

*Calligrapher Jan Owen  
Five splending wall hangings plus a 'Garden Library'*

Excerpt from Catalogue Thirty-Three • Summer 2006  
JOSHUA HELLER RARE BOOKS, INC.  
WASHINGTON, D.C.





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## Catalogue Thirty-Three - Summer 2006

### *Promoting the Book Arts - Text & Image*

Catalogue Thirty-Three has taken some time to appear; but, it grew like Alice after she drank from the bottle labeled 'drink me'! What was to be a publication of 54 pages thickened up magically to 90 pages with 221 fine items and over 300 mostly full color illustrations.

We had a big story to tell, but what with the publication of our *Miniature Catalogue Thirty-One* and the Barbara Fendrick *Catalogue of Works On Paper* a lot of wonderful books were put on hold.

This has at last all come together for us to now publish *Catalogue Thirty-Three*. There are too many exciting books to single out, but we hope that the selection, which took five months to assemble, will be of interest and give you pleasure. This catalogue contains books on the Private Presses, Artists' Books, Poetry, Fine Bindings, War, Peace, Calligraphy and Portfolios of Prints, Original Drawings and much more.

Your continued interest is appreciated. It encouraged us to produce the catalogue you hold today.

We wish you a Happy and Joyful Summer.

Joshua & Phyllis Heller.

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#### **Conditions of sale:**

All items listed in this catalogue are offered subject to prior sale.

Each item has been carefully described as to condition. Any purchase may be returned within ten days after its receipt; if unsatisfactory for any reason - safe return shipment is client's responsibility.

Payment terms for new clients are "remittance with order" or from our pro forma invoice.

A finance charge of 1.5% per month will be added to all bills not paid within thirty days of the date of invoice.

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We purchase single volumes, collections, or libraries in our field of interest.

We are pleased to welcome visitors by appointment and are centrally located near convenient bus and Metro stops.

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**Main cover illustration - Item No. 88.**

**Photography - Neil Greentree.**



No. 93.

**93. (Lois Morrison)** *Geryon's Country*. Artist's book by Lois Morrison. [New Jersey.] 2005. Tunnel book format. 9" x 5.5". Color copied from crayon drawings. Gocco-printed and color penciled onto digital color Supreme Glossy recycled, Arches text wove and Fabriano Tiziano Lava Red. Typeface is Font Lister. Together with the colophon in a red folder at the back of the book are three handcut and movable grommated figures of two Geryons and a dog. These figures can be placed between the layers of the book to form an interactive scene. Laid in a patterned tan cloth wrapper lined in deep red with a three-button closure. One in an edition of 25 copies, signed by Lois Morrison. Fine. **\$750.00**  
 Inspired by the Greek myth wherein Hercules is caught stealing Geryon's herd of red cattle and kills him as one of his labors. "Geryon is described as being red, incredibly strong and having six arms and six legs" - from the text. Lois Morrison has again created a clever contemporary visual book inspired by a classic text.

- 94. (Officina Bodoni)** *Le Cimetiere Marin: The Graveyard by the Sea*. From the French of Paul Valéry with an English verse translation by C. Day Lewis. Martin Secker & Warburg, London. Printed at the Officina Bodoni. Verona. 1946. 12 leaves. 9" x 6". Set in Arrighi Vicenza, printed on Magnani mouldmade paper. In marbled paper wraps; title label on the front cover in black. One of 500 copies signed by C. Day Lewis. [Schmoller: 74] Slight spotting to edges and label, else very good. **\$250.00**

**Five splendid Wall Hangings by calligrapher Jan Owen plus a 'Garden Library'**



No. 95.



Jan Owen at work.

- 95. (Jan Owen)** *Garden Library*. Mixed media sculptural book by Jan Owen. [Bangor Maine.] 1996. 8" x 11" x 3". Open 'book' on board covered with paper of reproduced text and old botanical illustration. The covers of the 'book' itself are covered in decorated paste paper of various colors with paste-ons of xeroxed text relating to books and gardens. Thin strips of xeroxed decorated papers and strips of white paper with text form a pop-up display from the center of the book. Laid in an archival box with paper title label, giving the edition number, as well as a large illustrated paste-on. One in an edition of 10 copies, signed by Jan Owen on the base of the inside back cover of the book. Fine. **\$250.00**
- 96. (Jan Owen)** *December Hours*. Unique calligraphic book/panels by Jan Owen. [2001.] 4 sections to the folded book. 13" x 17". Open - 50" x 17". Acrylic on paste paper, woven Tyvek, gold leaf; all backed with Tyvek. Outer boards decorated with pale blue wash; decorated semi-circular title label on front board, together with cord for hanging. Blue patterned cloth board folder with blue cord ties; paper title label. Unique work signed by Jan Owen. Fine. **\$850.00**  
 Texts by Walt Whitman, Henry David Thoreau, Jean Joubert, Emily Dickinson, and John Tagliabue.



No. 96.



No. 96 - detail.

97. (Jan Owen) *Love's Not Time's Fool*. Sonnets by Shakespeare. Set of three unique calligraphic hanging book panels by Jan Owen. [Bangor, Maine.] 2003. 20" x 12.5". Open - each 20" x 44". Acrylic, ink and gold leaf on paper with woven Tyvek decoration. Written in brown, black, gray and blue inks. Each panel with a different color background: the first in salmon tones, the second in shades of yellow, and the third in tan/brown. Each panel with a paper title label and white cord for hanging. Laid in a rose colored cloth portfolio case lined with rose decorated paper and fastened with white cords. Paper title label on front and spine. Unique panels signed by Jan Owen. Fine. **\$3000.00**

Twenty-nine sonnets by William Shakespeare. The three panels form a complete overall design, although they can be viewed separately, with the colors deepening from the first through the second to the last panel.



No. 97.



Item No 98.  
Detail below.



Item No 99. Detail below.



Item No 100.  
Detail below.



98. **(Jan Owen)** *Seek Words*. **Unique** calligraphic panel by Jan Owen. [Bangor, Maine.] 2005. Single panel hanging accordion fold book. 21" x 10.75". Open - 42" x 21". Painted in shades of purple, blue, orange and black, with black and brown calligraphy. Acrylic, sumi ink and gold leaf on paper with woven Tyvek which has writing in some places. Thick white cord for hanging. Orange-brown cloth covered portfolio case with paper title label on front and small title label on spine; string ties. Text by various authors. Unique piece signed by Jan Owen. Fine. **\$975.00**  
Authors include Lu Ji, Helen Keller, A. Sullivan, Eudora Welty and James Kilpatrick.
99. **(Jan Owen)** *Rhyme & Rhythm*. **Unique** calligraphic panel by Jan Owen. [Bangor, Maine.] 2005. Hanging accordion fold book. Closed - 14" x 10.5". Open - 14" x 55". Acrylic on paper, painted woven Tyvek and two half CDs as decoration. All backed with plum color painted Tyvek. Painted tan/blue/black-plum; orange background painted with black and brown inks. Decorated paper boards with colored paper title label and white hanging cord. Laid in a patterned gray/black cloth portfolio case lined with hand decorated tan/gray/black paper. Paper title label with black cord closures; lined with hand decorated paper. Unique signed work. Fine. **\$1000.00**  
Owen writes: "[This work] began as a quiet book of blue and black paper but I was chopping up a copper paper and together, they came to life. The brush marks in the copper paper made me think how exciting and vital our writing and our words can be - no matter if written or stored on CD. Yet, as Dana Gioia's quote says, 'Reading is never more intimate than with script. The hand of the poet reaches out to greet the reader.'" Text includes words by Boris Pasternak, Lu Chi, Dana Gioia, Virginia Woolf, Iris Murdoch, Joseph Conrad, John Tagliabue, and Walt Whitman.
100. **(Jan Owen)** *There is a Field*. **Unique** calligraphic panel by Jan Owen. [Bangor, Maine.] 2005. Hanging accordion fold book. Closed - 19.5" x 11.25". Open - 19.5" x 42". Acrylic on paper with gold leaf and gold painted woven Tyvek as decoration. All backed with Tyvek. Painted in blues and green with blue and green inks. Boards and back of panel painted light green. The front board has a colored paper title label and white hanging cord. Laid in a textured green cloth portfolio case lined with hand decorated blue paper. Paper title label white cord closures. Unique signed work. Fine. **\$1500.00**

The visual image and the words on this panel evoke the seasons of spring and summer and the beauty of nature. Texts by Emily Dickinson, Rumi, Proust, Joseph Conrad, Elmer Diktonius Jay, John Tagliabue, Juan Ramon Jimenez and Robert Frost.

Owen writes: "*There is a Field* began in the spring with the silvery greens of new grass and trees that glitter in the longer days. This amazing newness also reminds [me] of the cycle, of what is to come. The challenge is sometimes to just be in that field. The block of text going from light to darker is to be like a carpet, a blanket to lie on and be present."

101. **(Pacific Editions)** *The Mappist*. Story by Barry Lopez. Images by Charles Hobson. [San Francisco.] 2005. Concertina binding attached to the back cover. 11.25" x 10". Printed letterpress on BFK Rives with transparent sheets with pigment prints and a monotype with hand coloring reproduced as a pigment print. Original US Geological Survey maps are used for the concertina binding and selected pages. Bound in boards covered with 1911 map of Bogotá. Slipcase covered in wood grain paper to suggest the map cabinet which plays a pivotal role in the story. A metal label holder acts as a label on spine of slipcase. Corrugated card outer cover. An edition of 48 copies, signed by Lopez and Hobson. Fine. **\$2100.00**

The concertina binding, when looked at from its edge, takes on its own topography of mountains and valleys. The book can be opened from the inside back cover to display a three-page wide image of USGS maps with topographic symbols. Images of hands emulating gestures of a mapmaker at work have been reproduced as digital pigment prints on transparent film. When opened the images of hands at work drawing a map adds visual impact to the text. Lopez's story tells of the protagonist's lifelong quest to find a reclusive master mapmaker, who has inspired his own career as a geographer and urban planner.



No. 101.