



News

Release

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Salisbury House Marks Iowa Museum Week by Unveiling James Joyce Rarities to the Public.

DES MOINES, IA – On June 7, Governor Terry Branstad signed a proclamation declaring June 11th to June 17th to be Iowa Museum Week. Salisbury House & Gardens is pleased to participate in this state-wide celebration of Iowa's cultural and historical treasures by opening a public display of a rare collection of Irish writer James Joyce's books, including some of the most important items within Salisbury House's world-class library collection.

Salisbury House has chosen to highlight the James Joyce works during Iowa Museum Week to recognize Bloomsday, the global observation of the date (June 16, 1904) when Leopold Bloom's fictional passage through a Dublin day was rendered epic via Joyce's hugely-influential novel, *Ulysses*.

"The library at Salisbury House is truly one of Des Moines' greatest cultural assets, though it has received neither the public nor scholarly attention that our architecture and art have garnered over the years," says Salisbury House Foundation Executive Director J. Eric Smith. "It's a delight to be able to focus on this under-appreciated resource in honor of Iowa Museum Week, and I am particularly pleased to join in the international celebration of Bloomsday by sharing some fascinating, rarely-seen James Joyce works. While Joyce is often viewed as inscrutable and dense, the playfulness with which he deconstructs character, story, and even language itself allows his works to resonate deeply to this day with readers from a wealth of cultures and literary traditions."

Joyce-related items to be displayed at Salisbury House from June 11 to June 30 will include:

- ◆ *Ulysses*: Shakespeare & Co. edition, published in Paris, number 500 of 750 first edition copies, bound with elaborate morocco binding by Soysia Rovelli, in the original wraps, 1922.
- ◆ *Ulysses*: Limited Editions Club edition, published in New York, one of 1,500 illustrated and signed by Henri Matisse; this is the only book illustrated by Matisse to be published in the United States, and one of the great collaborations of artist and author in the annals of 20th Century private press publication, 1935.
- ◆ *Collected Poems*: Black Sun Press edition, published in New York, number 11 of 50 copies signed by James Joyce, 1936.
- ◆ *Storiella as She Is Syung*: Corvinus Press edition, published in London, number 157 of 175 copies, a work-in-progress later integrated into *Finnegans Wake*, with illustration by Joyce's daughter, Lucia, 1937
- ◆ *Tales Told of Shem and Shawn*. Black Sun Press edition, published in New York, number 7 of 560 copies, a work-in-progress later integrated into *Finnegans Wake*, in the original wraps, 1929.

Salisbury House will also be offering discounted pricing for new annual members in recognition of Iowa Museum Week. From June 11 to June 30, membership pricing will be reduced to:

- ◆ \$30 Individual Membership
- ◆ \$50 Household Membership
- ◆ \$85 Friendship Level Membership
- ◆ \$100 Friendship Plus Level Membership
- ◆ \$215 Classic Level Membership

Membership benefits apply to tours, gift shop purchases and public programs. Details about the various membership categories are available at salisburyhouse.org. Salisbury House & Gardens is open for self-guided, guided and specialty tours Tuesday through Sunday from 10 am to 5 pm. For additional information about Salisbury House & Gardens, please visit salisburyhouse.org or call (515) 274-1777.

Salisbury House & Gardens is a 42-room historic house museum owned and operated by the Salisbury House Foundation. Built by cosmetics magnate Carl Weeks and his wife, Edith, between 1923 and 1928, the estate house was modeled after the King's House in Salisbury, England. Carl and Edith's collections of international art, furnishings, books and documents largely remain on site, creating an unparalleled experience for lovers and students of architecture, art, history, literature, music, horticulture, sustainability and entrepreneurship.

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