

Collection Highlights

FARMINGTON, CONNECTICUT
The Lewis Walpole Library

Yale

introduction

The Lewis Walpole Library's collection of eighteenth-century British prints and drawings was initiated by W.S. Lewis (1895-1979) and Annie Burr Auchincloss Lewis (1902-1959) in order to provide "evidence" and historical context for the life and times of Horace Walpole (1717-1797). In his autobiography One Man's Education (1967), Lewis explained that "the print room was the closest the Lewises could come to the train that would take them to London in the eighteenth century." Accordingly, they conceived the print room as a means to improve the Yale Edition of the Walpole Correspondence "with pictures - portraits and caricatures." In the 1950s, the Lewises earnestly began to collect prints, initially with the assistance of London dealer George Suckling. Their early efforts

were soon boosted by two major gifts: Hugh D. Auchincloss's collection of 3000 English caricatures and Augustus P. Loring's gift of 1500 caricatures from the collection formed by his grandfather, Alfred Bowditch.

The Lewises amassed one of the largest and most significant collections of eighteenth-century British satirical prints and drawings outside Britain, including many outstanding examples by the most celebrated artists of the genre such as James Gillray (1756-1815) and

Thomas Rowlandson (1756-1827) as well as many other important



printmakers who may be less well known today. In addition, the Library's collection includes thousands of portraits of prominent eighteenthcentury figures and many English topographical views. Single sheet prints and drawings are augmented by extensive material found in illustrated books and periodicals, and in many copiously extra-illustrated volumes. These materials continue to be collected by the Library and provide valuable resource materials for studies of all aspects of eighteenth-century culture. Scholars of the history of satirical prints will find opportunities to compare preparatory drawings with impressions of a related print, or rare varying states, for example, of Gillray's work.

Perhaps most notably, the Lewises accumulated an impressive collection of prints by William Hogarth (1697-1764), which is said to be second only to that of



The Lewis Walpole Library

Newton, A Night Mare

the British Museum, W.S. Lewis's interest in Hogarth probably stemmed from Horace Walpole's avid championship of the artist. The Library's outstanding collection of several hundred Hogarth prints, often represented in multiple states and impressions, includes three elephant folio volumes originally compiled by George Steevens (1736-1800), who, according to Horace Walpole, 'ransacked' Mrs. Hogarth's collection after the artist's death. The Steevens collection of 469 prints with 236 additional satires of Hogarth's prints by others was acquired in honor of Annie Burr Lewis, and joined other early collections of Hogarth formed by Queen Charlotte (1744-1818) and Charles, eighth Lord Kinnaird of Inchture (1780-1826). Ronald Paulson used the Lewis Hogarth collection in the research for his catalogue raisonnée, Hogarth's

Graphic Works (1965). The far-reaching influence of Hogarth's prints is also amply represented in the Library's

collections, which include examples of contemporary pirated copies, reproductions such as those by Samuel Ireland (1744-1800), and many prints which exhibit more general homage or looser borrowings.

In 1980 Yale accepted the Lewises' generous bequest of their collections and the buildings and gardens that house and surround them. This exhibition marks the thirtieth anniversary of their gift.

Cynthia Roman Curator of Prints, Drawings, and Paintings Farmington, Connecticut





checklist

PRINTS AND DRAWINGS

Attributed to George Cruikshank (1792-1878)

The celebrated & Reverend T. Screech Me Dead attacking the devil..., ca. 1818

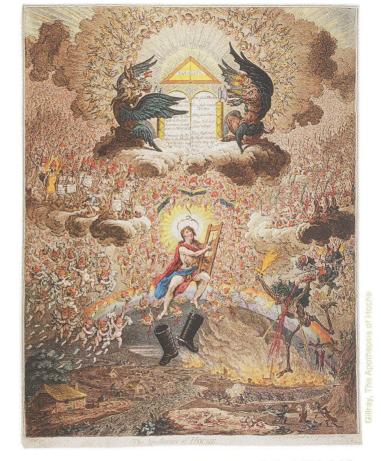
Hand-colored lithograph
818.00.00.63+ [BMC 13110]

John Dixon (1740-1811)
after Joshua Reynolds (1723-1792)
Portrait of Miss Emma and Miss
Elizabeth Crewe
Mezzotint
Published September 30, 1782, by
John Boydell
Chaloner Smith, State IV
782.09.30.01++

James Gillray (1756-1815)

Sketch of a Robed Man, ca. 1805

Pen and ink with mss notes by the artist, sketch on verso
792.00.00.99dr



The Lewis Walpole Library

James Gillray (1756-1815)

A Vestal of – 93, trying on the Cestus of Venus Hand-colored etching and engraving with aquatint

Two variant states

Published April 29, 1793, by H. Humphrey 793.4.29.1.1 and 793.4.29.1.2 [BMC 8389]

James Gillray (1756-1815)

The Apotheosis of Hoche

Hand-colored etching

Published January 11, 1798, by

H. Humphrey

798.01.11.1++ [BMC 9156]

William Hoare (1707-1792) Portrait of Lady Maria Walpole, ca. 1742 Pastel 742.00.00.17dr

William Hogarth (1697-1764)

A Harlot's Progress, Plate 2, 1732

Etching and engraving, touched in sepia ink by the artist

State 2

732.04.00.12 [Paulson 122]

William Hogarth (1697-1764)

A Sleeping Congregation, 1736

Etching and engraving

States 1 and 4, and copper plate
736.10.26.01.1, 736.10.00.01, and
762.04.21.01+

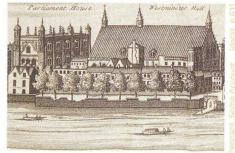
[Paulson 140.1 and 140.4]

Richard Newton (1777-1798) A Night Mare Hand-colored etching with aquatint Published October 26, 1794, by W. Holland 794.10.26.1 [BMC 8555]

Richard Newton (1777-1798) The Devil's Darning Needle, 1795 Graphite 795.07.02.01dr

Richard Newton (1777-1798) The Devil's Darning Needle Etching with aquatint Published July 2, 1795, by W. Holland. 795.07.02.01





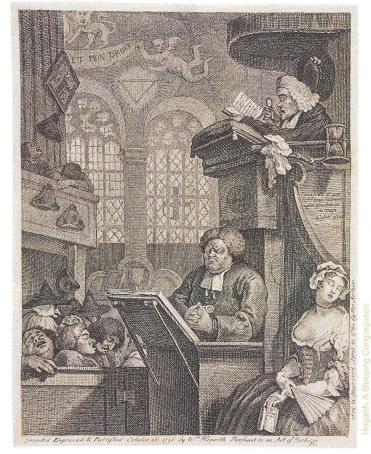
Highlights

Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis (1929-1994)
"Happy Birthday Aunt Abie," 1946
On verso, a sketch of Mrs. & Mr. Lewis sitting in bed
Ink with colored pencil

Thomas Robins (1748-1806) Scarlet-berried Larkspur, Hoary Seaside Groudsel, Three-leaved Snapdragon and Heath with Yew-like Leaves, ca. 1780 Opaque watercolor with glazes 780.00.00.158dr

Thomas Rowlandson (1756-1827) The French Barracks, 1786 Pen, ink, and watercolor 786.00.00.83dr

Thomas Rowlandson (1756-1827) *The Syrens*, 1787 Soft-ground etching, stipple engraving, aquatint, and etching, printed in color *à la poupée* Published April 10, 1787, by E. Jackson 787.04.10.03+



The Lewis Walpole Library

ILLUSTRATED BOOKS

John Faber (ca. 1695-1756) after Sir Godfrey Kneller (1646-1723) The Kit-Cat Club, done from the original paintings of Sir Godfrey Kneller London: John Faber and Jacob Tonson, 1735 Folio 49 3501

Mathias Oesterreich (1716-1778) after Pier Leone Ghezzi (1674-1755) Raccolta di XXIV caricature disegnate colla penna dell celebre Cavalliere Piet: Leon: Ghezzi Dresden, 1750 Folio 75 G33 750

Andrea Palladio (1508-1580)
The architecture of A. Palladio ...
Revis'd by ... Giacomo Leoni. 3rd
edition. With notes and remarks by
Inigo Jones.
Volume 1
London, 1742
Folio 49 3593

Thomas Pennant (1726-1798) *Some Account of London* 3rd edition, Volume 1 London: R. Faulder, 1793 Folio 724 793 P37 copy 2

L.B. Seeley (1831-1893), editor *Horace Walpole and His World* Volume 9 London: Seeley, Jackson, and Halliday, 1884 Folio 225 884S copy 3

George Vertue (1684-1756) Original Drawings of Heads, Antiquities, Monuments, Views &c. Folio 49 3581



Highlight





FARMINGTON, CONNECTICUT
The Lewis Walpole Library

Yale