

THE ANDREW W. MELLON SOCIETY OF FELLOWS IN CRITICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY PO Box 400103 • University of Virginia • Charlottesville, VA 22904-4103 rbs-mellon@virginia.edu • www.rarebookschool.org/sofcb • 434-243-4296

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3 June 2020

In light of ongoing police violence against Black people, and the ensuing protests and calls for justice across the country, the Andrew W. Mellon Society of Fellows in Critical Bibliography (SoFCB) renews its condemnation of racism, state and police violence, and other forms of oppression. We acknowledge our responsibility to work against racism and all forms of discrimination, and commit ourselves to fostering an inclusive, engaged, and equitable community. The SoFCB stands for justice in all aspects of our mission and respects the dignity and value of all human beings. Our community will continue to engage in conversations that matter.

We acknowledge the fraught histories of our institutions and disciplines in perpetuating oppression and inequality against those who are Black, Indigenous, and people of color. Scholars in the disciplines of bibliography and book history have long been overwhelmingly white. We recognize that structural change must come through concrete actions, not just statements. We therefore will continue to diversify our membership to represent the whole community of critical bibliography; diversify our programming to recognize and celebrate the voices and views of many; foster the Society as a place where we entangle ourselves in the important issues of the past as well as our time; engage with material objects to understand the human condition and the diversity of experiences they embody; become a place of convening where we discover and share the expression of our responsibilities both civic and intellectual.