

Voices of the 20th Century / CHURCHWARD, JAMES. 1851-1936.

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LOT 96

CHURCHWARD, JAMES. 1851-1936.

Large collection of artwork and letters, including:

VOICES OF THE 20TH CENTURY

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CHURCHWARD, JAMES. 1851-1936.

Large collection of artwork and letters, including:

1. "The Frolics of the Pixeys," [Mount Vernon], 1931-2. Album containing title and 22 gouache on stiff paper illustrations, 6 x 9 inches, 3 x 5 inches, and one 8 x 10 inches, also with printed poem with hand-colored illustrations and a signed photographic portrait of Churchward, with typed narrative descriptions reproducing holograph descriptions on verso of illustrations, with presentation inscription from Churchward on 6 x 9 inch card, illustrations in excellent condition, album with wear to spine.
2. Group of 15 illustrations, gouache on stiff paper, 3 x 5 inches, mounted to 5 x 7 inches, [Mount Vernon, 1930s], most depicting Pixey characters, some mounts toned, else excellent.
3. "Symbols of the Four Primary Forces. 'The Sacred Four'," ink and gouache on 25 cards, [no date], being detailed descriptions of various symbols with gouache depictions, toned, lacking some of the series.
4. 23 original illustrations, gouache on stiff paper, 6 x 9 inches, [Mount Vernon], 1931-2, all but one depicting scenes with Pixey characters, holograph descriptions on verso, with dedication inscription to Sally and Nina, light edgewear, else excellent.
5. Original illustration, gouache on board, 6 x 9 inches, depicting a Pixey character walking a toy poodle, light edgewear, else very good.
6. 2 original illustrations, pen and ink and gouache on stiff paper, 4 1/4 x 4 7/8 inches & 4 x 5 1/4 inches, [Mount Vernon, no date], depicting a sea-side scene and the transformation of a caterpillar into a butterfly, very good.
7. 3 Autograph Letters Signed ("J. Churchward"), totalling 6 pp, and 1 Letter Signed ("J. Churchward"), 1 p, Mount Vernon, 1934-5, 3 with original envelope, to Nina Gade or Lea Hudson, and with a telegram and a signed Christmas card both from Churchward.

Occultist James Churchward is best known for his books on the lost continent of Mu, which according to him "extended from somewhere north of Hawaii to the south as far as the Fijis and Easter Island." Over a decade into his retirement after receiving a settlement for patent infringement on NCV steel, he published the first book on Mu: *The Lost Continent of Mu Motherland of Man*. Five more were to follow. The

material here was all sent to two young women he had met and befriended on an ocean voyage. The illustrations are mostly colorful and whimsical, many depicting his own primitive Pixey characters engaging in various activities including fishing, one of Churchward's favored pastimes, sports, and various frivolities, but also some related to his occultist work like the notes on ancient symbols. An interesting archive that should be seen.

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