

## George A. Smathers Libraries to feature work by renowned children's illustrator Arthur Rackham

GAINESVILLE, Fla. - The George A. Smathers Libraries will present an exhibition of illustrations by Arthur Rackham. On view November 12 through December 13, *When Phantasie Takes Flight: the Art & Imagination of Arthur Rackham* explores the breathtaking artwork of renowned British illustrator Arthur Rackham and also places his work within the broader context of children's illustration from 1823 to 2010.

Born in 1867, Arthur Rackham was the leading illustrator during the Golden Age of Children's Illustration (1890-1914). Rackham's first illustrated book appeared in 1893, but it wasn't until he illustrated Washington Irving's *Rip Van Winkle* in 1905 that his reputation in Great Britain exceeded all others. He is best known for his work for J. M. Barrie's *Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens* and various editions of the Brothers Grimm fairy tales.

*When Phantasie Takes Flight* features more than 16 limited and signed editions by Rackham, including *The Peter Pan Portfolio*, which contains illustrations not published in the original *Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens*. Accompanying Rackham's work are items by other famed illustrators such as Walter Crane, Aubrey Beardsley, Willy Pogány, Howard Pyle and N.C. Wyeth, from the [Baldwin Library of Historical Children's Literature](#) and the [Harold and Mary Jean Hanson Rare Book Collection](#).

*When Phantasie Takes Flight: the Art & Imagination of Arthur Rackham* is curated by Suzan A. Alteri, Curator of the Baldwin Library of Historical Children's Literature and John Ingram, Curator of the Harold and Mary Jean Hanson Rare Book Collection.

Exhibition also available online at <http://exhibits.uflib.ufl.edu/rackham>

The Smathers Library Gallery is located on the second floor of the Smathers Library on the University of Florida campus. Hours are Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., unless otherwise specified and with occasional exceptions for maintenance. All exhibitions are open to the public and free of charge.

### Programs

#### Opening Reception:

Monday November 18, 5:00 pm – 7:00pm  
Smathers Library Gallery, 2nd Floor

#### Baldwin Library Speaker Series

Monday November 18, 6:00 pm – 7:00pm  
Smathers Library, Room 1A

The Baldwin Library of Historical Children's Literature, The Howe Society, and the Center for Children's Literature and Culture are pleased to present guest speaker Michael Patrick Hearn. Hearn is a leading American scholar on children's illustration and the *Wizard of Oz*. Notable works include: *The Annotated Wizard of Oz*, *The Annotated Huckleberry Finn*, *The Victorian Fairy Tale Book*, *Myth, Magic, and Mystery: One Hundred Years of American Children's Book Illustration*, and *From Silver Age to Stalin: Russian Children's Book Illustration*.