Albert Field ’38CC was Salvador Dalí’s personal “archivist,” hired to distinguish real Dalís from thousands of fakes. He was also a playing-card collector. Field, who died in 2003, left his collection of 6,400 decks to Columbia. An exhibit of cards spanning four hundred years and four continents will be on display at the Rare Book and Manuscript Library starting September 23.

Albert Field Playing Card Collection, Columbia Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Albert Field Playing Card Collection, Columbia Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Transformation cards. Germany, 1856.