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CATALOG #180
MARCH 2018

13 new letters and drawings
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ABBRiEViATIONS

A.L.S.
Autograph Letter Signed
[written and signed by the person described].

L.S. [T.L.S.]
Letter Signed
[signed by the person described, but the text or body written by another or typewritten]

D.S.
Document Signed

A.Q.S.
Autograph Quotation Signed

A.N.S.
Autograph Note Signed

MEASUREMENTS
Vertical measurement given first.

4to
Quarto [approximately 11x8B/c inches]

8vo
Octavo [approximately 8x5 inches]

vn.d.
No date

n.p.
No place

n.y.
No year
ALECHINSKY, PIERRE

(b. 1927) Belgian artist who studied illustration techniques, printing and photography. He helped to form the art group, Cobra. Alechinsky also studied engraving and became interested in oriental calligraphy. His paintings are related to Tachisme, Abstract Expressionism, and Lyrical Abstraction.


Typed Letter Signed: Alechinsky, one of the artists who, with Christian Dotremont, Karel Appel, Asger Jorn and two others formed the avant-garde art group Cobra in 1948. Cobra emphasized freedom for each artist to develop their own style. The Cobra group was short lived, lasting only from 1948 to 1951. During this time, Alechinsky ran Cobra’s magazine entitled “Cobra,” issuing a total of 8 issues between 1949 and 1951. Issue #6, in 1950, contained Hugo Claus’ work, coinciding with his exhibition “Apport 49” in the gallery Apollo. That same year, his book “Zonder vorm van process” was published and distributed by Cobra. Alechinsky designed the cover and made two lithographs [see estherschreuder.wordpress.com]. In the letter offered here, Alechinsky asks for support for his magazine and mentions Claus’ work. He signs, “P. Alechinsky.”

Typed Document Signed, titled, “Perdu en Pleine Pate” translated as “Lost in Paint.” Above the title, the artist has penned his full name, “Pierre Alechinsky,” with last name in full capitols and added the date on the last page, “27.1.1954.” In 1951, Alechinsky went to Paris to study engraving with William Stanley Hayter. He had received a grant to study at Atelier 17 where he became very interested in Asian calligraphy. His first exhibition in Paris in 1954 and in 1955, he went to Japan to study Japanese brush strokes and Asian art. His “Something of a World,” an etching with text in mirror image of a poem by the artist, was printed by Atelier 17 in 1952. “Something of a World” is typed in the manuscript offered here. If Alechinsky typed this manuscript himself, he has typed his poems and thoughts/reflections on painting and producing art, most of which (if not all) are published in his “Lettre suit,” published by Gallimard, Paris, in 1992. In “Lettre suit,” Alechinsky writes a memoir, an autobiography, with an essay on lost paintings, lost art, and incorporates poems and thoughts where he incorporates the ideas, comments and poems from these manuscript pages. It’s possible Alechinsky
put together these thoughts and poems for a proposed memoir which didn’t manifest itself until 1992.

From TLS: “Our magazine, by the way, is the only international art review that gives amateurs a wide exposure. We consider ourselves lucky to have the support of the Maeght Gallery, represented by M. Langui, M. Giron, and M. Curt Valentin, and in a future issue we will feature original prints of Miró and Giacometti.”

From TDS: Page 1 begins. “The breakwater parallels/ Only meet in infinity/ By means of a Small boat.” Page 2 begins: “Something of a world/ Where the writing of a glass/ Hiding in the shadow/ Approaches the reverse.” Page 3 begins: “So inhale the decadence/ Of dead nights stuck in the mud/ Yield to them the glass of separations/ Like salted ice…” Page 4 begins: “The problems/ They stretch so they can throw a stick in our wheel. We see them in a hole, certain that we have rendered them immobile. They hold us, they hum to the cradle that tosses us from the road into the ditch. They hem us in and say to us, ‘there...there... that’s it... there’...” He writes the date at the end of page 4.

$550
Item ID: 4428
View this listing on schulsonautographs.com
CARUSO, ENRICO

(1873–1921). Italian singer. First appeared at the Metropolitan Opera house in New York in 1903 in 'Rigoletto'.


On the lower margin of his printed portrait photograph, the great tenor writes to his son in boarding school that. "The car is running very well and when I return you will see it...." He signs, ”Your papa.” The postcard shows Caruso's printed signature.

$500
ITEM ID: 4433
View this listing on schulsonautographs.com

“THE CAR IS RUNNING VERY WELL....”
CUMMINGS, E. E. (EDWARD ESTLIN)

(1894–1962) American poet and painter. Recognized as a groundbreaking writer in the field of poetry because of his use and positioning of words, use of syntax and subject matter of his poems.

Appealing, Bright Water Color Signed, “Figure in Blue Hat,” attached to a blue mat printed with the title of the painting and artist’s name embossed in gold. Painting measures 8.5 x 10.5 inches, mat measures 13 x 16. Signed in the upper left, “Cummings.”

Our drawing is likely from Cummings later stylistic period. The Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center on line describes Cummings works as falling into two phases: “The first phase, about 1915-1928, was represented by his experimental large-scale abstracts and his drawings and caricatures published in The Dial. During the 1920s Cummings started to drop out of the gallery scene, and he came to view the art establishment as anti-intellectual. The second phase of his art was from about 1928 until his death; this phase was characterized by representational works: still lifes, landscapes, nudes, and portraits.” Signed water color portraits are uncommon.

$4,500
ITEM ID: 4432
View this listing on schulsonautographs.com
(1875–1946) American artist whose work concentrated on the American West; married for a time to American photographer Dorothea Lange

**Scarcce Autograph Letter Signed, 3 separate 4to pp, Montgomery St., Sept. 5 (1922?).**

Dixon writes about his wife, photographer Dorothea Lange (1895-1965). Lange is best known for her iconic images of Depression era rural poverty in America. Dixon and Lange married in 1920 and divorced in 1935. Lange established herself as a photographer during the course of their rocky marriage. At the end of 1935, Lange married economist Paul Taylor. Here, Dixon worries about Lange and seeks insight from Blanche Partington, a local Christian Science practitioner in San Francisco where Dixon and Lange lived. The letter suggests that Partington was some sort of spiritual counselor.

Dixon apologizes for writing “somewhat gropingly, so you had better read it with reservations. There seems to be something amiss with Dorothea. She is casework, tired, steadily losing weight, and there's an indefinable sadness about her...” Dixon surmises that Lange’s desire for a child may account for her “sadness.” He describes their different dispositions. “…she is of a strongly spiritual nature; she has the ‘great faith’...my observations, experience and meditations have...led me steadily away from this. So somehow I feel that deep down, underneath all outward signs, the fault must be mine. I daily perceive there must be maladjustment between us in this regard. Perhaps hard experience has made me less kindly or less tolerant than I should be....”

Dixon writes about his own philosophic changes. “I find much of the ideal in men's proclamations & but little in their actions; nor do I find the ‘faith’ that I once sought in books, religious or philosophical. I have reverence for the force I see in nature – the Power that moves the universe, - but cannot see that as we humanly understand, it is either moral or beneficent – it simply IS....” He makes clear that he does not seek advice about how to understand or cope with Lange, but asks that Partington “would investigate it professionally for me” if she thinks his presentation “is a fair statement.” Dixon ends the letter noting confidentiality. “In writing to you I have not consulted Dorothea – I don't want her to add my perplexity to hers...she was intending to consult you on her own account....” Dixon offers two phone numbers and signs in full, “Maynard Dixon.”

The conflict within Lange during the early years of their marriage may also have been a reaction to Dixon’s “difficult” ten-year old daughter who came to live with them shortly after they were married. During the first few years of
their marriage, Dixon's work blossomed while Lange looked after the house and their now three-person family. She was trying to be a working woman in a world not yet ready for such things with a man not quite understanding of her needs as he somewhat realizes in this letter. He left all care of Constance Dixon, his daughter known as Consie and household responsibility to Lange who was, in actuality, the breadwinner for the family. Consie was an abused product of divorced parents, with a mother who suffered from either alcoholism or mental illness, or perhaps both. Consie treated Lange very badly, demanding her attention while she was trying to work and run the house. [Much of this information above and below from “Dorothea Lange: A Life Beyond,” by Linda Gordon].

Lange began to resent Dixon’s lengthy traveling, leaving her without consulting her. Apparently, he cheated on her while away. Whether this bothered Lange or not is hard to say as some sources claim that it was part of the reason their marriage sustained fifteen years. [http://thisrecording.com (2012 – in which Dorothea Lange attempts matrimony – by Ellen Copperfield]

In 1922, the year Dixon likely penned this letter, (and again for a time in 1923), Consie was “placed out” as it was called then for four months while Lange and Dixon stayed on a Navajo reservation in Arizona. It is reasonable to suggest that this letter could have been written before Lange and Dixon went on their four-month journey to Arizona, escaping the stresses of looking after Consie and the house while building a career. It does not appear that as Dixon says in this letter, Lange was unhappy at not having a child of her own. She was consciously on birth control for the first five years of her marriage until she decided to have a child. Daniel was born in 1925.

Our letter offers insight into the personal lives of two important twentieth century artists during the time they were husband and wife.
DOYLE, ARTHUR CONAN

(1859–1930) British author most noted for his stories about the detective Sherlock Holmes, which are generally considered a major innovation in the field of crime fiction, and for the adventures of Professor Challenger. He was a prolific writer whose other works include science fiction stories.

Doyle objects to a play about Sherlock Holmes. Autograph Letter Signed, on one page of printed address stationery, South Norwood, June 3, 1894.

Conan Doyle considers “action” over a dramatization of Sherlock Holmes. After inquiring about his correspondent’s new book, Holmes asks Reid to do something for him. “A chap in Glasgow has dramatized Holmes and I am very sick about it. Would it bore you too much to attend one performance and let me know what it is like?...” He asks Reid to send the program. “Another point is that I want to know whether my name appears on the posters. It is possible that I may take action in the matter....”

The play which so annoyed Sherlock Holmes’ creator was titled, “Sherlock Holmes: A Psychological Drama in Five Acts - a play by Charles Rogers. In December 1893, the play was performed at the Theatre Royal, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent. It began touring on May 28, 1894 at the theatre Royal Glasgow with Holmes played by the actor John Webb.

Plot summary: Wilton Hursher, a madman, takes refuge from the pursuit of the police in the house of a certain Dr. Watson. Here the maniac, in an interview with the doctor gives him a blow which knocks him senseless, and then carries him off to his (Hursher’s) house. The shock has destroyed Watson’s memory, and when Sherlock Holmes visits the house the doctor does not recognize him. Watson is even induced to agree to marry the madman’s daughter, and when confronted with his own wife and child in the church cannot recollect them, and wants the bigamous ceremony to go on. Holmes drugs Watson in order to stop him from committing the crime, and Sherlock is arrested and imprisoned, charged with murder. However, he escapes, gets to the Central Hospital, and prevents a post-mortem examination of Watson’s body being made. Hursher poisons himself in the last act of the drama, Watson’s memory returns to him, and he is united with his wife. [from arthur-conan-doyle.com/index]

$13,300
ITEM ID: 4440
View this listing on schulsonautographs.com

“A CHAP IN GLASGOW HAS DRAMATIZED HOLMES AND I AM VERY SICK ABOUT IT....”
DUSE, ELEONORA

(1859–1924) Italian actress who became famous by performing roles originally done by the rival actress Sarah Bernhardt. She became closely associated with the dramatist Gabriele d'Annunzio who wrote four plays for her.

Large Photograph of the famed actress as Magda in the play “Heimat” by dramatist Hermann Sudermann. The photograph was taken in New York by photographer Aime Dupont. It measures 5.5 x 7.25 on hard board measuring 10 x 11.75. On verso using her familiar purple ink, she dedicates, signs and dates the photograph “To Mr. B. Webster E. Duse 1896, New York.”

Duse successfully toured the United States in 1896 when this photograph is dedicated in New York. An exceptionally large signed image of one of the 19th and early 20th century’s great actresses. Condition: Overall darkened, some staining on left edge and light crimping to surface of board in two spots not affecting image. Surface chip to upper right corner of board. In good overall condition.

$650
ITEM ID: 4438
View this listing on schulsonautographs.com

“A CHAP IN GLASGOW HAS DRAMATIZED HOLMES
AND I AM VERY SICK ABOUT IT....”
DUSE, ELEONORA

(1859–1924) Italian actress who became famous by performing roles originally done by the rival actress Sarah Bernhardt. She became closely associated with the dramatist Gabriele d'Annunzio who wrote four plays for her.

Autograph Letter Signed on her emblematic stationery of her dramatic company, in Italian, 1 page on folio bifol, n.p., Monday, n.d.

Duse requests that her agent, “Mr. Smith,” send tickets without fail to Mr. Geri. The stationery measures approximately 8.75 x 11 inches. On the fourth side she addresses her request to Mr. Smith.”

$325
ITEM ID: 4437
View this listing on schulsonautographs.com

“A CHAP IN GLASGOW HAS DRAMATIZED HOLMES AND I AM VERY SICK ABOUT IT....”
ERNI, HANS

(1909-2015) Prolific Swiss artist, whose work encompassed painting, sculpture, engraving, illustration ranging in size from postage stamp to wall mural.

Original Color Etching Signed in pencil, numbered 18/30; image measures 4 x 5 inches on 7.25 x 9.25 China paper.

This etching was produced for C. F. Ramuz's "Aline. 15 eaux-fortes de Hans Erni." (Lausanne, 1970). Attached to bi-folium mat measuring 9 x 12 inches. The portrait etching is produced in tones of brown and bronze. Signature in pencil is clear though light. Fine overall condition.

$325
ITEM ID: 4427
View this listing on schulsonautographs.com
Herrmann, Bernard

American composer and conductor noted for his film scores. His career began with “Citizen Kane” (1941) and ended with “Taxi Driver” (1976). His music is associated with the films directed by Orson Welles and Alfred Hitchcock.

Outstanding group consisting of an Autograph Letter Signed, on personalized printed stationery, 4to, North Hollywood, Aug. 15 n.y. but most likely 1958; Typed Document (Contract) Signed for “Have Gun Will Travel” theme music; with “Wire Paladin” Calling Card.

Herrmann composed the popular music for the TV classic, “Have Gun Will Travel,” which aired from 1957-63 on CBS. The show’s main character, Paladin, was a well mannered mercenary gunfighter. In our letter, Herrmann writes about music rights noting the “Have Gun Will Travel” composition purchased by CBS. “Enclose [sic] are the contracts - as follows I to VI are radio music - which C.B S owned radio rights and in 57 purchased all rights . 7 to 14 - are works of mine from my own files that I reworked for T. V. use and which C. B. S. purchased...15 - is theme written for Have Gun Will Travel...” He signs, “Bernard.” The letter shows a smudged date stamped at the top near the address indicating receipt by the recipient, dated Aug. 18, 1958.

The contract accompanying this letter on “CBS Television” stationery consists of 4 separate 4to pages, January 18, 1957. The contract engages Herrmann to “compose...an original musical composition, including full orchestral score...as theme music in connection with the production of a filmed television series... tentatively entitled HAVE GUN WILL TRAVEL...” Herrmann signs in full on page 4 above his typed name and with initials on page 3 in the margin of a deleted paragraph.

A scarce “Have Gun Will Travel Wire Paladin San Francisco” business card with the iconic knight chess piece accompanies the letter and contract. The card measures in inches 1.75 x 3.50.

Condition: The letter shows browning in upper left corner possibly from a rusted paper clip, a slight browned chip at left edge and slightly larger browned chip at right edge, midway in both instances; margin folds apparent and some overall wrinkling. Contract shows rusted paper clip stains on each page and some rust around staple in upper left, otherwise in good condition.

$2,500
ITEM ID: 4426
View this listing on schulsonautographs.com
Autograph Letter Signed on her preferred places to dance, in French, 2 pp one one sheet of on “Majestic Hotel” stationery, Paris, n.d.

To the dance impresario, (Nicol) Gerson, “Dear Mr. Gerson, I will be expecting you at 4 p.m. at my house. With best regards from”, and signed in full in very large hand, ”Mata-Hari”. Verso, “The Moulin Rouge has asked for me again. As institutions go, I do not like it. In Paris, there are only three places I can do: Folies Bergeres, Olympia, and Marigny.” This letter is on the hotel stationery and includes the addressed envelope. Framed in brown wood with archival materials and conservation glass opened to reveal both sides of the letter.

After working as a model and circus performer, Zelle began performing as an “exotic” dancer in 1905 and changed her name to the more colorful Mata Hari. Her erotically charged performances and mysterious persona captured the imagination of audiences wherever she performed, and her charms were such that she attained a considerable reputation as a high-class courtesan whose “clients” included Europe’s political and military elite. After claiming to work as an intelligence agent for the French during World War I, she was unmasked as a double agent who used her relative ease of movement across international borders (as a “neutral” Dutch subject) to pass secrets to the Germans. Captured in her Paris hotel room on February 13, 1917, she was tried, convicted (despite inconclusive evidence against her), and executed by firing squad at the age of forty-one.

$5,000

ITEM ID: 961

View this listing on schulsonautographs.com
SPRINCHORN, CARL


Original Drawing titled “To Emphasize Space,” with notes in pencil and initialed. Drawing rendered in artists crayon measuring 11.5 x 8.5 inches, laid onto a 16 x 20 inch cream colored mat.

Along the left edge and bottom left, the artist has written in pencil, “1. to embrace the mental as well as the visual 2-to emphasize space 3- life size on small canvas - a problem to solve.” On the lower left corner, he continues, “on small canvas,” and signs with initials in lower right corner, “C. Sp.” The drawing is titled on verso in another hand.

$2,200
ITEM ID: 4435
View this listing on schulsonautographs.com
TESLA, NIKOLA

(1856–1943) American electrical and mechanical engineer and prolific inventor best known for developing alternating current (AC) for commercial electricity, originally from Serbia now Croatia.

Rare Photograph Signed, Dedicated to electrical engineer, E. E. Bartlett, New York, June 9, 1896. Albumen print on original gray mount measures 12 x 9 1/2 inches

Tesla sits in front of the spiral coil for his high-frequency transformer. On the mount, he inscribes, "To my friend E. E. Bartlett, New York, June 9, 1896, Nikola Tesla." Called the Tesla Coil, the high voltage transformer was developed to transmit electricity wirelessly. Tesla, sitting on a chair in front of his spiral coil, demonstrates the relative size of the coil. Many familiar wireless devices employ Tesla's technology, yet he remains best known for developing Alternating Current (AC) used around the world for transmitting electricity through wires. Alternating current (AC) ultimately won out over Thomas Edison's direct current (DC) for commercial use of electricity. After a fire destroyed his lab on March 13, 1895, on Fifth Ave, he built a new one on East Houston Street where it is likely this photograph was taken. Tesla was then working on X-ray imaging using the electricity produced by high frequency transformer.

E. E Bartlett, to whom this photograph is dedicated, was an electrical engineer and member of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers as was Tesla. It is possible they met at Institute meetings. Tesla served as a vice president of the organization from 1892 to 1894. Condition: Image in fine condition, very slight chipping to edges of mount.

$14,500
ITEM ID: 4439
View this listing on schulsonautographs.com
Wilde, Oscar

(1854–1900) Irish playwright, poet and novelist, perhaps best remembered for his novel, "The Picture of Dorian Gray" (1890).

Autograph Letter Signed with Two Illustrations, on printed address stationery, 8vo, 16, Tite Street, Chelsea, S. W., n.d. but between 1885-95.

Two doodles make this Oscar Wilde letter unusual if not unique. Wilde writes to a mysteriously named correspondent, "My Dear delightful Viking," whom Wilde later explains with the intriguing description, "The Viking is also a great playwright." To add to the mystery, Wilde draws two of the same doodle, composed of an X and four dots, after each mention of Viking. The letter remains likely unpublished since our research indicated no references in the indexes to Ellman's biography of Wilde or the Complete Letters (ed. Merlin Holland and Rupert Hart-Davis, 2000).

Text in full:
"Dear delightful Viking, Let us lunch at the Lyric Tomorrow at 1.30. It is ages since I met you – isn’t it? It seems so to me. always yours, Oscar The Viking is also a great playwright."

This letter was written between 1885 and 1895. Oscar Wilde lived at 16 Tite Street (the letterhead of this stationery) from 1885, shortly after he married Constance Mary Lloyd, until 1895. The street was home at various points to great literary figures, including George Eliot, D.G. Rossetti, Thomas Carlyle, Bram Stoker and Mark Twain. During this period, Wilde wrote and published The Happy Prince, The Picture of Dorian Gray, The Importance of Being Earnest and many other works. In June of 1891, Wilde met Lord Alfred Douglas, known as Bosie, and dined with him for the first time in July of 1891 at the Lyric Club where Wilde offered to meet "the Viking". Wilde and Bosie became lovers at that time.

Who might the Viking be? Wilde might be making a joke to theater critic and writer William Archer (1856–1924). Wilde and Archer knew each other as Archer reviewed Wilde’s plays. Archer was an early advocate of the plays of Norwegian playwright Henrik Ibsen and translated Ibsen's plays into English. Archer, himself, spent summers during his childhood in Norway with his
grandfather, naturally learning the Norwegian language. Equally intriguing is the drawing shown each time after the word “Viking”. The drawing consists of an “x” with four dots, one in each quadrant. The basic design could be a variant of the Rune symbol X; or possibly a just a doodle.

$14,500
ITEM ID: 4405
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