

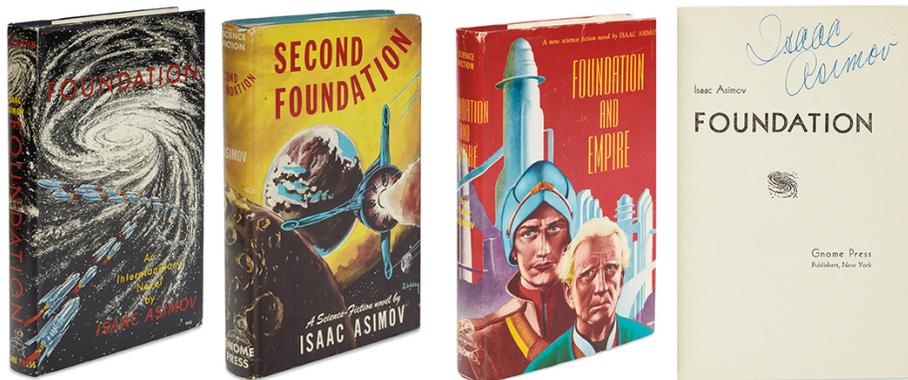


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## Sci-Fi Collection Dominates Swann Literature Auction

### Records Achieved for Isaac Asimov & Philip K. Dick

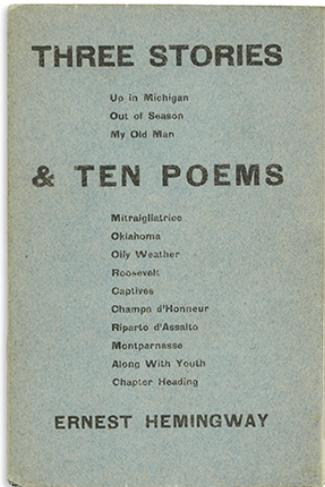


**New York**— Science fiction ruled on **May 15** at **Swann Galleries'** auction of **19th & 20th Century Literature**. Selections from the Estate of Stanley Simon, featuring 84 rare and first editions of cornerstones of the genre, boasted a 98% sell-through rate. All of the offered titles by **Isaac Asimov**, Ray Bradbury, Philip K. Dick and Stephen King sold, with many achieving auction records.

Leading the pack was a signed first edition of Dick's dystopian novel *The Man in the High Castle*, 1962, which was purchased by a collector for \$10,400, above a high estimate of \$6,000, a record for the work. Another record was achieved by a signed first edition of *Ubik*, 1969, at \$5,500, while the auction debut of the rare galley proofs for *Valis*, 1981, reached \$5,000.

Simon had acquired several uncorrected proofs of important works, none of which had previously appeared at auction. While not strictly science-fiction, material by Stephen King outperformed in this category. The highlight was the presentation copy of an uncorrected proof of *The Stand*, 1978, which sold to a collector for \$9,100. Also available were one of apparently 28 copies of proofs of King's *The Shining*, 1977, inscribed, which sold for five times its high estimate for \$6,250, and the complete six-volume set of uncorrected proofs of King's *The Green Mile*, 1996, exceeded its \$1,200 high estimate to sell for \$5,200.

Another highlight from the Simon estate was the complete *Foundation* trilogy, 1951-53, by Isaac Asimov. Together, the three signed first editions achieved an auction record of \$9,750. Also by Asimov, a



signed first edition of *I, Robot*, 1950, reached \$6,250, above a high estimate of \$3,500. Important editions of Ray Bradbury's magnum opus *Fahrenheit 451*, 1953, were led by the limited author's edition personally inscribed to Simon (\$7,500). The popular asbestos-bound edition reached \$5,200. All six editions offered were purchased.

Specialist John D. Larson noted, "Sci-fi has always had a multi-generational appeal; pop culture's appetite for literary-based films of this genre continues unabated." He added, "Material from both the nineteenth & twentieth centuries performed equally well, with a robust 86% sell-through rate overall."

Further highlights from the auction included the first edition of **Ernest Hemingway's** first work, *Three Stories & Ten Poems*, 1923, which sold to a collector for \$23,750. The first editions of Emily Dickinson's first three books of *Poems*, 1890-96, reached \$13,750.

The next auction of **Books** at Swann Galleries will be **Early Printed, Medical, Scientific & Travel Books** on October 16, 2018. The house is currently accepting quality consignments for autumn auctions.

Additional highlights can be found [here](#).

#### Captions:

[Lot 193](#): Ernest Hemingway, *Three Stories & Ten Poems*, limited first edition, Paris, 1923. Sold May 15, 2018, for \$23,750. (Pre-sale estimate: \$20,000 to \$30,000)

[Lot 4](#): Isaac Asimov, *Foundation* trilogy, first editions, signed, New York, 1951-53. From the Estate of Stanley Simon. Sold May 15, 2018 for \$9,750, a record for the work. (Pre-sale estimate: \$4,500 to \$6,000)

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