Ladybird Heritage Network

Ladybird Books Resource: Fairy Tales

The Ladybird Books Archive collection, owned by Ladybird Books, contains 20,000 original artworks, production proofs and documentation.

It forms part of the University of Reading's Archive of British Publishing and Printing, which is officially designated as an Outstanding Collection.

All loans are subject to approval and agreement by both parties, ensuring venues meet required environmental conditions.

In addition to artworks, Ladybird Books will include one marketing image (for venue's use only) to accompany capsule collection loans.

To find out more, please email specialcollections@reading.ac.uk

Ladybird Books Resource: Fairy Tales

- *Well Loved Tales* is still one of the most collected Ladybird Books series.
- The original 27 titles were published between 1964 and 1974, with an additional 5 titles added before 1980.
- The first 27 titles were written by Vera Southgate and illustrated by Robert Lumley (1920-1976) and Eric Winter (1905-1981)
- The titles in the series were given a grade between 1 and 3 to indicate the level of reading difficulty.
- Lumley briefly experimented with caricature, before settling into his signature realistic style. He often used his neighbourhood and its local people as models for his illustrations.
- Winter trained at Hornsey Art School and used both oil paints and watercolours in his practice. Before his work with Ladybird Books, he had become a well-known commercial artist, illustrating various magazines, and contributing to the Eagle comics.

Please note that some artworks may not be available due to previous exhibitions / light exposure.

Artworks:

- Climbing up Rapunzel's hair, *Rapunzel*, 1968
- Pouncing on the mouse, *Puss in Boots*, 1967
- Shaping the gingerbread, *The Gingerbread Boy*, 1966
- The pancake falls onto the floor, *The Big Pancake*, 1972
- The elves get to work, *The Elves and the Shoemaker*, 1965
- The acorn strikes, *Chicken Licken*, 1969
- Caught in the Act, *Beauty and the Beast*, 1968
- Cinderella and the golden coach, *Cinderella*, 1964

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