Sam Steward / Phil Sparrow / Phil Andros:
Three lives in one.

A sampling of books, art, and other items from the executor of Samuel Steward’s estate, Michael Williams. Steward, an English professor and friend of Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas, quietly worked as an informal advisor to Alfred Kinsey, meticulously tracking the details of his thousands of sexual encounters with men at all levels of society. Under the pseudonym of Phil Sparrow, he secretly worked as a tattoo artist until his conservative Catholic university received a police report about a gay bust, and he lost his job. Relying entirely now on tattooing for his career, he pushed it to its limits, becoming the official tattooist to the Hell’s Angels in Oakland. His academic background and literary acumen, combined with penetrating insights into the underground world of hustlers and leatherfolk, transformed him into an unlikely pioneer in the world of Rough Trade pornographic literature.
All items in this catalog were obtained from Steward’s friend and the executor of his estate, Michael Williams. Most of the items belonged to Steward himself, with the exception of the books printed after Steward’s death, which belonged to Williams, and a couple of the pulp versions of Phil Andros novels, which were supplied from Williams’ extensive collection of pulps; he had integrated Steward’s leftover pulps into his collection so there is no longer any way to be sure of their provenance, except for those with price tags or remainder marks, indicating that they must have been acquired by Williams on the secondary market.

All listings are subject to prior sale. Items may be returned for any reason within 30 days of receipt.

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BEGIN HERE!

Justin Spring’s biography of Steward is absolutely indispensable. Using the troves of detailed records that Steward kept of his own life, which were carefully preserved after his death by his executor Michael Williams, as well as archives scattered around the country, Spring has woven together a compellingly readable and insightful narrative. This example will probably sell quickly because it’s the least expensive item in the catalog, but it’s easily available on the market. Get yourself a copy. References to page numbers in “Spring” throughout this catalog refer to this book.


“[Tattooing] has so many more compensations than anything I had ever done before in my life, that I find the utmost gratification in it. Many things are answered for me. I sit reading by the window; three sailors, heavy bowed under their enormous sea bags, pass; two wave to me and grin. They don’t stop; they go on - but they are mine, and part of me is going with them ... There is something almost terrifyingly personal and intimate about this work. Sailors come back just to gossip, or to ask my advice, or [ask] questions about what to do in town or where to go; I let them sew buttons on, I brush them off, I sit and watch them help each other dress and undress; I tie their ties, for the boot [sailors] often yet don't know how ... And there is also the satisfaction of doing a good tattoo and knowing the boy will carry it for many years, again a part of me.” (Samuel Steward, quoted in Spring, pp. 251-252.)
2. Sparrow, Phil [pseudonym of Samuel Steward]. [Flash art panel]. n.p., [196-]. 20x15 inch panel of illustration board with 19 sample designs, priced between three and nine dollars depending on complexity. The designs have been covered with a thin plastic sheet which is somewhat crinkled, and starting to chip at the right edge. (#312825) $4,500.00

Your humble cataloger has found this very panel visible on the wall in photos of the Anchor Tattoo Shop that Steward ran with Chuck Renslow and Cliff Raven in the winter of 1963-1964 (see lot 4). It may be original to that shop, or Steward might have created it for his previous shop in Chicago. Presumably, it might also have been displayed in the later shop that Steward opened in Oakland, serving the Hell's Angels among others. It remained among his effects when he died.

3. Sparrow, Phil [Samuel Steward]. Certificate of Merit 1965. Tattoo Club of America [award plaque]. n.p.: the Club, 1965. 12.75x11 inch wooden base with metal plaque, some smudges to the metal portion. "This is to certify that Phil Sparrow of Chicago, Ill. has been elected by the Members of the Tattoo Club of America as one of the most Outstanding Tattoo Artists of the World, and is awarded this Certificate in testimony of his Excellent Work." Facsimile signatures of the president, v.p. and secretary of the Club. (#312788) $600.00
4. [Seventeen different 5x7 inch photographs of Navy men in uniform at Samuel Steward, Cliff Raven, and Chuck Renslow's tattoo parlor in Milwaukee, together with twenty smaller snapshots, including several Polaroids]. Seventeen different 5x7 inch photographic prints depicting waiting sailors, Sam and Cliff at work applying tattoos, and flash art on the walls (one panel of this flash art, visible in a couple of these photos, is item 2 in this catalog). One of the photos has a handwritten caption on the verso: "Credit Mark: Collection: Cliff Raven. Caption. Phil Sparrow at work, Milwaukee 1963. Return this photo to: [Steward's address label for 2016-X Ninth Street in Berkeley affixed]." (Steward moved to this Berkeley address in 1964). In addition to these lovely prints, there are twenty smaller photos, some of them blurry or damaged, in the range of 4.25x3.25, also showing activities inside the shop or close-ups of tattoos. Some of these smaller photos may be from his other shops in Chicago or Oakland; parts of the decor seem different in a few images. (#312628) $3,500

Several of the larger photographs are reproduced in Justin Spring's "Secret Historian," where they help to illustrate the spirit of the parlor where Steward (under the alias Phil Sparrow) sublimated his desire for young men in uniform into the delicate piercing of their skin with needle and ink. Spring writes, "An unknown photographer, possibly Cliff Raven's artist-lover Chuck Arnett, took a series of black-and-white photographs of the Milwaukee tattoo parlor that are today the most thorough documentation of Steward's work with (and upon) the boot sailors of the Great Lakes Naval Training Station. Dom Orejudos had meanwhile revised and improved the original series of sexually suggestive placards of tattooed men Steward had made for the window of his State Street Tattoo Joynt, and Orejudos's new, hypermasculine versions established an even more outrageous butch-erotic ambiance for the Milwaukee shop." (Spring p. 309). Some of Orejudos's signs are visible in the background in various shots.
Steward, facing mirrored wall while holding camera, photographs himself in the midst of his flash art.
5. Amigo [bound volumes for the first four years of publication, numbers 1-40, containing numerous contributions by Samuel Steward]. Copenhagen: Tidsskriftet Eos, 1962-1965. Four hardcover volumes for years 1962-1965, near fine condition, without ownership markings. In 1963, when an English section was added, the format changed and the digest-format publication grew to 5.5x8.25 inches. The last issue present here contains an announcement that with issue 41, the magazine would revert to German only. (#312784) SOLD

Before Amigo, Steward had published occasional pieces in the Swiss journal Der Kreis, but that publication was not interested in Steward’s more sexually explicit works. Editor Rudolph Burckhardt eventually suggested to Steward that the new Danish magazine Amigo, edited by Knud Rame (under the pseudonym Kim Kent) might be a better fit for such material. Thus began a fruitful relationship that included the birth of Steward’s alter ego, the fictional hustler Phil Andros, whose picaresque stories were written in the first person.

It so happened that Steward had closed his Chicago parlor in 1963 due to legal challenges, the most serious of which was a ban on tattooing anyone under the age of 21. He, Chuck Renslow, and Cliff Raven opened a new shop in Milwaukee to serve sailors during their weekend leave. Every week as he commuted between Chicago and Milwaukee, Steward worked on pieces for Amigo magazine while riding the train.

The first stories Steward published in Amigo used the pseudonym Ward Stames (simply rearranging the letters of his name). He soon began to write in the voice of Phil Andros, who became his trademark character. These volumes of Amigo contain numerous stories by Steward, including “Baby Tiger” and “Little Lamb, Who Made Thee?” (both as Ward Stames); “The Poison Tree,” “The Blacks and Mr. Bennett,” “Some of These Days,” “Mirror, Mirror, On the Wall,” “Arrangement in Black and White,” “Color Him Black,” “Ace in the Hole,” “Two-Bit Whore,” “The Tattooed Harpist,” “Once in a Blue Moon,” “A Collar for Achilles,” “Sea Change,” “The Green Monkey,” “H2,” and “The World Rat, Number III,” all as Phil Andros. Of particular interest to Amigo readers, judging by fan mail, were Steward’s fantasies of domination by strong Black men. One character, Mr. Bennett, volunteered to become the White slave of a Black Muslim named Adam. A German translation of “The Blacks and Mr. Bennett” appeared in issue 38. Many of these short stories were later gathered together in the Phil Andros novel Stud.

Using yet another pseudonym, Donald Bishop, Steward even posed as a sociologist in these pages, publishing a piece titled “The Negro Homosexual in America” in the January 1964 issue, and a later article, “Pussies in Boots,” discussing leatherophilia.

Taken together, these volumes represent an important turning point in Steward’s development, his first significant outlet for the sort of explicit fiction he had wanted to publish for years, and the beginning of his building an audience as Phil Andros.
6. Sparrow, Phil [Samuel Steward]. Award of Merit. 1ere Classe. Presented to Monsieur Philip Sparrow for
Paris: the Congress, 1952. 13.5x11 inch wooden base containing metal plaque, some spots to the metal portion.
What is odd about this award is that, judging by Steward's correspondence cited in Spring (see especially pages
187-189), his interest in tattooing had only just begun at this time, making it highly unlikely that he could have
won such recognition in 1952. We find no trace of this mid-century Congress on the internet. Your humble
cataloger wonders whether this may have been a reputation-enhancing gag that he made for himself to display
in his shop in the 1960s. (#312789) SOLD

Standard business card, printed both sides (map on the reverse), with "Last Day!" penned in red over the name. Phone number has blue pen correction to
area code. Some smudging of the red pen. (#312818) $250.00
Samuel Steward, Cliff Raven, and Chuck Renslow ran this short-lived tattoo parlor in Milwaukee, serving
sailors from the Great Lakes Naval Training Station. In 1964, Steward left for Berkeley, soon setting up a new
shop in Oakland.
8. Sanitary - Modern. Expert tattooing artist here... Friday, Saturday, Sunday [business sign]. n.p., [196-]. 20x15 inch panel of illustration board with two small grommets at the top for suspension; artwork depicting the upper torso of a man with a snake and rose tattoo on his arm. The signature on the art (close-up at right) is indecipherable to your humble cataloger. This sign was among the tattoo-related personal effects of Samuel Steward when he died, and it may be from the Anchor Tattoo Shop that Steward ran with Chuck Renslow and Cliff Raven in the winter of 1963-1964 (and which served primarily Navy men on weekend leave). However, we dare not make such a claim with certainty. We do not see it in photos of the interior of that shop, but it presumably would have been facing outwards, toward the street. (#312827) SOLD

9. Sparrow, Phil [pseudonym of Samuel Steward]. I've just had a Tattoo by Phil Sparrow, Best in the West [Three different matchbooks]. Oakland: Mfg. by Monarch Match Co., [196-]. Three different matchbooks for Steward's shop in Oakland, where he served as official tattooist to the Hell's Angels in the late 1960s. All three feature artwork by Petty. The slogan over the fold is "Pleasing YOU pleases US." Trace of rust at the staple, otherwise very good. We must remove the flammable matches from the interior before shipping, alas! (#312853) $100.00
10. Der Kreis / Le Cercle / The Circle. 33 jahrgang, No. 11 [Containing eleven "Poems... in the Manner of Housman" by Samuel Steward, under the pseudonym John McAndrews]. Zurich: Der Kreis, 1965. 36p. staplebound journal, 6x9 inches, very good. Steward's own copy, with his notation on the cover, "1st X poems." (#312778) SOLD

11. Andros, Phil [pseudonym of Samuel M. Steward]. Stud. Washington DC: Guild Press, 1966. 295p. hardcover, very good, in dust jacket designed by Etienne [pseudonym of Dom Orejudos]. Mild rubbing to the jacket. Of the eight examples we have handled in thirty years, this is the nicest. (#312777) SOLD

Originally published as separate stories overseas, these semi-autobiographical vignettes in the voice of Andros (hustler, leatherman, and biker, immersed in the world of rough trade) were gathered together for publication by H. Lynn Womak's Guild Press. After the books were printed in 1966, however, they remained in a warehouse, not yet bound, while Womak was distracted by legal issues. Steward, increasingly dismayed and desperate, ended up giving permission to a Bay Area publisher, J. Brian, to come out with a paperback version in 1969. Only after the paperback appeared did an infuriated Womak go to the trouble of having the long-stored pages bound and jacketed, but in order to deprive Steward of income, Womak immediately had them remaindered. Thus, the 1969 paperback actually reached the market before this 1966 hardcover edition. Though the delay in reaching the public stole some of Steward's luster as a pioneer in the genre, this work is nonetheless regarded as a landmark of rough trade fiction. The book is dedicated to "Dr. Prometheus," Steward's nickname for his close friend, the sexologist Alfred Kinsey.


Because Guild Press had warehoused its 1966 first edition, which remained unbound three years after printing, a frustrated Steward arranged with his friend J. Brian to come out with a cheap paperback edition. The paperback actually hit the market first, goading Guild Press into finally binding its first edition, which was immediately remaindered. See Spring, p. 340.
Interconnected short stories. In two, "The Cop" and "L'Italiano," a San Francisco policeman and a young Italian take advantage of one another. Gunn page 255, under the section "Nonsleuthing Fictional Police Officers".

In this installment of the saga of Phil Andros, the hustler has been persuaded to join the San Francisco police for erotic adventures. With the suspicious captain on his case, Phil heads for Chicago, finding another police force replete with BDSM.

15. Andros, Phil [pseudonym of Samuel M. Steward]. My Brother, the Hustler. San Francisco: Gay Parisian Press, 1970. 185p. + [6p] ads, small corner chip to rear cover, old price label on front cover, otherwise very good. Young 94* GPP 101. (#16838) SOLD. Phil Andros lies nude on China Beach in San Francisco and begins to hear messages from his long lost twin. This sets him off on a journey across the USA.


17. Andros, Phil [pseudonym of Samuel M. Steward, cover by Robert Bonfils?]. The Greek Way. San Diego: Greenleaf Classics, 1975. 189p., near fine first printing paperback original in pictorial wraps. Young 92*. AC102. (#101277) $125.00. This episode in the series is loosely based on the experiences of Steward’s friend and publisher J. Brian, a gay pornographer targeted by the police.
18. Steward, Samuel M. Privacy, Ltd. [business card]. [Berkeley]: S.M. Steward, [ca. 1970]. 3.5x2 inch business card listing Steward as Director; two phone numbers. Very good. (#306289) **SOLD**

As his neighborhood became more dangerous (Steward was robbed three times, and had the harrowing experience of holding the hand of a neighboring shopkeeper as he bled to death from gunshot wounds), he closed up his Oakland tattoo parlor in the spring of 1970. Among his efforts at new trades was Privacy Ltd., which he established to market an anti-phone bugging device he had invented. Nothing came of the venture, and it seems that Steward used many of his leftover cards as bookmarks.

19. – Another, mildly worn with some doodling; on the blank verso is written the name and address of Kurt McGill. (#312785) $35.00

20. – Another, used as bookmark, laid into a hardcover copy of Richard Percival Graves' "A.E. Housman, the scholar poet." (#312800) **SOLD**

Morse is known for his book of photographs and interviews, *The Tattooists*, which includes this portrait.

21. Morse, Albert L., photographer. [Photographic portrait of Samuel Steward]. San Francisco: the photographer, 1976. 10x13 inch photographic print mounted on stiff board; some edgewear, scuffing, and bumping to corners. Morse's address and copyright notification stamped on the back. (#312627) **SOLD**


Steward here assembled a half-century of correspondence.
Although Steward had drafted copious autobiographical notes for years, this autobiography was adapted from a series of shorter articles that he had published in the pages of Gaysweek and The Advocate. It also includes a new section about his longtime relationship with Alfred Kinsey.

In this novel, originally written under the title "A Hunting We Will Go!" Sir Arthur Lyly serves as a fictional representation of Sir Francis Rose, who was, like Steward, a friend of Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas.

This first edition is limited to 300 numbered copies and 26 lettered copies, all signed by the poet.
This is ___.

Samuel M. Steward

(#306850) SOLD
Stud. Boston: Alyson Publications, 1982. 212p., very good paperback, first Alyson edition. (#9757) $35.00. Stud was reprinted several times by various publishers. This is an abridged version with an introduction by John Preston.


Mystery featuring Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas. Steward knew them well, of course, and manages to convey and parody their respective verbal styles.

29. Andros, Phil [pseudonym of Samuel M. Steward]. My Brother, My Self [originally "My Brother, the Hustler"]. San Francisco: Perineum Press, 1983. 139p., very good trade paperback, the first edition of the Perineum reprint, with cover art by Tom of Finland. (#30664) $65.00.

Phil Andros, Steward's hustler alter-ego, finds himself in Roma.

Contains a number of Steward's works from the pre-Stonewall period. Characters include a Puerto Rican faun, a sadist with an Achilles Heel, a Black pool hustler and a kilted Scotsman in Havana.

33. Andros, Phil [pseudonym of Samuel M. Steward]; cover art by Tom of Finland. Shuttlecock [original title "Renegade Hustler"]. San Francisco: Perineum Press, 1984. 174p., very good trade paperback, first Perineum edition, silver pictorial wraps. (#49746) $65.00

Originally published as "San Francisco Hustler" in 1970, or as Andros states in the intro, "before the plague so - play safe."

Short stories about gay hustler Phil Andros moving from Chicago to San Francisco & Oakland.


39. Steward, Samuel M. [Typed letter, signed, from Samuel M. Steward to Tom of Finland (Tuoko Laaksonen)]. Berkeley, 24 June 1991. Letter typed on a single 10.5x7.25 inch sheet of Samuel M. Steward's letterhead, signed in pen, with an additional penned note at the bottom; laid in are three photocopies of promotional materials for Steward's book, "Understanding the Male Hustler." All are enclosed in the original envelope with canceled stamps, but with a rubberstamp indicating that the letter was being returned to sender, addressee unknown. (Note that Steward found two postage stamps that took on a tumescent air when rotated to the left). Steward made some additional pen notations on the envelope after getting it back. Tom of Finland died several months after Steward's unsuccessful attempt to send this letter. (#308037) SOLD

"Dear Tom, With a great deal of empathy and sympathy I have belatedly learned that you unfortunately have emphysema. And at this point I can say 'I know just how you feel,' and say it with accuracy, because I also have it. In my case it is not surprising, for I trained very hard to get it--sixty-five years of smoking, plus perhaps a few other things in my happily wasted life that helped to account for it..."

Steward discusses limitations on creativity and productivity; "I have only about two hours a day when I can manage to feel fertile. Or as we might say: 'fruitful.' The old libido diminishes--aided, of course, by the advanced years. Still, I managed to produce a book on my tattooing experience, and for the same publisher I have recently managed to write Understanding the Male Hustler, which I had a lot of fun doing." Steward laments the cover art (“an outrageous cartoonish monstrosity“) that was used by the publisher (Tom had been approached but was too ill). For a color image of the finished cover, see item 38 in this catalog.

“...The tattoo book caused a mild sensation when it hit the shelves of the strange world of Akademia; this one will probably make the eyeballs pop of all the old maids of both sexes who see it in their sacred libraries, because I have told everything - at least everything I know - about hustling, including even the eight movements of the ‘wedding with the mouth,’ which I swiped from the Kama Sutra.” Steward goes on to say that the publisher would be willing to use new cover art for a future edition, and “timidly” asks Tom to give it some thought. "If you have no inclination, I will certainly understand, for I know the ailments of emphysema. The basket-bulge would have to be smaller and less noticeable--but otherwise...well, I've always said that the seven Phil Andros books never sold because of what was inside, but rather because of the wonderful covers.” The short note in Steward's hand at the bottom requests "no mustache for Phil" if Tom decides to do the cover.

Closes with the sentence, “You are a wonderful treasure for us all.” A touching memento of the relationship between these two pioneers of the representation of Rough Trade in literature and art.
40. [Group of 63 police patches collected by Samuel Steward, some with personal mementos]. A trove of cloth patches from police departments around the country, as well as Canada and Germany, saved by Samuel Steward, whose attraction to burly men in uniform is well documented. Most of the patches have been mounted in cheap plastic Woolworth frames, with a few loose in a paper bag marked "Victor." Also included is a San Francisco PD belt buckle. On one of the plastic 6x8 inch frames, holding a Dallas Police Department patch, the cardboard backing was lost, so Steward has replaced it with a piece of stiff card from a beautifully hand-lettered sign advertising his former tattoo parlor. Whether these patches represent members of those forces with whom Steward had liaisons, or tattoo sessions, or whether he simply collected them in other circumstances, is unclear. However, the possibility of signifying personal contacts is raised by the fact that the Eureka Special Police patch has a small photo of an officer squatting with a gun, presumably a friend of Steward's; the Pinkerton patch has a small color photo of someone's ornate back tattoos; and the Alameda County Sheriff's Department patch is accompanied by a small Deputy Sheriff badge. Separately framed, without a patch is a portrait of a Minneapolis police officer, with two additional photos of the same officer hidden behind it in the frame. Justin Spring writes that in the winter of 1963-1964, "The highlight of Steward's lonely Wisconsin winter was sex with a Milwaukee police officer in full uniform--Jim Brashin, 'a tall handsome young man, rather slender, for whom every
attractive police uniform in the world seemed to have been designed.' Steward later wrote that I tattooed him ... That uniform of his which he wore so jauntily ... made me foolish enough to spend a considerable amount on Jim-baby" (Spring p. 311). We have not been able to find any photos identifiable as Jim Brashin (probably a pseudonym), so we cannot say with certainty, but this is probably the individual shown in these portraits, which were taken in uniform inside of Steward's tattoo parlor. (#312708) $950.00

(Note: Frames are all the same size, despite differences as laid out here for space).

42. Steward, Samuel; edited by Jeremy Mulderig. Philip Sparrow Tells All: Lost Essays by Samuel Steward, Writer, Professor, Tattoo Artist. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2015. xvi, 244p. paperback, minor shelfwear. Inscribed by the editor to Michael [Williams], the executor of Steward's estate, thanking him for his assistance. (#312793) $25.00

Essays from the Illinois Dental Journal, where Steward published pieces saturated with humor and erudition under his Phil Sparrow pseudonym in the 1940s - years before his infamous Phil Andros stories. Foreword by Justin Spring.


44. Andros, Phil [pseudonym of Samuel M. Steward], translated by Olaf Herrmann, cover art by Tom of Finland. Männersache: [Below the Belt]. Berlin: Albino/Bruno Gmunder Verlag, 1992. 193p., first German edition, text in German, very good trade paperback in pictorial wraps. (#309165) $45

Originally published as "Below the Belt" and written, as Andros states in the intro, "before AIDS so - play safe." Short stories.

45. Andros, Phil [pseudonym of Samuel M. Steward], translated by Martin Rometsch, cover art by Tom of Finland. Heisse Ware. Berlin: Albino, 1994. 191p., first German translation of Shuttlecock, very good trade paperback in pictorial wraps. (#71545) $25.00


Original artwork by Steward

48. [Steward, Samuel]. Shore Leave [oil painting]. [Chicago], 1949. 16x12 inch painting depicting two men in bed, one of them a sailor with parts of his Navy uniform scattered around the room. Notation in green pencil on the blank verso: "/#3. 2-18-49. Shore leave." Unsigned. (#312764) SOLD

49. [Steward, Samuel]. In the Name of God [oil painting]. [Chicago], 1949. 24x18 inch painting depicting a torture chamber in which a bound prisoner is being flogged, while hooded monks lurk in the background. There is a minor paper adhesion in an inverted L shape near one of the monks, probably removable with care. Notation in green pencil on the verso: "#6. In the Name of God. 4-25-49." Unsigned. (#312772) $750.00

51. [Steward, Samuel]. [Two rough trade sketches]. n.p., 1953. Two 6x8 inch pieces of stiff scratchboard, each of which has a sketch in ink, with texture added by scratching white lines across the inked portions. One depicts three leathermen at a bar (dated in pencil 10-10-53 on the back); the other depicts a fellow in similar attire getting serviced by a nude man at the edge of a bed (dated 10-20-53). Unsigned. (#312629) **SOLD**
52. [Steward, Samuel]. [Untitled watercolor]. [Chicago], 1951. 9x15 inch sketch on illustration board, some smudges of color, especially above the head of the subject. Dated on the blank verso: "7-25-51." Unsigned. (#312768) SOLD

53. [Steward, Samuel]. [Oil painting]. [Chicago], 1952. 18x24 inch painting depicting two men preparing for a liaison, one washing in the bathroom while the other takes off his Navy uniform while sitting on the edge of the bed. Notation in pencil on the verso: "Begun 4-25-52." Unsigned. (#312771) SOLD
54. Sparrow, Phil [Samuel Steward]. [Untitled sketch]. [Chicago], 1951. 11x13.75 inch work on scratchboard (black surface scratched away to create lines in white), depicting one man going down on another in a darkened room with the door ajar. Signed "Sparrow 51" among the wrinkles on a discarded garment beneath the bed. Surface is foxed, though not especially obvious unless seen closely because of the black field. (#312770) SOLD
55. Steward, Samuel. [Portrait of Johnny Reyes]. [Chicago], 1963. 11.5x15.5 inch oil painting on canvas, mounted in a wooden frame. Signed “Steward 1963.” Secreted in the back of the frame (now protected by a plastic sleeve) your humble cataloger found a small black and white photograph of Reyes. (#312763) $2,500.00

Reyes (probably a pseudonym), a young Latino hustler and musician whom Steward met through Chuck Renslow in the early 1950s, became not only a frequent sexual liaison, but a valued friend for Steward for about a decade. This portrait was painted not long before Steward pulled up his Chicago roots and moved to Berkeley. In Spring's biography it is noted as one of three "surprisingly successful" portraits that Steward finished at this time, the others being of Milwaukee policeman Jim Brashin and the artist Dom Orejudos (Spring p. 312). Steward retained it until the end of his life, after which it was displayed for years on the wall of his friend Michael Williams.
56. Steward, Samuel. Ex Libris Steward [draft for a bookplate]. [Chicago], n.d.. 5.75x8.75 inch card with hand-drawn depiction of an insect in a swing; text around the edge (apparently typewritten) is a quote from Blake: "The Door of Death I open found, And the Worm weaving in the ground: Thou'rt my Mother, from the Womb, Wife, Sister, Daughter, to the Tomb." It is unclear whether the creature depicted is the worm from the tomb, or a silverfish, perhaps more suited to a bookplate. The design originally included Steward's initials S.M. to the right of the insect, but they have been blacked out. Scattered foxing, some edge chipping at lower left edge. (#312820) $500.00
We have not seen an example of this design used as an actual bookplate in any of Steward's books; it may have been an unrealized draft.
57. Ullman, S. George. Valentino as I knew him [Samuel Steward's copy]. New York: Macy-Masius, 1926. 218p. hardcover, a rather shelfworn example, but with the ownership signature "Sam M. Steward, April 18, 1927" on the front free endpaper. (#312790) SOLD
In an interview with Carl Maves, published as "Valentino's pubic hair and me" in The Advocate, June 6, 1989, Samuel Steward describes his sexual encounter with the movie star Rudolph Valentino after soliciting his autograph. The swatch of pubic hair that the young Steward saved as a memento was preserved in a faux reliquary (which still exists, in a private collection). Valentino died of appendicitis soon after this incident, but the experience remained larger than life for Steward, so it is no surprise that he would have obtained this biography of the star in the year after his death. Steward was 17 years old when he signed and dated this book.

58. Castiglione, Baldassarre. The book of the courtier [with bookplate of Samuel Steward]. London; New York: J.M Dent & Sons; E.P. Dutton &Co., n.d.. xviii, [2], 324 pages, the standard Everyman edition with spine darkened; a nondescript example except for the presence an "Ex Libris S.M. Steward" bookplate inside the front cover. Everyman's Library No. 807. (#312685) $100.00
This melodrama caused a stir on Broadway with its frank depiction of a lesbian character, Irène, tormented by her love for another woman while going through the motions of an engagement with a man. Acting New York mayor Joseph McKee ordered the arrest of the cast in 1927, along with the cast of Mae West's play Sex. The campaign against these and other plays resulted in the Wales Padlock Act, which effectively banned depictions of homosexuality on stage in New York.

60. Craig, Hardin; Joseph M Thomas. English Prose of the Nineteenth Century [from the library of Samuel Steward]. New York: F.S. Crofts, 1929. xi, 831 pages, hardcover; "Steward 1951" penned on front free endpaper. Occasional marginalia; also laid in are several typed notecards for one of Steward's lectures on "Trends in modern literature" (cards present are 1-4, 7, 8). (#312681) $175.00
62. Joyce, James. A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man [with bookplate of Samuel Steward]. New York: Modern Library, 1928. xii, 299p., hardcover; a nondescript example of this edition, but for the fact that inside the front cover is a bookplate, "Ex Libris S.M. Steward." Minor pencil notes in Steward's hand inside the rear cover. (#312831) $100.00

63. Mathers, E Powys. Sung to Shahryar: Poems from the Book of the Thousand Nights and One Night [with Samuel Steward's bookplate]. New York: Albert and Charles Boni, 1925. 108p. hardcover, very good, in the tattered remains of a dustjacket, now held together under Mylar. Inside the front cover is a bookplate, "Ex Libris S.M. Steward." (#312823) $100.00

64. Smith, Eric F. A dictionary of dates brought down to the present day [with bookplate of Samuel M. Steward]. London; New York: J.M Dent & Sons; E.P. Dutton &Co., 1928. viii, 339 pages, the standard Everyman edition with some fraying at top of spine; a nondescript example except for the presence an "Ex Libris S.M. Steward" bookplate inside the front cover and his penned signature inside the rear cover. Everyman's Library No. 554. (#312686) $125.00
65. [Musser, Benjamin]. The strange confession of Monsieur Mountcairn [with Samuel Steward's bookplate]. N.p.: Privately printed by J. A. Nocross, 1928. 146p. hardcover, numbered 47 of 750 copies, very good with minor wear to corners; in the original faux-woodgrain design slipcase which is quite worn with old tape repairs. Inside the front cover is a bookplate, "Ex Libris S.M. Steward." (#312791) $950.00 Justin Spring claims that "J.A. Nocross" was the pseudonym for Benjamin Musser, giving him credit as the actual author and publisher. Musser financed Steward's first self-published book, "Pan and the fire-bird." Musser, himself a minor poet and closeted homosexual, published two small magazines; "Contemporary Verse" and "JAPM". The October 1929 issue of CV contains an early poem by Steward, whom Musser introduced to a wide range of poets during romantic visits to his beach house in Margate. (See Spring, pp. 20-22).

67. Semper, I.J. A Shakspere study guide [from the library of Samuel Steward]. New York: The Century Co., 1931. viii, 204 pages, hardcover; without Steward's bookplate or ownership signature but with his handwritten notes on several pages, with numerous additional scraps of notepaper laid in reflecting his teaching of these texts at DePaul University. Also laid in is a mimeographed letter addressed to Steward as head of the Fine Arts Club, inviting him to a school social event called "Fantasy in Frost." Perhaps most ironically, considering Steward's later career, there are two mimeographed notes assigning a student, Thomas Sharkey, to recite prayers in his class. (#312673) SOLD

68. Wordsworth, William; George McLean Harper; Thomas Hutchinson. The poetical works of Wordsworth [from the library of Samuel Steward]. New York: Oxford University Press, 1933. 992p. compact hardcover, minor shelfwear, inscribed on front free endpaper "S.M. Steward, June 1938." Occasional pen marginalia, such as criticism of a poem as "namby-pamby," or a note about stanzas supporting the French Revolution, though most markings are simply intended to emphasize particular passages. (#312676) SOLD

Steward was teaching at Loyola during the 1938 summer vacation; he might have acquired this tome for teaching or for pleasure.
69. Mann, Thomas. Translated by H.T. Lowe-Porter. Introduction by Ludwig Lewisohn. Death in Venice [with bookplate of Samuel M. Steward]. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1930. xv, 151p. hardcover, very good, in a chipped and torn dust jacket; "Ex Libris S.M. Steward" bookplate on front free endpaper. First American edition of this translation, though Kenneth Burke's translation had been published in 1925 by Knopf. (#312660) SOLD. Steward had gone to significant trouble to meet Thomas Mann, whose work he greatly respected, during a 1937 visit to Switzerland. Steward later wrote of this encounter, "With what nervous heart and dryness of mouth I followed him upstairs to his study, to spend the hours alone in talking! ... Had I but known for sure that my instincts about [his sexuality] were true, who can say that I might not have laid a hand on his knee, or put my arm around his waist?" (Steward, "A visit with Thomas Mann," cited in Spring, p. 53).

70. Jackson, Charles. The Fall of Valor [from the library of Samuel Steward]. New York: Rinehart & Co., 1946. 310p., first edition hardcover in mildly worn dust jacket with a closed edge tear. "S.M. Steward, November 1946" penned inside front cover. Unlike the other books from this collection, this one has a slight musty odor. Young 1986*. (#312692) $100.00

Justin Spring notes that by the late 1940s, Steward was collecting contemporary literary fiction related to the homosexual experience. “Photographs of the apartment at the Kinsey Institute show bookcases full of hardcover first editions of contemporary novels such as James Barr's Quatrefoil, Charles Jackson's The Fall of Valor, and other literary novels and short-story collections that were addressing the topic of homosexuality much more capably than anything that had appeared from American publishers in the previous decade.” (Spring p. 107).

71. Jackson, Charles. The lost weekend [from the library of Samuel Steward]. New York: Farrar & Rinehart, 1944. 244p. hardcover, shelfworn, some stains to the cloth; a nondescript example except for the fact that "Steward 1944" is penned inside front cover. Laid in is a newspaper clipping about Charles Jackson's tenth anniversary of abstinence from alcohol, dated in Steward's hand 10-19-46.

Steward, who had long struggled with alcoholism, had his own last drink in 1947. (#312802) $75.00

73. Haimsohn, George [uncredited] illustrated by Dom Orejudas [uncredited]. The Gay Coloring Book [inscribed to Phil Sparrow (Samuel Steward)]. Washington: Guild Press, 1964. 34p., 8x9.75 inches, campy coloring book in stapled yellow card pictorial covers, rear cover partly creased. Penned inscription inside front cover reads, "Dedicated to the 'color-est' of us all - P. Sparrow. Stephen." Stephen, along with Etienne, were names used by the illustrator Dom Orejudas. Phil Sparrow was, of course, the name used by Steward in his tattooing career. (#21611) SOLD

Haimsohn was the co-author of "Dames at Sea" which was the high point of gay Off-Off Broadway Theatre and the springboard for Bernadette Peters' career. He also shot photos in Greenwich Village as "Plato."