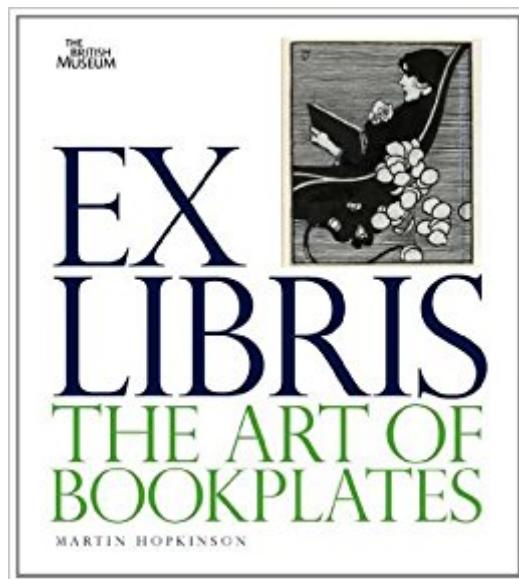


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# Ex Libris: The Art Of Bookplates



## Synopsis

A bookplate, or "Ex Libris", is a small print for pasting inside the cover of a book to express ownership. The first books were highly valuable and prestigious objects to own, hence the first bookplates usually incorporated the decorative coats of arms of the fabulously wealthy. By the late nineteenth century, bookplates had developed into a highly imaginative form of the engravers and printmakers art in miniature. This delightful book showcases bookplates drawn from the rich collections of the British Museum, including works created by some of the most talented artists of their day, such as Albrecht Durer, Edward Burne-Jones, Aubrey Beardsley and Eric Gill. Equally it shows how the content of bookplates has evolved over the years to feature a vast range of allegory and symbolism often incorporating a pun on the owners name uniquely relevant to that individual. For example, the bookplate for a professor of Sanskrit features Hindu imagery, while a Venetian publisher is associated with a lion, the symbol of his city. Endlessly diverse, surprising and touching, this is a book that will be treasured by art-lovers and book-lovers alike.

## Book Information

Paperback: 112 pages

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 8 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #685,663 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #205 in Books > Arts & Photography > Graphic Design > Printmaking #17983 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies

## Customer Reviews

“An excellent book [showing] a diverse selection of bookplates from the collection of the British Library, some of which have never been reproduced before.” •John Dorfman, Art and Antiques (John Dorfman Arts and Antiques) “Exquisite...In a year when we are contemplating the future of the printed word, a collection that celebrates the physical book and its connection to the reader is a particular treat.” •NPR.org (NPR.org) “If there’s such a thing as bookplate porn, this gorgeous book is the

ultimate.â•â• Sadie Stein, *The Paris Review* (Sadie Stein *The Paris Review*)â•â• I reckon that the plates in this slim, richly illustrated volume may inspire another resurgence â•â• perhaps in digital form.â•â• Steven Heller, *The New York Times Book Review* (Steven Heller *New York Times Book Review*)â•â• “An easy gift for any booklover on your list.â•â• Fine Books and Collections (Fine Books and Collections) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Martin Hopkinson, formerly Curator of Prints at the Hunterian Art Gallery, University of Glasgow, is an art critic and writer. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I am so happy to have this book. I'm a College Design teacher and this is going to contribute greatly to the education of my students. Bring back the Ex Libris practice!

This book is an excellent treatment of a highly overlooked art form. A sub class of printmaking and drawing. It is both a thorough and concise treatment.

An excellent starter reference for an art form that is often overlooked.

I bought this for my husband and was happy to see that it had a bookplate on each page with just a short description. Since he is mainly interested in the artwork, this was perfect. Great little book!

An intimate and loving history of a special little kind of art that is just as collectable as the books they are found in.

I am a printmaker and new to bookplates. I bought this book hoping it would introduce me to the history and unique format of bookplates. I enjoyed the book very much.

exactly what I wanted as I am a huge bibliophile....came in great condition ...it's a beauty. Happy to own it.

One of my keepsake treasures

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