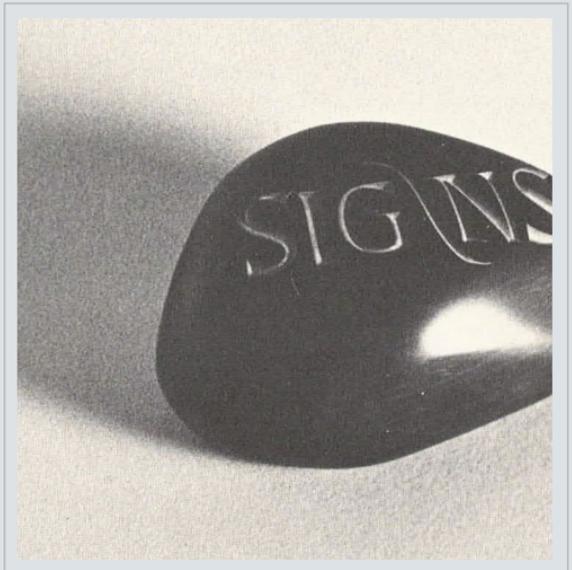


IAN HAMILTON FINLAY

A short list



IAN HAMILTON FINLAY

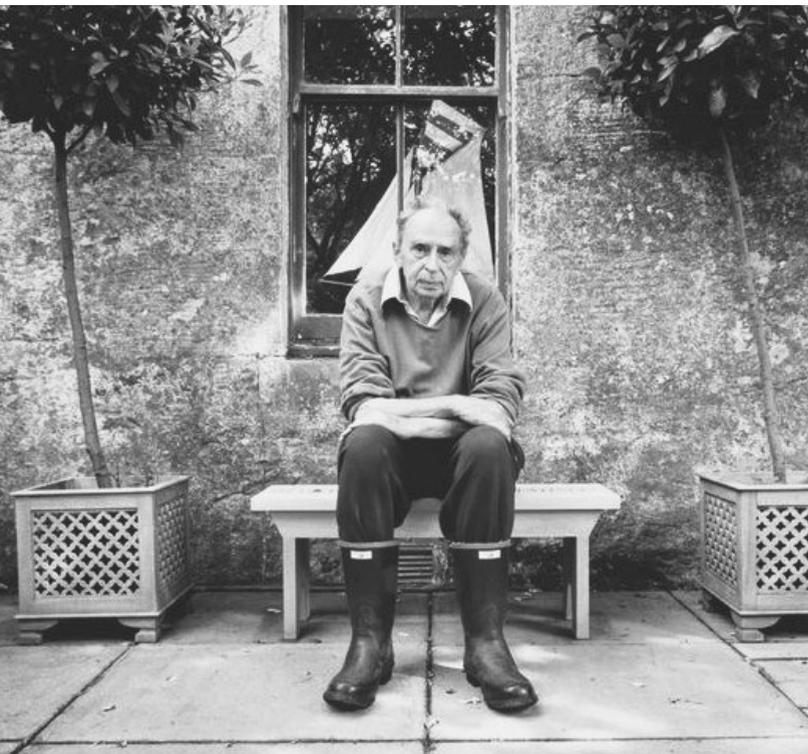
A short list • October 2023

SIMS REED | RARE BOOKS

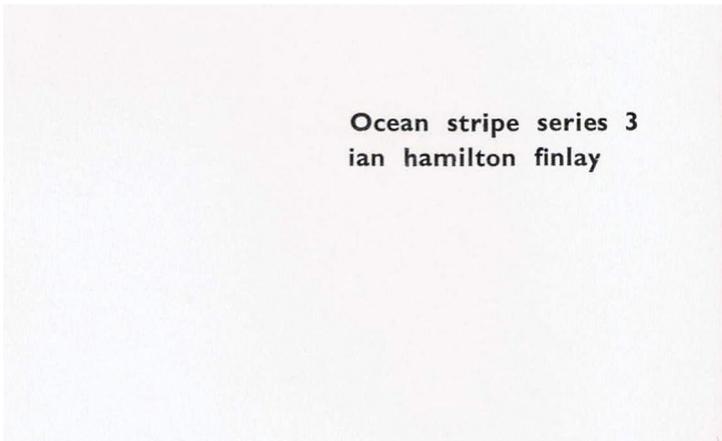
43a Duke Street St. James's
London SW1Y 6DD

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- 2 Glasgow Beasts, an a burd (1965)
- 3 Air Letters (1968)
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- 5 An archive of correspondence (1975–88)
- 6 Homage to pop art (1975) — *postcard*
- 7 Marionette (1) (1975) — *postcard*
- 8 Unnatural Pebbles (1981)
- 9 The Anaximander Fragment (1981)
- 10 Epicurus at Chatou (1985)
- 11 Homage to Ian Hamilton Finlay (1987)
- 12 The Little Critic 4 (1988)
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(Left):
Ian Hamilton Finlay by Norman McBeath, 2003
(National Galleries of Scotland)



Ocean stripe series 3
ian hamilton finlay



[01]. Ocean Stripe Series 3
EDINBURGH. WILD HAWTHORN PRESS
1965

The rarest volume in Finlay's 'Ocean Stripe' series.

£1,250

The kinetic booklets in the 'Ocean and Canal Stripe Series' were an innovation of Finlay's at the Wild Hawthorn Press, and an important contribution to concrete poetry and the artist book.

'Ocean Stripe Series 3' is an artist book inspired by the story of Noah, in which, after repetitions of the word 'ark', a lyrically beautiful rainbow of die-cut coloured papers is announced.

Loosely inserted sheet, with printed passage from Genesis 9:13: 'I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token for a covenant between me and the earth...'

Large 8vo. (205 × 130 mm). [10 leaves]. Title page, 3 leaves with 'arc' printed recto only followed by 3 leaves of red, yellow and blue tissue. Mimeographed leaf of text is inserted loose. Original publisher's white stapled wrappers with titles printed in black to the dust jacket.



REF: Moeglin-Delcroix - Esthétique du livre d'artiste. pp. 60, 66, 373; Yves Abrioux - Ian Hamilton Finlay. A visual primer, p. 19 (illus.).

[01]. — *cont.*

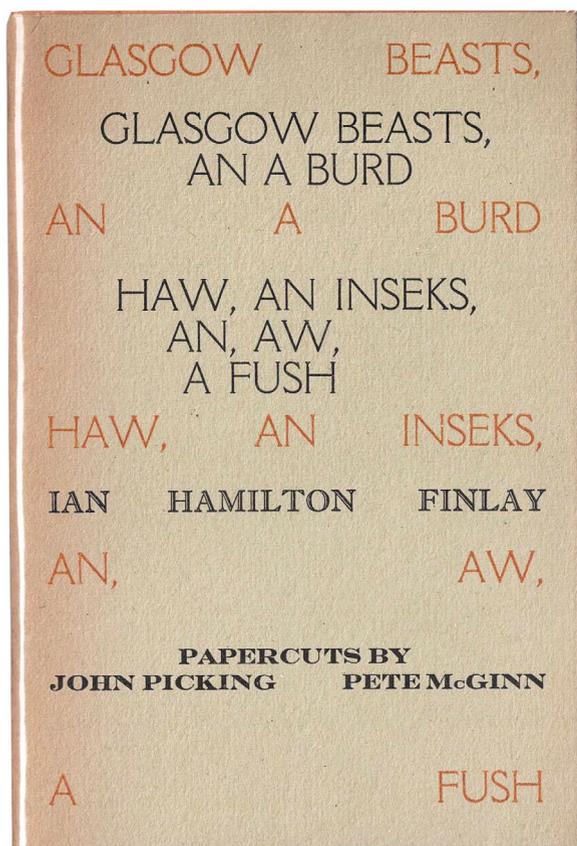


"I do set my bow in
the cloud, and it shall
be for a token of a
covenant between me and
the earth.

And it shall come to pass,
when I bring a cloud
over the earth, that the
bow shall be seen in
the cloud:

And I will remember my
covenant, which is between
me and you and every living
creature of all flesh; and
the waters shall no more
become a flood to destroy
all flesh."

- Genesis 2 13-15



[02]. Glasgow Beasts, an a burd
LONDON. FULCRUM PRESS / WILD
FLOUNDER PRESS
1965

A good copy of Ian Hamilton Finlay's second collection of poetry written in broad Glaswegian.

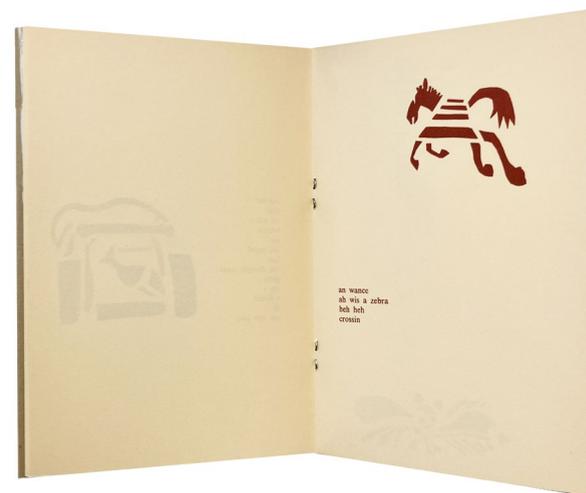
£75

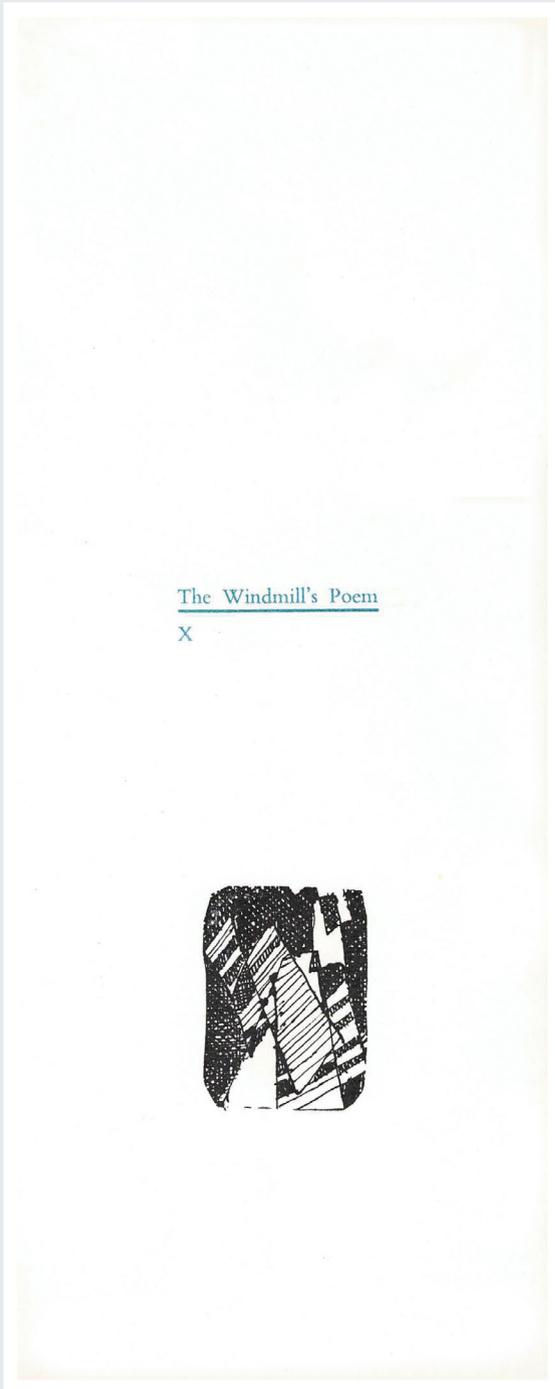
Hugh MacDiarmid described the collection (first published in 1961) as written 'in the language of the gutter', but it soon sold out and four later editions were issued within the next three years.

Designed by Pete McGinn.

Some minor browning to the spine of the dust jacket.

8vo. (172 × 117 mm). Papercut reproductions by John Pickering. Original publisher's stapled orange wrappers with dust jacket bearing typographic title design in red and black.





[03]. Air Letters
(NOTTINGHAM). TARASQUE PRESS
1968

A good copy of this early Finlay artist book.

£125

Tarasque Press was the creation of Stuart Mills and Simon Cutts (Coracle). Together with Finlay's own Wild Hawthorn Press, they were at the centre of a thriving small publisher's / concrete poetry scene in England, Scotland and Ireland.

The 8 Finlay poems comprise: The Sunset's Poem, The Forest's Poem, The Water-Mirror's Poem, The Windmill's Poem, The Rain and Mist's Poem, The Pollen's Poem, The River's Poem, The Dawn's Poem.

Drawings by Robert Frame.

Very minor soiling to the dust jacket.

*Tall 4to. (257 × 104 mm).
[10 unnumbered leaves]. With
8 monochromatic reproduction
drawings by Robert Frame;
Finlay's poems printed in blue.
Original publisher's stapled
blue wrappers with letterpress
titles in blue to dust jacket.*



[04]. Family Group

DUNSYRE. WILD HAWTHORN PRESS

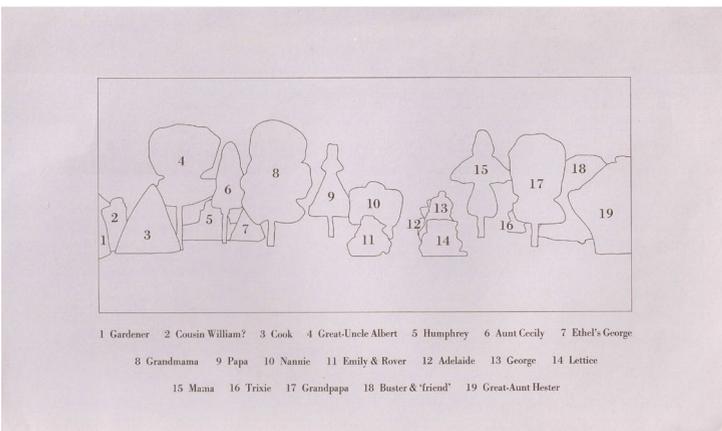
1973

A very good copy of Finlay's 'Family Group'.

£90

The work, which is from an unknown edition size, was a collaboration with Karl Torok.

Oblong 4to. (260 × 155 mm). Tipped-in reproduction of a topiary watercolour to the inside of the folder, with a loose lilac coloured sheet printed with an annotated diagram of the painting, giving family names for the different hedges. Loose as issued in original publisher's white wrappers with printed titles.



ENVELOPE 02 (MARCH 1980)
STAMPED 'FREE ARTS'

— Stapled A4 text on 'Nature Over Again After Poussin', an exhibition 'for hire'. Plan of the exhibition plinth at rear.

— Free Arts form and preliminary leaflet (with manuscript addresses).

— 2 further copies of the Free Arts form.

All envelopes bear the stamp mark 'Lanark'.

ENVELOPE 03 (MAY, 1981)

— Wild Hawthorn Press list of New Publications (1981–82) comprising 'Books and Booklets', 'Cards and Folding Cards', and 'Badges'. (With note from Sue Finlay to top: 'Just to keep in touch + up to date').

— 'The Forest and the Revolution' exhibition announcement printed in green ink on cream laid paper, an exhibition at Stonypath Garden and Garden Temple (May–October 1981). 'Note for Visitors' inserted loose.

ENVELOPE 04 (JUNE, 1983)

— Wild Hawthorn Press list of New Publications (1978–1980). (Possibly from an earlier mailing).

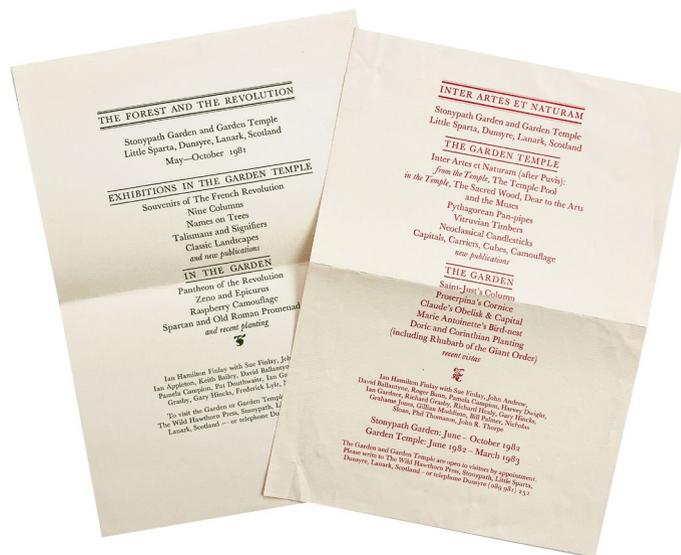
— Stapled A4 photocopy titled 'Heroic Ephemera: Publications from The Little Spartan War (up to 25.4.83).

— 'Inter Artes et Naturam' exhibition announcement from Stonypath Garden, printed in re on cream laid paper.

ENVELOPE 05 (AUGUST 1985)

— Glossy coloured dust jacket proof for 'Ian Hamilton Finlay: A visual primer' by Yves Abrioux.

— Stapled list with 'Heroic Ephemera' and 'New Publications 1984–85'.



Our new list —

The Wild Hawthorn Press, Stonypath, Little Sparta, Dunyre,
Lanark, Scotland

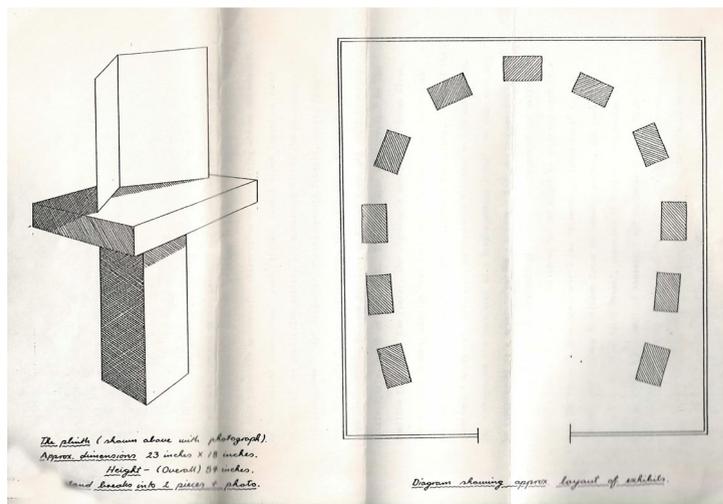
New Publications, 1978 - 1980

Books, Booklets and Publications in Folders

<u>Trailblazers</u> , Ian Hamilton Finlay with drawings by C. Tissiman	price 50P.
<u>Homage to Poussin</u> , Ian Hamilton Finlay with drawings by John Borg Manduca	price £2.00
<u>Peterhead Fragments</u> , Ian Hamilton Finlay with drawings by Margot Sandeman	price 23.00
<u>"S F"</u> , Ian Hamilton Finlay with George L. Thomson	price 24.00
<u>Drazen</u> , Ian Hamilton Finlay with John Borg Manduca	price 25.00
<u>Two Billows</u> , Ian Hamilton Finlay (a variation on Henry Vaughan)	price 50P.
<u>Bois d'Amour - Homage to Sérusier</u> , Ian Hamilton Finlay	price 75P.
<u>Christmas folder 1977</u> , Ian Hamilton Finlay with Porphyry and Ron Costley. Published by the Graeme Surray Gallery.	price 25.00
<u>Woods and Seas</u> , a selection of cards and folding cards on this theme - price variable according to contents.	

Cards and Folding Cards

<u>Wordsworth/Wadsworth</u> , Ian Hamilton Finlay with Jim Downie	price 25P.
<u>Marionette 1</u> , Ian Hamilton Finlay with Dave Paterson	price 15P.
<u>Marionette 2</u> , Ian Hamilton Finlay with Dave Paterson	price 15P.
<u>Betula Pendula 2</u> , Ian Hamilton Finlay with Gary Hincks	price 15P.
<u>Fersevers</u> , Ian Hamilton Finlay	price 10P.
<u>Counter-Argument</u> , Ian Hamilton Finlay	price 10P.
<u>'Auch ich war in Arkadien...'</u> , Ian Hamilton Finlay	price 15P.
<u>Some Versions of Pastoral</u> , Ian Hamilton Finlay with Gary Hincks	price 15P.
<u>Handley Page Heyford / English Hay-Marge</u> , Ian Hamilton Finlay with Gary Hincks	price 15P.
<u>Leaf / Bark Bookmark</u> , Ian Hamilton Finlay	price 15P.
<u>A Woodland Flute</u> , Ian Hamilton Finlay with Ron Costley	price 25P.
<u>Butterfly</u> , Ian Hamilton Finlay with Ivy Sky Rutzky	price 10P.
<u>Reply Card</u> , Ian Hamilton Finlay	price 15P.



ENVELOPE 06 (JAN 1987)

— Stapled bibliography of Ian Hamilton Finlay/Wild Hawthorn Press (2 pages); 'Books and booklets', 'Cards and folding cards', 'Poem/prints', 'Miscellaneous' and 'Proposals', 'Books and exhibition catalogues'.

ENVELOPE 07 (MAY 1988)

— 'New Publications' (Autumn 1987)
— Stapled bibliography of Ian Hamilton Finlay / Wild Hawthorn Press: 'Books and booklets', and 'Cards and folding cards'.
— Letter headed 'Little Sparta' from Sue Finlay to Alistair G, regarding accumulated credit in their Free Arts account.
— Two photocopied articles on Finlay (from The Arts Review and the TLS).

ENVELOPE 08 (OCT 1988)

— Photocopied article on Finlay from The Independent
— Stapled 'New Publications' list, 1987/1988 (2 pages).

ENVELOPE 09 (APRIL 1988)

— Photocopied 'Statement From The Delegation, 7th April 1988' produced after the meeting with Monsieur De Lacoste.
— Announcement / Invitation / Press Release: Scottish Arts Council / Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art / Talbot Rice Gallery. A public symposium on Thurs 21 April 1988.
— Photocopied articles re. Finlay's demands for a 'French apology'.

Also included, a book list / order form from Graeme Murray Gallery, Edinburgh (undated) listing publications by Finlay.

Various forms and sizes. Manuscript letters, printed publications lists, price lists and other printed ephemera from Little Sparta. 9 brown envelopes, stamped and mailed.



[06]. Homage to Pop Art
DUNSYRE. WILD HAWTHORN PRESS
(1975)

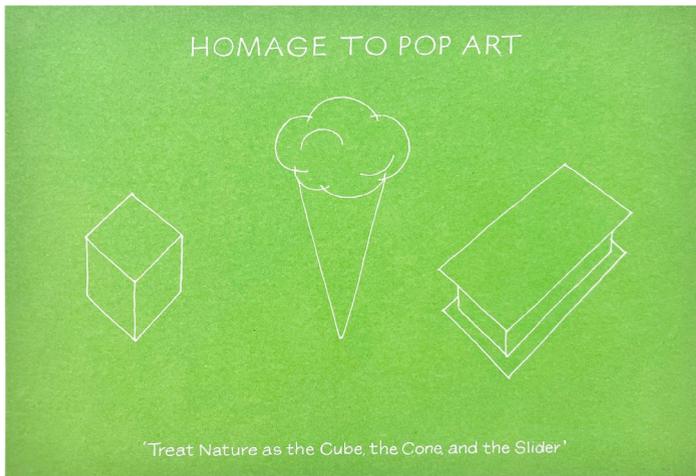
An excellent copy of Ian Hamilton Finlay's
rare 'pop art' postcard.

£150

From the edition limited to 250 copies.

'Treat Nature as the Cube, the Cone, and the Slider.'

Single sheet (105 × 148 mm).



REF: [Murray 4.77].

[07]. Marionette (1)
DUNSYRE. WILD HAWTHORN PRESS
(1978)

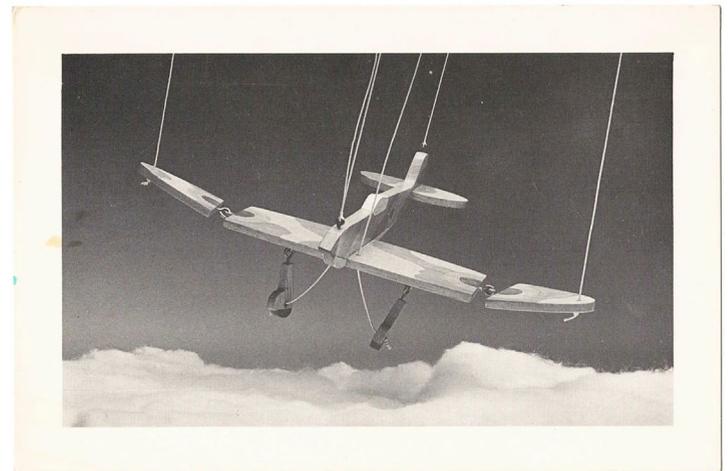
A charming Finlay postcard.

£75

The photograph of Finlay's model 'Marionette (1)'
is taken by Dave Patterson.

The postcard has some minor markings to the left
hand edge.

*Single sheet of card, (104 × 152 mm). Monochrome
image recto, verso blank with printed titles at foot.*

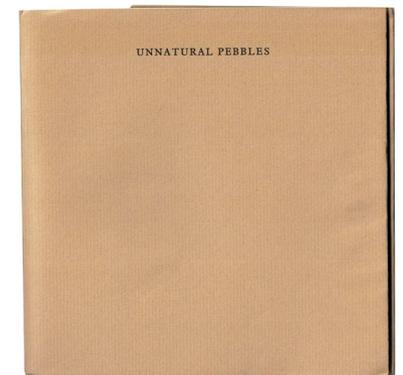
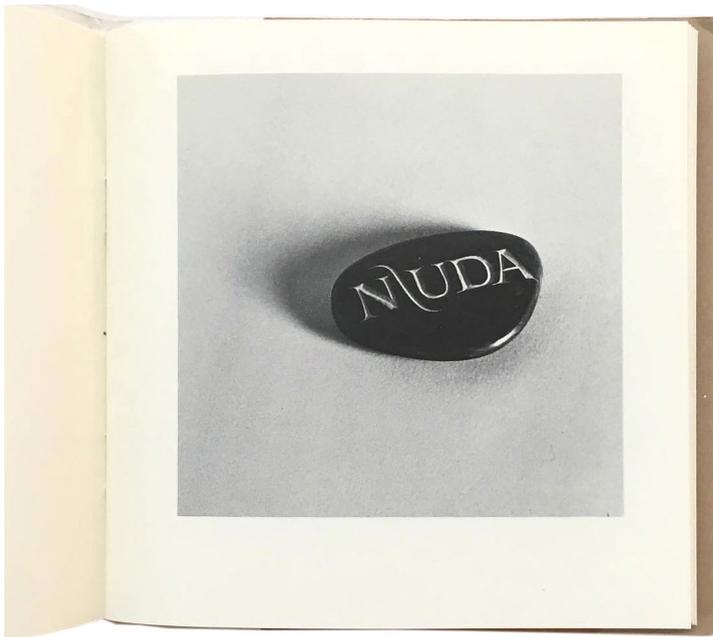
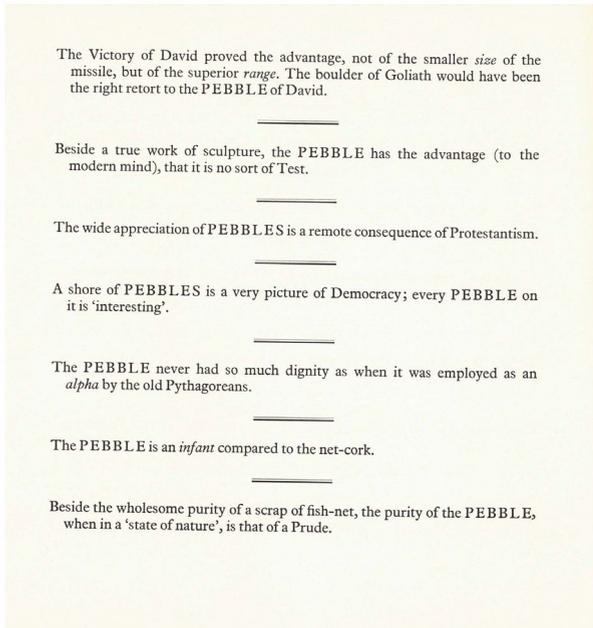


[08]. Unnatural Pebbles
EDINBURGH. GRAEME MURRAY GALLERY
1981

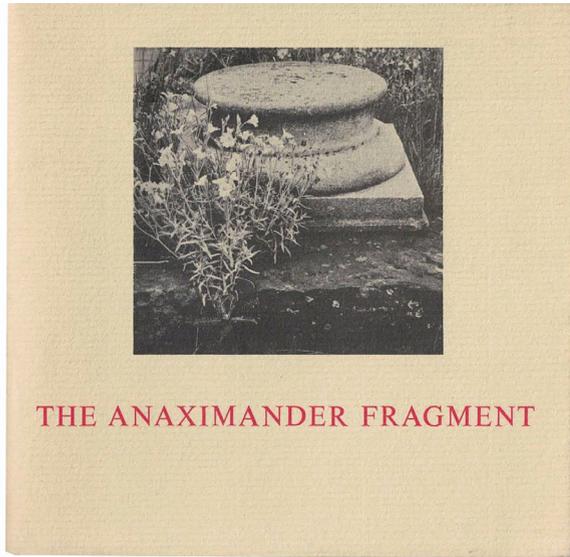
The elegant Finlay artist book / exhibition catalogue £200
'Unnatural Pebbles with Detached Sentences on
the Pebble'.

Published to accompany an exhibition of carved pebbles
(a collaboration between Ian Hamilton Finlay and
Richard Grasby).

*Square 8vo. (163 × 160 mm). pp. 20. Photos of inscribed
rocks paired with philosophical texts. 23 black and
white, some folding. Colour frontispiece. Publisher's
plain wrappers, stapled, with printed dust-jacket.*



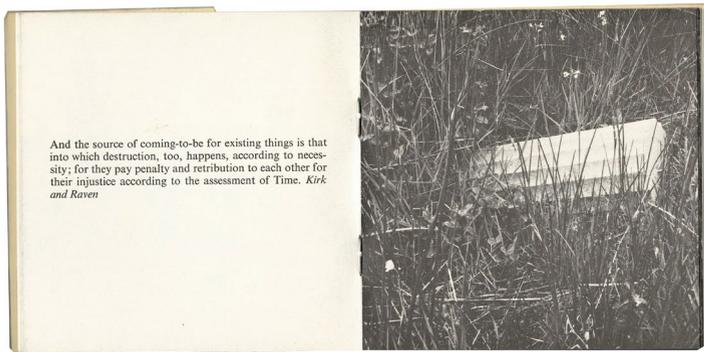
[09]. The Anaximander Fragment
LITTLE SPARTA. WILD HAWTHORN PRESS
1981



Finlay's rare artist book 'The Anaximander Fragment'. £225

The book, a collaboration with Harvey Dwight, presents a compilation of various translations of the lone surviving fragment by Anaximander. Facing each translation is a different image from Ian Hamilton Finlay's 'Little Sparta'.

Square 4to. (117 × 116 mm). (pp. 36). Full-page monochrome illustrations throughout. Original publisher's stapled white wrappers with beige dust jacket, monochrome photograph and titles printed in red.



[10]. Epicurus at Chatou
FLORENCE. EDITIONS EXEMPLA
1985

A signed copy of Ian Hamilton Finlay's rare artist book 'Epicurus at Chatou'.

£350

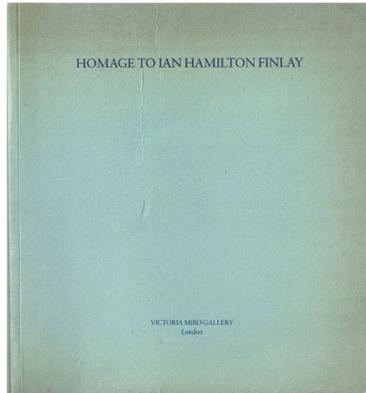
From the edition limited to 350 copies, of which this is one of 150 numbered and signed by Ian Hamilton Finlay in green pen to the colophon.

The lettering is by Finlay's long time collaborator Ron Costley.

Narrow oblong 8vo. (90 × 315 mm). (pp. 12). 8 colour screenprints by Finlay printed recto only in various colours (brown, blue, light brown, pink, red and green). Original publisher's stapled white wrappers with white dust jacket, title printed in black.



[11]. Homage to Ian Hamilton Finlay
LONDON. VICTORIA MIRO GALLERY
1987

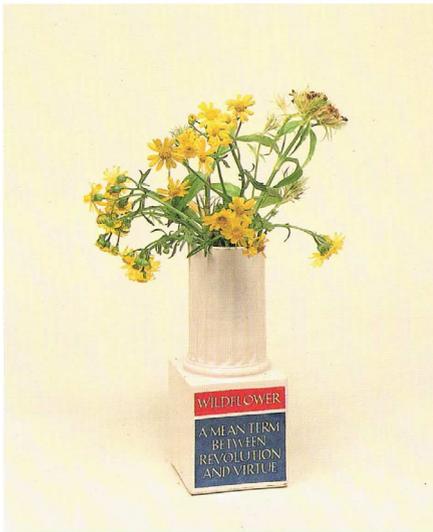


Catalogue for an exhibition of Finlay sculptures
and printed works at Victoria Miro (1987).

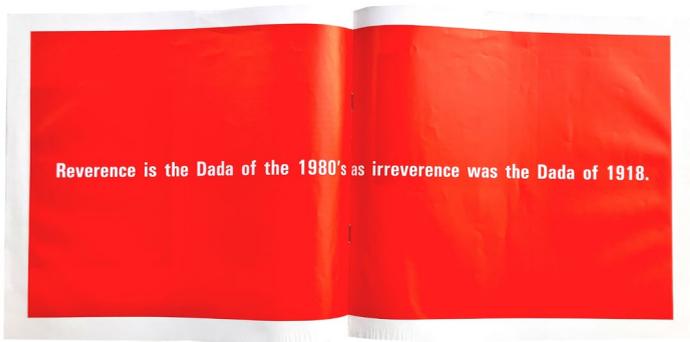
£40

With the usual browning to the edges, and
crease to the centre of the rear cover.

*Square 4to. (168 × 54 mm). pp. 48. 22 colour
illustrations. Original publisher's blue wrappers.*



[12]. The Little Critic. 4.
LONDON. VICTORIA MIRO
1988



A rare unfolded example of the Ian Hamilton Finlay 'Little Critic' issue no. 4.

£35

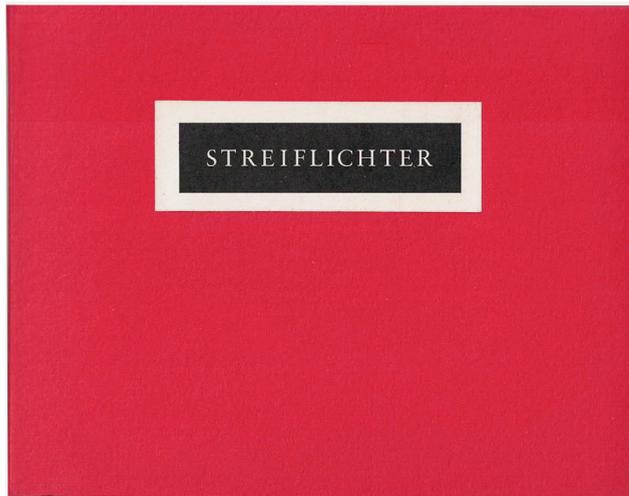
The publication, printed to accompany an exhibition of Finlay works from 29 September – 4 November (1988), is richly illustrated with photographs from 'Inside the Garden at Little Sparta' by Joan Hughson.

With an introductory text by Christopher McIntosh and Katherine Kurs. The centre spread is a large typographic piece: 'Reverence is the Dada of the 1980s as irreverence was the Dada of 1918.'

Some sun damage to front cover and other minor markings.

Large 4to. (310 × 310 mm). [6 unnumbered leaves]. Illustrated throughout in black and white and red. Original publisher's stapled wrappers.





[13]. Streiflichter

NEW YORK / LITTLE SPARTA. NOLAN /
ECKMANN / WILD HAWTHORN PRESS
1994

Ian Hamilton Finlay's artist book / catalogue,
'Streiflichter. Six Inscribed Fragments Concerning
the French Revolution. 1789–1805'.

£150

From the edition limited to 250 copies.

The six tipped-in black-and-white photographs show
Finlay's carved stones (taken by Antonia Reeve).

'Duty requires us to transfigure history.'
(Siegfried Blasche)

*8vo. (105 × 130 mm). [10 unnumbered leaves]. Pictorial
endpapers plus six tipped-in monochromatic plates.
Original publisher's sewn white wrappers with red
dust jacket, label bearing title pasted to centre.*



SEAPINK

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