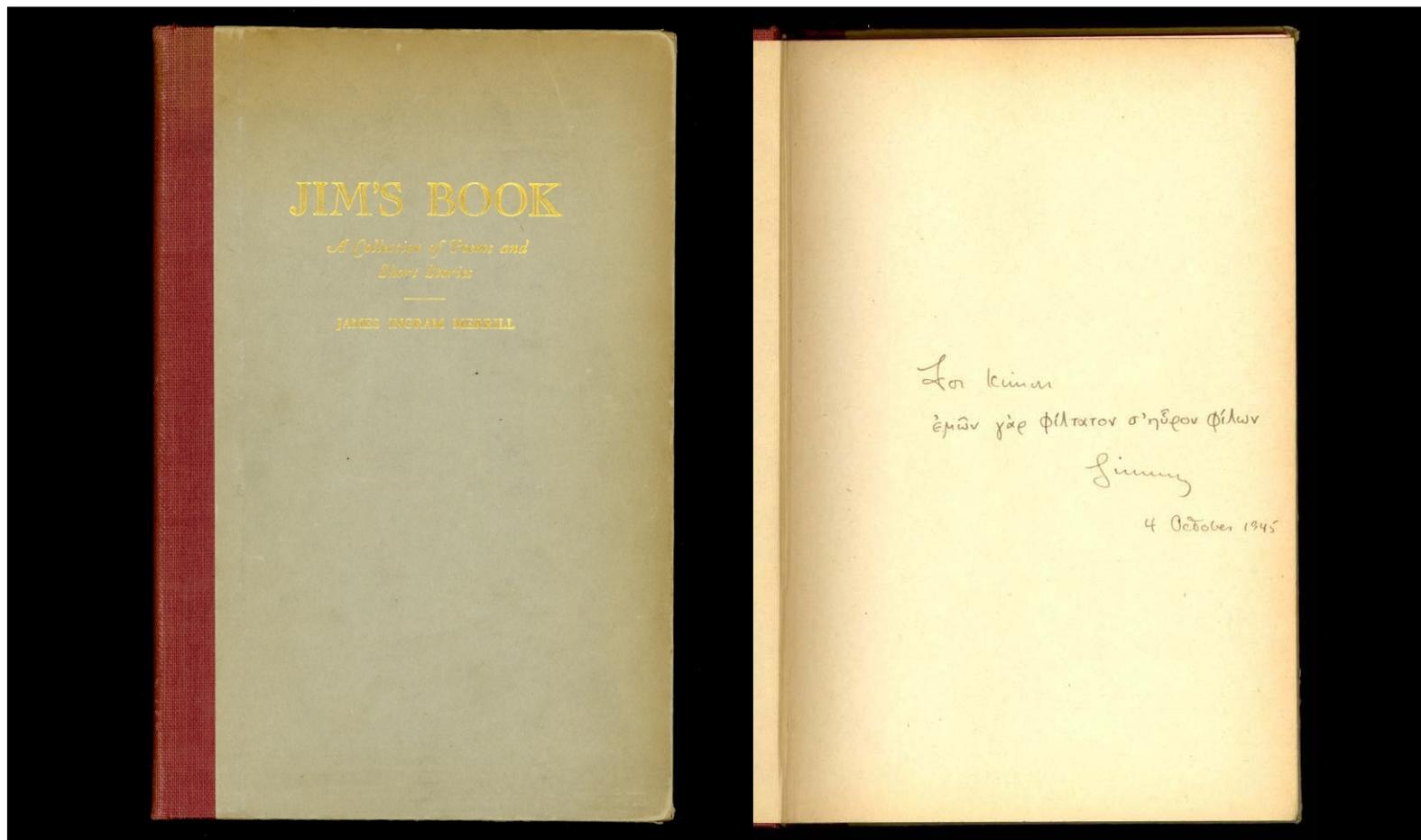
Manos, Constantinos. *American Color*. New York: W. W. Norton, 1995. First Edition. A photography book by the noted Magnum photographer. A gift of Constantinos Manos.



Manos, Constantinos. *Bostonians*. Cambridge: Cambridge Seven Associates, 1975. First Edition. Commissioned by the City of Boston as part of that city's Bicentennial Celebration. A gift of Constantinos Manos.

James Ingram Merrill Collection

Merrill began writing poetry as a child. When Merrill was 16 years old, his father collected his poems and stories and published them under the title *Jim's Book*. Merrill would go on to receive many awards including the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry (1977) and the first Bobbitt Prize for Poetry (1990). His poetry falls into two distinct bodies: the lyric poetry of his early career and the epic narrative of occult communication supposedly obtained through a Ouija board. In addition to poetry, he also wrote essays, fiction, and plays. The Rare Book and Special Collections Division acquired this Merrill Collection in 2015. The collection contains an astonishing number of important association copies, including Merrill's first five books inscribed to Kimon Friar, the Greek poet who was important in Merrill's professional and personal life. Among those are Merrill's rare first book, *Jim's Book* (1942), and the dedication copy of his second and rarest book, *The Black Swan* (1946). In addition to the many dedication and presentation copies, the collection also contains many of his major works, broadsides, a small number of manuscripts, and photographs.



Inscription: "For Kimon, for I have loved you more dearly than any other friend, Jimmy, 4 October 1945." [Approximate translation].

James Merrill

PETER

- his very own book
copied from life
with love & gratitude -
Jimmy



Illustrations by Timothy Engelland

THE DEERFIELD PRESS
THE GALLERY PRESS

Merrill, James. *Peter*. (Old Deerfield, MA): Deerfield Press; (Dublin Ireland): Gallery Press, (1982). First edition. Limited to 300 copies signed by Merrill. Dedication Copy, inscribed to Peter Tourville with a drawing, and with a typed letter signed from Merrill to Tourville laid in.

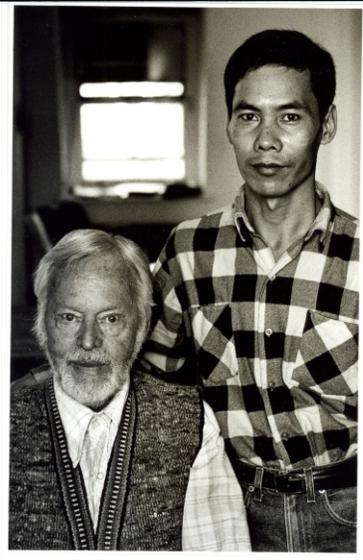
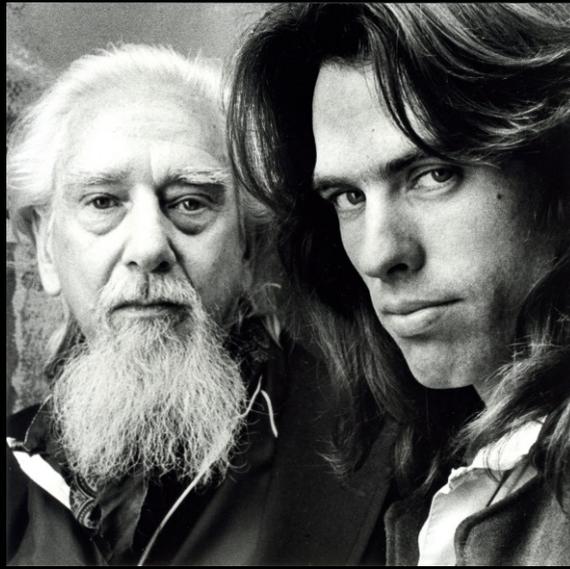
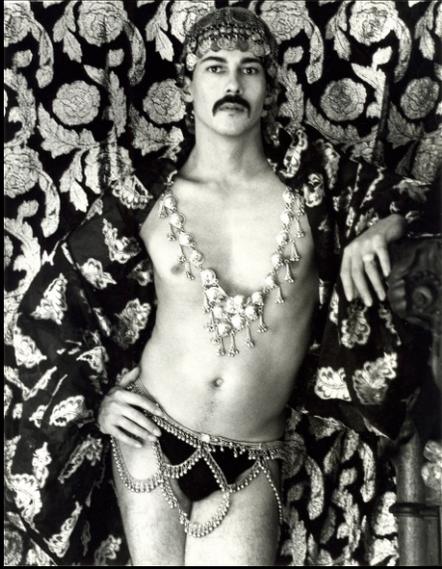
Ouija board transcript in James Merrill's hand, 1976, one of only four surviving copies. Each was inscribed to a participant in the Ouija session at Claude Ferdericks' house in 1976, one of many that inspired and lead to Merrill's *Changing Light at Sandover*.

15.vi.76 IN DANTE NO VISION WAS FAR LIKE. AS HE LOOKED INTO THE EYE
OF A TOMIC POWER HE SAW THE HOPE WE HAVE A CREATION OF PARADISE. THE UNIVERSE
IS OUR NEIGHBOR WE HAVE NO CONTROL OF IT, + SO OUR USE OF THE EXTRALITE
SOULS + RESEARCH: MONTEZUMA WHO NOW BELIEVES WE'RE ACCOR DER UNDER
ORDERS. (any low card m...?) WE BELIEVE IN ORDER + THEREFORE RECOMPULLED
2 SUPERVISE SCIENCE. ALL OF THE HUMAN ACTION IS STAYING - A LATION.
KEEP IN G THE RACE ALIVE + NOT OVER CROWDING THE YEAR 4000 OR IN TERE
ERING WITH THE WORK + THAT OF UNIVERSE. + THE UNIVERSE THAT WE BELIEVE
MANY SYSTEMS SUCH AS HIS. THEY MUST BE AT OUR RATE OF ADVANCE OR
WE WOULD HAVE DETECTED A SUPER SYSTEM. OR IT US. PRECISE
PHYSICAL ELECTRICS, NOW QUITE ADVANCED THANKS 2 COMMERCE SPA SION
4 COMMUNICATIONS TELL THERE ~~BE~~ SIGNALS THESE WE HAVE LONG
HEARD + EVEN ROSE CAME 2 DANTE + ALONE 2 HIM. THEY TRIGGERED HIS
1ST VISION. (how many?) HE HEARD A KIND OF MUSIC HE THOUGHT + PER SWIFT
IN FEMALE FORM. HE WENT INTO THE TUSCAN HILLS FOLLOWING HIS MUSIC
WHEN HE LOST IT HE SAHON HIS KNEES WAS FIERCE
(m...?) HIS VISION, THE STRENGTH OF DANTE'S TIME WAS FIERCE
APCREDULITY AL POSSIBLE GOOD + EVIL WRESTLING MIRACLES, REDEEMING
LOVE + THE TRUTH OF VISIONS, IN THE GRIP OF THE SE STRONG FAITHS
THEY SAMO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DREAM + EXPERIENCE. (there
WE USED TOM 2 GET HIS ATTENTION. SLIPPING IN THE DOOR WHICH HE
HEAVEN HAD RATTLED AS IF WITH A UNIVERSAL WIND.
Dam Alfred, always for Alfred - another Dante clone!
love D... with love from JEM

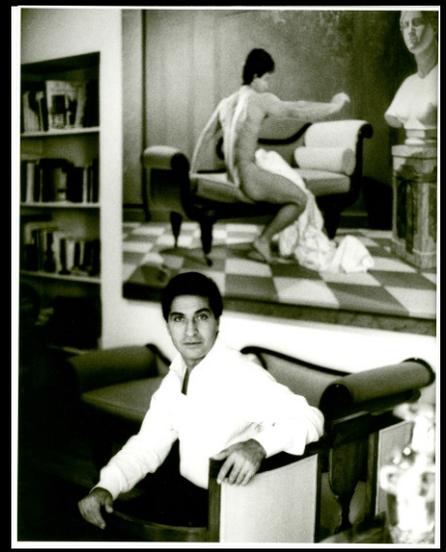
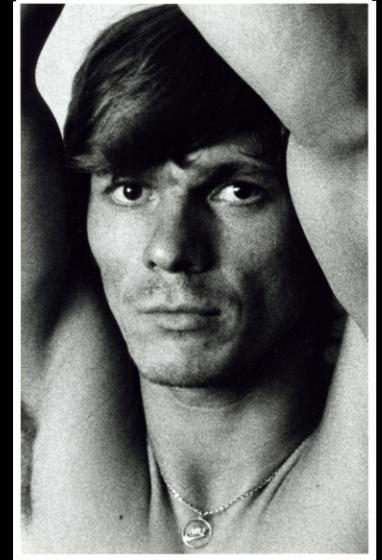


Nymphs of the Isle, directly he was born,
Lent their music to the ear of Corn.
14.viii.80 - with love from Jimmy

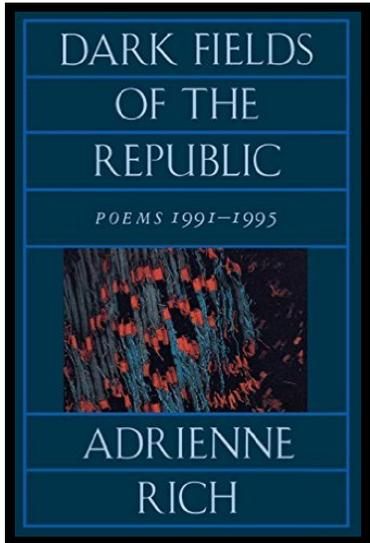
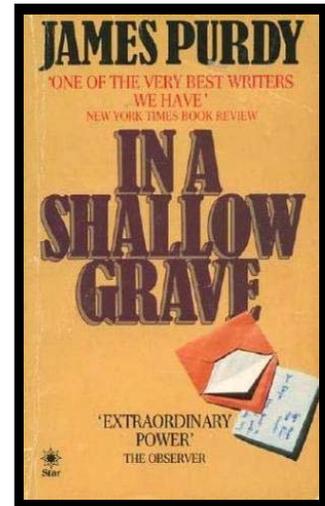
Merrill, James. *Samos*. Los Angeles : Sylvester & Orphanos, 1980. Dedication copy, inscribed to Alfred Corn with a drawing of the island of Samos and an original poem: : "Nymphs of the Isle, / Directly he was born, / Lent their music / To the ear of Corn 14.viii.80 with love from Jimmy."



Orphanos, Stathis. A selection of more than 240 photographs, comprised mainly of literary and entertainment figures, LGBT activists, athletes, military, and travel photos. A gift of Stathis Orphanos. Clockwise from top left: Tony Clark, Edmond Teske & Nils Vidstrand, May Sarton, Juli Vee, Achilles Droungas, Claire Bloom, Lizabeth Scott, and Charles Henri Ford & Indra Tamang.

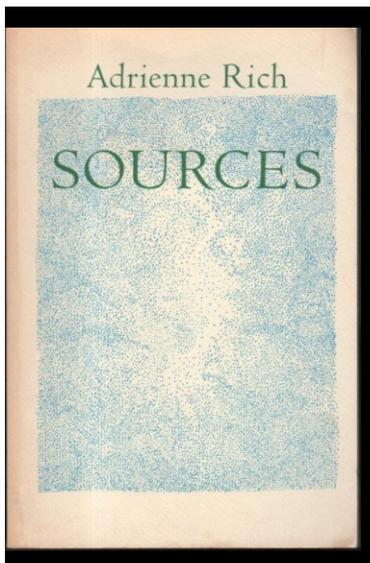
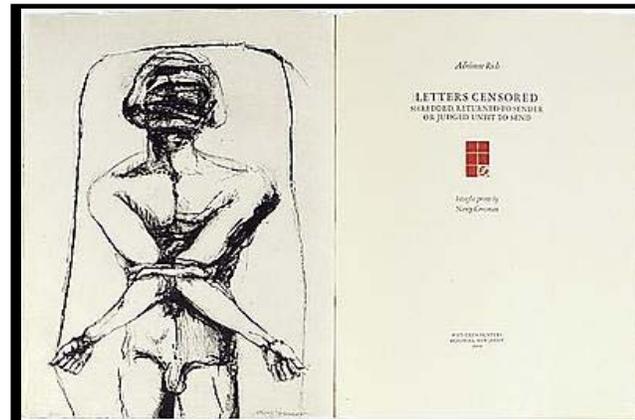


Purdy, James. *In a Shallow Grave*. London: Star (Paperback Division of W. H. Allen & Co., Ltd.), 1981. Inscribed by the author on the title page. "James Purdy. For Sybil with the kind wishes of James." From the collection of Doris Grumbach and Sybil Hillman Pike and so inscribed on "SHP & DIG." A gift of Gene Berry and Jeffrey Campbell.

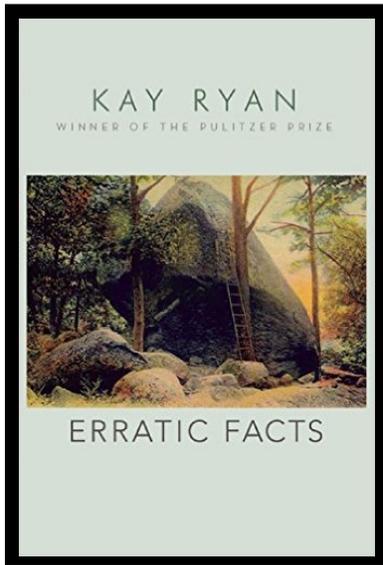


Rich, Adrienne. *Dark Fields of the Republic: Poems 1991-1995*. New York: W. W. Norton, 1995. First edition. Inscribed by Rich on the title page to the poet Jane Cooper: "For Jane, in the long sharing of art and life - Adrienne." 8vo, cloth, dust jacket.

Rich, Adrienne. *Letters Censored, Shredded, Returned to Sender or Judged Unfit to Send*. Hopewell: Pied Oxen Press, 2009. First separate edition. One of 85 numbered copies hand-set and printed in ATF Garamond types, the intaglio prints by Nancy Grossman were printed by Marjorie Van Dyke at Van Deb Editions in New York. Signed by the poet and artist.

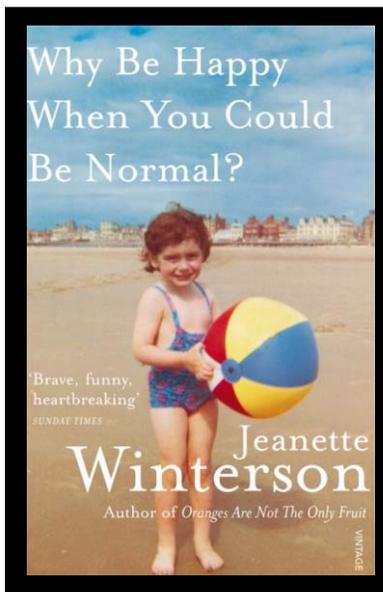
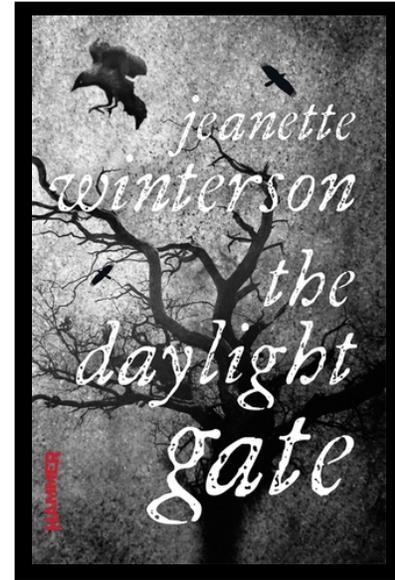


Rich, Adrienne. *Sources*. Woodside: Heyeck Press, 1983. Edition of 4,000. This is the trade edition of this important work by a major American poet. In it, Rich looks for the sources of her strength, passion and creativity. For the first time in her work she discusses her Jewish heritage and her husband's suicide.



Ryan, Kay. *Erratic Facts*. Uncorrected proof copy. New York: Grove Press, 2015.

Winterson, Jeanette. *The Daylight Gate*. NY: Grove Press, 2012. 1st American edition. A gift of Gene Berry and Jeffrey Campbell.



Winterson, Jeanette. *Why Be Happy When You Could Be Normal?* NY: Grove Press, 1011. 1st American edition. A gift of Gene Berry and Jeffrey Campbell.

Winterson, Jeanette [Editor]. *Midsummer Nights*. London: Quercus, 2009. [Contributions by Margaret Reynolds, Ali Smith, Jeanette Winterson, Colm Toibin and others]. A gift of Gene Berry and Jeffrey Campbell.

