

When Adam Delved & Eve Span: William Morris & the Politics of the Book

William Morris created a world of aesthetic rebellion. To him, the forces of modern industrial capital were destroying the products of noble labor and eroding the beauty of the human soul. Morris looked to an idealized past and imagined a socialist utopia devoted to the arts and crafts. In his visions of this transformed world, Morris experimented in many areas of design. To most people, Morris is synonymous with late Victorian textiles, wallpapers, interior design -- even the Morris Chair -- but his ideals came most fully to fruition in the books he crafted. This exhibition looks at Morris's socialist dreams as they played out in the realm of books -- those he wrote, those he loved, and those he printed.

The exhibition was curated by Laura Braunstein & Jay Satterfield and was on display in the Class of 1965 Galleries from July 1 - August 30, 2013.

Materials Included in the Exhibition

Case Title	Materials included
Case 1. Co-operative Harmony	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. William Morris. <i>Gothic Architecture</i>. Hammersmith: Kelmscott Press, 1893. Presses K299mg 2. <i>Völsunga Saga: The Story of the Volsungs & Niblungs, with Certain Songs from the Elder Edda</i>. Translated from the Icelandic by Eiríkr Magnússon and William Morris. London: F. S. Ellis, 1870. Val 838.5 V88 J21 3. William Morris. <i>A Dream of John Ball and A King's Lesson</i>. Hammersmith: Kelmscott Press, 1892. Presses K299mdr 4. Ramon Llull. <i>The Order of Chivalry</i>. Translated from the French by William Caxton. Hammersmith: Kelmscott Press, 1893. Presses K299lu 5. Thomas Malory. <i>The Story of the Moste Noble and Worthy Kynge Arthur</i>. London, 1557. Rare Book PR2043 .W5 1557 6. Thomas Aquinas. <i>De arte praedicandi</i>. Nuremberg: Friedrich Creussner, 1483. Incunabula 127 7. T. J. Cobden-Sanderson. <i>The Ideal Book or Book Beautiful: A Tract on Calligraphy, Printing and Illustration & on the Book Beautiful as a Whole</i>. Hammersmith: Doves Press, 1900. Presses D751cs 8. Robert Burns. <i>Tam O'Shanter</i>. London: Essex House Press, 1902. Presses E78bu or Burns PR4314 .A1 1902 9. William Morris. "Art in Socialism." In <i>Hand and Brain: A Symposium of Essays</i>

	<p><i>on Socialism</i>. East Aurora: Roycrofters, 1898. Presses R813han</p>
<p>Case 2. Crafting Books</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. William Shakespeare. <i>The Tragical Historie of Hamlet Prince of Denmarke</i>. Hammersmith: Doves Press, 1909. Hickmott 23 or Presses D751sh 2. William Shakespeare. <i>The Poems of William Shakespeare</i>. Hammersmith: Kelmscott Press, 1893. Hickmott 15 or Presses K299s 3. Willa Cather. <i>Death Comes for the Archbishop</i>. New York: Knopf, 1926. [1927 edition: Val 817C286 P6] 4. <i>Punch</i>. 15 December 1883. Sine Serials NC1478 .P873
<p>Case 3. Capitalizing on Socialism</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>The Manifesto of the Socialist League</i>. London: Socialist League Office, 1885. Rare HX11.S63 M26 1885 2. William Morris. <i>Letters on Socialism</i>. London: privately printed, 1894. Rare HX246 .M68 1894 3. William Morris. <i>Hopes and Fears for Art</i>. London: Longmans, Green, 1886. Library Depository 700.4 M834h [not available at Rauner] 4. William Morris. <i>News from Nowhere; or, An Epoch of Rest, Being Some Chapters from a Utopian Romance</i>. London: Longmans, Green, 1920. Baker Berry 826 M834 T6 [not available at Rauner] 5. William Morris. <i>The Life and Death of Jason, a Poem</i>. London: Longmans, Green, 1914. Baker Berry 826 M834 S812 [not available at Rauner] 6. Geoffrey Chaucer. <i>The Works of Geoffrey Chaucer, Now Newly Imprinted</i>. Hammersmith: Kelmscott Press, 1896. With original receipt, 1897. Presses K299c