The First English Edition of 'Les Misérables'

1. Les Misérables
Hugo, Victor [original text by] ; Wilbour, Chas. E. [translated by].
The first American edition (and the first edition in English) of Victor Hugo’s classic novel, complete in five volumes. The first French edition, published on April 4th, 1862, was an instant hit. It was translated into English in the same year, and received a similarly enthusiastic reception in America and Britain.

Original boards, in differing colours, as usual, with some wear and fraying to extremities. Volumes 1-3 sunned. Small sticker to upper board of volume 1. Occasional minor stains and foxing to text. Stain to textblock edge of volume 4. Tear to one advertising leaf and one other leaf edge in volume 3. One or two pencil notes to text. Very good. 5 v., complete.

US$3,375 €3,050

2. Mujuō (壊準備)
Hugo, Victor [original text by] ; Kuroiwa, Ruikō [translated by] ; Kajita, Hanko [illustrated by].
A complete two-volume set of the first complete Japanese translation of 'Les Misérables', titled “Oh, Misery!”, consisting of the original translated parts serialised in the newspaper ‘Yorozu Chōhō’ from Meiji 35 to 36 [1902-1903]. The text has been adapted for a Japanese audience, and thus characters and places have been given Japanese names. Each volume contains one colour offset-printed plate by Kajita Hanko. The first complete Japanese translation of this classic French novel.

Original boards, discoloured with white and brown marks, wear to edges. Slight fraying to spine head and foot. Discolouration and foxing to texts due to age. Loss to colophon of first volume. Lacking original dust jackets. Very good to near fine. 2 v., complete. 282, 252 p. 21.6 x 14.8 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$1,350 €1,250

The First Complete Japanese Translation of 'Les Misérables'

3. Godai-shi-chū: Kaitei Ryokō
Verne, Jules [original text by] ; Ohira, Sanji [translated by] ; Hattori, Seiichi [corrected by].
The first Japanese translation of Jules Verne’s classic science fiction novel ‘Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea’ published under that title, complete in two volumes and with numerous black and white illustrations. This translation by Ohira Sanji was published 7 months after the first Japanese translation (titled ‘Sixty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea’). Considering that Japanese translations of western classics in the Meiji period were typically published several decades after the original, this translation was produced fairly quickly. Translations of Verne’s works are now credited with being at least partially if not wholly responsible for introducing the genre of science fiction to Japan. The translation of ‘Twenty Thousand Leagues’ was particularly notable for introducing a style typical of pulp science fiction to Japan. Many science fiction novels by Japanese authors published after Verne’s translations strongly bore his influence, like Shunro Oshikawa’s famous ‘Undersea Warship’ series.

Original boards, lightly soiled. Ex-ownership stamp to first page of v.1. Each volume includes 12 leaves of black and white illustrations (including one duplicate). 2 v., complete. 223 + 7, 262 p. 18.2 x 12.2 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$2,450 €2,200

The First Japanese Translation of ‘Voyages et Aventures du Capitaine Hatteras’

4. Hokkyoku Ryokō: Banri Zetsuiki
Verne, Jules [original text by] ; Fukuda, Naohiko [translated by].
Tokyo: Shun'yōdō, Meiji 20 [1887]. First ed.
The first Japanese translation of celebrated French author Jules Verne’s ‘Voyages et Adventures du Capitaine Hatteras’, illustrated with eleven leaves of black and white images. The story was inspired by the expedition of English explorer John Franklin, who disappeared on his last North Pole expedition in 1847.

Original boards, a little chipped and worn. Occasional ex-ownership stamps, otherwise near fine. 2 v., complete. 272, 225 p. 18.4 x 14.2 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$1,625 €1,450

The First Japanese Translation of Zola’s ‘Nana’

5. Joya Nana
Zola, Émile [original text by] ; Nagai, Kafū [translated by] ; Hirafuku, Hyakusui [cover design by].

Original wrappers, a little soiled, one small tear to lower wrapper. Old binding holes visible and some loss to spine. Faint ex-library stamp to wrappers. Occasional minor foxing and discolouration to text. Light stains to gutter of last few pages. Otherwise very good. 1 v., complete. 177, 37 p. 21.4 x 14.1 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$1,625 €1,450

An Early Japanese Translation of Jules Verne’s ‘Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea’

The first Japanese translation of Jules Verne’s classic science fiction novel ‘Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea’ published under that title, complete in two volumes and with numerous black and white illustrations. This translation by Ohira Sanji was published 7 months after the first Japanese translation (titled ‘Sixty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea’). Considering that Japanese translations of western classics in the Meiji period were typically published several decades after the original, this translation was produced fairly quickly. Translations of Verne’s works are now credited with being at least partially if not wholly responsible for introducing the genre of science fiction to Japan. The translation of ‘Twenty Thousand Leagues’ was particularly notable for introducing a style typical of pulp science fiction to Japan. Many science fiction novels by Japanese authors published after Verne’s translations strongly bore his influence, like Shunro Oshikawa’s famous ‘Undersea Warship’ series.

Original boards, lightly soiled. Ex-ownership stamp to first page of v.1. Each volume includes 12 leaves of black and white illustrations (including one duplicate). 2 v., complete. 223 + 7, 262 p. 18.2 x 12.2 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$2,450 €2,200
6. ‘La Petite Sirene’

Andersen, Hans Christian [original text by] ; Monnier, Marie [illustrated by] ; Perdrieux, Marcel [handwritten by].

An original work by Marcel Perdrieux and French artist and embroider Marie Monnier (1894-1976) (sister of bookseller, writer and publisher Adrienne Monnier (1892-1955)). The text, completely handwritten and decorated by Perdrieux in Paris in December of 1948, includes 12 leaves of charming hand-painted watercolour illustrations by Monnier, each either signed or initialed by her. The title page records the publisher as ‘Georges Guillot, Éditeur, 7, Rue Perronet, Paris’, perhaps indicating there were plans to publish the book. A page before the start of the text records (in French) that ‘the twelve aquarelles of Marie Monnier which illustrate Andersen’s ‘Little Mermaid’ make this a unique and original copy, these originals never having been reproduced before’. The second sentence reads ‘this book was made especially for’, but a place for the name has been left blank. Monnier was a friend of Paul Valery, wife of Paul-Émile Bécat, and mistress of Léon-Paul Glaud, whose work ‘Les Ludions’ she illustrated. A charmingly illustrated and hand-decorated copy of a classic children’s tale.

Original French softcover folder, lightly foxed, title in blue to upper wrapper. Signatures loosely inserted into folder. Some pages slightly foxed. Comes with original box, title stenciled to spine, hinges worn and cracked. 1 v., complete. 70 loose pages, including 12 leaves of illustrations. 32.4 x 25.3 cm. Text in French.

US$88,050   €7,200

7. ‘Fables Choisis de J. P. Claris de Florian’

Barboutau, Pierre [under the direction of] ; Kajita, Hanko, Kanō, Tomonobu, Kubota, Tōsui [illustrated by].


Original wrappers, lightly soiled, chips to spines. Foiling and discolouration to upper wrapper of volume 1, light discolouration and small hole to lower wrapper of volume 2. Textblock edges slightly foxed, minor creases to corners, but overall very good. Stab-bound. Plain paper. 2 v., complete. 18 leaves to each volume. 24.5 x 14.3 cm. Text in French.

US$1,895   €1,700

8. ‘Chōgenjitshu Shugi no Koryū: L’Echange Surréaliste’

Yamanaka, Chirru [edited by] ; Shimozato, Yoshio [box and cover design by].

A collection of surrealist texts by Japanese and Western authors, inscribed by the editor to famous artist Tsuguharu Foujita. Dadamism and Surrealism were received with shock and amazement in Japan in the 1930s, and Japanese literature and art were greatly affected. This book contains poems and texts by artists and writers influential in Japan at the time: ‘Poèmes’ by Shūzō Takiguchi (on artists like Dali and Man Ray). ‘L’Internationalisation des Idées Surréalistes’ by Yamanaka, ‘Discours au Congrès des Écrivains’ and ‘Par Définition’ by André Breton (translated into Japanese by Takiguchi and Yamanaka respectively), ‘L’Évidence Poétique’ by Paul Eluard (translated by Ashinosawa Kakuzō), ‘Poèmes’ and ‘Une Défense Armée’ by Gisèle Prassinos (translated by Fujiwara Seiichi and Yanagi Ryo respectively), ‘Poèmes’ by Benjamin Péret (translated by Yamanaka), and an extract from ‘Abêté de la Nuit’ by Tristan Tzara (translated by Takiguchi).

This book contains ‘writings that Eluard and Breton sent to editor Toba Shigeru, some of which were thus printed in Japanese translation before their publication in France... [the book] also contained drawings received directly from the artists (unlike earlier Japanese surrealist journals, which reproduced cuts from German and French magazines without permission)’; ‘Fault Lines: Cultural Memory and Japanese Surrealism’, Sas, 1999. The text contains illustrations by Arp, Breton, Bellmer, Dali, Ernst, Valentine Hugo, Man Ray, Stryinsky, Toyen, and Tanguy. This text is extremely scarce, with only one copy located in Japanese library databases. In addition, this particular copy is one-of-a-kind, inscribed on the endpaper by Tiroux Yamanaka (Yamanaka Chiruu) and Japanese painter Yoshio Shimozato to Tsuguharu Foujita while the famous artist was in France. The inscription reads ‘À notre ami lointain T. Fujita, Hommage de Tiroux Yamanaka, Simozat.’. A scarce record of a collaboration between Japanese and Parisian Surrealists.

Original boards, very lightly soiled, small stain and some browning to spine. Comes with original slipcase, browned and with some small stains, a tear, and a loss to a small piece of the lower board. Light occasional foxing and discolouration to text due to age. Overall very good to near fine. 1 v., complete. 86 p. + 13 leaves of plates. 22 x 15.2 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$88,050   €7,200

9. ‘Mahometto Den’ (馬哈默德傳)

Prideaux, Humphrey [original text by] ; Hayashi, Tadasu [translated by].

The first Japanese book on the life of the prophet Muhammad, drawn from Prideaux’s ‘The True Nature of Imposture Fully Display’d in the Life of Mahomet’ (1697) and translated into Japanese by Hayashi Tadasu, later to become Japan’s minister for Foreign Affairs. The books are probably different printings as they have slightly different formats and wrappers in differing colours. Nevertheless rare as a full two-volume set.

Original wrappers, fukuzutoji bindings. Binding of volume 2 creased and generally worn, with one or two small holes to upper wrapper. Minor occasional light stains/marks to text of both volumes. 2 v., complete. 88, 47 leaves. 22.1 x 14.9 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$2,450   €2,200
Onchi’s Seminal Album – “The Sensation of Flight”

10. Hikō Kannō (飛行官能)
Onchi, Kōshirō [book design, text, and illustrations by] ; Kitahara, Tetsuo … [et al.] [photography by].
On the 24th of July, 1927, engaged by the Osaka Asahi Newspaper Company to record their experiences, book designer and graphic artist Onchi Kōshirō and poet Kitahara Hakushū made a much-publicised flight. The result of the event was Onchi’s poetry-album, “Hikō Kannō”, created to capture the emotions he felt during the experience. By mixing photographs taken by the newspaper company and Kitahara Tetsuo (Kitahara Hakushū’s younger brother) with his own poems and self-made abstract woodblock-prints, Onchi created a revolutionary collage scholars now describe as a ‘seminal work in book design in Japan’ (“Guide to Modern Japanese Woodblock Prints: 1900-1975”, Merrit, 1995). Onchi’s rarest book, complete in its original card slipcase.
Original boards, very lightly worn, minor discolouration to spine and lower board. Light discolouration to page and endpaper edges. Ex-libris (8.4 x 5.5 cm) to verso of front free endpaper. Comes with original card slipcase, spine lightly discoloured, slight wear to extremities. Near fine. 1 v., complete. 16 leaves. 26.2 x 19 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$24,500 €22,000

11. Nihon no Kami: Higashi Nihon-hen, Nishi Nihon-hen (日本の紙 東日本篇・西日本篇)
Gotō, Seikichirō.
A complete set of this classic text on the handmade papers of Japan, by famous washi craftsman Gotō Seikichirō. In volume one Gotō describes the washi papermaking techniques and paper production villages of northeastern Japan, while in the second volume he describes those of western Japan. Alongside Gotō’s descriptions, in English and Japanese, the books contain tipped-in stencil-dyed prints on washi by the author himself and a total of 64 real samples of handmade paper from the papermaking villages described. One of a limited edition of 200 sets, with each volume signed and numbered by the author in brush and ink.
Original colour stencil-dyed wrappers. Slipcase, wrappers, and page extremities of volume 1 (on northeastern Japan) with occasional foxing. Very minor damage to right-hand edge of upper wrapper of volume 1. Wrappers of volume 2 (on western Japan) lightly foxed, a few light scrapes to slipcase. Overall very good to near fine. 2 v., complete. 98, 78 leaves. 42.5 x 26 cm. Text in Japanese and English.

US$1,895 €1,700

A Trip Around Japanese Papermaking Villages, by Gotō Seikichirō

12. Kami no Tabi (紙の旅)
Gotō, Seikichirō.
An important record of Japanese papermaking areas, the history and evolution of washi (Japanese handmade paper), and the process of papermaking. The book was made by famous washi craftsman Gotō Seikichirō during the decline of Japan’s papermaking villages and studios. The descriptions are accompanied by many full-page stencil-dyed prints on washi by Gotō. This book is one of a limited edition of 300 copies, and includes 12 real samples of washi made in some of the villages.
Original wrappers, upper wrapper foxed. Slight foxing to first and last few leaves and occasionally to text. Otherwise near fine. Comes in original slipcase and original shipping box. 1 v., complete. 146 p. + 12 leaves of washi paper samples. 33.4 x 44 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$1,350 €1,250
**A Japanese Film Poster for ‘Secrets of the Orient’**

13. `Toyo no Himitsu` (東洋の秘密)

[Osaka]: Shōchikuzu, ca. 1930s.

‘Toyo no Himitsu’, or ‘Secrets of the Orient’, was a 1928 German-French silent film directed by Alexandre Volkoff and starring Marcella Albani, Nikolai Kolin, Ivan Petrovich and Dimitri Dimitriev. Volkoff, whose films were highly regarded in Japan, was a Russian film director who was exiled to France by the Imperial Russian government.

Colour printed, possibly by silk-screen. Chipping to extremities, one or two small stains, pin holes to lower corners. Creases, tear to upper right joint of paper and hanger and two tears to left side at creases. Some tape repairs to recto. Very good. 1 leaf, complete. 60 x 45 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$540 €495


14. `Ōgon no Sekai e / Tarumajji no Binbō Chōja / Shin Sekai Dansu`

(黄金の世界へ／タルマッチの貧乏長者／新世界ダンス)

Osaka: Shinsekai Shōchikuza, ca. 1930s.

A quintessential Japanese 1930s film poster combining an Art Deco style with ‘kinema moji’ (cinema-text) typography. `Ōgon no Sekai e`, or ‘The Trail of ’98’, was a 1928 American silent film directed by Clarence Brown and starring Dolores del Rio and Harry Carey. `Tarumajji no Binbō Chōja`, or ‘The Poor Millionaire’ was a 1930 film directed by George Melford and starring Richard Talmadge, and `Shin Sekai Dansu` was a young women’s revue run by the Shōchiku, a famous theatre company based in Osaka. The portrait in the poster shows Dolores del Rio in her role as ‘Berna’ in ‘The Trail of ’98’.

Colour printed. Lighly creased, small tear to upper right joint of paper and hanger. A few small rust stains, stamp of the screening cinema to lower extremity. Otherwise very good to near fine. 1 leaf, complete. 63 x 28 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$805 €720

**A Japanese Film Poster for ‘Bulldog Drummond’ and ‘Circus Rookies’**

15. `Burudokku Doramondo / Ore wa Kyokugeishi`

(ブルドック・ドラモンド／俺は遊撃師)

Osaka: Dōtonbori, Bentenza, ca. 1930s.

An Art Deco poster designed by ‘Kohzoo Yamanaka’ for the screenings of two foreign films in Osaka in the 1930s. ‘Bulldog Drummond’ was a 1929 American film directed by E. Richard Jones and starring Ronald Colman, and ‘Ore wa Kyokugeishi’, or ‘Circus Rookies’, was a 1928 comic film, now lost, directed by Edward Sedgwick and starring Karl Dane. The portrait on the poster is believed to be of Ronald Colman as Hugh "Bulldog" Drummond.

Colour printed. Lighly creased, one small tear to left edge. Very minor discolouration to extremities. Near fine. 1 leaf, complete. 62 x 29 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$440 €495

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**A Japanese Film Poster for ‘Daybreak in the Mist’**

16. `Kiri no Naka no Akebono`

Tokyo: Shōchikuzinema, 1930.


Shimizu was a friend and colleague of famous Japanese director Ozu Yasujirō, and directed over 160 films during his lifetime, many of which were modernist, like those directed by Ozu.

Offset colour printed. Small pin holes at head and foot, small mark to upper left-hand corner, otherwise near fine. 1 leaf, complete. 53.5 x 37.5 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$1,225 €1,125

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**A Japanese Film Poster for ‘Show Boat’ and ‘Asphalt’**

17. `Shō Bōto / Asufaruto`

(Tóyō no Himitsu, or ‘Secrets of the Orient’, was a Russian film director who was exiled to France by the Imperial Russian government.

A 1930s poster for a Tokyo cinema showing a double-feature of foreign films: ‘Show Boat’, a 1929 American film directed by Harry A. Pollard and starring Edna Ferber, and ‘Asphalt’, a 1929 German silent film directed by Joe May and starring Betty Amann. As film posters in Japan in the 1930s were generally produced by film distribution companies, many were published in large quantities, making most quite scarce.

Printed in two colours, possibly by silk-screen. Lightly creased. Discolouration to head. Near fine. 1 leaf, complete. 61.3 x 29 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$340 €315

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**Poster of Entertainer Kikuta Daijirō, by Ch. Levy, Paris**

18. ‘Imperial Japanese’

Paris: Affiches Americaines, Ch. Levy, [ca. 1880s].

A lithographically-printed poster of Kikuta Daijirō, a Japanese juggler who is known to have performed in the Netherlands in 1888 as ‘Kikuta Dajirō’ and at the Middlesex Music Hall, ‘Mogul Tavern’, in London as part of the ‘Grand Christmas Company’ on December 24th, 1888, under the name ‘Kikuta Dizzaro’. His movements in Paris, however, have been impossible to trace, probably due to the ever-changing spelling of his name. Japanese juggling troupes became extremely popular abroad in the 1860s thanks to the Japanese circus troupe (the original ‘Imperial Japanese’) of Professor Risley. Charles Levy was one of the most famous poster printers of Paris in the 1870s and 1880s, when Japonisme was at its height in Europe. The name Kikuta Daijirō has been pasted over the original name printed on the fan - again probably due to a misprint in the spelling of his name. Fine, and an important and attractive record of the Japanese circus boom overseas in the 1860s-80s.

Mounted on fabric. 1 leaf, complete. 57 x 40.8 cm.

US$2,700 €2,450
A Set of Three Pamphlets for the ‘Normandie’

19. ‘Normandie’
Wilquin, Andre, Sebille, Albert ... [et al.] [illustrated by].
Ca. 1935.

A set of three pamphlets designed by Andre Wilquin, Albert Sebille, etc., for the French ship the ‘Normandie’. At the time of publication the Normandie was the largest and fastest ship in the world. In 1942 it capsized after some life jackets caught fire and the ship caught ablaze. Three original guidebooks which trace the unfortunate fate of the legendary luxury passenger ship. Two of the pamphlets include a folding diagram of the ship. Rare in nice condition.

3.5 x 20 cm, 31.2 x 22.8 cm, 31.2 x 13 cm. Text in English.

US$1,025 €665

A Poster of Famous Sumo Wrestlers

A Rare Large-Format Edition of Sekisui’s World Map

21. ‘Chikyū Bankoku Sankai Yochi Zenzusetsu’
Nagakubo, Sekisui. Naniwa [Osaka]: Asano [Fujiya] Yahé, ca. late 1790s to early 1800s.

A rare edition of one of the earliest Japanese-made world maps, by famous Edo period geographer and Confucian scholar Nagakubo Sekisui (1717-1801). The map was based on that of Italian Jesuit priest Matteo Ricci (1552-1610), one of the founding figures of the Jesuit China missions. Ricci’s original world map in Chinese characters was published in 1602 and introduced the findings of European exploration to East Asia. Sekisui, considered by many scholars to be the founder of Japanese geography, first published his large Japanese edition of Ricci’s map (one of the first in Japan to use longitude lines), with corrections, in around 1785. Several different versions of the map have been recorded, and while numerous sources state that issues by Osaka-based publisher Asano are from around 1785, the Asano issue with no date and no other publisher names carved into the woodblock is considered by Japanese scholars to be the second edition of the map (and of the first of the Asano editions), and is believed to have been published in the late 1790s or early 1800s. In any case, all editions of the map in this large format (92 x 163.4 cm) are rare. A scarce and early large-format edition of Sekisui’s most famous work, woodblock-printed in black and carefully hand-coloured. Re-backed. Small tears to creases, extremely minor loss to some areas due to wormholing. Overall near fine. 1 leaf, complete. 92 x 163.4 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$10,800 €7,500

Peking Dream Pillow – an Opium-Smoking Gulliver

22. ‘Pekin Yume Makura’
Imaizumi, Ippyō [illustrated by].
Tokyo: Ōkura Magobé, Meiji 17 [1884].

A satirical ukiyo-e woodblock print about the Opium War, with China painted as a giant ‘Gulliver’-type figure smoking opium, attacked by tiny French soldiers. Light staining to extremities, margins trimmed. Fine. 2 l., complete, attached, measuring a total of 47.9 x 34.9 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$2,445 €2,195

An Erotic Lucky-Dip

23. ‘Tsuya no Tsuijii Uta’ (触日の投う歌)
Author, artist, and publisher unknown. Ca. early to mid-Meiji period [1870-1890s].

A unique publication presumably sold on the streets or at a night market as a type of ‘lucky fortune dip’. It is rare for an ephemeral shunga print to survive in such pristine condition for over a hundred years.

Each print measures approximately 35.4 x 24.3 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$965 €660

A How-To of Popular Western Meiji-Period Hairstyles

24. ‘Dai Nihon Fujin Sokuhatsu Zukai’
Adachi, Ginkō [illustrated by].

A woodblock-printed triptych of fashionable ladies’ hairstyles of the mid-Meiji period, by famous bijinga artist Adachi Ginkō (1853-1908). The commentary at the top of the prints advises readers that traditional Japanese hairstyles are outdated and ‘dirty’ (as hair was pulled back tightly and left for a week or two), and that western styles are much more fashionable, hygienic, and popular with men. In fact, only the woman in the centre of the print has a Japanese hairstyle, while all of the other women are shown sporting western styles. A pretty set. Triptych with a few small marks, margins of prints very slightly trimmed. Very minor soiling to extremities. Repairs to a few tiny holes in the extremities of two of the prints, unnoticeable for the most part. Near fine condition. Three prints, complete.

Each print measures approximately 35.4 x 24.3 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$1,080 €795

On Western Hairstyles

25. ‘Fujin Sokuhatsu no Hinagata’ (婦人束髪の髷形)
Ashihara, Kuninao [illustrated by].

A colour woodblock-printed nishiki-e of western hairstyles and how to replicate them, for Japanese women. The print includes descriptions and illustrations of the ‘Western High Style’, ‘Western Low Style’, ‘Twisted Rope Style’, ‘British Tie’, ‘Low British Tie’, and also describes hairpins and ribbons. One of the women in the print is shown holding a western-bound book. A fairly early Japanese introduction to western hairstyles. Margins trimmed. Lightly waved and soiled. Washi paper pasted to verso. Overall very good. 1 leaf, complete. 34.8 x 24 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$610 €550
26. ‘Gōketsu Karuta’ (鬼傑かるた)
Utagawa, Yoshitora [illustrated by].
Edo (Tokyo): Yamadaya Shōjirō, Bunkyū Gannen [1861].
A pre-Meiji period colour woodblock-printed illustration of a French woman and man, presumably in the foreign enclave in Yokohama. The man in the illustration is showing the woman (who is holding an oriental fan) what seems to be a stereoscope image in a viewer, an example of the technology brought by foreigners that was new to Japanese eyes.
Margins trimmed, lightly stained and soiled. Numerous washi repairs to verso. Very good. One leaf, colour woodblock-printed, complete. 35.2 x 23.3 cm. Text in Japanese.
US$405 €360

27. ‘Torii Mototada’ (鳥居 彥右衛門 元忠)
A colour woodblock print of samurai Torii Mototada. The most famous print in the ‘Selection of One Hundred Warriors’ series by the famed Japanese ukiyo-e artist Yoshitoshi, best known for his gory style and ‘bloody prints’. There are a few minor marks and small wormholes to the print, as well as some light discolouration to the right margin. Otherwise near fine. 36 x 24.5 cm.
US$1,200 €1,080

28. ‘Mori Ranmaru’ (森 蘭丸)
A colour woodblock print of warrior Mori Ranmaru (who was also the lover of Oda Nobunaga) by the famed Japanese ukiyo-e artist Yoshitoshi. There are a few minor marks and small wormholes to the print, as well as some light discolouration to the left margin. Otherwise near fine. 36.2 x 24.4 cm.
US$1,200 €1,080

29. ‘Odera Sagami’ (小寺 相模)
A dramatic colour woodblock print of samurai Odera Sagami by the famed Japanese ukiyo-e artist Yoshitoshi. There are a few minor marks and small wormholes to the print. Otherwise near fine. 36.1 x 24.4 cm.
US$1,000 €900

30. ‘Katagiri Katsumoto’ (片桐 東市正 且元)
A coloured woodblock print of Katagiri Tōichi Katsumoto (a famous warrior and advisor of Hideyoshi), pictured writing a letter at his desk, probably because Hideyoshi and his council were known for their negotiation skills. There are a few minor marks and small wormholes to the print. Otherwise in nice condition. 36.2 x 24.4 cm.
US$575 €530
33. ‘Teisei Hokoku: Ehon Kanso Gandan’ (訂正補解 絵本漢楚譯伝)
Tamenaga, Shunsui [edited by]; Katsushika, Hokusai [illustrated by].
Edo (Tokyo), Osak: Bunkeido Chōjiya Heikichi, Yamashiroya Sahē … [et al.], Koka 2 [1845].
First edition illustrated by Hokusai.
A complete twenty volume set of the Ming dynasty text ‘Xi Han Tong Su Yan Yi’, heavily illustrated by Hokusai and translated into Japanese. ‘Xi Han Tong Su Yan Yi’ was a work about the Chu–Han Contention (206–202 BC), a bloody civil war that occurred in the aftermath of the collapse of the Qin dynasty. In this translation of the Chinese text Hokusai depicts the war in bloody battle scenes dynamic with movement along with landscapes, dragons, giant snakes, beautiful women, court rituals, and so on. Some scholars believe that, as Hokusai was in his eighties at the time of publication, some (or all) of the illustrations may have been painted by his daughter, Ei, a renowned artist in her own right. While the title of this work reads ‘Re-carved and Corrected edition’ (‘Teisei Hokoku’), this is actually the first edition with illustrations by Hokusai (an earlier work with the same title was published in 1787 with illustrations by Kitaos Masayoshi). Complete in two parts, with ten volumes to each part. A rare complete set of this work on the most famous war in China’s history, illustrated by Japan’s most renowned artist.
Original Japanese wrappers, very lightly worn, with original title slips. Slight scrape to text-block head of v.1-7. Occasional small marks and stains to text. Foxing to leaves 8 and 9 of volume 1, otherwise near fine. 20 v., complete. First part (in ten v.): 2, 9, 27, 26, 20, 21, 20, 19, 22, 21 leaves. Second part (in ten v.): 2, 5, 2, 16, 26, 28, 27, 25, 30, 24, 29 leaves. 22.8 x 15.5 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$9,450 €8,450

34. ‘Hokusai Kachō Gaden’ (北斎花鳥圓伝)
Katsushika, Taito [illustrated by].
[Tokyo]: Ōkura Magobē, Meiji 24 [1891].
Katsushika Taito (active 1810–1854), a pupil of Hokusai, was considered the disciple most faithful to the great artist’s painting method and with the closest working relationship with him, having collaborated with Hokusai on several volumes of ‘Hokusai Manga’. This book is a re-titled edition of Taito’s original ‘Kachō Gaden’ (1848–1849), a selection of Taito’s paintings of birds and flowers, depicted in beautiful lightly coloured woodblock-printed illustrations and complete in two volumes (the ‘first’ and ‘second’ series).
Original wrappers, with some wear and scrapes, occasional white stains. Ink marks to wrappers of volume 1, stain to upper wrapper of volume 2. Small losses to front pastedown of volume 1. Part of lower free endpaper of volume 2 attached to lower pastedown. Light and very occasional wormholing to margins. Manuscript note to leaf 1 of volume 1 erased. Title in brush and ink and small ink stains to textblock edges. Leaves lightly discoloured. Very good. 2 v., complete. 1, 3, 1, 33 leaves. 22.4 x 15 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$1,225 €1,125

Tokyo: Kinkōdō, colophon reads ‘Tenpō 14 [1843], but probably a Meiji period printing [1870-90s].
A first edition later printing of Hokusai’s album of drawings painted using only one brush stroke (without lifting the brush from the paper). Includes 28 leaves of simple and masterful colour woodblock-printed illustrations of people, birds, animals, and landscapes. A beautiful and unpretentious work which showcases Hokusai’s effortless mastery of the ‘rough sketch’ style of Japanese painting.
Original wrappers, a little creased and worn, one or two chips to upper wrapper. Ex-library cataloguing information to lower wrappers in black ink. Ex-ownership stamps to front fly and lower pastedown. Ex-library cataloguing card partially tipped-in to last leaf, not affecting illustrations. Otherwise text clean and nicely printed. 1 v., possibly complete. 20 leaves. 22.3 x 15.1 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$1,625 €1,450

35. ‘Denshin Kaishu Hokusai Gaen’ (伝神開手北齋画苑)
Katsushika, Hokusai [illustrated by].
A humorous kyōka book that mimics Santō Kyōden’s ‘Harasuji Ōmuseki’. The book consists of comic details about the characteristics of birds, animals, insects, and fish, accompanied by illustrations of ‘human versions’ of those creatures. While the title reads ‘shohen’ (‘first part’), it appears that this was the only part published. One of the scarcer books illustrated by artist Yoshitora.
Original wrappers, somewhat wormholed and with light marginal soiling. Slight wormholing, repaired in some places, and small occasional marks to text. Some illustrations hand-coloured. Good. 1 v., possibly complete. 20 leaves. 17.8 x 12.1 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$1,895 €1,700
views of Edo, ‘Tōto Shōkei Ichiran’, a re-release under a different title of ‘Tōto Meisho Ichiran’, also depicts seasonal events and the people enjoying them. The ex-owner of this particular set was Sasagawa Rinpū, a well-known historian and scholar of literature. The most recent ex-owner of the books was mystery writer Edogawa Ranpō, and the set comes with a card book-box inscribed in brush and ink by Ranpō. Judging from the colours used, the volumes in this set are probably from different printings. Volume one is complete in nine double-page and one single-page colour woodblock-printed scenes, and volume two is complete in ten double-page and one single-page colour woodblock-printed scenes. A complete pre-Meiji set of Hokusai’s ‘guide to Tokyo’, in the subtle colour scheme characteristic of ehon of the early 19th century. Original upper wrappers, lower wrappers re-bound. Wrappers a little worn and with a few scrapes, sticker removal to upper wrapper of volume one. Original woodblock-printed title slips present, with some loss. Ex-ownership stamps to upper endpapers of both volumes and colophon in volume two. Slight soiling and discoloration to illustrations, as usual. Minor wormholing to upper margin of a few leaves in volume two, repaired. Lightly thumbed. Comes with cardboard box and non-original slipcase. Overall very good. 2 v., complete. 10, 11 leaves. 25.6 x 16.8 cm. Text in Japanese. US$13,500  €12,500

Kyōsai’s ‘Alarm’g Manual of Painting

40. Kyōsai Gadan (喰斬画譜)
Kawanabe, Kyōsai [illustrated by]; Uryū, Masayasu [Baitei, Kinga] [edited by].
A complete set of master painter Kyōsai’s ‘Account of Painting’ (‘Kyōsai Gadan’, occasionally read ‘Gyōsai Gadan’). Part one of the set focuses on the artist’s thoughts on painting and artistic methods, while part two contains anecdotes about Kyōsai and a record of his artistic development by his pupil, Baitei Kinga. The English captions in part one of the set are an interesting feature, as are the illustrations in the styles of famous Japanese artists like Hokusai, Maruyama Ōkyo, Ogata Kōrin, Kuniyoshi, and so on, mimicked by Kyōsai. A British Library catalogue record describes this ability of Kyōsai’s to reproduce different styles as both ‘remarkable and alarming’. A first edition set, highly illustrated with colour woodblock-prints of birds, flowers, beautiful women, devils, spirits, landscapes, animals, and so on, in its original slipcase.
Original pictorial wrappers, lightly marked, with a small sticker to the lower wrapper of the second volume. Original title slips, a little stained. Occasional small marks to text and illustrations. Foxing to leaf 23 of v.4. Comes in scarce original slipcase, a little soiled and cracked. Bone clasps intact. Overall near fine. 2 parts in 4 v., complete. 39, 40, 36, 36 leaves. 25.4 x 17.5 cm. Text in Japanese. US$2,700  €2,450

Kyōsai’s Illustrations of One Hundred Demons

41. Kyōsai Hyakki Gadan (喰斬百鬼圖譜)
Kawanabe, Kyōsai [illustrated by].
An accordion-style folding colour woodblock-printed book of mythological Japanese creatures, ghosts, and demons by acclaimed artist Kawanabe Kyōsai. Kyōsai is considered by many to have one of the most masterful and ‘shocking’ styles of painters in mid-19th century Japan. Original boards, a little soiled and chipped. Minor thumbing and very occasional small marks. A very clear and bright printing. Very good to near fine. 2 v., complete. 21 x 12 cm, length 660 cm when unfurled. Text in Japanese. US$8,500  €7,650

Notes on Tobacco

39. Enroku (喫錐)
Ōtsuki, Gentaku.
On the origins, required ‘tools’, health benefits, dangers, and ways of enjoying smoking tobacco. The books include numerous woodblock-printed illustrations of smoking-pipes from different countries, and the first page of volume one has been stamped in red with the author’s seal.
42. Keika Hyakugiku
Hasegawa, Keika [illustrated by].
A complete set of this masterpiece of Japanese floral art by Hasegawa Keika, printed using the most advanced woodblock-printing technology of the time. Each volume consists of 25 stunning colour woodblock-printed illustrations (the final, fourth volume, was never made), making a total of 75 plates (9 of which are double-page spreads). The chrysanthemum (along with the cherry blossom) is one of the national flowers of Japan. The flower experienced an unprecedented boom in late Edo period Japan, resulting in the advancement of the science of breeding and the production of many new species. A near fine set of this rare and beautiful work which illustrates the most famous chrysanthemum varieties of Japan.

A First Edition of this beautiful set.

Original gilt-speckled Japanese wrappers, with some light rolling, scrapes, and small marks. Browning to upper wrapper of volume one. Ex-bookseller’s sticker to lower pastedown of volume three. Very occasional minor marks to text and textblock edges, otherwise near fine. 3 v., complete. 26 leaves to each volume. 30.9 x 22.7 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$8,050 €3,600

43. Ōshu Sansui Kishō
Takahama, Tokuzō (Hokkai) [illustrated by].
A first edition of this delightful set of colour woodblock-printed books on the famous mountains of Europe. The artist, Takahama Hokkai, was a ‘Japanese-style’ (nihonga) painter who heavily influenced the Nancy School of Art Nouveau. He is known for his botanical paintings. His work was exhibited at the 1873 Vienna World’s Fair and the World’s Columbian Exposition. An art manual (etehon) in sixty beautiful colour woodblock-printed illustrations on how to create traditional Japanese paintings. Taki Katei was a late Edo to Meiji period ‘Nanga’ (Southern School) artist and person of letters. He exhibited works at many overseas art exhibitions from the Bakumatsu period onwards, including the 1873 Vienna World’s Fair and the World’s Columbian Exposition. A lovely set.

A Traditional Japanese-style Painting Manual

Original boards, lightly worn and with a few small marks. Minor stains to lower board and last two leaves of volume 2. Light stain to two leaves and bump to gutter head in volume 5. Slight browning and very occasional foxing to leaves of all volumes. Overall very good to near fine. Comes with original woodblock-printed book-envelope and non-original slipcase. 5 v., complete. 14, 13, 14, 14, 13 leaves. 25.4 x 16.4 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$8,805 €720

44. Eishō Hyakuchō Gafu
Tsuchida, Eishō [illustrated by]; Takeuchi, Seihō [checked by]; Tsuchida, Kien [edited by].
Kyoto: Unsōdō, Taishō 3-14 [1913-1925].
A scarce complete set of ‘Eishō’s Book of Birds’, in 81 plates, depicting Japanese species of birds illustrated from a naturalistic perspective and published in beautiful colour woodblock-prints by Unsōdō. The illustrator, Tsuchida Eishō, was a Bakumatsu/Meiji-period scholar of natural history. In 1848 he made sketches of bacteria, labelling them ‘microscopic bugs’ (‘bichū’), and is known as one of the first researchers of nematodes in Japan. Volumes one and two of this set were published in Taishō 3 [1914], and volumes three and four were published in Taishō 14 [1925]. A nice, complete set.

Original wrappers, browned and a little foxed, extremities worn and slightly stained. Ex-libris to upper wrapper of each volume. Stamps to three of the four volumes, each covered with a sticker. Foxing to endpapers. Occasional browning to illustrations. Light stain to last few pages of volume one and upper wrapper of volume four. Overall very good. 4 v., complete. 28, 26, 27, 27 leaves. 33.1 x 22.6 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$3,375 €3,050

45. Tansei Ippan
Taki, Katei.
A very complete edition of this beautiful set of colour woodblock-printed illustrations on how to create traditional Japanese paintings. Taki Katei was a late Edo to Meiji period ‘Nanga’ (Southern School) artist and person of letters. He exhibited works at many overseas art exhibitions from the Bakumatsu period onwards, including the 1873 Vienna World’s Fair and the World’s Columbian Exposition. A lovely set.

Original boards, lightly worn and with a few small marks. Minor stains to lower board and last two leaves of volume 2. Light stain to two leaves and bump to gutter head in volume 5. Slight browning and very occasional foxing to leaves of all volumes. Overall very good to near fine. Comes with original woodblock-printed book-envelope and non-original slipcase. 5 v., complete. 14, 13, 14, 14, 13 leaves. 25.4 x 16.4 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$8,805 €720

46. ‘Nigiri Kobushi’
Shijūhachi Taka Zusan
Ca. late Edo period [1750-1800s]. Manuscript.
A manuscript copy of a scarce book printed around Hōreki 6 [1709] recording illustrations of 48 species of falcon and one parrot. The text includes 23 ‘points’, on the names of falcons, the environments they live in, how to breed them, how to handle them, and so on. The subtitle of the book is ‘Nigiri Kobushi, Shijūhachi Taka Zusan’ (‘锥取 四十八鷹圖譜’). A skillfully-painted copy.

A Manuscript on Falconry

Original wrappers, with some wormholes, large stain to lower wrapper. Foxing and large stains to text. Good only: 1 v. 33 leaves. 26.5 x 19 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$405 €360
Sekka’s First Masterpiece of Print Design: “A Thousand Grasses”

47. ‘Chigusa’ (千草)
Kamisaka, Sekka.
Kyoto: Yamada Unsōdō, Meiji 34-38 [1901-1905].
Printed ten years before ‘Momoyogusa’, Sekka’s ‘Chigusa’ was published from February 1899 to June 1900 as a monthly serial in ten parts. These parts, with three lavish colour woodblock-printed plates to each, were later compiled in book format between Meiji 33 [1900] and Meiji 38 [1905]. The first volume of this particular set, dated Meiji 36 [1903], consists of the thirty colour woodblock-printed pages from the ten original serial parts, while volumes two (Meiji 34 [1901]) and three (Meiji 38 [1905]) consist of twelve colour woodblock-printed pages each. In the prints Sekka boldly exhibits his neo-Korin style, reviving Rinpa through his use of metallic inks, bright colours, and pattern-like illustrations. Six of the illustrations in volume one have Sekka’s stamp, while all illustrations in volume two have been stamped and none in volume three are stamped. Volume one is known to be a later printing, while the presence of the stamps in volume two suggests an early printing. Volume three never had seal impressions, so this copy may be a first printing. A page printed with a poem and a one-page index appear in volume one. Volume two includes a tissue guard printed with an index, while volume three contains no index. The colophon at the end of volume two includes advertisements for other Unsōdō books. A complete set of one of Sekka’s most important albums, considered by Hillier to be the artist’s masterpiece, in a clear impression.

Original boards, with some wear and abrasion, mostly to extremities. Several large dents and small tears to first volume, resulting in creases to the last few leaves of illustrations. Ink stain to upper board of volume one also. Large but shallow scrapes to lower board of volume two. Light occasional oxidation to the metallic prints, one or two very small marks and creases to illustrations. Slight fading to extremities of prints in volume three. Generally plates in near fine condition, overall very good. 3 v., complete. 16, 6, 6 leaves. 24 x 35.5 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$12,250   €11,250

A Complete First Edition Set of ‘An Album of Paintings by Jakuchū’

48. ‘Jakuchū Gafu’ (葛飾画譜)
Itō, Jakuchū [illustrated by]; Kondō, Tokutarō [edited by].
A complete four volume set of this album of flowers by celebrated Edo period artist Itō Jakuchū (1716-1800). The books contain one hundred colour woodblock-printed illustrations of flowers from the decorative ceiling painting ‘Kakizu’ in Shingyōji Temple, Kyoto. Jakuchū is believed to have painted the mural around 1799, just a year before he died at the age of 84. The ceiling mural at Shingyōji is not usually on public display. The flowers include the tree peony, the Japanese morning glory, the lily, the rabbit ear iris, the daffodil, the lotus, and so on. A stunning record of Jakuchū’s masterpiece, painted in his last years and delicately reproduced here in large colour woodblock prints.

Original wrappers in a Japanese stab-binding. Light wear to wrappers, a few small scrapes to some of the illustrations (made at the time of printing), but otherwise near fine. 4 v., complete. 29, 27, 29, 27 leaves. 34.2 x 27 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$10,800     €9,750

Kimono Designs by Master Designer Tennen

49. ‘Ten’ (てん: 織物の鏡)
Kaigai, Tennen [illustrated by].
A set of 50 dynamic colour woodblock-prints of intricate haori (traditional Japanese coat) patterns by celebrated artist Kaigai Tennen, in two volumes. Tennen started his career as a traditional Japanese-style painter, but gradually became interested in design. In his masterpiece ‘Ten’ (織物の鏡), Tennen displays his mastery of both Japanese traditional painting styles and contemporary Meiji design, using his own classical nihonga paintings along with flat colour and metallic inks to decorate the haori.

Originally published in 7 volumes, this two volume set makes up the complete section on haori. Original gilt-flecked wrappers with very minor marks and rubbing, ex-ownership stamp to upper wrapper of volume 2. Occasional stains to contents, small ex-ownership stamps to margins, otherwise fine. 2 v., complete. 15, 16 leaves. 25.4 x 37 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$5,400     €4,950
A Kimono Shop’s Treasured Catalogue of Designs

50. [An Untitled Album of Kimono Patterns]
[S.L.: s.n.], ca. Taishō period [1910-1920s].
A book of fifty woodblock-printed kimono patterns, delicately designed by an unknown artist. The prints feature birds, flowers, plants, fishing nets, boats, butterflies, and so on, and are significantly larger in size than most woodblock-printed kimono books of the same era. Several of the prints use a lacquer-like ink that seems to shimmer and stand out from the page. Rare for a book of this era, stencil printed or hand-painted detail has been added to the illustrations, suggesting that the book was an expensive production. A copyright stamp to the margin of each leaf reads in Japanese “For the use of our store only. Misappropriation by other stores will not be forgiven”, suggesting that the book was a kimono shop’s catalogue to show to customers. A quote by famous Japanese poet Saigyō Hōshi (1118-1190) has been woodblock-printed on the front free endpaper. A stunning book of Japanese textile designs, with many carefully composed and engaging patterns for real kimono. No copies located in OCLC or Japanese library databases.

Original boards, edges a little worn and frayed. Binding lightly cracked. Two ink marks to textblock edges. Several ex-ownership stamps to margin of each print. Very occasional small marks, stains, and sticker removals to pages. Minor thumbing. Original tissue guards present. Overall near fine. 1 v. 26 leaves. 35.9 x 23 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$1,350  €1,250

Fifty Kimono Patterns by an Unknown Artist

51. Kiyoki (喜多起)
[S.L.: s.n.], ca. Taishō period [1910-1920s].
An album of fifty colourful woodblock-printed kimono designs by an unknown artist. The lovely designs feature flowers, butterflies, waves, and trees, and demonstrate a fusion of traditional and modern motifs. This book would have been used at a kimono shop as a catalogue to show customers. A stunning book of patterns exemplifying the skilled use of space and minimalism in Japanese design. No copies located in OCLC or Japanese library databases.

Original boards with a few small marks, extremities a little worn and frayed, binding starting. Endpapers somewhat chipped and foxed. Light soiling and thumbing to illustrations. Occasional tears to original tissue guards. Otherwise very good to near fine. 1 v. 26 leaves. 35.1 x 22.2 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$1,225  €1,125

Kimono Patterns by Famous Ukiyo-e Artists

52. Ukiyoe Konomi: Kosode Hyakusen (浮世絵このみ小福百選)
Kanō, Shūhō.
A record of one hundred colour woodblock-printed kimono patterns (with two patterns to each leaf) based on the works of 34 famous ukiyo-e artists, including Hokusai, Kuniyoshi, Hiroshige, Eisen, and Utamaro. Fifty folded leaves + title, slightly foxed, loosely inserted into original shihō chitsu (four-sided case). Some edges of chitsu cracked, extremities lightly faded. Woodblock-printed sections themselves free of toxicity. Overall very good to near fine. Fifty leaves + title leaf, complete. Each leaf measures 36.7 x 27.3 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$2,700  €2,450

A Collection of Themed Sōsaku-Hanga Prints

53. Mangekyō (曼荼羅)
Murakami, Sadao, Kamei, Tōbee [edited by].
A modern collection of designs produced by artists of the pre-war Kyoto sōsaku-hanga (creative print) circle. Each of the three volumes includes ten colour woodblock-printed leaves. Volume one is themed around fruits and vegetables, volume two around cars and forms of transport, and volume three around fish and shellfish. A rare first edition complete in three parts.

Original portfolio boards, spines cracked. Light soiling and marks to boards. Ex-ownership signature to upper board of volume three. Colour woodblock-printed title plate tipped-in to upper board of all volumes. Occasional tears and browning to tissue guards. Slight foxing to a few illustrations. Overall very good. 3 v., complete, with 10 colour woodblock-printed leaves to each volume. Leaves measure 37 x 28.5 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$1,350  €1,250

On the Coats of Fire-Fighters and Warriors

54. Hōka (鳳凰)
Gyokusen, Fukuoka [illustrated by].
A collection of 100 colour woodblock-prints of traditional Japanese coats for warriors and fire-fighters, re-designed in a modern Taishō style.

Original wrappers, with extremely light foxing. Small occasional marks to contents, otherwise fine. Comes in original slipcase, lacking clasps. 2 v., complete. 28.4 x 17.7 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$2,450  €2,200
A Collection of Antique Striped Fabrics

56. Seikō Hontoman (精好本流山) Ansei 4 [1857] [assembled in].
A collection of 102 samples of real late-Edo [mid-19th century] striped fabrics, tipped-in to a futurotoji-bound album. Striped patterns, popular in Japan since ancient times, were unscathed by the sumptuary laws placed by the Bakufu in the mid-Edo period, leading to their popularity with the lower, middle, and higher classes. Each sample is captioned with a number, from 101 to 207. Three of the samples are unnumbered. An important record of striped Edo period patterns.
Original wrappers, lightly worn and soiled. Slight foxing and very small occasional wormholes to leaves. Very good to near fine. 1 v. 16 leaves. Book measures 9.8 x 20 cm. Each piece of fabric measures approximately 2.5 x 8 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$805 €720

Woodblock-Printed Designs of Origami Patterns

A set of books featuring thirty colour woodblock-printed designs by Kawarasaki Kōdō (1899-1973), one of the later pre-war Kyoto-based designers who was active in the Shōwa period. A book which reproduces in lavish colour woodblock-prints designs based on origami patterns for flowers, birds, and plants. Original boards, in an obirō accordion-style binding. Some browning and small marks to boards. Slight browning to endpapers and occasionally to illustrations also. Large ex-ownership stamp to the colophon of volume 2. Minor offsetting from the prints, otherwise near fine. In original slipcase, corners and edges slightly frayed. 2 v., complete. Fifteen colour woodblock-printed illustrations to each volume. 25 x 37.3 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$2,450 €2,200

A Manuscript of Fretwork Designs

A book of traditional fretwork designs taken from patterns in illustrated scrolls like the ‘Ishiyamadera-engi Emaki’ and the ‘Ban Dainagon Ekotoba’ and from motifs used in buildings like Tōdaiji and Hōryūji. Many of the patterns are from the medieval period (9th to 15th centuries).
Original wrappers, lightly worn. One or two small marks to text, otherwise near fine. 1 v., complete. 23 leaves. 25.8 x 17.8 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$405 €360
50. ‘Saibō Dokugaku: Wafuku no Bu’ (裁縫独学 衣服之部)
Suzuki, Genpachi.

A first edition of this set of books on traditional Japanese clothing. The book records in great detail the methods of making traditional clothing like haori (Japanese formal coats) and hakama (men’s formal divided skirts), from the cutting of the cloth to the sewing. A highly pictorial text, with 16 colour woodblock-printed illustrations and many black and white illustrations of cutting patterns.

Original wrappers, verylightly soiled, and original title slips. Occasional unobtrusive ex-ownership stamps to text and occasionally illustrations. Otherwise near fine. 3 v., complete. 31, 23, 22 leaves. 23.8 x 16.2 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$1,625 €1,450

51. ‘Emaki Monyō’ (絵巻文庫)
Tokuda, Yoshizō [edited and illustrated by].


Possible re-binding, boards with slight wear and chipping to extremities, and with a few scrapes and marks. Endpapers foxed, light occasional browning and foxing to illustrations. Title to lower textblock edge of volume 2 in brush and ink. Three small holes to leaves in volume 2. Stain to upper endpaper and textblock edge of volume 2 also. 23.8 x 16.2 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$1,225 €1,125

52. ‘A Collection of Patterns from Ancient Illustrated Scrolls’

60. ‘Saibō Dokugaku: Wafuku no Bu’ (裁縫独学 衣服之部)
Suzuki, Genpachi.

A first edition of this set of books on traditional Japanese clothing. The book records in great detail the methods of making traditional clothing like haori (Japanese formal coats) and hakama (men’s formal divided skirts), from the cutting of the cloth to the sewing. A highly pictorial text, with 16 colour woodblock-printed illustrations and many black and white illustrations of cutting patterns.

Original wrappers, very lightly soiled, and original title slips. Occasional unobtrusive ex-ownership stamps to text and occasionally illustrations. Otherwise near fine. 3 v., complete. 31, 23, 22 leaves. 23.8 x 16.2 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$1,625 €1,450

61. ‘Emaki Monyō’ (絵巻文庫)
Tokuda, Yoshizō [edited and illustrated by].


Possible re-binding, boards with slight wear and chipping to extremities, and with a few scrapes and marks. Endpapers foxed, light occasional browning and foxing to illustrations. Title to lower textblock edge of volume 2 in brush and ink. Three small holes to leaves in volume 2. Stain to upper endpaper and textblock edge of volume 2 also. 23.8 x 16.2 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$1,225 €1,125

62. [Five Ukiyo-e Printing Blocks]
Toyonobu [illustrated by].
Ca. Taishō to early Shōwa period [1910-1930].

A collection of five wooden printing blocks used to make one illustration, with each block used to print a different colour. The blocks come with a one-leaf colour illustration showing the result of the printing. Both sides of the blocks have been used, and the leaf is printed in seven colours. The blocks are probably re-carvings of a work by ukiyo-e artist Ishikawa Toyonobu (1711-1785). A nice set which helps to visualise the process of ukiyo-e production.

Five blocks + one woodblock-printed leaf. Largest block measures 21 x 15 cm. Leaf measures 20.5 x 13.5 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$805 €720

63. ‘Ohata Ouma Jirushi, Narabini, Sho-Yakunin Sashimono-zu’ (御旗御馬印 並 諸役人指物図)
Author unknown.
Ca. mid-Edo period [late 18th century]. Manuscript.

A delicately illustrated and lavishly coloured manuscript of the flag and battle coat emblems of the higher class army officials of the Tokugawa Government.

Original wrappers, slightly wormholed. Some wormholing to contents, repaired. Otherwise in nice condition. 1 v., complete. 25 leaves. 26.5 x 20.2 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$2,700 €2,450

64. ‘New Friends: Ahiru-san to Niwatori-san’
(あひるさんとにわとりさん)
Murayama, Tomoyoshi [illustrated by] ; Murayama, Kazuko [text by].

A scarce children’s book illustrated by Murayama Tomoyoshi, leader of the Japanese avant-garde group ‘MAVO’.

Original paper wrappers, extremities a little chipped, spine slightly torn. Tape removal to first page. Small ex-library number printed on two pages, blind stamp to upper wrapper verso and last page. Good only. 1 v., complete. Unpaginated, but 18 p. of text. 25.7 x 18 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$8540 €95

65. ‘Pioniro no Seikatsu’ (ピオニーロの生活)
Bobinśka, Helena [original text by] ; Ino, Shōzō [translated by].

A Japanese translation of a text originally written by Polish and Soviet novelist, translator, and author of books for children and young adults, Helena Bobińska (1887-1968). The original text was probably Bobińska’s ‘Śęd Pionierów’, which was originally published in 1925. During her youth, Bobińska became involved with socialist and communist movements, and participated in the Polish Revolution of 1905. An interesting exemplification of the popularity of Soviet novels in 1930s Japan.

Original boards, corners lightly bumped, small ink stains, browning to spine. Comes in original card slipcase, chipping to edges, a few stains, repair to spine. Overall near fine. Volume 1 (and probably the only volume published) of the ‘Śekai Pioniro Sōsho’ series. 1 v., complete. 4, 2, 234 p. 18.4 x 12.4 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$340 €315

A Manuscript Record of Warrior Emblems and Flags

66. ‘A Manuscript Record of Warrior Emblems and Flags’

A manuscript record in Japanese of warrior emblems and flags of the higher rank class army officials of the Tokugawa Government.

Ca. mid-Edo period [late 18th century]. Manuscript.

Original wrappers, slightly wormholed. Some wormholing to contents, repaired. Otherwise in nice condition. 1 v., complete. 25 leaves. 26.5 x 20.2 cm. Text in Japanese.

US$3,600 €3,250

A Japanese Translation of a Soviet Novel by Polish Author Helena Bobińska