

# Einstein's God Letter, First Editions At PBA Galleries February 14

PASADENA, CALIF. — A rare and important letter from Albert Einstein, shedding light on his concept of God's existence, will be on the auction block Sunday, February 14, at 8 am, in the Cordova Room of the Pasadena Sheraton, during the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America Book Fair next door.

Written late in his life — Einstein was to pass away less than two years later at age 76 — the letter is a concise and reasoned declaration in which Albert Einstein categorically denies the value of the God concept for physics, a statement that reveals the philosophical reasoning behind Einstein's denial.

An end-of-life statement, the letter is Einstein's final reasoned and mature view of the topic, and thus of great significance (\$60/90,000). As a famous scientist, Einstein was often asked to make public pronouncements about God and his own religious views.

Written in response to a brash college student who asked him if he had ever resolved "the question of the existence of God in the perceivable universe," the letter is characteristic of Einstein's best problem solving and exhibits a new turn of reasoning not found in Einstein's earlier statements about God. Einstein writes, in part, "The question should rather be: How far is it reasonable and justifiable to assume the existence of an unperceivable being? I see no justification for the introduction of such a concept. In any case, it does not facilitate the understand-

ing of the orderliness we find in the perceivable world..."

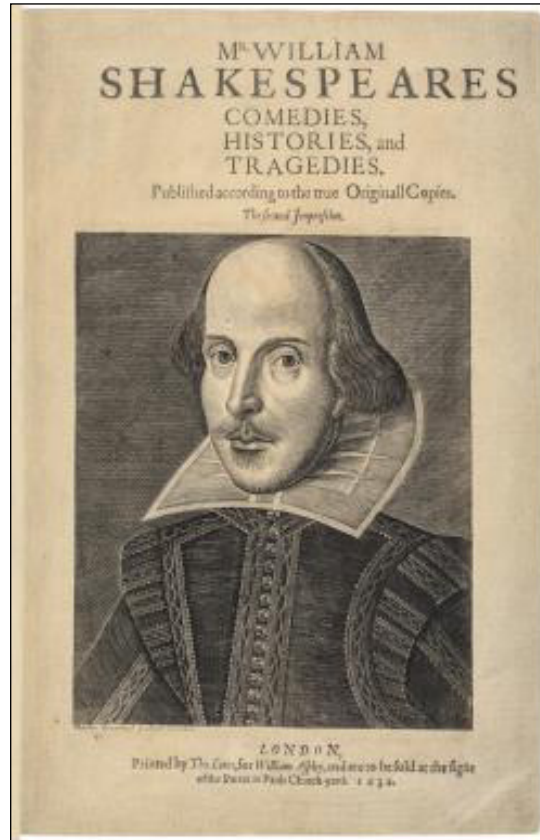
Also on offer are a second folio edition of William Shakespeare's *Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies*, 1632, with John Milton's "Epitaph" (\$200/300,000); an important archive of 26 manuscript letters signed by King Philip IV of Spain to Louis Enriquez de Guzmán, 9th Count of Alba de Liste, his viceroy in New Spain, 1651-1653, with instructions for governing the colony (\$80/120,000) and a first edition set of Denis Diderot's *Encyclopédie, ou dictionnaire raisonné des sciences*, 35 folio volumes, 1751-1780 (\$40/60,000).

Rounding out the auction will be an original drawing by Lewis Carroll in illustration of *The Hunting of the Snark*, and an autograph letter from him to the book's illustrator critiquing his designs (\$30/50,000); a first edition of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, in the original cloth, with an autograph sentiment signed by Harriet Beecher Stowe mounted on front endpaper (\$12/18,000), two bound volumes from the mid-Nineteenth Century with hand painted illustrations demonstrating Chinese military formations and tactics at the time of the Opium Wars and ongoing internal conflict (\$7/10,000).

Also on offer are two seminal articles describing the DNA molecule, in their original journal format of weekly issues of *Nature* magazine, 1953, each signed by co-authors James Watson and Francis Crick (\$20/30,000).

The Sheraton is at 303 East Cordova Street next door to

**Important archive of 26 letters from King Philip IV of Spain to Louis Enriquez de Guzmán, 9th Count of Alba de Liste, his viceroy in Mexico, written February 1651-February 1653 (\$80/120,000).**



**Second folio of Shakespeare's *Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies*, 1632, having John Milton's "Epitaph," his first printed work (\$200/300,000).**

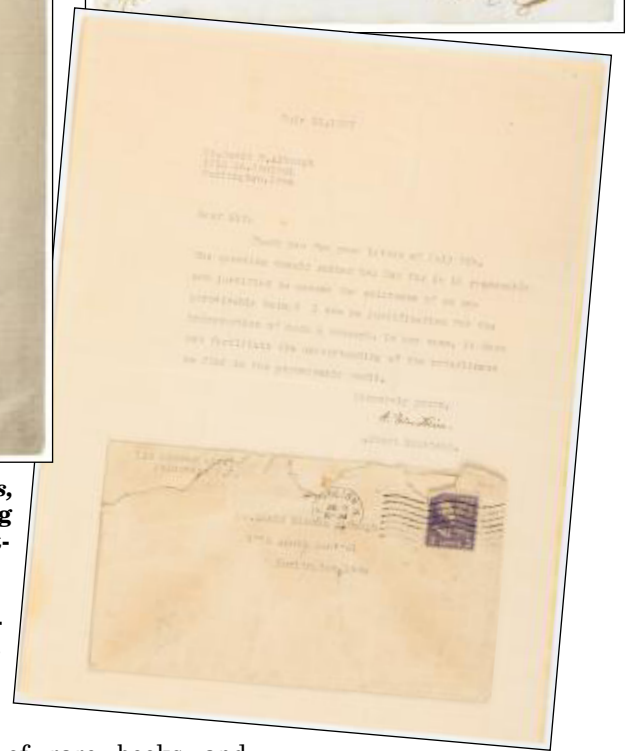
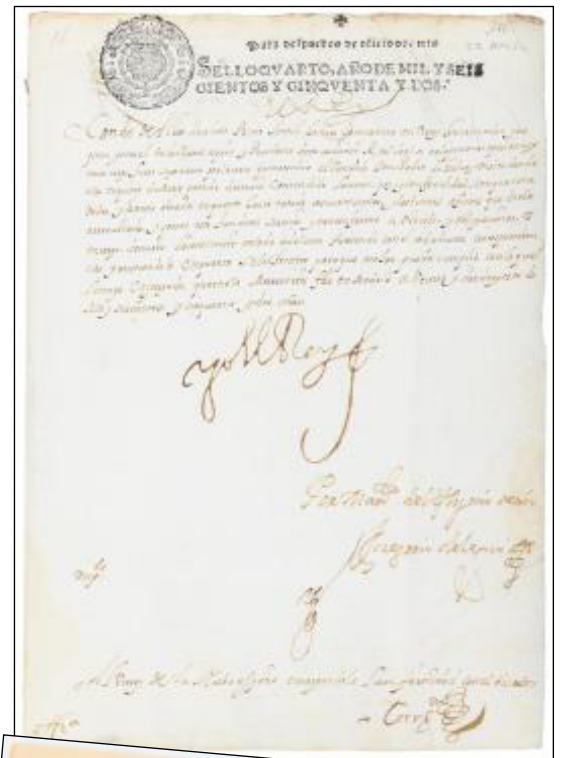
**Albert Einstein letter about the existence of God concluding that there is "no justification for the introduction of such a concept..." (\$60/90,000).**

the Pasadena Convention Center and the 49th California International Antiquarian Book Fair. The first half of the auction will be PBA's

offering of rare books and manuscripts, with the second part devoted to books donated by ABAA members to benefit the Antiquarian Booksellers'

Benevolent Fund.

For additional information, [www.pbagalleries.com](http://www.pbagalleries.com) or 415-989-2665.



## Jack Stuppin Pays Homage To Hudson River School



Jack Stuppin, "Salmon Creek Beach," 2007, oil on canvas, 48 by 58 inches.

NEW YORK CITY — ACA Galleries presents an exhibition of paintings by Jack Stuppin, "Homage to the Hudson River School," on view through February 20.

Stuppin's vibrant, undulating landscapes are reactions to nature and ardent appeals for environmental consciousness. Nature is at the heart of his art. Using thick impasto, energetic brushwork and brilliant colors, he has created his own particular style.

Born in 1933 in Yonkers, N.Y., he attended Columbia

College from 1951 to 1955 where he received art instruction from Peppino Mangravite. He studied painting at the San Francisco Art Institute from 1967 to 1971 under the tutelage of William Allan, Jay De Feo, Sam Tchakalian and Franklin Williams.

A 114-page, full-color catalog is available with an essay by Donald Kuspit.

ACA Galleries is at 529 West 20th Street. For more information, [www.acagalleries.com](http://www.acagalleries.com) or 212-206-8080.

**PART 2**

# Mini Antique Textile Show

at the Milford Antiques Show at  
Hampshire Hills Sports Complex on  
Emerson Road in Milford, NH

**Sunday, January 31st  
from 8:30 to noon**

Having had a wonderful reception to Part 1 on the 17th, I will bring more from the 60 year collection, I am still unpacking. Tablecloths, napkins, bonnets, hats, clothing, whites, undergarments, etc. Some will be priced, alot may not, make a pile and make a deal.

**6 booths will be filled and ready for sale  
at 8:30 sharp.  
There will be no early buying.**

Presented by  
Greg Hamilton and Stone Block Antiques

