



Paul Van Ostaijen

Bezette Stad. Originaalhoutsneden en tekeningen van Oskar Jespers.

Antwerpen, Het Sienjaal, 1921. 28,5x22,5 cm, pp.(154), original illustrated wrappers, b/w ill., some pages printed in black and red; four woodcuts by Oscar Jespers, who also designed the cover. Clam-shell conservation box. A fine copy with the very fragile cover in fine condition, some discoloring to back-cover.

First edition. One of 500 numbered copies on Vélín registre. The colophon states that while the writer was still in Berlin, his friends Oskar Jespers and René Victor executed the lay-out according to his instructions. - Praise for this publication has been amply sung, the texts by Van Ostaijen, often arranged in calligrams, the dada-inspired typography, the four woodcuts by Oskar Jespers and its cover make it rightly a book of international standing. It is one of Belgium's best products of modernism, and as such very idiosyncratic.