THE GOLDEN COCKEREL PRESS

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Book of Illustrations.



P625 LETTERING 1930 Golden Cockerel Press Spring List (Woodcut)

Book of Illustrations.





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Faculty of Design Department of Visual Communication

THE GOLDEN COCKEREL PRESS

ΒΥ

SHARON GALLAGHER

MARCH 1992

A dissertation submitted to

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IN CANDIDACY FOR A BACHELOR OF DESIGN IN VISUAL COMMUNICATION



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- 3. 'Lovely Is The Lee', Robert Gibbings, Author and Illustrator. New York 1945, E.P. Dutton & Company Inc.
- 4. 'Nun Blowing Kiss' 1928, 'Cherub On Branch' 1928 by Eric G - in 'Canterbury Tales' by Geoffrey Chaucer 1928, The Golden Cockerel Press.
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IORANA!

A TAHITIAN JOURNAL BY ROBERT GIBBINGS

WITH WOOD-ENGRAVINGS BY THE AUTHOR



1 .

DUCKWORTH 3 Henrietta Street, London 1932 illus 1.



IORANA!

Benson owns a few hectares of property at Moorea and proposed to come with us the following morning. We agreed to meet at 6.30 a.m. at Oscar's. When I arrived, there was no sign of him, so I sat down in the café and



fell asleep. Apparently he arrived a few moments later, sat down on the verandah, and fell asleep also. When we woke the *Mitiaro* had gone and Pua was searching for me round the town.

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illus 1.



SWEET CORK OF THEE

between us and all harm!' he ejaculated, terrified. 'Amen,' said the voice.



If ever a man could find release from the distortions of a troubled spirit, it should be in Glaunagalt. There in that maternal valley old wounds should heal and the scars of the mind vanish. On either side the breasts of the hills slope gently downwards to a flower-margined stream whose notes

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illus 2.



SWEET CORK OF THEE

the ground, we found their nest, an untidy mass of twigs and roots, lined with fine grasses, threads of frayed rope and sheeps' wool. It held four eggs, cream coloured, blotched and mottled with grey and brown.

Though the chough is now a rare bird in England, thanks to egg collectors, it is still common on the south and west coasts of Ireland. There, about the cliffs, one sees them constantly, in pairs or in flocks, banking and wheeling, all the time clamorous. In Cornwall, where the birds still survive, it is believed that when King Arthur was killed in battle beside the River Camel his spirit



entered a chough, and that when the day appointed shall have come he will resume his human form and recover his kingdom.

'And mark yon bird of sable wing,

Talons and beak all red with blood, The spirit of the long-lost king Passed in that shape from Camlan's flood.'

Many people in Ireland to-day pronounce chough, as in old English, to rhyme with plough, and from its cry this would certainly seem more appropriate than its modern equivalent: 'chuff.'

That evening, when wandering among the clumps of gorse, the clusters of willows, and the pools of kingcups that chequer the rough grazing land behind the shore-line, we wondered about the morrow's weather. So many people had emphasized to us the difficulty of making a landing on the Great Skellig. Paddy Mac had said that he thought the sky looked good, but added: 'You can no more tell the weather





Robert Gibbings

lament. Now the stones shine with golden and silver lichens, and rough places are made smooth with ferns and saxifrages and stonecrops. 'All the grand monuments in the world tumble away, but a heap of stones lasts for ever,' said Flannery.



Over the brow of the next hill there is Michael O'Connor's sand pit. 'Two sackfuls of bones they dug out of that. Some were buried stretched, and some were buried with their knees up agin their chests, and there's more of them were burnt and buried inside of urns,' we were told. Altogether ten burials had been found, of which seven had been in single cist-graves, two in double-compartmented cists, and one unprotected, but with a pillar stone three feet six inches high marking the grave. Four of the cists had held 'urns,' not cinerary urns but food vessels, of which three had rested inverted over the cremated bones. In one case among the bones there was a small flint knife, highly worked on one side, but with the natural cleavage face on the other side untouched.



illus 3.

Lovely Is the Lee

The one cist that remained when I was there had been built of half a dozen flat stones, four of them forming the sides, and the others the top and bottom of the cavity. Of this I was able to make a drawing before it also gave way to the needs of a building contractor. It is interesting to note that the manufacture of food vessels such as those found in these graves was one of the duties of the women of the



community, a fact gleaned from the finger-prints of the maker, often to be seen in the clay. When the potter's wheel came into use at a later date the work devolved upon the men. The date of these particular interments was probably between 1600 B.C. and 1400 B.C., but the three different kinds of burial, bodies straight, bodies flexed, others cremated, may indicate that the site had been used as a cemetery, at intervals, over a considerable period of time.







P534 CHERUBON BRANCH 1928 The Canterbury Tales

illus 4.











P626 INITIAL LETTER N AND THE EPIPHANY 1930 The Four Gospels

illus 6.

P627 [N]OW WHEN JESUS 1930 The Four Gospels





1

P802 CHRIST WITH CHILD 1931 The Four Gospels

illus 7.

PON a time, before the faery broods Drove Nymph and Satyr from the prosperous woods, Before king Oberon's bright diadem, Sceptre, and mantle, clasp'd with dewy gem, Frighted away the Dryads and the Fauns From rushes green, and brakes, and cowslip'd lawns, The ever-smitten Hermes empty left His golden throne, bent warm on amorous theft: From high Olympus had he stolen light, On this side of Jove's clouds, to escape the sight Of his great summoner, and made retreat Into a forest on the shores of Crete. For somewhere in that sacred island dwelt A nymph, to whom all hoofed Satyrs knelt;

illus 8. 1928: from Lamia








illus 10. 1928: from Lamia



IORANA!

the shark, the one near you when we called ? " and they then explained that they had seen him close behind us, and only by making us shout and wave had they managed to scare him away. Apparently a shark is the only fish susceptible to sound, and many a man has



saved his own life by frightening off his adversary with what he thought must be his last despairing cry.

The young sharks in Tetioroa are very fierce, and shoals of them, each not more than a foot in length, will attack humans wading in the shallow water. The old ones are more cowardly and easily frightened. Professor Beebee's contention that a shark will never attack a man is hardly borne out by the fact that during my short stay in Sydney three bathers were severely mauled.

Dı

IORANA!

same reef, will you find the same specimens; sometimes the same patterns but different colours; sometimes the same colours but different patterns; and these designs resemble nothing so much as the war-time camouflage of battleships.

Having ensconced ourselves on a coral shelf, we were enticing a large scarlet fish from his den when some



natives suddenly appeared on the shore shouting and gesticulating. They were so insistent that, as they were our hosts, we did our best imitation of their movements, calling out a few words of greeting.

But when we resumed our perch the fish had fled, so we decided to come ashore and watch the loading of the copra.

When we landed, the natives asked, "Didn't you see







VEN AS CHAMPIONS, AND WRASTLERS, AND SUCH AS PRACTISE THE STRENGTH AND AGILI-TIE OF BODY, ARE NOT ONELY CAREFULL TO RETAINE A SOUND CONSTITUTION OF HEALTH, AND TO HOLD ON THEIR ORDINARIE COURSE of exercife, but fometimes alfo to recreate themfelves with feafonable intermiffion, and efteeme it as a maine point of their practice: fo I thinke it necessarie for Schollers, & fuch as addict themfelves to the studie of learning, after they have travelled long in the perufall of ferious authors, to relaxe a little the intention of their thoughts, that they may be more apt and able to indure a continued course of ftudy: And this kinde of repofe vvill bee the more conformable, and fit their purpofe better, if it be imployed in the reading of fuch workes, as fhall not onely yeeld a bare content by the pleafing and comely composure of them, but shall also give occasion of fome learned fpeculation to the minde, which I suppose I have effected in thefe bookes of mine: wherein not only the noveltie of the fubject, nor the pleafingnes of the project, may tickle the Reader with delight, nor to heare fo many notorious lies delivered perfwafively and in the way of truth, but becaufe every thing here by mee fet down, doth in a Comicall fashion glance at fome or other of the old Poets, Hiftoriographers, & Philosophers, which in their writings have recorded many monftrous and intolerable untruthes, whofe names I would have quoted downe, but that I knew the reading would bewray them to you. *Ctelias*, the fonne of *Cteliochus*, the Cnidian, wrote of the Region of the Indians, and the ftate of those Countries, matters, which he neither faw himfelfe, nor ever heard come from

ΩΣΠΕΡ ΤΟΙΣ ΑΘΛΗΤΙΚΟΙΣ ΚΑΙ ΠΕΡΙ ΤΗΝ ΤΩΝ ΣΩΜΑΤΩΝ ΕΠΙΜΕΛΕΙΑΝ ΗΣΚΗΜΕΝΟΙΣ ΟΥ ΤΗΣ ΕΥΕΞΙΑΣ ΜΟΝΟΝ ΟΥΔΕ ΤΩΝ ΓΥΜΝΑ- $\Sigma I \Omega N$ Φροντίς έστιν, αλλά και της κατά ΚΑΙΡΟΝ ΓΙΝΟΜΕΝΗΣ ΑΝΕΣΕΩΣ --- ΜΕΡΟΣ ΓΟΥΝ ΤΗΣ ΑΣΚΗΣΕΩΣ ΤΟ ΜΕΓΙΣΤΟΝ ΑΥΤΗΝ ΥΠΟΛΑΜΒΑΝΟΥΣΙΝ --- ΟΥΤΩ ΔΗ ΚΑΙ ΤΟΙΣ περί τους λόγους έσπουδακόσιν ήγοῦμαι προσήκειν μετα την πολλήν τῶν σπουδαιοτέρων ἀνάγνωσιν ἀνιέναι τε την διάνοιαν και πρός τον έπειτα κάματον ακμαιοτέραν παρασκευάζειν. γένοιτο δ' αν εμμελής ή ανάπαυσις αυτοίς, εί τοις τοιούτοις τῶν ἀναγνωσμάτων ὁμιλοῖεν, ὰ μὴ μόνον ἐκ τοῦ ἀστείου τε καὶ χαρίευτος ψιλην παρέξει την ψυχαγωγίαν, ἀλλά τινα καὶ θεωρίαν ούκ αμουσον επιδείξεται, οδόν τι και περί τωνδε των συγγραμμάτων φρονήσειν υπολαμβάνω. ου γαρ μόνον το ξένον τῆς ὑποθέσεως οὐδὲ τὸ χαρίεν τῆς προαιρέσεως ἐπαγωγον έσται αύτοις ούδ' ότι ψεύσματα ποικίλα πιθανώς τε καί

έναλήθως έξενηνόχαμεν, άλλ' ότι και των ιστορουμένων έκαστον ούκ ακωμωδήτως πρός τινας ήνικται των παλαιών ποιητῶν τε καὶ συγγραφέων καὶ φιλοσόφων πολλὰ τεράστια και μυθώδη συγγεγραφότων, ούς και ονομαστί αν εγραφον, εί μή και αύτῶ σοι ἐκ τῆς ἀναγνώσεως φανεῖσθαι ἔμελλον. Κτησίας ό Κτησιόχου ό Κνίδιος συνέγραψε περί τῆς Ίνδῶν χώρας και τῶν παρ' αὐτοῖς ὰ μήτε αὐτὸς εἶδε μήτε ἄλλου ειπόντος ήκουσεν. έγραψε δε και Ίαμβουλος περί των έν τη μεγάλη θαλάττη πολλα παράδοξα, γνώριμον μεν απασι το ψεύδος πλασάμενος, ούκ άτερπη δε όμως συνθείς την υπόθεσιν. πολλοί δε και άλλοι τα αυτα τούτοις προελόμενοι συνέγραψαν ώς δή τινας έαυτῶν πλάνας τε και ἀπιδημίας θηρίων τε μεγέθη ίστοροῦντες και ἀνθρώπων ὡμότητας και βίων καινότητας ἀρχηγὸς δὲ αὐτοῖς καὶ διδάσκαλος τῆς τοιαύτης βωμολοχίας ό τοῦ Όμήρου 'Οδυσσεύς, τοῖς περί του Άλκίνουν διηγούμενος ανέμων τε δουλείαν και μονοφθάλμους και ώμοφάγους και άγρίους τινας ανθρώπους, έτι

illus 12. 1927: from Lucian's True Historie



the mouth of any man. Jambulus also wrote many strange miracles of the great fea, which all men knew to be lies and fictions, yet fo composed that they want not their delight: and many others have made choife of the like argument, of which fome have published their owne travells, and peregrinations, wherein they have defcribed the greatnefle of beasts, the fierce condition of men, with their strange and uncouth manner of life: but the first father and founder of all this foolerie, was Homers Vlyffes, who tells a long tale to Alcinous, of the fervitude of the windes, and of wild men with one eye in their foreheads that fed upon raw flesh: of beafts with many heads, and the transformation of his friends by inchanted potions, all which hee made the filly *Phæakes* beleeve for great footh. This comming to my perufall, I could not condemne ordinarie men for lying, when I faw it in requeft amongft them that would be counted Philosophicall persons: yet could not but wonder at them, that writing fo manifest lies, they should not thinke to bee taken with the manner; and this made mee alfo ambitious to leave fome monument of my felfe behinde mee, that I might not be the onely man exempted from this libertie of lying: and becaufe I had no matter of veritie to imploy my penne in, (for nothing hath befalne mee worth the writing) I turned my flile to publish untruthes, but with an honefter minde than others have done: for this one thing I confidently pronounce for a truth, that I lie: and this I hope, may be an excufe for all the reft, when I confesse what I am faultie in: for I write of matters which I neither faw nor fuffered, nor heard by report from others, which are in no beeing, nor possible ever to have a beginning: let no man therefore in any cafe give any credit to them.

δε πολυκέφαλα ζῷα καὶ τὰς ὑπὸ φαρμάκων τῶν ἐταίρων μεταβολάς, εία πολλα έκεινος ώς προς ιδιώτας αυθρώπους ετερατεύσατο τοὺς Φαίακας. τούτοις οὖν ἐντυχὼν ἅπασι τοῦ ψεύσασθαι μεν οὐ σφόδρα τοὺς ἄνδρας ἐμεμψάμην όρῶν ἤδη σύνηθες ου τουτο και τοις φιλοσοφειν υπισχνουμένοις. ἐκείνο δε αύτῶν ἐθαύμαζον, εἰ ἐνόμισαν λήσειν οὐκ ἀληθῆ συγγράφοντες. διόπερ και αυτός ύπο κενοδοξίας απολιπείν τι σπουδάσας τοις μεθ' ήμας, ίνα μη μόνος αμοιρος ω της έν τω μυθολογειν έλευθερίας, έπει μηδεν άληθες ίστορειν είχουcuber γàp επεπόνθειν άξιόλογον-επί το ψευδος ετραπόμην πολύ των άλλων εύγνωμονέστερον καν έν γαρ δη τουτο άληθεύσω λεγων, ότι ψεύσομαι. ούτω δ' άν μοι δοκώ καί την παρά των άλλων κατηγορίαν εκφυγειν αυτός όμολογων μηδέν άληθες λέγειν. γράφω τοίνυν περί ων μήτε είδου μήτε ἔπαθων μήτε παρ' ἄλλων ἐπυθόμην, ἔτι δὲ μήτε όλως ὄντων μήτε την άρχην γενέσθαι δυναμένων. διό δει τους έντυγχάνοντας μηδαμώς πιστεύειν αυτοίς.



^{1927:} from Lucian's True Historie





illus 13. 1927: from Lucian's True Historie







THE WOOD-ENGRAVINGS OF ROBERT GIBBINGS

BY THOMAS BALSTON



LONDON : ART AND TECHNICS : 1949

illus 15.

which were used in the prospectuses followed for the g -



The earliest books and prospectuses, and many later ones, bore the ruffled cockerel shown above ("Cockerel A"), engraved by Desmond Chute



The second cockerel ('Cockerel B') was engraved by David Jones, and appeared first in his *Gulliver's Travels*, 1923, and thereafter in many books and prospectuses.



The third cockerel is by Robert Gibbings and derives from

illus 16.





P776 PETER AND THE COCK 1951 The Four Gospeis

illus 17.



ABC DEFGHIJK LMNOPQR STUVW



P552 AN ALPHABET 1928 Initials for the Golden Cockerel Press (Woodcuts)

illus 17. (a)



Our father who art in heaven hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will bedone on earth as it is in heaven.

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Eric Gill & the Golden Cockerel type

illus 18.





P288 LOVERS ON A BANK 1924 Sonnets and Verses

illus 19.



P327 MY LOVE AMONG THE LILIES 1925 The Song of Songs

illus 19.



P282 NAKED GIRL WITH CLOAK 1924 Sonnets and Verses

illus 20.



INITIAL LETTER H, AND VENUS AND CUPID WITH THE GOLDEN COCKEREL 1928 The Canterbury Tales

illus 21.









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P473 THE DEATH OF TROILUS 1927 Troilus and Criseyde

illus 24.





illus 26.



illus 27.



1934: from Glory of Life

illus 28.




1938: Ground Swell on the Reef





1924: from The Lives of Gallant Ladies

illus 30.





SWEET CORK OF THEE

For every season she hath dressings fit, For Winter, Spring, and Summer.
No beauty she doth miss When all her robes are on: But Beauty's self she is When all her robes are gone.'''



CHAPTER TWENTY-EIGHT

O MY KNOWLEDGE I had never been in the town of Schull until I went there on 15th August to watch the regatta. I had left the van in a side street and was finding my way to the harbour when an old man accosted me.

'How are ye going on? Well, I hope?' Before I had time to reply, he added: 'Tis some years since you were in the town.'

'I was never here before,' I said.

'Oh then, you were,' he replied.

'Oh then, I wasn't,' I said.

He looked at me for a moment, tapped my chest with one finger and the stump of a second, and said very seriously: 'Didn't you pass through in Cotter's bread-van one night and you on your way to Goleen? 'Twould be about five or six years ago.'

'I did go to Goleen,' I said, 'and by bread-van, but it was dark and I couldn't see where I was.'

'You came through here and I was beside you from Bantry. The two of us was hunched up together alongside of the driver, and as we was passing the lakes you says to me: "Isn't the swans very white on the black water?" And I says to you: "Isn't the water very black agin the white swans?" And then says you: "The night is as black as the water," and I says to you: "There'll be a mist in the morning will be as white as the swans." And Mickey Ryan, from Clear Island, was behind in the bread with us. He'd gone on the booze and missed his ship, and when he went to find her she wasn't there. Blown up she was with a couple of





Card Party 1928: from *Swift's Poems*

illus 32.





1948: from Over the Reefs





wither .

illus 34. (a) 1920: A Street in Macedonia



1932 High Society, Grenada (reduced): from XIV Engravings

illus 35.



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c. 1923 On the Slip





(a) 1913: The Two Pigs

illus 37.

ritus 67



(b) c. 1913: The Crest of the Hill



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illus 39. 1921: London Bridge To-day

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-

Edward Gordon Craig: View illus 40. over Florence, 1908. 12.5 x 3.4cm











1920: Clear Waters





illus 43. 1919: Melleha, Malta







illus 45. (a) 1918: Dublin under Snow (reduced)





illus 46.









illus 48.

(b) c. 1919: Fowey Harbour







illus 50. 1924: from Carey's Songs and Poems




illus 51. 1925: from Samson and Delilah













I

P323 THE KISS 1925 The Song of Songs

illus 53.







CHAPTER FORTY-ONE

THE WEEKS since I reached Gougane had run into months and now the months began to look as though they might soon be a year. But the time was drawing near when I would have to say good-bye. We had had a party in (254)

Lovely Is the Lee

the hotel a few nights before I left, but on my last evening I sat with eight or nine others by the fire in Batty Kit's cottage. Some that were there were young, and some that were there were old. We did not talk of what was uppermost in our minds, that I was leaving next day; instead, the conversation ran on irrelevant subjects such as the east wind and the drying in it, fishing prospects, how many loads of stones a field might want for drainage, would Jackie Con marry Mary Tim?

Towards midnight I got up to go. The others rose, too. Batty Kit began to speak. 'I knew your grandfather,' he said, 'a hearty handsome man, and mad for the old stones and the antiquities; and I knew your mother before ever she was married, a lovely fine soft young girl she was; and I knew your aunts and I knew your uncles. We had the world of fun when they came out. Many the time I drove them, behind a pair of horses, twenty-one miles from Macroom, before ever there was a motor on the roads. Dick died young, God rest his soul, and John is dead since, God rest his soul, and your mother went, too, God rest her. And now I know your son. Four generations of you.' He took both my hands in his. 'Good-bye to you now,' he said, 'and may God Almighty watch over you wherever you go.' Then like a patriarch of old he threw his arms about my shoulders and kissed me. 'May the Lord God of Heaven love you,' he said.

And then I went out into the dark.

'Come here!' said Connie, next morning when I was saying good-bye. 'If ever anything happens to you and you want a home, come over and live here. But don't bring any money with you for you won't want it.'





illus 55.



" The Lump Sucker " by Thomas Bewick (1862). illus 56.





1920: for the Imperial Tobacco Company Ltd

illus 57.





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Wind over the Matterhorn

illus 59.



Glacier, 1933





niores populi adversus Jesum, ut eum morti traderent. Et vinctum adduxerunt eum, et tradiderunt Pontio Pilato præsidi. Tunc videns Judas, qui eum tradidit, quod damnatus esset, pænitentia ductus, retulit triginta argenteos principibus sacerdotum et senio

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Carrying of the Cross, from Passio Domini Nostri Jesu Christi. 1926. (reduced).

that when Jesus had finished these parables, he departed thence. And when he was come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, insomuch that they were astonished, and said, Whence hath this man this wisdom, and these mighty works? Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas? And his sisters, are they not al' with us? Whence then hath this man all these things?

And they were offended in him. But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house. And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.



page from The Four Gospels. 1931. (reduced).

illus 60.





P788 THE DEPOSITION 1931 The Four Gospels

illus 61.





P803 PRAYING MAN 1931 The Four Gospels

illus 62.



P805 INITIAL LETTER A, FLOURISHED, 1931 WITH LEAVES The Four Gospels (Woodcut)

illus 63.





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P787 COCK AND SPEAR 1931 The Four Gospels

illus 65

