

Engraved by the Hands of Angels: The Literary Illustrations of William Blake

Celebrate the 250th birthday of William Blake, poet, painter, printer, and visionary, with an exhibition of his literary illustrations. On view are a proof-set of his Illustrations of the Book of Job, plates from a stunning full-color facsimile of the Paradise Lost watercolors, the masterpiece engraving Chaucer's Canterbury Pilgrims, a selection of books demonstrating Blake's career as a commercial illustrator, and other items from the Library's extensive collection of Blake materials. In addition, four engravings in the Hood Museum of Art's collections from Blake's series illustrating Dante's *Inferno* (not published until after his death) are on display at the [Hood Museum](#) through January 13.

"It is certain that the pictures deserve to be engraved by the hands of angels..." -- William Blake, letter to William Hayley, 22 June 1804.

The exhibition was curated by Laura Braunstein and was on display in the Class of 1965 Galleries from November 27, 2007 to January 31, 2008.

Materials Included in the Exhibition

Case Title	Materials included
<p>Case 1.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="873 1001 1377 1100">1. William Blake. <i>Illustrations of the Book of Job</i>. London: William Blake, 1825. Val 825 B58 R7 <li data-bbox="873 1108 1377 1381">2. William Blake. <i>Thirteen Watercolor Drawings by William Blake Illustrating Paradise Lost by John Milton</i>. San Francisco: Arion Press, 2004. Facsimile of the original paintings in the Huntington Library's collection. Presses A712bla <li data-bbox="873 1390 1377 1579">3. Robert Blair. <i>The Grave, a Poem. Illustrated by Twelve Etchings Executed from the Original Designs</i>. London: T. Bensley, 1808. Val 825 B57 R31 <li data-bbox="873 1587 1377 1797">4. Hofer, Philip. <i>An Illustration by William Blake for the 'Circle of the Traitors': Dante's Inferno, Canto XXXII</i>. Meriden, CT: Meriden Gravure Company, 1954. Presses S859bl

<p>Case 2.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. William Blake. <i>Chaucer's Canterbury Pilgrims</i>. [between 1810 and 1881] Iconography 1596 2. Geoffrey Chaucer. <i>The Prologue to the Tales of Caunterbury</i>. Ashendene, Hertfordshire: The Ashendene Press, 1897. Presses A819cha 3. Geoffrey Chaucer. <i>The Works of Geoffrey Chaucer, Now Newly Imprinted</i>. Hammersmith, Middlesex: The Kelmscott Press, 1896. Presses K299c 4. Geoffrey Chaucer. <i>The Canterbury Tales of Geoffrey Chaucer, Together with a Version in Modern English Verse by William Van Wyck, Illustrated by Rockwell Kent</i>. New York: Covici-Friede, 1930. Illus K418c
<p>Case 3.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. John Stedman. <i>Narrative of Five Years' Expedition against the Revolted Negroes of Surinam, in Guiana, on the Wild Coast of South America, from the Year 1772 to 1777</i>. London: J. Johnson, 1796. [Vol. 1] Roberts Library F2410 .S815 or Rare Book F2410 .S815 c.2 2. John Stedman. <i>Narrative of Five Years' Expedition against the Revolted Negroes of Surinam, in Guiana, on the Wild Coast of South America, from the Year 1772 to 1777</i>. London: J. Johnson, 1796. [Vol. 2] 3. <i>The Cabinet of the Arts: A Series of Engravings by English Artists</i>. London: 1799. Rare Book NE631 .C3 4. Robert Thornton. <i>The Pastorals of Virgil, with a Course of English Reading, Adapted for Schools</i>. London: J. McGowan, 1821. Illus B581vip

	<p>5. Erasmus Darwin. <i>The Botanic Garden. Part I. Containing the Economy of Vegetation. A Poem. With Philosophical Notes.</i> London: J. Johnson, 1791. Fields 17</p> <p>6. John Milton. <i>Poems in English with Illustrations by William Blake.</i> London: Nonesuch, 1926. Presses N731mi</p> <p>7. Henry Fuseli. <i>The Vision of the Lazar House.</i> Kunsthaus Zürich. <i>Fuseli: The Wild Swiss.</i> By Franziska Lentzsch. Zürich: Scheidegger & Spiess, 2005. Cat. 186. Sherman ND853.F85 F98 2005 [not in Rauner]</p>
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