



104 East 25th Street • New York, NY 10010  
Telephone: 212.254.4710 • Fax: 212.979.1017  
swannalleries.com

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Contact: Alexandra Nelson  
Communications Director  
212-254-4710 ext. 19  
[alexandra@swannalleries.com](mailto:alexandra@swannalleries.com)

## Swann Galleries Presents English and Enlightenment Works In March Auction of Early Printed Books

New York— On **Thursday, March 9**, Swann Galleries will hold an auction of **Early Printed, Medical, Scientific & Travel Books**, featuring a premier selection of early English material.

The top lot of the sale is a leaf from the Gutenberg Bible, Mainz, 1455, with the text of Ecclesiasticus 16:14-18:29, estimated at \$40,000 to \$60,000. Further doctrinal material includes the fourth edition of the first volume of Petrus Berchorius's *Liber Bibliae moralis*, Cologne, 1477, a thirteenth century encyclopedia of the Bible and the natural world (\$10,000 to \$15,000) and the first edition in English of Hans Holbein's *The Images of the Old Testament*, 1549, featuring 94 woodcuts by the artist and valued at \$10,000 to \$15,000. A 1560 first edition of the Geneva Bible, the predominant bible in Elizabethan England, is expected to bring \$10,000 to \$15,000. The 1674 third edition of Baruch Spinoza's *Tractatus Theologico-Politicus*, which includes the 1666 *Philosophia S. Scripturae interpretes* by Spinoza's friend and editor Lodewijk Meijer, a controversial work arguing for the philosophical interpretation of scripture, estimated at \$2,000 to \$3,000, also makes an appearance.

Early English books featured in this sale include Antonio de Guevara's manual of statecraft *The Dial of Princes*, 1568 (\$3,000 to \$5,000); the first English edition of Niccolò Machiavelli's *The Florentine Historie*, 1595 (\$3,000 to \$5,000); Michel de Montaigne's *The Essayes*, the precursor of the modern essay form, 1603 (\$8,000 to \$12,000); and Sir Philip Sidney's influential prose romance *The Countess of Pembrokes Arcadia*, 1598 (\$3,000 to \$5,000). Also available is the third edition of the English translation by Sir Thomas North of Plutarch's *The Lives of the Noble Grecians and Romaines*, London, 1603, from Jacques Amyot's French version of the original Greek, as well as the first edition of Samuel Johnson's 1755 *Dictionary of the English Language*, (\$1,500 to \$2,000 and \$6,000 to \$9,000, respectively).

From the travel section comes *An Embassy from the East-India Company of the United Provinces, to the Grand Tartar Cham, Emperour of China*, 1673, written by Jan Nieuhoff et al and originally published as part of John Ogilby's series of travel atlases (\$4,000 to \$6,000). Several tomes recount exploration into the Middle East, including the first edition of Jean de la Roque's *Voyage de l'Arabie Heureuse*, 1716-22, with three engraved folding plates of coffee plants, valued at \$1,500 to \$2,500.

A thirteenth-century noted ferial psalter and hymnal in Latin, with Western and Low German Saints' Days (\$3,000 to \$5,000) is one of several rare manuscripts in the sale. Also available is a collection of 15 prayers composed by Charles V of Spain with engraved illustrations of gospel scenes, written in Spanish in Brussels in 1676; this volume, in an embellished red cloth binding, is expected to

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fetch \$3,000 to \$5,000.

Further highlights include the Italian translation by Leonardo Cernoti of Claudius Ptolemaeus's *Geografia*, Venice, 1598-97, with notes by the astronomer Giovanni Antonio Magini. This edition includes a double-hemisphere world map after Rumold Mercator, as well as 63 half-page maps; it is valued between \$3,000 and \$5,000. The second edition of Christophorus Georgius de Honestis's *Expositio super Antidotario Mesue*, printed in Bologna in 1488, is also present. This late fourteenth-century commentary is based on the *Antidotarium* ascribed to the Baghdad court physician Mesuë the Younger, a popular pharmacopeia based on Muslim knowledge (\$3,000 to \$5,000).

In addition to a first edition of *Paradise Lost* by John Milton, 1668 (\$6,000 to \$9,000), there is also an extensive selection of philosophical works by important figures of the Enlightenment, including René Descartes, John Evelyn, Thomas Hobbes, David Hume, John Locke and François-Marie Arouet de Voltaire.

In the medical section is an archive of letters from Harvey Cushing to the great-niece of Elisha Bartlett, regarding the collection of Bartlett material he assembled with her help, estimated at \$5,000 to \$10,000. A sizable offering of seventeenth- to early twentieth-century works from the philosophy library of Professor Jan Ludwig features first editions by David Hume and Immanuel Kant, including Kant's *Critik der reinen Vernunft*, printed in Riga in 1781 (\$8,000 to \$12,000).

The auction will be held Thursday, March 9, beginning at 10:30 a.m. The auction preview will be open to the public Saturday, March 4 from noon to 5 p.m.; Monday, March 6 through Wednesday, March 8, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

An illustrated auction catalogue is available for \$35 from Swann Galleries, Inc., 104 East 25th Street, New York, NY 10010, or online at [www.swannalleries.com](http://www.swannalleries.com).

For further information or to make advance arrangements to bid by telephone during the auction, please contact Early Printed Books Specialist Tobias Abeloff at 212-254-4710, extension 18 or [tabeloff@swannalleries.com](mailto:tabeloff@swannalleries.com).

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