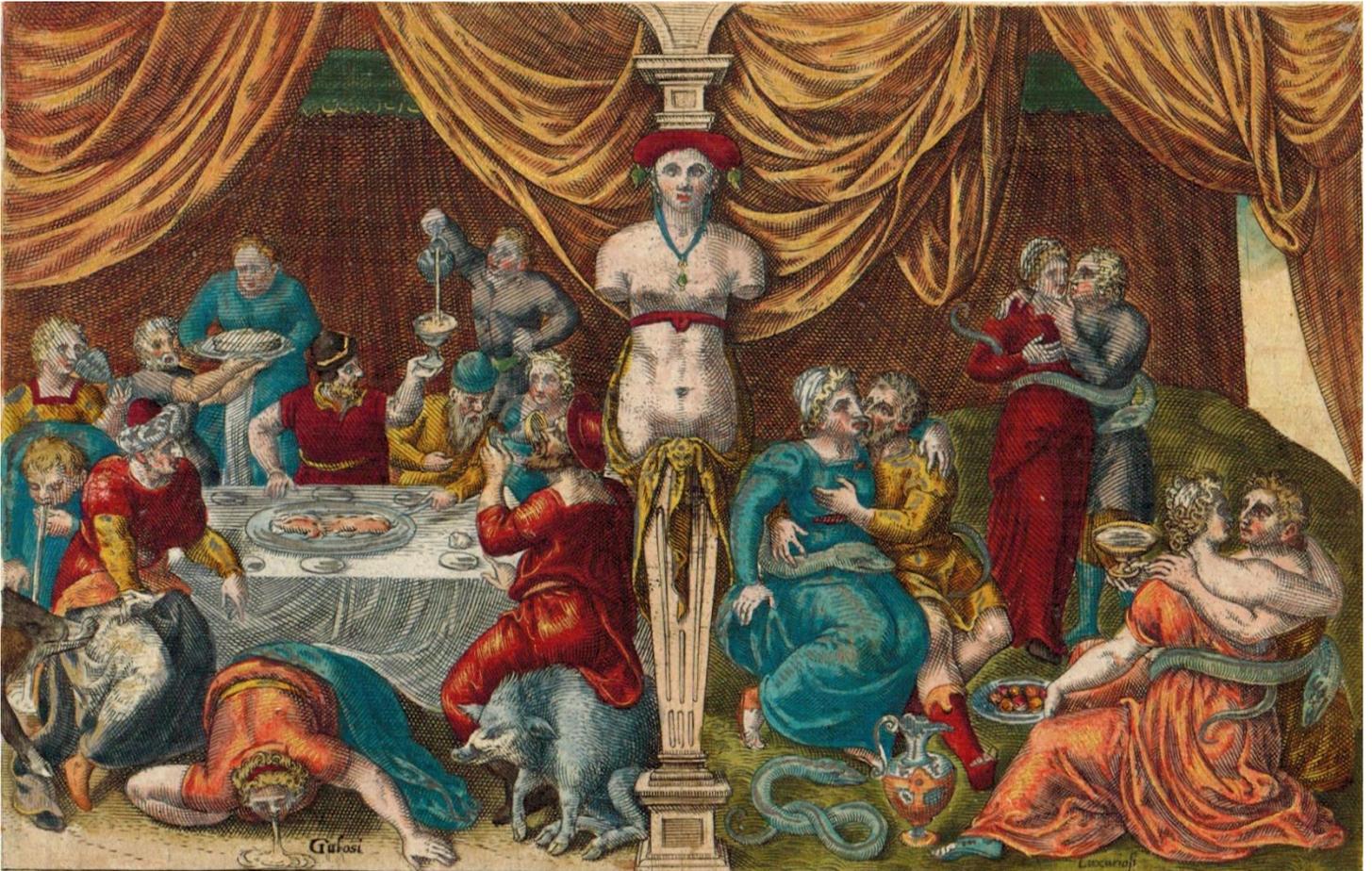


# THE 16<sup>TH</sup> AND 17<sup>TH</sup> CENTURIES



(ITEM # 14)

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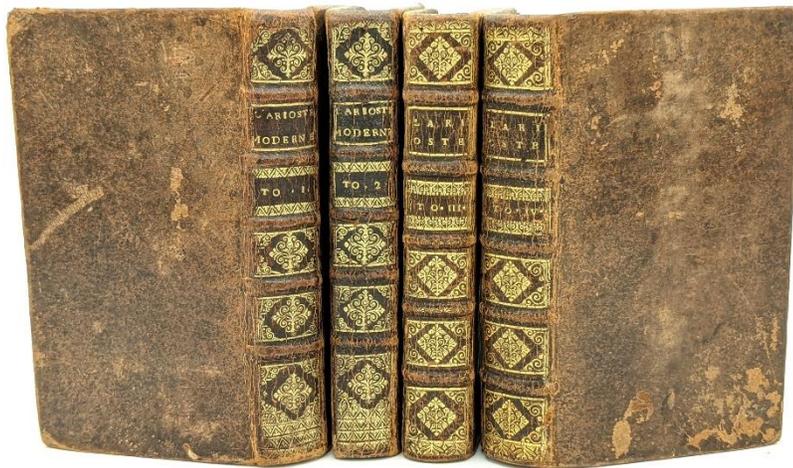
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## *ORLANDO FURIOSO* FOR LADIES

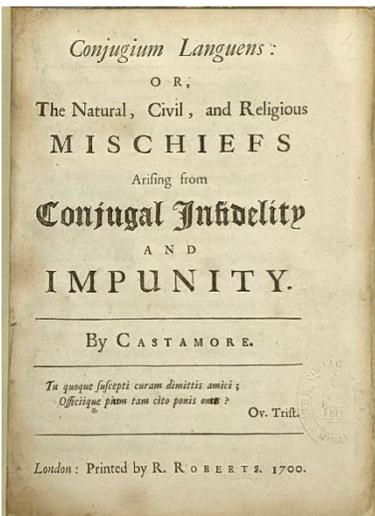
### NO COPY IN US LIBRARIES, NO COPY IN AUCTION RECORDS

**1. GILLOT DE BEAUCOUR, Louise-Geneviève Gomès de Vasconcellos.** *L'Arioste Moderne. Ou Roland le Furieux. Première [-Quatrième] Partie.* Paris: Jean Guignard & Lyon: Thomas Amaulry, 1685-6. 4 vols in 8vo. (8), 380 pp, (2); (4), 356 pp, (4); (2), 352 pp, (2); 433 pp, (1). Contemporary sheep. **\$3,850**

Extremely rare first edition of this 17<sup>th</sup> century prose adaptation of *Orlando Furioso* by Louise-Geneviève Gillot de Beaucour. As her preface makes clear, Beaucour's authorial tinkering was intended to make Ariosto's text more palatable to female readers; the original, she fears, "would startle ladies more than amuse them". Although widely-read and almost universally praised in the 16<sup>th</sup> century (Shakespeare's *As You Like It* is clearly inspired by Ariosto, including the principal male character, Orlando) – the epic poem's popularity waned in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Beaucour's work may have been an attempt to revive interest in the saga; her *Arioste moderne* has morphed, in the words of Cioranescu, into "an abridgement of the text, interpreted with much liberty and transformed from an epic poem into a *roman galant*, in the fashion of the 17<sup>th</sup> century."



Complete copies are held at the State Library of Victoria in Australia and the BnF only. No copy has appeared at auction in the last 50 years, according to RareBookHub.



**2. [INFIDELITY].** *Conjugium Languens: or, The Natural, Civil, and Religious Mischiefs Arising from Conjugal Infidelity and Impunity.* By Castamore. London: R. Roberts, 1700. 4to. (2), 28 pp. Modern card covers. **\$950**

Sole edition of this pamphlet decrying a perceived plague of marital infidelity and proposing that Parliament enact new laws "as might render *Divorces* less *chargeable* [expensive] and *difficult* than now they are" as a suitable remedy. As a trope, Castamore's polemic may be seen as a very early precursor to Defoe's *Conjugal Lewdness, or, Matrimonial Whoredom* (1727).

The arguments against infidelity include that the "distemper'd" person is rendered "so very *loathsome*... they look as if they were spawn'd from the *Dead-Sea*"; that this "*Lustful Fire*" emasculates the male population and will soon render them "as Impotent as *Pygmies*" as well as useless as soldiers; and so on. He also ascribes the variation in offspring in one household ("Here you may see one *Plump*, and shap'd like a *Dutch Skipper*; there another *Tall*, and *Slender-wasted*, like the *Monument*...") to the direct or indirect effects of infidelity. Castamore also makes it clear that the female sex is to blame for this epidemic.

We find US copies at the Folger, General Theological Seminary, Huntington, Library Company of Philadelphia, NYPL, Newberry, Union Theological Seminary, and UCLA. It is interesting to note that Benjamin Franklin owned a copy of this work (#554 in his library catalogue).

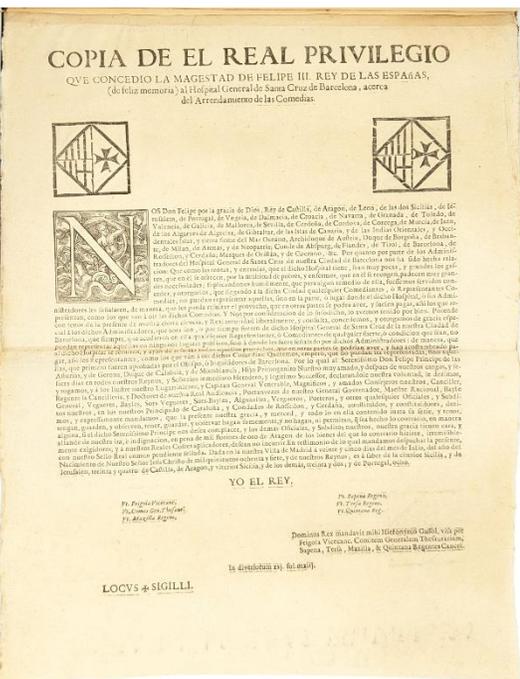
# TOUCHED BY TERESA: THE LIFE OF MARIANA DE SAN JOSÉ AND HER COMMENTARY ON THE SONG OF SONGS

**3. MUÑOZ, Luis.** *Vida de la Venerable M. Mariana de S. Joseph... Hallada en unos papeles escritos de su mano....* Madrid: en la Imprenta Royal, 1645. Folio. (18), 461 pp, (7), plus engr. title-page and engr. portrait, both signed by Juan de Noort. Contemporary vellum. **\$3,850**

Rare first edition of the life and writings of Madre Mariana de San José (1568-1638), printed as a luxurious folio at the Imprenta Royal likely at the behest of the dedicatee, King Felipe IV. Inspired by her own meeting at the tender age of four with Teresa of Ávila, Mariana mentions reading Teresa's *Libro de su Vida* as well as the *Camino de Perfección* – probably both still circulating only in manuscript at the time of her profession as a nun in 1586. Finally, in a most intriguing parallel, the present work contains the first printed appearance of Mariana's own vernacular commentary on the famously pseudo-erotic *Song of Songs* – following in the footsteps of Teresa's *Conceptos del Amor de Dios*. Mariana's commentary ends at Chapter 3, verse 3, leading some to conjecture that she may have abandoned the project or destroyed the remainder for fear of reprisal.



OCLC shows US copies of this first edition at Harvard, JHU, and Berkeley Law Library.



## THE FOUNDING PRIVILEGE OF BARCELONA'S FIRST THEATRE

**4. Copia de el Real privilegio... al Hospital General de Santa Cruz de Barcelona acerca del Arrendamiento de las Comedias.** [Barcelona: no printer, ca. 1603?]. Large folio broadside, with woodcut sigils of the City of Barcelona. Later half-calf with gilt title on spine. **\$1,950**

Second recorded copy of the founding privilege of the Teatro de la Santa Creu, a wooden outdoor “corral de comedias” first constructed in 1603 which served as the city’s first theatre. In a curious twist of civic opportunism, the large central courtyard of the Hospital de la Santa Creu – dedicated to serving the poor – had become the only place permitted in the city to stage theatrical productions. In this way, early performances actually served the public good in Barcelona. OCLC and REBIUN together show just one surviving copy, at the Biblioteca de Catalunya (adjacent to the theatre itself in Barcelona!).

Please contact [info@editioaltera.com](mailto:info@editioaltera.com) for full-length descriptions and photos



**A REMARKABLE RARITY, AND THE ONLY COLORED COPY IN THE TRADE:  
A SPANISH *MATERIA MEDICA* WITH A CELEBRATED COMMENTARY ON WITCHES**

**5. LAGUNA, Andrés de.** *Acerca de la Materia Medicinal... ilustrado con claras y substantiales Annotaciones, y con las figuras de innumeras plantas exquisitas y raras...* Antwerp: Juan Latio, 1555. Folio. (8), 616 pp, (24), with ca. 450 woodcuts, finished in contemporary handcolor. Early vellum, recased. **\$45,000**

First edition, and a remarkable rarity of the botanical and medical literature of the 16th century: Andrés de Laguna's extensive vernacular (and rather lively) commentary on the *Materia medica* of Dioscorides. A work untraced in any form at auction since 1978, the present copy's nearly 450 woodcuts have been meticulously colored by a contemporary hand. It is thus only the second recorded example as such; the other is printed on vellum and magnificently illuminated for presentation to Prince Philip II, today housed at the National Library of Spain.

It is in the present work that we find the first recorded suggestion that the phenomena of witchcraft may be due to delusions caused by psychoactive herbs, rather than the direct influence of the Devil (Rothman, "De Laguna's Commentaries on Hallucinogenic Drugs and Witchcraft in Dioscorides' *Materia Medica*"). Laguna in fact pleads for clemency in such cases, in his particularly colorful commentary on species of nightshade (Book IV, Chapter LXXV). Also included are observations on the use of a handful of New World herbs and drugs.

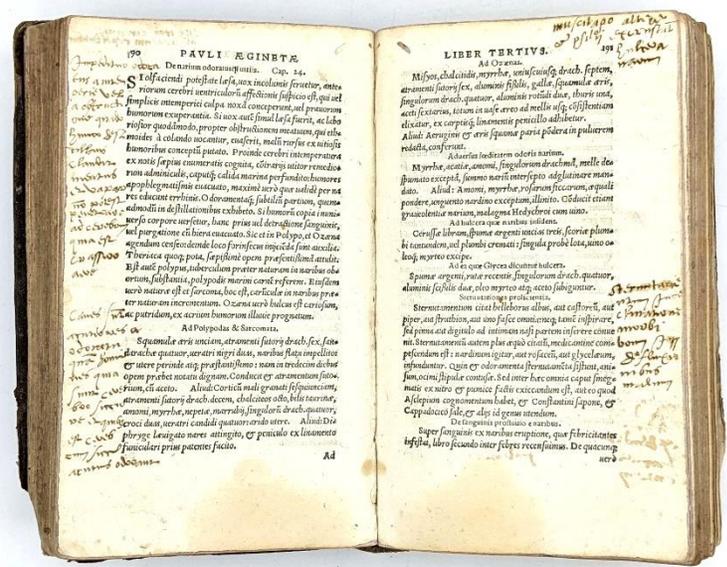
This first edition is not held at the Wellcome Library, nor at the NLM. OCLC reveals fewer than a dozen copies worldwide; of these, the Complutense copy suffers significant text loss to several leaves of the index and is lacking the final leaf with the privilege completely; the New South Wales copy is lacking 10 pages of the index; The Catalunya copy is lacking 18 pages of index; the Biblioteca do Mosteiro de Poio copy is lacking the title-page; and so on. Two copies are recorded in US libraries, at the College of Physicians in Philadelphia and the Chicago Public Library. **The present copy is offered with a Spanish export license.**



## ANNOTATED BY 17TH CENTURY PHYSICIANS

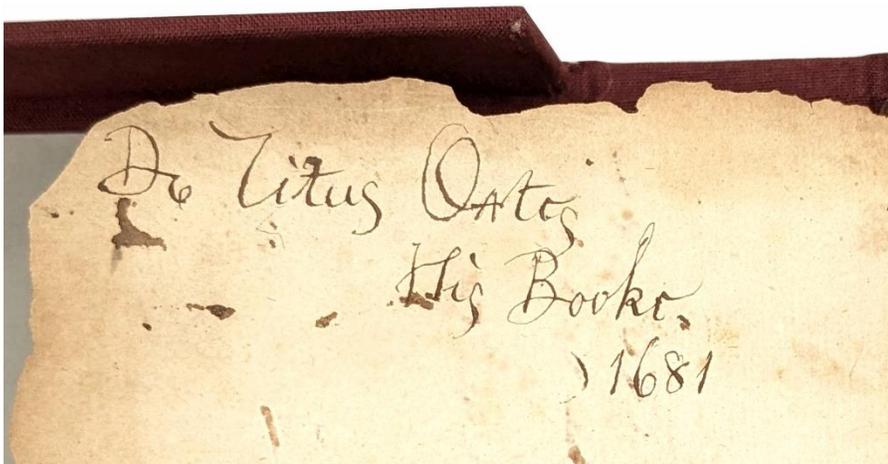
**6. PAULUS, Aegineta & THORER, Alban.** *Medicinae totius Enchiridion... Albano Torino Vitodurensi interprete.* Basel: Johannes Oporinus, 1546. 8vo. (16), 762 pp, (6). Contemporary blind-ruled sheep, with fragments of a 14th or 15th century illuminated manuscript used as binder's waste. Various 17th century acquisition notes on pastedown, often dated with prices, the last of which by a Lille physician dated 4<sup>th</sup> September 1698. **\$1,450**

Revised edition of this medical compendium, with a preface dated 1546 from Monte Plusiaco, where Thorer had taken up residence as the personal physician of Duke Christoph of Wurttemberg. Thorer complains that he translated and edited his first edition of Paul Aegina (1532) in too much of a rush, and that it has proven to be rife with errors; in the present edition, he has discovered better Greek sources to craft a more pleasing translation.



A well-thumbed copy, with prescriptions and medical notes covering both endpapers, some blank corners worn away; occasional wormtracks; and binding very rubbed. This copy is chiefly of interest for its 17th century annotations, some of which are extensive; they are concentrated in Books I-III and Book VII.

## THE TITUS OATES COPY



**7. CARE, Henry.** *The History of the Damnable Popish Plot, in its various Branches & Progress...* London: Printed for B. R. L. W. H. C. [...] to be sold by Langley Curtiss, 1680. 8vo. (16), 384 pp. 18th century American calf, with a total of six early ownership inscriptions (four of which dated 1681-1707). Housed in a modern clamshell box. **\$2,500**

First edition, and a most noteworthy copy: only the second example of an Oates ownership inscription we have been able to trace. Oates' downfall, from patriotic detective and the Crown's star witness to being publicly flogged in the streets of London, has inspired centuries of interest. Henry Care (1646-1688) is generally recognized as being Oates' 'first journalistic supporter'; if anything, the obsequious nature of Care's work adds credence to the idea that a copy would have been given to or purchased by Oates in the narrow window of time before his exile.

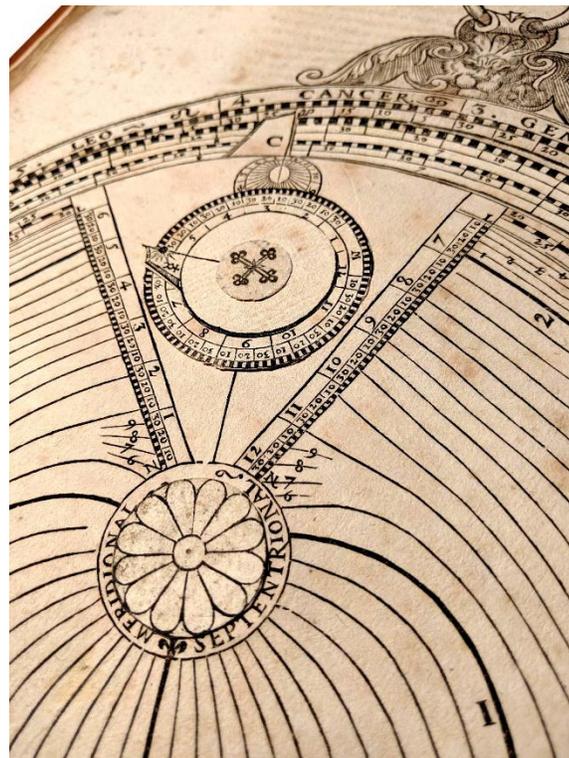
The self-styled 'Doctor of Divinity' must have acquired the present book within the first few months of its publication on January 26, 1680; by August of that year he was officially ejected from Whitehall, and spent the years 1685-1689 in the King's Bench prison in Southwark.

Please contact [info@editioaltera.com](mailto:info@editioaltera.com) for full-length descriptions and photos

**‘REVISED AND AUGMENTED’, COMPLETE WITH  
36 VOLVELLE PARTS  
THE SECOND COPY IN AMERICA**

**8. BASSANTYNE, James.** *Astronomique discours. Par Jaques Bassantin Escossois.* [Geneva]: Jean de Tournes, 1613. Large folio. (4), 275 pp, (1). With 175 woodcuts including 14 volvelles, composed of 36 moving parts in total, complete in all respects. Mid-20th century full polished tan calf. **\$18,500**

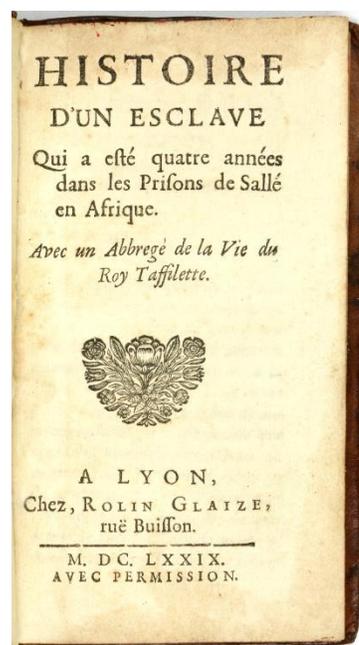
Second edition of this monumental work by the Scottish astronomer James Bassantin (ca. 1500-1568). The large format, extensive program of woodcut illustration, and 36 moveable parts mounted on 14 volvelles required a skilled compositor’s workshop; the first edition of 1557 was printed in Lyon by the *imprimeur du Roi* Jean de Tournes. By 1585 the Protestant de Tournes had fled to Geneva, where Jean II embarked on the republication of the present work, perhaps in response to the broader flurry of astronomical activity at the beginning of the 17<sup>th</sup> century.



Bassantin is mainly concerned with describing planetary motions, which his paper instruments allow the reader to calculate – based of course on strictly Ptolemaic models. Speaking of the first edition, Mortimer comments that “the size of this volume and the extent of its illustration and ornamentation make this an unusually fine example of the attention given to the printing of scientific works at this period” (p. 64).

The only other copy in America of this Geneva edition lacks at least 3 parts and was sold as such to the Boston Public Library by H. P Kraus in 1949. No copy of this edition has been seen at auction since 1966, when a defective copy was sold at Parke Bernet.

**HELD AS A SLAVE FOR FOUR YEARS  
NO COPY IN US LIBRARIES**



**9. GALLONYÉ, Jean.** *Histoire d'un esclave qui a esté quatre années dans les Prisons de Sallé en Afrique...* Lyon: Rolin Glaize, 1679. 12mo. 151, (1) pp. Contemporary calf. **\$3,500**

Third recorded copy of a sensational slavery narrative, recounting the author’s captivity between 1670 and his ransoming in 1674. Jean Gallonyé, from a village near Montpellier, was twenty when captured by Turkish pirates. “He had hoped to reach Saint Christopher (now Saint Kitts)... Gallonyé’s account of brute labor, brutal punishment, and bravery through five masters and two failed escape attempts was a paean to his rescuers and a plea ‘for true Christians to think occasionally about the infinite number of their brothers who still groan under the same chains and in the same prisons today’” (Weiss, *Captives and Corsairs*, p. 64). OCLC shows only 2 copies in libraries internationally, at the BnF and Mannheim; a Paris edition of the same year is similarly rare (no US copy), and has not been prioritized.

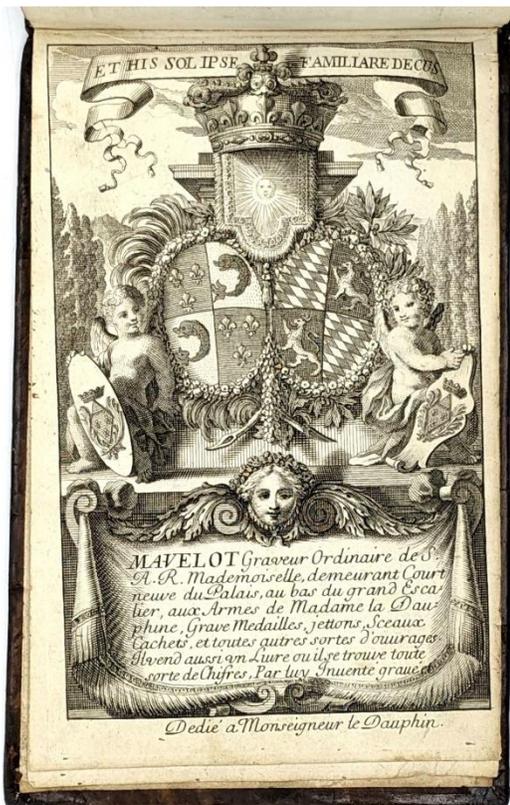
## THREE RARE SUITES ENGRAVED BY THEODOR GALLE

**10. GALLE, Jan & Theodor after MALLERY, Karel van / VOS, Martin de / JODE, Pieter de.** *Peccati Fomes Vincula Poena Medela.* Antwerp: Charles de Mallery, [ca. 1603]. Title and 11 numbered plates. [with] **DAVID, Johannes, S. J..** *Duodecim Specula Deum Aliquando Videre Desideranti concinnata.* Antwerp: Theodor Galle, [1610]. Title and XII numbered plates. [with] **DAVID, Johannes, S. J..** *Typus Occasionis. In Quo Receptae Commoda, Neglectae Verò Incommoda, Personato Schemate Proponuntur.* Antwerp: Theodor Galle, [ca. 1603]. Engr. title, engr. prefatory leaf from Galle to the 'studious youth', and 12 numbered plates. 4tos, sympathetically bound to style in blind-ruled calf. **\$4,450**

Crisply-printed and well-preserved Sammelband of three complete sets of richly-emblematic engravings, exemplifying the style of the Counter-Reformation Jesuit emblem book which became a hallmark of Antwerp printing in the first decades of the 17th century. We suspect that the suites may have been issued in this configuration by the 17th century print shop: evidence for the present Sammelband's integrity comes from the UCL example, which consists of exactly the same titles.



## WITH AN UNRECORDED, SPLENDIDLY-ENGRAVED ADVERTISEMENT LEAF FOR MAVELOT'S SERVICES



**11. MAVELOT, Charles.** *Nouveau Livre de differens Cartouches, Couronnes, Casques, Supports et Tenans... Ouvrage utile aux Peintres, Sculpteurs, Graveurs, Orféures, Tapissiers, Brodeurs et autres.* [Paris]: Mavelot, [1685]. Oblong 8vo. 6 ff, 31 pp of letterpress, (1), 43 ff of plates, 2 ff. Contemporary sheep, gilt. **\$3,450**

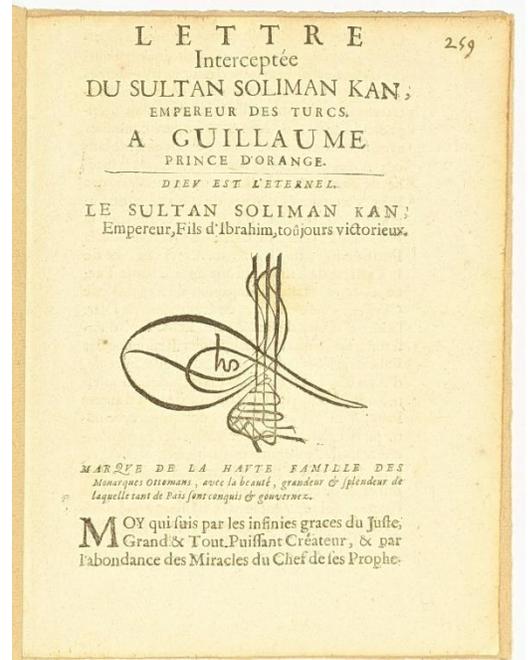
First edition, and a magnificent copy of this charmingly-engraved model book for "painters, sculptors, engravers, goldsmiths, tapestry-makers, embroiderers, and others", incorporating an astonishing and lively array of exotic animals (leopards, elephants, etc.) and persons (Black Africans, hirsute 'wild men', etc.) into the skillfully-executed designs. Relative to most copies, the present contains an additional leaf bound at the end, recommending Mavelot's services as an "engraver of medallions, tokens, seals, and stamps".

Destailleur calls the *Nouveau Livre de differens Cartouches* one of Mavelot's rarest productions. We have traced US copies at the NYPL, Getty, Newberry, and Penn State (none with the added advertisement leaf).

## WILLIAM III'S PLOT TO CONVERT TO ISLAM, REVEALED!

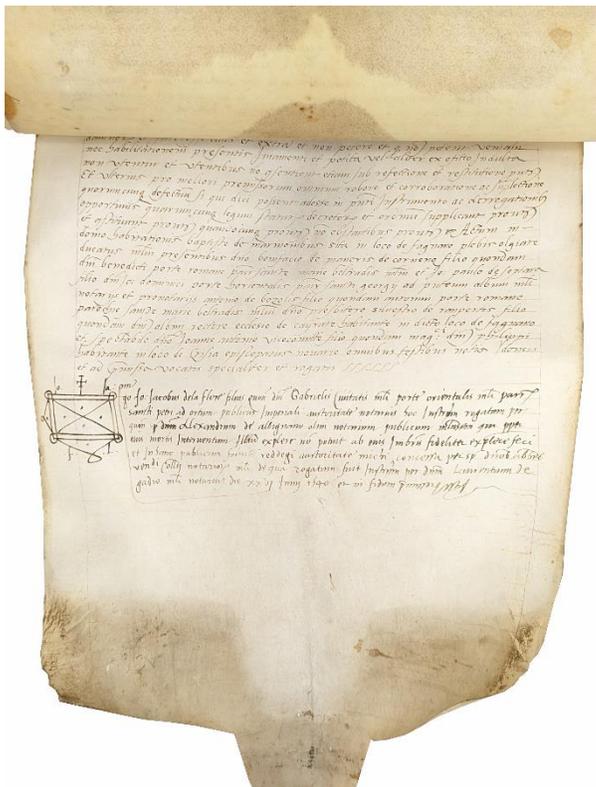
**12. [PRÉCHAC, Jean de].** *Lettre interceptée du Sultan Soliman Kan, Empereur des Turcs. A Guillaume Prince d'Orange.* Bordeaux: Simon de la Court, [1690?]. 4to. (4) pp, with the large woodcut *tughra* of Suleiman II on p. (1). Modern marbled wrappers. **\$1,450**

Very rare first or early edition of this polemical pamphlet, purporting to be an 'intercepted' official letter from Sultan Suleiman II encouraging William III of England to convert to Islam, and offering military support in return. Prefaced by a convincing woodcut *tughra*, or official imperial Ottoman seal, Suleiman II (1642-1691) here implores William to "embrace the glorious, true, and infallible Law of the intimate friend of God, our great Prophet Muhammed". Suleiman confirms that the center of their new empire will be Rome; and the "King of Vienna and the other Christian Princes will be counted among our Slaves". In closing, the sultan eagerly awaits the news of William's circumcision, and signs and dates his missive from Constantinople, in "the year of the Hegira of the Prophet, 1102" [i.e. 1690 CE].



OCLC shows copies at the BnF, Harry Ransom Center, and the Huntington only.

## A 4.5 METER-LONG LOMBARDIAN SCROLL



**13. [VELLUM SCROLL].** *In Nomine Domini Anno a Nativitate eiusdem millessimo quingentesimo vigesimo sexto, Indictione quarta decima die lune vigesimo octavo mensis maii...* [Lombardy, 1526/1540]. Latin manuscript on vellum, measuring 446 cm x 28.75 cm. **\$4,500**

Marvelously well-preserved early 16<sup>th</sup> century scroll, composed of 10 separate sheets of vellum (almost 15 sq ft!) sewn together (stitching apparently original). The purpose of this interminable document was the sale in 1526 of various properties in the region of Pontremoli (between Milan and Bergamo), the details and conditions of which are meticulously described in a fine, legible Latin hand.

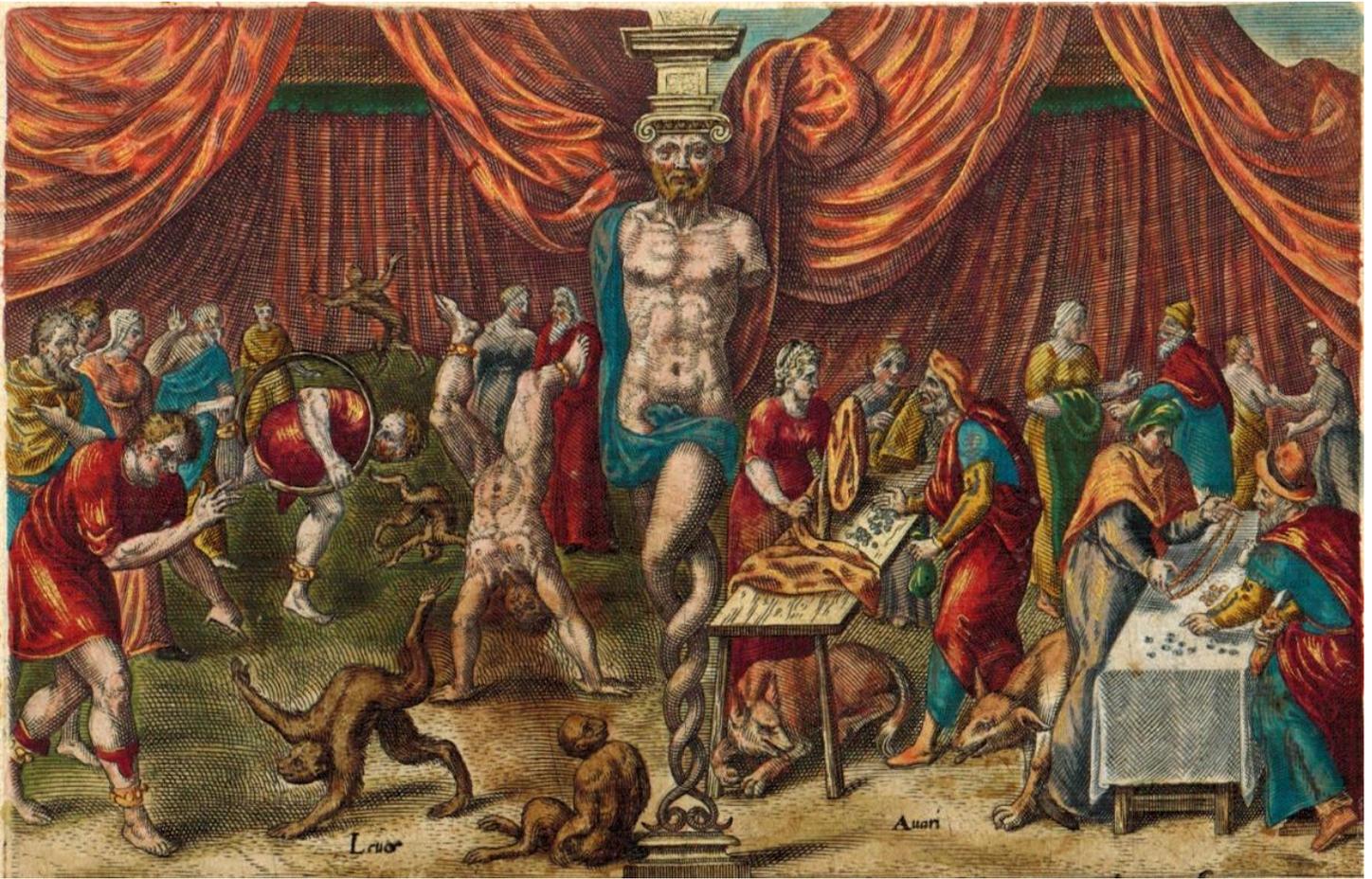
The document was evidently completed in 1540, although referring to the 1526 sale, and is signed by Giovanni Jacopo della Flore, *filius*, public notary, before Alessandro de' Albignomo, also public notary, on the 26<sup>th</sup> June 1540, with a handsome quadrilateral notarial signature on the left-hand margin of the final sheet. Finally, the verso (outside surface) of the first sheet

has been docketed, probably in a 16<sup>th</sup> century hand, in Italian with the date 1526 and a brief summary of the contents.

Please contact [info@editioaltera.com](mailto:info@editioaltera.com) for full-length descriptions and photos



**THE SACRED POETRY OF BENITO ARIAS MONTANO,  
RICHLY ILLUSTRATED BY 1570S ANTWERP ENGRAVERS**



**14. ARIAS MONTANO, Benito / GROENINGEN, Gerard van / WIERIX, Jan. (engr.).** *Humani Generis Amatori Deo Liberalissimo sac[rarum] Divinar[um] nuptiarum conventa et acta...* Antwerp: Anthonis Coppens Van Diest for Philips Galle, 1573. (28) [of 30] ff; [with] *Christi Iesu vitae admirabiliu[m]q[ue] actionum Speculum....* (52) ff. All 68 plates richly colored and highlighted in gold, probably in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. **\$4,500**

Rare first editions of two early suites issued from the press of the Phillips Galle (1537-1612), the product of collaboration with another key figure in the Low Countries Counter-Reformation: Benito Arias Montano, the Spanish humanist recently arrived from England. Montano contributed Latin distiches to caption the allegorical adventures of Sponsa, a mythical bride, on her way to celebrate a celestial marriage.

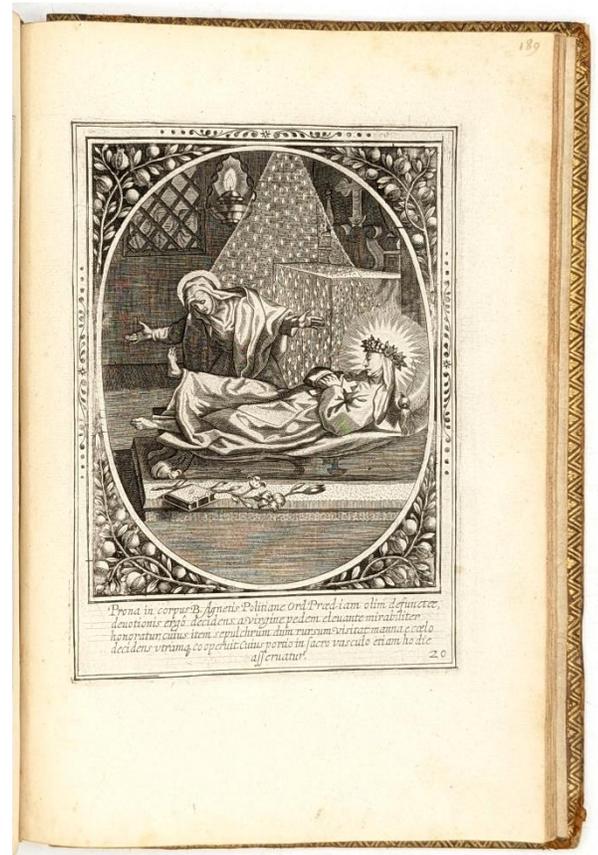
Montano (1527-1598) had arrived in Antwerp in 1568 after a difficult journey across Ireland and England, where he had hoped to shore up relations between Elizabeth and Philip II. In close collaboration with Christophe Plantin, he spent the next four years preparing the great Polyglot Bible for publication by the latter's press. Although something of a side-project, the present works in fact introduced a handful of iconographical novelties into the canon (eg. the epiphany at Gethsemane), in turn inspiring several plates in Nadal's celebrated *Adnotationes* (1593). Sylvaine Hänsel also sees the influence of Durer in the Wierix/Galle engravings, beginning with Adam and Eve on the title-page.

JHU holds a copy of the second series (lacking title and two plates); a later edition is held at the LC, NYPL, NG, Emory, and the Newberry.

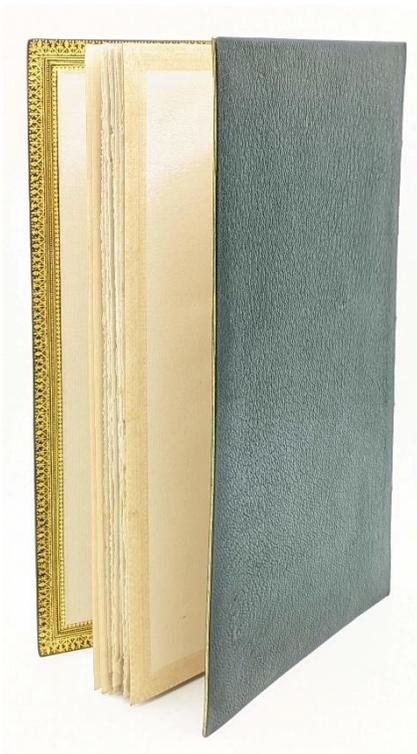
## 9 RICHLY-ENGRAVED SUITES, INCLUDING FOUR COMPLETE *VITAE*

**15. LEU, Thomas de / HALBEECK, Jan van / SWELINCK, Jan Gerrits (engrs.).** 9 engraved suites, comprising 202 plates in all. Paris: de Leu and others, 1599-1615. Folio, 18th century mottled calf with gilt title on spine, all edges gilt. **\$7,500**

Intriguing Sammelband of early 17<sup>th</sup>-century productions by a host of migrant Flemish engravers active in Paris. Due to their propensity for plagiarism (#s 1, 2, 5, and 9 are all copied after original Antwerp productions), the work of this group is often dismissed, and literature on their *oeuvre* is scarce. They are not found in Hollstein; a few suites are noted in the *Inventaire du Fonds français*; and four of the suites are unrecorded in OCLC. Including the *Vitae* (life and miracles) of Catherine of Sienna (#9), Francis of Paola (#6), Anthony of Padua (#7), and Raymond of Penafort (#8), alongside a catalogue of 31 martyrs of the early church (*Les Triomphes de l'Eglise Militante*, #1) and 23 specifically female martyrs (*Martyrologium Sanctarum Virginum*, #2).



## THE FIRST EDITION, BOUND IN GREEN MOROCCO BY RIVIÈRE



**16. DRYDEN, John.** *Religio laici or A Laymans Faith. A Poem.* London: Jacob Tonson, 1682. 8vo. (16), 28 pp. Crushed green morocco signed by Rivière, spine in compartments, gilt dentelles and title on spine. **\$850**

A magnificent, broad-margined copy of the first obtainable edition of Dryden's celebrated apology for his Anglican faith. England's first Poet Laureate would go on to publicly renounce his Protestantism five years later. The first edition, first issue is undated; the ESTC shows a single surviving copy at the Bodleian, and Macdonald was only able to trace one other example. This is the second issue.