EDWARD GORDON CRAIG: A LIFE IN BOOKS
featuring the Philbrick Library of British and American Theater
Special Collections, Honnold/Mudd Library
March 25 - May 17, 2013

Exhibition held in conjunction with
"Action, Scene, and Voice: 21st-Century Dialogues with Edward Gordon Craig"
Pomona College, March 28-30, 2013
Edward Gordon Craig (1872-1966) was a pioneer of modern stage craft, whose experimental theater techniques have shaped live performance today. His writings are seminal in theater studies.

In addition to being a visionary man of the theater, Craig was an accomplished artist/designer and printer. He was devoted to the art of wood engraving; in important ways, they were ‘the theater without voice’ that was part of his vision for the stage. He exhibited his woodcuts widely, and his work was shown with the works of notable contemporaries such as Augustus John and William Nicholson, to name two.

**Edward Gordon Craig: A Life in Books** showcases Craig’s graphic and illustrative work including individual woodcuts widely used in his own and in others’ publications, his designs for theatrical programs, and his landmark theater journals *The Mask* and *The Page*. His most critically acclaimed illustrations were for the Cranach Press’ finely printed *Hamlet* (1929)—woodcuts that are hauntingly interpretive rather than representational. The Cranach Press *Hamlet* and several of Craig’s proof prints are on view at the Clark Humanities Museum, Scripps College.

This exhibition also includes a selection of Craig’s more personal writing, biographies of the two individuals who had a profound influence on him as a performer, designer, and scholar of the theater: his mother, the famed British stage actress Ellen Terry, and Henry Irving, theatrical producer and actor extraordinaire, Terry’s longtime collaborator and friend. Craig’s memoir, *Index to the Story of My Days*, is based on his diaries and notebooks.

### Framed images

- *Henry Irving as Louis XI*
- *Bussy D’Ambois 1580.*
- *Craig at Corbeil Near Paris.* Photograph by David Lees. 1948
- *Miss Ellen Terry as Ophelia*
- *The Actress Thespis*

### Case 1 Book plates

- Gabrielle Enthoven
  - Bookplate in three states

- Edward Gordon Craig
  - *Bookplates Designed & Cut On Wood by Gordon Craig* Hackbridge, Surrey: Sign of the Rose, 1900

- Edward Gordon Craig
  - *Bookplates from the Sign of the Rose, Hackbridge, 1900* [Croydon, Eng., 1900?]

- Christopher Millard His Book
  - Bookplate

### Case 2 Bookplates

- Edward Gordon Craig
  - *Nothing, or The Bookplate*
  - With a handlist by E. Carrick
  - London: Chatto & Windus, 1925

- “Exhibition of prints by Edward Gordon Craig”
  - St. George’s Gallery [London] broadside

### Woodcuts and Some Words

- Prospectus (1924)

- Small promotional broadside [1926]

- Edward Gordon Craig
  - *Woodcuts and Some Words* with an introduction by Cambell Dodgson
  - London; Toronto: J.M. Dent & Sons, 1924

### Case 3 The Page

- *The Page*
  - Kingston-upon-Thames, 1898-1901
  - Edward Gordon Craig, Editor

- *The Page*
  - Announcements, order form, and reviewer notice

- *The Page*
  - Specimen copy, edition limited to 300 copies, 1899

- “A Portrait. A Woodcut.” [Henry Irving]
  - *The Page*, Volume 1, no. 4 (1898)

### Case 4 The Mask

  - Florence, 1908-11

- *The Mask*
  - Announcement to advertisers [circa 1909]; Invoice form, annotated by EGC; Advertising postcard

### Case 5

- *The Marionette* (1918-1919)
A Masque, The Harvest Home
Souvenir program
Proof [1902]

Souvenir. Acis & Galatea, Masque of Love, Great Queen Street Theatre (1902)

Purcell Operatic Society program
Proof [circa 1899-1902]

Dido & Aeneas [1900]

Edward Gordon Craig
Art of the Theatre
Preface by R. Graham Robertson
Edinburgh: T.N. Foulis, 1905

Die Kunst Des Theaters
Rare proof cover with Craig woodcut vignettes front and back (1905)

Case 6 Personal writing

Edward Gordon Craig
Ellen Terry and Her Secret Self
London: S. Low, Marston & Co., Ltd. [1931]

Edward Gordon Craig
Index to the Story of My Days
London: Hulton Press [1957]

Henry Irving, Ellen Terry, etc., by Gordon Craig. A Book of Portraits.
[Chicago: H.S. Stone, 1899]

Publication announcement for Henry Irving [1930]

Henry Irving by Gordon Craig.
Advertising card [1930]

Edward Gordon Craig
Henry Irving [a.k.a. HI by EGC]
London: J.M. Dent, 1938

Case 7 Illustrated works

Haldane Macfall
The Splendid Wayfaring

The Life & Strange Surprising Adventures of Robinson Crusoe of York by Daniel Defoe
London: Basilisk Press, 1979

Robinson Crusoe On His Raft
Woodcut (framed proof)

Seven different masks for Robinson Crusoe
Woodcut proofs

Case 8 A Production

Edward Gordon Craig
A Production; Being Thirty-two Collotype Plates of Designs Projected or Realised for The Pretenders of Henrik Ibsen and Produced at the Royal Theatre, Copenhagen, 1926
London: Oxford University Press, 1930

Letter from Harriet Roberts to Moira Gibbings at Golden Cockerel Press

Autumn List Golden Cockerel Press 1931

Decorated initials that EGC designed and cut for the Golden Cockerel Press

Case 9 Woodcuts and engravings

The Duc D’Anjou

Woodcut in two states: house on hill with figure, state no. 1 (1938); without figure (1938)

A gallery of woodcut initials designed by EGC

Sphinx

Two Clowns

La Procession Nocturn. Design for the music by Liszt

Case 10 Woodcuts and engravings

La Commedia

Newcastle

Small G woodcut initial, personalized for Ifan Kyrle Fletcher and Constance Fletcher.

Villa Raggio, Rapallo, Italy

Letter to the editor of a theater journal, December 17, 1921, in which EGC admires the design of the journal and offers his advice to the designer
Many thanks to Professor Tom Leabhart, Professor Eric Haskell, Sam Gold, Lisa Crane, and Tom Price for their kind assistance with this exhibition.

Cover image from *The Page Nos: 1&2 (1901)*