

Collection Development Policy for the Modern Fine Printing Collection in Special Collections

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Modern Fine Printing Collection

The Modern Fine Printing Collection is a part of the History of Printing Collection. The collection provides support to BYU programs in history, graphic arts, English, and other areas, as well as to researchers, faculty and visiting scholars. It also complements other portions of the History of Printing Collection by showing the modern application of earlier printing and publishing techniques.

Modern fine printing stands within the tradition of the the best printing since earliest times, emphasizing high quality materials (often including handmade papers) and workmanship (often including hand binding and usually including hand presswork) and often including original artwork, in contrast to machine produced books. Fine press books and ephemera are usually issued in limited editions of 100-400 or less. The period covered by the modern fine press movement includes the late nineteenth century revival of fine printing (including William Morris and the Kelmscott Press, the Doves Press, and the Ashendede Press) and continues into the twenty first century.

A complete list of presses that have been collected will be found at <http://net.lib.byu.edu/~catalog/catalogwebsite/departmentmanual/section3.4.5b.htm>

Selection Guidelines

Special Collections collects examples of the best modern fine printing of all types, but emphasizes:

- Literary works, especially works of new or little-known authors
- Books and ephemera about books and book production
- Books and ephemera produced by certain classes of presses
 - Books and ephemera produced in Utah or by LDS printers, including
 - Tryst Press
 - Red Butte Press
 - Grant Dahlstrom
 - Books and ephemera produced in the Rocky Mountain and Pacific regions, including
 - Press of the Palace of Governors
 - Barbarian Press
 - Press at Colorado College
 - Books and ephemera produced by student programs, including
 - Scripps College Press
 - University of Alabama (Parallel Editions)

- Books and ephemera by certain prominent North American fine presses and publishers of fine printing, including
 - Grabhorn, Hoyem, and Arion Press
 - Bird & Bull Press
 - Book Club of California
- Books and ephemera produced by or featuring the work of prominent artists working in book-related media (e.g., wood engraving, lithography), including the work of
 - Barry Moser
 - Gaylord Schanilec
- Books and ephemera by presses important to the history of fine printing, including
 - Kelmscott Press
 - Doves Press
- Selected books and ephemera produced in other parts of North America, in Western Europe (especially England), and elsewhere
- Books and ephemera of regional interest, including those treating the West, and travel literature about Utah and surrounding states

Artists' Books

Artists' books, or *livres d'artiste*, are books that tend to push the boundary of what a book is (at the extreme, they can sometimes only be described as "book-like objects"), and the emphasis is usually on "artist" rather than "book." While Special Collections does collect some examples of these in the Modern Fine Printing Collection, we generally do not collect them extensively.