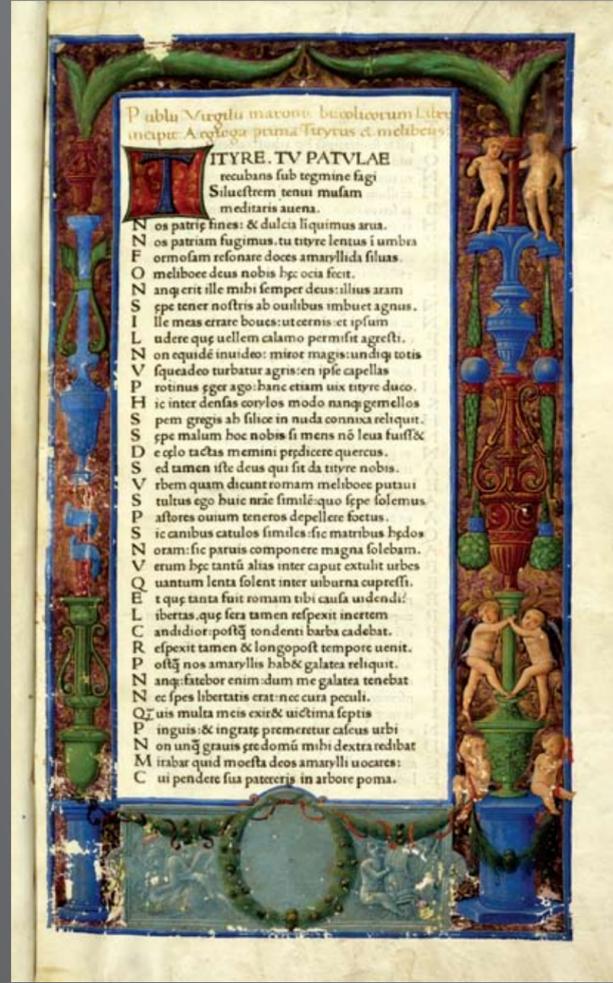




CRAIG KALLENDORF received his Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina, and is Professor of Classics and English and Cornerstone Faculty Fellow at Texas A&M University. His recent books include two Oxford monographs on Virgil: *Virgil and the Myth of Venice: Books and Readers in Renaissance Italy* (1999) and *The Other Virgil: Subversive Readings of the Aeneid in Early Modern Culture* (2007), along with bibliographies of early Italian printed editions of Virgil and of the Aldine collection at the University of Texas. For Oak Knoll Press, he has co-edited *The Books of Venice / Il libro veneziano* (2009) and is working on a complete bibliography of the pre-1850 printed editions of Virgil.



“For a book collector, and that is all I pretend to be, you can readily understand that a collection of editions of [Virgil’s] work covers a large and interesting field. Everyone who had even a small library would be sure to have a Virgil and the large libraries many different editions. The dilettante, as well as the scholar, would have his copy. The result is that the collector can hope to find Virgils that have belonged to people of importance and interest. The publishers ... vied with one another in publishing handsome editions, both as to typography and paper; many were printed on vellum. In each period, the services of the best artists have been called in to illustrate the books; the best binders, to bind copies. We thus have in a collection of Virgils an opportunity to gather together books representative of every period in the history of printing, illustration, and binding, since printing was invented. One may realize the truth of what I have said by examining the Virgils in the Treasure Room of Princeton University Library.”

—Junius Spencer Morgan (1929)



JUNIUS SPENCER MORGAN COLLECTION OF VIRGIL
IN THE PRINCETON UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Kallendorf



A CATALOGUE OF THE JUNIUS SPENCER MORGAN COLLECTION OF VIRGIL IN THE PRINCETON UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Craig Kallendorf



THE JUNIUS SPENCER MORGAN COLLECTION at Princeton University consists of over 700 titles (totaling around 900 volumes) of editions of the Roman poet Virgil (70–19 BC), in Latin and in various vernacular languages. Technically the collection includes items ranging from the first printed edition (Rome, 1469) to the present, but the focus is strongly on material published in the early modern period.

This collection was formed by Junius Spencer Morgan, the nephew of the financier J.P. Morgan. Morgan’s interest in Virgil was undoubtedly encouraged during his student days at Princeton and reflects his efforts to obtain the best copies he could find of items noteworthy for their scholarship, their illustrations, or their place in publishing history. The result is one of the largest collections of early printed editions of Virgil in the world, a collection whose balance and integrity make it the proper beginning place for research in this field. Given Virgil’s central place in western education during the early centuries of printing, the catalogue of the Morgan collection should be of interest to art historians, cultural historians, and historians of education as well as classicists and specialists in printing history and the history of the book.

