



# Lewd and Scandalous Books

An exhibition of material from  
the Monash University Library  
**Rare Books Collection**

14 July – 30 September 2010  
Level 1, ISB Wing  
Sir Louis Matheson Library  
Clayton campus, Monash University  
Wellington Road, Clayton



**MONASH** University  
Library

## Introduction

Monash University is a child of the Sixties. The University Library began with progressive policies on collection development, just as the University established itself in opposition to the stuffy respectability of Australia's sandstone universities by teaching modern American literature alongside Latin, Law and Medicine.

One telling reminder of the Library's idealistic youth is the run of *Playboy* magazine held in the Rare Books Collection. The Library subscribed to *Playboy* and placed it on the open shelves. Now, partly disfigured, it survives here because Monash Library established a Rare Books Collection which happens to protect this relic of Menzies-era libertinism alongside the more respectable curiosa in the pre-1800 Swift Collection.

Fifty years later the Rare Books Collection at Monash houses many of such relics, and although the erotic material is dominated by an important collection of twentieth-century items — especially pulp fiction — it also has an impressive collection of eighteenth-century material. It is this lesser-known material that I have mined for the present exhibition.

With the exception of John Cleland's *Fanny Hill*, many of the books I have chosen are likely to be unfamiliar and, although the topics are familiar — the sex scandals and vices of the rich and famous — these works are likely to have lost their sting in a world where the public figures are no longer known and when a few keystrokes can unleash a flood of pornographic images. It is almost inevitable, then, that many of the 'Lewd and Scandalous' books of the eighteenth century will seem tame and restrained, even quaint and cute, to our eyes.

This exhibition contains literary and visual material that was restricted or suppressed and circulated for more than two centuries in small numbers, in privately printed and clandestine editions. Liberal as we undoubtedly are today, much of it *still* has the power shock. Even the most worldly among us would hesitate to quote the purple passages of Catullus, Rochester or Wilkes in public and nobody would place an unexpurgated edition of the works of these authors on the shelves of a high school library.

### Dr Patrick Spedding

School of English, Communications and Performance Studies, Faculty of Arts

June 2010

**14 July – 30 September 2010**

**Level 1, ISB Wing**

**Sir Louis Matheson Library**

**Clayton campus**

**Monash University**

**Wellington Road, Clayton**

Curator: Dr Patrick Spedding

Assistant Curator: Stephen Herrin

Thanks to Dr Patrick Spedding of the School of English, Communications and Performance Studies, Faculty of Arts for opening the exhibition.

Web design: Rosemary Miller

For more images and full information on each of the items, visit

**[www.lib.monash.edu/exhibitions](http://www.lib.monash.edu/exhibitions)**

This exhibition is being held in conjunction with the 2010 Bibliographical Society of Australia and New Zealand Conference, *To deprave and corrupt: forbidden, hidden and censored books*.

## LARGE UPRIGHT CASE

### Lady Vane's Library of Erotica

#### 1. Engaving: *Court gossops* (London, 1732).

Oblong folio, anonymous satirical broadside; 360 x 250 mm (14 x 12 ½ inches).

Lady Vane was Maid of Honour to Queen Caroline, and mistress of Frederick, Prince of Wales. On 4 June 1732, after a very public confinement in St. James's Palace, she gave birth to a son, whose paternity was the subject of much speculation and comment.

The bookcase and shelf on the far left of 'The Court Gossops' is filled with erotic books and pamphlets. Although this representation of a small library of erotica was created to serve a particular satirical purpose, it accurately represents what was considered to be 'lewd and scandalous' in 1732. The titles include Classical works; works by Restoration poets and dramatists; contemporary erotica; and accounts of Lady Vane.

Many of the titles in this imagined courtly library of erotica are represented in the exhibition. As well as the following three items, see nos. 6, 9, 10, 32, 33, 56, 61, 107 and 108.



#### 2. *The Works of the Earls of Rochester, Roscomon, and Dorset: the Dukes of Devonshire, Buckinghamshire, &c. ...* (London: s.n., Printed in the Year 1772) (Privately held).

From 1714 clandestine editions of Rochester's poems added a section of obscene poetry called 'The Cabinet of Love.' The poems in this section vary from edition to edition, but include 'Dildoides,' 'The Delights of Venus,' 'A Panegyrick upon Cundums' and 'The Arbor Vitae.' This last poem – which appears in Lady Vane's library below her copy of *Rochester's Poems* – recounts the astonishing qualities of the *arbor vitae*, or the *tree of life* (i.e., the *penis-plant*). The engraving (the only illustration of this poem from the eighteenth-century) shows three women tending the *arbor vitae* in the midst of a formal garden.

#### 3. Congreve, William, 1670-1729.

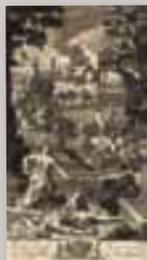
*The old bachelor: A comedy ...* (London: Printed in the year 1712).

#### 4. Ravenscroft, Edward, 1654?-1707.

*The London-cuckolds: A comedy ...* / By Edward Ravenscroft (London: W. Field's [i.e. Fields], 1729).

By 1732, the Restoration stage was, already, notorious for its sexual explicitness. Ravenscroft's 'rude, crude' and 'bawdy 1681 romp' remained a crowd favourite for decades while *The Old Bachelor* (1693) was Congreve's first great success in the theatre, but both titles appear in Lady Vane's library, alongside John Dryden's *All for Love* (1677), merely as representatives of the whole genre of Restoration comedy.

## Classical Erotica



### 5. Ovid, 43 BC–17 or 18 AD

*Ovid's Metamorphoses in fifteen books* / Translated by the most eminent hands: Adorn'd with sculptures (London: Jacob Tonson, 1717)



### 6. Ovid, 43 BC-17 or 18 AD

*Ovid's Art of Love, in three books: Together with his Remedy of Love*/translated into English verse by several eminent hands ... (London: J. Tonson, 1725)

### 7. Ovid, 43 BC-17 or 18 AD

*Ovid's Metamorphosis Englished, mythologiz'd, and represented in figures ...* / By G. S. (Oxford: John Lichfield, 1632)

### 8. Ovid, 43 BC-17 or 18 AD

*Nouvelle traduction des Metamorphoses d'Ovide* / par M. Fontenelle (Paris: Panckoucke, 1767)



9. *Ovid's Art of Love; Remedy of Love; and Art of Beauty ...* / by various authors, in imitation of Ovid (London: Published for the Booksellers, [1884?])

10. *Ovid's Art of Love; Remedy of Love; and Art of Beauty ...* / by various authors, in imitation of Ovid (London: Published for the Booksellers, [189-?])

### 11. Petronius Arbiter.

*The Works of Titus Petronius Arbiter: in prose and verse: in three parts ...* / made English by Mr. Wilson ... and several others (London: Printed for Sam. Briscoe and sold by J. Morphew, 1712)

### 12. Petronius Arbiter.

*Titi Petronii Arbitri, equitis Romani, Satyricon ... cum notis Bourdelotij & glossario Petroniano* (Pariisi: Claudium Audinet, 1677)

13. *Supplement to the Satyricon of Petronius Arbiter* ([London?]: s.n., 1926) (Privately held).



### 14. Petronius Arbiter.

*The Satyricon of Petronius Arbiter ... made English* / by Mr Wilson ... and several others ... (London: Printed for Private Circulation, 1899)

### 15. Petronius Arbiter.

*The complete works of Gaius Petronius* / done into English by Jack Lindsay; with one hundred illustrations by Norman Lindsay (London: Fanfrolico Press, [1927])



### 16. Longus.

*Longu Poimenika ta kata Daphnin kai Chloën* [title in Greek] (En Biennë Austrias: Bentotës, 1792)



### 17. Lindsay, Norman, 1879-1969.

*A homage to Sappho* / made by Norman and Jack Lindsay (London: Fanfrolico Press, 1928)

## 18. Aristophanes.

*Lysistrata* / by Aristophanes; done into English verse by Jack Lindsay; with illustrations and decorations by Norman Lindsay (Sydney: Fanfrolico Press, 1925)

The literature of the Classical world held the pre-eminent position both in formal education and as a social accomplishment throughout the eighteenth century. This meant that it was almost impossible to keep out of the hands of curious adolescents the amatory and satirical literature of the Augustan period, including works of uninhibited sexuality by Ovid, Petronius and Catullus. Because these writers were held in such high esteem editions of their works circulated freely ... in Latin.

English translations of these authors were considered at least a little risqué, especially in the hands of those deemed to be particularly liable to be debauched by their reading material: i.e., women and children, and the uneducated generally. The items on display here demonstrate how long these fears persisted. Throughout the nineteenth and into the early twentieth centuries unexpurgated translations of Ovid were only published in clandestine editions or in private press editions of limited circulation.

## European Erotica

### 19. Bonnefons, Jean, 1554-1614.

*Johannis Bonefonii Arverni Carmina* (Londini: Jacobi Tonson, Johannis Watts, 1720)

### 20. Chorier, Nicolas, 1612-92.

*Joannis Meursii Elegantiae Latini sermonis: seu, Aloisia Sigaeae Toletana De arcanis amoris & veneris: adjunctis fragmentis quibusdam eroticis* (Lugd. Batavorum: Elzevirianis, 1774)



### 21. *I Modi: The sixteen pleasures ... / edited ... by Lynne Lawner (Evanston, Ill.: Northwestern University, 1988)*

### 22. Boccaccio, Giovanni, 1313-75.

*The Decameron of Giovanni Boccacci (Il Boccaccio): now first completely done into English the stories which it has hitherto been the custom to censure, emasculate or omit altogether and which are now presented in their entirety* (London: Printed for Private subscription and for Private Circulation Only, 1887)

### 23. Boccaccio, Giovanni, 1313-75.

*The Decameron* / faithfully translated by J. M. Rigg ... (London: Navarre Society, [1921]) (Privately held)



### 24. Diderot, Denis, 1713-84.

*Les bijoux indiscrets* (Au Monomotapa [i.e. Paris?]: s.n., between 1748 and 1798).

### 25. Diderot, Denis, 1713-84.

*Les bijoux indiscrets* (Amsterdam: Marc-Michel Rey, 1772).

Another source of erotic literature was Europe. The foundational works of European erotica were quickly translated into English, and continued to be re-printed and re-translated.

In addition to these works, earlier European writers had provided multi-lingual readers with learned *facetiae* and bawdy *fabliaux* and tales, such as Boccaccio's *Decameron*. Later writers, particularly the French novelists of the eighteenth century, wrote witty and wildly pornographic stories.

## Natural History

### 26. Keate, George, 1729-97.

*An account of the Pelew Islands, situated in the western part of the Pacific Ocean ...* / by George Keate (London: Printed for Captain Wilson; and sold by G. Nicol, 1788)

### 27. Scott, Major (John), 1747-1819.

*An epistle from Oberea, Queen of Otaheite, to Joseph Banks, Esq.* / translated by T. Q. Z. ... and enriched with historical and explanatory notes (London: J. Almon ..., 1774)

### 28. Anderson, George William.

*A new, authentic, and complete collection of voyages round the world ... Containing a new, authentic, entertaining, instructive, full, and complete historical account of Captain Cook's first, second, third, and last voyages ...* (London: Printed by A. Hogg [1786?])

### 29. Cook, James, 1728-79.

*A voyage to the Pacific Ocean: Undertaken by the command of His Majesty, for making discoveries in the northern hemisphere. performed under the direction of Captains Cook, Clerke and Gore, in His Majesty's ships, the Resolution and Discovery; in the years 1776, 1777, 1778, 1779, and 1780 ...* / Vol. I and II written by Captain Cook, Vol. III by Captain James King (London: G. Nicol; and T. Cadell, 1784-85)

### 30. La Billardière, Jacques-Julien Houtou de, 1755-1834.

*Relation du voyage à la recherche de La Pérouse ...* / par le Cen. Labillardière (Paris: Chez H. J. Jansen, [1800])

Enlightenment projects and discoveries were as often ridiculed as respected by English writers. The voyages of discovery, an integral part of the imperial and scientific expansion of the seventeenth and eighteenth century, were very popular. Particularly the accounts of the voluptuous isle of Otaheite (i.e. Tahiti) where beautiful women in coconut-fibre accessories performed the sensual Rites of Venus for British sailors.

## Restoration Satire

### 31. Burnet, Gilbert, 1643-1715.

*Some passages of the life and death of the Right Honourable John Earl of Rochester, who died the 26th of July, 1680* / written by his own direction on his death-bed by Gilbert Burnet (London: Richard Chiswel, 1680) ▶▶



32. *The poetical works of the Earls of Rochester, Roscomon and Dorset, the Dukes of Devonshire, Buckinghamshire, &c.: with memoirs of their lives* (London: 1739)

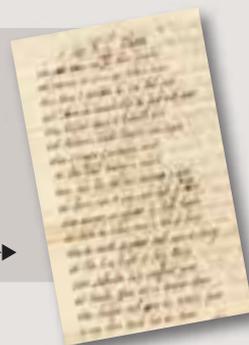
### 33. Rochester, John Wilmot Earl of, 1647-80.

*Selected poetical works of the Earls of Rochester, Roscomon and Dorset: including The Cabinet of Love* (London: Whitehall, 1757)

### 34. Rochester, John Wilmot, Earl of, 1647-80.

*Sodom: Or the gentleman instructed. A comedy* / by the E. of R. (Berlin: Antiquariat Ars Amandi, [2005]).

35. "When gentle Thames rolls back his silver streams" and "When York to heaven shall lift one solemn eye" (Unpublished ms., [1722?]) ▶▶



### 36. Rochester, John Wilmot, Earl of, 1647-80.

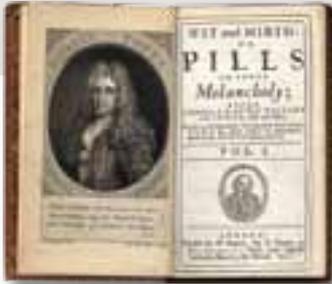
*The farce of Sodom* / by the Right Honourable Earl of Rochester; written for the Royall Company of Whoremasters ... (Melbourne: Richard Griffin for Gryphon Books, 1980)

37. *Poems on affairs of state: from the time of Oliver Cromwell, to the abdication of K. James the Second* / Written by the greatest wits of the age viz. Duke of Buckingham, Earl of Rochester ... Now carefully examined with the originals, and published without any castration ([London]: 1697)

38. *State-poems: Continued from the time of O. Cromwel to this present year 1697 / Written by the greatest wits of the age, viz. the Lord Rochester, the Lord D----t, ...* ([London]: 1697)

39. *Poems on affairs of state: From the time of Oliver Cromwell to the abdication of K. James Second, 6th ed.* (London: Thomas Tebb [and others], 1716)

40. *Wit and mirth: Or pills to purge melancholy; Being a collection of the best merry ballads and songs, old and new ...* / [edited by Thomas D'Urfey] (London: W. Pearson for J. Tonson, 1719-20) ▼



41. **Radcliffe, Alexander, fl. 1669-96.**

*Ovid travestie: a burlesque upon several of Ovid's Epistles* / by Alexander Radcliffe ... (London: Jacob Tonson ..., 1680)

42. **Radcliffe, Alexander, fl. 1669-96.**

*Ovid travestie: a burlesque upon Ovid's Epistles* / by Captain Alexander Radcliffe. 4th edition (London: Printed for J. T., 1705)

43. **Cotton, Charles, 1630-87.**

*The genuine poetical works of Charles Cotton, Esq.: Containing, I. Scarronides, or, Virgil Travestie. II. Lucian Burlesqu'd, or, The Scoffer Scoff'd. III. The wonders of the Peake* / Illustrated with many curious cuts, all new-design'd, and engrav'd by the best artists. 3rd ed. corrected (London: J. Walthoe, [etc.], 1734)

44. **The gentleman's bottle companion: Containing a collection of curious, uncommon, and humorous songs, most of which are originals** (London: [s. n.], 1768)

45. **Mennes, John, Sir, 1599-1671.**

*Facetiae: musarum deliciæ, or, The Muses recreation, containing severall pieces of poetique wit* / by Sr. J. M. and Ja. S. 1656 ... The whole diligently compared with the originals, with all the wood engravings, plates, memoirs, and notes. New ed. (London: John Camden Hotten, [1874])

Poetry was the most popular form of literature during the Restoration period. Obscene songs and verse satires circulated widely in manuscript (no. 35), before being printed in anthologies such as *Poems on Affairs of State* and *Pills to Purge Melancholy*. Although new collections of bawdy songs regularly appeared – and then disappeared (Monash's copy of *The Gentleman's Bottle Companion* is unique) – these two collections are best known.

Outstanding among the Restoration rakes – for his life and his works – was John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester. Rochester's reputation as a libertine was such that his name was attached to many works not penned by him – for example the utterly outrageous *Farce of Sodom*. Publishers continued to use his name to sell erotica. (See, for example, no. 83).

## Erotic Satire: Science

46. **Hill, John, 1714?-75.**

*Lucina sine concubitu. A letter humbly address'd to the Royal Society; in which is proved ... that a woman may conceive and be brought to bed without any commerce with man* / edited by Edmund Goldsmid (Edinburgh: Privately Printed, 1885).

47. **Perry, James, 1756-1821.**



*The electrical eel, or, Gymnotus Electricus, inscribed to the honourable members of the R\*\*\*I S\*\*\*\*\*y* / by Adam Strong (London: J. Bew, 1777) ◀◀

48. **Perry, James, 1756-1821.**

*The Inamerato: Addressed to the author of the Electrical Eel* / by a Lady (London: Printed for the Author, 1777).

This group of works are examples of the continuing tradition of erotic satires on Enlightenment subjects. In this case, the eminently respectable Royal Society is the target.

## Erotic Satire: Medicine & Travel

### WALL CASE 1

#### 49. Cowper, William, 1666-1709.

*The anatomy of humane bodies: With figures drawn after the life ... Curiously engraven in one hundred and fourteen copper plates ...* / by William Cowper; Revised and Published by C. B. Albinus, 2nd ed. (Leyden: Printed for Joh. Arn. Langerak; and to be had in London from Messrs Innys and Manby, 1737)

### WALL CASE 2

#### 50. Croke, Helkiah, 1576-1635.

*Mikrokosmographia: A description of the body of man ...* / By Helkiah Croke ... 2nd ed. (London: Printed for Thomas and Richard Cotes, and are to be sold by Michael Sparke, 1631)



### WALL CASE 3

#### 51. Moreau, Francois-Joseph, 1789-1862.

*Icones obstetricae: a series of sixty plates illustrative of the art and science of midwifery, in all its branches* / by A. L. Moreau, ed. J. S. Streeter (London: Hippolyte Baillière, 1842)

### WALL CASE 4

52. *Encyclopédie: ou, dictionnaire raisonné des sciences, des arts et des métiers/...* par M. Diderot ... (Paris, 1751-80)

#### 53. Beach, W. (Wooster), 1794-1868.

*An improved system of midwifery, adapted to the reformed practice of medicine: illustrated by numerous plates ...* / by W. Beach (Cincinnati: Moore, Wilstach, Keys & Co., 1859)



### FLAT CASE 1

#### 54. Stretzer, Thomas, d. 1738.

*A new description of Merryland: Containing a topographical, geographical, and natural history of that country*, 7th ed. (Bath: Printed and Sold by J. Leake there and by E. Curll ..., 1741 [actually London, ca. 1890]) with prospectus.



#### 55. Stretzer, Thomas, d. 1738.

*A new description of Merryland ...* (New York: Robin Hood House, 1932)

#### 56. Stretzer, Thomas, d. 1738.

*The potent ally, or succours from Merryland ...* (Paris [i.e. London]: Printed by Direction of the Author, 1741) bound with *A New Description of Merryland*.



#### 57. Mauriceau, François, 1637-1709.

*Traité des maladies des femmes grosses ...* / Par François Mauriceau. 6th ed. (Paris: Par la Compagnie des Libraires, 1721-28)

One of the most successful erotic satires of the eighteenth century was Thomas Stretzer's *New Description of Merryland*. 'Merryland' is a woman-shaped island that is described in great detail. Stretzer's *Merryland* is an extended erotic metaphor, which offers endless opportunities for puns.

## FLAT CASE 2

### 58. Stretzer, Thomas, d. 1738.



*Description topographique, historique, critique et nouvelle du pays et des environs de la Forêt Noire situés dans la Province du Merryland. Traduction très-libre de l'Anglais* (Paris: Chez Les Marchands De Nouveautés, [1872?])

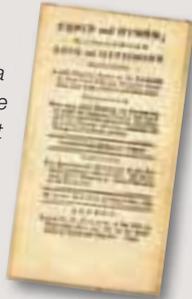


### 59. Cock, Samuel.

*A voyage to Lethe /* by Captain Samuel Cock; sometime Commander of the Good Ship, the charming Sally, dedicated to the Right Worshipful Adam Cock (London: F. Conybeare, 1741 [actually London, ca. 1885])

### 60. Carey, Henry, 1687?-1743.

*Cupid and Hymen, or, a voyage to the Isles of Love and Matrimony: Containing a most diverting account of the inhabitants of those two vast and populous countries ... Translated from the French Original* (London: T. Cooper, 1742 [actually London, ca. 1885])



### 61. The potent ally ... 2nd ed. (Paris: The Author, 1741). Includes *Armour: an Imitation of the Splendid Shilling*. (Privately held)

Stretzer's *New Description of Merryland* was so successful that, according to Edmund Curl many other booksellers tried to cash in: "by the great Demand for this Pamphlet [they] saw it was a proper Season to reprint all the smutty Stuff they could think of, to humour the prevailing Goût of the Town, and scratch the callous Appetites of their Debauched Readers."

## FLAT CASE 3

### Erotic Satire: Wilkes

### 62. Wilkes, John, 1725-97.

*A complete collection of the genuine papers, letters, &c. in the case of John Wilkes, Esq...* (Berlin: [s.n.], 1769)



### 63. Wilkes, John, 1727-97.

*An essay on woman, and other pieces*/Printed at the Private Press ... in 1763, and Now Reproduced in Fac-simile from a Copy believed to be Unique ... (London: Privately Printed [by J. C. Hotten], 1871)

### 64. Hamilton, Adrian, 1944-.

*The infamous "Essay on Woman"; or, John Wilkes seated between vice and virtue* (London: Deutsch, 1972)

In 1763 John Wilkes set up a printing press in his house to print *An Essay on Woman*, a pornographic parody of Pope's *Essay on Man*. The thirteen copies he planned were destined for friends and members of the Hellfire Club. Wilkes's political enemies obtained some proofs. The fragment was read in the House of Lords, who moved to expel and try Wilkes. He fled to Paris, and asserted that the poem was never 'published,' only printed for private circulation. Nevertheless, he was tried and found guilty in absentia (of obscene and seditious libel) and declared an outlaw.

## FLAT CASE 4

### Midwifery

### 65. Aristotle, pseud.

*Aristotle's works compleated in four parts* (London: Printed and sold by the Booksellers, [1749])

**66. Aristotle's works: Containing directions for midwives, and counsel and advice to child-bearing women, with various useful remedies** (London: Printed for the Booksellers, 1859)

**67. The works of Aristotle, in four parts: Containing I. His complete Master Piece ... II. His Experienced Midwife ... III. His Book of Problems ... IV. His Last Legacy ... The best edition (London: T. Walker, 1777)**



**68. The works of Aristotle the famous philosopher: containing his Complete Masterpiece and Family Physician: his Experienced Midwife: his Book of Problems: and his Remarks on Physiognomy. Complete edition with engravings (London: Camden Publishing Co., [190-?])**

**69. Venette, Nicolas, 1633-98.**

*La generation de l'homme; ou, Tableau de l'amour conjugal: considéré dans l'état du mariage* / par Mr. Nicolas Venette. Nouv. ed. (Londres: s.n., 1770)

## FLAT CASE 5

**70. Lignac, M. de. (Louis François Luc), 1740-1809.**

*De l'homme et de la femme consideres physiquement dans l'état du mariage* / par M. de Lignac. Nouv. Ed. (A Lille: J. B. Henry, 1773-74)

**71. Venette, Nicolas, 1633-98.**

*Conjugal love: or, The pleasures of the marriage bed considered in several lectures on human generation* / from the French of Venette (London: Printed for the Booksellers, [1820?])

**72. Tissot, S. A. D. (Samuel Auguste David), 1728-97.**

*L'Onanisme: dissertation sur les maladies produites par la masturbation* / par M. Tissot ... 3e ed. (A Lausanne: Marc Chapuis et Comp., 1769)

**73. Tissot, S. A. D. (Samuel Auguste David), 1728-97.**

*Three essays: ... Third, on onanism: Or, A treatise upon the disorders produced by masturbation* / by S. A. Tissot; trans. Francis Bacon Lee, M. Danes, A. Hume M.D. (Dublin: James Williams, 1772)

**74. Mandeville, Bernard, 1670-1733.**

*The mysteries of virginity, Or, a full discovery of the difference between young maids and old ones: Set forth in several diverting dialogues of the female sex ... With many other curious subjects relating to young women not enter'd into the state of matrimony* (London: J. Morphew and A. Dodd, 1714)



## FLAT CASE 6

**75. Bienville, D. T. de.**

*La nymphomanie, ou traité de la fureur utérine ...* / par M. D. T. de Bienville, Nouv. Ed. (Amsterdam: Marc-Michel Rey, 1778)

**76. Quillet, Claude, 1602-61.**

*Callipaediae, or, an art how to have handsome children* / written in Latin by the Abbot Quillet ... 2nd ed. (London: Printed for J. T. and sold by J. Peele ..., 1718)



**77. Armstrong, John, 1709-79.**

*The oeconomy of love: A poetical essay.* New Ed. (London: M. Cooper, 1753)

**78. Parsons, James, 1705-70.**

*A mechanical and critical enquiry into the nature of hermaphrodites /* by James Parsons, M.D. ... (London: J. Walthoe, 1741)

Medical and quasi-medical advice literature was popular, ranging from compendia of traditional wisdom to prurient investigations of sexual subjects. *Aristotle's Masterpiece*, for example, is a manual that contains classical medical knowledge, popular folklore and midwifery. It was popular for over two centuries, going through at least two hundred editions, most of them clandestine. *Venette's Mysteries of Conjugal Love Revealed*, is a serious 'marital hygiene' treatise whose engravings provided one of the earliest images of the clitoris, while Tissot's *Treatise upon the Disorders produced by Masturbation* was read with great anxiety by Boswell and others.

## FLAT CASE 7

### Erotic Fiction & Pornography

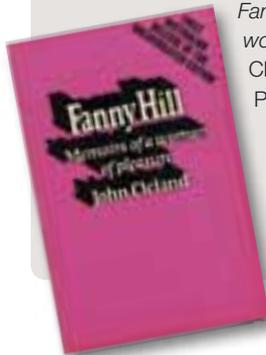
**79. Cleland, John, 1709-89.**

*Memoirs of Fanny Hill: a new and genuine edition from the original text* (London, 1749 [actually Paris: Isidore Liseux, 1888])

**80. Cleland, John, 1709-89.**

*Fanny Hill, or, memoirs of a woman of pleasure /* written by John Cleland; illustrated by Carre after Fragonard (New York: Satyr Press, Printed for Subscribers [ca. 1938]). This was the edition that prompted the ban on *Fanny Hill* in Australia

**81. Cleland, John, 1709-89.**



*Fanny Hill: memoirs of a woman of pleasure*/John Cleland (Sydney: Scripts Publications, [1973])



**82. Cleland, John, 1709-89.**

*Memoirs of a coxcomb /* [by John Cleland] (London: R. Griffiths, 1751 [actually London, ca. 1885])

**83. *The Philosophy of pleasure; or, The history of a young lady, of luxurious temperament and prurient imagination ... Freely translated from the original French*** (London, T. Becket, 1774 [actually London, ca. 1870]) Rochester Series of Reprints, No. 3.

John Cleland's *Memoirs of a Woman of Pleasure* (better known as *Fanny Hill*) is the most famous work of eighteenth-century erotic fiction. The novel claims to be the autobiography of a young woman forced into prostitution. The book comprises a series of highly spiced erotic adventures, but the prose does not contain a single 'rude word.' Nevertheless, *Fanny Hill* was banned soon after publication and remained banned until the 1960s.

## FLAT CASE 8

### Scandal I

**84. Bristol, Elizabeth Chudleigh, Countess of, 1720-1788.**

*The Life and memoirs of Elizabeth Chudleigh: Afterwards Mrs. Hervey and Countess of Bristol, commonly called Duchess of Kingston. Written from authentic information and original documents* (London: R. Randall, [1788?])



**85. *An Authentic detail of particulars relative to the late Duchess of Kingston.*** New Ed. (London: G. Kearsley, 1788)

**86. *A Letter to a celebrated young nobleman on his late nuptials*** (London: J. Bew, 1777)

**87. Sophia Dorothea, consort of George I, King of Great Britain, 1666-1726.**

*Memoirs of the love and state-intrigues of the Court of H[anover]* ... (London: Printed for J. H., 1743)

**88. Foote, Maria, 1797?-1867.**

*Fairburn's edition of the trial between Maria Foote, the celebrated actress, plaintiff and Joseph Hayne, Esq. defendant for a breach of promise of marriage: Including the evidence at full length ... and the whole of the love letters ... / taken in short hand* ([London]: Published by John Fairburn, [ca. 1825])



## FLAT CASE 9

**89. *Genuine and authentic memoirs of a well known woman of intrigue ... / Written by Herself*** (London: J. Ridgeway, 1787 [actually London, ca. 1885])

**90. Muilman, Teresia Constantia, 1709-65.**

*An Apology for the conduct of Mrs. Teresia Constantia Phillips*... (London: Printed for the Author, 1748-49)

**91. Muilman, Teresia Constantia, 1709-65.**

*A Letter humbly addressed to the Right Honourable the Earl of Chesterfield / by Mrs. Teresia Constantia Muilman* (London: Printed for the Author, 1750)

**92. Bellamy, George Anne, 1731?-1788.**

*An Apology for the life of George Anne Bellamy, late of Covent Garden Theatre / written by Herself* ... (London: Printed for the Author ... and sold by J. Bell, 1785)

**93. Charke, Charlotte, 1713-60.**

*A Narrative of the life of Mrs. Charlotte Charke ... / Written by Herself* (London: Whittaker, Treacher, and Arnot, 1829)

Public interest in the sex-scandals of the rich and famous was not new in the eighteenth-century, but what was new was the way in which it was communicated and the frequency with which public figures defended themselves.

When the beautiful Elizabeth Chudleigh attended a masquerade ball in a revealing costume, this scandal was communicated to a delighted public in engravings and illustrated pamphlets. When the divorce of a public figure brought to light details of their sex lives this too was communicated to the public.

Also new was the fact that an increasing variety of disreputable and 'fallen' women – actresses, adulterers, kept-women and prostitutes – were given an opportunity to speak for, and about, themselves. Genuine autobiographical accounts by 'Con Phillips' and the cross-dressing Charlotte Charke may have competed with entirely fictional autobiographies claiming to be 'Genuine and Authentic Memoirs.'

## SMALL UPRIGHT CASE

### Prostitution & Vice

**94. Engraving – William Hogarth "The March of the Guards to Finchley" (1750; retouched by Hogarth 12 June 1761).**

English foot guards say their farewells before marching to battle. The building on the right is a brothel. Standing at the open windows are 'Mother' Jane Douglas and over a dozen prostitutes. ▶▶



95. *An Essay toward a general history of whoring ...* (London: Richard Baldwin, 1697)

96. *A Conference about whoring* (London: J. Downing, 1725)



97. *The Life of the late celebrated Mrs. Elizabeth Wisebourn; vulgarly call'd Mother Wybourn, containing secret memoirs of several ladies of the first q—y who held an assembly at her house ...* (London: A. Moore [172-?])

98. Beraud, F F A.

*Les filles publiques de Paris, et la police qui les regit* / par F. F. A. Beraud; precedees d'une notice historique sur la prostitution chez les divers peuples de la terre, par M. A. M. (Paris: Desforges, 1839)

99. Dodd, William, 1729-77.

*The Magdalen: or history of the first penitent received into that charitable asylum ... With anecdotes of other penitents* / by the late Rev. William Dodd (London: W. Lane, [1783])

100. *Select trials for murder, robbery, burglary, rapes, sodomy, coining, forgery, piracy, and other offences and misdemeanours ...* 4 vols. (London: Printed for J. Wilkie ..., 1764)

101. Colquhoun, Patrick, 1745-1820.

*A Treatise on the police of the metropolis, ...* / by P. Colquhoun. 6th ed. (London: Printed by H. Baldwin and Son for Joseph Mawman, 1800)

It was impossible to walk the streets of London without encountering prostitutes. There was a wide variety of responses to these prostitutes and vice in print. As well as the genuine, fictional and semi-fictional autobiographies we have seen, there were also cheerful rogue biographies – such as that on the 'Celebrated' and unrepentant Mrs. Elizabeth Wisebourn – accounts of the moral reformation of penitent 'magdalens,' and discussions of the problems of policing *les filles publiques*.

## FLAT CASE 10

102. Citizen of London.

*The Vices of the cities of London and Westminster, trac'd from their original ... in five letters* / from a Citizen of London to a Member of Parliament (Dublin: G. Faulkner and R. James, 1751)

103. *The Midnight spy: or, A view of the transactions of London and Westminster from the hours of ten in the evening till five in the morning ... with the characters of some well known nocturnal adventurers of both sexes ...* (London: J. Cooke, [1929?])

104. Ward, Edward, 1667-1731.

*The History of the London clubs, or, The Citizens' pastime ...* / by the Author of the London Spy ([London: s.n., 1896])

105. *A Compleat and humorous account of all the remarkable clubs and societies in the cities of London and Westminster ...* 7th ed. (London: J. Wren, 1756)

**106. *The Bon ton magazine: or, Microscope of fashion and folly* (London: Printed for the Proprietors, [1791-96]).**

Exposés of London prostitution and vice took readers on a tour of London's clubs and nightspots and invited them to enjoy (but condemn!) the 'fashion and folly' of London citizens.



## Scandal II

### FLAT CASE 11

**107. Smollett, T. (Tobias), 1721-71.**

*The Adventures of Peregrine Pickle: In which are included, memoirs of a Lady of Quality* / by Tobias Smollett. 4th ed. (London: Printed for Baldwin [and others], 1769)

**108. Miller, James, 1706-44.**

*Vanelia: or, The Amours of the great. An opera. As it is acted by a private company near St. James's* ... 6th ed. (London: E. Rayner, 1732)

**109. Hill, John, 1714?-75.**

*The Story of Elizabeth Canning considered* / by Dr. Hill; with Remarks on what has been called, *A Clear State of her Case*, by Mr. Fielding, and Answers to the Several Arguments and Suppositions of that Writer (London: M. Cooper, 1753)

**110. Genuine and impartial memoirs of Elizabeth Canning, containing a complete history of that unfortunate girl from her birth to the present time ... Also free and candid remarks on Sir Crisp Gascoyne's address ...** (London: G. Woodfall, 1754)



**111. Vincent, Arthur.**

*Lives of twelve bad women: Illustrations and reviews of feminine turpitude set forth by impartial hands*/ed. by Arthur Vincent (Boston: L. C. Page, 1897)

Includes accounts of Elizabeth Chudleigh, "Con" Phillips and Elizabeth Canning.

**112. Ireland, Betty.**

*The Secret history of Betty Ireland* (London: S. Lee, 1888)

With this group of works we return to where we started, – with Lady Vane – and the sex scandals and vice of 'Bad Women.'

### CORRIDOR CASES

On display are examples of eighteenth-century works re-published as twentieth-century pulp.



**94. Engraving – William Hogarth**

“The March of the Guards to Finchley”  
(1750; retouched by Hogarth 12 June 1761).

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**Cover image:** French postcard, circa 1900, from the Rare Books collection of postcards