

SCHULSON AUTOGRAPHS

Catalog 183

Featuring items for the 59th Annual New York International Antiquarian Book Fair

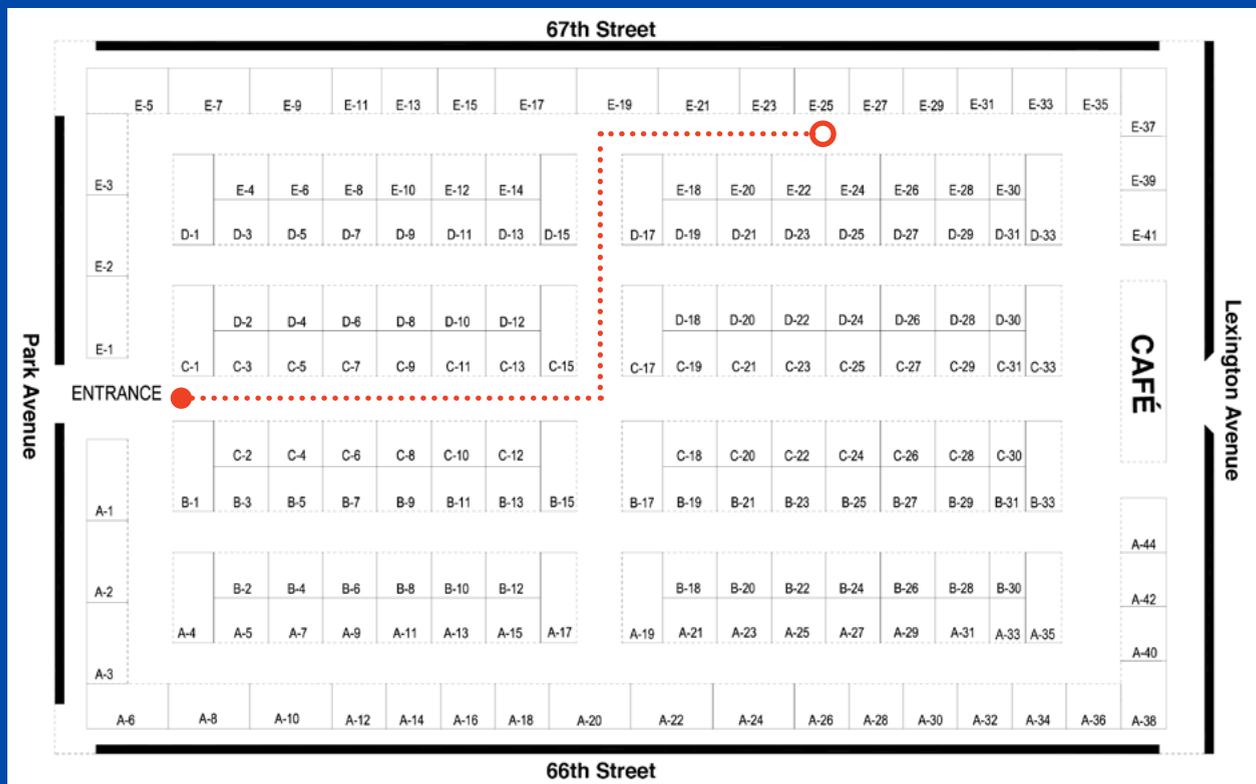
Thursday, March 7 - Sunday, March 10

Park Avenue Armory

Park Avenue between 66th and 67th Streets

New York, NY

**VISIT US
IN BOOTH
E-25**



Dear Williamson,

Excuse the typewriting. I hate it, for I have a respect for print, born of a long career of effort to print well; and this spavined, unspaced batch of lettering riles me unspeakably. But the job I have in the R.A.F. now is a semi-clerical one, and part of it has to be done on a typewriter. So I try to combine private and public demands, by making my hateful typing lesson work off some of my equally-grudged letters. Letter-writing is a horror; which is a rude thing to tell a man to whom one is writing; but you'll guess how it is. If we were only in the same earth, I'd rush across 200 miles on my bike, to save myself a postcard.

However we aren't, so I must make the best of a bad job. It is very good of you to take my rushing in about Tarka so peaceably. Had I known you were so established a writer I'd never have had the cheek to write down my prentice ideas about the book. By the care and passion of the text I'd assumed you were a beginner, half in love with his first effort, and probably now heart-broken at its failure to come anywhere near the perfection dreamed of; - I'll never forget the despair with which I read my Seven Pillars in 1925, after forgetting it for two years. It was so incredibly unlike what I'd thought my talents (of which I'd had too good an opinion) would bring forth, that I then and there swore I'd never try again. If there'd been any redeemable feature... but the whole thing was unwholesome.

Back to Tarka: the worst thing about the war-generation of introspects is that they can't keep off their blooming selves. As you saw, I'm glad to say, by the length and elaboration of my remarks, the book did move me, and gratify me, profoundly. It was the real stuff. I shouldn't, if I were you, attempt to re-do it; the non-successes, the gritty stuff, of real people, ~~ix~~ are altogether topping as examples of how things come and grow; it's like sculpture; the brokenness of the Venus de Milo is the main virtue of that sentimental but very lovely work. I like best of all the books in which fallible men have burst themselves trying to be better than they can be. Tarka, to anyone who's tried to write, is a technical delight, all the more perfect for being imperfect, here and there. If you write it out again, and make a rounded and gracious thing of it, ~~you'll~~ you'll rob us of the object lesson, and deprive us of what might have been a new and very lovely book, on another subject.

Now a confession. In the R.A.F. we live in a communion which is voluntary and real. So as soon as the old stag arrived he disappeared. I haven't an idea who has him, out of the seven hundred fellows of us in camp. He will infallibly return, after a few days, or after many days; nothing ever goes wholly astray, not is anything wasted. They are like townies on a desert island, longing to taste all the fruit they see on the shelves of all the shops, but afraid to taste, without some guide to tell them what's what. Being almost book-blind, themselves, any guide is welcome. So they assume that all my books are eatable. I suffer, once in a way, as now; but generally I'm delighted that they should find me of use. I like these fellows enormously. We are really the same kind of creature - or would have been if I'd had a natural life, and not a mort of extravagant experience - and the nearer I can creep back towards them the safer I feel. They give one a root in the ground.

Your philosophy interests me. I haven't got so far myself; being so English as I am gives one a distrust for systems of any kind, and I don't believe I could think out anything worth while. When I try to think, it lasts about five minutes, and then digresses along some pathway of dream. And if I try to understand any reputable philosopher, I find myself either fast or yawning in half an hour. You seem to have dramatised yourself with some success. I judge only by what you tell me of your novels. I would like to see them; - but will not ask you for them. If you'll take the risk of sending them - well and good. They will be borrowed, and read to death by all the oily-handed, and discussed crudely in half a dozen rooms; and I'll do them less than justice, for all my reading has to be done where I live and sleep, on my bed in barracks. This common life is not fit for literary sorts; but a war with it, even if by nature literary, ~~is~~ ~~is~~

He came
back
yesterday
10 4 28

CLOTH SAMPLES

Seven bright triangular patches of patterned cloth attached to a detailed invoice, in French, Rheims, Aug. 16, 1812.

► [View Online: Item #4617](#)

DOYLE, ARTHUR CONAN

(1859–1930). British physician, crime and science fiction author, creator of Sherlock Holmes.

Doyle expresses anger over a Sherlock Holmes play in this exceptional Autograph Letter Signed, on one page of printed address stationery, South Norwood, June 3, 1894. He considers taking “action” over the unauthorized production and possible use of his name.

► [View Online: Item #4440](#)

GINSBERG, ALLEN

(1926–97). American poet regarded as the spokesman for the Beat Generation.

Ginsberg proclaims, “I am not a Marxist” in this substantial typed letter to fellow Beat poet, Ira Cohen (1935–2011). As part of his detailed request to Cohen to help Russian poet Yevgeny Yevtushenko (1932–2017), Ginsberg describes his views on both communism and Yevtushenko. Two pages on an aerogramme, Varanasi, India, April 29, 1963.

► [View Online: Item #4616](#)

GODARD, JEAN-LUC

(b. 1930). French film director, critic and screenwriter, associated with the French “New Wave” cinema.

Godard writes a concerned letter to film director and screenwriter Marc Allegret, (1900–73) after learning Allegret “had to leave the set of ‘Petroleurs’ to be taken to the hospital...Perhaps...you will need someone to give blood...” April 3 (ca 1970–71).

► [View Online: Item #4621](#)

HEANEY, SEAMUS

(b. 1939). Irish poet, awarded 1995 Nobel Prize in Literature.

Idyllic pen and ink line drawing, perhaps of the Irish country side, signed and dated, measuring 8.25 by 11 inches.

► [View Online: Item #4607](#)

HOUDINI, HARRY

(1874–1926). Hungarian American magician.

Revealing correspondence between Houdini and mentalist Julius Zancig about mind reading, with illustration: 1- Zancig Typed Letter unsigned, to Houdini on “Zancig Studio” stationery explaining the mind reading trick “How to Thought Picture”; with envelope addressed to Houdini, postmarked Asbury Park, NJ., August 8, 1925. Zancig wrote “Private” on verso of this letter. 2- Written on behalf of Houdini, possibly by secretary Julie Sawyer, a holograph letter signed for him to mentalist Julius Zancig, in pencil, three separate 4to pages, August 17, 1925; Julie Sawyer was the niece of Houdini’s wife Bess. 3- Typed Letter unsigned, 2 pp, to Zancig with a hexagram diagram Houdini likely drew, in ink, Aug. 21, 1925.

► [View Online: Item #1557](#)

LAWRENCE, T.E.

aka LAWRENCE of ARABIA [T. E. Shaw]

(1888–1935). British archaeologist, soldier and writer. Leader of the Arab revolt against the Ottoman Empire (1917–18) described in his “The Seven Pillars of Wisdom” (1926).

First Letter in the T. E. Lawrence and Henry Williamson correspondence, Typed and Holograph, Signed, two sides on one large folio sheet, [Karachi], April 2, 1928. Published. Lawrence critiques Williamson’s writing and refers to his own writing of “The Seven Pillars of Wisdom.”

► [View Online: Item #4614](#)



Item #4620. Jean Negulesco pastel drawing

NEGULESCO, JEAN

(1900–1993). Romanian born American film director, writer and artist.

Vibrant pastel drawing, Signed, sketched in Mexico [1936] of a barefoot male figure carrying a full basket perhaps of fruit. Rendered early in his film making career.

► [View Online: Item #4620](#)

PATCHEN, KENNETH

(1911–72). American poet and artist.

Substantial five page Autograph Letter Signed to "Mrs. Kenneth Patchen," about an offer by composer Harry Geller (1913–2008) to write a libretto for an opera Geller would compose. Hollywood, envelope postmarked, March 20, 1958,

► [View Online: Item #4609](#)

ROBESON, PAUL

(1898–1976). American singer, actor, civil rights activist.

Photograph signed, ca 1933, "Paul Robeson." Bust length, sepia toned, post card size, docketed on verso "5th October 1933

► [View Online: Item #4618](#)

STEINBECK, JOHN

(1902–68). American novelist, received the 1962 Nobel Prize in Literature.

In a lengthy five page illustrated holograph letter Steinbeck explains in great detail his ideas for redesigned Land Rover including air pollution control and safer seats. Sag Harbor, June 30, 1965. Signed "J.S."

► [View Online: Item #4333](#)

TESLA, NIKOLA

(1856–1943). Serbian born American electrical and mechanical engineer, prolific inventor, developed alternating current (AC) for commercial electricity.

Tesla writes to Bernard A. Behrend (1875–1932), electrical engineer about an "order for the 220 volt motor" Rare Typed Letter Signed on illustrated "Tesla Laboratory, Long Island, N.Y." stationery, October 9, 1908.

► [View Online: Item #4460](#)

WELLES, ORSON

(1915–85). American director, writer, actor, and producer for film, stage, radio, and television.

Welles writes about plans to produce two plays, "The Guide" and "Brittle Glory," but felt overlooked by London reviews of Ionesco's "Rhinoceros." Typed Letter Signed, with a doodle, Zagreb, Yugoslavia, ca.1960.

► [View Online: Item #4615](#)

WELLS, H.G

(1866–1946). English author known for his science fiction novels.

Wells draws a captioned comical sketch of a figure shooting an oversized elephant gun at an aeronaut in a bi-plane. Written to aeronautical engineer J. W. Dunne who designed similar planes. Illustrated Autograph Letter Signed, on blind embossed personalized stationery, Sandgate, April 6, 1904.

► [View Online: Item #4355](#)

Dearest

Thursday pm

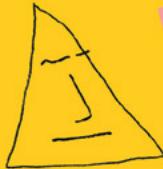
Looks like we close at Cal-T
Saturday (March 22) - at least
Allyn told me half hr ago
that that was it.

But since I have two appoint-
ments for Monday pm - one
for a taped interview, the
other to see Harry Geller,
the NBC man I mentioned
to you - and since Allyn
plans to stay on a couple
days, chances are I'll be
coming, say, on Tuesday.
Nothing absolutely sure yet.

A book from
Schulson Autographs

RIZZOLI
NEW YORK

An A-Z of
Famous
Doodles



Scrawl

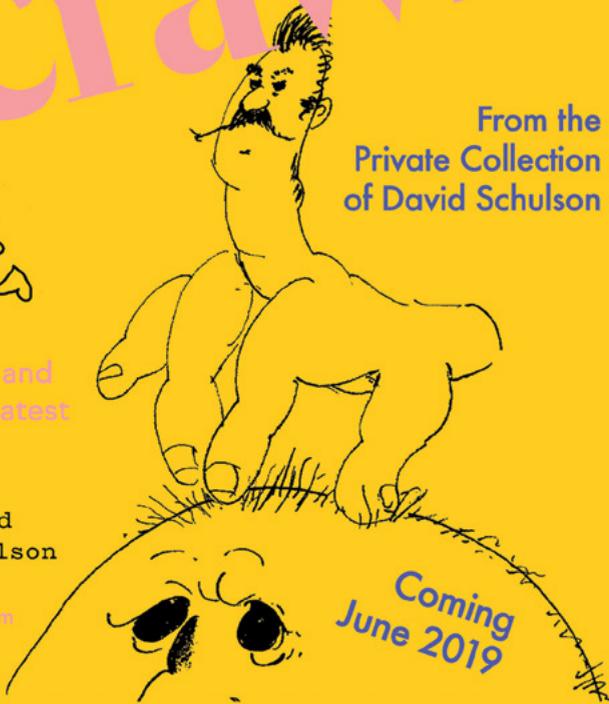
From the
Private Collection
of David Schulson



Sketches, Jottings, and
Notes from the Greatest
Minds in History

Caren, Claudia, and
Todd Strauss-Schulson

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