Gregory Corso
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We are pleased to offer a private collection of Gregory Corso material. Corso was born in New York City (as Nunzio Corso) on March 26, 1930. He lived out a horribly difficult childhood, marked by abandonment, abuse, and homelessness, spent some years as a juvenile in prison for theft, before emerging as the youngest (and least celebrated) of the core four members of the Beat Generation – along with Jack Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg, and William S. Burroughs. He died in Minnesota on January 17, 2001.

"…a tough young kid from the Lower East Side who rose like an angel over the roof tops and sang Italian song as sweet as Caruso and Sinatra, but in words…. Amazing and beautiful, Gregory Corso, the one and only Gregory, the Herald." — Jack Kerouac – Introduction to Gasoline

"Corso's a poet's Poet, a poet much superior to me. Pure velvet... whose wild fame's extended for decades around the world from France to China, World Poet. — Allen Ginsberg, "On Corso's Virtues"

"Gregory's voice echoes through a precarious future.... His vitality and resilience always shine through, with a light that is more than human: the immortal light of his Muse.... Gregory is indeed one of the Daddies." — William S. Burroughs

2. **The Vestal Lady On Brattle and Other Poems.** Cambridge: Richard Brukenfeld, 1955. First Edition. 8vo. 35 pp. Corso's scarce first book, signed and inscribed "To Denise (Levertov), our new great poet". Levertov's Somerville, Mass ownership label is fixed to front inside wrap. A superb literary association. As for the book itself, it had a publishing run of 500 copies, only half of which Corso claims arrived in the mail. The original staple-bound wraps are tanned with age. Internally dampstaining affects the lower portion of the pages throughout the book. 1250.


5. Another copy. City Lights Books, 1958. 8th printing. A beat-up stained copy externally, looking the part of the title; stained also on the first few leaves, but clean after that. Fair. 15.


7. Another copy. Later state of this influential poem, with Vestal Lady not advertised on back. Signed by Corso on the front wrapper, and surprisingly scarce thus. Near Fine. 375.


17. **Long Live Man.** [Two sets of proofs]. New Directions, 1962. No binding. Long galley and page proofs. The page proofs are on clean white paper, the cheap paper of the long sheets is browned, as expected. There are some ink marks and deletions to the long sheets. Offered as a pair. 650.


21. Another copy. Sixth printing. Nice copy; signed by Corso on the half-title. Fine. 45


25. Another copy. Folder is torn along the lower portion of front wrap; contents in excellent condition. Very Good+. 400.


27. **10 Times a Poem.** New York: [Poet's Press], 1967. First Edition. Although the limitation is unstated there were 150 copies printed, numbered and signed by Corso, this being #63. Original stapled wraps, with text reproduced from Corso’s holograph poems. Fine. 125.

28. Another copy, this being #137. Fine in original wraps. 125.


31. Another copy, this one marked "hors commerce 10" and signed by Corso. Fine. 275.

32. Another copy, this one marked "Out of Series" and signed by Corso. Fine. 225.
33. *Unmuzzled Ox*. New York: The Print Center, 1973. First Edition. 8vo. Original orange wraps. Edited by Michael Andre. "Contributor's Edition" of 60 numbered copies signed by Corso, this being number 10. Illustrated with black and white photographs. This copy also with a handwritten poem signed by Corso on the front wrap ("A star is as far... "). Also signed by Robert Kelly, Gary Snyder, Rochelle Owens, Donald Ignatow and Marge Piercy by their contributions. Fine. 325.

34. Another copy of the "Contributor's Edition" this being number 35. This copy also with a handwritten poem signed by Corso on the front wrap ("What simple profundities... "). Fine. 175.


36. Another copy, the gilt rhino on the cover rather rubbed, as often. No. 152 of 500 copies signed by Corso on title page. Also has the cast list laid in. Very Good. 150.


42. Another copy of the first edition in cloth. Near Fine + in lightly worn DJ. Signed by Corso on front endpaper. 200.

43. Another copy, this being the simultaneous edition in wrappers. Signed "Gregory Corso with corrections 1983" and corrections in his hand to a number of poems. 200.


47. Another copy, this one unsigned. Near Fine. 50.


52. Another copy. Limited Edition No. 29 of 250 copies Signed by Corso and also signed here by William S. Burroughs (not always the case in the issue of 250). Original cloth in DJ, housed in publisher’s slipcase as issued. Fine in Fine dust jacket. Hardcover. 375.

53. Another copy. This being an Advance Reading Copy. Original yellow pictorial wraps, lettered in black. Signed by both Corso and Burroughs. Scarce ARC. Very Good+. 350.

54. Another copy, this being the first trade edition, cloth issue. Fine in NF DJ. Inscribed and signed by Corso: "I am not God, God is me, is you, is the tree - everything! Mr. Ginsberg!" 300.

55. Another copy, first wrappers issue. Signed in two places by Corso and with a pen and ink color drawing (3 figures w/ flowers and titled “family”). Fine. 300.


58. **Original Manuscript: "Shots of Verse (-from a work in hiatus)"**. Original manuscript signed. Six handwritten pages by Corso. Housed in a manila envelope inscribed “Property of David Greenberg” along with the date, March 19, 1994. The verses show some corrections. The six page “work in hiatus” ends with the lines: "Beneath a sick tree sits Jesus - on his lap an Uzi inciting a hard-on." Corso manuscript material is uncommon on the market. Fine. 3000.