Catalogue 01-2020

Miguel de Cervantes - A short list of mostly new arrivals
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*Milestones of Science Books*

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The first edition of Don Quixote printed outside the Iberian Peninsula

1  CERVANTES SAAVEDRA, Miguel de. El ingenioso hidalgo don Quixote de la Mancha. Compuesto por Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra. Brussels: por Roger Velpius, inpressor de sus Altezas, en l'Aquila de oro, cerca de Palacio, 1607. 8vo (161 x 104 mm). [24], 592, [8] pp. Signatures: *8 **4 A-20° 2P4. Title with small typographic vignette, text with woodcut initials and tailpieces. The book was rebound in early 19th-century in plain calf with gilt-lettered morocco spine label, marbled edges and endpapers (light wear and bumping to corners). Page margins trimmed close but not touching headlines or text, little uneven browning, some brown-staining from lamp oil or water from p.470 onwards, a few insignificant dampstains at corners elsewhere, light pencil markings found until p.125, 4 pages with small rust stains, a few dog-ears. Provenance: from a French private library; illegible ownership signature of previous owner and inscription "Esta libro a mi dado por el Sr. Plisson a 26 de Marco año 1843" on final page. Still very good copy. (#003238) € 45,000

RARE FIRST BRUSSELS EDITION OF THE FIRST PART OF DON QUIXOTE AND THE FIRST PRINTED OUTSIDE THE IBERIAN PENINSULA. Ruiz notes that this edition was the most finely printed of the early versions to date. Don Quixote won immediate fame shortly after its appearance in 1605 for its "variety, liveliness, and gibes at the famous." Its subdued pathos and universal humanity have assured it a place as "one of those universal works which are read by all ages at all times" (PMM). It quickly went through numerous editions, translations, and piracies. This edition is the seventh overall - all early editions are rare. Velpius' edition, which introduced the text to Northern Europe, is based on Cuesta's second (with many misprints and other textual infelicities corrected). References: Palau 51981; Rius, L. Bibliografia critica de las obras de Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra 7; USTC 5039050; cf. PMM 111; Bloom, Miguel de Cervantes's Don Quixote, p. 1.; Ford, J.D.M. Cervantes p. 5.

The first complete Italian edition of Don Quixote

2  CERVANTES SAAVEDRA, Miguel de. Dell’ingegnoso cittadino Don Chisciotte della Mancia. Composta da Michel di Cervantes Saavedra. Et hora nuovamente tradotta con fedeltà, e chiarezza, di spagnuolo in italiano, da Lorenzo Franciosini fiorentino. Parte prima [seconda]. Venice: Andrea Baba, 1625. Two volumes. 8vo (149 x 94 mm). [16], 694, [10]; [16], 751 [1] pp. Signatures: a8 A-Xx8 (Xx7-8); 4° A-Aaa8. Without the two final blank leaves in vol. I. Uniformly bound in 18th century full speckled calf, spines with 4 raised bands, gilt decoration and gilt-lettered morocco labels, red-dyed edges (hinges repaired, one label to spine of vol. II renewed, leather rubbed, corners and spine ends worn). Text only little browned, occasional minor spotting; upper margins trimmed short (touching the headline text on some pages towards the end of vol. I and at beginning of vol. II), vol. I with a few small worm holes and tracks, mainly to the lower blank margin (just a few pages affecting some letters of text). Provenances: James Martin; Edward Leith (armorial bookplates to front pastedowns), Middlebury Coll. (perforation stamp in first flyleaf of each vol.) A fairly fresh, clean and unstained set. (#003216) € 12,500

Palau III, 53136. EXCEPTIONALLY RARE FIRST ITALIAN EDITION OF PART II AND SECOND EDITION OF PART I. The first printing of Don Quixote in Italian language was done in 1622 by Baba but only Part One of the masterpiece in a translation by Lorenzo Franciosini was issued. This set was issued three years later included both parts of Don Quixote and thus constitutes the first complete printing in Italian of the work. Rare in the market; most recent example of this 1625 set located in auction records was Sotheby’s, 1963.
"The history of Italian translations of Don Quijote de la Mancha offers a striking contrast with that of translations in England and France. While in the 17th and 18th centuries, forty-five editions of the Quijote were published in England ... and fifty-eight in France ..., only eight were printed in Italy... There are attenuating circumstances that help to explain that disparity. Many Italians read Cervantes's novel in the original Spanish or in French translations ..., while the statement made in 1610 by the Milan editor of a Spanish edition of the novel is revealing: he decided not to have the work translated "para que no pierda su gracia" and, furthermore. "Para que de este modo se haga más popular la lengua espanola" ... The historical panorama of Italian translations of the Quijote is, nonetheless, unusual, not only because of the small number of editions in the aforementioned centuries but also on account of the scarcity of translators during the three hundred years after the publication of the novel. From 1622 when Don Quijote I was printed in Venice until the end of the 19th century, the names of only two translators (Lorenzo Franciosini and Bartolommeo Gamba ... appear in the several editions that were published." (Jorge Marbán, Epochal Influences and Distinctive Approaches in Franciosini and Three Other Italian Translators of Don Quixote. Revista Canadiense de Estudios Hispánicos Vol. 33, No. 2, 2009, p. 447). Claudia Demattè however argues that Franciosini’s work was read and appreciated so much that it deserved not to be set aside to carry out a translation from scratch, but only partial revisions to update the remote translation more of a century, in the mid-eighteenth century, and then in the early nineteenth century. (C. Demattè, La fortuna de la primera traducción al italiano del Quijote por Lorenzo Franciosini a través de las sucesivas correcciones. In: Metalinguaggi e metatesti. Lingua, letteratura e traduzione, XXIV Congresso AISPI, Padova, 23-26 maggio 2007).

3 CERVANTES SAAVEDRA, Miguel de. Novelas exemplares de Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra : dirigido a Don Pedro Fernandez de Castro / conde de Lemos, de Andrade, y de Villalua, &c. Brusselas: por Huberto Antonio, 1625. 8vo (168 x 103 mm). [16], 608 pp. Woodcut initials in text. Contemporary calf, spine with 4 raised bands, titled and richly gilt in compartments, boards with single gilt ruling (slight wear to extremities), red-sprinkled edges, endpapers browned at outer margins by binder's glue. Light even browning of text, very little occasional spotting, torn lower blank corner in leaf B4, well away from text. Provenance: old illegible stamp on title-page. A fine, quite fresh, clean and untouched copy. (#003219) €4,800

Palau 53412; Peeters-Fontainas 241; Simon Diaz 8, 561; USTC 5038771. The second Brussels edition of Cervantes' Novelas, originally published in Madrid in 1613. Very rare with only four copies recorded at auction in the past 50 years. Novelas exemplares ("Exemplary Novels") is a series of twelve novellas written by Miguel de Cervantes between 1590 and 1612. First published in Madrid in 1613 by Juan de la Cuesta, the novellas were well received in the wake of the first part of Don Quixote. They are usually grouped into two series: those characterized by an idealized nature and those of more realistic nature. Those idealized in nature are characterized by plots dealing with amorous entanglements, by improbable plots, by the presence of idealized characters and psychological development, and the low reflection of reality. The novellas show the political, social and historical problems of Cervantes' Spain and show off his immersion in Spain's life and how aware he was of the prevailing problems.
4  **CERVANTES SAAVEDRA, Miguel de.** *The history of the valorous and witty-knight-errant, Don-Quixote, of the Mancha. Translated out of the Spanish; now newly corrected and amended.* London: printed by Richard Hodgkisonne, for Andrew Crooke, 1652. Two parts in one volume. Folio (280 x 190 mm). [8], 137; [5], 138-214, 216-244, 244-274 leaves. Signatures: J4 A-4A4. Second part has separate title and 4 preliminary leaves, but foliation and signatures are continuous otherwise. Two woodcut devices on each title page, decorated woodcut initials and headpieces. Lacking terminal blank 4A4. Extra-illustrated with 16 inserted engravings (cut down and pasted on blanks) from the 1687 London edition. Book block recased in a 20th century half calf, spine with gilt-decoration, original gilt-lettered label preserved (rubbing of extremities), reddied edges, new endpapers. Title, first- and final leaf restored at outer blank margins, paper slip with cancelled inscription pasted on title-page, light browning and occasional minor spotting of text and plates, a few ink annotations, very faint dampstaining to upper portion, few ink smudges, small hole in leaf L4 and burn hole in leaf Nn4 costing a few letters of text. Still a very good copy, unusual with the extra engravings bound in at an early stage. (#002897) € 6,500

Palau 52463; Wing C 1776; ESTC R236794. Important English edition of Don Quixote, being the third edition of the first part and the second edition of the second part of Shelton’s translation, and the first one-volume edition of both parts. When the first part was first published in 1612, Shelton’s translation was the first in any language. The second part was first published in English in 1620 together with the second edition of the first part. The marginal staining and browning of the laid paper on which the engraved plates are pasted on largely corresponds with the adjacent text pages suggesting that these blanks have been inserted long time ago, probably shortly after publication of the first illustrated English edition in 1687 from which the engravings were taken from. Our copy thus contain the entire suit of plates of this 1687 edition (originally 16 illustrations on 8 plates).

5  **CERVANTES SAAVEDRA, Miguel de.** *Nouvelles avantures de l'admirable Don Quichotte de la Manche / Composées par le licencié Alonso Fernandez de Avellaneda: et traduites de l'Espagnol en François pour la premiere fois.* Paris: Compagnie des libraires, 1716. Two volumes, 12mo (162 x 93 mm). [16], 447 [1]; [8], 509, [3] pp., engraved frontispiece facing title-page in each volume and 18 engraved plates by Antione Clouzier (8 in vol. I and 10 in vol. II), woodcut initials, head- and tailpieces, errata leaf to each volume. Contemporary calf, spines with 5 raised bands richly gilt in compartments and with red morocco labels lettered in gilt (spine ends lightly chipped, corners slightly bumped and scuffed, extremities little rubbed), red-sprinkled edges. Text and plates quite crisp and clean with only very little occasional spotting, volume II with tiny wormtrack to upper blank corner of first 4 leaves and some faint dampstaining to lower margin of a few leaves. A near fine, untouched and wide-margined copy. (#003068) € 1,800

Saavedra, 1895-1905, v. 2, p. 291-293). This edition is quite rare. Cushing’s Cervantes library only has volume I. According to OCLC/Worldcat sets are present at Lille University, Paris Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris Sorbonne, 3 in the Netherlands (Amsterdam, Leiden, Den Haag), 2 in Germany (Hannover and Karlsruhe) and one in Denmark. None of these copies is listed as having frontispieces and the maximum number of plates listed is 17 (9 in vol. I and 8 in vol. II). Further, no copy is recorded to have appeared at auction so far.


Palau 53935. SECOND ENGLISH EDITION of Cervantes romance and as rare as the first English edition published in 1619 just two years after the first Spanish. Although it is printed on the title-page that the version was made directly from the original, it has been proven that the anonymous translator actually used the French translation by Madame Richebourg published in 1738 (see Palau).
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