

## **CHARLOTTE'S PROGRESS – VERA CUNNINGHAM'S SATIRICAL ILLUSTRATIONS WITH AN ACCOMPANYING STORY – HOGARTH FOR THE 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY**

Cunningham, Vera (illustrations), Douglas Garman (text), and Ashley Dukes (forward). *Charlotte's Progress*. London: Wishart & Company, 1932. Un-paginated (approximately 27 pages). Hardcover. Illustrated.

A book of twelve satirical illustrations by British artist Vera Cunningham (1897-1955) and accompanying text by Douglas Garman, *Charlotte's Progress* concerns the trials and tribulations of well-to-do, post-World War I-era party girl Charlotte. Cunningham's caricatures bring to mind the works of similarly-moralizing British artist William Hogarth (1697-1764), whose series "The Rake's Progress" humorously criticizes the foibles of his society in the same way that Cunningham's do of hers. As Ashley Dukes points out in the book's forward, "Miss Cunningham's drawings surely bear a definite relation to the works of that master [Hogarth], and a relation close enough in spirit to justify the witty title she has chosen".\* In twelve plates worth of illustrations and twelve pages of text, Charlotte manages to leave the comfort of her well-appointed home, falls into less-than-honest company, becomes known in the tabloids, visits Paris, has a baby, goes on trial and is exonerated for hitting a man with her car, makes the front page, and ends up performing on stage. *Charlotte's Progress* is made up of thirteen images – twelve scenes illustrating the story, with accompanying text, and a portrait of the main character. The book, which has simple red board covers with black lettering and spine-strip, is in very good condition.

\*Dukes, Ashley. "Forward" in Cunningham, Vera (illustrations), Douglas Garman (text), and Ashley Dukes (forward). *Charlotte's Progress*. London: Wishart & Company, 1932. Un-paginated.

**\$85.00**

