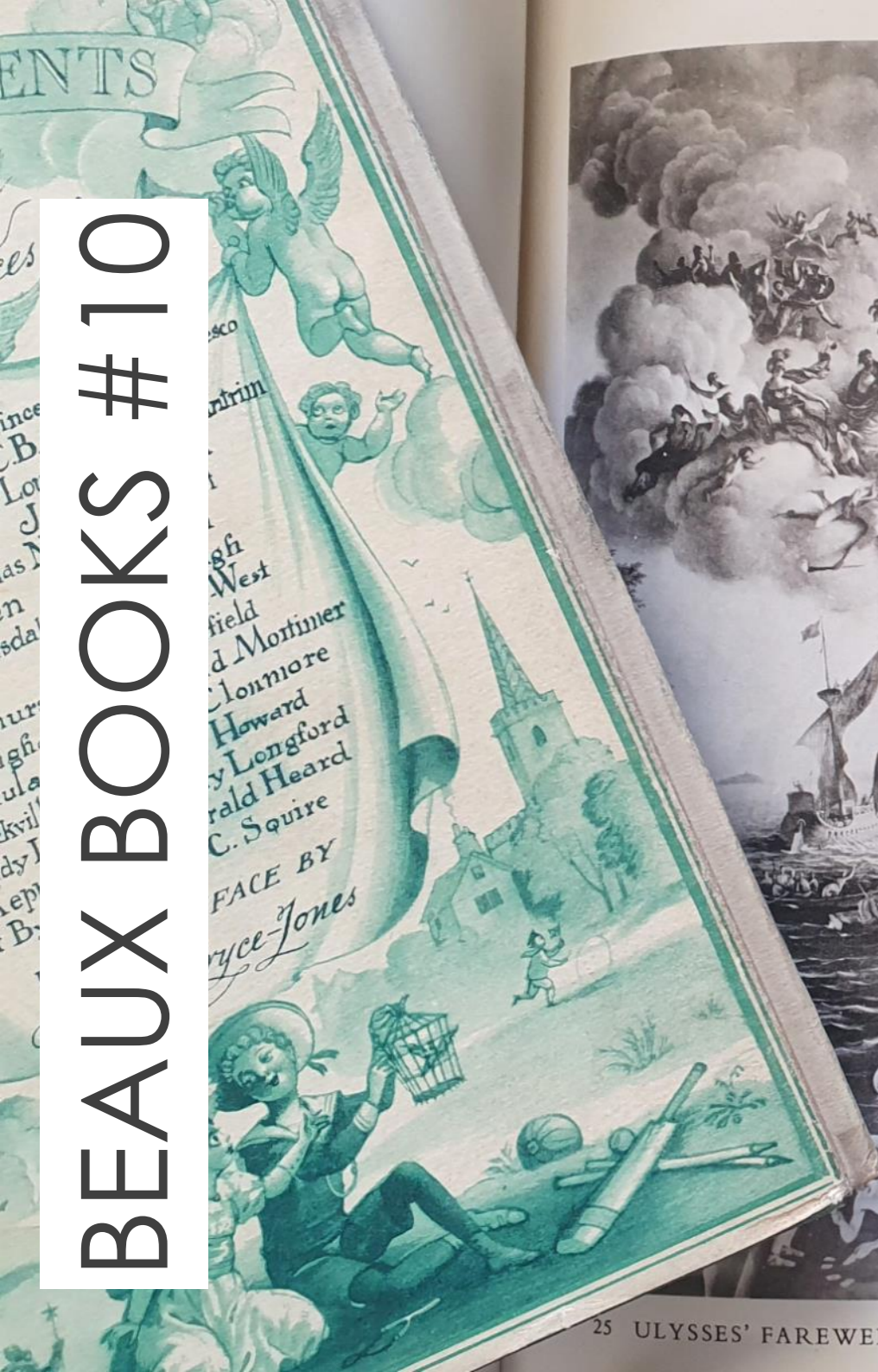


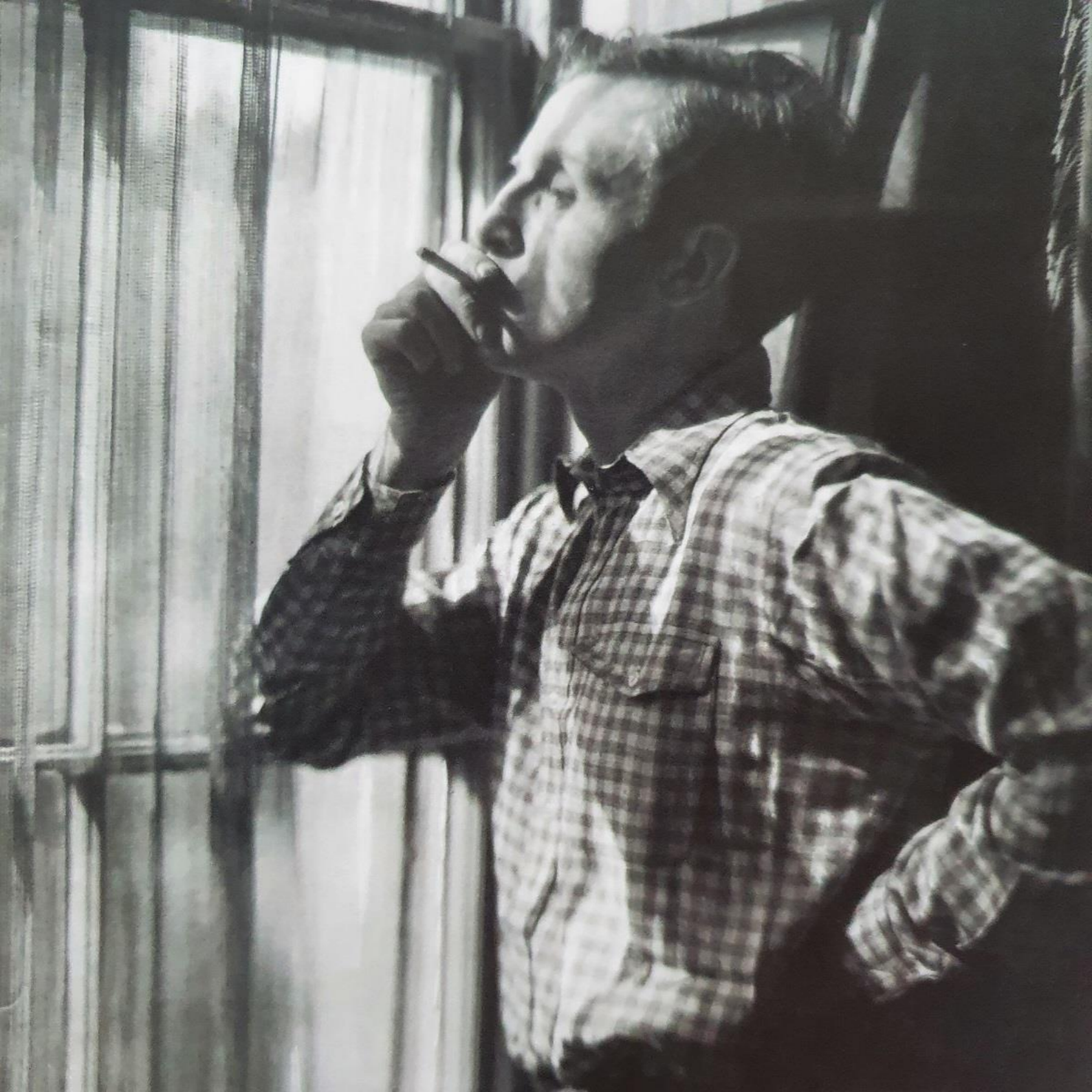
BEAUX BOOKS #10



25 ULYSSES' FAREWELL. 1932-1933. For Sir Malcolm Bullock. Oil on canvas. Cat. no. 52



REX WHISTLER



During his twenty year career Rex Whistler was prolific in many areas of art and design. His graceful, often humorous illustrations feature in books and periodicals, and on designs for dust jackets, bookplates, and advertisements.

In this short catalogue we have brought together 16 items by and about Rex Whistler. The list includes dust jacket designs for books by Cecil Beaton and Walter de la Mare, a map of the City of London, bookplate designs for Duff and Diana Cooper, and Adelaide Livingstone, and illustrations for Edward James and Edith Olivier.

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Edith Olivier's first book and Rex Whistler's second



Mildred

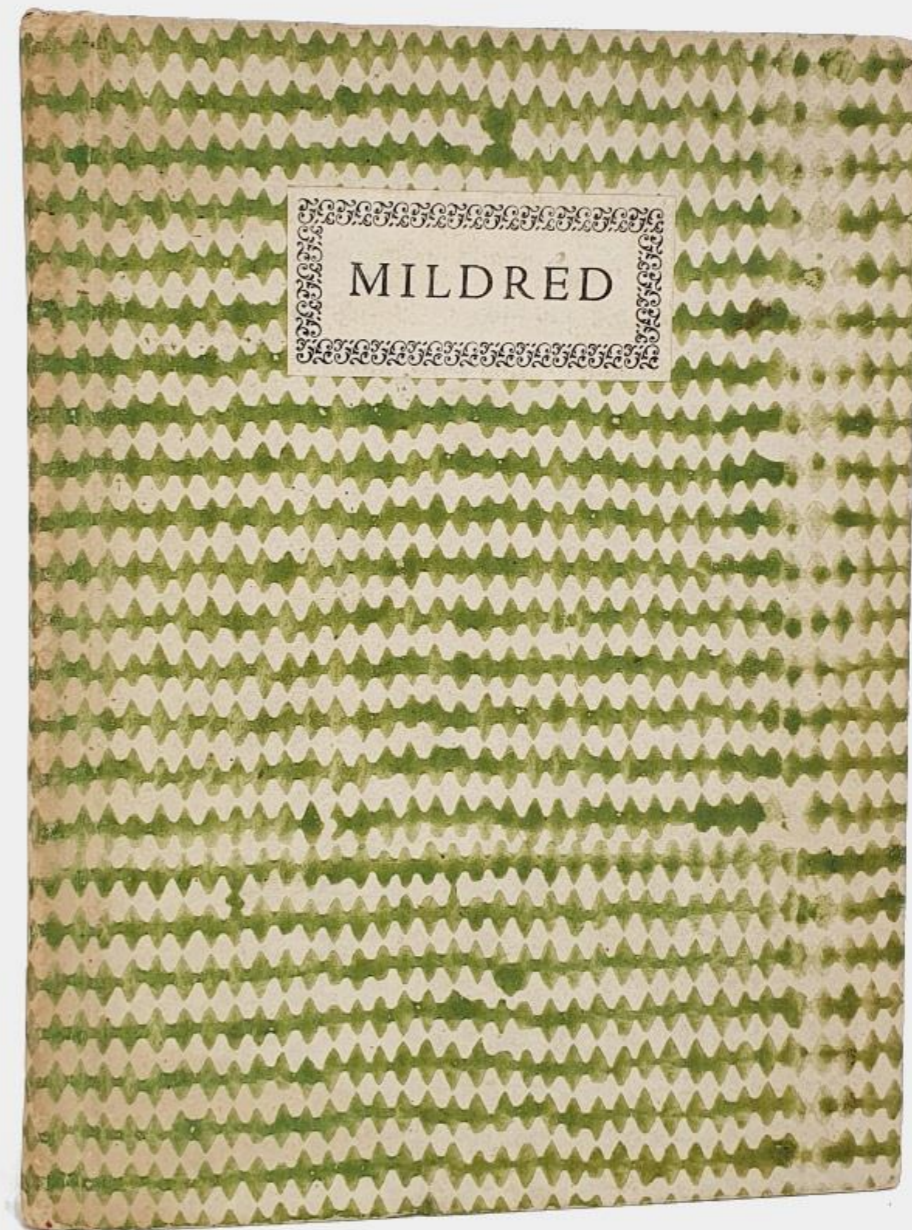
Following the death of her beloved sister Mildred in 1924, Edith Olivier was encouraged by Stephen Tennant, Rex Whistler and other friends to put together a memorial volume. Texts were provided by Dorothea Ponsonby, Gladys Meyrick-Wood, Cecily Foyle, Dorothy Tomlin, Dacres Olivier, Yoi Maraini, Christina Gibson, Rosemary Olivier, Gwendolen Plunket Greene, Brian Howard and Pamela Grey of Fallodon. Olivier herself wrote the preface and it is her first published piece of writing. A delicate drawing of Mildred by Tennant is used as a frontispiece and Rex Whistler provided ten small text decorations, including drawings of the Palladian bridge and column at Wilton House. It is an early example of Whistler's illustration being the second book he illustrated. The book was privately printed and only 112 copies were distributed.

£1,200

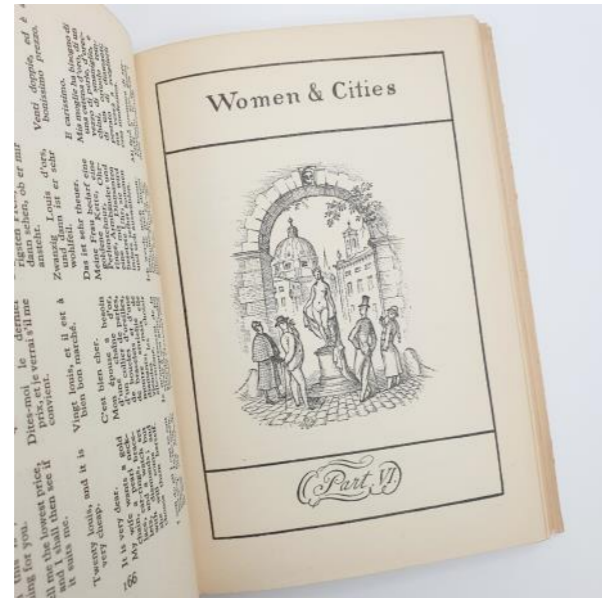
Edith Oliver, Brian Howard et al. Illustrated by Stephen Tennant & Rex Whistler.

The High House Press. Shaftesbury. 1926. First edition. Limited to 112 copies. Hardback, small octavo; green patterned-paper covered boards, with title label to front board. viii, 83 pages. Tipped-in frontispiece drawing by Stephen Tennant; title-page illustration and 9 tailpieces by Rex Whistler. 195x145mm. Very good.

Full description | Purchase



A compendium of musings and advice on the art of travel in the 1930s



The Traveller's Companion: A Travel Anthology

'In short, this is a perfect bedside, week-end, deck-chair, armchair, book of travel.'

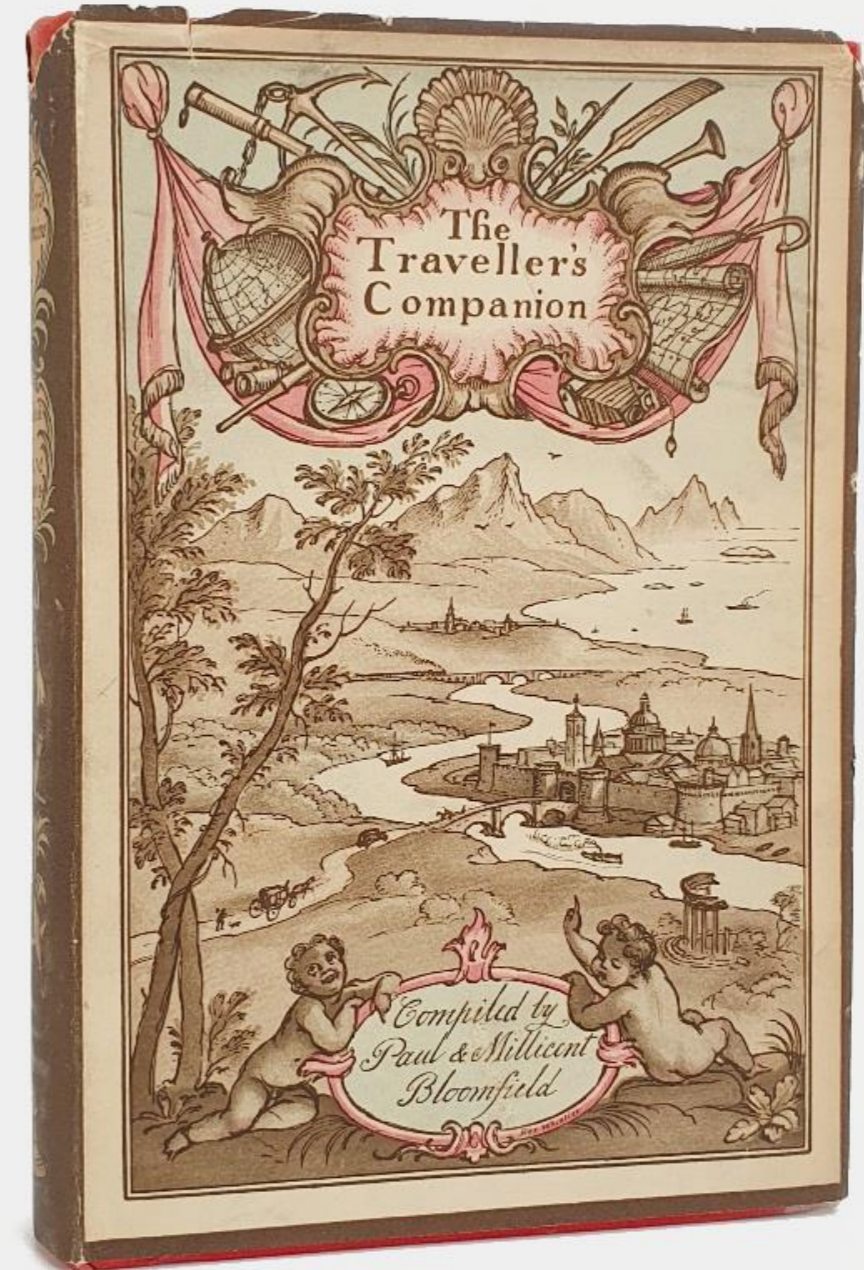
A compendium of musings and advice by well-known figures on the art of travel in the 1930s. Chapters touch on 'Travellers Unkind', 'Food and Drink' and 'Women and Cities'. Rex Whistler provides seven full-page witty illustrations and a striking dust jacket.

£150

Compiled by Paul & Millicent Bloomfield. Illustrated by Rex Whistler.

G. Bell and Sons. London. 1931. First edition. Hardback, octavo; red cloth-bound boards, gilt title and decoration to spine, dust jacket. xvi, 308 pages. Dust jacket, reproduced as illustrated title, cloth spine decoration, and 7 full-page plates by Rex Whistler. English. 190x130mm. Very good, in very good dust jacket.

[Full description](#) | [Purchase](#)



Rex Whistler's bookplate design for his friends and patrons, the Duff Coopers

Ex Libris Bookplate designed by Rex Whistler for Duff and Diana Cooper

The ex libris bookplate designed by Rex Whistler for Duff and Diana Cooper. Whistler's design is packed with a classical and modern mix of elements including a rococo cartouche, bottles of champagne, scrolls, dispatch boxes, a trailing vine, swags, canopy, and a named bust of Diana as the Huntress. Whistler wrote 'I hope the bust of you isn't too libellous - it looks haughty but I think busts SHOULD look rather haughty don't you'. There is some discrepancy around the ownership of the bookplate, with some sources citing Duff and others, Diana. Fuller and Whistler assign it to both. The design of the plate supports this, with the lower portion filled with elements relating to Duff and the upper portion more reflective of Diana. The couple were both well-read and books from their library should be attributed to Diana, as well as Duff.

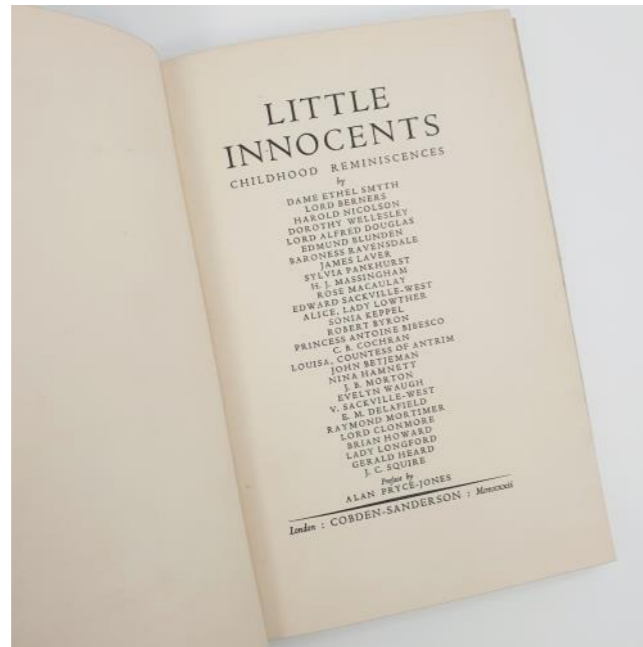
£100

Privately Printed. [1931]. Engraved book plate, printed in black. Larger size - 14.3 x 10.1 cm. English. Very good.

[Full description](#) | [Purchase](#)



Youthful recollections from Betjeman, Waugh, Macaulay, Sackville-West, etc.



Little Innocents. Childhood Reminiscences

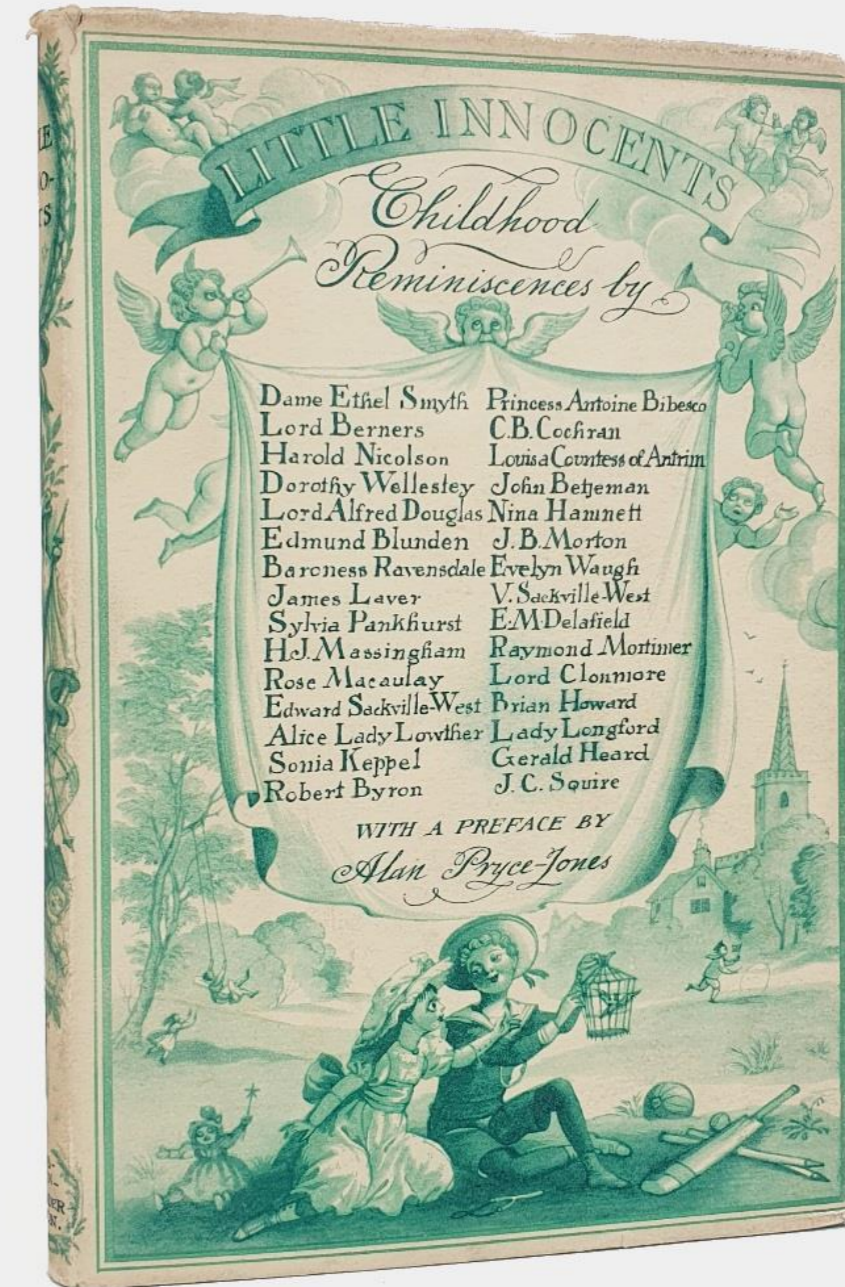
A cast of creatives of the 1930s cast their minds back to their childhoods and recall treasured anecdotes and memories. The interest comes in comparing these youthful recollections with the eventual lives of the recaller. Writers include Ethel Smyth, Lord Berners, Harold Nicolson, Dorothy Wellesley, Sylvia Pankhurst, Rose Macaulay, Robert Byron, Nina Hamnett, John Betjeman, Evelyn Waugh, Vita Sackville-West, Brian Howard and many more. Rex Whistler's pastoral idyll, populated with putti, graces the dust jacket.

£160

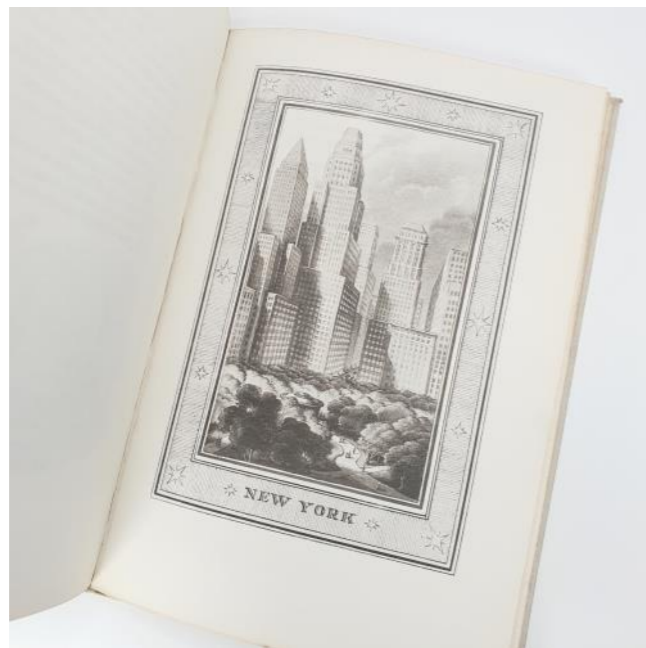
Preface by Alan Pryce-Jones. Dust jacket design by Rex Whistler.

Cobden-Sanderson. London. 1932. First edition. Hardback, octavo; green cloth-bound boards, dust jacket. viii, 124 pages. Dust jacket designed by Whistler. English. 220x145mm. Very good, in very good dust jacket.

[Full description](#) | [Purchase](#)



First edition of Edward James' collection of poems, illustrated by Whistler



The Next Volume

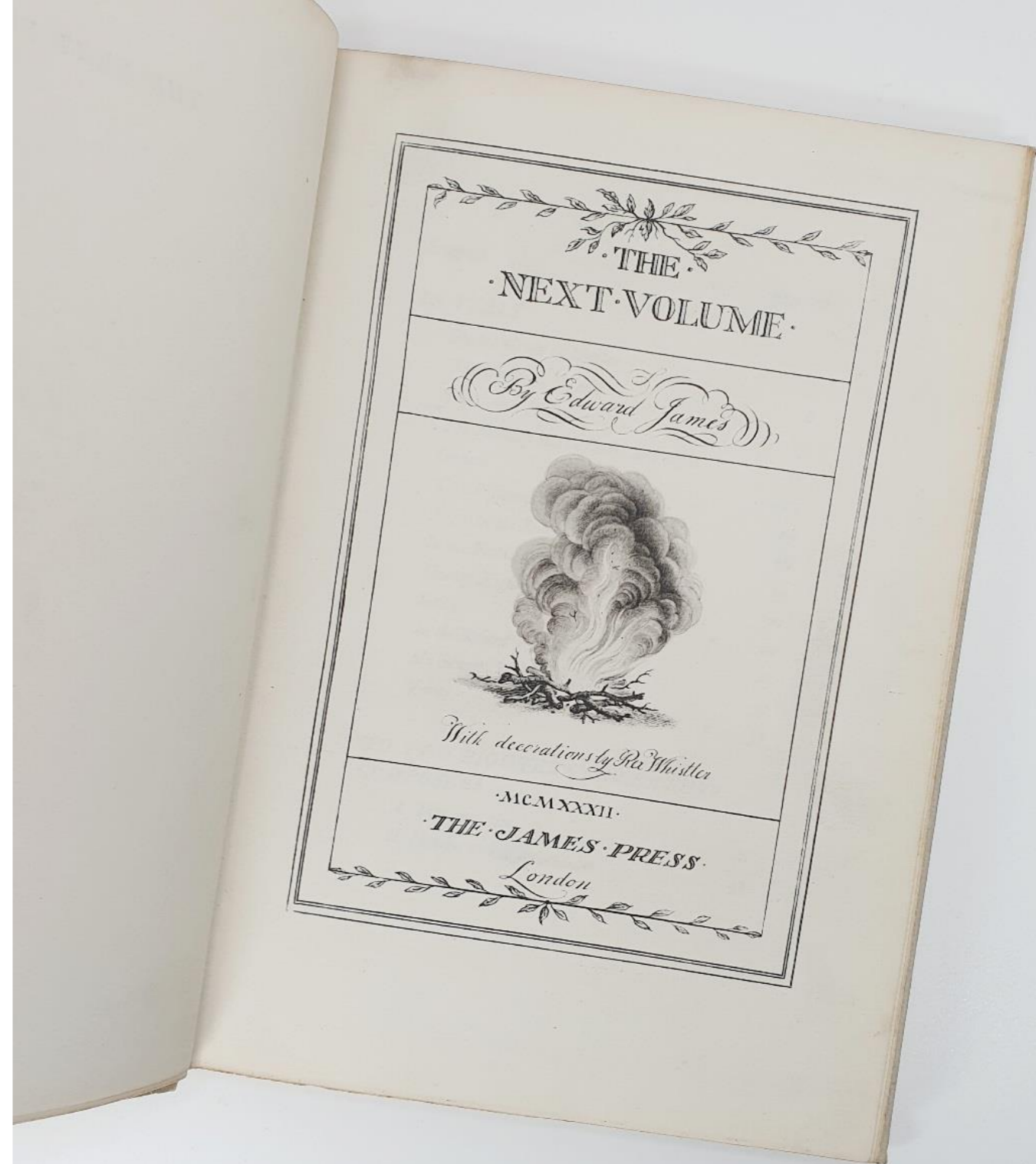
A first edition of Edward James' privately-published collection of poems. *The Next Volume* is beautifully illustrated by Rex Whistler. Edith Olivier writes in her diary in 1932 - "Rex is making drawings for some poems by a Mr James - the best drawings I have seen of his in some ways. Such a sure touch. An amusing one of New York - skyscrapers towering over a park in which the trees look like cabbages. It has great beauty.". James halted the binding of the first edition because "of how awful that first poem [At the Grave of Shelley] was", meaning that there are likely far fewer than the stated 525 copies.

£475

Edward James. With decorations by Rex Whistler.

The James Press. London. 1932 [1933]. First edition. From an edition of 525. Hardback; ivory cloth-bound boards, with gilt star design to boards, t.e.g.. vii, 86 pages. Title-page, dedication page, 4 full-page plates, numerous head- and tail-pieces, colophon device drawn by Rex Whistler. English. 285x195mm. Very good.

[Full description](#) | [Purchase](#)



Rex Whistler's bookplate design for the British-American human rights activist

Ex Libris Bookplate designed by Rex Whistler for Adelaide Livingstone

The ex libris bookplate designed by Rex Whistler for Dame Adelaide Livingstone. Livingstone was born in America but spent the majority of her life in Britain. During and after the First World War she channelled her energies into repatriating displaced persons and tracing those who had died or been taken prisoner abroad. She was given her Damehood in 1918 and in later years she organised the Peace Ballot. Whistler's bookplate design for Livingstone is filled with symbolic objects. The sea and ship beyond the curtained window signal her trans-Atlantic origin. The books, hunting horn and flowers denote pre-War pursuits. The smoking classical urn perhaps denotes the fire for peace and public duty.

£100

Privately Printed. [1933]. Book plate printed in sepia, reproduced in collotype by Emery Walker Ltd. English. 135x96mm. Very good.

[Full description](#) | [Purchase](#)



Rex Whistler's map of the streets and markets of the City of London

The Financial News. Prospect of the City of London

A humorous map designed by Rex Whistler and issued by *The Financial News* to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the paper. The map depicts a 'Prospect of the City of London, Being a Map for the Merchants, Bankers and Brokers & other Venturers trading into that City. 1934'. A street plan of the City of London features a prominent St. Paul's and the major exchanges labelled, including Diamonds, Fur Skins, Textiles, Coal and Rubber. In the top left, Gog and Magog support Temple Bar atop a cloud and point to a medallion showing Dick Wittington and his cat. Old Father Thames reclines in the lower left corner and the arms of the City and a title-cartouche are placed in the right-hand corners. The map was published in a special 'City of London' supplement of *The Financial News*, which is also present.

£3,500

Rex Whistler.

The Financial News. London. January 22, 1934. Chromolithograph map, using three colours (black, pink, green). With 'The Financial News' supplement also present. 420 x 558mm. 440x595mm. Very good.

[Full description](#) | [Purchase](#)



A collection of children's stories by Walter de la Mare, illustrated by Whistler



The Lord Fish

'I advise all good children to break open their parents' money-boxes and buy it.'

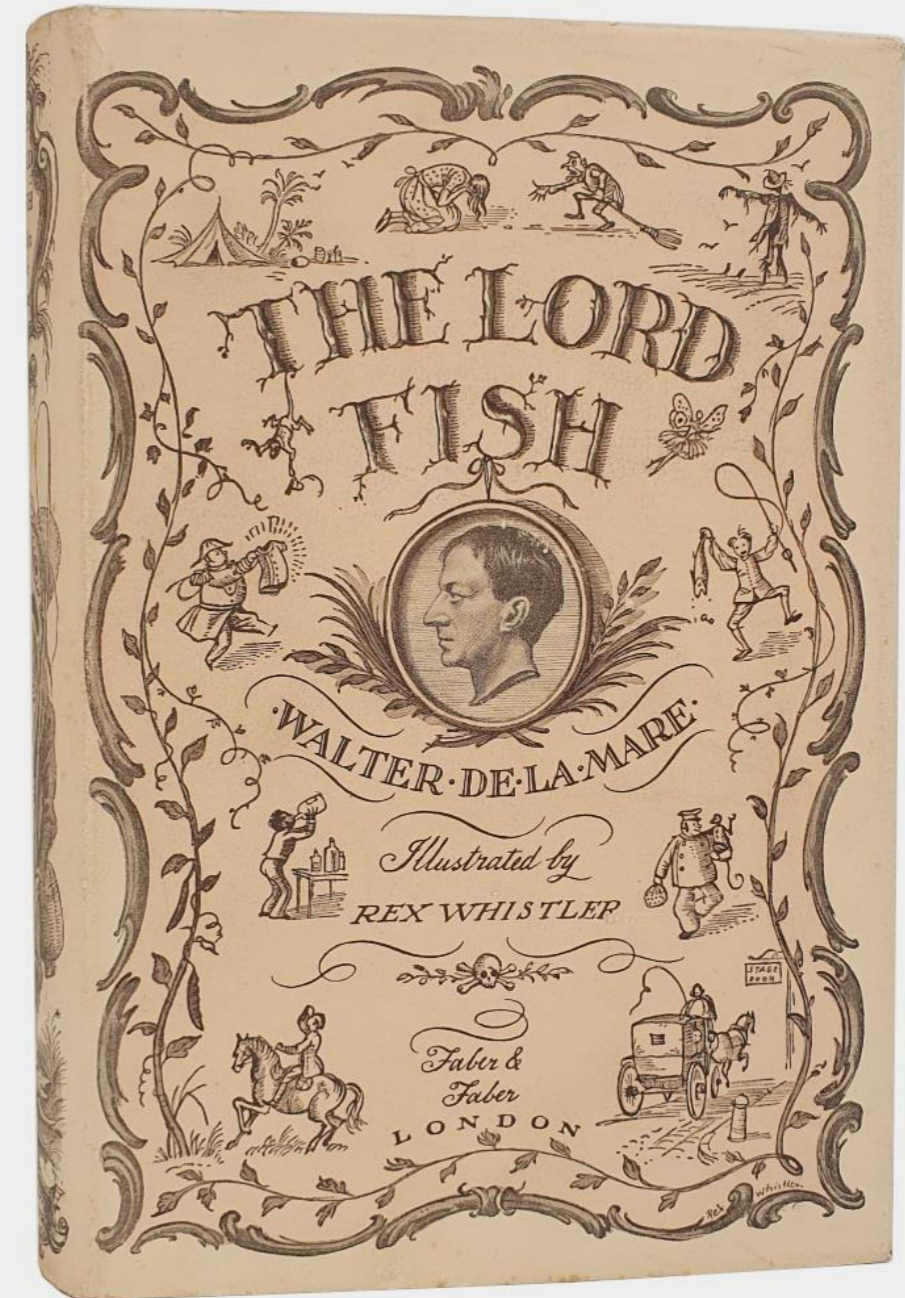
A collection of seven stories for children by Walter de la Mare, including 'The Lord Fish', 'Dick and the Beanstalk' and 'The Old Lion'. Rex Whistler's attractive illustrations grace the text and the dust jacket, making this a beautiful gift volume. The date or edition is not given. This edition was likely published shortly after the first (1933). The dust jacket is pink-tinted, rather than the original yellow-tint.

£100

Walter de la Mare. Illustrated by Rex Whistler.

Faber & Faber. London. [c.1935]. First published in 1933. Hardback, octavo; pink cloth-bound boards with blue decorations and title to front board and spine, dust jacket. 291 pages. Dust jacket, endpapers, matching illustrated title-page, 3 full-page plates, 7 head-pieces and reproduction of jacket spine by Rex Whistler. English. 210x145mm. Very good, in very good dust jacket.

[Full description](#) | [Purchase](#)



Guinness drinking songs, with comic illustrations by Whistler



Songs of our Grand Fathers Re-set in Guinness Time

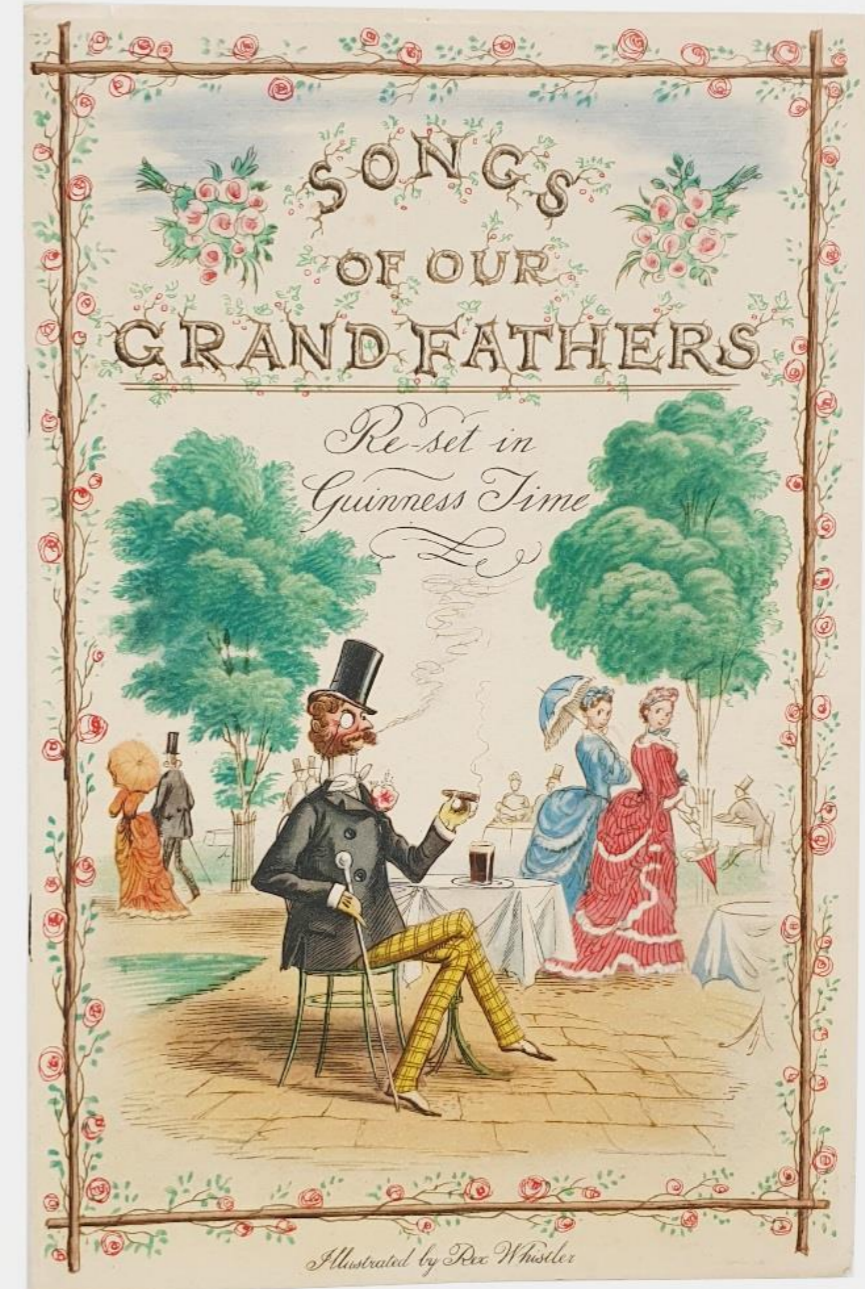
A promotional brochure for Guinness, filled with amusing parodies of traditional songs, all illustrated with charming illustrations by Rex Whistler. Songs include 'The Age of Invention (to the tune of "She does the Fandango all over the place")' and 'Won't you tell me How? (to the tune of "Won't you tell me Why?")'. Whistler's comic illustrations of society types complement the Guinness-themed text perfectly. Some were enlarged by the firm for separate illustrations.

£80

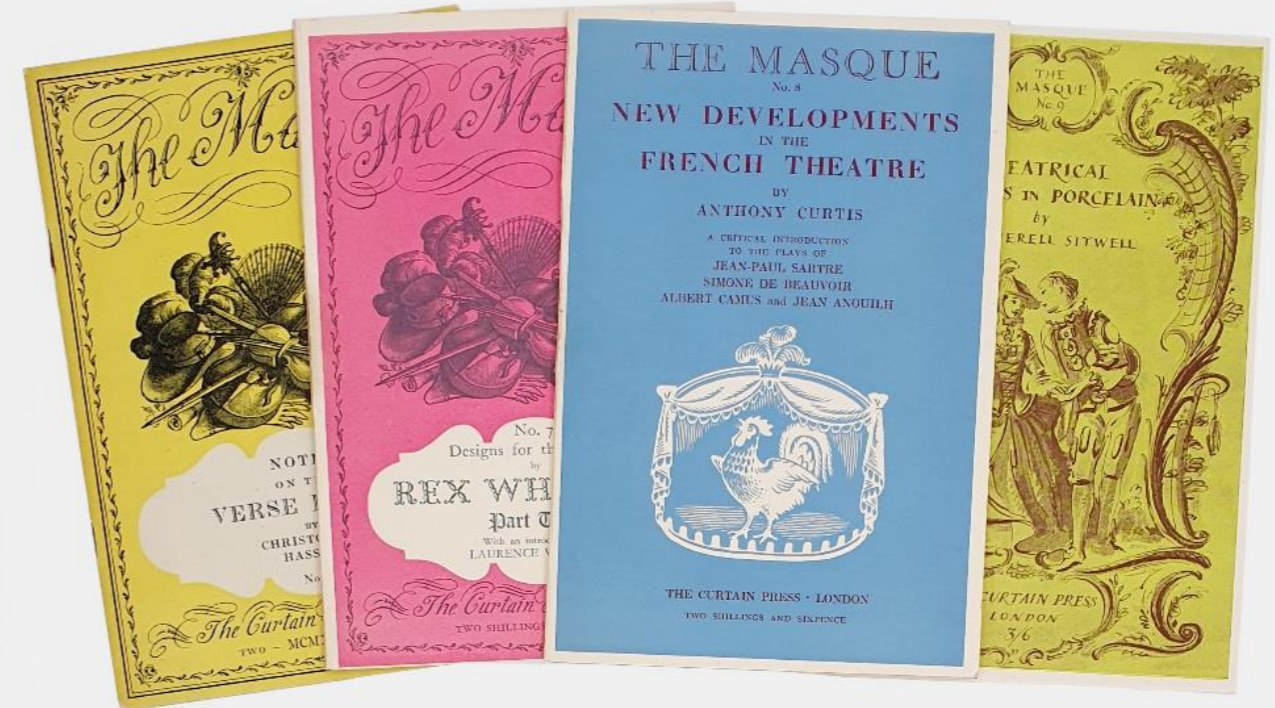
Illustrated by Rex Whistler.

Guinness. Dublin. 1936. First edition. Paperback, octavo; illustrated stapled wrappers. 24 pages. Cover illustrations and 24 colour text illustrations by Rex Whistler. English. 240x155mm. Near fine.

[Full description](#) | [Purchase](#)



A complete run of the post-war theatre magazine, with three issues devoted to Whistler



The Masque. A Theatre Notebook. [A complete run of 9 Numbers]

The Masque was a post-War publication designed to keep its readers abreast of the latest developments in contemporary theatre. It began with the intention to devote each issue to a review and illustrations of a recent play, therefore No. 1 is devoted to Laurence Olivier's production of King Lear at The Old Vic. This intention did not hold and No. 2 is dedicated to Rex Whistler's designs for theatre, as are Nos. 4 and 7.

£200

Edited by Lionel Carter. Contributions by Ivor Brown, Laurence Whistler, Cecil Beaton, James Agate, James Laver, Christopher Hassall, Anthony Curtis and Sacheverell Sitwell.

The Curtain Press Ltd. London. 1946-1949. First editions. 9 volumes in wrappers, octavo. All housed in three slipcuses with paper covers designed by Joan Hassall. Colour and b&w illustrations throughout. Illustrations reproducing designs by Rex Whistler, Cecil Beaton, Charles Ricketts, Inigo Jones, Roger Furse, et al. Woodcut engravings and decorations by Joan Hassall. English. 195x130mm. Very good, in good slipcuses.

[Full description](#) | [Purchase](#)



Jacket with Whistler's painting of Cecil Beaton's Wiltshire country house



Ashcombe. The Story of a Fifteen-Year Lease

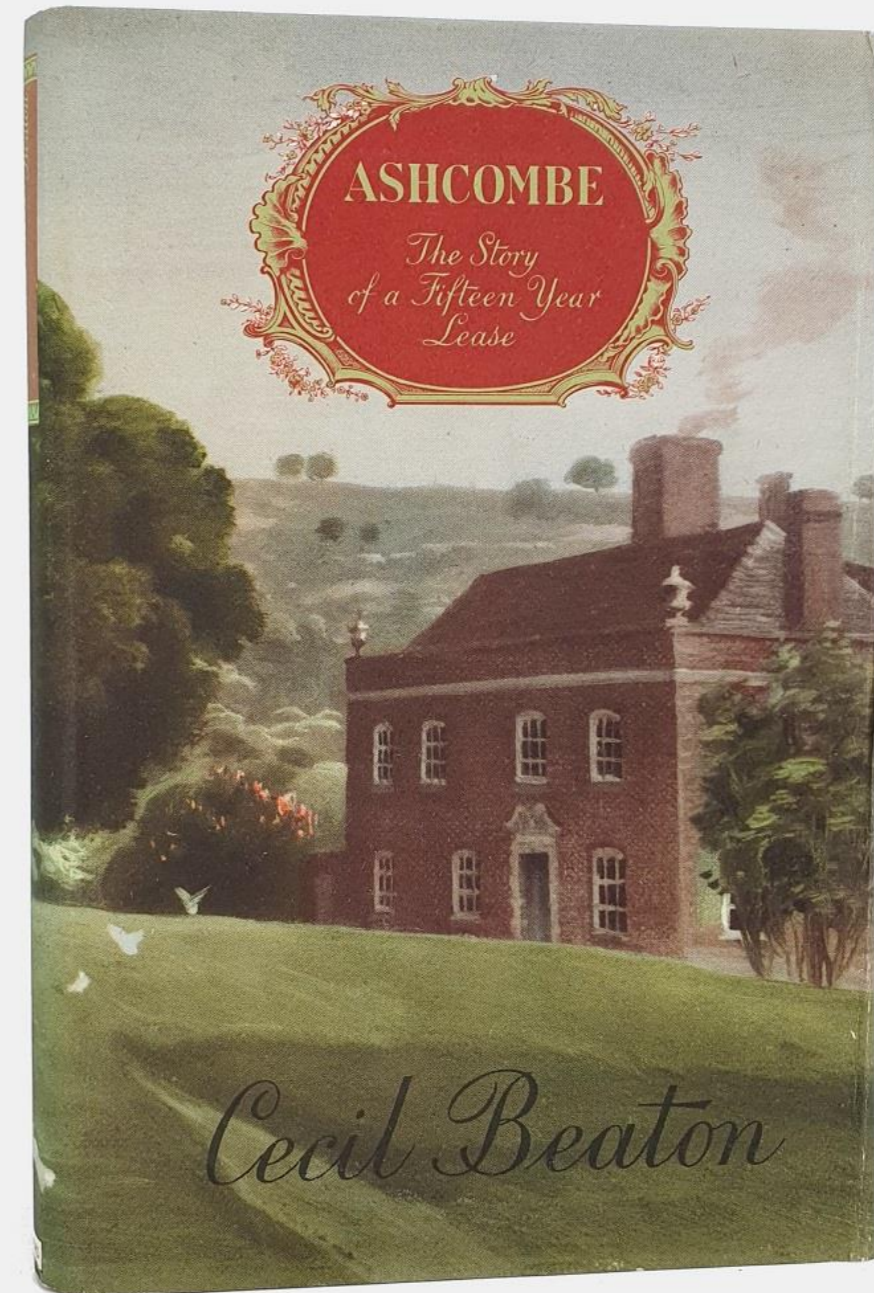
A first edition copy of Cecil Beaton's record of his famous country house in Wiltshire, with the original dust jacket. Beaton was said to be heartbroken when his lease to Ashcombe expired in 1945 and this book is his ode to the house and the good-times experienced there. Rex Whistler was closely connected to the house, visiting often and helping Beaton make decorative and architectural changes. The dust jacket reproduces his painting of the house.

£220

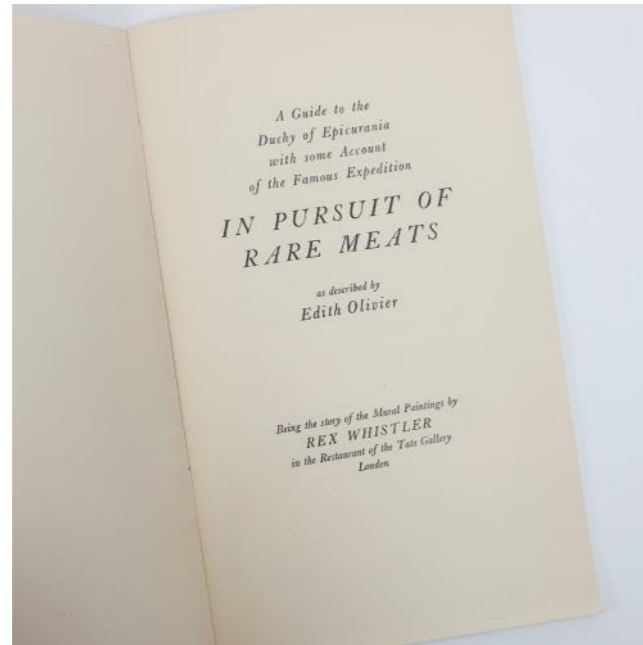
Cecil Beaton.

B. T. Batsford Ltd. London. 1949. First edition. Hardback, octavo; russet cloth-bound boards, russet top-edge, dust jacket. [viii], 124 pages. Colour frontispiece, hors-texte plates with photographs and drawings by Beaton, text illustrations by Beaton, Rex Whistler, Christian Bérard and others. English. 220x150mm. Near fine, in near fine dust jacket.

[Full description](#) | [Purchase](#)



A fanciful written description to accompany Whistler's mural sequence at the Tate Gallery



A Guide to the Duchy of Epicurania with some Account of the Famous Expedition In Pursuit of Rare Meats

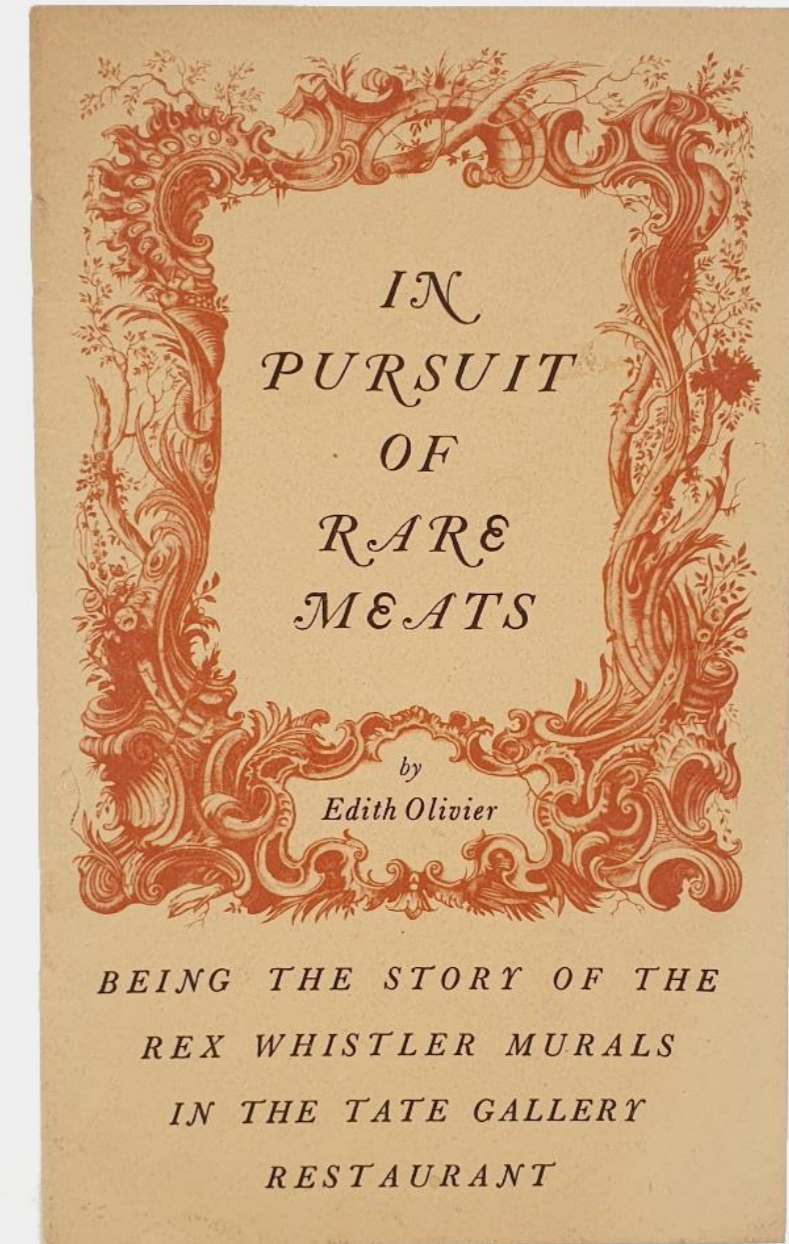
'Being the Story of the Rex Whistler Murals in the Tate Gallery Restaurant' is the subtitle for this fanciful written description to accompany Rex Whistler's mural sequence. The mural was completed by Whistler in 1927 after a year and a half of work. It features a dream-like, pastoral landscape through which travels a mis-matched hunting party. Olivier and Whistler had the idea of writing a guide to the painting in the form of a children's story. Olivier went on to write the text which is published here posthumously.

£80

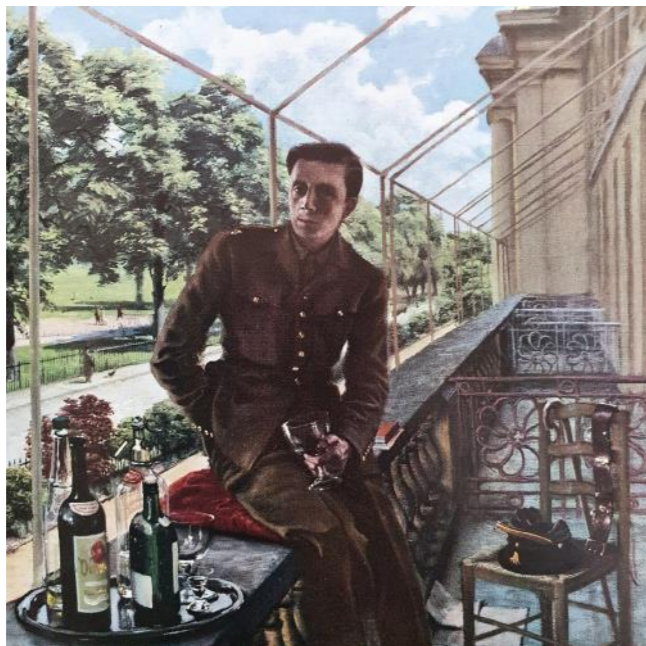
Edith Olivier.

Tate Gallery. London. [c.1954]. Paperback, octavo; staple-bound illustrated wrappers. 28 pages. English. 215x130mm. Near fine.

[Full description](#) | [Purchase](#)



The important catalogue of Rex Whistler's work produced by his brother Laurence



The Work of Rex Whistler

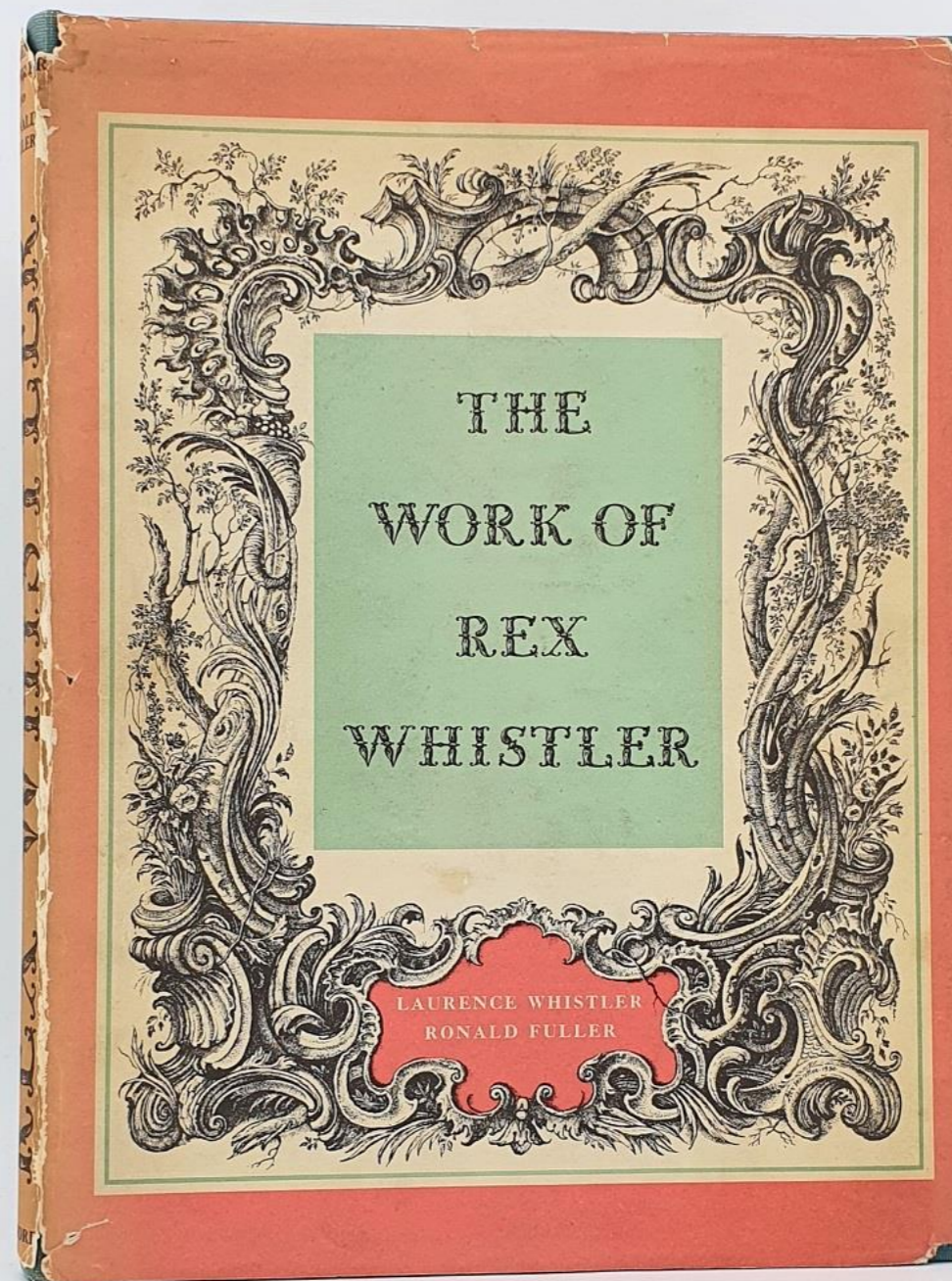
The important catalogue of Rex Whistler's work produced by his brother Laurence and Ronald Fuller. The catalogue contains 700 works, the authors purpose being 'to record all the artist's work of any consequence'. It includes Whistler's murals, portraits, sketch-books, drawings, architecture, furniture and product designs, designs for the theatre and cinema, printed books, periodicals, bookplates, stationery, advertisements, posters, jeux d'esprit, caricatures and works for children.

£150

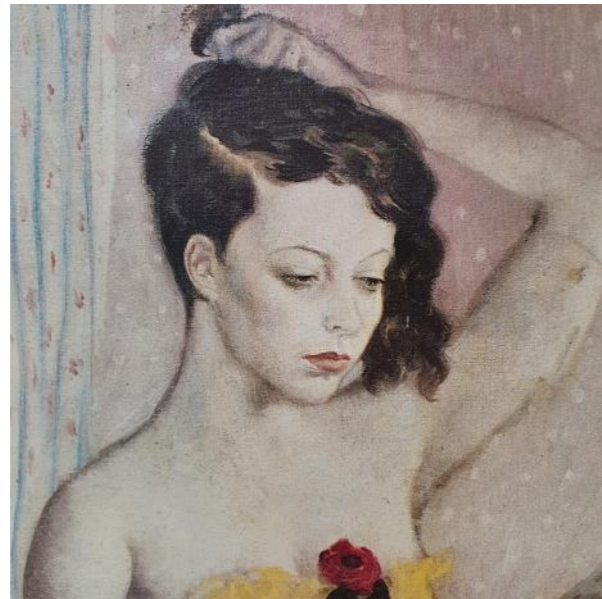
Laurence Whistler & Ronald Fuller.

Batsford. London. 1960. First edition. Hardback, bound in green buckram cloth with gilt decoration and title, dust jacket. Loosely inserted are 10 black-and-white photographs reproducing the 10 drawings in sepia ink and water-colour illustrating Konigsmark created by xxiv, 122 pages. 112 hors-texte illustrations, some in colour, and several text illustrations. English. 305x235mm. Very good, in good dust jacket.

[Full description](#) | [Purchase](#)



Laurence Whistler's richly researched account of the life of his brother Rex



The Laughter and the Urn. The Life of Rex Whistler

Laurence Whistler's richly researched account of the life of his brother Rex. Rex Whistler's life was tragically cut short in 1944 whilst in action during WW2. Laurence made a huge effort to ensure that Rex's work was recorded and enjoyed by future generations. Alongside this biography he also wrote *His Life and His Drawings* and *The Work of Rex Whistler*. Rex's varied work is discussed alongside his life and his friendships with figures including Edith Olivier, Cecil Beaton and Siegfried Sassoon.

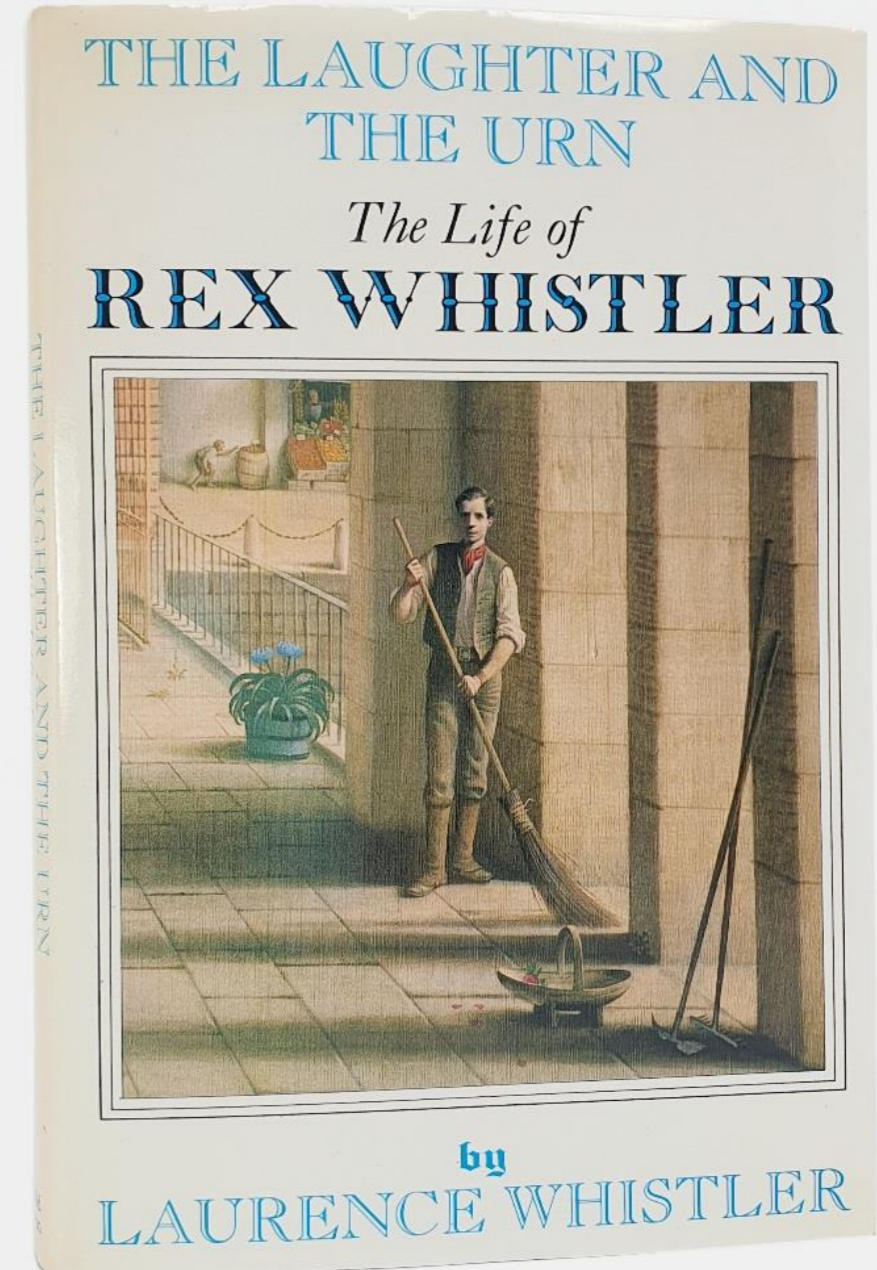
£60

Laurence Whistler.

Weidenfeld and Nicolson. London. 1985. First edition. Hardback, octavo; blue cloth-bound boards, dust jacket. xiv, 321 pages. Text illustrations and 42 colour and monochrome illustrations on hors texte plates.

English. 240x165mm. Near fine, in near fine dust jacket.

[Full description](#) | [Purchase](#)



The catalogue for an exhibition of Whistler's work in Brighton in 2006



Rex Whistler. The Triumph of Fancy

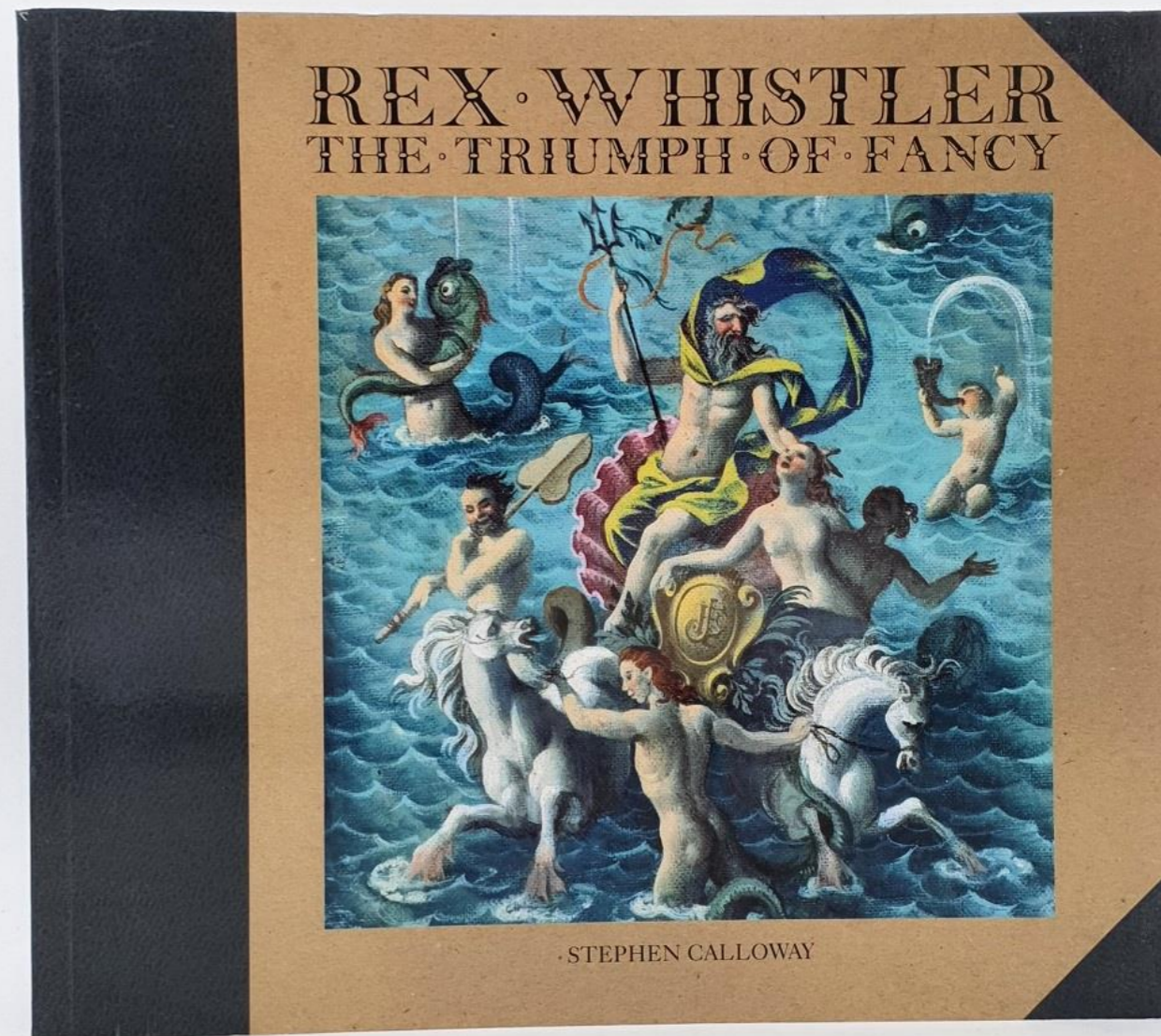
The catalogue for an exhibition on the work of Rex Whistler held at the Brighton Museum and Art Gallery in 2006. It was the first full-scale exhibition of Whistler's work since 1960. The curator Stephen Calloway provides an essay on Whistler's life and work and then illustrates a selection of Whistler's art including paintings, drawings, stage designs, illustrations and book plates. The catalogue ends with a list of mural decorations and designs for theatres, and a selective list of book illustrations.

£45

Stephen Calloway.

Royal Pavilion, Libraries & Museums. Brighton. 2006. First edition. Paperback, oblong quarto; illustrated wrappers. 96 pages. Illustrated throughout in colour and b&w. English. 220x250mm. Near fine.

[Full description](#) | [Purchase](#)



An examination of the artistic and social dialogue between Whistler and his patrons



Rex Whistler. The Artist and His Patrons

Published to accompany an exhibition at The Salisbury Museum, home of the Rex Whistler Archive. The book and exhibition examine Rex Whistler's relationship with his patrons, exploring the social and artistic dialogues between artist and patron. The personalities who commissioned murals and paintings from Whistler represent the British artistic-social milieu between the wars and include Sir Philip Sassoon, Cecil Beaton, Dorothy Wellesley, Edward James, Henry 'Chips' Channon, Diana Cooper, the Marquess and Marchioness of Anglesey and Maud Russell.

£30

Nikki Frater.

Paul Hoberton Publishing & The Salisbury Museum. London. 2024. First edition. Paperback, quarto; illustrated wrappers. 192 pages. Approx. 150 colour and b&w illustrations. English. 280x220mm. Fine; as new.

[Full description](#) | [Purchase](#)

