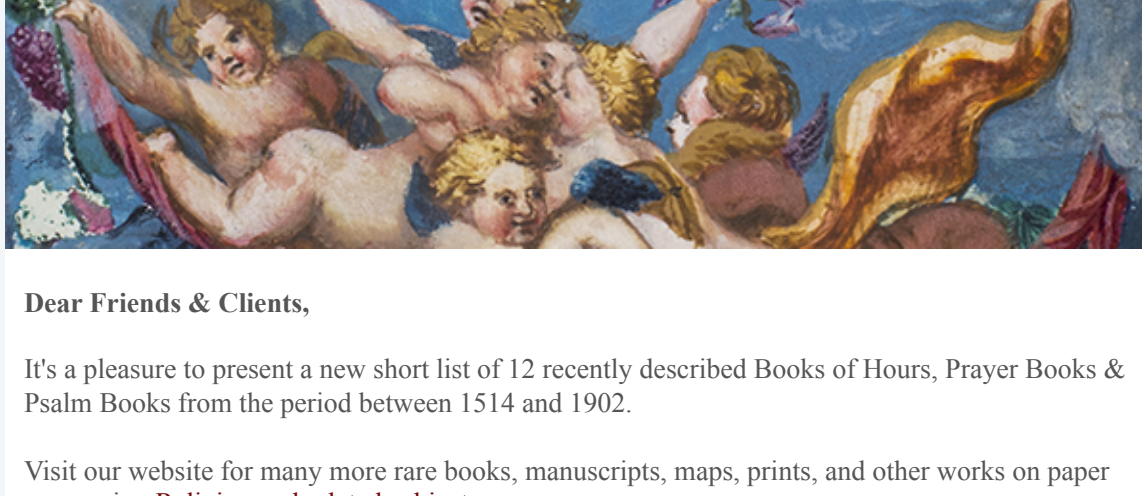


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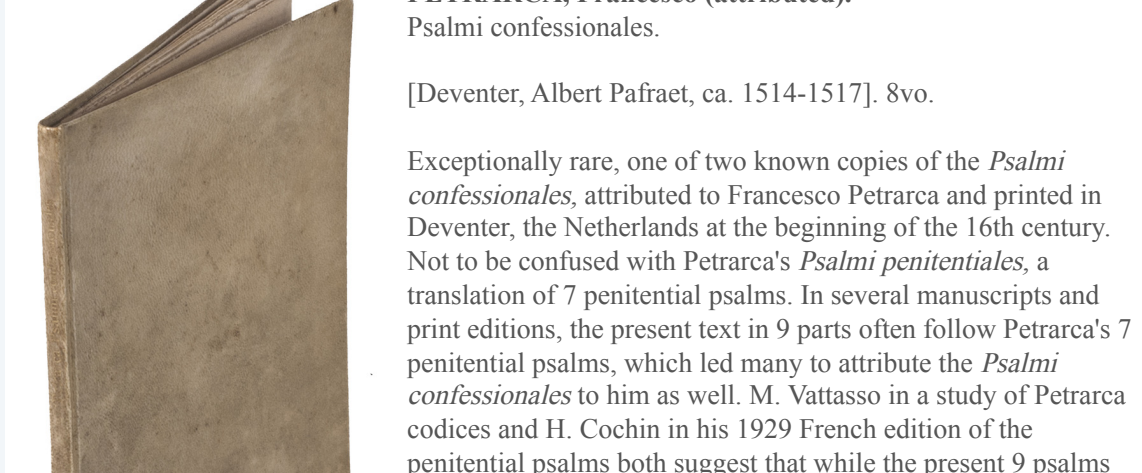
It's just about to finish a new short list of 12 recently described Books of Hours, Prayer Books & Psalm Books from the period between 1514 and 1902.

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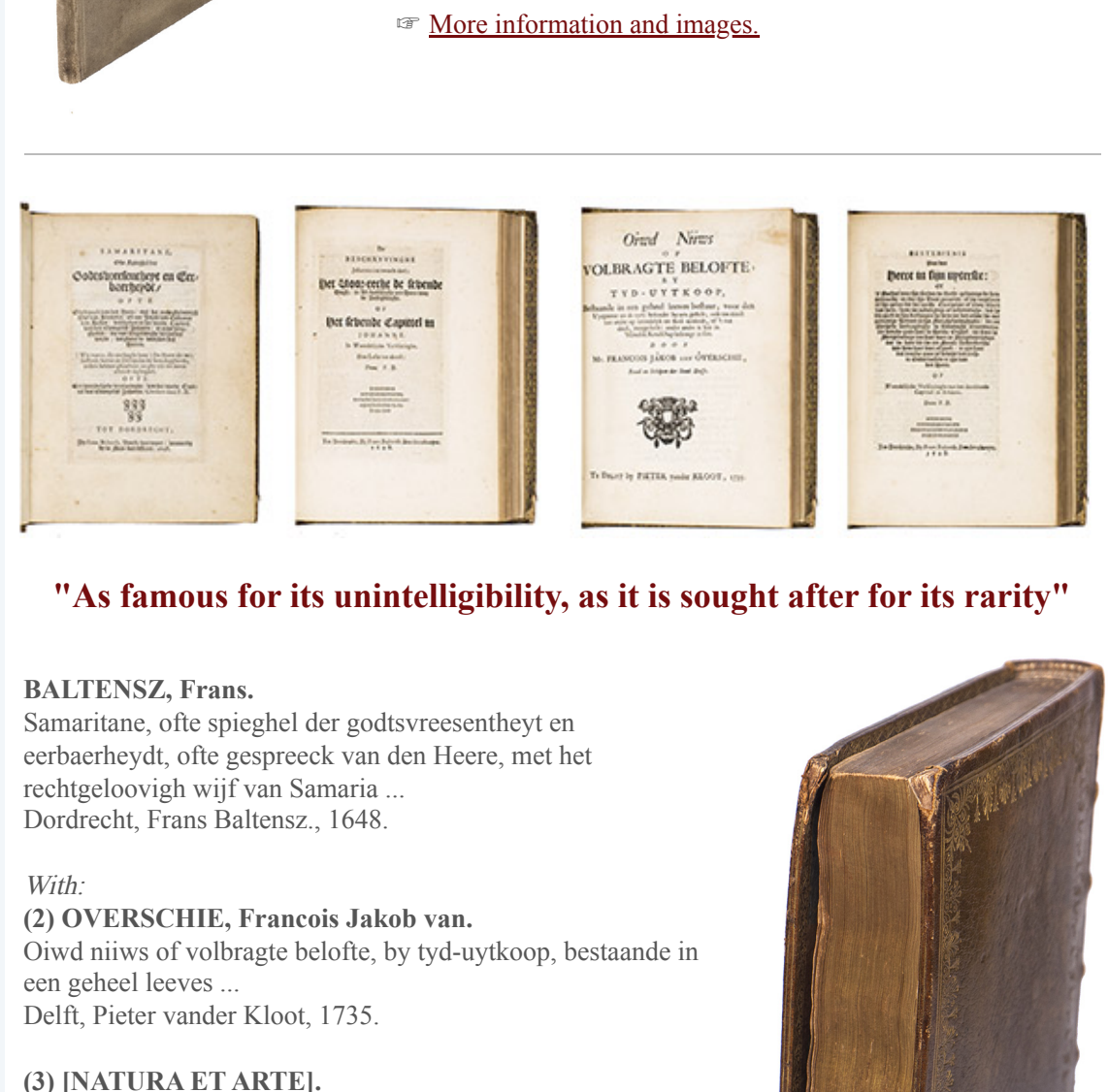
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Books of Hours, Prayer & Psalm Books



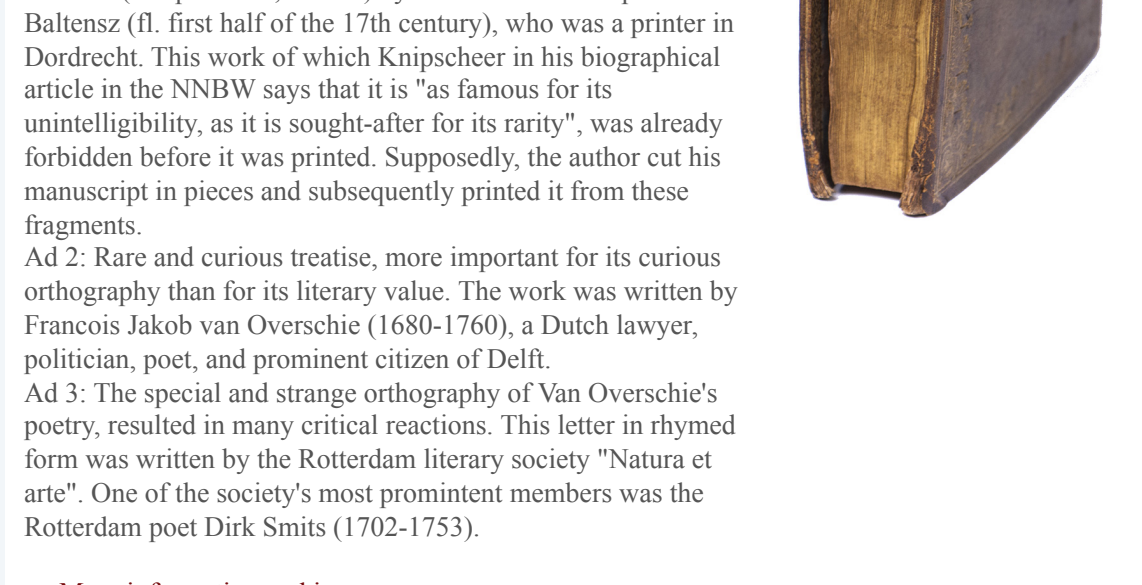
Exceptionally rare, very early Deventer printing of an almost unknown work attributed to Petrarca



PETRARCA, Francesco (attributed).
Psalms confessionales.
[Deventer, Albert Paffaet, ca. 1514-1517]. 8vo.

Exceptionally rare, one of two known copies of the *Psalms* confessionales, attributed to Francesco Petrarca and printed in Deventer, the Netherlands at the beginning of the 16th century. Not to be confused with Petrarca's *Psalms penitenciales*, a translation of 7 penitential psalms. In several manuscripts and print editions, the present text in 9 parts often follow Petrarca's 7 penitential psalms, which led many to attribute the *Psalms* confessionales to him as well. M. Vainasso in a study of Petrarca codices and H. Cochon in his 1929 French edition of the penitential psalms both suggest that while the present 9 psalms were written in the style of Petrarca, but that they are not authentic. Cochon also suggests that they could be imitations made in the sphere of influence of the Carthusians and Ludolphus de Saxonia. The woodcuts can be attributed to the Dutch Bellart Master.

[or More information and images.](#)



"As famous for its unintelligibility, as it is sought after for its rarity"

BALTENSZ, Frans.

Santuarie, ofte spiegel der godsvreesenheyt en eerbaerheyt, ofte gespreck van den Heere, met het rechtghelovigh wyl van Samara ...

Dordrecht, Frans Baltensz, 1648.

With:

(2) OVERSCHIE, Francois Jakob van.

Oswd niens of volbragte belofte, by dyd-zytkoop, bestaende in een geheel leevens ...

Deft, Pieter vander Kloot, 1735.

(3) (NATURA ET ARTE).

Brief, aen den edelen achtbaren Heere Mr. Francois Jakob van Overschie ...

Ad 1: Original edition of these commentaries on the Gospel of St. John (Chapters 1-9, and 13) by the zealous Anabaptist Frans Baltensz (fl. first half of the 17th century), who was a printer in Dordrecht. This work of which Knappe has in his biographical article in the NBNW says that it is "as famous for its unintelligibility, as it is sought-after for its rarity" was already forbidden before it was printed. Supposedly, the author cut his manuscript in pieces and subsequently printed it from these fragments.

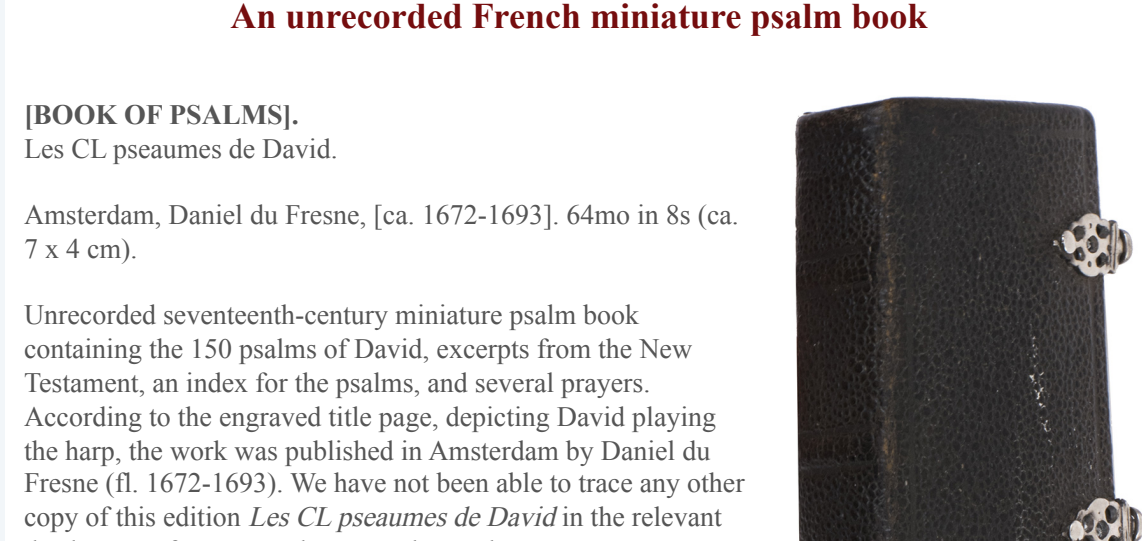
Ad 2: Rare and curious treatise, more important for its curious orthography than for its literary value. The work was written by Francois Jakob van Overschie (1680-1760), a Dutch lawyer, politician, poet, and prominent citizen of Deft.

Ad 3: The special and strange orthography of Van Overschie's poetry, resulted in many critical reactions. This letter in rhymed form was written by the Rotterdam literary society "Natura et arte". One of the society's most prominent members was the Rotterdam poet Dirk Smits (1702-1753).

[or More information and images.](#)



Elzevier edition intended for a Catholic audience



[PSALTERIUM - ELZEVIER].
Psalterium Davidis, ad exemplar Vaticanum Anni 1592.
Leiden, Johannes and Daniel Elzevier, 1653. 12mo.

The Elzevier edition of the Psalms and Sapiential Books, comprising the Psalms together with Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Wisdom, and Ecclesiasticus according to the Clementine Vulgate. Willem observed that the edition was "executed specially with Catholic countries in view", as evidenced by the omission of "Batavarum" from the imprint ("Lugdunum" rather than "Lugdunum Batavarum"). He also praised the work as "fort jolie", adding that well-preserved, large-margin copies "command high prices." He further noted that the reference to Sixtus V on the letterpress title is not contradictory, since the Clementine Vulgate of 1592 is essentially a corrected version of the Sixtine edition.

[or More information and images.](#)

More items concerning Catholicism

**[BOOK OF PSALMS].**

Les C1, pseudonym of David.

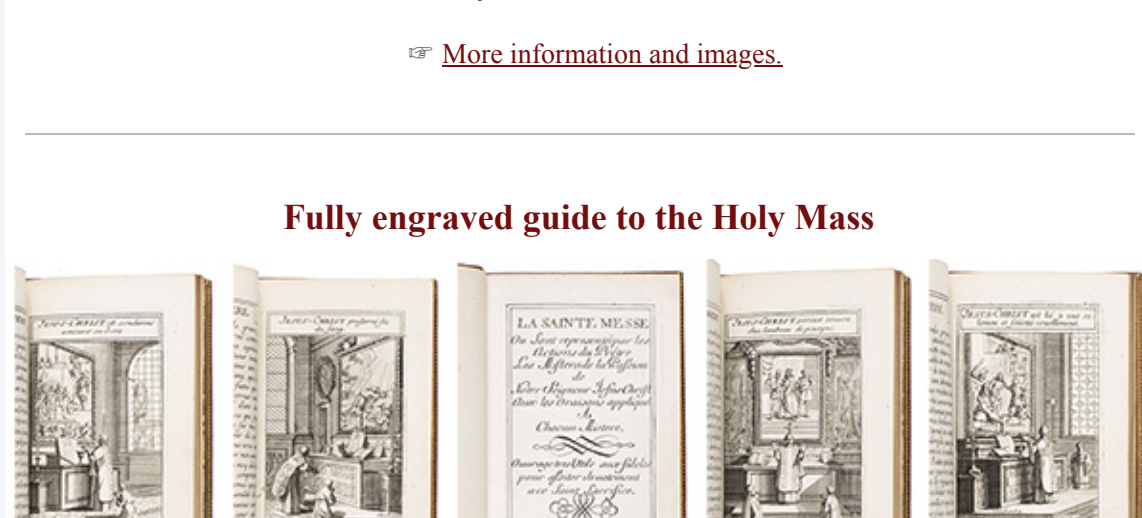
Amsterdam, Daniel du Fresnoie, [ca. 1672-1693]. 64mo in 8s (ca. 7 x 4 cm).

Unrecorded seventeenth-century miniature psalm book containing the 150 psalms of David, excerpts from the New Testament, an index for the psalms, and several prayers.

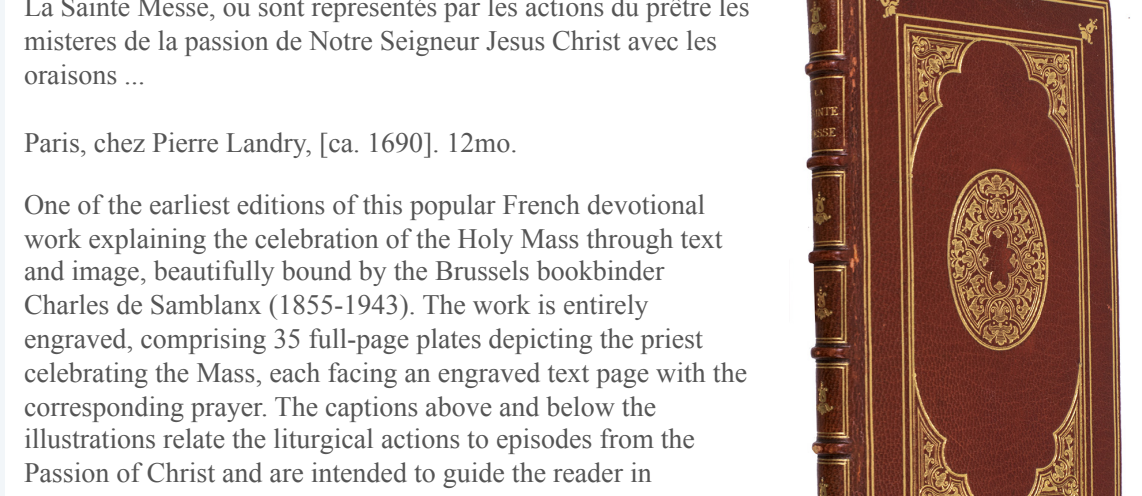
According to the engraved title page, depicting David playing the harp, the work was published in Amsterdam by Daniel du Fresnoie (fl. 1672-1693). We have not been able to trace any other copy of this edition. *Les C1, pseudonym of David* in the relevant databases, reference works, or on the market.

The work's diminutive size suggests it was intended for private devotion and perhaps also for travel. It may have been intended for the Amsterdam's French-speaking Protestant community, as Du Fresnoie was a member of the Walloon Church. Bound in contemporary black shagreen with delicate silver clasp along the fore-edge, it is a fine example of the craftsmanship lavished on miniature devotional books in seventeenth-century Amsterdam.

[or More information and images.](#)



Edition of the famous Plantin-Book of Hours with 16 engraved illustrations



[BOOK OF HOURS].
[Officium] [et] [et] Marie virginis], nuper reformatum et Pii V. Pont. Max iussu editum. Ad instar Breviarium Romani ...

Antwerp, Ex officina Plantiniana, widow of Balthasar Moretus, 1677. 32mo.

Unopened copy of a scarce edition of the celebrated Plantin book of hours, illustrated with a series of sixteen finely engraved plates depicting scenes from the Life and Passion of Christ and the Virgin Mary. The illustrations accompany the principal sections of the text, including the Office of the Virgin, Office of the Dead, Penitential Psalms, Office of the Cross, Office of the Holy Spirit, Passion of Christ, and the Rosary, following the traditional arrangement of the Roman Book of Hours.

The present copy comes from the library of the Irish judge, Roman Catholic, and bibliophile William O'Brien (1832-1899), with his 1899 bequest label. O'Brien assembled one of the finest private collections of antiquarian books in Ireland, which he bequeathed to the Jesuit Province for the Milltown Park S.J. Library in Dublin.

[or More information and images.](#)

Fully engraved guide to the Holy Mass

**[LANDRY, Pierre].**

La Sainte Messe, ou sont représentés par les actions du prêtre les mystères de la passion de Notre Seigneur Jesus Christ avec les oraisons ...

Paris, chez Pierre Landry, [ca. 1690]. 12mo.

One of the earliest editions of this popular French devotional work explaining the celebration of the Holy Mass through text and image, beautifully bound by the Brussels bookbinder Charles de Samblaux (1855-1943). The work is entirely engraved, comprising 35 full-page plates depicting the priest celebrating the Mass, each facing an engraved text page with the corresponding prayer. The captions above and below the illustrations relate the liturgical actions to episodes from the Passion of Christ and are intended to guide the reader in meditation during the service.

[or More information and images.](#)

More Fine bindings

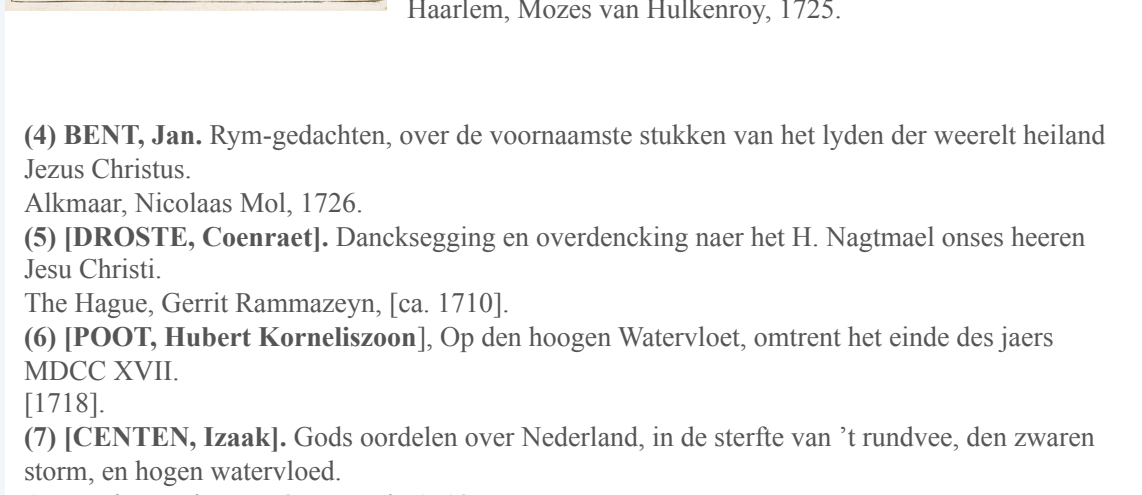
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18-20 SEPTEMBER 2026

Curious convolute of 12 rare poems on devotion, inundations, and homosexuality (1687-1730), two illustrated by Jan Luyken



RINTJES, Hendrik.
De morgenstond in haer sonersche vermakelikheden vertoont, en, tot 's alderhoogsten lof, doorgaens leersam toegeveigent. ...

Leeuwarden, Hendrik Rintjes, 1690. 12 works in 1 volume. 4to (ca. 2 bound sheets of ca. 36-3 x 26-29 cm, folded to fit the 4to binding).

With:

(1) **BRAKEL, Wilhelmus A.** Geestelijke aandachten op de twaalf maanden des eersten jaars der achttienste eeuw. 1701. Rotterdam, Reynier van Doesburg, 1701.

(2) **ROOS, Joan de.** De Godheid betoogt door de natuurkunde, en heilige bespeigelingen over de drie-eenheid Gods: nevens een neutesteen der waarheid. Haarlem, Mozes van Halkenrooy, 1725.

(4) **BENT, Jan.** Rym-gedachten, over de voornaamste stukken van het lyden der weereld heiland Jezus Christus. Alkmaar, Nicolaas Mol, 1726.

(5) **DROST, J. Coenraet.** Dankszegging en overdenking naar het H. Nagtmaal onses heren Jesu Christi. The Hague, Gerrit Rammaeyen, [ca. 1710].

(6) **POOT, Hubert Korneliszoon.** Op den hoogen Watersloet, omtrent het einde des jaars MDCC XVII. [1718].

(7) **CEUTEN, Isaack.** Gods oordelen over Nederland, in de sterfte van 'r rundvee, den zwaren storm, en hogen watersloed. Amsterdam, Johannes Oostervyck, 1718.

(8) **VRIES, P.J.** De oordeelen Gods over Nederland, gesken in voorgaande jaren, maar byzonder in den jare 1726. Met het doortreken van verscheide dyken. (Colophon) Rotterdam, Johannes van Elk, 1726.

(9) **BOOGSTRAEN, Jan van.** Sodem appel, of gruwel der verwoesting. [late 17th- or early 18th-century].

(10) Landmet, of aller gruwelen gruwel. [ca. 1730].

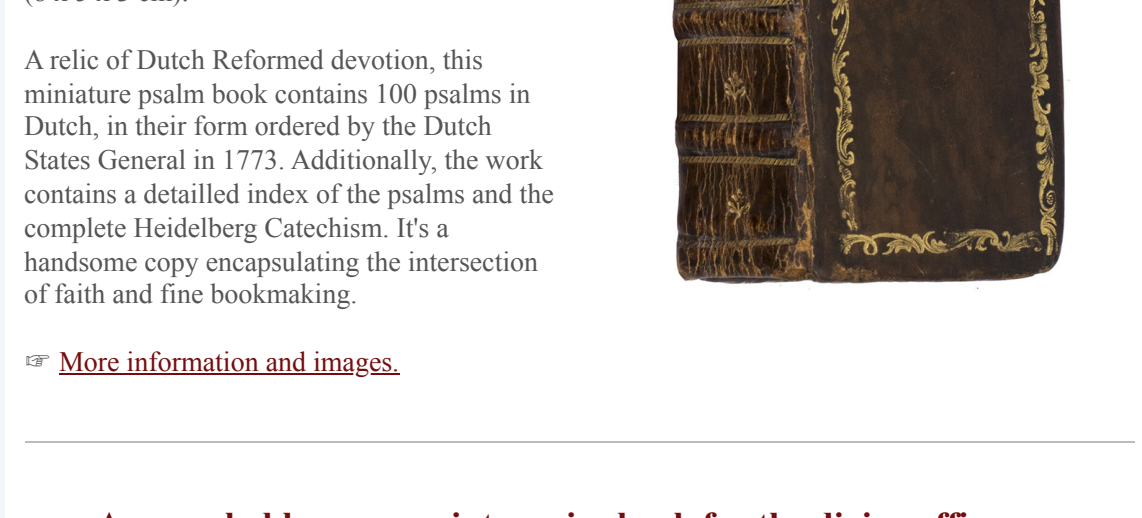
(11) Het klagende Nederland. [ca. 1730].

(12) **RUIJUS, David.** Des werelds ondergang. Amsterdam, David Ruijus, 1687.

The very interesting collection consists of 6 devotional poems (including one by Wilhelmus a Brake), 3 on dyke bursts and inundations (one by Hubert Korneliszoon Poot) and 3 against the sin of homosexuality, a hot item in the first decades of the 18th century as apparently a subculture of sodomites was emerging in the Dutch Republic. Seven of the items are unrecorded, of which 5 are totally unknown. Two of the editions are illustrated by Jan Luyken (ads 1 and 12).

[or More information and images.](#)

Devotion in pocket form: a rare 18th-century Dutch miniature psalm book



[BOOK OF PSALMS].
Het boek der psalmen, nevens de gezangen bij de hervormde kerk van Nederland in gebruik, door last van de hoog mog. ...

Amsterdam, heirs and widow of J. Ratselband and J. Bouwer, 1781. 3 parts in 1 volume 32mo (8 x 5 x 3 cm).

A relic of Dutch Reformed devotion, this miniature psalm book contains 100 psalms in Dutch, in their form ordered by the Dutch States General in 1773. Additionally, the work contains a detailed index of the psalms and the complete Heidelberg Catechism. It's a handsome copy encapsulating the intersection of faith and fine bookmaking.

[or More information and images.](#)

A remarkable manuscript service book for the divine offices on parchment, with seven eye-catching illustrations



[MANUSCRIPT - SERVICE BOOK - DIVINE OFFICES].
Ordine di osservanza nell'offitorio di Santa Maria di Passione, circa gli Essercizii Spirituali delle feste cavato dalla Regola maggiore.

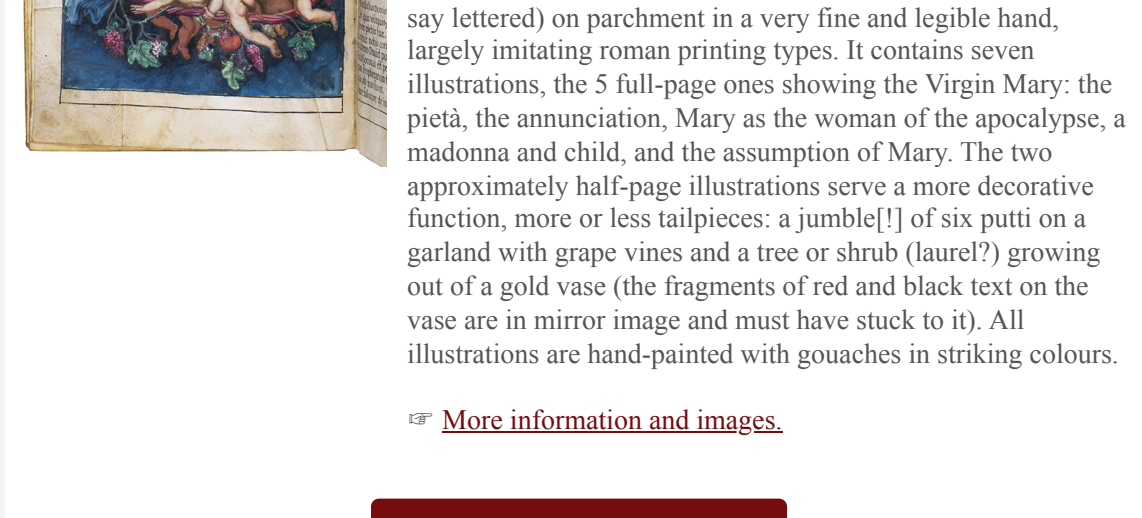
[Milan]. [18th-century]. Folio (27,5 x 18,5 cm).

A manuscript service book for the divine offices of the confraternity of Santa Maria di Passione (or: Santa Maria della Passione), remarkably illustrated and written (one could better say lettered) on parchment in a very fine and legible hand, largely imitating roman printing types. It contains seven illustrations; the 5 full-page ones showing the Virgin Mary: the pietà, the annunciation, Mary as the woman of the apocalypse, a madonna and child, and the assumption of Mary. The two approximately half-page illustrations serve a more decorative function, more or less tailpieces: a jumble[] of six putti on a garland with grape vines and a tree or shrub (laure?) growing out of a gold vase (the fragments of red and black text on the vase are in mirror image and must have stuck to it). All illustrations are hand-painted with gouaches in striking colours.

[or More information and images.](#)

More Manuscripts

The litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Dutch, beautifully illustrated by the Klauber brothers



[MANUSCRIPT - RELIGION - DUTCH - KLAUBER, Joseph Sebastian and Johann Baptist KLAUBER (engravers)].

(Sijstijckse uytbreiding der geestelyk vermaak en verkeerender der devotie tot de selve aalen-eygigste Maget en Moeder Gods Maria. In 't licht gegeven door M.V.D.L.]

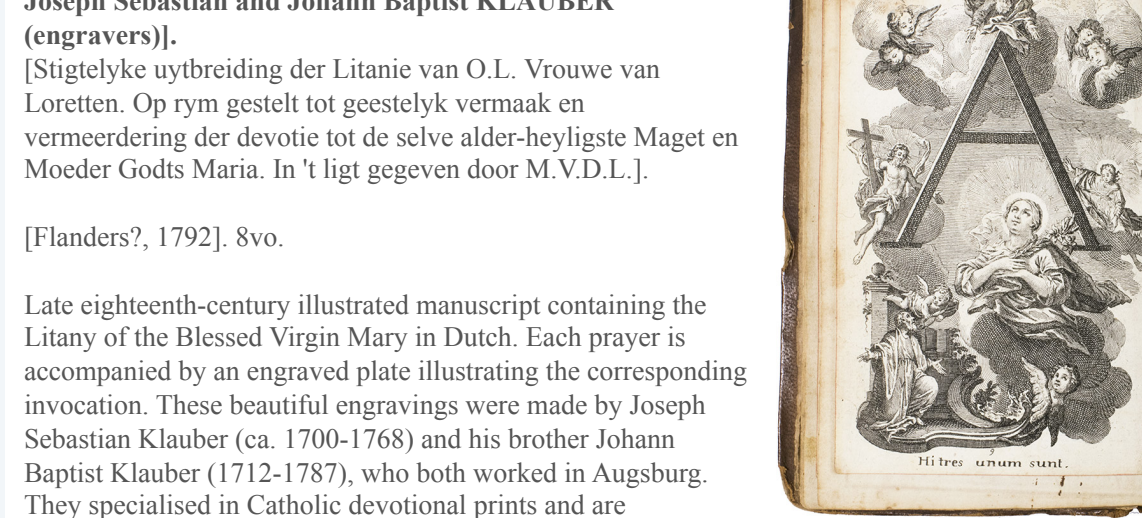
[Flanders?], 1792. 8vo.

Late eighteenth-century illustrated manuscript containing the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Dutch. Each prayer is accompanied by an engraved plate illustrating the corresponding invocation. These beautiful engravings were made by Joseph Sebastian Klauber (ca. 1760-1769) and his brother Johann Baptist Klauber (1712-1787), who both worked in Augsburg. They specialised in Catholic devotional prints and are considered among the finest Augsburg artists in this genre. The highly detailed engravings are rich in allegorical and symbolic elements, which would have inspired hours of contemplation alongside the prayers.

[or More information and images.](#)



Chromolithographed Art Nouveau prayer book in a high relief hallmarked silver binding



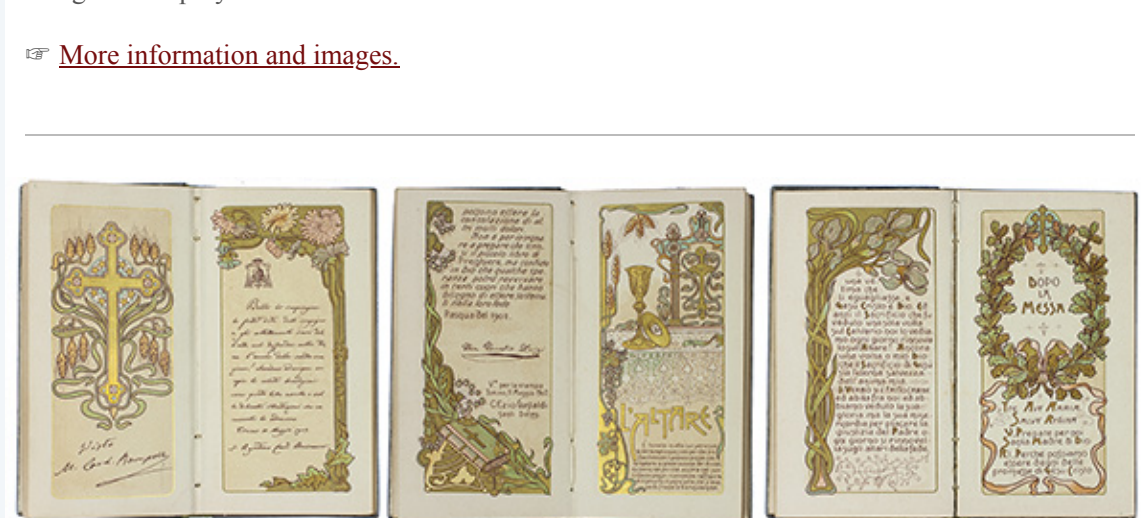
CONDIO, Luigi.
Preghiere. Miniature di Vittorio Vullen.

Torino, Carlo de Martini (printed by Stab. Litografico Giovanni Franchini & C., Milano), 1902. 18mo (13,5 x 7,5 x 1,5 cm).

A lovely, wholly chromolithographed Catholic prayer book in Art Nouveau style and in a high relief hallmarked silver binding. The text was written by Luigi Condis, a church canon in Torino and author of several editions of *Manuale di preghiere*, beginning in 1894. The illustrations and decorations were drawn by the Torino miniaturist and calligrapher Vittorio Vullen, who no doubt calligraphed the text as well. Condis's preface is dated from Torino, 11 May 1902, and the book was almost certainly published that year. Some preliminary pages are signed in the plates by two Cardinals: Mariano Rampolho (1843-1913) in Rome, whose expected election as Pope in the following year was vetoed by the Austrian Emperor, and Agostino [Richelmy] (1850-1923) of Torino.

[or More information and images.](#)

Prayer Book for the French Dauphin wholly engraved by the daughter of a well-known Paris writing master



SENAULT, Elisabeth (engraver).
Heures nouvelles dédiées à Monseigneur Dauphin. Ecrites et gravées par Elisabeth Senault.

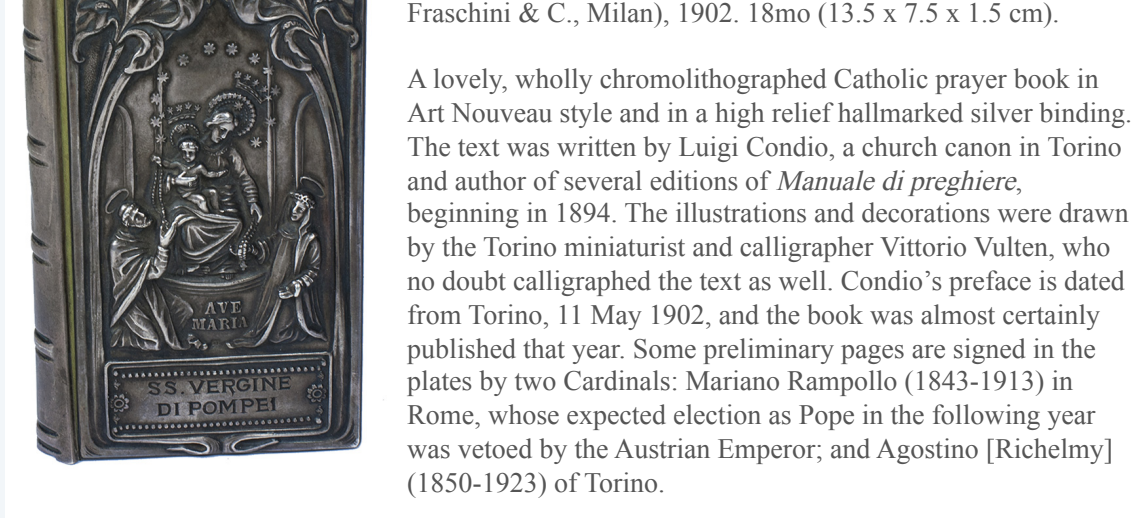
Paris, Chez Claude De Hansy, [before 1715 (ca. 1690?).] 12mo.

Beautifully engraved late seventeenth- or early eighteenth-century prayer book, fashioned as an abbreviated Book of Hours and dedicated to Louis, le Grand Dauphin of France (1661-1711). Elisabeth Senault (fl. late 17th century), daughter of the celebrated Parisian writing master, calligrapher, and engraver Louis Senault (1630-1680?), followed in her father's footsteps by producing finely engraved devotional books that emulate the appearance of illuminated manuscripts. Following his death in 1680, she continued this tradition for the French royal court.

[or More information and images.](#)

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