Literary Afterlives and Adaptations

Visual art and literature are intimately related: the two create and respond to the same cultural or aesthetic movements, interpret similar subjects and themes, and play off each medium’s strengths and weaknesses. This module, entitled Literary Afterlives, showcases the objects in the SU Art Museum’s collections that are explicitly devoted to literature. Some subsections contain an entire collection of illustrative works; others display the likeness of a popular author. Still others are aesthetic interpretations of an artist’s experience of reading a particular work. This module is kept intentionally broad so that the artworks that inspire it can be utilized for a number of courses or assignments. Browse the headings for a quick peek; when necessary, a description will offer more information (for example, if an object is one of a larger series). Please email suart@syr.edu with any additional questions or requests.

Homer: The Odyssey

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**Object #** 1964.132  
**Title:** Odysseus and the Ram  
**Artist:** Eugene Larkin  
**Medium:** lithograph  
**Dimensions:** Object: 32 3/8 × 22 in. (82.3 × 55.9 cm)  
Sheet: 34 13/16 × 26 1/8 in. (88.4 × 66.3 cm)  
**Date:** circa 1964

***Need image***

**Object #** 1969.849  
**Title:** Odyssey  
**Artist:** Charles Shaw  
**Medium:** oil  
**Dimensions:** 48 x 60 in.  
**Date:** 1961

Dante Alighieri: Inferno

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**Object #** 1964.009  
**Title:** Dante’s Inferno  
**Artist:** Rico Lebrun (American, born Italy, 1900-1964)  
**Medium:** lithographs  
**Dimensions:** 17 3/4 x 13 in.  
**Date:** 1963

This portfolio contains thirty-six illustrative images in the text along with seven original, signed lithographs by Lebrun. It could be interesting to study alongside Dante’s Inferno, in a book history course, or as an example of illustration.
Goethe: Faust

Object # 1965.1022
Title: Duel de Faust et de Valentin
Artist: Eugéne Delacroix (French, 1798-1863)
Medium: Lithograph
Dimensions: 9 1/2 x 11 3/8 in.
Date: 1827, published 1828

Delacroix created a whole series of lithographs on Faust. The eleven scenes illustrated include: “Night,” “Before the city gate,” “Study (pact scene),” Auerbach’s Cellar,” “Street (Faust Sees Margaret for the First Time),” “The Neighbor’s House,” Gretchen’s Room,” “Night (Duel Scene),” “Cathedral,” “Night. Open Field,” and “Dungeon.”

Object # 1987.055
Title: Faust
Artist: Rembrandt Harmensz van Rijn (Dutch, 1606-1669)
Medium: etching
Dimensions: Object: 8 1/4 x 6 3/8 in. (21 x 16.2 cm) Sheet: 8 1/4 x 6 3/8 in. (21 x 16.2 cm)
Date: circa 1652

Object # 0040.055
Title: Faust in His Study
Artist: Max Gaisser (German, 1857-1922)
Medium: Oil
Dimensions: 24 3/16 x 19 3/4 in.
Date: no date
Shakespeare
The following subsection showcases artworks related to Shakespeare. The works are organized in the following manner: Shakespeare (general), followed by play-specific works in alphabetical order. The plays represented include Hamlet, Henry VI, King Lear, Romeo and Juliet, Sonnets, and The Taming of the Shrew.

Shakespeare (General)

Object # 1964.653
Title: Die Buste Shakespeare’s
Artist: Daniel Nikolaus Chodowiecki
Medium: engraving
Dimensions: 3 1/4 x 2 in
Date: 18th Century

Object # 1984.47
Title: Shakespeare on the “Liberal” Campaign of Slander
Artist: Thomas Nast (American, 1840-1902)
Medium: wood engraving
Dimensions:
Date: 1872

***Need image***

Object # 1964.442
Title: Shakespeare Avenue
Medium: ink
Dimensions: Object: 7 5/16 x 8 15/16 in. (18.5 x 22.7 cm)
Sheet: 14 3/4 x 19 11/16 in. (37.5 x 50 cm)
Date: 1948
Object # 1989.058
Title: Paging William Shakespeare, not the bard, the shoe salesman...paging...
Artist: Joseph G. Farris (American, 1924-2015)
Medium: crayon wash
Dimensions: Object: 7 7/8 × 10 1/8 in. (20 × 25.7 cm)
Sheet: 8 1/2 × 11 in. (21.6 × 27.9 cm)
Date: 1963

Object # 2017.0294
Title: Ophelia
Artist: Anna Lea Merritt
Medium: etching
Dimensions: Sheet: 12 1/4 × 9 5/16 in. (31.1 × 23.7 cm)
Date: 1880

Object # 2018.0101
Title: Illustrations of Shakespear No. 1 Hamlet
Artist: George Cruikshank
Medium: lithograph
Dimensions: Object: 6 9/16 × 8 in. (16.6 × 20.3 cm)
Sheet: 13 7/16 × 9 13/16 in. (34.1 × 24.9 cm)
Date: circa 1820

This object is the cover of sheet music. Included are two additional pages of music and lyrics.

Object # 1965.0343.107
Title: Poster for Hamlet
Artist: Beggarstaff
Medium: lithograph color
Dimensions: Object: 13 5/8 × 5 1/4 in. (34.6 × 13.3 cm)
Date: 1896
**Object # 1981.2652**  
**Title:** Ophelia Street, Pittsburgh PA  
**Artist:** Berenice Abbott (American, 1898-1991)  
**Medium:** gelatin silver print  
**Dimensions:** Object: 7 9/16 × 9 1/2 in. (19.2 × 24.2 cm)  
**Date:** 1935

**Henry VI**

**Object # 1963.0891**  
**Title:** Illustration of Shakespeare’s Henry VI, Act II, Scene IV (after Boydell)  
**Artist:** J. Ogbone  
**Medium:** engraving  
**Dimensions:** Object: 7 9/16 × 9 1/2 in. (19.2 × 24.2 cm)  
**Date:** 1803

**King Lear**

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**Object # 1979.0218**  
**Title:** King Lear  
**Artist:** Oskar Kokoschka  
**Medium:** lithographs  
**Dimensions:** Sheet: 18 1/4 × 14 in. (46.4 × 35.6 cm)  
**Date:** 1963

This work includes sixteen lithographs illustrating Shakespeare's play, *King Lear*.

**Object # 1963.0183**  
**Title:** King Lear  
**Artist:** Ernest Bradfield Freed  
**Medium:** color etching softground aquatint stenciled colors  
**Dimensions:** Object: 35 11/16 × 46 1/16 in. (90.6 × 117 cm)  
**Sheet:** 37 3/8 × 48 1/16 in. (95 × 122 cm)  
**Date:** 1961
Romeo and Juliet

**Object # 1982.248**

**Title:** Romeo and Juliet Suite

**Artist:** Adam Wurtz (Hungarian, 1927-1994)

**Medium:** color etching

**Dimensions:** Object: 15 7/8 × 12 1/8 in. (40.3 × 30.8 cm) Sheet: 27 9/16 × 19 7/16 in. (70 × 49.3 cm)

**Date:** 1979

Set of etchings that illustrate *Romeo and Juliet* (Objects in Portfolio are marked as 1982.248A-N).

Sonnets

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**Object # 1965.0287**

**Title:** Images to Shakespeare’s Sonnets

**Artist:** Peter Lipman-Wulf (German, 1905-1993)

**Medium:** engravings

**Dimensions:** Object: 14 3/8 × 10 1/4 in. (36.5 × 26 cm) Sheet: 19 15/16 × 14 3/4 in. (50.7 × 37.5 cm)

**Date:** 1964

Taming of the Shrew

**Object # 1971.571**

**Title:** Taming of the Shrew

**Artist:** Paul Aizpiri

**Medium:** color lithograph

**Dimensions:** Object: 19 1/8 × 26 5/16 in. (48.6 × 66.8 cm) Sheet: 19 3/4 × 26 5/16 in. (50.1 × 66.8 cm)

**Date:** 20th century

Cervantes: Don Quixote

**Object # 2011.0276**

**Title:** Don Quixote and Sancho Panza

**Artist:** Honoré Daumier (French, 1808-1879)

**Medium:** lithograph

**Dimensions:** Object: 5 1/2 × 7 3/16 in. (13.9 × 18.2 cm) Sheet: 9 3/16 × 11 7/8 in. (23.3 × 30.2 cm)

**Date:** 1830
Object # 1960.013
Title: Don Quixote
Artist: Anna Hyatt Huntington (American, 1876-1973)
Medium: bronze
Dimensions: Object: 22 3/8 × 19 1/2 × 13 1/8 in. (56.8 × 49.5 × 33.3 cm)
Date: 1950

Object # 1965.0343.063
Title: Poster for Theatre Lyceum Don Quixote
Artist: Beggarstaff
Medium: lithograph color
Dimensions: Object: 9 15/16 × 9 3/4 in. (25.2 × 24.7 cm) Sheet: 15 11/16 × 11 3/8 in. (39.8 × 28.9 cm)
Date: 1896

Object # 1968.017
Title: Cervantes
Artist: Salvador Dalí (Spanish, 1904-1989)
Medium: etching
Dimensions: 6 7/8 x 4 3/4 in
Date: 20th Century
Object # 1966.2552
Title: Don Quixote
Artist: Hans Alexander Mueller
Medium: color woodcut
Dimensions: 12 7/8 x 9 1/2 in
Date: 1950

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Object # 1968.505
Title: Don Quixote
Artist: William Gropper (American, 1897-1977)
Medium: softground etching roulette
Dimensions: Object: 11 11/16 x 15 1/2 in. (29.7 x 39.3 cm) Sheet: 18 1/2 x 22 1/16 in. (47 x 56 cm)
Date: n.d.

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Object # 1964.004
Title: Last Dream of Don Quixote
Artist: Jonah Kningstein (American, born 1923)
Medium: oil
Dimensions: 60 1/4 x 42 1/2 in
Date: 1963

***Need image***

Object # 2000.0023
Title: Don Quixote
Artist: Esther Davis
Medium: plaster, painted
Dimensions: Object: 17 1/2 x 14 1/4 in. (44.5 x 36.2 cm)
Date: 1965
Ivan Forde, a contemporary artist with a background in English literature, created *The Fall of Man* and *Erratic Eyes* as part of his *Transformation* series. The series is based on the reading experience of Milton’s epic poem, *Paradise Lost.*
Butler: *Hudibras*

**Object # 1971.166**
**Title:** Book Illustration for Samuel Butler's "Hudibras", page 75, Hudibras First Adventure (plate 3)
**Artist:** William Hogarth (British, 1697-1764)
**Medium:** etching engraving
**Dimensions:** Image: 4 1/2 x 5 in. (11.4 x 12.7 cm)
**Date:** 1721-26

This is one of six engravings by Hogarth of Butler’s mock-heroic narrative poem.

Blake: Illustrations (various)

William Blake was a Romantic English poet, painter, and printmaker. The following subsection contains other artists’ depictions of Blake as well as Blake’s own illustrations and engravings.

**Object # 2015.0483**
**Title:** William Blake Engraves the Inferno
**Artist:** Evan Lindquist (American, born 1936)
**Medium:** engraving
**Dimensions:** Image: 8 1/4 x 10 1/2 in. (21 x 26.7 cm) Sheet: 12 5/8 x 14 1/2 in. (32.1 x 36.8 cm)
**Date:** 2010

**Object # 1963.0092**
**Title:** William Blake (Etchings of 10 Favorite Artists)
**Artist:** Leonard Baskin (American, 1922-2000)
**Medium:** etching
**Dimensions:** Object: 17 5/8 x 14 5/8 in. (44.8 x 37.2 cm) Sheet: 29 1/2 x 20 1/2 in. (74.9 x 52.1 cm)
**Date:** 1962
Gay’s Fables

Object # 1997.0056
Title: Gay’s Fables: Pan and Fortune
Artist: William Blake (British, 1757-1827)
Medium: engraving
Dimensions: Object: 2 7/8 × 3 9/16 in. (7.3 × 9 cm) Sheet: 10 1/16 × 5 7/8 in. (25.5 × 15 cm)
Date: 1793

This is one of many embellishments by Blake of John Gay’s fables. Other images, while not listed here, illustrate the following: The Dog and the Fox, The Owl and the Farmer, The Goat without a Beard, The Butterfly and the Snail, The Miser and Plutus, The Persian, the Sun and the Cloud, The Pin and the Needle, The Raven, the Sexton, and the Earth Worm, The Setting Dog and the Partridge, The Shepherd and the Philosopher, and The Tame Stag.

The Book of Job

Object # 2002.0085
Title: Illustrations for “The Book of Job”
Artist: William Blake (British, 1757-1827)
Medium: engraving
Dimensions: Sheet: 14 15/16 × 10 13/16 in. (38 × 27.5 cm)
Date: 1825

This object is the cover page for a portfolio filled with Blake’s illustrations of the Biblical Book of Job. Other images can be found with the objects numbers 2002.0085.1-22.

Sketches

Object # 1981.0003
Title: [Two figures facing forward, embraced]
Artist: William Blake (British, 1757-1827)
Medium: Ink wash, watercolor, and pencil
Dimensions: 3 11/16 × 1 15/16 in.
Date: n.d.
Object # 2010.0452
Title: The Circle of Corrupt Officials; The Devils Mauling Each Other
Artist: William Blake (British, 1757-1827)
Medium: engraving
Dimensions: Object: 9 1/2 × 13 in. (24.2 × 33 cm) Sheet: 1 5/16 × 16 5/16 in. (3.3 × 41.5 cm)
Date: 1827

Tennyson

Object # 1963.0803
Title: Portrait D’Alfred Tennyson
Artist: Alfonse Legros
Medium: etching
Dimensions: Object: 8 15/16 × 5 15/16 in. (22.7 × 15.1 cm) Sheet: 14 1/16 × 9 1/4 in. (35.7 × 23.5 cm)
Date: n.d.

***Need image***

Object # 2012.0225a
Title: A Private Reading, The Books was Read for the Love of Tennyson
Artist: unknown
Medium: color lithograph
Dimensions: Object: 21 1/4 × 29 1/2 in. (54 × 74.9 cm)
Date: 1978
Bronte: *Wuthering Heights*

**Object #** 2011.0166.01  
**Title:** The Apparition (Cathy’s Ghost at the Window) 
**Artist:** Fritz Eichenberg 
**Medium:** wood engraving 
**Dimensions:** Object: 7 3/8 × 5 1/8 in. (18.7 × 13 cm)  
Sheet: 11 9/16 × 9 1/8 in. (29.3 × 23.2 cm) 
**Date:** 1943 

This image is one of a set of fourteen engravings by Eichenberg of Emily Bronte’s *Wuthering Heights*. These pencil-signed proofs were printed by the artist from the original woodblocks at the time of the original publication of the books in which they were reproduced. Only a small number of proofs (10 or less) of each image were printed.

*A Human Document – A Treated Victorian Novel*

**Object #** 1981.0099  
**Title:** A Humument  
**Artist:** Tom Phillips  
**Medium:** screenprint  
**Dimensions:** Object: 6 1/4 × 3 15/16 in. (15.8 × 10 cm)  
Sheet: 7 9/16 × 5 1/2 in. (19.2 × 13.9 cm)  
**Date:** 1976 

*A Humument* is an ongoing project that creates new poetry and artworks out of a relatively unknown Victorian-era book, *A Human Document*. Phillips self-describes his work as a “treated” Victorian novel. This is one of twenty-four pages in the Museum’s collection.
**Poe: Mask of the Red Death**

*Object # 1978.057.01*

*Title:* Frontispiece: Portrait of Edgar Allen Poe [Mask of the Red Death]

*Artist:* Federico Castellón (American, born Spain, 1914-1971)

*Medium:* Color lithograph

*Dimensions:* 12 × 8 3/16 in.

*Date:* 1969

This is one of sixteen lithographs that illustrate and interpret Edgar Allen Poe’s *Mask of the Red Death*. Each of the finished lithographs has a line of Poe's verse written in pencil. The other images can be found with the object numbers 1978.057.01-16.

**Melville: Moby Dick**

*Object # 1985.233*

*Title:* Moby Dick Assaulting Pequod

*Artist:* LeRoy Neiman (American, 1921-2012)

*Medium:* Screenprint

*Dimensions:* Object: 18 3/4 × 30 3/8 in. (47.6 × 77.1 cm) Sheet: 24 5/8 × 36 5/16 in. (62.5 × 92.2 cm)

*Date:* 1977

**Douglass: Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass**

*Object # 2011.0222*

*Title:* Once You Learn To READ, You Will Be Forever FREE – Frederick Douglass

*Artist:* Amos Paul Kennedy (American, born 1950)

*Medium:* letterpress relief

*Dimensions:* Object: 16 7/8 × 11 1/2 in. (42.9 × 29.2 cm) Sheet: 19 1/2 × 12 1/2 in. (49.5 × 31.7 cm)

*Date:* n.d.
Posada

Object # 1973.23
Title: 1. The Bureaucrat. Among books and files/ I pass my life,/ And what is the result?/ Well...You see for yourself! [One Hundred Original Woodcuts by Posada]
Artist: Jose Posada (Mexican, 1852-1913)
Medium: Color woodcut
Dimensions: 3 1/8 x 2 3/4 in.
Date: printed 1947

This is one of a portfolio that is made up of one hundred of Posada’s woodcuts. Akin to a book of poetry, these images exemplify Posada’s work, which was largely satirical and/or political. The title of each object is an English translation of the Spanish lines on the page. The objects can be located with the object numbers 1973.23-122.

Joyce

Object # 1967.0131
Title: James Joyce (bust)
Artist: Milton Hebald (American, 1917-2015)
Medium: bronze
Dimensions: 16 3/4 x 9 x 13 1/2 in
Date: 1966

Object # 1967.905
Title: Portrait of the Artist as an Old Man
Artist: Federico Castellón (American, born Spain, 1914-1971)
Medium: etching
Dimensions: 8 7/8 x 11 3/4 in
Date: circa 1948
Walker – “For My People”

**Object # 2009.0113.1**  
**Title:** Singing Their Songs  
**Artist:** Elizabeth Catlett (American, 1915-2012)  
**Medium:** Color Lithograph  
**Dimensions:** 16 1/4 × 13 5/8 in.  
**Date:** 1992  

*Singing Their Songs* is one of six illustrative lithographs for Margaret Walker’s poem, “For My People.” Walker and Catlett were roommates during graduate school at the University of Iowa. The other lithographs can be found under the object numbers 2009.0113.1-6.