

MUSICAL THEATRE COMPOSER JEROME KERN'S VAST PRIVATE LIBRARY – HARDBOUND TWO-VOLUME AUCTION CATALOGUE FROM THE JANUARY 1929 SALE AT ANDERSON GALLERIES

The Library of Jerome Kern New York City. Part One A-J. New York. The Anderson Galleries. January 7-10, 1929. bound together with *The Library of Jerome Kern New York City. Part Two J-Z.* New York. The Anderson Galleries. January 21-24, 1929. 468 pages. Illustrated. Hardbound. Priced.

Musical theatre composer Jerome Kern (1884-1945) spent over a decade accumulating a vast library of rare and important books, at one point called “one of the finest private libraries in the world”¹ and then sold them at New York’s Anderson Galleries in January 1929. The collection fetched a total price of almost \$1.75 million.² This thick, hardbound book includes both volumes of the auction catalogue together under the same cover. The catalogues are hand-annotated with prices and include reproductions of important signatures, passages, pages, and images from key items. The auction of Kern’s library took place over ten days – January 7-10 & 21-24, 1929 – and included 1482 lots of books, letters, and manuscripts by authors including: Elizabeth Barrett and Robert Browning, Lord Byron, Lewis Carroll, Joseph Conrad, George Cruikshank, Daniel Defoe, Charles Dickens, Benjamin Disraeli, John Gay, Oliver Goldsmith, Samuel Johnson, John Keats, Rudyard Kipling, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Alexander Pope, Dante Gabriel Rossetti, Sir Walter Scott, William Shakespeare, Percy Bysshe Shelley, Robert Lewis Stevenson, Algernon Charles Swinburne, Alfred, Lord Tennyson, William Thackeray, and Oscar Wilde. The book is in fine condition.

1. Kennerley, Mitchell. Preface in *The Library of Jerome Kern New York City, Part One A-J.* New York: The Anderson Galleries, 1929.
2. “Jerome Kern Dies; Noted Composer, 60”. *The New York Times.* November 12, 1945. Viewed online at <http://www.nytimes.com/learning/general/onthisday/bday/0127.html>. Accessed Jan. 15, 2015.

\$200

