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# BLAKE

N E W S

## The Gates of Paradise

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What shall we do, those of us who manage to reach Malmaison 8 before 10? No papers. No "presentation." But this: Come willing to discuss what goes on in certain puzzling plates--J 99 and J 100; America 4 and 6; Europe, the plate with the cauldron, woman, child. What others? The Arlington Court? I'll put some slides into the projector and be ready to listen.

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*The Gates of Paradise*

Scheduled for publication this month: a facsimile reproduction of the complete *Gates of Paradise*, published for the William Blake Trust by the Trianon Press (Chateau de Boissia, Clairvaux, Jura, France).

Volume 1 includes seventeen preliminary sketches from Blake's *Notebook*, reproduced in facsimile by collotype, together with Sir Geoffrey Keynes's introduction, page-by-page explanation and comparative study of all three stages of the work, and a census of every known copy of the two volumes of engravings. In his illuminating text, Sir Geoffrey has outlined the origins of Blake's project from a series of sixty-four drawings in the *Notebook* which are listed and described. From these drawings Blake chose seventeen which he engraved and issued in 1793 entitled *For Children • The Gates of Paradise*. Later, in about 1818, he re-worked all the plates, adding three and issued them under the title *For the Sexes*. Volume 2 of this edition is a facsimile of the *For Children* series made from the Lessing J. Rosenwald copy in the Library of Congress, and contains additional states of an earlier version. Volume 3 is a facsimile of the Huntington Library copy of *For the Sexes*, together with a number of comparative plates from other sources.

The engravings have been reproduced in facsimile by two-tone collotype with the plate mark impressed from hand-bevelled copper plates. The paper is pure rag Arches Vergé. The edition is limited to 700 copies for sale: 50 copies numbered 1 to 50, containing extra plates and material used in printing the book, are bound in full morocco and presented in a cloth slip-case (49 gns.); 650 copies numbered 51 to 700 are bound in cloth and presented in a cloth-covered slip-case (16 gns.).

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