

Michael Steinbach Rare Books

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1 Incunabula - Gutenberg original leaf 1460 - With distinguish provenance - Balbus, Johannes. Gutenberg and the Catholicon of 1460. A bibliographical essay. New York, Edmund Byrne Hackett, the Brick Row Bookshop, 1936 44 : 31 cm. WITH AN ORIGINAL CATHOLICON LEAF PRINTED BY GUTENBERG, Folium 359, 66 lines in two columns, initials in red. Original calf binding in original slipcase. JPY 1 800 000,--

On original leaf of Gutenberg's famous Catholicon, Folio 359 leaf from an incomplete paper copy. With a distinguish provenance, Exlibris Estelle Doheny. - The Catholicon is a Latin dictionary with grammar compiled by a Genoese Dominican, Johannes Balbus, who dated the completion of his work 7 March 1286. Almost one-third longer than the Latin Bible, it remained the standard Latin dictionary until the 16th century. The first edition has, like the Gutenberg Bible, separate issues on paper and, more expensively, on vellum. Its distinguishing feature is that the first line-pair on the first page, giving the work's title, is printed in red. The anonymous colophon praises God, "who often reveals to the lowly what he conceals from the wise." This and other pious elements in the colophon have been taken to express the modest mind of Johann Gutenberg, who treats the discovery of typography as a divine gift. This contrasts with the pride of Fust and Schoeffer, who in the colophon of the 1457 Psalter put forth their names prominently.



2 Book of Hours: Leaf from a very fine, very large Book of Hours, France. ca. 1440. 22,5 : 16 cm. 1 leaf with two side-borders with floral ornaments in blue, red and green heightened in gold. JPY 75 000,--

Beautiful leaf written in brown ink on vellum, with outstanding floral side-borders.



3 Pfintzing. Theuerdank. Kaiser Maximilian I. Augsburg, Schönsperger, 1516. 35 : 29 cm. 1 leaf with contemporary coloured woodcut von Hans Leonhard Schüfelein. JPY 75 000,--
A leaf from the famous knight-epic of Maximilian I, with a beautiful coloured woodcut. - YOU WILL FIND MORE LEAVES AT MY BOOTH:



4 Waka. Portraits of six masters of Waka poems. 20,5 : 18,5 cm. Six water colours painted on silk under a golden Passepartout in form of leporello, edges gilt Ornamental coloured silk binding in Japanese style. JPY 800 000,--

Very rare album showing six of the most famous Waka-poets. Carefully painted on silk and under golden framed Passepartout. - Waka (Japanese poem) is a type of poetry in classical Japanese literature. It has a long history, first recorded in the early 8th century, until modern times. Unidentified artists. - The Kokin Wakashu is an early (c. 900) anthology of waka poetry which fixed the form of Japanese poetry. Waka ("Japanese poem") is a type of poetry in classical Japanese literature. - The word waka has two different but related meanings: the original meaning was "poetry in Japanese" and encompassed several genres such as choka and sedoka (discussed below); the later, more common definition refers to poetry in a 5-7-5-7-7 metre. Up to and during the compilation of the Man'yōshū in the eighth century, the word waka was a general term for poetry composed in Japanese, and included several genres such as tanka („short poem"), choka („long poem"), bussokusekika („Buddha footprint poem") and sedoka („repeating-the-first-part poem"). However, by the time of the Kokinshū's compilation at the beginning of the tenth century, all of these forms except for the tanka and choka had effectively gone extinct, and choka had significantly diminished in prominence. As a result, the word waka became effectively synonymous with tanka, and the word tanka fell out of use until it was revived at the end of the nineteenth century.



5 Japan - Photography - Album with 48 mounted, coloured photographs. Tokyo ca. 1910. 32,5 : 44 cm. 48 photographs mounted on cardboard. Contemporary cloth JPY 850 000,--
 The photographs are measuring 21 : 26 cm with the printed description in the lower right corner, are showing: Tokyo (8 'Temple Gate at Shibe', 'Asakusa Temple', 'Ueno park with cherry blossom', 'Asakusa Pagoda', 'Shinbashi', 'Imperial Hotel Tokyo', 'Shiba') - Enoshima - Shinto Temple Hachiman Kamakura - Dajbutsu Bronez (Big Buddha) Kamakura - Fujiyama from Tagonoura - Woman home bathing - Girls eating macaroni - Rustic work - Kitchen work etc. - Yokohama (10 'Theatre street', 'Custom House', 'Honmoku at Yokohama', 'Grand Hotel Yokohama', 'General view of Yokohama' etc.) - Kobe (3 'Scene of Kobe', 'Sawayama', 'Nunobik waterfall') - Nagasaki (4 'Temple', 'Kiyomidzu', 'Harbour (2) - Rare album with beautiful photos from Japan at the beginning of the 20th Century. - Binding a bit rubbed, inside fine.



6 Album with coloured photographic postcards. Tokyo, ca. 1910 19 : 12,5 cm. With 93 mostly coloured photographic postcards. Coloured illustrated original cloth. JPY 240 000,--
 Beautiful made-up album with mostly coloured postcards depicting scenes from everyday life, landscapes, temples etc. like 'O-koto-san's morning toilet', 'O-koto-san tey with a friend', 'O-Koto-san indulges in a smoke, and things of her soldier love', 'Fuji from Fujikawa', 'Suwa temple Nagasaki', 'Hakone lake', 'Matsushima island', 'Kabata at Tokyo', 'Night view of Riogoku bridge Tokyo', etc.



7 Crepe paper - James, T.H: The princes fire-flash & fire-fade. Tokyo, Hasegawa 1887. 15 : 10,5 cm. 12 leaves With many coloured woodcuts. Bound in Japanese style in coloured illustrated original wrappers. JPY 50 000,--

Japanese Fairy Tale Series, 16. - Printed on crepe-paper. - Catalogue Crepe-Paper Books and Woodblock Prints no. 24. - YOU WILL FIND MORE CREPE-PAPER BOOKS AT MY BOOTH.



8 Okakura, Kakuzo: Das Buch vom Tee. Übersetzt von M. und U. Steindorff. Leipzig, Insel 1922. 21,5 : 17,5 cm. 113 pages with 20 (7 full-page) coloured original-Lithographs by G.A. Mathéy. coloured illustrated original silk-binding by Mathéy, in original slip-case, title pasted on front board. JPY 350 000,--

One of only 100 copies of the deluxe edition on very thin China-paper in a silk-binding. Imprint signed by the artist. Extravagant book, showing the spirit of the Twenties. Cultural history of the Asian tea, his meaning in 'Taoism and Zennism', about the 'School of tea', the 'Tearoom', his 'position in art', 'flowers' and the 'Masters of Tea'. - A mint copy of this very rare deluxe edition.



9 Wagner - Portrait medal of Richard Wagner in form of a coin. 1876 2,5 cm Silver coin housed in a black silk box JPY 110 000,--

On the front side a portrait of Richard Wagner looking to the right, on the reverse side a scene of Parsifal. - Rare.