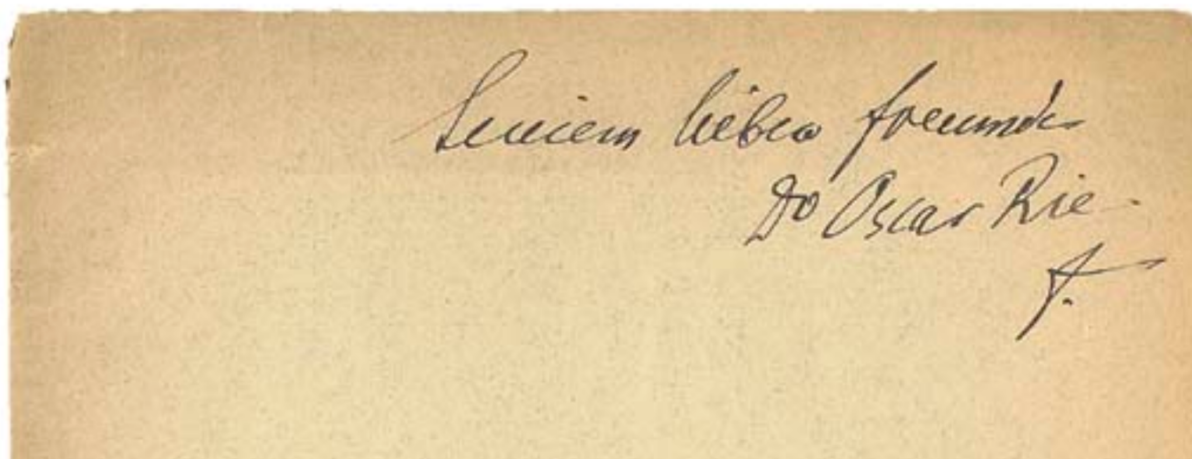




Christie's, London, auction of 20th century books and manuscripts, 2 December 2004, lot 102, £1,434.

Catalogue description

FREUD, Sigmund (1856-1939). *Zum psychischen Mechanismus der Vergesslichkeit*. Offprint from: *Monatsschrift für Psychiatrie und Neurologie*, vol. IV. Berlin: E. Wertheim for S. Karger, 1898. 8° (248 x 170mm). Diagram in the text. (Browned, minor marginal chipping.) Original printed wrappers, lower wrapper with publisher's advertisements recto and verso, modern box (wrappers browned at margins, short tears and chips at edges causing small losses).

Provenance: Oscar Rie (1863-1931, presentation inscription on upper wrapper 'Seinem lieben Freunde , Dr Oscar Rie , F.')

FIRST SEPARATE EDITION. THE FIRST PUBLISHED HISTORY OF A PARAPRAXIS, INSCRIBED BY FREUD TO HIS CLOSE FRIEND OSCAR RIE. 'The episode which is the subject of this paper occurred during Freud's visit to the Adriatic coast in September, 1898. He sent a short account of it to [Wilhelm] Fliess on his return to Vienna in a letter dated September 22 [...], and reported a few days later [...] that he had sent this paper off to the journal in which it appeared soon afterwards. This was the first published history of a parapraxis, and Freud made it the basis of the opening chapter of his longer work on the subject three years later [...] It had been generally assumed, on the basis of Freud's remarks at the beginning of the first chapter of *The Psychopathology of Everyday Life* [...], that what was in question was no more than a rough draft of the later version. An actual comparison of the two works now shows that only the main lines of the topic are the same, that the chain of argument is differently arranged here, and that at one or two points the material is amplified' (S. Freud *The Standard Edition of the Complete Psychological Works* (London: 1953-74), III, p. 288). Freud had first met the paediatrician Oskar Rie at the Kassowitz Institute, where Freud was head of the Department of Neurology; Rie had assisted Freud and they had co-written *Klinische Studie über die halbseitige Cerebrallähmung der Kinder* (Vienna: 1891).

(Although a paediatrician -- in which capacity he cared for Freud's children -- Rie was also a member of the Psychological Wednesday Society from 1908.) Rie became a close friend (Ernest Jones notes that he was probably one of the very few people outside his immediate family circle whom Freud addressed as 'Du', cf. *Sigmund Freud* (London: 1953-7), III, p.91), and was one of the three friends with whom Freud met every Saturday night to play the card game Tarock (the other two were Rie's brother-in-law Ludwig Rosenberg and Professor Königstein).