

» I will take you on a journey through the history of letterpress printing. Relive the art of hand setting and letterpress printing with original tools and impressive machinery in this one of a kind workshop! «

Uwe J Steinacker

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SCHOOL

Exclusive two-day-workshop



Hand setting and letterpress printing on the trails of Gutenberg

An exclusive two-day workshop in the baroque city of Dresden

This workshop offers a variety of activities in theory and practice to all friends of Gutenberg's „black art“. Uwe Steinacker takes you on a journey through the history of hand setting and letterpress printing. You will handset and print your own piece in the famous Offizin Haag-Drugulin in Dresden, one of the oldest still operating type foundries in the world. Walk on the trails of Gutenberg and discover the secrets of the old master printers!

Personal work station and materials for every participant

It's all about practical experiences, that's the motto of the workshop. You will handset with a composing stick, work with original lead types und create galley proofs on a manual printing machine. At the end of the two-day workshop you will know all about the techniques of handsetting. **You do not need any experience in typography or craftsmanship to enjoy this workshop.** So take this rare opportunity to get to know the age-old printing art and handset your own printed matter.

The workshop offers a great experience:

- For designers who would like to learn the basics of hand setting and letterpress printing
- For people who would like to relive the beginnings of an age-old craftsmanship
- For your next corporate event or as a gift for a very special occasion

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Becoming acquainted with the tools of hand setting and letterpress printing

On your first day you will start off with a guided tour through the Offizin Haag-Drugulin. You will learn about the history of printing, books and writing and you will get to know the necessary tools. Of course you are welcome to try them out yourself – composing sticks, lead types, tweezers and page cords are at your disposal in the composition room. Under the guidance of professional typesetters you will learn how to use the tools correctly and how leads and different print materials work. Furthermore you will understand how we are able to print in the first place.

Detail work in the composing room

The hand setting and letterpress printing techniques that you will experience in the Offizin Haag-Drugulin were used from the middle age onwards until the early 70's. During all these years they actually haven't changed much. That's why many of the tools you will work with during this two-day-workshop are more than one hundred years old.

Before you continue your work in the composing room, you will get some useful information on book formats, type areas, paper sizes, typefaces and how to handset ragged alignments and justification with the composing stick. With this knowledge you will take the first steps toward your own print by creating a sketch and preparing the typeset. After that, the real work begins: you will increase and decrease the spacing between words, take out the finished rows by hand, add leadings (distances between baselines of successive lines of text) and create a galley proof. The second day will come to a cozy end with some exciting anecdotes told by workshop instructor Uwe Steinacker in the Altmarktkeller (a traditional pub and restaurant) in the old town of Dresden.

The result of your handset work

On the second day you will get an overview of the different printing techniques and you will look into the details of micro typography. Of course you will also finish the work on your handset print. After some little adjustments to the composition and the processing and refinement of the paper you will create the final galley proof of your work. After two exciting days you've finally made it from a novice to a professional typesetter! This will of course be celebrated just like in the old days: with a traditional "Gautschbrief!"

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Workshop contents

Two workshop days (16 hours in total) with instructions from professionals from the printing industry. Working with original tools as well as hand setting and letterpress printing machines. There will be complimentary hot and cold beverages during the day and sandwiches at mid-morning. At the end of the workshop you will receive a workshop paper called „Handsetzen und Buchdrucken wie Gutenberg“ (24 pages long) in spiral binding and a traditional „Gautsch-brief“ as a certificate of attendance.

Work materials

Since we are working in an old workshop, please bring comfortable clothes and shoes that can get dirty. Working with lead types requires a thorough cleaning of the hands with a special washing paste. Please bring a hand creme if you think you might need one. Every participant has his own workspace and will receive his own tools for the duration of the workshop.

Location

Offizin Haag-Drugulin
Grafischer Betrieb GmbH
Großenhainer Straße 11a
01097 Dresden

At a glance

- An exclusive two-day workshop
- maximum of 10 participants
- Work materials included
- Work materials included materials for every participant
- 625 Euro (VAT included)

Please register on the website

www.typeschool.de



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Uwe Steinacker

A passionate communication designer

Uwe Steinacker started his career in typography and communication design with an apprenticeship in the art of letterpress printing and handsetting. He knows all the tools and techniques of Gutenberg's era and is happy to share the secrets of the „dark arts“ with others. He used to work as an art director and creative director and founded his own creative agency back in 1998. From 2013 to 2015 he was holding lectures in typography, layout design and more at the University of Düsseldorf (Fachhochschule Düsseldorf). Today he works as a workshop instructor in the fields of typography, communications, layout design and of course letterpress printing and handsetting at TypeSCHOOL, the company he founded in 2014.

Uwe Steinacker

Short CV:

- Workshop Instructor at TypeSCHOOL
- Typesetter
- Communication Designer
- Art Director
- Creative Director
- Owner of a creative agency
- lecturer at the FH Düsseldorf (until 2014)

References of my work



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Workshop details

Day One

In the morning:

- Welcoming of the workshop participants by Uwe Steinacker (workshop instructor) and Eckehart SchuhmacherGebler (owner of the Offizin Haag-Drugulin) and introduction of the participants
- Guided tour through the Offizin Haag-Drugulin (composing room, type foundry, letterpress printing shop) with Eckehart SchuhmacherGebler
- Introduction to the history of writing and communications: 500 years before and 500 years after Gutenberg's invention

Practical work in the composing room:

- Getting acquainted with the tools of hand setting: composing stick, galley, typecase, lead type, awl, setting line, tweezers and page cord

In the afternoon:

- The typographic system of measurement: typographic period, metric system, font sizes
- Why are we able to print?
 - spacing materials: reglet, leading and more
 - printing materials: setup of the lead type, working with the typecase

Practical work in the composing room:

- You will receive your tools, prepare the composing stick and create your first text with the composing stick in ragged margin
- Preparing your typeset: a first sketch, using the composing stick correctly, techniques of handsetting

In the evening:

- The first day will come to a cozy end with some exciting anecdotes told by workshop instructor Uwe Steinacker in the Altmarktkeller (a traditional pub and restaurant) in the old town of Dresden (personal expenses are not included in the workshop fee).

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Day Two

In the morning:

- Text alignments: ragged margin, justified text, center alignment, anaxial alignment, runaround
- The most important typesets: classifying fonts

Practical work in the composing room:

- Techniques of handsetting
- Setting lines in ragged margin and justified text, increasing and decreasing spaces between words, indentions, taking out composed rows and collecting them in the composing galley
- Adding line spacing, fixing the column, creating a galley proof with a hand press

In the afternoon:

- Overview of printing techniques:
mechanical printing: letterpress printing, offset printing, rotogravure
manual printing: woodcut, lithography, copper engraving
- Micro typography:
capital letters, ligatures, font composition, font styles (bold, italic et cetera)
and much more

Practical work in the composing room:

- Adjustments to your composition, handsetting a citation in anaxial alignment
- Processing and refinement of the paper
- Printing of your work with the printing press

In the evening:

- Traditional and hearty „Gautschfest“ with all the participants, Uwe Steinacker and Eckehart SchuhmacherGebler

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Registration

Registrations can be made through the website www.typeschool.de. They will be treated in the order in which we receive them and will be confirmed via e-mail. If a workshop is already fully booked, you will be informed immediately.

Confirmation of participation

You will receive a confirmation of participation only by request if not stated otherwise in the workshop description.

Payment conditions

Upon receipt of your registration you will receive a confirmation e-mail which includes an invoice. We request payment of the invoice at least three weeks before the workshop date. The stated price does not include additional costs like travel expenses or accomodation.

You can cancel your registration up to 6 weeks before the workshop at no cost. Your payment will be refunded completely. If you cancel up to 3 weeks before the workshop we will request/refund 50 percent of the workshop price. Later cancellations or failing to appear will not be refunded. Cancellations have to be sent in written form. Of course you can send someone else to take your spot if you're unable to attend.

If the workshop will be cancelled by your workshop instructor due to reasons that can not be influenced or due to an act of god, you will receive a full refund. Additional claims can not be met. All prices include VAT.

Liability exclusion

Uwe Steinacker can not be held liable for the loss of personal belongings or accidents of any kind.

All seminars and workshops require a minimum number of 4 participants. If a seminar or workshop will not take place due to a lack of participants, you will be informed three weeks in advance with a message to the e-mail address you provided in your registration. Payments will be refunded immediately. TypeSCHOOL can not be held liable for other costs like travel expenses or accomodation.

Rights to use photographs

Uwe Steinacker reserves the right to take pictures during any seminar or workshop. With your registration you're giving Uwe Steinacker the rights of use for photographs of you. They will only be used for promotional purposes by and for TypeSCHOOL.

Contact

Uwe Steinacker
Kommunikationsdesigner
Adersstraße 45
40215 Düsseldorf
info@typeschool.de