



## Shakespeare's Sonnets and a Lovers Complaint and The Canterbury Tales (in two volumes)

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*Research output: Other contribution*



### Abstract

Unique Bindings exhibited at Ashiga Museum of Art, Tochigi Province, Japan: 22 April - 4 June 2006 Koriyama City Museum of Art, Fukushima Province, Japan: 10 June - 9 July 2006 Chiba City Museum of Art, Chiba Province, Japan: 22 July - 27 August 2006 Grey was one of twenty-four Fellows of the internationally recognised Designer Bookbinders Society invited to take part in the Beautiful British Books touring exhibition to Japan. It examined the development of 'fine' books in Britain. 'Fine' in this context encompasses rare and limited edition books and/or high-quality bindings. In the context of traditional bookbinding, there is an enduring pre-conception of the use of particular structures and materials, and although there have historically been acknowledged design styles, the concept of 'fine binding' has changed little over three hundred years. Grey's research evidences her instrumental re-definition of the term through the development and invention of structures that use non-traditional techniques and materials, such as wood veneers, and stitch-work with suede. Her use of materials is content led, resulting in each binding being a unique response to the text. The Canterbury Tales was selected because the binding reflects the theme of religious pilgrimage and the zebano veneer used is an intentional counterpoint to Edna Whyte's black and white wood block illustrations. The embroidery of Shakespeare's Sonnets and a Lover's Complaint binding complements the etchings within the text whilst the sombre colour of the background and the lighter energetic marks of the stitches reflect themes of youth, romantic love and ageing. The pieces are part of an ongoing investigation (see output 1), and she has also given invited lectures and master classes at the Folger Library, Washington DC (March 2001), and the Designer Bookbinders and Society of Bookbinders, London (November 2005). Her work has been purchased for public collections including the British Library, the Library of Congress (Washington DC), Winchester Cathedral, and by private collectors such as Edward Bayntun (Bath), world-renowned bindery and booksellers which took over the famous Riviere Bindery established in 1829.

ORIGINAL LANGUAGE	English
PUBLISHER	Designer Bookbinders
PLACE OF PUBLICATION	Ashiga, Tochigi Province, Japan
PUBLICATION STATUS	Published - 22 Apr 2006

### Bibliographical note

Fellows of Designer Bookbinders were invited to submit bindings of classic texts for an exhibition of bindings and limited edition books called 'Beautiful British Books'. The selection of traditional and contemporary work toured to different venues in Japan.

### Keywords

Bookbinding

fine binding

design binding

hand  
bound

bookart

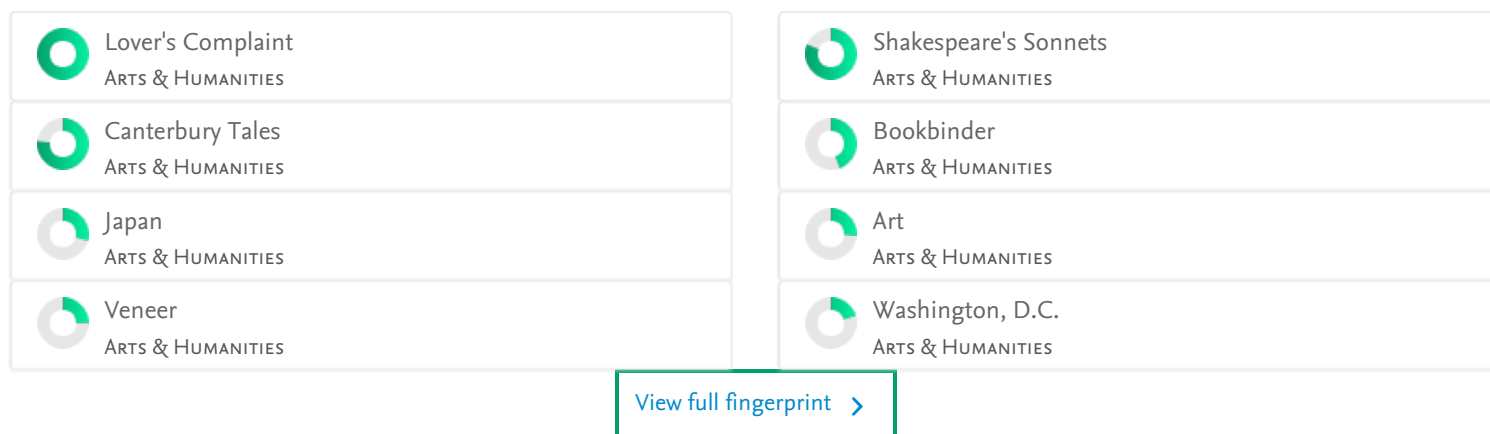
### Access to Document

<http://www.designerbookbinders.org.uk/exhib/japan.html>

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# Fingerprint

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Grey, J. (2006, Apr 22). Shakespeare's Sonnets and a Lovers Complaint and The Canterbury Tales (in two volumes) . Designer Bookbinders. <http://www.designerbookbinders.org.uk/exhib/japan.html>



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"A Lover's Complaint" is a narrative poem written by William Shakespeare, and published as part of the 1609 quarto of Shakespeare's Sonnets. It was published by Thomas Thorpe. "A Lover's Complaint" is an example of the female-voiced complaint, that is frequently appended to sonnet sequences. Other examples include Samuel Daniel's "Complaint to Rosamund", which follows Daniel's Delia (1592), Thomas Lodge's "Complaint of Elstred", which follows Phillis (1593), Michael Drayton's "Matilda the Faire The Canterbury Tales (Penguin Clothbound Classics). Geoffrey Chaucer. 4.1 out of 5 stars 221. When this volume of Shakespeare's poems first appeared in 1609, he had already written most of the great plays that made him famous. The 154 sonnets - all but two of which are addressed to a beautiful young man or a treacherous 'dark lady' - contain some of the most exquisite and haunting poetry ever written, and deal with eternal subjects such as love and infidelity, memory and mortality, and the destruction wreaked by Time. Also included is A Lover's Complaint, originally published with the sonnets, in which a young woman is overheard lamenting her betrayal by a heartless Shakespeare's sonnets are poems of expressive ideas and thoughts that are layered with multiple meanings, and always have two things in common: 1. All sonnets have fourteen lines. 2. All sonnets are written in iambic pentameter. Shakespeare published 154 sonnets, and although they are all poems of the highest quality, there are some that have entered deeply into the consciousness of our culture to become the most famous Shakespeare sonnets. This handful of sonnets are quoted regularly by people at all levels of modern western life – sometimes without even realizing that they are quoting a line from Shakespeare. In our humble opinion the 8 sonnets below represent Shakespeare's most famous words in the sonnet form: Sonnet 18: Shall I compare thee to a summer's day? All sonnets. Index of first lines. A Lover's Complaint. Venus and Adonis. Wyatt. From off a hill whose concave womb reworded A plaintful story from a sist'ring vale, My spirits t'attend this double voice accorded, And down I laid to list the sad-tuned tale, Ere long espied a fickle maid full pale, Tearing of papers, breaking rings atwain, Storming her world with sorrow's wind and rain.