Benet Library Exhibit Shows Eric Gill's Work

The first complete American showing of books and illustrations of the late Eric Gill, famed English author, sculptor and critic will be held at St. Benet Library and Bookshop, 506 S. Wabash Ave., from May 26 to July 28. The exhibit is being sponsored by the Most Rev. Bernard J. Sheil, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago.

Of special interest is a collection of Gill writings in the original editions, plus many rare personal letters. These books, all made in England, are printed on hand-made paper with hand-set type.


The exhibit is arranged by St. Benet Library in cooperation with the Newberry Library, Loyola University Library, the Rev. Rollins Lambert, Carl Merschel, Dorothy Day, John Booe, Bennett Shaw, Graham Carey, the Rev. William Vonark, John Rinke-

Spiritual Means

Boston: Gresham
July 11, 1951

Dear Sister Elma:

Two small but very interesting books on Eastern usage:

"Main Devices of Holy Week and Glorious Resurrection" and "Epistles and Gospels for the Sundays, Holydays, Various Intentional and Special Occasions": are shortly on their way to O.F.T. Their prayer structure fascinated me and I'm sure you will agree that they have an appeal. If you already have them, pass them on to some other school. These were given to the New World sometime back — but I hooked them for a light going over your letter re: The reception of books were received with happy that the Van Wyck Brooks items...
fill as vacancy in the Catalog.

I did not make myself clear on the Stevenson item—Not one volume of "Complete Works" but about 31 individual volumes as set, in other words. If you have him complete, this is just extra baggage.

Do not think I am unmindful of the very kind mess you, Sister Lillian and Sister Aniceta lidded as hostess on Jubilee Day. I shall express myself on it in person before long. It was appreciated more about looks anon—

Most Sincerely yours—

John Raymond
Monday, August 6th, 1951.

Dear Sister Elvira:

Books to "fit" the enclosed cards are on their way—plus a couple extra items. I am sorry about the Indian art book but no great harm as it will be popular. You can use 2 copies. I shall ask from now on before sending duplicated.

My kind regards to all at C.S.T. (Hope the floors are all dry?!) Most sincerely,

John Raymond
August 10, 1951

Dear Sister Elvira:

The books listed

on the enclosed cards are on their way
to C.S.F. The newspaper clipping is
of interest as you have some of Jean
Thomas' books in the library.

My kind regards to all the "bookers!"

Most sincerely yours,

John Raymond
Monday, August 18th.

Dear Sister Elvira:—A few more books are on their way of mild interest—chiefly antique.

[Underlined: Eric Gill’s Letters], do you have a copy of edited by M. A. R. Macdonald? No!

I’ll have another Gill item shortly—a small pamphlet (or a letter from H. A. C. Pepler) about Gill. Very
Interesting + Worth While. Do you have a copy of "What Day You?" by David Boldstein? I've been reading parts of it & wish we had more converts like him. More shortly.

Most sincerely,

John Raymond
August 18, 1951

Dear Sister Elvira:—

The book described on the enclosed card is a real Collectors' item and also a delight to Book Collectors! I hope you have Father Sis's item re "Alice in Wonderland" on the editorial page of the New York Herald Tribune. The Disney film on Alice is a rare delight and feast to the eye.

My regards to all my friends at S.F.

Most sincerely yours,

[Signature]
Dear Sister Elvira:

Latest additions to C.S.T., as per enclosed card, are on their way. Schmitt's Porcelain is a beautiful work, and may interest the Art Department. It is out of print and a bit hard to obtain. The Pepler letter will appeal to all who like Bill and his splendid work. The bookplates (just in from the printer) are for the books I bought over (3 Megell items) which lacked them. The Cloze works of the design, the colors are sharper in this printing and I'm pleased with the work. A new man who likes brilliant colors.

Of books, more anon—

August 23, 1931

Most, sincerely,

John T. Raymond
CHURCH OF ST. COLUMBA, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

This Church is an excellent example of Contemporary American Architecture, simple yet elegant in design. It is perfectly functional. It was built in 1949.
POST CARD

SEP 5
12:30 M
1951

SAINT CLAIR ST.

SAINT FRANCIS COLLEGE

Postcard from St. Francis College, April 1951

Dear Sister Elvira, O.S.F.,

College of St. Francis,

Joliet,

Illinois.

Miss Peterson

Your friend,

Sister Mary

Chapel

Sacristy
September 20, 1951.

Dear Sister Elena:

The book to follow the enclosed card is a fine item of source for some of your literature courses. The binder did a good job on the "Franciscan Brown." Huckman was my idea. May I have the reaction on the fact of the "Book Hooker's Society?"

Yours Sincerely,

John Raymond.
September 28, 1951

(Star Day)

Dear Sister Elvira:

Your long and most interesting letter reached me this morning and I am quite excited about the Raymond Room. But of that, more anon.

Good fortune was with me this week as you will soon see—among other items, two small, but very rare items from the St. Dominic Press popped into my hands and I am taking time out to "Hook" them before sending them on to their final and future home.

While on vacation I located a couple more novels by Conrad Richter, first editions, not new, but surely in a class far above most "modern" writing. Other books are to follow. I have been oiling some of my fine leather bindings and am cleaning a little jewel of a Prayer-Book published in England in 1810. It is based on a much earlier Manual of Prayers by Bishop Challoner. The binding, in soft green leather, is just nicely worn, reminding one that some soul or souls really read and meditated. The great value in the book is the Fore-edge painting, a quiet harbor scene that is quite delightful. I intend to use the book personally, but it is meant to be a part of the collection of Rare Books and Fine Bindings at C.S.F.

I am very glad that you liked the binding of Songs of the Gardens. I am having a few other things done by the same man. One little item, The Cries of London, was done in coffee brown leather and it is a fine bit of Curiosa.

In August, when I visited in Joliet, I mentioned a possible display of rare items, fine bindings, etc., and had in mind that we might get some things ready for National Catholic Press Month, February (?) for the mental stimulation of all who like books. Let me have your opinion on the idea. I will take the responsibility of gathering the books and will call on you for Library Display knowledge. Some of the things are not for the general public to handle, but we could do cards to be used with each item, giving some information about the book, etc.

Enough for now, I must go shopping—where?—a book shop, of course, what places are more fun?

Thank you again for your letter and give my kind regards to the Book Hooker Society members.
October 11-1951.

Dear Sister Evina:

The weather remains fair, and shall bring a few items for C.S. T. on Sunday afternoon — if weather permits. The visit will be at a later date.
Please notify the Charter Members of the Book-Hooker Society that they are due for some splendid fishing!

Most sincerely yours,

John Raymond
October 26th, 1951.

Dear Sister Elvira:

Only a note to say "a book of new verse" on The Hill by John Masefield is on its way. I believe it is his latest published work. A couple other items packed separately also should show up.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature: John Raymond]
All Saints' Day
November 1st, 1951.

Dear Sister Elvira:

Colour and Interior Decoration by Basil Ionides (no card) is being included in the next package of books for C.S.F. This is a first plus a very fine book on color, related to interiors — out of print and a bit worn but I'm sure it will give some good service still.

Sincerely yours,

John Raymond.