

A BIBLIOGRAPHY
OF THE BOOKS

PUBLISHED BY

THE BOOK CLUB
OF CALIFORNIA

1993-2009

2010

THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA

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AN ESSAY BY GARY F. KURUTZ ON | A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF CALIFORNIA | AND THE PACIFIC WEST, 1510–1906 | BY ROBERT E. COWAN | WITH AN ORIGINAL LEAF FROM THE CLUB'S 1914 FIRST EDITION | SAN FRANCISCO | THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA | 1993

1993

10½ × 8. 64 pp. Second color (red) on full title page and first line of essay. Type Linotype Janson. Bound in paper on boards, printed linen spine with title inset on cover. Mylar jacket. 390 copies designed by Lewis Allen of The Allen Press. Printed by Anchor & Acorn Press of Petaluma; bound by Cardoza-James of San Francisco. Price \$55.00.

This book celebrates Cowan's pioneering California bibliography published in 1914. As the inaugural book in The Book Club of California's publication program, this landmark bibliography established many of the procedures and traditions that have guided the Club's publication program over the last seven decades. The history of Cowan's 1914 edition printed by Taylor, Nash, and Taylor and his enlarged 1933 edition printed by John Henry Nash is traced in an essay by Gary F. Kurutz. Each copy is accompanied by a leaf from the original 1914 edition and features portraits of Cowan and Nash.

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CHARLES & KATHLEEN NORRIS | THE COURTSHIP YEAR | RICHARD ALLAN DAVISON | THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA | SAN FRANCISCO 1993

1993

11 × 8. 172 pp. 16 pp. of black-and-white photos. Early 20th-century photographs in second color (light brown) on title page section dividers. Type Adobe Minion. Bound in full in red cloth on boards with title pasted on spine. 400 copies printed letterpress by W. Thomas Taylor and bound by Custom Bookbinders both of Austin, Texas. Price \$85.00.

This book tells the dramatic story of a crucial year in the lives of a young couple who would become the toast of San Francisco and New York and widely acclaimed and loved literary figures. Davison, a noted authority on the Norrises, has skillfully selected and edited the letters which Charles G. Norris and Kathleen Thompson exchanged daily from March 1908, until their marriage in April 1909, while she remained in San Francisco and he ventured to New York. Davison's introduction and running commentary provide important background and context and lend the letters the scope and pace of a novel.

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1994

PORTER GARNETT | PHILOSOPHICAL WRITINGS ON THE IDEAL BOOK | COMPILED BY JACK W. STAUFFACHER | THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA 1994

9 x 16. 256 pp. Second color (red) on title page, 43 historical photographs and line drawings. Type Cycles by Sumner Stone. Designed by Jack W. Stauffacher. Bound in full green Japanese cloth on boards with title pasted on spine and Mylar jacket. 450 copies printed by Phelps-Schaefer and bound by Cardoza-James, both of San Francisco. Price \$120.00.

San Francisco-born Porter Garnett (1871–1951) flourished in the city’s Bohemian circles. He was one of the originators of the celebrated literary magazine *The Lark*, wrote fresh and brilliant literary criticism for the *Pacific Monthly*, produced a Bohemian Grove play entitled “The Green Knight,” and established the famous Laboratory Press in 1922 at the then Carnegie Institute of Technology in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. This essential volume is the first complete book on Garnett. It presents his writings on typography and the art of the book, and the writings and views of other scholars on these topics.

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1994

THE VINEYARDS AND | WINE CELLARS OF CALIFORNIA | AN ESSAY ON EARLY CALIFORNIA WINEMAKING | BY THOMAS HARDY | FIRST PUBLISHED IN ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA, IN 1885 | EDITED AND WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY THOMAS PINNEY | AND A FOREWORD BY ROBERT MONDAVI | THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA | SAN FRANCISCO | 1994

12 1/2 x 9. 96 pp. Historic photographs and tipped in reproductions of wine industry trade cards and labels. Types Weiss and Albertus. Bound in paper-covered boards with printed decorations. Title pasted on spine, plain paper-covered slipcase. Type set at Anchor & Acorn Press, Petaluma, and the Yolla Bolly Press, Covelo, California. 450 copies printed by Phelps-Schaefer and bound by Cardoza-James, both of San Francisco. Price \$155.00.

Thomas Hardy recognized the potential of California’s vineyards over a century ago. Originally entitled *Notes on Vineyards in America and Europe*, and first published in Adelaide, Australia, in 1885, the text reprinted in this book reflects the author’s enthusiasm about the potential of the Napa Valley for becoming a major center for producing grapes and the wine derived from them. Hardy’s own experience as a planter, winemaker, and merchant served him well during his brief but remarkable twenty-day tour of California’s wine regions. Among other things, he describes how wine was sold in late 19th-century California, either directly as by Charles Krug, whose winery he visited, or through San Francisco merchants. Hardy’s figures do not indicate that riches were obtained through the wine trade at

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that point. The vintners, of course, prevailed, and Hardy’s account presents a wide variety of other interesting details about the “vineyards and cellars” of California in that period and what he saw as their potential.

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A WIDELY CAST NET | SELECTIONS FROM THE WORK OF A | VETERAN CALIFORNIA WRITER | CHOSEN WITH COMMENTS | BY THEIR AUTHOR: OSCAR LEWIS | WAYNE BONNETT | EDITOR | THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA | SAN FRANCISCO | 1996

1996

10 1/2 x 7 1/2. 136 pp. Second color (blue). 35 line illustrations. Tipped-in photograph of Lewis. Bound in white paper on boards with title printed on blue linen spine. 400 copies designed and printed by Susan Acker, Feathered Serpent Press and Anchor & Acorn Press, and bound by Cardoza-James of San Francisco. Price \$90.00.

Representing more than fifty years of writing, the book is important for anyone interested in California history, literature, and the career of Oscar Lewis (1893–1992), one of California’s outstanding historians and writers. Lewis also served for many years as the Secretary of The Book Club of California and established many of the programs that made the Club into a solid cultural institution. Included in the book are some of his short stories, excerpts from his books, humorous pieces, and comments on the books and writings of other authors. This is an altogether scintillating read.

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THE CALIFORNIA | GOLD RUSH | A DESCRIPTIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY OF BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS | COVERING THE YEARS 1848–1853 | BY GARY F. KURUTZ | INTRODUCTION BY J.S. HOLLIDAY | illustration | THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA | SAN FRANCISCO 1997

1997

10 1/2 x 6 3/4. 832 pp. Full color illustration of a title page of listed book. 32 black-and-white reproductions of other title pages. Type Adobe Caslon. Bound in full blue cloth. Gold stamped title and author on spine and decoration on cover. 1,000 copies produced by W. Thomas Taylor of Barksdale, Texas. Printed at Digital Letterpress and bound by Custom Bookbinders, both of Austin, Texas. Price \$150.00.

Eight years in the making, Kurutz’s bibliography consists of detailed descriptions of 1,126 issues and editions of 707 individual works including their collations and bindings and references consulted. Kurutz visited leading Gold Rush collections throughout the country, including important private collections. He included published diaries, journals, reminiscences, collections of letters, guide

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books, sermons, reports of mining companies, early directories with narrative accounts, satirical works, fiction written as fact, and novels contemporaneous with the 1848–1853 period.

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1997

A VOYAGE | ornament | TO CALIFORNIA, THE SANDWICH ISLANDS, & AROUND THE WORLD IN THE YEARS | 1826–1829 | BY AUGUSTE DUHAUTE-CILLY | TRANSLATED & EDITED BY AUGUST FRUGÉ AND NEAL HARLOW | ornament | SAN FRANCISCO, 1997 | THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA

10¾ × 8. 208 pp. Second color (blue) for chapter headings and three colors (blue, red, black,) for title page. Two tipped-in illustrations. Reproductions of 11 historic photographs. Type Monotype Walbaum. Bound in blue patterned paper on boards. Title pasted on red cloth spine, illustrated end papers. 350 copies designed and printed letterpress by Patrick Reagh. Illustrations printed offset by Singer Printing, Inc. Bound by Marianna Blau of A-1 Book Binding of Los Angeles. Price \$105.00.

A Breton sea captain, Duhaut-Cilly was possibly the first outlander to become intimately acquainted with Spanish California. He seems to have been trusted by the Catholic padres who, he said, “would never have discussed these matters with an American or an Englishman.” Printed nearly 70 years earlier in French and Italian and an incomplete English version in a journal, the Book Club’s is the first full publication in English. The captain sailed up and down the California coast from Fort Ross to Cabo San Lucas for nearly two years, visiting most of the missions, as well as all the ports, presidios, and pueblos.

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1998

vignette | ARTFUL DEEDS | IN THE LIFE OF THE FELON, GROVENOR LAYTON ... | A TALE OF THE CALIFORNIA GOLD RUSH | INTRODUCTION BY | RICHARD H. DILLON | ornament | THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA | SAN FRANCISCO, 1998

10½ × 7. 80 pp. Second color (red) on title page and initial letter for each chapter. Type Adobe Minion with Scala caps and Quadraat italic for display type. Bound in dark yellow Fabriano Ingres paper on boards decorated with maps of a Gold Rush mining area. Imported Japanese red cloth for spine with pasted title, gray paper-covered slipcase by Arnold Martinez. 350 copies designed and printed by Peter Koch of Berkeley. Illustrations printed offset by Phelps-Schaefer Company of Brisbane, California. Bound by Cardoza-James, San Francisco. \$85.00.

News of Marshall’s 1848 discovery of gold brought tens of thousands of men to California, rushing for riches. Among those who stayed behind were a number

of writers determined to cash in on the California craze. They penned purportedly true, but actually fictitious accounts of participation in the great adventure. Among the most authentic-seeming was the tale of Grovenor Layton, originally published in 1852. Layton was probably the pseudonym of the publisher A.R. Orton, but no trace of a Layton or Orton can be found in either Western history books or American literary biographies. The convincing, but false, story of Layton’s career of robbery, murder, and arson ends with his lynching in Sonora, California.

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ANOTHER | BOOK | THAT NEVER WAS | WILLIAM MORRIS, CHARLES GERE | THE HOUSE OF WOLFINGS | BY PETER STANSKY | ornament | THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA | SAN FRANCISCO | 1998

11 × 8. 56 pp. Title page with red and black ornamented border. Title printed over yellow background. 18 black-and-white illustrations. Type Cloister and Nicholas Cochin Black for display. Bound in brown decorated Fabriano paper over boards with iris cloth bound spine. Title on strip pasted in inset on spine. Designed by Christine Taylor, Wilsted & Taylor Publishing Services, Oakland, California. 350 copies printed at the Yolla Bolly Press, Covelo, California, and bound by Cardoza-James, San Francisco. Price \$85.00.

One of the most famous images associated with William Morris was Charles Gere’s drawing of Morris’s home, Kelmscott Manor. Morris asked Gere to illustrate his proposed prose romance *The House of Wolfings*, but that collaboration was more difficult and the book was never produced. The Book Club publication includes fourteen of Gere’s sketches and reproductions of two of Morris’s letters with his own sketches suggesting how Gere might proceed in illustrating the book.

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A TYPOGRAPHIC | JOURNEY | THE HISTORY OF THE GREENWOOD PRESS | AND BIBLIOGRAPHY, 1934–2000 | BY JACK WERNER STAUFFACHER | BIBLIOGRAPHY BY GLENN HUMPHREYS | THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA | 1999

10 × 8. 340 pp. 95 drawings and photographs. Second color (red) on title page. Type Cycles designed by Sumner Stone. Bound in dark Japanese green cloth with title printed in paper label inset on spine. Paper jacket with red letter G on front and title on spine. Four inserts printed in 3 colors (red, blue, black) and handset in Kis, Hunt Roman, and Univers types. Book designed by author. Printing by Phelps-Schaefer, Brisbane, California. Binding by Cardoza-James, San Francisco. Price \$95.00.

In this book, Stauffacher outlines his remarkable career of more than 60 years as a major printer and scholar at his Greenwood Press and many other settings.

1998

1999

He served four years at the Carnegie Institute of Technology as an assistant professor of typographic design and director of its New Laboratory Press. This appointment was followed by his three years as director of typography at the Stanford University Press. Upon his completion of that position in 1966, he revived his Greenwood Press in San Francisco. His press has published the works of many authors, including the more recent Eric Gill, Henry Miller, and Albert Camus and the more distant Goethe, Plato, and Horace. The book includes a bibliography of his oeuvre, the extent of which is astonishing.

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1999 COLIN FRANKLIN | EXPLORING JAPANESE | BOOKS AND SCROLLS | ornament | THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA | 1999

14 × 10. 167 pp. 93 full color plates of decorative motifs from Japanese books and scrolls. Type Goudy Scripps College Old Style by Sumner Stone, Charlemagne display type by Carol Twombly. Bound in full dark blue cloth on boards covered with multi-colored paper panels. Author and title pasted on spine. Paper slipcase and end papers, both with same abstract design in blue and gold. Designed by Jonathan Clark at the Artichoke Press, Mountain View, California. 450 copies. Lithography by Shoreline Printing, Mountain View. Binding and slipcase by Roswell Bookbinding, Phoenix, Arizona. Price \$150.00.

Franklin's subjects range from the earliest printed Buddhist charms to spectacular painted albums by artists famous and obscure, from popular illustrated volumes to maps, guides, and amusing English-language phrase books. The wide range of topics gives this book a unique place among works devoted to Japanese art. Franklin has drawn upon his own remarkable collection, the fruit of at least twenty-five journeys to Japan in as many years. He establishes that Japanese books and scrolls are visually delightful, approachable works that can be appreciated for their inherent artistic quality and beauty. The design of and illustrations in this book plus the authoritative text make it one of the finest of the Club's publications.

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2001 SPLENDIDE CALIFORNIE! | IMPRESSIONS OF THE GOLDEN STATE | BY FRENCH ARTISTS, 1786–1900 | CLAUDINE CHALMERS | FOREWORD BY JAMES MCCLATCHY | THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA | SAN FRANCISCO, 2001

13 × 10. 160 pp. 80 illustrations, mostly in full color. Type Garamond. Bound in full dark green cloth on boards with pasted title on spine and inset illustration on cover, light green paper slipcase. 450 copies designed and produced by the Yolla Bolly Press, Covelo, California. Typeset by Farris Graphics, Covelo. Printed off-set lithography and bound in South Korea by Yon Art Printing. Price \$160.00.

This celebration of French art in California spans the period of the earliest New World voyages of French sea captains with their complement of classically trained artists, draftsmen, and scientists, to the Franco-American children of French Gold

Rush artists, whose late nineteenth-century Impressionistic paintings forever married the artistic legacy of the two nations. This collection of 80 images, many of which appear in print for the first time, contains paintings, sketches, lithographs, and photographs that informed and intrigued the artistic and scientific worlds and ordinary people as well. Paired with the exquisite plates are biographical essays on twenty-eight of the artists.

› 2 I 3 ›

JOHN DE POL | A CATALOGUE RAISONNE | OF HIS GRAPHIC WORK | 1935–1998 | COMPILED AND EDITED | BY JAMES HOWARD FRASER AND ELEANOR FRIEDL | FOREWORD BY DONALD R. FLEMING | PREFACE BY JOHN DREYFUS | AND | A BIOGRAPHICAL ESSAY | BY CATHERINE TYLER BRODY | SAN FRANCISCO | THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA | 2001

2001

12 × 9. 166 pp. 89 illustrations scanned from wood engravings and printed offset (many two-color), decorated end papers from a pattern engraved by John De Pol. Type Adobe Caslon. Bound with red paper-covered boards with decoration and black cloth spine with title and author printed in white. Gray paper slipcase by John De Merritt. 400 copies designed and printed by James Wehlage at Tuscan Press, Novato, California. Bound at Cardoza-James, San Francisco. Price \$150.00.

This book is a tribute to the dean of American wood engravers with a biographical essay, catalogue raisonné, and many strikingly beautiful illustrations. De Pol began his artistic career as an etcher compiling a notable record in this medium. He later switched to wood engraving, where he achieved even greater renown. Many recognized him as one of the top wood engravers of his period. His engraved illustrations were widely published and shown in many exhibitions. Several fine printers have chosen him as the illustrator of their books, including Neil Shaver of the Yellow Barn Press and Lewis and Dorothy Allen of California's Allen Press. He has received many institutional awards for his work. The catalogue raisonné in the book is almost complete, as he continued to work through advanced age as the book was readied for publication. There was no stopping him. Starting with its cover, which displays one of De Pol's wood-engraved patterned papers, the book displays his exceptional artistry superbly.

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2001 JASPER O'FARRELL | SURVEYOR, FARMER, & POLITICIAN | BY GEOFFREY P. MAWN | INTRODUCTION BY CHARLES A. FRACCHIA | EDITED BY ROBERT J. CHANDLER | ornament | SAN FRANCISCO – THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA – 2001

9½ × 11. 106 pp. Eight pages of black-and-white photographs. Frontispiece a tipped-in color photograph of O'Farrell. Red, green, and black title page with green chapter headings. Type Monotype Walbaum with display in Grottesque. Bound in printed tan paper on boards with title printed on green linen spine. Plain paper dust jacket. 350 copies designed and printed by Patrick Reagh in Sebastopol, California. Bound by Marianna Blau of A-1 Bookbinding. Price \$65.00.

Arriving in Alta California in 1843, twenty-six-year-old Jasper O'Farrell (1817–1875) aborted a planned journey up the Columbia River and over the Rockies to accept an appointment as Surveyor General of land grants in what is now Northern California. His practice continued from Mexican to American rule. Under O'Farrell's direction almost all of the land grants north of San Francisco Bay were surveyed, as were the layouts for the cities of San Francisco, Benicia, and Stockton. Little was known about O'Farrell until a master's candidate at the University of San Francisco, Geoffrey Mawn (1947–1982), searched state and county records from land grants to court cases. The result was his thesis, finished in 1970. This thesis is the foundation of this book. Mawn conducted research on O'Farrell, publishing it in California historical periodicals. The later publications take precedence over the thesis as sources for the text of the present book.

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2002 DEAR MASTER | illustration | LETTERS OF GEORGE STERLING | TO AMBROSE BIERCE | 1900 – 1912 | EDITED WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY ROGER K. LARSON | THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA | SAN FRANCISCO | 2002

11 × 7¼. 264 pp. Ten duo-tone photographs and tipped-in facsimile of a letter. Type Minion for text and Greco Adornado for display. Bound in tan paper on boards with pasted title on red Japanese cloth spine. Green paper-covered slipcase by Arnold Martinez. Illustrated end papers and front cover. 350 copies designed, composed, and printed letterpress by Peter Koch Printers. Illustrations photolithographed by Susan Schaefer at Watermark Graphics. Bound by Cardoza-James, San Francisco. Price \$175.00.

California poet George Sterling (1869–1926) impressed the literary figures of his time more than he did the general public. He became an intimate correspondent with many of these literary figures, but the one who exercised the most influence on Sterling's art and reputation was the notable Ambrose Bierce (1842–1914). Through the letters in this book, which are published in their entirety and cover a span of twelve years, one is able to follow a major portion of

Sterling's poetic career, changes in both writers' lives, and the progressive changes in their relationship.

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AMEMOIR | OF BOOK DESIGN | 1969–2000 | BY JOE D'AMBROSIO | THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA | SAN FRANCISCO, 2003

2003

11 × 8. 224 pp. Four-color offset with 173 illustrations. Type Della Robbia, Updike's Michelangelo, Palatino, and Cooper Black. Bound in patterned paper and cloth over boards with title printed on spine. Mylar dust jacket. Edition of 350 written and designed by Joe D'Ambrosio. Printed by Lithotech, Inc., Phoenix, Arizona. Bound by Cardoza-James Bindery, San Francisco. Price \$175.00.

In this innovative and unusual and important artists' book, designer Joe D'Ambrosio utilizes a new and creative typography with roots in classical design. For his works, he writes as well as sets type, prints letterpress, creates original artwork, and binds books into unique structures that bring all the facets of book-making into one entity. This edition of D'Ambrosio's memoirs relates the how and why of his entire body of work. It reveals for the first time not only a new way of presenting a text block on the page but also revives a lost pagination technique which will help those who have a problem with turning too many leaves at a time. The illustrations are of the bindings and internal structures of his books and convincingly demonstrate the inspiration he has demonstrated in his more than 30 years as a major creator of beautiful artists' books.

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THE COLT SPRINGS HIGH | A PUBLISHING MEMOIR OF THE COLT PRESS | 1938–1942 | BY WILLIAM M. ROTH | THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA | SAN FRANCISCO, 2004

2004

10 × 6½. 232 pp. 36 unnumbered pages of illustrations, many in color. Type Kennerly. Bound in tan cloth on boards with title, author, and ornate decorations. Light brown cloth on spine with title and author. 500 copies designed, printed letterpress, and bound by the Arion Press in San Francisco. Price \$175.00.

This book tells the story of the first phase of the Colt Press, a remarkable literary publishing house. William Matson Roth, the financial backer of the undertaking, is the author of this charming and informative account of a publishing venture with Jane and Bob Grabhorn that was an adventure. The books, trade editions intended for the general reading public, were exuberant, as charming and varied in their dress as they were worthy in content. They were attractively designed, sometimes playfully presented, and were manufactured to high standards. Among the authors published in the Roth era were Edmund Wilson, Henry Miller, and Frank Norris. In 1942 Roth entered military service. World War II effectively ended his publishing partnership with Jane and Bob Grabhorn.

2004

RICHARD H. DILLON | NAPA VALLEY HEYDAY | WITH HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPHS BY CHARLES B. TURRILL | THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA SAN FRANCISCO 2004

12 ¼ × 10. 382 pp. 43 historical black-and-white photographs by Charles B. Turrill (1854–1927). Supplement, map 23 ¾ × 19 ¾, a four-color reproduction of 1881 original by M.G. King from the Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley. Type New Baskerville text; titles in red in Isabella, an 1892 Victorian display face. Bound in full linen cloth on boards with pasted title on spine and inset illustration on front cover. Mylar jacket. Design and typography by Jonathan Clark at the Artichoke Press, Mountain View, California. 450 copies lithographed by Shoreline Printing, Mountain View, and bound by Cardoza-James, San Francisco. Price \$175.00.

Grapevines and wineries do not tell the whole story of the Napa Valley, and this history covers the settlement of the region up to 1900, beginning with a description of its dramatic geography and topography. Resident Wappo and Patwin Indians were joined by mountain men from the Rockies and desert Southwest—George Yount, Jim Clyman, Old (Caleb) Greenwood, and others—who found the valley in the lee of Mount St. Helena to be a grizzly bear hunter’s paradise. Yount became a cattle rancher there in 1836. It was also Yount who pioneered the next phase of development, when wheat was king in California. Grain growers were eventually succeeded by horticulturists and, of course, viticulturists, starting with Charles Krug.

2005

KNIGHTS | OF THE LASH | THE STAGECOACH STORIES OF | MAJOR BENJAMIN C. | TRUMAN | drawing | EDITED WITH AN INTRODUCTION | BY GARY F. KURUTZ | SAN FRANCISCO | THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA | 2005

9 ¾ × 6 ½. 156 pp. 22 contemporary black-and-white illustrations of stagecoach scenes. Illustrated brown endpapers. Two color (blue and black) title page with illustration. Full-page reproductions from *Harper’s Monthly* appear opposite each chapter’s first page. Second color (blue) used throughout for titles and subheadings. Type Perpetua Titling and Centaur. Bound in cream paper-covered boards, title in gold on blue cloth spine and inset on cover. Mylar jacket. 350 copies printed by the Castle Press of Pasadena and bound by Marianna Blau of A-1 Bookbinding, Los Angeles. Price \$85.00.

While not as famous as contemporary chroniclers of Western travel like Mark Twain, Truman wrote with a vibrancy that brought to life these “Napoleons of the Road.” His sprightly articles captured their close scrapes and disasters, their encounters with highwaymen, their endurance of querulous passengers, and their phenomenal skill and stamina as they navigated over all manner of terrain rang-

ing from snow-bound passes to dust-choked desert roads. Often filled with humor and sarcasm, Truman’s writings nonetheless displayed a true reverence for these Western whips.

geometric design | WPA FEDERAL | ART PROJECT | PRINTMAKING IN | CALIFORNIA 1935 – 43 | ELIZABETH SEATON | THE BOOK CLUB | OF CALIFORNIA | SAN FRANCISCO | 2005

2005

12 ¾ × 8 ¾. 140 pp. Preface by Clinton Adams. 48 reproductions of California FAP prints, some with two to four colors. Four photographs of the artists at work and two smaller reproductions of prints. Type Minion with Metro Gothic display. Bound in full blue cloth on boards with Mylar jacket. Decoration on front cover. Identification Guide to FAP numbering system. Designed and typeset by Patrick Reagh of Sebastopol, California. Printed offset by Yon Art Printing of South Korea. Title page printed letterpress in four colors (red, black, yellow, blue) by Patrick Reagh. 450 copies. Price \$175.00.

Most of the literature on the Federal Arts Project’s support of printmaking concerns the New York program. Working from a reassessment of the modernist perspective and social consciousness of Depression-era art, Elizabeth Seaton presents an invaluable mass of information, much of it previously unknown on the technical, stylistic, political, and social conditions in which the FAP printmakers of California worked. Among the major artists supported by this project were Paul Landacre and Mallette Dean. Included are reproductions of 48 major prints, notes on the 49 artists represented (two worked on one of the prints), a biographical dictionary of all 177 FAP printmakers, and a bibliography of her primary and secondary sources.

JOHN IGNATIUS BLEASDALE: | A FRIEND OF WINE | IN NEW WORLDS | illustration | THOMAS PINNEY | THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA | SAN FRANCISCO | 2006

2006

10 × 7. 82 pp. 20 illustrations, 15 historical black-and-white photographs and five original line drawings in second color (purple) by Rik Olson, Sebastopol. Type Janson. Bound in full red cloth with author’s name pasted on spine. Designed by Bruce Washbish of The Anchor & Acorn Press, Petaluma. Composed by Joseph Halton, Colfax. 250 copies printed letterpress and offset by Eric Holub of Hillside Press, San Francisco, and bound by Marianna Blau, of A-1 Bookbinding, Los Angeles. Price \$70.00.

The Reverend John Ignatius Bleasdale, D.D., although an unlikely figure in the history of California wine, was a large presence in it during the few years that he lived and worked in this state. He was a Catholic priest, teacher, administrator,

clubman, scientist, government agent, and—not least—an adviser to pioneer wine-makers. The main subject of his account is his involvement in wine making. What needed to be done in regions new to winemaking? Where could winemakers find help? How could they hope to find any sort of market? These and other questions are the sort that Bleasdale sought to answer, first in Australia, where he became a leading authority, and afterwards in California.

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2007

ROBERT GREENWOOD | ornament | A VALIANT ENTERPRISE | A HISTORY OF THE TALISMAN PRESS, 1951–1993 | PRINTERS, PUBLISHERS, AND ANTIQUARIAN BOOKSELLERS | THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA | 2007

11 x 7. 384 pp. Preface by Richard Dillon. Seven black-and-white historical photographs and reproductions. Type Cycles designed by Sumner Stone. Bound in full green cloth with stamped title and author on spine, plain paper jacket. Designed by Jack Stauffacher of the Greenwood Press of San Francisco. 350 copies printed by Hatcher Press and bound by Roswell Book Bindery. Price \$150.00.

The remarkable history of California's important Talisman Press is intertwined with the lives of its principals, Robert Greenwood and his longtime partner, Newton Baird. The Press emerged from two major aspects of author Greenwood's life. First was his development as an accomplished printer and second was his beginning as a poet and the extension of that literary interest to an absorption in the printing and publishing of California and Western Americana. Greenwood initially printed the books himself. Eventually he ceased being the printer and he and partner Baird had their books printed commercially. Among the important Talisman Books was *California Imprints, 1833–1862, A Bibliography*, edited by Greenwood and published in 1961. *A Valiant Enterprise* includes a supplement to this bibliography with 235 items not in the original.

They eventually ceased their publishing business. By that time they had established themselves in an important bookselling operation dealing in Western Americana and Californiana and working with first-rate libraries, major collectors, and other important booksellers. Their activities in this business lend themselves to another fascinating tale.

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2008

surrounding pictorial border | JAMES WELD TOWNE | PIONEER | SAN FRANCISCO PRINTER, | PUBLISHER, & PAPER | PURVEYOR | BY | BRUCE L. JOHNSON | ornament | SAN FRANCISCO | THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA | 2008

10 x 7. 230 pp. 31 black-and-white and color illustrations. Type Monotype Garmond. Bound in full paper colored cloth over boards with title printed in red on

spine. 275 copies designed, typeset, and printed by Patrick Reach in Sebastopol, California. Price \$125.00.

This in-depth study of Towne (1829–1917) describes one of San Francisco's most influential commercial printers during the period 1853–68. Whether job, periodical or book work, Towne and his partners produced an enormous volume of printed material as San Francisco increasingly grew to be a major city. A list of the large number and variety of the 'Towne partnerships' imprints (including periodicals and newspapers) is appended.

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illustration | CALIFORNIA IN RELIEF | THIRTY WOOD ENGRAVINGS BY | RICHARD WAGENER | THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA | SAN FRANCISCO 2009

2009

12 1/2 x 7 1/2. 88 pp. Introduction by Victoria Dailey. Edition of 300 numbered and signed by the artist. Design of book and text and display printing by Peter Rutledge Koch. Wood engravings printed by the artist. Title page in red and black with engraving. Type DTL Elzevir. Bound in tan paper over boards with illustration on cover. Title printed on paper inset in dark green cloth spine. Binding by BookLab II, reddish-brown paper-covered slipcase by Cloverleaf Studio. Price \$375.00.

One of the leading American wood engravers, Richard Wagener has created a visual account of his wanderings throughout California in this lavish new work. In thirty original prints and short prose pieces describing them, Wagener chronicles a journey that begins and ends in Los Angeles with stops in the San Jacinto Mountains, the Antelope Valley, Sonoma County, and the Sierra Nevada. Like John Muir and Gary Snyder, Richard Wagener is an epic explorer, observer, and interpreter of California.

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JAMES MASON HUTCHINGS | OF | YO SEMITE | A BIOGRAPHY AND BIBLIOGRAPHY | ornament | BY | DENNIS KRUSKA | SAN FRANCISCO | THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA | 2009

2009

13 x 9. 344 pp. 208 illustrations, some in color. Type Van Dijk. Bound in green cloth on boards with black cloth spine. Title printed in color on paper and inset on front cover. Title and author in gold on spine. Decorated end papers in color. Designed and printed in a four-color lithographic process by Castle Press of Pasadena. Bound by Marianna Blau of A-1 Bookbinding in Los Angeles. Price \$275.00.

James Mason Hutchings was directly responsible for the spread of information on Yosemite's astonishing scenic wonders and dedicated much of his life to preserving the Valley.

This book tells his gripping story in its entirety. In 1855, following his visit

with one of the earliest tourist parties to Yosemite, Hutchings published the first views of the Valley to reach the outside world, and by the early 1860s, this adventurer and entrepreneur also managed one of the first hotels there. He became Yosemite's most prolific author and leading advocate for Yosemite tourism, and his efforts shaped the future of this sublime place.

The book provides a detailed, illustrated examination of Hutchings's life, his tireless methods of promoting Yosemite and his influence on nineteenth-century California literature. The biography synthesizes information from diverse sources and presents additional information not previously published. By tying these sources together with anecdotal writings from authors and travelers on the scene during the Hutchings years, the author has built a compelling narrative, with much new material on Hutchings's Yosemite hotel-keeping activities, his travels, and his legal fight to preserve his Yosemite land claims.

In addition, the book contains a bibliography that provides an annotated listing of all known Hutchings's publications and those he influenced. Most items in the bibliography are illustrated and some of them have never before been reproduced.

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2009

LET'S PLAY | BY | THE GEARHARTS | THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA 2009

11½ × 10. 48 pp. 25 multi-color plates including one foldout plate. Loose print suitable for framing. ("The Lost Balloon") 11 verses. Bound in tan paper over boards with title and names of authors in three colors on label pasted on front cover. Brown cloth spine with title and authors stamped in gold. Tan dust jacket with title, authors, and modified three-color version of the loose print. Designed by Janine Vigus. Afterword by Victoria Dailey. Note on the Gearhart printing technique by Susan Futterman. 1,000 copies printed by Typecraft, Wood, and Jones, Pasadena, California. Price \$75.00.

In 1929, Pasadena artists and sisters Frances, May, and Edna Gearhart created a children's book illustrated with their original linoleum cuts and descriptive verses. It was not published. Eighty years later The Book Club of California has now brought the first edition of this charming work into publication.

Frances Gearhart (1869–1958) became the leading color woodcut artist in California during her lifetime, renowned for her dramatic landscape views of mountains, desert, and shore. Her use of saturated color, her sense of composition and her use of outline reflect her interest in Japanese prints. This series of children at play in our book combines Gearhart's artistic sensibilities with a subject she knew well from her years of teaching. May Gearhart (1872–1951), a leading practitioner of the color etching, was the Supervisor of Art in the Los Angeles City School system, while Edna Gearhart (1879–1974), who was skilled at drawing, taught art at Los Angeles High School.

During the 1920s, all three sisters worked together in the gallery, where they offered their own prints and exhibited the work of leading international printmakers—the Gearharts were at the center of the printmaking world of Southern California.