

Values

Bibliography number: B001.1

Author: Spike Milligan

Publication Details: Offcut Press, Leicester, c April 1969

Format: Chapbook

Illustrations: Rigby Graham.

Identifier: ISBN-10: 0901077011 ISBN-13: 978-0901077011

BNB: GB6910712

Physical Description: 24pp, unnumbered; 21 x 12.5cm (8" x 5")

50gm. Maroon covers, black stamping to upper panel. Hand stitched (green thread) Sage Green Glastonbury Antique Laid paper. Ten full-page & vignette illustrations

Print run: 150 copies. (50 for sale)

Initial Cost: 25/- (26/- post paid)

Notes: From the colophon; "Designed, handset & printed privately at the Offcut Press by Duine Campbell, Toni Savage & Patricia Harris".

Copies found: 5, 41, 50, 89, 91, 92, 93, 98, 104, 106, 107, 108, 109, 117, 120, 136, 137, 139, 147 and 'out of series'.

The numbers in red are copies that were found for sale or auction. I have used this convention for all the limited editions. Copy 106 was advertised by Amazon and is now in the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, Toronto Canada

Image - from my own collection (number 41).

The poems in the book are:-

1967* (actually a prose piece) To Robert Graves

'This silent call you make to me'

'When the only colour is black'

Autumn Morning*

Values '67

Why Indeed*

To Robert Graves* (a second poem of that name)

Values 1968

Escapee*

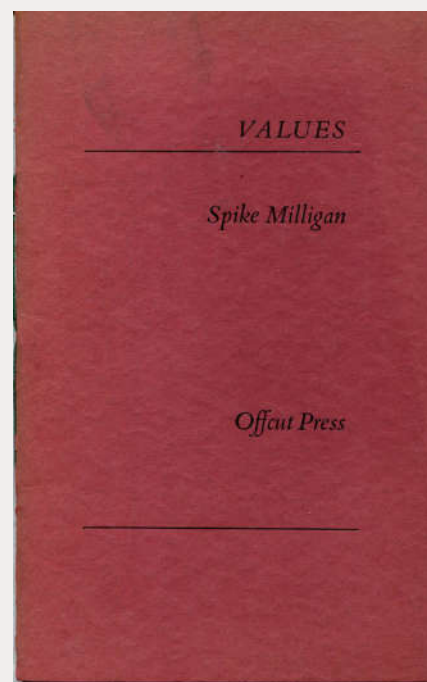
A poem To No One But Yearning*

The soldiers at Lauro

Spring*

**These poems remain unpublished in other Milligan books.*

This is the first of Spike's limited edition books and broadsheets that Spike had Toni Savage, a Leicester printer produce for him. This is another book that feels good in the hand, the cover and paper are quite stiff, the size and weight just mean it is easy to handle and invites further discovery of the contents within. I suspect all Spike's chapbooks have a similar feeling; I look forward to being able to cradle them in my hand and read them too.



Prices	
For Sale	£125-£750
For Sale signed	£1250
Auction	£100

The book contains 13 previously unpublished poems by Milligan. Many of them remain unpublished in his other books. The foreword written by Spike illustrates graphically Spike's state of mind at the time.

Foreword

*In this book there are some poems which were written in mental agony caused by creatures who are laughingly called Human Beings. In my 50 years of living I have discovered that there is no such thing as a Human Being, only me.
I was once afraid of death; now I welcome it.
I personally can't wait to say 'Goodbye' to this world.*

*Spike Milligan
January 1969*

The print run on this book was 150 numbered copies but some libraries have copies that are designated 'out of series' or simply are not numbered suggesting there were more than 150 copies produced. Two unnumbered books that I am aware of have at least four pages that are not included in the numbered books. This is a folded sheet of the original paper giving four extra pages. The first page is a title page, then a blank page, then further publication details and a block illustration and the last page includes the poem *Spring*. The fact that 50 were for sale at 26/- post paid was included with the publication details. This extra sheet appears to be an advertising pamphlet for the book on the same paper as the book and has been laid in to the original book. Copies in libraries are often signed by Toni Savage suggesting it was he who distributed the book quite extensively.

The distribution of this book is interesting. There are 25 libraries in WorldCat that carry copies. Six are in the U.K. and Ireland, the rest are in the U.S. (16) and Canada (3). Only the British Library has a numbered copy, number 5, the others, Cambridge, Oxford, National Library of Scotland, Devon Libraries and Trinity College, Dublin have unnumbered copies.

The origin of the books is not often recorded in library catalogues but it seems many have copies from Toni Savage; however some libraries have purchased their own copies.

An undergraduate poetry magazine, *Sad Traffic*, produced by students of Bretton Hall College in Barnsley Yorkshire, has a serialised version of '*Values*' in issue 2 and 3 in 1970. Included were Spike's foreword and the first six poems. There are no more poems in subsequent issues. There is no explanation in the magazine of why not all the poems were not serialised. There is a statement that they intended to publish all at the outset but something prevented them from completing this intention. Spike was certainly keen to distribute his serious poetry widely.