ELYSIUM BOOKS

Shortlist 12

   An amusing priapic poem employing numerous synonyms for the word "penis" allegedly written by the nineteenth century Uruguayan poet.  

   $100.

2. **AGUIRRE, Luis M.** *La Lujuria Humana (Estudio Médico-Social).* Barcelona: La Vida Literaria (1903?). 95pp.

   One of a series of pseudo-scientific publications on salacious sexual subjects. This volume includes a mind-bending selection of topics, including sex with animals, "prostitución masculina... la pederastia....los putos de Buenos Aires....etc." Good in rather worn wrappers. Uncommon.  

   $225.

3. **AGUIRRE, Luis M. de (Dr.)** *La Lujuria Humana. (Estudio médico social sobre la vida de los invertidos).* Buenos Aires: Editorial Claridad, [193-?]. 60pp.

   Another of Aquirre’s ostensibly medical treatises on the nature and causes of homosexuality. Good in decorative wrappers, small stain to rear cover, light wear to spine. Uncommon.  

   $250.


   The author’s first and only novel, issued in an edition of 200 numbered copies. Very good in lightly worn original wrappers, bound in 3/4 leather and marbled boards, marbled endpapers, raised bands and gilt top edge. Very light wear to edges. Quite rare.  

   $375.


   A curious Victorian-era erotic pamphlet detailing the exploits of a twelve year old girl and her incestuous relationship with her father. The tale is set on a Southern plantation with twelve slaves, some of whom are eventually led into the erotic entanglements of young Maud. The story ends with her father engaged in carnal intercourse with her and one of the male slaves simultaneously.

   Very good in original pale green wrappers, light sunning to edges. The work is quite rare, and only a passing reference [P35] in Mendes (*Clandestine Erotic Fiction in English 1800-1930: A Bibliographical Study*).  

   $485.
An obscene dialogue between two schoolboys "wherein one learns a somewhat unorthodox lesson from the other" (d'Arch Smith, *Love in Earnest* @ 148) perhaps inspired by *Alcibiades fanciullo a scola.* Bainbrigge, a Cambridge undergraduate, was also the author of another Cayme Press title with Uranian content entitled *Achilles in Scyros.* One of only 75 copies printed for subscribers to the Cayme Press. Very good in lightly sunned blue wrappers, small tears and light wear to wrappers, errata slip tipped-in. Quite rare. Young 151.

The first publication of the "amazon of letters" which openly declared her lesbianism. Her father was apparently outraged by the book and bought up as many copies as possible. Very good in original illustrated wrappers with frontispiece of Barney by Carolus Duran, rebound in marbled paper boards. Rare.

The first appearance in English of Botto's celebrated work, translated by his friend Fernando Pessoa in 1933, but first published in this edition. Botto had moved to Brazil in 1947 and attempted to support himself with his writings, but struggled financially. He may have financed the production of the book himself, as it bears no indication of a publisher. Warmly inscribed by Botto to Francisco Enrique Lopez on front endpaper. There is no indication of the size of this printing, but it was undoubtedly small and the book is quite rare (despite Botto's amusing notation that this is copy 546,375.) There are several simple line drawings illustrating the text, including the frontispiece, which appear to be by Almada Negreiros.

Very good in original lightly spotted wrappers and endpapers. Rare. $1,800.


A very odd compilation of over 800 books deemed to be morally acceptable for readers, with a biographical listing of authors at the end. The reviews include references to "Renata Vivien" (‘poetisa que vivio como pagana y murio cristianamente. Su prosa como sus versos exhalan olores de podredumbre’); Oscar Wilde (not recommended); Willy (‘sus hechos emanam efluvios de una voluptuosidad inconfesable.’); James Joyce’s *Ulysses* (‘mala’) and many others. Good is somewhat worn wrappers. $75.


The first edition of Carpenter's most famous work, the epic poem cycle which went through numerous editions. Edward Carpenter (1844-1919) was an English socialist poet, philosopher, anthologist and early LGBT activist. A leading figure in the late 19th and early 20th century Britain, he was instrumental in the foundation of the Fabian Society and was a close friend of Walt Whitman and Rabindranath Tagore.

Presentation copy, inscribed "Edward J. Watson from E.C. April '92." In original olive green cloth boards with black title to spine and gilt title to front cover. Minor wear to spine ends and corners. Offsetting to endpapers and a few small spots of foxing to fore-edge, else clean. $700.

An uncommon collection of works by William Johnson Cory, widely known for his Uranian text, *Ionica*. An interesting association copy, the front pastedown bears the contemporary bookplate of the Rev. Lancelot Ridley Phelps, a fellow of Oriel College, and Vice-Principal of St. Mary Hall, Oxford with his ink ownership signature on front free endpaper, dated 1897 (above that of the classical scholar Roger Mynors, dated 1938). Loosely inserted is an A.L.S to Phelps from fellow Uranian J H Hallard, which reads, in part: ‘If you look at p. 126. and[?] p. 127 - of Mr. Cory's Letters, you will understand how I value the memory of them for aye. [New paragraph] “Just come to me” [possibly “Lust came to me”] etc refers to pretty Maynard’.

Original olive cloth boards, top edge gilt, photographic frontispiece, lately professionally re-backed in black calf with contrasting olive label, gilt lettering and decoration, original green endpapers preserved. A very good copy of an uncommon book limited to 100 copies. $850.


The French edition of d’Annunzio’s work, with a long and sincere dedication to his onetime lover, Romaine Brooks. Around 1909, Brooks and d’Annunzio met at a dinner given by an artist friend who was famous for his colorful posters and paintings. D’Annunzio commented that much more can be expressed without any color at all, and this prompted Brooks to invite him to see her work. Thus began a complicated friendship that lasted for nearly three decades and had a profound impact on Brooks’s art. She saw him as a martyred artist, another *lapide*; he wrote poems based on her works and called her “the most profound and wise orchestrator of grays in modern painting”. They spent the summer of 1910 in a villa on the coast of France, in a romantic interlude that was disrupted when D’Annunzio’s jealous ex-mistress arrived in town. Their friendship remained strong throughout D’Annunzio’s life and she painted his portrait in 1912.

Very good in original wrappers, rebound in a full morocco signed binding, gilt top edge, gilt titling, very light scuffs, laid into a marbled paper slipcase. $4,500.
   This comprehensive history of Capri by one of its famous inhabitants is decorated with 22 pictorial plates. Number 3 in the Lungarno series published by Douglas's longtime friend, Pino Orioli. One of 525 numbered copies signed by the author. Good in linen backed boards, wear to head and tail of spine, edges browned, spine label rubbed. Woolf A33b $385.

   An uncommon gay novel set in a Montmartre gay bar which accurately reflects the decadence of the 1920s through the eyes of the bar's owner Horace and his much younger lover. Good in original wrappers by Vertes, light edgewear, closed tear on rear wrapper. $175.

   One of only 50 copies signed and numbered by the author. Quite uncommon and highly eclectic study of Antinous images in artwork, coins and literature. Photographic frontispiece, illustrations on fabric tipped onto front and rear endpapers, orange stiff wrappers, very good with light wear. One of only 50 copies signed and numbered by the author. Light wear to covers. Rare. $650.

   A synopsis of the notorious Bedborough Trial, which involved the publication of the first edition of *Sexual Inversion* authored by Ellis and John Addington Symonds. When it was published, *Sexual Inversion* became not only the first medical textbook in English on the topic of homosexuality, but also one of the first publications (along with works by Edward Carpenter) to champion a more dispassionate and sympathetic approach to the legal, social and ethical aspects of the topic in late Victorian Britain. Ellis describes the context of the lawsuit brought against the bookseller Bedborough and includes a number of relevant and laudatory reviews of the book in an appendix. Good in browned wrappers, glue residue on spine, covers a bit loose. Rare. $475.

Escudero was an Ecuadorian poet and diplomat. Good in decorative wrappers, with a sexually provocative inscription to a friend on endpaper. $150.


The first novel published in Mexico with a homosexual theme. Part of the *La Linterna Magica* series, the story about the life and travails of an effeminate homosexual man (a "chicken"), Chucho is portrayed as a stereotypical nineteenth-century Mexican dandy. The adventures of the protagonist were intended to illustrate the social breakdown caused by lack of education, the perceived deterioration of Mexican families and the pernicious influence of foreign ideas in the aftermath of the brief French occupation of the country. The rambling novel is careful not to offend readers (or the printer) with the use of explicit references to homosexual acts, but use of "race ninfa" (fairy race) or "mujerucos" left no reader unclear about the author's intent to deride homosexuals.

The book originally appeared in 1871 and this is the second appearance, with new illustrations by José María Villasana. See Monsiváis, Carlos. "Los 41 y la gran redada". *Letas Libres.* 2002; Irwin, R. *The Famous 41: Sexuality and Social Control in Mexico* @140-42. Good in rather worn contemporary bindings, internally very good. $625.

   An amusing prose poem by the ultra-chic Mrs. Reginald Fellowes (née Marguerite Décazes), a "feminine dictator of impene-
   trable hardness," according to Sir Harold Acton. Fellowes traveled in very fashionable circles of the period and was known, among
   other things, for being the best dressed woman in the world.

   Seventy four leaves printed on rectos only, along with three attractive color vignettes. One of only 200 numbered copies
   printed, this is #52, inscribed by the author. Very good in illustrated boards, covers a little sunned, corners slightly bumped.
   $350.


   One of the author’s earliest collections of poetry, published when he was 22. According to scholar Will Ogrinc, the collec-
   tion "swarms with young blond boys" and contains many poems directly referring to Jacques' own school years where such contacts
   and meditations as are described in "Crépuscule" (Twilight), "Rêve triste" (Gloomy dream), and "Adieu Mieuvre" (Frisky farewell) to
   have come to light, they would no doubt have led to the immediate expulsion of those involved."

   Very good in, original wrappers present, occasional light foxing, pages a bit browned. Uncommon.              $1,200.


   An early collection of "poèmes de l’enfance" by Fersen, who fled from France to Capri when his "messes noires" with young
   men gained the attention of Parisian authorities.

   The author's second book, published at his own expense by Verlaine's publisher and illustrated with several line drawings
   by his close friend Louis Morin. Very good in 1/4 calf boards, original wrappers not present. Uncommon.     $750.


   This edition of the French magazine is dedicated to the subject of the scandal of Fersen's "Messes Noires" and contains
   many illustrations regarding the scandal that shook Paris at the time. Illustrations by Kupka, Roubille, Iris; essays by Alfred Jarry,

Fersen contributes a poem entitled “Tes Yeux...” to this edition of Marinetti's magazine of futurism. He also contributed two other short works, including a letter in which he pledges his allegiance to the cause: "I adhere to the principles of Futurism which will disengage man of all his slavery...Let us abandon the twilights, the graveyards, the museums or the legends, in favour of the Nativities, the PROGRESS, the holy FORCE, and LIFE!"

A number of other prominent writers contributed to this issue, including Robert de Montesquiou, Charles Etienne, Ruben Dario, Henri de Regnier, Robert Scheffer ("Visions de Minuit," dedicated to "J. de Fersen.") and numerous others. Very good in original wrappers, light wear to covers. $850.


In 1929, the young poet Charles Henri Ford (1908-2002) dropped out of high school and launched *Blues: A Magazine of New Rhythms*, a short-lived experimental poetry magazine which published the work of Kay Boyle, Witter Bynner, Erskine Caldwell, Harry Crosby, E. E. Cummings, James T. Farrell, H. D., Oliver Jenkins, Eugene Jolas, Ezra Pound, Kenneth Rexroth, Laura Riding, Herman Spector, Gertrude Stein, Laurence Vail, William Carlos Williams, and Louis Zukofsky. Subtitled *A Bisexual Bimonthly*, the magazine ran for only nine issues, but was praised by Gertrude Stein as "the youngest and freshest of all the little magazines which have died to make verse free".

Generally very good in original wrappers with some spine wear, one inked signature on one cover. An important record of early twentieth century writing and experimental avant-garde literature. $2500.
A novel centered around the story of Antinous and his love for the Emperor Hadrian. One of several collaborations between the two accomplished authors. A very good copy in decorative wrappers, rebound in cloth with spine label, light browning. $400.

One of a number of works by the prolific Spanish journalist. Here he recounts tales of the "tragedies" of his race—kings, bullfighters, bishops, courtesans, artists, pedophiles and thieves. Very good in original wrappers. $125.

A very early text by the pioneering sexual reformer, who founded the Scientific Humanitarian Committee with the publisher Max Spohr in 1897. The second edition of his pioneering Sappho und Sokrates appeared under the Spohr imprint the previous year. A very good copy in the original publishers binding. There are a number of photographic illustrations throughout the text, referencing homosexual "types" and several historical figures. Rare. $650.

These explicitly gay stories were published anonymously and illustrated with 15 homoerotic wood engravings by Elie Grekoff, a Russian master illustrator and painter. One of the most attractive erotic books on homosexual themes, the line drawings are explicit and among the best of his work.

One of an unknown number of special copies with an additional suite of the fifteen images printed in red, this is "exemplaire de l’auteur "C". Very good, plain cream wrappers. Uncommon. Larivière, 367; Beurdeley, 275; BN, Enfer, n° 1498; Pia 1324; Monod 6452. $950.

30. **Jullian, Philippe (Marcel Proust).** *XV Portraits d’après l’œuvre de Marcel Proust. Dédies à Isabelle de Broglie.* NP: [1949?]

One of Jullian’s most uncommon books, a collection of fifteen original etchings portraying characters from Proust’s classic. Around the same time Jullian contributed 48 original etchings to the 1949 edition, translated by Scott Moncrieff. A very good example, limited to 150 numbered copies. $850.


First edition of the author’s last book, now considered to be the most important of his poems exploring his homosexuality. The poem cycle was written in 1927 and poignantly presents the separation of two lovers, finally reunited after a series of travails. The eventual merging of the two men into identical twins is characterized by the trout’s eventual breaking through the ice. After homosexuality was officially declared a crime in 1933 with punishment up to five years of hard labour, Kuzmin found it increasingly difficult to be openly gay in the USSR and he devoted his final years to translating Shakespeare. Kuzmin gave an historic and rapturously received reading of the poem in 1928, which electrified the audience with its autobiographical and cultural allusions and became an ode to the triumph of desire—a poem that still maintains its electricity through translation and time. This was the last demonstration of Lennigrad’s homosexuals for over half a century.

Very good in original decorative wrappers, light wear to covers, light closed cracking to spine. Rare. $1,200.

Osvaldo Lamborghini (1940 –1985) was an avant-garde Argentine writer of the 1960s. This is a facsimile edition of highly erotic diary that he kept, which incorporates drawings, paintings, rubbings, photographs and collages, many extracted from pornographic magazines and often accompanied by a slogan or some sentences and retouched silhouettes or painted with pen, marker, wax or polish. One of 300 numbered copies, near fine in cardboard slipcase. $425.


Mina Loy, a modernist poet, novelist and artist, was widely admired by her contemporaries, T.S. Eliot, Gertrude Stein, Ezra Pound and many others. *Lunar Baedeker* was her first published volume of poetry, and one of the first books issued by Robert McAlmon’s pioneering Contact Press series. She has been labelled a Futurist, Dadaist, Surrealist, feminist, conceptualist, modernist, and post-modernist, but she allied herself with her visual art more than her writing, claiming at the end of her life that she “never was a poet.” The book was later revised and republished and remains in print today as one of the classics of modernism. See Burke, *Becoming Modern: The Life of Mina Loy* (1996).

A good copy in original wrappers, light marks to covers, loss to spine, edge chips, photograph tipped onto front endpaper, ownership signatures of Glenway Wescott and Monroe Wheeler, laid into an envelope addressed to Wheeler from a correspondent in Mexico. A fragile book and quite rare in commerce. $1,200.


$350.

35. **MEILHAN, Gabriel Sénac de.** *Trois petits poèmes érotiques, c'est à savoir: La foutriade, La masturbomanie et La foutromanie.* Bâle: Impr. exclusivement pour les membres de la Société des bibliophiles, les amis des lettres et des arts galants [ND].

The clandestine printing of these three erotic poems, each of which are prefixed with the details of their original printing. A small number of copies appeared with illustrations, this copy does not contain these illustrations. (Dutel 857). Very good in marbled paper boards, slight chip to bottom of spine, marbled endpapers, original wrappers not present.

$275.


A portfolio of twenty drawings in the style of Aubrey Beardsley, with an introduction by Henri de Régnier. Montenegro (1887-1968) was a highly regarded painter, whose portraits of Nijinsky, Marchesa Casati and others won praise. He traveled to Paris in 1907 and befriended Cocteau, Jean Gris and Picasso and returned to Buenos Aires, where his work took a different turn. See Summers, *The Queer Encyclopedia of Visual Arts.*

Very good in lightly worn board portfolio, the images are laid into the book and are all near fine. Rare.

$650.


Salvador Novo López (1904 –1974) was a Mexican writer, poet, playwright, translator, television presenter, entrepreneur, and the official chronicler of Mexico City. He defied the machismo and conservative Catholicism prevalent in 20th century Mexican culture by making almost no efforts to conceal his homosexuality and was, nonetheless, accepted by the Mexican government and held official posts related to culture. Novo is also considered one of the finest, most original prose stylists of his generation and published numerous collections of prose and poetry.

This is his first publication, in an edition limited to 200 copies, very good in original wrappers, with small crease to cover. Laid into a custom clamshell box with the cover illustration reproduced on front board.

$850.
38. PÉREZ de la RIVA, Angel. *El Amor Morbido (Extravíos y Pasiones)*. Barcelona: La Vida Literaria (1903?). 54pp. "cuarta edición".

One of a series of small volumes dedicated to an assortment of pseudo-scientific examinations of erotic subjects. In addition to a discussion of hermaphrodites and zoophilia, this volume includes an extensive analysis of homosexuality: "diferencias entre el pederasta y el homosexual; el amor homosexual en Francia; una practica repugnante de los Templarios; la pederasta en Turquía; sodomia en Italia, China;...un defensor de los pederastas." Very good in lightly worn wrappers, uncut. The series resembles that produced in Paris around the same time by the Librairie des connaissances médicales. Rare. $225.


A brilliantly chatty gay novel whose central character is an androgynous dandy and man about town. The author’s only novel, it was later excerpted in Adelsward-Fersen’s short lived magazine *Akademos*. Boulestin, a onetime secretary to Willy (Henry Gauthier-Villars) was friends with Reggie Turner, Robert Ross, among others, and went on to become one of England’s most famous chefs. Very good in illustrated wrappers. Uncommon. $325.


The first edition of this novel in Spanish, translated by the eccentric gay writer, Antonio de Hoyos y Vinent, Marquis of Vinent, who could easily have been a model for Mauricio. Good in original wrappers, light wear to covers and spine. $300.

Plarr was a founding member of the Rhymer's Club, this collection of poetry was originally intended to be a joint publication with Ernest Dowson. Much admired by Ezra Pound for his descriptions of the decadent 90's, this was his first work of verse. Good in original boards, light sunning and wear to spine. $400.


A scandalous novel of love and romantic triangles in a roman à clef with many recognizable portraits from contemporary Florentine, Umbrian and Roman life. Very good in illustrated wrappers, light wear to covers, with small chip to cover. $400.


A later edition of the controversial decadent novel that originally appeared in 1884, published in Belgium, and long considered Rachilde's masterpiece. Called a "saturnalia of decadent eroticism" the novel contains something for nearly every conceivable sexual taste and maintains it's ability to shock even modern tastes.

Very good in original wrappers with some edgewear and small edge chips, spine rather fatigued. This edition contains a preface by Maurice Barrès describing the furor over the book when it first appeared. $175.
One of several books of historical fiction with gay themes written by Redni, all of them quite rare. Very good in boards with light wear to edges, original wrappers not present.
$250.

Mario Stefani's homoerotic verse, accompanied by linocuts of adolescent boys by J. Martin Pitts. One of only 26 special copies, signed by the author and artist. Very good in original handmade illustrated boards. Laid in is a supplement, also limited to 26 lettered copies, which contains an original signed linocut and five additional poems. In addition, there is a prospectus for the book and a suite of the linocuts laid into a custom chemise and slipcase., Two bookplates for the translator, Anthony Reid (by Ralph Chubb and John Buckland Wright) are also included.
$750.

A largely autobiographical novel by the Uranian writer, based upon the author's difficult childhood. Good in red boards, spine sunned, light warp, small stain to cover. Inscribed on front endpaper.
$425.

First edition of this historical novel about Antinous and the Emperor Hadrian. An uncommon book in any edition, this is a very nice copy in the publisher's binding, very light wear to covers. Young 3757, Murray's List 414.
$425.

A memoir of the famed painter of boys and boats by his sister, who has discretely overlooked his Uranian circle of friends and his homosexual leanings.
Very good in blue linen boards, with the original quite uncommon dust jacket, a bit worn and rubbed.
$245.

A decadent erotic novel with androgynous characters, illustrated with 25 black and white illustrations by Maurice Neumont. The author of more than forty books, many on similar themes, she was widely respected in fin de siecle literary circles. A good copy in illustrated wrappers, closed tear to cover.
$200.

The extremely rare first edition of this gay novel set in Algeria, written by the eccentric Hamilton, who later gained fame as "Mr. Norris" in Isherwood's Berlin novels. The book is surprisingly forthright in its depiction of homosexual love and was reputedly suppressed upon publication, only to be republished in 1966 under the author's name. The original prospectus for the book describes the book as possessing "a psychological interest not surpassed by such a work as *Tim* or *Dédé* or *The Garden God.*" The story revolves about the passionate relationship of Julian, a "strong English lad" and the Arab boy Tayeb, who was "unconscious of anything but his own happiness."

A beautiful copy in the original jade colored illustrated boards, with illustrated endpapers and frontispiece, very light wear to spine. The prospectus notes that the sole agent for the distribution of the book was C. W. Beaumont, who later published several books under his own imprint and became very involved in the dance world. Exceedingly rare. $4,500.
51. **(WILDE, Oscar)**. *Oscar Wilde Galop*. Boston: Oliver Ditson [1880s]. 6pp. (8.5” x 10.5”).

A rare musical score for the *Oscar Wilde Galop* inspired by Wilde’s legendary 1882 tour of America. When Oscar Wilde arrived in America to begin a series of lectures on Aestheticism, he provoked considerable comment on both sides of the Atlantic. The *Oscar Wilde Galop* was one of a number of topical dance pieces which capitalised on Wilde’s arrival in America, many of which lampooned his rarefied aesthetic tastes. Wilde frequently wore or carried a sunflower, helping to establish the flower as an emblem of the movement.

Irregular tear at spine with pages separated at spine and large closed tear at lower left corner otherwise good. See cover illustration. $525.