

heresy, sedition, obscenity

THE **BOOK** CHALLENGED

30 October 2009 to 29 January 2010

EXHIBITION

Special Collections de Beer Gallery
1st Floor Central Library University of Otago
Hours: 8.30am – 5.00pm Monday to Friday



heresy, sedition, obscenity

THE BOOK CHALLENGED

Societies have always wrestled with censorship. Indeed the suppression or attempted suppression of material considered offensive, objectionable, or a threat to security (real or imagined) is as old as literature itself. And books, as transmitters of literature, have been excellent targets. For example, religious works such as the *Bible* and the *Qur'an*, polemics such as Machiavelli's *The Prince* or Karl Marx's *Das Kapital*, socially contentious publications such as Emile Zola's *Nana* or Margaret Mitchell's *Gone with the Wind*, and the so-called 'obscene', morally challenging books like James Joyce's *Ulysses* and D. H. Lawrence's *Lady Chatterley's Lover*. In more recent times, publications that promote anarchy (*The Anarchist Cookbook*) and 'whip-slash' violence (*Brother Stud*; *Hitch-hiking Pizza Boy*) have featured more frequently.

This exhibition, *Heresy, Sedition, Obscenity: The Book Challenged*, offers a selection of some of the most famous, and lesser known books that have been banned, censored, or challenged. The exhibition also reveals that there has been a healthy industry throughout history in the banning of books. Individual censors, Church Fathers, and various governments have all made pronouncements on books deemed injurious to the State, or *status quo*. Banned books have been burned in town squares, removed from public sale, and taken off the shelves of libraries and classrooms. In some instances, the author or printer of the work has been either outlawed or condemned to death. Of course, censorship still exists, which negates the notion that societies in these modern times allow individuals the absolute freedom to read – whatever. Witness the strictures on *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* (especially in America), and Dr Philip Nitschke's revised edition of *The Peaceful Pill Handbook*, which has been classified by the New Zealand Office of Film and Literature Classification Unit in 2008 as R18.

As mentioned, New Zealand is not exempt. With legislation notoriously difficult and with increasing pressure to apply consistency to rulings on what was indecent or obscene, the Indecent Publications Tribunal (later the Office of Film and Literature Classification) was established in 1963. Rulings were often made on imported publications such as Nabokov's *Lolita* (1960) or William Burroughs's *Dead Fingers Talk* (1963). These days, 'home-grown' publications (and more increasingly films) have come under scrutiny.

Hopefully, this exhibition reminds the reader of the issues surrounding the banning of books, and is a catalyst for thought on the future, especially with the endless digital scenarios now available through the internet. As to the books themselves, a question is raised: 'What would *my* world be like if these works had never existed?'

Items on Display

CABINET ONE: INTRODUCTION

Anthony Burgess, *A Clockwork Orange*. London: Penguin Books, 1972. Brasch PR6052.U638 C5 1972
Ray Bradbury, *Fahrenheit 451*. New York: Limited Editions Club, 1982. Special Collections PS3503.R167 F3 1982
Upton Sinclair, *The Jungle*. Tucson, Arizona: See Saw Press, 2003. *Kind thanks to UBS (Otago) Ltd*
Norah C. James, *Sleeveless Errand*. Paris: Henry Babou and Jack Kahane, 1929. Special Collections PR6019.A57 S53 1929
William S. Burroughs, *Naked Lunch*. New York: Grove Press, 2003. Special Collections PS3552.U75 N3 2003
Hubert Selby, Jr., *Last Exit to Brooklyn*. New York: Grove Press, 1964. Central PS3569.E547 L37 1964
Erskine Caldwell, *God's Little Acre*. Athens, Georgia: University of Georgia Press, 1995. *Kind thanks to UBS (Otago)*
Allen Ginsberg, *Howl, and Other Poems*. San Francisco: City Lights Pocket Bookshop, 1956. Brasch PS3513.I74 H6
J. D. Salinger, *The Catcher in the Rye*. Harmondsworth: Penguin Books in association with Hamish Hamilton, 1958. Brasch PS3537.A426 C3 1958
William Faulkner, *As I Lay Dying*. Harmondsworth, Middlesex: Penguin Books in association with Chatto & Windus, 1965. Brasch PS3511.A86 A8 1963
Ernest Hemingway, *A Farewell to Arms*. London: Arrow Books, 2004. *Kind thanks to UBS (Otago) Ltd*

CABINET TWO: THE INDEX

Index Librorum Prohibitorum. [Mechelen, Belgium]: H. Dessain, 1855. Shoults Lb 1855 I
Aristophanes, *Lysistrata*. London: Fanfrolico Press, 1926. Special Collections PA 3877 L8 1926

CABINET THREE: SATYRICON

Index Expurgatorius Librorum. [Lyon]: Ioannem Mareschallum, 1586. Shoults Fa 1586 I
Petronius, *Satyricon*. [Lyon]: I. Tornaesium, 1575. Shoults Fb 1575 P
Petronius, *Complete Works*. London: Fanfrolico Press, 1927. Special Collections PA 6558 E5 LQ95 1927

CABINET FOUR: OVID & OTHERS

Ovid, *Art of Love*. New York: Limited Editions Club, 1971. Special Collections PA 6522 A8 1971
Bernard of Luxemburg, *Catalogus Hereticorum*. [Cologne : Peter Quentell], 1526. Shoults Gb 1526 B
Indicis Librorum Expurgandorum. Rome: Ex Typographia R. Cam. Apost., 1607. Shoults Itb 1607 I
Polydore Vergil, *De Rerum Inventoribus*. [Lyon]: Ant. Gryphium, 1586. Shoults Fa 1586 V

CABINET FIVE: SCRIPTURES

The Koran [1846?]. Shoults MS.11
The New Testament, 1536. Columbus, Ohio: Lazarus Ministry Press: Vintage Archives, 1999 (facsimile). Special Collections BS140 1999

CABINET 6: THE REFORMATION

Johannes Cochlaeus, *Articuli CCCCC*. [Cologne: P. Quentell, 1526]. Shoults Gb 1526 L
Galileo Galilei, *Opere* [Works]. Firenze [Florence]: G. Gaetano Tartini, 1718. DeB Itb 1718 G
Johannes Kepler, *Epitome Astronomiae Copernicanae*. Lentijs ad Danubium [Linz, Austria]: J. Plancus, 1618-22. DeB Gb 1618 K

CABINET 7: THE ITALIANS

Dante Alighieri, *Divina Commedia*. Venice: [Heirs of Francesco Rampazetto for Giovanni Battista Sessa, Melchior Sessa, and brothers], 1578. DeB Itc 1578 D
Giovanni Boccaccio, *The Decameron*. New York: Garden City Publishers, 1949. Special Collections PQ4272.E5 A3571 1949

CABINET 8: LITERATURE

François Rabelais, *Gargantua et de son fils Pantagruel*. Vol. II. Amsterdam: H. Bordesius, 1725. DeB Lb 1725 R
Michel de Montaigne, *Essays*. London: Printed by Melch. Bradwood for Edward Blount and William Barret, 1613. DeB Ec 1613 M
Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra, *The Life and Exploits of the Ingenious Gentleman Don Quixote de la Mancha*. 2nd ed. London: Printed for J. and R. Tonson and S. Draper, and R. Dodsley, 1749. DeB Eb 1749 C

CABINET 9: THOMAS & OTHERS

William Thomas, *The Historie of Italie*. [London]: Thomas Berthelet, 1549. DeB Eb 1549 T
Henry Neville, *The Isle of Pines*. Katoomba, N.S.W.: Wayzgoose, 1991. Special Collections G560 .NG91 1991
Bernard Mandeville, *The Fable of the Bees, or, Private Vices, Publick Benefits*. 3rd ed. London: Printed for J. Tonson, 1724. DeB Eb 1724 M

CABINET 10: CHARRON & MILTON & MERCIER

Pierre Charron, *Of Wisdom*. London: Printed for Nathaniel Ranew and Jonathan Robinson, 1670. DeB Eb 1670 C
John Milton, *Areopagitica*. Hammersmith (England): Doves Press, 1907. Special Collections PR3570 .A7 1907
Louis-Sébastien Mercier, *L'An Deux Mille Quatre Cent Quarante*. Vol. II. Paris: Lepetit Jeune et Gerard, 1802. Special Collections PQ2007.M6 A62 1802

CABINET 11: PHILOSOPHY

Samuel Pufendorf, *The Whole Duty of Man According to the Law of Nature*. 3rd ed. London: Printed by Benj. Motte, for Charles Harper, 1705. DeB Eb 1705 P
George Berkeley, *Alciphron: or, The Minute Philosopher*. Dublin: Printer for G. Risk, G. Ewing, and W. Smith, 1732. DeB Irb 1732 B
David Hume, *Philosophical Essays Concerning Human Understanding*. 2nd ed. London: Printed for M. Cooper, 1751. DeB Eb 1751 H
Voltaire, *A Philosophical Dictionary*. 2nd ed. London: Printed for J. and H. L. Hunt, 1824. Leith XU VolYd

CABINET 12: GIBBON & PAINE

Edward Gibbon, *The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*. Vol. IV. London: Printed for W. Strahan and T. Cadell, 1776-1788. DeB Ec 1776 G
Bernard Quaritch, *Catalogue 1386: Censorship*. London: Quaritch, 2009. Special Collections Catalogue Collection
Thomas Paine, *Rights of Man*. London: Printed for the Booksellers, 1792. DeB Eb 1792 P

CABINET 13: PHILOSOPHY

B. Spinoza, *Opera*. Vol. I. Jena: Bibliopolio Academicum, 1802-1803. Special Collections B3958 1802
John Stuart Mill, *Principles of Political Economy*. Vol. I. London, J. W. Parker, 1848. DeB Eb 1848 M
D. Diderot, *Encyclopédie; ou, Dictionnaire Raisonné des Sciences, des Arts et des Métiers, par Une Société de Gens de Lettres*. Vol. VI. Lausanne [and] Berne: Sociétés Typographiques, 1781. DeB Swb 1779 E

CABINET 14: LITERATURE

Stendhal, *Scarlet and Black*. London: Folio Society, 1965. Special Collections PQ2435.R72 A27 1965
Honoré de Balzac, *Ten Droll Tales*. London: John Lane, The Bodley Head Ltd., 1926. Special Collections PQ2164.A45 1926
Alexandre Dumas fils, *La Dame aux Camélias*. Paris: D. Giraud et J. Dagneau, 1852. Leith PQ1222.A19 1864
Pierre Louÿs, *Aphrodite*. Paris: Albin Michel, 1961. Leith XU LouYa

CABINET 15: USA

Harriet Beecher Stowe, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. London: J. Cassell, 1852. DeB Eb 1852 S
Mark Twain, [Date, 1601] *Conversation as it was by the Social Fireside in the Time of the Tudors*. New York: Lyle Stuart [1938] (facsimile). Private Collection
James Branch Cabell, *Jurgen: Comedy of Justice*. [London]: Golden Cockerel Press, 1949. Special Collections PS3505.A153 J8 1949

CABINET 16: MARX & OTHERS

Karl Marx, *Capital: A Critical Analysis of Capitalist Production*. Vol. I. Moscow: Foreign Languages Publishing House; [London: Lawrence and Wishart], 1958. Central HB501.M37 MC585 1957
Erich Maria Remarque, *All Quiet on the Western Front*. London: Folio Society, 1966. Central PT2635.E68 I6 A28 1966
Adolf Hitler, *My Struggle*. London: Paternoster Library, 1937. Private Collection
Victor Marchetti and John D. Marks, *The CIA and the Cult of Intelligence*. London: Cape, 1974. Central JK468.I6 M965

CABINET 17: THE MODERNS

Frank Harris, *My Life and Loves*. Paris: The Obelisk Press Books, 1949. Special Collections PR4759.H37 M9 1949
James Joyce, *Ulysses*. Paris: Shakespeare and Company, 1922. Brasch PR6019.O9 U422
D. H. Lawrence, *Pansies : Poems*. London: Martin Secker, 1929. Special Collections PR6023.A93 P36 1929
Vladimir Nabokov, *Lolita*. London: Penguin, 2000. *With kind thanks from UBS (Otago) Ltd*
Henry Miller, *Tropic of Cancer*. London: Flamingo; Harper Perennial, 2005. Private Collection
Salman Rushdie, *The Satanic Verses*. London: Vintage Books, 2006. *With kind thanks from UBS (Otago) Ltd*

CABINET 18: NEW ZEALAND

Office of Film and Literature Classification, 'Excerpts from Restricted and Banned Books to November 2008'
D. H. Lawrence, *Lady Chatterley's Lover, including My Skirmish with Jolly Roger*. [Paris]: Privately Printed, 1930. Brasch PR 6023 A93 L2
James Baldwin, *Another Country*. London: Book Club, 1963. Private Collection
Mary McCarthy, *The Group*. London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1964. Central PS 3525 A1435 G7
Christine Leov Lealand, *Quintessence*. Auckland: Penguin, 1999. *Kind thanks to Penguin (NZ)*
_____, *Avocado*. Auckland: Penguin, 2000. *Kind thanks to Penguin (NZ)*
_____, *Astride*. Auckland: Penguin, 2001. *Kind thanks to Penguin (NZ)*
The First, Last and Complete Patricia Bartlett Cookbook and Household Physician. Wellington: A. Taylor, [1972]. Hocken Bliss YUP A
Jean Devanny, *The Butcher Shop*. Auckland: Auckland University Press, 1981. *Kind thanks to Auckland University Press*
Harold Robbins, *The Carpetbaggers*. London: New English Library, 1963. Private Collection
Marquis de Sade, *Justine*. London: Harper Perennial, 2009. *Kind thanks to UBS (Otago) Ltd*
John Cleland, *Fanny Hill*. London: Harper Perennial, 2009. *Kind thanks to UBS (Otago) Ltd*
Bret Easton Ellis, *American Psycho*. London: Picador, 2004. *Kind thanks to UBS (Otago) Ltd*
William Burroughs, *Dead Fingers Talk*. London: Star Book, 1977. Private Collection

VITRINE 1

The Thousand and One Nights. Translated by Edward William Lane; illustrated by William Harvey. London : Routledge, Warne, and Routledge, 1865. DeB Eb 1865 T
The Book of the Thousand Nights and a Night. Translated by Richard F. Burton. Benares: Printed by the Kamashastra Society for private subscribers only, 1885. Brasch PJ7715.BY97
The Book of the Thousand Nights and a Night. Translated by Dr J. C. Madrus. London: Casanova Society, 1929. Special Collections PJ 7715 MD58

VITRINE 2

Charles Baudelaire, *Les Fleurs du Mal*. [Paris]: Club des Libraires de France, 1959. Special Collections PQ2191.F5 1959

VITRINE 3

Walt Whitman, *Leaves of Grass*. New York ; Vermont: Collectors Reprints; The Stinehour Press, 1992. (facsimile of 1855 ed.) Special Collections PS3201 1992

VITRINE 4

Margaret Sanger, *Family Limitation*. 32nd ed. London: Rose Witcop, [1923]. Uncatalogued
Marie C. Stopes, *Married Love*. 7th ed. London: G.P. Putnam, 1920. Uncatalogued.

REFERENCES:

Margaret Bald, *Banned Books: Literature Suppressed on Religious Grounds*. New York: Facts On File, Inc., 1998.
Paul Christoffel, *Censored. A Short History of Censorship in New Zealand*. Wellington: Department of Internal Affairs, 1989.
Anne Lyon Haight, *Banned Books 387 B.C to 1987 A.D.* New York: R. R. Bowker, 1978.
Nicholas J Karolides, *Banned Books: Literature Suppressed on Political Grounds*. New York: Facts On File, Inc., 1998.
Nihil Obstat. An Exhibition of Banned, Censored & Challenged Books in the West – 1491-2000. Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto, 24 January to 29 April 2005.
Stuart Perry, *The Indecent Publications Tribunal*. Christchurch: Whitcombes & Tombs, 1965.
Dawn B. Sova, *Banned Books: Literature Suppressed on Sexual Grounds*. New York: Facts On File, Inc., 1998.
_____, *Banned Books: Literature Suppressed on Social Grounds*. New York: Facts On File, Inc., 1998.
onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu/banned-books.html

Special thanks to: Bill Hastings and Michelle Baker (Office of Film and Literature Classification); Bill Noble (UBS, Otago); Geoff Walker (Penguin NZ); Sam Elworthy (Auckland University Press); James Sim; Anne Jackman (Hocken Collections); Amberleigh Nicholson; Lisa Sims; and Paula Whitelock.

Please be aware that the content of some titles on display may offend.