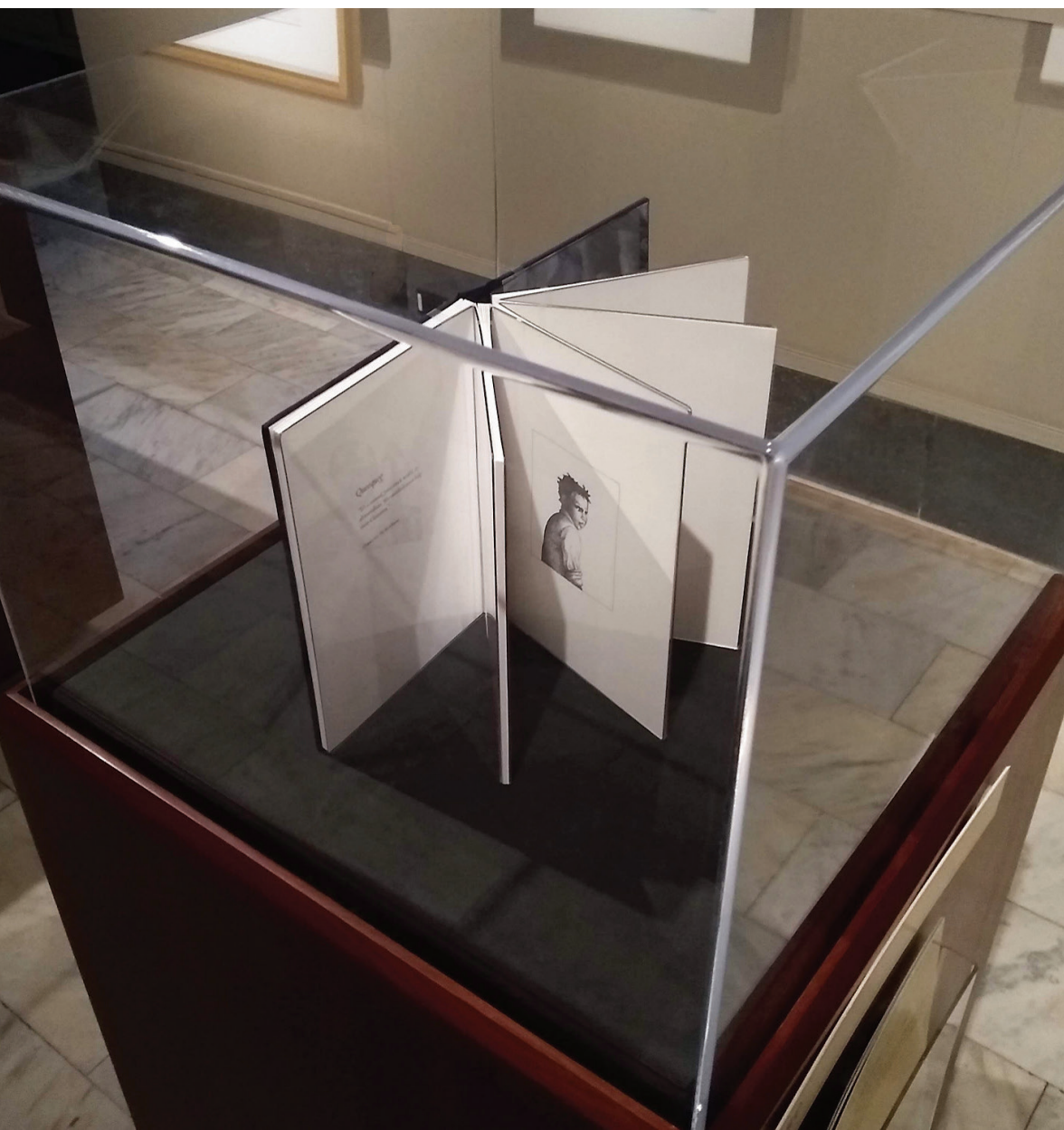


The Melville Press

Fine Press Illustrated Limited Editions



S U M M E R 2 0 2 3



CETUS The Whale on exhibit at The Newberry Library

The Melville Press

Fine Press Illustrated Limited Editions

From the Publisher

SPRING 2023

The Melville Press is a private press dedicated to producing fine illustrated limited editions, born from a passion for Melville's work, capturing the spirit of voyaging and the sea.



The books of The Melville Press have been represented by fine booksellers and collected by prestigious institutions nationally and internationally. The editions have been acquired by The British Library, The Library of Congress, The Newberry Library, The New York Public Library, The National Libraries of Australia, New Zealand and Scotland, The Museum of the Book in the Netherlands and by The National Museum of Women in the Arts, among many others.

"...the books published by the Melville Press...demonstrate highly innovative book design and superb choices with regard to selection of papers and materials. Although this appears at first glance to be a small, innocuous private press...it is anything but...In reality, despite its 'Little Treat' size this is a private press is of the highest caliber." - The LibraryThing

In 2007, while publisher of this press, I was recruited to a leadership position to help build a new ballet company for the City of Los Angeles. With Los Angeles Ballet fully established, I am excited to return to The Melville Press.

We will be announcing a Pre-Sale for our new illustrated limited edition this Fall. I invite you to visit The Melville Press to discover more about our books.

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Catherine Kanner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Catherine Kanner

Publisher, The Melville Press

themelvillepress.com

In the Direction of the Beginning | Dylan Thomas

Book Design & Block Prints by Catherine Kanner

Printed & Bound by Foolscap Press

Originally published in the *A Prospect of the Sea* in 1939, *In the Direction of the Beginning* is a powerful prose poem of love and the sea.

Kanner designed the edition on a generous scale, with a self-closing, three-panel folio cover of black Japanese silk. The book title is stamped in silver foil on the spine. The cover is secured by a shell pin, and includes a tipped-in print of flames on the sea. The pin was designed by the artist and manufactured in Asia.

For this edition, Kanner created nine new images, printed letterpress by Lawrence Van Velzer of Foolscap Press from her original woodcuts. The text, which holds to a central point on each the page suggests the ocean's horizon. The typeface is Centaur, a refined font with enough substance to hold up to the bold black and white prints. The paper is Pescia 100% cotton mould-made, dampened before printing to aid in accepting the large inked areas of the images. The book was bound by Peggy Gottheld of Foolscap Press, hand-sewn to allow the prints to cross the central gutter of the book without interruption.

Limited Edition of 150

Signed & Numbered



DYLAN THOMAS

In the Direction of the Beginning



Rounce & Coffin Award for Excellence in Book Design

Letterpress Limited Edition of 150 / 55 Remain

Printed & Bound by Lawrence Van Velzer & Peggy Gotthold of Foolscap Press

Black Silk Three-Panel Self-Closing Cover with Custom Shell Clasp,

Pescia 100% Cotton Mould-made Paper

Images Printed Letterpress from Artist's Original Blocks

Retail Price \$650.00

themevillepress.com/contact | (310) 454-7675

Prayers Written at Vailima | Robert Louis Stevenson

Book Design & Block Prints by Catherine Kanner

Printed by Windowpane Press | Bound by Allwyn O'Mara

Prayers Written at Vailima reflects the beauty and simplicity of R.L. Stevenson's prayers. The book originated with Kanner's linoleum cut images for Mrs. R.L. Stevenson's Introduction. The images and text carry the reader to the island of Vailima, up to the Stevenson home where prayers were read by the family and their Samoan neighbors. Each prayer is accompanied by an image reflecting Stevenson's deep appreciation of his island home.

Kanner has created 23 images printed letterpress by Bonnie Thompson Norman of Windowpane Press from the original linoleum blocks. Hiromi Sansui rice paper was selected for its lightness and softness, as a prayer offered up to heaven. The book cover is brick-red silk, blind-stamped with a double orchid, and includes Thai red mango-leaf endpapers. Bound by Allwyn O'Mara, the pages are french-folded with interleaving paper. The signatures are sewn with a 13th century technique which allows the pages to fall open completely. The edition includes a rice paper dust jacket printed with the double orchid mirroring the blind-stamped double orchid beneath.

Limited Edition of 200

Signed & Numbered



ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

Prayers Written at Vailima



Rounce & Coffin Award for Excellence in Book Design

Limited Edition of 200 / 40 Remain

Printed Letterpress by Bonnie Thompson Norman / Windowpane Press | Hand-bound by Allwyn

O'Mara Brick-red silk, cover blind-stamped with a double orchid; Mango-leaf endpapers;

Hiromi Sansui rice paper; Pages are french-folded

23 Original Block Prints by Artist Catherine Kanner

Retail Price \$450.00

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CETUS The Whale | Herman Melville

Book Design & Ink Drawings by Catherine Kanner

Printed by John Robinson/ Tortoise Press | Bound by Allwyn O'Mara

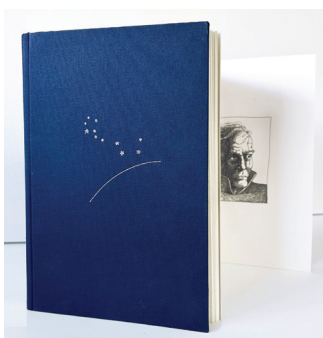
The design of this first edition published by The Melville Press evolved from Kanner's portraits of characters from Melville's *Moby Dick*. The design reflects the sober and beautiful tone of the novel, and is dedicated to Herman Melville and his masterpiece.

Kanner designed the book to be viewed conventionally, but the unique accordion binding allows the book to be opened fully. When opened, the portraits of the Pequod's crew may be displayed as a gallery. Allwyn O'Mara has secured the accordian with a harpoon-shaped anchor behind the front cover page. O'Mara chose to glue rather than fold the paper to give a sail-like appearance. John Robinson of The Tortoise Press' evenness and clarity of the printing is outstanding. End papers were hand-painted by Kanner. Each end paper is unique.

The constellation Cetus is silver-foil stamped on the cover and appears throughout the text. Each of the 11 stars represents a character from the book. The curved line represents the arch of the earth's horizon.

Limited Edition of 200

Signed & Numbered | Extremely Limited



HERMAN MELVILLE

CETUS The Whale



Rounce & Coffin Award for Excellence in Book Design

Limited Edition of 200 / *Few Remain*

Printed Letterpress by John Robinson/ Tortoise Press

Handbound accordion binding by Allwyn O'Mara

13 Ink Drawings by Catherine Kanner | Hand-painted endpapers by the Artist

Contact for Pricing

themervillepress.com/contact | (310) 454-7675

The Melville Press New Edition Announcement

The Melville Press will be announcing a new illustrated limited edition Pre-Sale in
FALL 2023

Pre-Sale Includes:

Limited Edition Broadside / Signed & Numbered
Early Edition Number Guarantee (in order of reservation)

themelvillepress.com/contact for first notice and to join our mailing list.

EDWARD LEAR The Owl & The Pussycat

Limited Edition of 75 • A Tunnel Book

SOLD OUT

Due to the popularity of this delightful format, a new Tunnel Book is being planned.

themelvillepress.com/contact for further information.



How to Order

Books may be purchased directly from The Melville Press:

Online: themelvillepress.com

Email: ckanner@themelvillepress.com

Phone: (310) 454-7675

Mailing Address: The Melville Press | 572 Radcliffe Avenue, Pacific Palisades, California 90272

We welcome credit card orders, and accept checks or money orders. Upon receipt of payment, books will be shipped insured.

Pricing

Retail Prices

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| • In the Direction of the Beginning | \$650.00 |
| • Prayers Written at Vailima | \$450.00 |
| • CETUS The Whale | Contact for Price |

Trade Discounts

- | | |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| Libraries | % 20 Discount (Online Code LIGHT) |
| Museums | % 20 Discount (Online Code MAST) |
| Retailers | % 40 Discount (Online Code REEF) |

Pre-Publication Offers

To be announced

Sales Tax in California

9.5%

Shipping

Within the United States

Free shipping within the United States via US Postal Service (USPS) Ground. Books are shipped insured at full value.

Outside the United States

Orders outside the continental US are shipped via US Postal Service (USPS) Priority unless special arrangements are made. We recommend FedEx service for orders over \$650 or for large size packages.

Insurance

All sales are final. Every reasonable effort will be made to deliver books in good condition. If a received order is damaged, buyer must present proof of damage. The Melville Press will provide either a replacement (if available) or a full value refund upon our receipt of payment for damages from the insurance company.

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The Melville Press
572 Radcliffe Avenue
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272



The Melville Press
Fine Press Illustrated Limited Editions

PRAYERS

PRAYERS

R.L.S.

