
The APHA Newsletter

A Publication of the American Printing History Association September/October 1991 No. 103

Wayzgoose Gets Under Way

This *Newsletter* goes to press on the eve of what promises to be one of APHA's most successful annual conferences yet. Our next issue will report on the numerous lectures, exhibitions, and receptions offered to conference registrants during the September 13–15 weekend. The sixteenth annual conference of the American Printing History Association will take place in Washington, D.C., on September 14. This year's program, with its focus on the printing history resources in Washington, will offer APHA members a chance to explore the rich holdings of our nation's capital. The conference will provide a mix of formal talks and informal workshops and demonstrations.

Contents of *PH*

Printing History #25, currently in the editorial stage, will include the following articles: Tom Reardon, "Collotype: Prince of Printing Processes"; Philip Weimerskirch, translation and commentary on a "lost" letter of the Widow Bodoni; Stephen O. Saxe, "The Goodman Common Press: The Oldest American-Made Press," with wood engraving by John De Pol; Robert Singerman, "The Publishing Career of Naphtali Judah"; Acceptance speeches from the 1991 APHA Annual Awards: Eleanor Garvey on William Ivins, Jr., A. Hyatt Mayor, and Philip Hofer; and Ruth Mortimer on the Bibliographical Society of America.

APHA Calendar

January 25, 1992—Annual Meeting and Awards Presentation, New York Public Library, Trustees' Room, 2:00 p.m.

October 3, 1992—Annual Conference at Princeton.

Events

You will notice a decided New York City bias in this schedule, due to the fact that its compiler lives and works there. We will try to correct this in the future, but remember, if you want your exhibit, lecture, or seminar to show up here, the best thing to do is to send information about it (early!) to *The APHA Newsletter*.

Lectures

First annual Nikirk Lecture (Grolier Club, New York): Franklin D. Murphy speaking on collections he has formed of Italian imprints of the 15th and 16th centuries. Call Grolier Club for reservations: (212) 838-6690. November 19.

George Parker Winship Lectures (Houghton Library, Harvard University):

#45: "Bibliography and Libraries: Partners or Rivals?" by Luigi Balsamo, Professor of Biblioteconomia e Paleografia, University of Parma, Italy; Editor, *La Bibliofilia*. October 1.

#46: Elizabeth L. Eisenstein, October 30.

#47: "Education for Books as Physical Objects," by Terry Belanger, Associate Professor in the School of Library Service, Columbia University. November 12.

#48: "The Uses of Bookbinding History," by Nicholas Pickwoad, Associate Visiting Professor, Conservation Education Programs, School of Library Service, Columbia University. December 4.

Malkin Lecture (School of Library Service, Columbia): Terry Belanger speaking on the future of rare books in American libraries. December 16.

Exhibitions

BOSTON

The Japanese Archives: an exhibition from the Harvard Law Library's collection of Japanese materials, including manuscripts and printed books, 12th to late 19th centuries. Harvard Law School Library reading room, Fourth Floor, Langdell Hall. Call Mary Person or David Ferris at (617) 367-5905 for further information.

"Herman Melville, 1819–1891: an exhibition of books and manuscripts," mounted to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the death of Melville. Houghton Library, Harvard University. September 23–November 1.

"Letterpress Guild of New England," an exhibition of some contemporary printers. Widener Library Rotunda, Harvard University. November 4–26.

NEW YORK

"Learning from the Nineteenth Century," concerning 19th- and 20th-century graphic design for Bowne & Co., Station-

NEW YORK (cont.)

ers, South Street Seaport Museum. Bronx Community College of CUNY, Ground Floor of the Bliss Building, 181st Street & University Avenue. Call (212) 220-6249 for hours. October 3-31.

Work published by Collective Generation: 30 livres d'artiste, collaborations between French and American artists and writers. Co-sponsored by the French Embassy and to be displayed in Paris after closing at the Center for Book Arts. November 6-15.

"Arthur Rackham: Paintings, Watercolors, Drawings, Sketchbooks." Rare Book & Ms. Library, Butler Library, 6th Floor (Mon-Fri, 9-4:45) December 5-February 4.

A selection of rare and unusual books from the Avery Library chosen by Herbert Mitchell. Low Library, Columbia University (Mon-Fri, 9-5:30) October 10-December 4.

"Victorian Pleasures: American Board and Table Games of the 19th Century from the Liman Collection." Miriam & Ira B. Wallach Art Gallery, Schermerhorn Hall, Columbia University (Wed-Sat, 1-5) November 13-January 25.

"Cooper-Hewitt Collections: A Design Resource." Includes approximately 50 books from the museum library (with some rotation), Cooper-Hewitt Museum, to 1992.

"Les incohérents 1882-1895: Proto-Dada/Surrealist Artists and Writers and fin-de-siècle Paris." September 11-November 27.

"Giovanni Mardersteig and the Officina Bodoni." December 19-February 29.

Both of the above at The Grolier Club, 47 East 60th Street (Mon-Sat 10-5, closed major holidays)

"Masterpieces of the Morgan Library." Morgan Library, October 1-January 5.

"Babar." September 19-November 3.

"Charles Addams." October 31-January 12.

Both of the above at the National Academy of Design.

"King Arthur: Looking at the Legend." Gottesman Exhibition Hall, October 19-February 22.

"German Expressionist Prints and Illustrated Books." Third Floor Gallery, September 28-January 4.

"Edna St. Vincent Millay." Berg Exhibition Room, November 1-February 29.

All of the above at the New York Public Library, Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street. (Tue-Wed, 11-6 with 3rd floor galleries open to 7:30; Thurs-Sat, 10-6)

MANHATTAN, KANSAS

"Variety Pack," unusual book coverings from the Special Collections Department. Farrell Library, Kansas State University, through October 1991.

PHILADELPHIA

"Pennsylvania Harvest: Books, Manuscripts and Works of Art Created in the Keystone State." September 13-November 29.

"A Dickensian Christmas." December 13, 1991-January 24, 1992.

Both of the above at the Free Library of Philadelphia, Rare Books Department, 3rd Floor (Mon-Fri, 9-5)

Traveling Exhibits

"A Kelmscott Centennial," organized by Minnesota Center for Book Arts, includes Kelmscott material and books by modern presses. Brown University, October 7-November 29; Arizona State University, December 10-January 30. There is a 48-page catalog with an introduction by Susan Otis Thompson and an essay by the curator, Betty Bright.

"James Rosenquist: Welcome to the Water Planet," organized by the Museum of Modern Art. Paperworks with collages, printed with the technical collaboration of printer/publisher Ken Tyler. Center for the Arts, Vero Beach, Florida, October-November; University of Kentucky Art Museum, March 22-May 10.

JANE SIEGEL

New APHA Members

The programs and publications our Association offers are funded almost entirely by our membership dues. As APHA looks forward to new programs and increased activity, we also look forward to broadening our membership base. By encouraging new regional chapters, we not only increase our revenues, but we move that much closer to making APHA an increasingly nation-wide organization. We are seeking membership from diversified printing-related fields of interest and activity. We encourage members to suggest membership to colleagues and friends to help us make APHA an ever more vital force in our lives.

It is with great pleasure that we welcome the new members whose names are listed below.

MARTIN HUTNER, *Vice-President for Membership*

William C. Beebe—Schenectady, NY; Julia Dupuis Blakeley—Arlington, VA; BLISS (British Library Information Sciences Services)—London, Eng.; British Library—London, Eng.; Brett W. Charbeneau—Williamsburg, VA; Boyd Childress—Auburn, AL; Cornell University Library—Ithaca, NY; The Dale Guild, Inc.—Howell, NJ; Ed Fisher, Jr.—Pittsburgh, PA; Go Media, Inc.—Austin, TX; Koninklijke Bibliotheek—Hague, Netherlands; Mary A. Lacy—Bladensburg, MD; Mark Samuels Lasner—Washington, DC; London College of Printing—London, Eng.; Jane Lowenthal—New York, NY; Sandra L. Powers—Chevy Chase, MD; Evelyn E. Sinclair—Washington, DC; Belinda D. Urquiza—Bowie, MD; Mary E. Van Biema—Tenafly, NJ.

Books

Some new books for a change this time. In response to my request in a previous column, a book dealer has called to my attention a recent facsimile publication of a rare 19th century Dutch bookbinding manual, *Geheimen der Bookbinderij*, first published in 1846. It is being printed at the Firefly Press by Richard J. Wolfe and limited to 250 copies. Write to The Veatches, Arts of the Book, 20 Veronica Ct., Smithtown, NY 11787-1323.

A visit to the book store of the British Library last spring turned up a splendid new volume, *Typefaces for Books*, by James Sutton and Alan Bartram (London: BL, 1990, 288 p.) In addition to extensive specimens of currently available book faces, it presents a stimulating discussion of historical examples of typography. This one you need.

The third volume of *A Short-Title Catalogue of Books Printed in England, Scotland, & Ireland . . . 1475-1640*, by Katharine F. Pantzer, is just out (London: Bibliographical Society.) It completes the first two volumes with a printer and publisher index and other important apparatus.

Finally, two more recent books of note are Roger Chartier, ed., *The Culture of Print: Power and the Uses of Print in Early Modern Europe*, (Princeton University Press, 1989) and William S. Reese, *The First Hundred Years of Printing in British North America: Printers and Collectors* (American Antiquarian Society, 1990.)

PHILIP A. METZGER

NBAC in SFO

APHA members were among the speakers and attendees at the 1991 National Book Arts Conference and Exhibition, held in San Francisco from August 15th through 17th. The program consisted of twenty seminars held in the spiffy new Contract Design Center, after an opening reception and keynote address at The Printing Museum.

Subjects included curatorship, book arts education, criticism, censorship, the history of women in printing and the book arts, self-publishing and alternative publishing, as well as the more familiar letterpress, typography, paper-making, binding, and calligraphy. Also, a number of aspects of the influence of the computer on book production and distribution—including computer typesetting and computer-aided type design, desk-top publishing (doesn't it always bring to mind stove-top stuffing?), CD-Rom publishing, computer networking, the "virtual book," and publication on demand—were subjects of panels and of much discussion.

Besides the invitational exhibition, predominantly of west coast artists' work, at The Printing Museum, tables set up outside the meeting rooms at the Design Center allowed for continuous and informal display of work by anyone attending the conference, with more exchange of ideas and promotion of wares.

This attendee found some frustration arising from the sessions being held concurrently (two at a time), forcing one to miss one or the other or to hop anxiously between them. Some of the panels' liberal interpretations of their subjects, and the direction in which audience response might lead the discussion—all very welcome and stimulation—added to the possibility that what one really wanted to hear might be going on next door under a less likely heading. The majority of the panels were excellently, if a bit redundantly, constituted, and judiciously moderated, but a few, such as that on computer-aided type design, seemed to me under-prepared. For these reasons, those considering purchase of the Conference videotapes might wish to preview them.

Further information on the Conference proceedings, and videotapes of Conference sessions, may be obtained from Ralph Ackerman, NBAC Conference Director, c/o Regent Press, 6020-A Adeline, Oakland, CA 94608.

LOWELL BODGER

Association Internationale de Bibliophilie

The Association Internationale de Bibliophilie is holding its 17th biennial congress September 21-27. Each congress meets in a different city; this year it is Paris, the headquarters of the AIB. Each day's meeting will be in a different location: the first will take place at the Bibliothèque Nationale "in the presence of François Mitterand." Subsequent meetings will be at sites in the Latin Quarter, at Montmorency, along the Seine, and at Versailles. In addition to the BN, the bibliophiles will visit the Sainte-Geneviève Library, the Library of the Museum of Natural History, the Institut library, the Municipal Library, Versailles, and the Arsenal library among others. Each library will have exhibitions, either formal or informal, for viewing. The BN will feature "Great Bibliophiles of the Late Middle Ages," as well as blockbooks and printing on vellum. The Sorbonne will display "100 Rare Books from the Sorbonne Library" and the Mazarine Library will have on display books from the libraries of Cardinal Mazarin and Gabriel Naudé. The Maison de la Poésie will feature contemporary bindings for books illustrated by Picasso.

Speakers at the meetings will include Marie-Pierre Lafitte on the Royal Library at Blois; Ursula Baurmeister on blockbooks and their collectors; Annie Charon and Mirjam Foot on the connétable de Montmorency's library; Nicolas Barker on the duc d'Aumale as a book collector during his exile in England; Daniel Meyer and Geneviève Guilleminot-Chrétien on the libraries of the Versailles Palace and their fate since the Revolution; and Jean Toulet on "Books printed on vellum, from the XIVth to the XXth century."

FRANK MATTSON

Call for Papers

The Bibliographical Society of America and the University of South Carolina will be sponsoring a conference on bibliography at the University in Columbia, South Carolina, March 6-8. The featured speakers include John Cole, Don L. Cook, David Greetham, David Kaser, G. Ross Roy, and Michael Winship. Conference organizers invite submission of proposals or abstracts for papers, 20 minutes in duration, to be presented at the conference. They are interested in topics covering all aspects of bibliography "including British and American publishing, Libraries and collections, The Bibliography of southern literature, Developments in bibliographical practice and theory." The deadline for proposals is December 15. Send to: Trevor Howard-Hill, Dept. of English, Box 188, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208. Phone (803) 777-6499. FAX (803) 254-5546.

Members' Activities

G. Thomas Tanselle was a featured speaker at the "Melville in Manuscript" symposium sponsored by the Melville Society on September 24 at the New York Public Library.

As part of New York Archives Week, Irene Tichenor spoke October 19 at the South Street Seaport on printed ephemera and the nineteenth-century job printing business.

Ed Colker, a former Vice President of APHA, has been appointed Provost of Cooper Union.

Roderick G. Cave of Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, has received one of the Bibliographical Society of America's 1991 fellowship awards to further his study of "English Fine Printing, 1920-60, with Special Reference to the Golden Cockerel Press."

Briefly Noted

Ampersand, the excellent quarterly Journal of the Pacific Center for the Book Arts, edited by Alistair Johnson, is sent only to PCBA members. The Summer 1991 issue features Johnson's article *The Author as Typographer*, and a panel discussion on the typography of *Finnegan's Wake* and *Tristram Shandy*. Membership categories include Institutional at \$40; Professional at \$30; Associate at \$20; and Student and Se-

nior at \$15. Write to PCBA, P.O. Box 6209, San Francisco, CA 94109.

Sidney E. Berger, Head of Special Collections at the University of California, Riverside, reports that "The University of California, Riverside, Rivera Library, Special Collections Department has received three presses: an 1846 and an 1852 Hopkinson and Cope table-top Albion and a ca. 1828 Cope and Sherwin Imperial Press. These will be used as teaching tools and to print editions of original items, the nature of which has yet to be determined."

Bruce McKittrick Rare Books, Inc., announces a new address: 43 Sabine Ave., Narberth, PA 19072. Tel. (215) 660-0132. FAX (215) 660-0133.

Types and Presses

Re-casting Victor Hammer's Uncials

When searching for appropriate designs to offer in our casting schedule, we always think of the beautiful faces of Victor Hammer. Unfortunately they have not been available in any consistent or adequate manner for many years. Having access to the original documents and punches will enable us to finally produce three designs in quality type equal to the best of any of their original European castings.

American Uncial in 14 point has been commissioned by Carolyn Hammer. Except for Stempel's original punch-driven offering and Nussbaumer's casting, it has never been adequately produced nor its complete range of characters made available.

Aurora Uncial in 16 point and Samson Uncial in 14 point have been commissioned for a re-establishment of the Hammer Press at Wells College in Aurora, New York. The Aurora is the face that was declined by ATF Design Department in 1940. It is an early condensed version of the American Uncial and is quite unique. The Samson is another uncommon design which will be made available to letterpress artisans through the generosity of our patrons.

All of these faces will be produced from new driven, engraved, or electro foundry matrices and cast in genuine foundry type for book fonts, sorts, and limited-run collector's fonts at The Dale Guild foundry at Howell, NJ. The Guild would appreciate notes expressing interest in this project: The Dale Guild, Inc., 4621 Rt. 9N, Howell, NJ 07731; or our agent, Henry Weiland & Co., 8946 West Grantosa, Milwaukee, WI 53225.

THEO REHAK, *Typefounder*

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