

TYPO- GRAPHY SKETCH- BOOKS

STEVEN HELLER
& LITA TALARICO

Thames & Hudson

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STEVEN HELLER
& LITA TALARICO

With over 600 illustrations

ALL LETTERS, THE TIME.

STEVEN HELLER & LITA TALARICO

Every designer, regardless of race, creed or nationality, understands the language of type. A graphic designer who is not fluent is not a graphic designer.

In Steven Spielberg's *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, aliens communicate to humans through mathematics. One could argue that type is the mathematics of graphic design. Designers who are sometimes considered alien share their passions through type. Not all designers can understand what is communicated through Roman, Arabic or Cyclic scripts, but they can embrace all letters in the abstract and assist intent.

When playing with or creating type, it is not so much what it says, or what specific longer a message is communicated that matters most. An understanding of context and context is essential, but typographically speaking – that is, in terms of the letterforms – beauty, however defined, is key. The beauty of precision: the beauty of expression; the beauty of how one letter conjures with others on either side of it and above and below; the beauty of how it looks on paper or screen. Also, unlike mathematics, which is presumably the language of science, incompletely the forms, type ostensibly will not translate well on other stars, moons and planets, but it is certainly what joins diverse designers together through common passion.

There are two kinds of type maker (though many more kinds of type user, which is another story). One is the practical or functional designer who creates typefaces for quotidian public consumption. The other is the giddy or ascensional designer who makes – or, rather, illustrates – letters in any shape or form: legible or illegible, it doesn't matter, as long as it writes. In the process of assembling this collection of typographic sketchbooks we sought out both kinds of makers (since all graphic designers are also users, users were not the targeted segment). It was fairly obvious from their responses which individuals did what kind of type design. Even these personal books and scrapbooks that were never meant to be seen in public revealed the discipline, or lack of it, that defines the designers' practices.

Masters of functional design, such as Matthew Carter, Erik Spiekerman and James Morrellando, never really let their hair down. They showed their results严谨 in even the most informal contexts. But functional purity is not limited to western type designers. Look at Tom Gehman's roughs for logos or Oded Ezer's Hebrew sketches to find sketches that could easily be used as finials. Even hand-lettering masters such as Herb Lubalin are careful not to make a mistake even in sketch form.

Sketchbooks are intentionally informal – a place to mumble, experiment or just play around. The vast majority of pages selected for this book are indeed typographic playgrounds, where anything from doodles to notebooks to more ambitious renderings are nurtured and saved. For the most part the type is the main focus, as in Leigh Walker's notations of vintage signs. But illustrations such as Tom Schimpff's delightful antecoprophetic letters are also included. Sometimes sketchbooks reveal the progress of assignments, as ideas are developed. Others are wonderfully random musings (in print and on periods from the screen), like Pepe Iglesias' drawn and digitized concoctions. In many instances they are novel approaches that lead more towards fine than applied art, as with Aleksander Macalister's Meso-American books. Well with a wide array of drawings, paintings and cutouts, Piero di Sculio's ways a sketch can "sometimes be viewed for itself, not like a former step of something else."

The designers here agree that their sketchbooks are laboratories for ideas that would otherwise lie forgotten, yet we view these type sketchbooks as having one key thing in common: they are personal narratives, not conventional stories but tales about form and content. Through sketched and fleshed letterforms we see how type designers and typographers address the vessel in which meaning is contained. While many of these alphabets are designed to be neutral, many more are meant to be demonstrative – not only to tell a story but also to fill in the gaps. As Odaku Jim notes:

"These books help me very much with a clear overview and insight into my past self. Every now and then I take one or two days off and take every journal, almost page by page, to see who I was, what I was thinking and have everything relate to this moment I've created for myself."

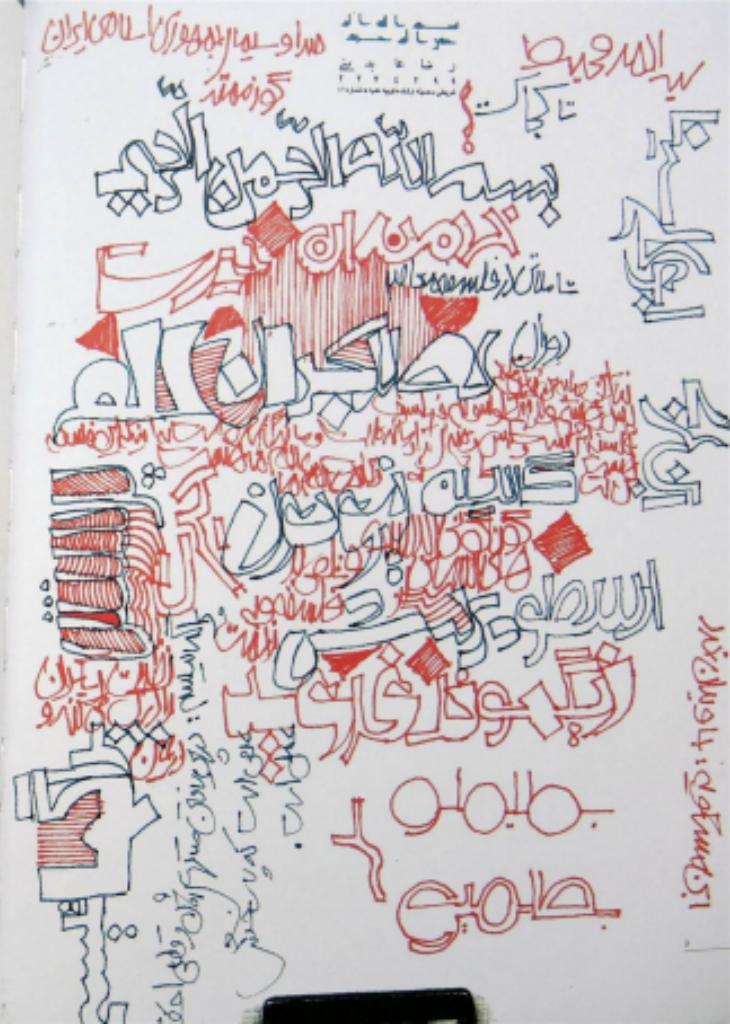
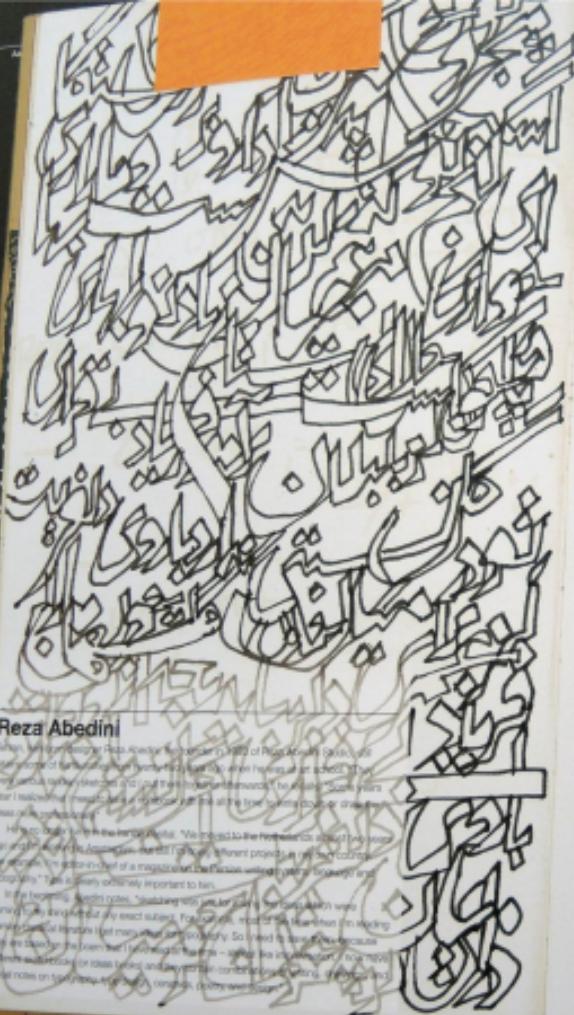
Reza Abedini

Iranian graphic designer Reza Abedini has studied at the Royal College of Art in London, and

now works as the head of typography at the Sharif University of Technology in Tehran. After being part of the first Iranian typographic group, he began teaching at an school. Then, very recently, he left his job and, just as he had done in the past, he has now moved to London. Seven years later I met him again in Tehran, but we exchanged our life at the time, so here's his present situation.

How do you start work in the design studio? "We invited to the competition for about two years ago and we did some projects for them. But after that, I did different projects in my free time, and then I started to do more projects for them. I'm not a member of a design group, but I always work with people from my university and colleagues." This is apparently extremely important to him.

In the beginning, Abedini notes, "studying with other students in their groups, which were coming from the university but not exact subjects. For example, most of the students from the Royal College of Art know how to print and make things physically. So I need to prove to them because they are closed for the others. If I go to the others – either like art students or like myself – there're different ways to look for ideas. Because and it's more comfortable for me to work in my physical and visual notes on top of paper. And I can't communicate with them, because we're different."



MÁS
YO JEURSO
MASJ SM



MÁS Y MEJOR

MÁS Y MEJOR
JAVERIANA CALI

MÁS Y MEJOR

matilde
lina
Mati

Catalina Castillo

catacc12@hotmail.com / catacc1288@gmail.com
catacc12_catalinacastillo1288@gmail.com
3012505320 - 3115058180

M Matilde

M S



la casa de
matilde

la casa de
matilde

Diego Giovanni Bermúdez Aguirre

Born in Cali, Valle del Cauca, Colombia, graphic and type designer Diego Giovanni Bermúdez Aguirre is a professor at Javeriana University and consultant to the program "Bogotá Invierte" (Chamber of Commerce of Bogotá). His work reflects the influence and color of his native Colombia, while having a psychotropic post.

HG has sketched his sketches since 1994 when he was studying at the Universidad Nacional de Colombia, where he received his degree in graphic design. About his self-taught output he notes in a poetic cadence: "My sketches are done to relieve anxiety and doubt, to release my voice." He adds: "The sketches are performed in order to reflect and explore different options for each communication."

Aguirre's sketches are very impulsive, but he later seeks to "edit them in the computer. They are the crux to the final result, but sometimes prefer the sketches to the outcome." He almost never uses photographic images in his design or sketchbooks because they're acetic with very basic typography and graphic elements."

la casa de
matilde

telefono celular

79645822



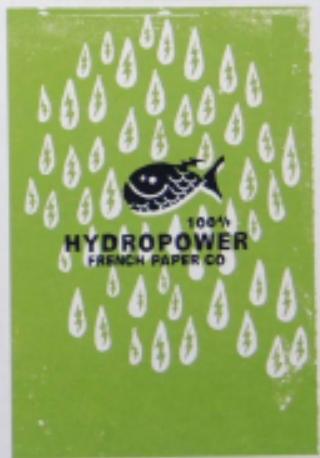
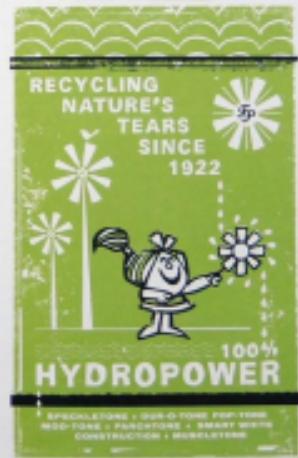
The french paper co.



Charles Spencer Anderson

Minneapolis-based designer and design entrepreneur Charles Spencer Anderson runs his CSA studio where, he claims, "most of our designs take over sketchbooks since high school age." The books generally have a focused subject, he says. "Many of these sketches are clear that get abandoned as they branch on to new paths, some refined." Of course, there's always the possibility – even the likelihood – that one day, when the designer is out in the real world, he'll find himself in a situation where his sketches will be useful. "I think it's important to look back at sketches for the new ideas and unexplored concepts, they take their time," he adds.

The following images show many sketches that have been processed enough for knowing clients, such as French Paper Company, "French Paper Company is a great place to do sketches for sketchbooks because the people are very open, changeable, and flexible; also they don't have huge pricing blocks like some of their competitors," Anderson explains. "We do a lot of sketches, so we can quickly catch up with the pre-existing consumers' demand by their product. The sketches are often design work that tells between the cracks of our processes – but they are a great source of our inspiration and innovations."





FIRE IN MY BONES

**FIRE
IN
MY
BONES**



FIRE IN MY BONES

RAW + RARE
+ OTHER-
WORLDLY
AFRICAN-
AMERICAN
GOSPEL
[1944-2007]



Susan Archie

Atlanta, Georgia based illustrative letterer Susan Archie says that sketching was one of the things her mother would do with her. "Muddy journals, houses, and roses," she recalls. "When I got older I would sketch things I found in album covers. Elton John's Goodbye Yellow Brick Road was illustrated with drawings that mesmerized me, and I copied them all into my own books. I quit drawing in art school because I really wasn't any good compared with others. I started writing in spiral-bound or case-bound blank books and taking photos instead."

Archie uses "sketchnotes" to keep her first the right typeface for a project. "I look in my font books, through my font collections, and/or online, then I set my choices and...whittle down, what looks good in books or online doesn't necessarily look good as brand - sometimes there are weird letter details that don't look right. This method helps me prioritize and compare quickly," she says. Oddly, she admits not drawing for fun any more. "I sketch concepts in Photoshop or Illustrator and try to get spots firing. My creative time is usually after dark when I've had time to relax. I try to let go - make mistakes, use the wrong color - so that my innate 'Yourselves' gene releases and allows possibilities to happen."

THE RED FOX CHASERS

THE RED FOX CHASERS

**THE RED FOX CHASERS
THE RED FOX CHASERS**

**RED FOX
CHASERS**

**RED FOX
CHASERS**

I'M GOING DOWN TO NORTH CAROLINA:

**RED FOX
CHASERS**
The Complete Recordings
[1928-31]

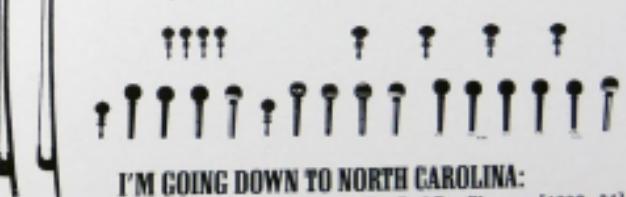
I'M GOING DOWN TO NORTH CAROLINA:

**RED FOX
CHASERS**
The Complete Recordings of
The Red Fox Chasers [1928-31]

**THE RED FOX
CHASERS**

**RED FOX
CHASERS**

I'M GOING DOWN TO NORTH CAROLINA:
The Complete Recordings of The Red Fox Chasers [1928-31]



I'M GOING DOWN TO NORTH CAROLINA:
The Complete Recordings of The Red Fox Chasers [1928-31]

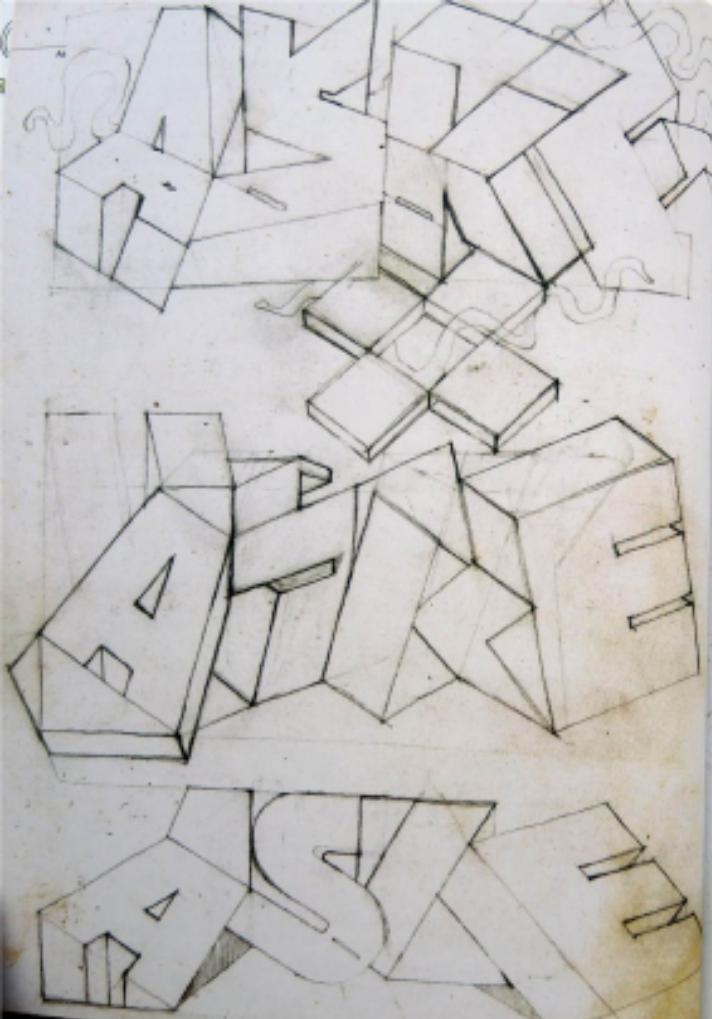
I'M GOING DOWN
TO NORTH CAROLINA:
The Complete
Recordings of
The Red Fox Chasers
[1928-31]



I'M GOING DOWN
TO NORTH CAROLINA:
The Complete
Recordings of
The Red Fox Chasers
[1928-31]



I'M GOING DOWN
TO NORTH CAROLINA:
The Complete
Recordings of
The Red Fox Chasers
[1928-31]

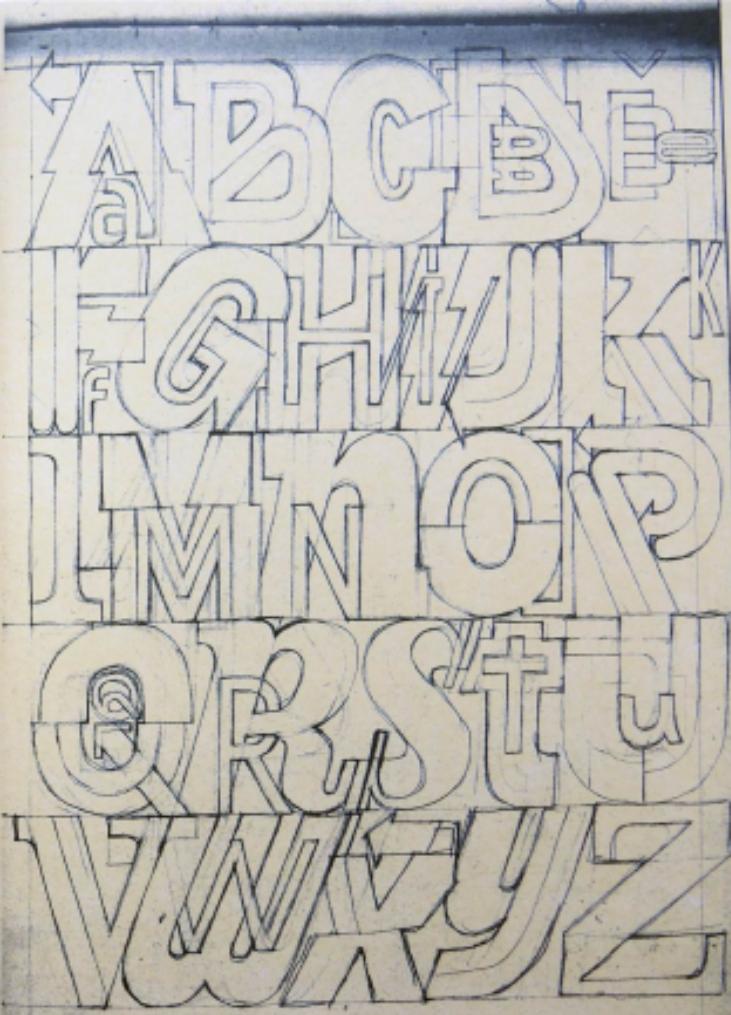
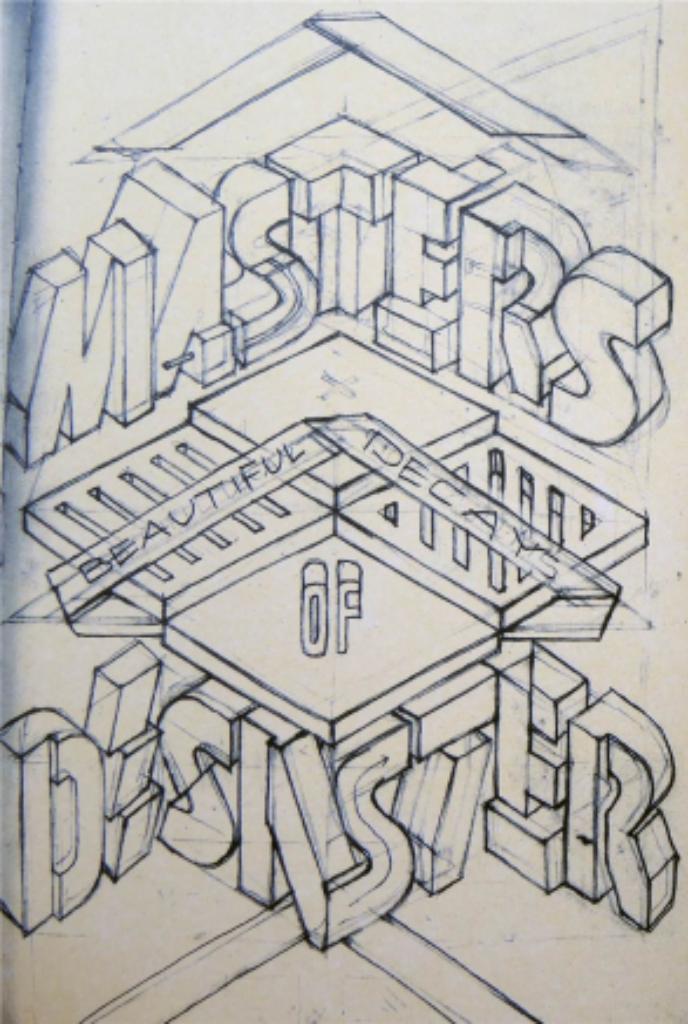


Dmitri Aske

Dmitri Aske, of Goksystems in Moscow, started sketching in 2002 when he got interested in graffiti. For six years he made sketches on 44 sheets of paper and kept them in boxes. Since 2008 he has been using a Neuroroller, "because it's much more convenient," he explains.

Aske used to sketch a lot more: "I would make sketches with pencil, pen, and markers just for the sake of the process, and also to develop my style. These were sketches that could have been turned into graffiti pieces. Today I make only pencil sketches for vector illustrations or other projects I'm working on."

He admits that sometimes his sketches (these are from 2007 to 2010) look fresher than the finished works. "Because the lines are less precise than those of the computer images. Sketches definitely have their own charm. Not long ago nearly all my sketches and finished works were based on letters and typography. However, I'm always trying to move forward and develop my art, so now I'm experimenting a lot with people's faces and abstract forms."





use block letters

Bob Aufuldish

Bob Aufuldish designs typefaces from his studio in San Anselmo, California. These sketches (ranging from the 1990s to 2008) are created for his personal pleasure. "They point in a direction I might pursue for a project some day, or maybe not," he says.

Some of these are actual working sketches for a typeface called Tomali (opposite). "I put letters as small as possible looking through a loupe using an X-Acto knife. It was an attempt to 'de-skill myself,' he explains. For another exercise he found a stick that looked like a leaping figure and "I saved the stick for years, thinking that someday I could use it for something."

He also had his way with other flora, what he calls "use flowers." "These are new ways of letters I made out of artificial flowers for a poster for an architecture lecture series. Unlike everything else I sent, these have an actual purpose in the final piece. We have an old overhead projector lens that has an enormous depth of field that's perfect for scanner photos," he explains.

If there is one word to categorize the majority of his books, he says, it would be "quirky."



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→ 8 BART E' UM CARA MARAVILHOSO
 → O DIRETOR DA BART FOI PEGAR
 → NO BANHEIRO DA BART, MAS NAO
 → FOI POSSIVEL FAZER ALGUMA COISA
 → NA BART, PORQUE A BART
 → ERA UMA EMPRESA... [longo
 → silêncio] ESSA FESTA FOI LIGADA
 → PARA BART, ENTÃO
 → DEPOIS
 → FOI O BART
 → SERDO UNA DIA
 → EXPLOSIVO
 → PROBLEMA
 → RESOLVIDO
 → PROBLEMA
 → MAIS COMPLEXO,
 → LI A BART
 → FOI MAIS
 → LI AMIGO
 → AGORA AS MULHERES
 → VIERAM A CHAMADA DA EXPO...
 → DIFERENTES / SUPER-NOVOS / INVENTOS?
 → FORAM AS MULHERES INICIO PRAQUE NOS
 → VOU PRAQUE E ESTOUOK.
 → (AINDA DEI MEU LUGAR) ATÉ TAMBÉM
 → (ponto, sussurro)

→ 12-12-2010 (restaurante da Aldina)
 → HOTELEIRO DEVALVOU A BART
 → PARA O MARK, FINALMENTE...
 → FOI LA, PRECISEI,
 → AIRES, ENFIM O
 → PREÇO! AVI DE BART
 → ATÉ A CASA DE
 → BOMAL - PA
 → RA APARECER
 → E CAPTURAR DE
 → JEN, PARA EDITAR
 → OS ENTREVISTAS
 → DO TYPEBANDO...
 → FOI MUITO LE
 → GOL, TEU ENTRE
 → FOI PRAQUE
 → NÁ VIDA DIFERTE...
 → E CARA MUITO DEN
 → TRO DE UMA MULHER
 → DE... IMPREE
 → SONHANTE
 → LEGAL, NÁO É
 → ALGO PRO... CAMPANHA
 → FOI UM PAVIMENTO
 → ANTES DE SLEVER PRALE A PESSOA DES
 → GR... BEM GOI CA MELHOR TUDO A SÓ
 → DE AMSTERDAM ANTES DE CHECAR LA...

H
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MUITO SIMPLIFICA NÁO, TEM QUE TER
 ALGO PRO... CAMPANHA
 FOI UM PAVIMENTO
 ANTES DE SLEVER PRALE A PESSOA DES
 GR... BEM GOI CA MELHOR TUDO A SÓ
 DE AMSTERDAM ANTES DE CHECAR LA...

→ 12-12-12
 → Realmente fiquei bem surpreso com
 → o resultado do novo bookletto...
 → não esperava... não é perfeito
 → para expandir e praticar desse
 → modelo. Seguiu desenho vazio
 → talvez pra falar q tipo de fonte
 → é que é pra ser... ESCULTURA?
 → Pode ser que aí venha formar
 → de maneira... ou aliás... pra ser
 → um visual estilizado que possa mar
 →car este bookletto pra mim. NÁO DO
 → KA FIST. (disponível DK - Sórdido
 → Convenção) Achou que era errado
 → qe entrava uma fonte...
 → ART + TYPE + CALLIGRÁFIA +
 → DESIGN. USAR como pra me
 → explicar o que é... é que é... E quando
 → souberem falar q é... pra mim
 → continuo PÁS PÁS + LATER.
 → (na aula) usar a base fundo...
 → pra quem fala um talk + só pra
 → saber, vai ser impressionante...



Yomar Augusto

Yomar Augusto was born in Brazil,
 raised in Rio de Janeiro, and trained as a
 graphic designer before going on to study
 photography at the School of Visual Arts in
 New York. Since 2002 he has been running
 experimental calligraphy workshops in
 Dresden, Russia, Portugal, and the Netherlands,
 where he now lives. He is one part of the
 Typebando Collective.

He calls his sketchbooks "my studio
 inside my backpack" where he stores
 ideas and processes. "I never throw away
 anything," he notes. "Design is a profession
 attuned to waste, so the sketchbooks are
 great to have this waste. My studio is an art
 laboratory, so my life is just constant. Just
 think or dream about any book, and you'll

Augusto adds that these books are
 "sometimes just a place for a creative
 person to just leave hours of bad files
 on the paper without any restriction or tools.
 You are totally free of the rules of the design
 world and just the space. Do it. Use it.
 Nobody is watching. There's no cost."
 "great," "moo," or "awesome." They are just
 results. His calligraphy is sketchbookish;
 the perfect platform to be "ugly," "uncool,"
 "unseen" and "unattractive."



John Baeder

Nashville, Tennessee-based painter and roadside-maven John Baeder has been collecting primitive signs or graphic folk art for decades.

"I don't keep sketchbooks in the classic sense of drawings, as most of us had to do in art school," he reports. Instead he has kept photo "sketchbooks" or visual notes "of anything that attracts my eye."

In the beginning, "there was no purpose, everything was for my own personal pleasure." The sign photographs eventually worked into an article in *Print* magazine in January 1971. Years later, Abrams published Baeder's 250-page *Language: Street Signs as Folk Art* (1986).

Baeder's finished works are totally different from these signs. They are paintings of everyday and other man-made ordinary occurrences. "However, when signs appear, I play the role of a reporter, or the anonymous person who needs to express themselves with the written word," he says. In other words, he paints signs.

His passion is for reporting. These folks take a writing instrument and apply paint to other materials to communicate myriad thoughts and ideas onto a surface. It usually goes unnoticed, how letters take on varying personalities from untrained eyes, and how the expression becomes another art form. What I label the "noise of the street."

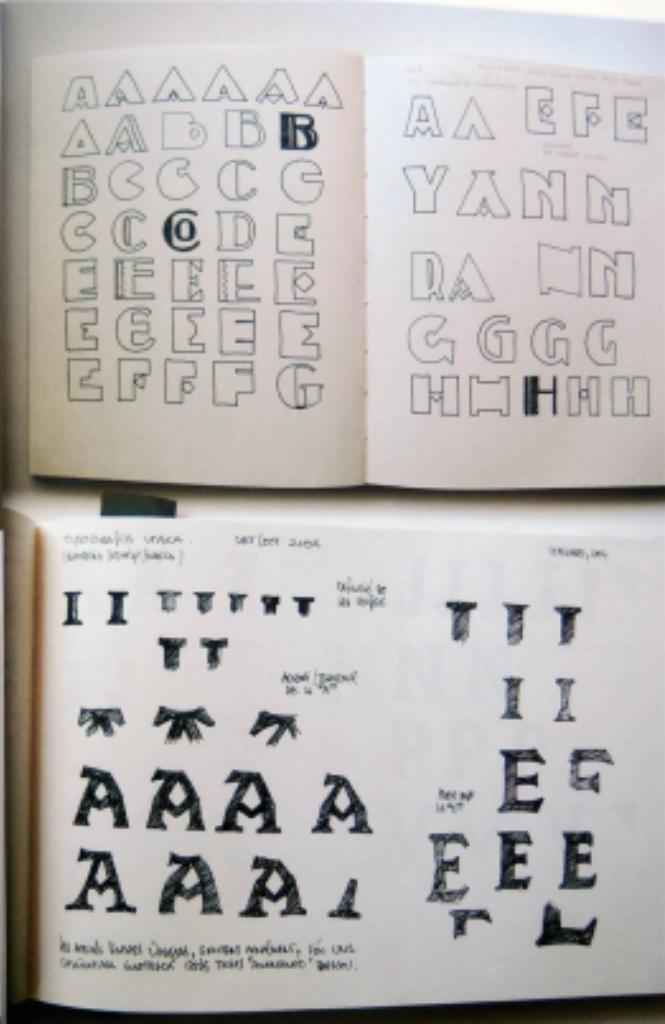
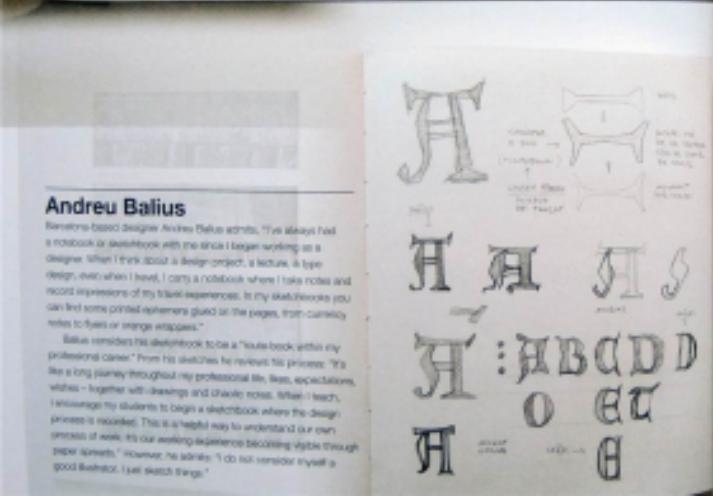
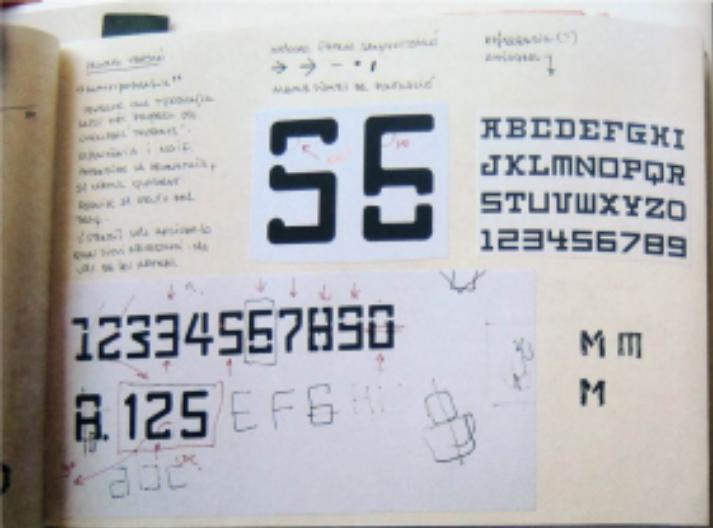
The theme of these collections is "the human spirit, and the need to communicate through the written word."

COME IN & SAVE
GIGANTIG
CHAIR SALE
LOW-PRICES

 **SWEET**
 **CHERRIES**



STRAW
BERRIES



SUCCESS

through

PROJECTS



DIRECTION



George Bates

George Bates, an illustrator from Brooklyn, uses his notebooks to answer questions about process and aesthetics. "Each event has its place in the greater scheme of my work," he explains. "I've been quite surprised what sketches I've done as seeming casual throwaway images become the actual final art for a project."

He is an insatiable hand-letterer and says, "I'm always interested at how consistently excited people get about hand-lettered type. In high school I traveled as an Abraham Tinker artist at Great Adventures in New Jersey and it was surprising to me back then how people really got excited about the entranced/hand-lettered typography."

As for thematic consistency, he observes that "the book represents a plane with no parameters; yet they also define what the parameters are. They renounce from a restless experimentation and connect with image-making, space, ideas, and possibly also love that have a regular or specific event or lead that has been collaged, drawn, pasted, or scratched into a page can manipulate and directly change the entire meaning of the image and that create an expression. I do see the books as an ongoing, unfulfilled, single work of art, but I haven't assigned a theme to them yet, so the understanding of them as a 'something' is continually evolving."

Charles and
Ray Eames

EBERLIA

PAUL

THE

SEYMOUR SEYMORE
CHWAST CHWAST

NGLE

FINS

SHAKED

SNAKE

Erwin K. Bauer

Viennese designer and design entrepreneur Erwin K. Bauer, who won the 2010 Joseph Binder Award for his typeface *Kekstare* (see opposite), looks at sketches as part of the design process and the present documentation. His typefaces include *Sputnik Original*, *Entwickl*, *Typpressage* and *Alpenmonte-Vinatext*.

His goal as a designer is to visualize the initial typographic ideas and make the designer's "Most show shapes in the design process," he says. "A lot takes place in the beginning, but the more you get to

the final proposal the harder the struggle for the best design becomes – it is the fight for the last 5 percent of quality. It is hard to work out what makes the difference. My sketchbook is more a loose collection of sketches, copied everywhere." Bauer openly admits that his sketches are full of "mistakes" and so provide "a document of many possible ways" of reaching a solution. "Sometimes it's a pity," he laughs, "because you have to leave some good ideas behind, but then they crop up in other projects and contexts."



g-&-s

c->c-a-a

ff h-hs

yyy

yy

7y'1

wien um 1930

peripherie und g'stätt'n

café elek- trik

rotes wien

ins freie

ABCDEF^GHJKL
LMNOPQ^RQQRST
UVWXYZ TV
abcde^fghijk^{lm}
nopoqrstuuvwxyz

abcdefgijklmn
opqrstuvwxyz
ABCDEFGHIJKLMN
OPQRSTUVWXYZ
123-4567890 Jahr 1933
29. 03. 1933 18:47

DEFGHIJKLMNOP

ABCDEFGHIJKLMN
OPQRSTUVWXYZ

123-4567890 Jahr 1933
29. 03. 1933 18:47

BAR ATTENTAT VON SARAJEVO

1914

Das Bild des Theresienhofs Frau Friederike in der Amerikanischen Bibliothek war eines von Schätzern präsent, der Foto des Bruders von Salomé Friederike, Emil Leibig, war ein Bruder in der Wirtschaft und das Foto Schädelzange, schlechthin aus Eisen (heute 0228 48 89 00) Beobachtung begannen seit.

BLEEK REGULAR
LITE

A C D E F G H I J K
L M N O P Q R S T
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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0

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a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z

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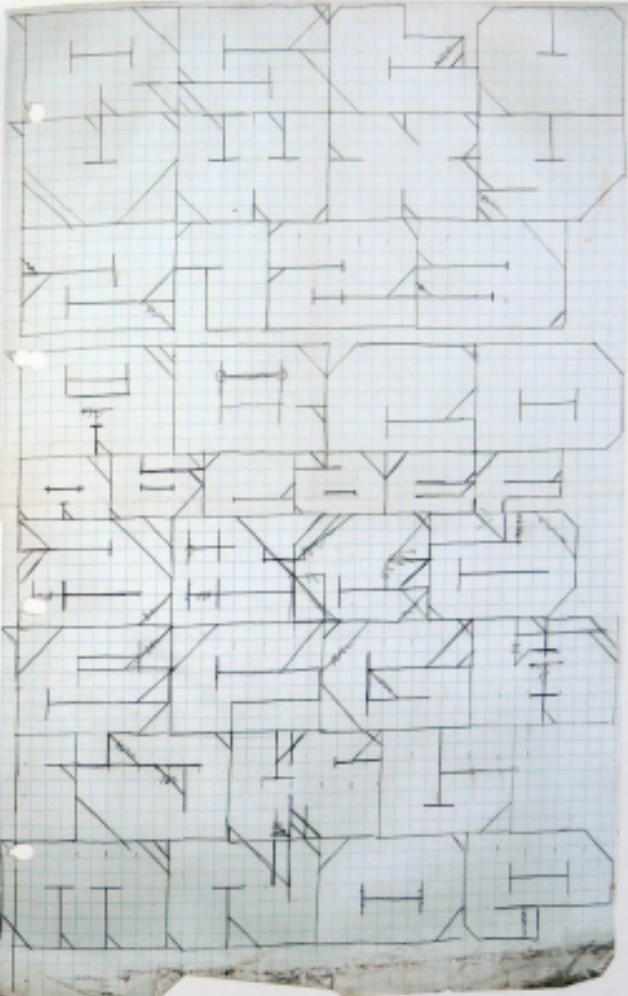
Donald Beekman

Housed on a ship on the river Amstel in Amsterdam, Donald Beekman is a designer with a penchant for keeping the remnants of his process. "I have two boxes—impossibly filled with sketches and sheets of paper with doodles and sketches going back to 1980," he says. "They have never been delivered, but those are kept in boxes with the proofs showing they were originally for." Not surprisingly, his sketch work serves as the starting point in all his designs.

"I always develop an idea before getting in front of the screen."

"I can find pleasure in endless drawing, but in general it has a goal."

And the goal is developing the perfect letter. "No matter where I am, I have sheets of paper and chalk letters, it's a reflexion I want to take advantage of," he says. "These sketches contain the morphology of alphabets; you can really see the idea. This is how I classify my 'talents': if starts with a logo and arrives immediately, I try to see if I can 'see' the other characters that are not in the logo. They help I extend the idea to a writing fontface. These very粗 and simple sketches of angle treatment or a logo sometimes can lead to strong and beautiful typefaces. In my humble opinion, that is."





PLAIN TALK

Nobody can read
this type.



You **WRITE**
boring, I'll give you
BORING.

Boring is beside
the point.
Legibility...



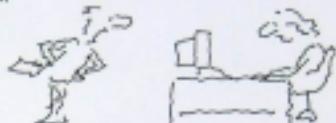
...white... is
white
bread.

Please don't interrupt.
Look, language is meant
to communicate.



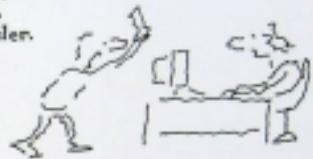
RIGHT ON.
And Cope has to
COMMUNICATE
WHAT'S AROUND US.

What's around us
is MEANING.



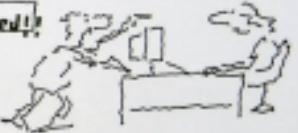
And that
meaning is
DISORDER.

ART is
never
disorder.



Value your art!
It's all reaction/
grammar.

It may be
NEVER
packaged!

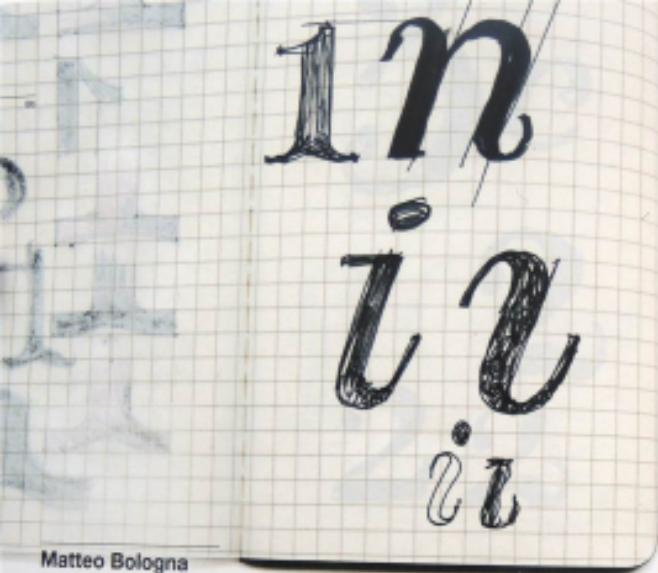


Now
you're
Talking!

R. O. Blechman

For over thirty years, according to his own calculation, R. O. Blechman, veteran New York illustrator, comic-book artist, animator, and author, with sketchbooks and feature-length animated films to his name, has kept a notebook to jot down ideas as they occur to him. "I always keep writing material by my bedside, and rarely sleep without having paper and pen handy. I never know when an idea will strike. When my ideas take verbal form I just either a word or a sentence or even a few paragraphs."

For Blechman, being prolific is simply hardened into his brain and his sketchbooks are an extension of this. They continue to serve as reference for present and possible future projects. They are also a reminder from the more formal work he does, "My sketches can be awful (scared or great (needy)," he says. "I never know what will turn up in my jottings." These comic sketches from 1987 are not typical of the typographic sketches found in the rest of this book, but illustrate the encyclopedic Blechman pieces on type design and communication.



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Matteo Bologna

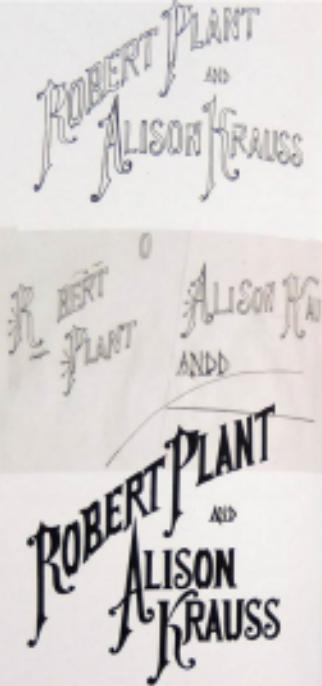
A native of Italy, Matteo Bologna is the founder and principal of Mucca Design in New York. His multidisciplinary background in architecture, graphic design, illustration, and typography triggered his decision to create a full-service branding and design agency that emphasizes typography as a signature concept.

Sketching is a reluctant part of his routine, used "to quickly research something that I've already designed in my mind." Usually they don't last more than five weeks. Once they are done they wind up in the circular file ("for the presentation of types, not icons").

With that in mind, he says, he usually keeps sketching on paper. "So the real function is a reminder of some passing thoughts. They are incomplete and do not contain all the info that I have in mind once transferred to a digital file."

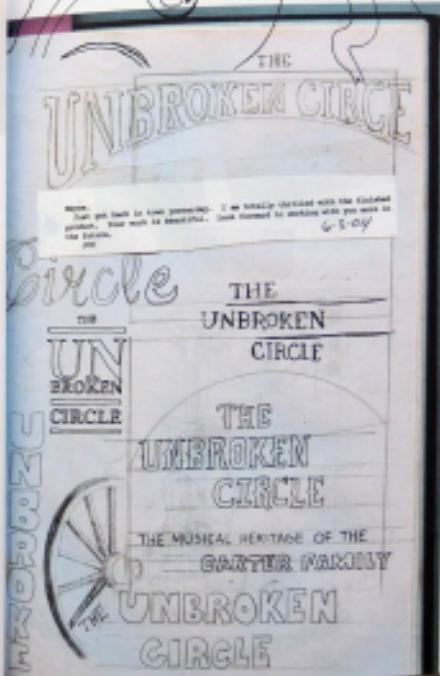
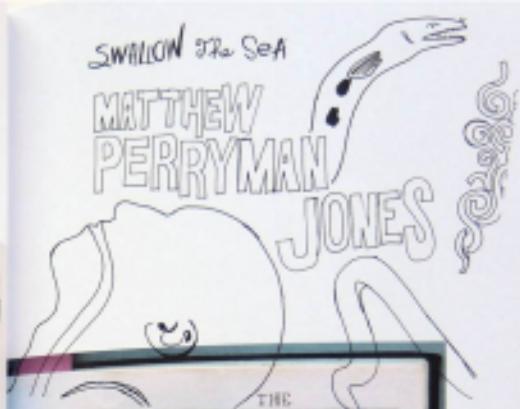
When asked what the single most unusual aspect of his designs is, Bologna responds: "They suck." So much for the art of imperfection.





BAWN COLVIN / EARL & RANDY SCRUGGS / ROSANNE CASH
VILLIE NELSON / THE WHITES / RICKY SKAGGS / JUNE CARTER
CASH / THE NITTY GRITTY DIRT BAND / GEORGE JONES
MERYL CROW / EMMYLOU HARRIS / FEASALL SISTERS / THE DEL
MCOURRY BAND / JOHNNY CASH / MARTY STUART / JANET & JOE CARTER

The
UNBROKEN CIRCLE Re THE UNBROKEN CIRCLE e



Wayne Brezinka

Minneapolis.com Wayne Brezinka is Minnesota Design Co.'s creative director in illustration, hand-lettering and design. He has maintained a sketchbook for twelve years — “as long as I’ve been freelancing and working for myself,” he says. “I have specific projects and assignments going on that require me to sketch prior to executing the final. I like to get my thoughts out whenever the urge arises.” Since, he notes, his sketchbooks are “unpublished chrome.”

“More often than not,” he adds, “my sketches are thoughts and ideas being refined into an existing assignment. I like to consider composition and form in how the type may or may not work within it.” Brezinka’s drawings are pretty raw and honest of the letters, shapes, and forms they are not as refined as I’d like them to be, so I usually break them over to completion of the finished work,” he maintains. “Sometimes the sketch ends up being used as the final rendering. I’ve actually learned that the first subconscious thought and doodle is more often than not the best and strongest idea.”

Travis Cain

Travis Cain is a designer and art director based in New York, in the designer's studio of Kidosaki studios, including Daffy (series 2009), Wizard Dream, Chess, and Reborn Disney, and Rembrandt Gfits. Making sketches, however, is among his favorite pastimes. "Generally, my sketches are more experimental—dealing with forms, hand-drawn type, and not so perfect," he says. Cain sketches usually first in pencil, then in ink, and finally in digital. "Maybe it's always like I might find a use for something I sketched as a poster, illustration, or other personal project."

These sketches are more experimental and loose than can normally be fitting with most. "I work for a more corporate, clean-style or more 'modern' design—which I enjoy as well—but it's great to let go and not worry so much about whether or not someone can read what I'm writing."

Most of his sketches involve making type. "Designing letters that can be a bit of a challenge for the viewer to read requires me to acknowledge two elements that make a letter more legible and recognizable. There are a few that become more abstract pictures rather than legible phonetic shapes. See what I'm saying? And avoiding poor communication—whether the message is clear, but don't really say anything."

HIGH-DRINK SAFARI

HIGH-DRINK SAFARI QUADRANT SCARIBAES

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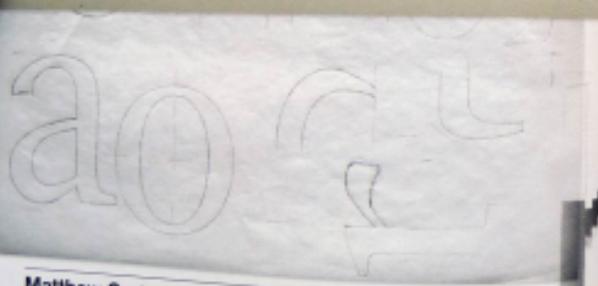


Brian Cairns

Designer, artist, author and designer Brian Cairns has been a British design power for over twenty years. "They are visual notes to myself," he explains. "I can't sleep, I can't eat, I can't do anything else because I'm thinking about them. When I come across something that interests me and it's already written or in a photograph, it is something that is more conceptual and not so easily documented photographically than will a quick sketch that only really makes sense to myself." It is a form of visual shorthand to express memory. "I remember the image later and recall the context that interested me. The link between the search and the sketch results is not always obvious, and the translation of the ideas learnt at the process."

The sketches are unique as "the evidence of a human hand, the process, either in the imperfections, or in the consideration given to a placement of elements that is perfectly appropriate in a not-so-obvious way." He thematic preference in these sketches from 2000 to 2006 is best described as "Type as image" – "when I am looking at the website, of the type rather than the message or content."





Matthew Carter

Matthew Carter, born in London and based in Cambridge, Massachusetts, is one of the pioneers of digital type design. His career, however, began in the hot metal chase, starting aged nineteen at Jan van Kempen's workshop in the Netherlands. Carter has designed typefaces for Linotype, including Bell Centennial, 1985; Miss Carter for Stempel, one of the first digital foundries, before forming Carter and Cone in 1988 with Chee Cone. He most frequently used digital font is Verdana.

His typefaces have been widely used for their aesthetic and functional virtues. Although much of the finishing work is done on computer,

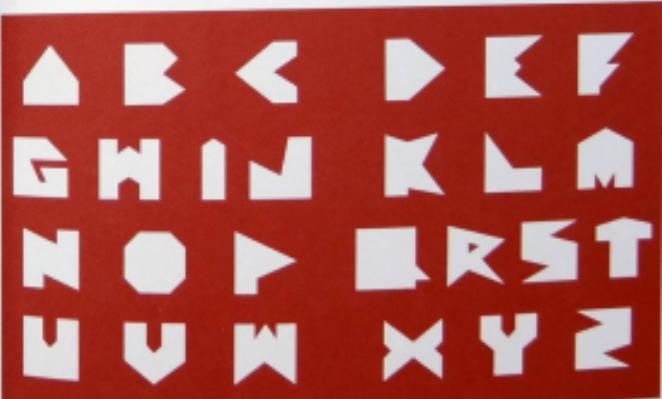
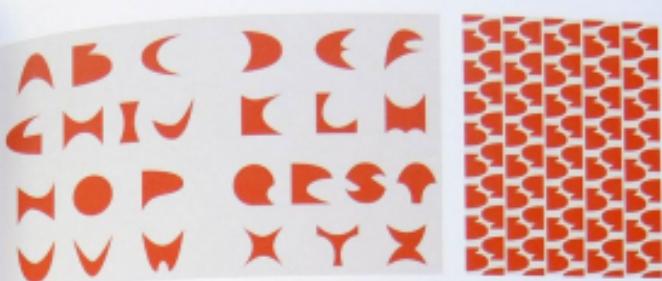
Carter has never lost the pleasure of working on paper. Included here are a diagram of the four weights of Galerie Roman and Ital (1989); early sketches for Bitstream Charter Roman and Ital (pencil on tracing paper, 1988); an experiment in the use of nail-titting to smooth curves (ink on Gravaflex, 1988); and, finally, early sketches for Bell-Centennial, Carter's typeface for use in American telephone directories (ink on Gravaflex, 1979). "The plan was to derive the new directory typefaces from Helvetica," he explains. "But characters such as these, reduced photographically to actual size, proved hard to read; the eventual design took a different direction."



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A B C D E F G
H I J K L M N
O P Q R S T
U V W X Y Z



Celina Carvalho

Brasilian designer Celina Carvalho has kept sketchbooks since the beginning of college. "There are two main purposes for doing sketches," she says. "The first one is when I want to register what trees, what the images are very basic in my head. The second is to get started on the project. When I haven't had ideas yet, sometimes I feel I need to begin designing directly on the computer. With the sketchbook I can simply work it with no pressure. I draw whatever comes to mind, even if it has nothing to do with what I

need to achieve. And this leads me to the beginning of my ideas." The images here show Carvalho's drawings of icon motifs found in the gothic, baroque, and windows of Venice. "They inspired me to create letters, which would be the starting point for me to develop unique alphabets." She likes the way one subject or image becomes something else, and in the sketches here, she employs them in different ways with a completely different purpose. For example, a window motif turns into a letter G, which turns into a pattern.

A B C D E F
G H I J K L
M N O P Q R
S T U V W X
Y Z a b c a
h e f g h i j k
l m n o p q
r s t u v w
x y z i m i



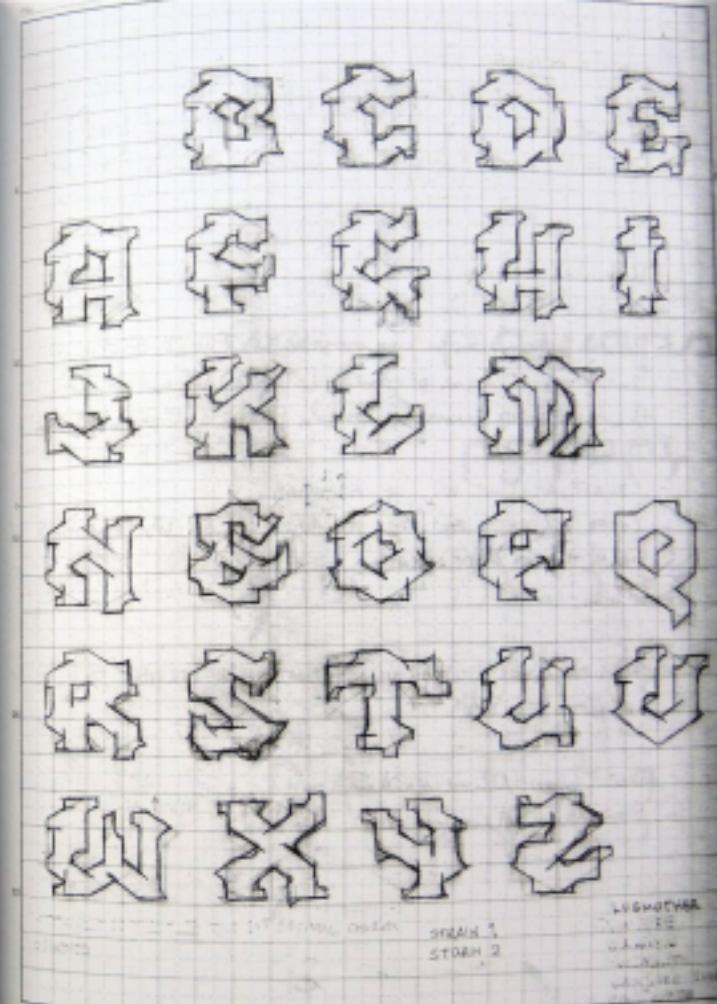
Rodrigo Xavier Cavazos

Rodrigo Xavier Cavazos (RXC) is principal of RXCOPS Type Foundry. When Francisco and instructor in typeface design at California College of the Arts.

Cavazos remarks that "the softer, wobblier edges of the sketch make it possible to envision nuanced variations in a way that's difficult from vector forms. When sketching, I try not to accept anything I've drawn before, even when the same motif is expected to repeat. This yields multiple variants of curves and shapes, and I can then choose the best ones when I start to draft the clean forms. Sketching variations is something definitely unique to sketch art in a way that's typically lost in the fine art, where letters are built in a more mechanical, cookie-cutter manner."

"In past years, sketches have only been casual explorations for my own ideas," he explains. "Lately, with less open time, sketching is mainly reserved for client projects. Some of the sketches have been scanned and refined in Photoshop, then printed back out and rechecked in order to refine nuance or character, or just make changes quickly and intuitively." Most of these images have, he notes, been "tucked away for ten or twelve years, and others come up through my use. I'm fascinated about all of the older, more naive work."

a b c d e f f
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Don Ryun Chang

Don Ryun Chang, a designer and educator from Seoul, South Korea, who was educated in New York, has sketchbooks full of sketches several decades. "They are a manifestation of ideas and purely visual explorations and studies. I tend to sketch 20,000 to 30,000 directions with a red marker and putting them up on the wall to aligned and take notes."

Chang is often transfixed by his sketches work. "They have the human element, which is expressed in sketching. Non uniform lines," he explains. "It allows me to see the full range of expression from mundane and silly to refined and innovative. In this sense, they have a life of their own."

All these exploratory sketches from

February 2010 belong to a project on

which he is working for a concert marketing company.

They are works in progress prior

to finishing in August. "The conscious

thoughts have to express different concepts

for Miss John, which is a children's theater

company that is famous for beers and

Korean style, but is planning to branch out

into different food and beverage industries,"

he relates. "This new brand theme is the

values of positivity and that's why some forms

there is an intent to show happiness and

other pleasant icons."

By Jennifer 8. Lee

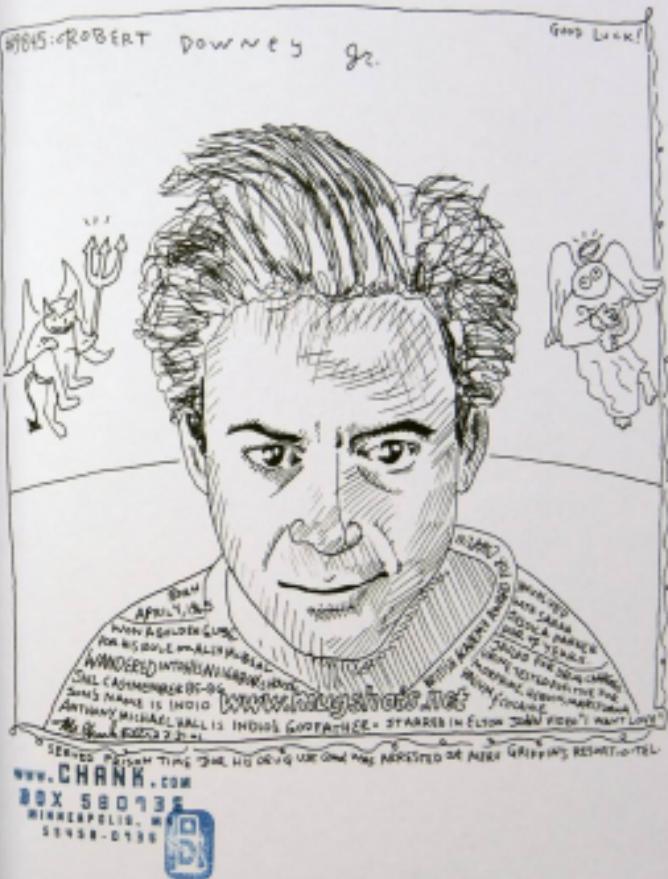




Chank Diesel

Canadian firm, Pond's-necked type designer Chank Diesel (aka Charles Anderson) designs display typefaces and creates custom fonts for corporations, including Taco Bell, Tangerine and Diesel Sport. He says that sketching has an educational effect — it's what he calls "designer practice." "Seein' how you can be great at anything if you practice size, as I've done drawing the alphabet," he says. "There's more," he adds, "that often gets an idea stuck in his head, and can spend all their time going round and round thinking about it. So I do a sketch just to get the idea out of my head. And once it's on paper, you get a new vantage point, and can more easily see which direction you should go, or if it should be abandoned. I can do a sketch in a few minutes, but it's spent hours refining it and adding extra language support and spacing and kerning. But I always try to keep a human element somewhere in the final font. It's all the funny little blemishes you get in a number — he started this circa 1994. "My original intent was to break Pixar's productivity record by making a million words of art. Plus the fact that it makes that amazeballs, but I had number everything. I've made over 16,000 of these over the years."

Every drawing gets a number — he started this circa 1994. "My original intent was to break Pixar's productivity record by making a million words of art. Plus the fact that it makes that amazeballs, but I had number everything. I've made over 16,000 of these over the years."



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12/21/2009

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PROSPERO

PROSPERO



PROSPERO
MEDIA GROUP

Art Chantry

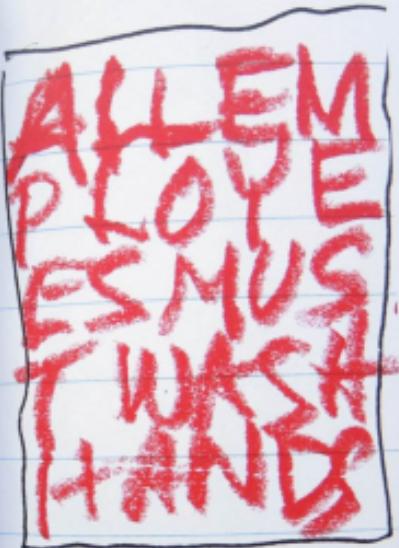
Art Chantry, pioneer of Seattle punk music-and-theater posters, does not always keep sketchbooks, although he uses his hands more than the computer. These pages show sketches, comps, and progressions for PROSPERO, a project promoted by an old friend and co-worker who was starting up an Internet distribution-channel mentor for documentarians like.

The name comes from Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*: the character Prospero is, among other things, a healer and magician. The task was based on ideas of theater, American industrial typography, and image. "The project called for a place of its own place," Chantry explains, "constantly coming up with new ideas while writing and fine-tuning earlier ideas." Ultimately three of the designs were chosen: one as a corporate and general identity, one for a blog and eventual use as a movie-like-a-documentary site, and one for use on industrial documentary work. Apparently, the client couldn't quite make up his mind.

The process took nine months but the client was unable to find financing. "This was all during 2008 and the economy tanked just as they were seeking investment," says Chantry. "They still have a great internet presence and the primary logo seems to be in use, but bastardized into a website outline form."

5.7.18

X



Ivan Chermayeff

American designer Ivan Chermayeff is a founding partner of Chermayeff & Geismar in New York (see also page 125), and has created much memorable corporate identity, brand development, and logo design. Chermayeff's trademarks, posters, publications, and art installations for contemporaries buildings are widely recognized and many of his older works are still in currency.

Having worked long before the advent of the computer, Chermayeff still does most of his initial concept work with pencil and paper, and yet, "I hardly ever keep sketches. What you have is because they're current," he says about his few notebooks, "but they do serve an important purpose. I usually have to plan ahead a little, especially if it's design rather than illustration, and I often give them to staff to execute in computer."

Included here are a rough sketch for a poster supporting Doctors Without Borders (the torn letters of Hell), and rough personal sketches for an experiment in mixing up what is seen or written in the mind with what can actually be done in pencil or paper, ignoring the conventional use and break-up of words. Chermayeff called this "Ode to Incoherence, or the Experiment in Reading and Seeing."





Todd Chidlers

Todd Chidlers is a graphic designer and Associate Professor of Graphic Design at the School of Art at Bowling Green State University in Ohio. "I've been sketching letters since 1977, long before I knew what graphic design or type design was," he says. Eventually he switched letters as a prelude to designing logos and this evolved into typeface design. Chidlers was inspired by the typographic studies in Ed Fella's *Letterform*, Jeffrey Keeler's font designs, and font designers Phil Daniels and Jonathan Barnbrook.

Mostly, Chidlers' sketches are "pure exploration and testing ideas." Very few of these sketches get applied to developing a new font. "I try to find ways to combine the unexpected," he says about his sketch work. "I am interested in synthesizing tools from the combination of geometric sans serif with medieval black-letter or modern with Medieval scripts. This idea is partially derived from my previous studies at CalArts (California Institute of the Arts), where we studied the principles of deconstruction... I am at ease looking forward and backwards at the same time. In other words, I try to live in history and open to the future."



Shape of my Heart

Shape
of my Heart

La magia del fare.
The charm of making.

La magia del fare.
The charm of making.

La magia del fare.
The charm of making.

Shape
of my Heart

La magia del fare.
The charm of making.

La magia del fare.
The charm of making.

La magia del fare



James Clough

James Clough, a Miller-based English designer, typographer, calligrapher, and letterpress printer, has "run on to his sketches" instead of calligraphy and drawing since becoming a freelancer about thirty years ago. This gives him a certain amount of freedom. "Usually, for a logo, a letter or whatever, I make dozens of versions without ideas. I also keep them for personal reference. They increasingly supply inspiration for new jobs."

"The brushes are a "serious game," he adds. "Often I feel that it's throw, pencil, or brush that controls my hand. Each instrument

has its own preferences of style. More often than not, as recent years clients have become fussy and require tons of different styles. Up to a point I listen from the client, but coming up with many different solutions is often the client's way of seeing out his own mind and getting his ideas straight." Variety is the key word in Clough's lexicon, "and that is also a necessity for any calligrapher who offers his or her services to today's customers, advertisers, or businesses. The written word has infinite possibilities of shape. The professional calligrapher can evoke ambience, feelings, and much more by use of different tools, writing with them at varying speeds in many styles."



Elaine Lustig Cohen

Elaine Lustig Cohen began designing in the early 1960s while working for her husband, Avi Lustig. Blinded by diabetes, he would dictate his types and letter preferences to his wife and other assistants. Cohen learned much about typefaces from this process. After Lustig died in 1995, Cohen assumed the studio's work and clients, producing scores of book covers and posters and works in various other media.

The studio closed in 1997, and although Cohen continued to design writing covers for Ez Luria, the antiques dealer she and author Allison Cohen ran together, focusing on avant-garde Modernist books and documents, she turned instead to making art inspired, in part, by Constructivism, Dada, and the Bauhaus. To celebrate

her eightieth birthday in 2007, she produced a series of four postcard-size (4x6 in.) prints in a limited edition of five each, each a homage to her life in graphic design.

The series came about "as I became involved in using Photoshop in Adobe Illustrator," she says, "which lets you do all kinds of renovations." The first one, which is not issued in the edition, was a regular yellow building over where she used the edition, was a regular yellow building over where she used the numbers 1-20 with the 26 letters of the alphabet, called "One to Mata." "My eye then naturally fell on other devices or my eye or mata," she says, "and the unprinted areas made up nice measurements," she says, and the unprinted areas made up nice measurements, include a decorative red accent and a chessboard.



Kevin Cornell

Kevin Cornell is an illustrator and designer based in Philadelphia and founder of the website Drawingnook, where he posts daily figures on "how hard it is to find a specific word or phrase - usually the title of a comic, or a song or something, but pretty often, just a drawing." It also awards and lists the "greatest comic strip of all time."

He notes that "what I'm attracted to are people and cultures in general that are more like me. They communicate about everyday stuff like 'Oh, I'm gonna do this' or 'I'm gonna do that.' I'm drawn to communities in the first place." He further reflects on why that "these illustrations are so attractive to me is that they don't visual problems, and so on, in the same spirit, or at least that's what I think. You might feel the same being drawn from others perspectives, or perhaps it's a sense of safety to have no real action or fact, they're just with every other person... they're just what I'm looking for."

That was for a series, those are from 2010. In 2011, I did a sketchbook. Just a guy walking the dog from his head." The book is now up on Amazon.



languid - drooping or flagging from or as if from exhaustion; weak, weary, heavy
② promoting or indicating weakness or heaviness ③ slow: lacking vigor or force.



SIX-PENNY ANTHEMS

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Six-Penny Anthems

A6

Six-Penny Anthems

Six-Penny Anthems

Six-Poopy Anthems

Six-Pen-Pen Anthems

6-PA



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### Margaret Cusack

Bronx-based Margaret Cusack creates etched illustrations, embroidered variations, quilt artwork, wall sculptures, prints, rock images, and portraits - all done with needle and thread.

"The studio created sketches, though I usually don't use a sketchbook," she says about the lettering process. "Because I am an artist and my husband is an art director and our daughter is a graphic design student, there is always a supply of 'scrap paper' at every table, so we can quickly get our ideas down on paper with a quick sketch using pencil and paper." Her sketches are used "to begin the process. When I get an assignment,

I write down a few words for each of my thumbnail ideas that I sketch on paper - sometimes as postage stamp-sized sketches. Then I do a larger sketch (about 8" x 4" or smaller) of the ones that I decide to pursue. I rough out 10 to 15 or more concepts. Many are created quickly and others are based on reference images that I have in my studio. I have several books of typography references - with at least one titled 'Typefaces.' Each of my sketches has the 'genit' of a different idea." Unlike Cusack's final stitching, the sketches have fluidity and movement. "It's great to not deal with the details and angst that comes with completing the finished artwork," she says.

To America  
With Love

It's All A Big Nothing



the village

# VOICE

FREE

Whip Me, Honey!  
S/M Goes Mainstream

BY GUY LEBEUF

WHY MORE AMERICANS  
ARE FLEEING TO

# Small Towns





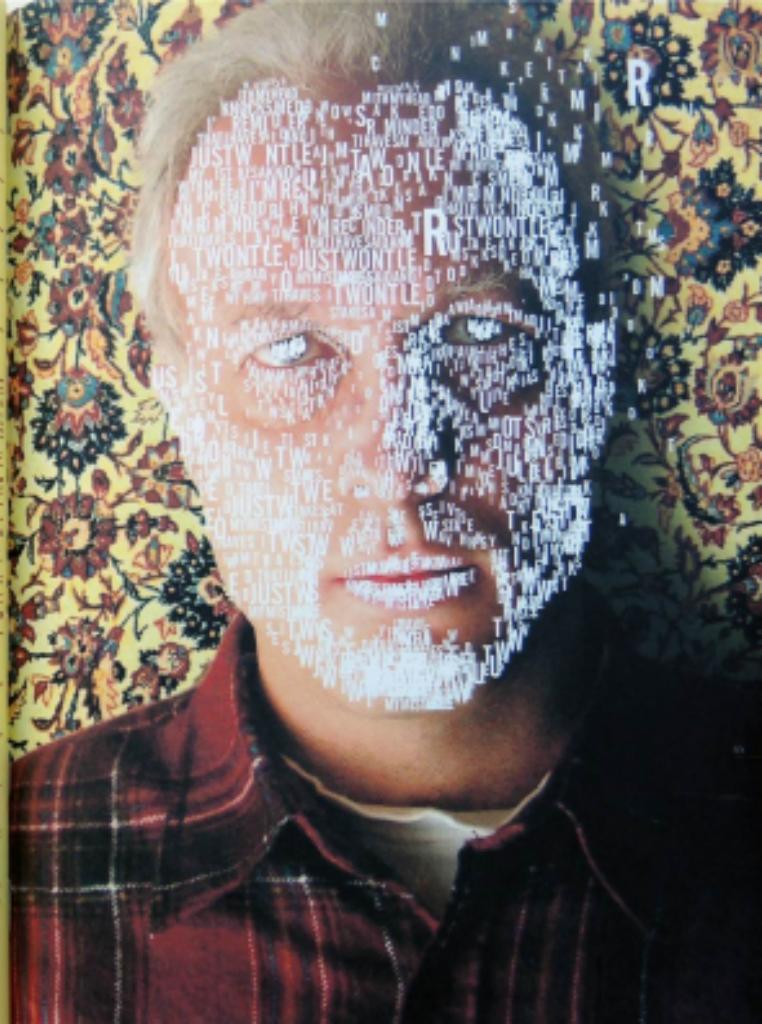
## Radoje Dedić

*Radoje Dedić*, graphic designer and painter, has been living and working in the United States since 2000. He is known for his abstract, minimalist designs, which often include symbols, metaphors and allusions – like so many of his countrymen.

"Painting is a significant part of his output, and he likes to draw letters in his sketches, he says, since he was little. "Probably, my first art was in one of my books. It's not something I'm proud of," he says. The sketches shown here, from 2000 to 2010, are drawings that

Dedić did in the United States. They are used to "work out my ideas whether personal or commercial," and find the way into particular things. "But they are very hard for me to keep because I'm moving from place to place."

"The sketches I make almost always define the shape of my final projects," he notes. "My end results are sometimes somewhat different than what I planned in my sketchbook, but the underlying concept had usually been worked out beforehand."



2007 ✓ 

A A A A A  
abc BBBB I  
a B BBB G  
a B BBB  
D D EEE F  
F GGGGGG  
GGHHHHII  
LM JIKRRR

Y Z K K Y  
K M L F H H Y  
H J J J H H H  
H H A B H G  
D E F G H I J  
K L M MN  
P R S T Y

A A A A A  
a a a a a  
g g g g g  
a a a a a  
g g g g g  
b b S S S  
a u u u

STI strategic  
strategic  
Actor

A B C D  
E F G H  
I J K L &  
M N O P  
Q R S T  
U X Y Z  
W & ?!

### Roberto de Vicq de Cumplich

Poet and De Vinci de Cumplich, whose first 1000+ book publications in bookstores, and who has authored more than 2000 books dedicated to type, has been interviewed, he says, "alive forever. My sophomore project teacher forced us all to carry one. All class had to be written out and presented with the fine project. Thank God for the European should bag, for men, made it much easier to carry it. Also thank Doctor Jack Spade, who designed one that does not make you look like a book."

He uses his mighty books "to keep a record of all the ideas flying around in my head and to try different quick variations of each one, without being troubled down by finishing it. I normally sketch when there are too many variables, and it is a way of organizing, prioritizing, and writing my ideas. I also keep my life in these sketchbooks. All the names of interesting hospitals, galleries, design, people, phone numbers, email addresses, quotes are written down," he explains.

The unique aspect of these books and pages is that "they are free, rough and messy. They are for my eyes only till they are quick notations only that I need to understand. They are very conscious about intermissions. They are about type, language, and my shopping lists."

H A N Y J K

N B G H L M

T U V ,

X Y Z

— ■ —



### Pierre di Sciullo

Artist Pierre di Sciullo is located in the Paris suburb of Montrouge, France. His website name ([quasimodo.com](http://quasimodo.com)), derived from his publication *Qui? Reader*, published in 1983, and it has grown into a livelihood for type and graphic design that he has created. He is also an artist keeper at [Whitewall Books](http://whitewallbooks.com).

The book exception I have will finished days before he sent it in for this publication. "I always have several sketchbooks in progress," he says. "My purpose is to think with my hands." In fact, he further notes that with his sketches "I can see the different stages of a project, or a repetition of a work I have made before in order to understand it better, or series of letters like a musical score that I have in mind."

The most unique aspects of his sketches, he proclaims, are "boldness and sensuality. They can be revised at part one series, but sometimes they can be valued for themselves, not like a former step of something else." He also takes pride in another key element: "Simplicity."



Porta  
"b"

STENCIL MONS  
TER ~~MINISTER~~<sup>more cuts?</sup>  
AVANDAR simpl  
e things as cut  
AA <sup>Secure</sup>  
/R HHH <sup>not as</sup>  
R aaa a<sup>v</sup> SSS

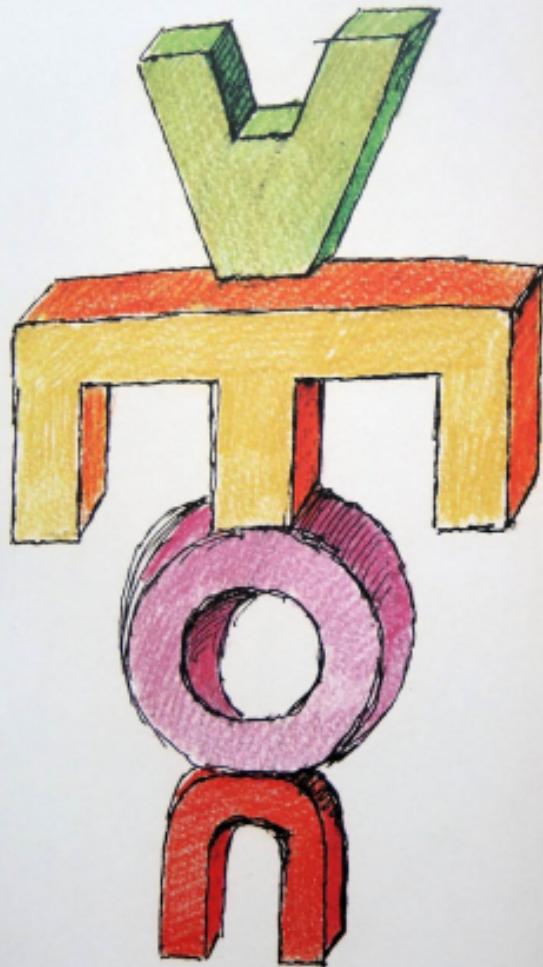
#### Nikola Djurek

Born in 1968, northeast Croatia, Nikola Djurek runs the Typonne Font Foundry with offices in Croatia and the Netherlands, teaches at the University of Zagreb and the Academy of Art in Split and has designed Tempus, Tempus Pro, Grena Display and Grena Grande typefaces. His other typefaces include 40, Bisons, and Avanda. He starts his process by making sketches "in the way that I please. It can be a different letter each time, but it's usually a lower case letter, and then maybe two or three lost to gauge the proportions. Sketches become an important part of my design process when making new typefaces."

"The Hatch opposite is for a type specimen for 'Grena'. Once developed spontaneously from practice with a broad felt pen, the result is a hybrid of calligraphic influences and subtle manipulation of the stroke terminals that conveys from the bold to some very soft models. The concept was later transferred to a higher contrast version, which is a more conventional font specimen. The result is a highly functional typeface family that is easy to work with and inviting to read."

The other sketches, from 2002 to 2009, represent typefaces that were experiments or are in development.

RIJEKA NAŠE ZABOK RUDAR  
SPLIT MAKASKA ZAGREB  
OSIJEK OPATIA HRVatska  
zagore trko VŠćAN  
BEDEKOVČINA i ijga  
ZADAR SAKOGINKAF



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### Francesco Dondina

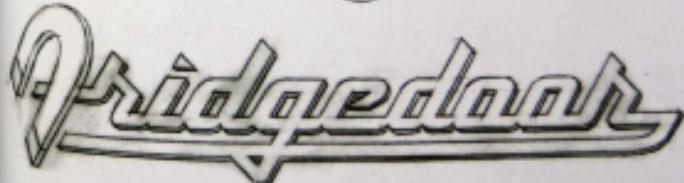
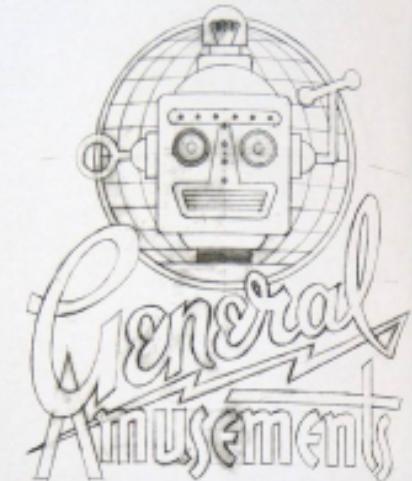
Based in Milan, with an office in New York, Francesco Dondina founded Dondina Associates to create logos, books, packages, magazines, and websites. Typography is a particularly strong asset, and drawing type is a distinctly pleasurable activity. "I have kept sketchbooks for about as long as I can remember," says Dondina. "I've always drawn and have always made sketches; it's a risky tool that I use. The sketches usually refer to specific projects that I am working on at any given moment, though I do spend a lot of time thinking about and doodling speculatively."

Dondina sketches to capture an idea. "When I have an idea, I first draw it. Then I go back to develop and refine it. As I tend to think visually, when I have to design something I first have a mental visualization of it. The sketches enable me to operationalize the initial image. Most, therefore, are purposeful drawings that are finalized in a project."

## Michael Doret

Michael Doret, Los Angeles-based hand-letterer and founder of Hyphenated Soups, has held on to quite a lot of the sketches that he's done during a four-decade career. Looking back over Doret's work, and specifically over these sketches, he says it becomes clear how much he was influenced by growing up in Brooklyn near Coney Island, the Brooklyn Dodgers, and Times Square. "There's nothing Julie-ann-like what I do, and it's all pretty much reflective of my love for low-brow signage, neon signs, billboards, sports ephemera, old movies, and anything and everything related to mid-century American pop culture. I can't help myself, and I can't keep these themes from bubbling to the surface."

Some artists create sketches that can stand on their own as works of art. "I do not believe that mine fall into this category," Doret says. "As they are all roughly drawn thumbnails for work that is intended to be much more tightly rendered. Perhaps what is distinct about them is the variety of approaches that I create for a single assignment that, although they are different, manage to follow a single genre. If I try to look at my sketches as an isolate, I think that might be struck by the endless design possibilities inherent in the twenty-six letters of the alphabet, that combining them with other design elements can open up endless varieties of imagery."



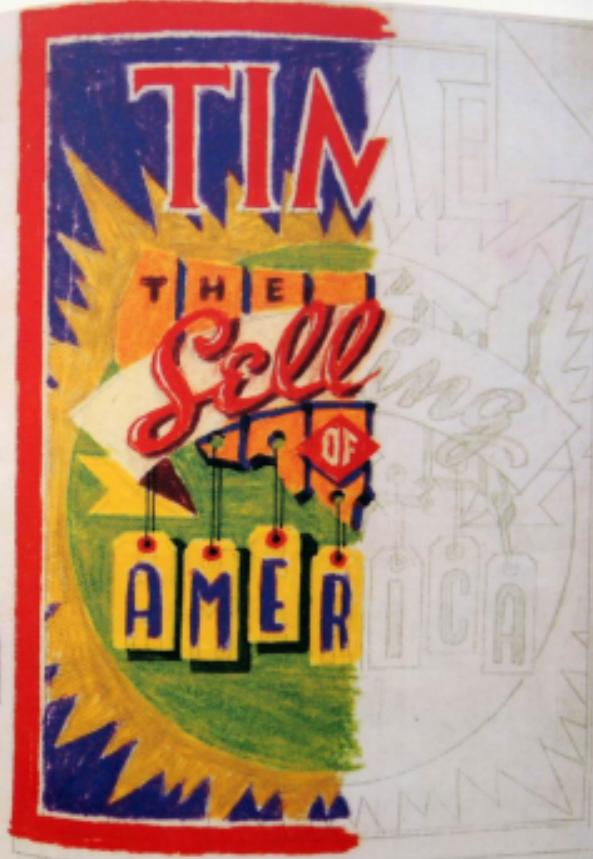
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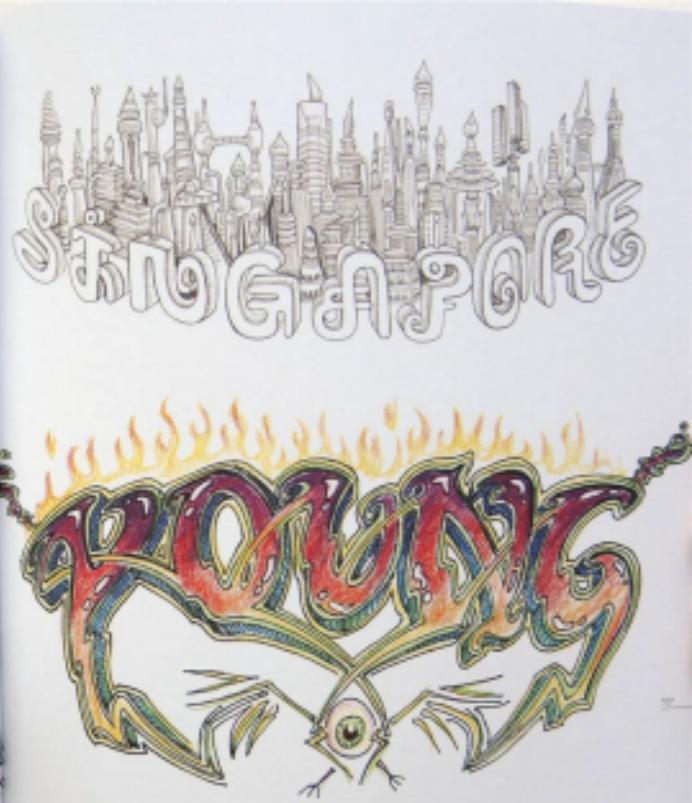
### Duarte Design

The folks at Duarte Design in Pleasant Hill, California, are in the heartland of Silicon Valley. They state on their website:

"We love umbrellas, clever design, vegan cookies, bacon chessboards, the aluminum rebus and the Alka-Meal. We believe in the power of a great story to move an audience and the power of an audience to change the world." On their blog they highlight notions of authenticity in business communication. Presentations are seeing because they are stripped of all humanism. Why do organizations present messages for human ones that are rooted with corporate talk, and was authenticity?" You'd think, with all the cookies and chessboards and南北洋芋 energy, they wouldn't have time to do that kind of thinking.

Even though Nancy Duarte happily notes that "we're saturated with work," members of the studio have had time to make a series of type experiments based in graphic and visual form, among them Chris Francisco, Dennis Merino, Eric Choucair, Sean Hebert, and Ryan Crouch.

These may not be images and infographics that connect with the business community, but they certainly have connect with the individual designers' unique learning processes.



### Emek

Born in Israel, Emek Golani is a Portland, Oregon-based music-video editor and lettering designer. He comes from an artistic family; his father had a wood shop since my parents started keeping them for me, at the age of three. "Actually my first sketchbooks were from when I was very young. My thoughts were more free, and I drew for fun," he says. "Artistic drive was never that defined."

Emek thinks that he is most sure of the purpose of art. He writes: "What is the purpose of any art?" But he then goes on to

say, "To figure things out, to solve challenges, to answer questions, to document the past, to reflect about. That's how I have been trained, but I never do it just for fun, any more. That's how I have been trained over the years — art is my life, but I always need a project first. All my projects start with a concept, then I figure out the style from there." He is a solo-known for his attention-to-detail and focus on sociopolitical content. Funny? "I think it's funny why [he's] weird the way he is," he says. "I don't know why, really. I'm just working things out."

THE POLYGBRIO  
JULY 1999

ELTON HARRIS  
EMILIOU FOLDS  
BEN FOLDS  
SISTER SOUNDBTRIBE SECTION  
CAKE  
ZAPPA PLAYS ZAPPA  
ZAPPA BAND  
MICKEY MARTIN STEVE WIMBERLY  
GEORGE FORTIER JR.  
TOMMY WILLIAMS  
TOMMY WILLIAMS

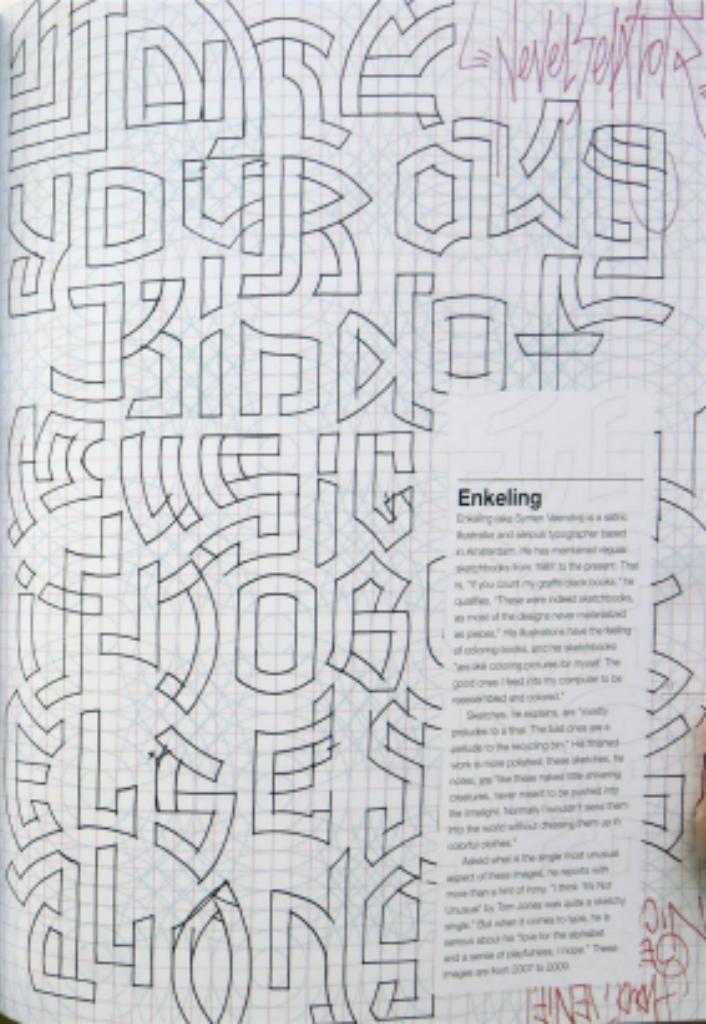
THE POLYGBRIO  
JULY 1999

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### Enkeling

Enkeling (aka Symer Meesing) is a graphic designer and serious typographer based in Amsterdam. He has maintained regular sketchbooks from 1981 to the present. That is, "if you count my graffiti sketch books," he qualifies. "These were indeed sketchbooks, as most of the designs never materialized as pieces." His illustrations have the feeling of coloring books, and his sketchbooks "are like coloring pictures of myself. The good ones I feed into my computer to be manipulated and colored."

Sometimes, he explains, are "readily presented to a first. The bad ones are a puzzle to the recycling bin." His trained eye is more patient; these sketches, he notes, are "like these naive little animal creatures, never meant to be pushed into the insight. Normally I wouldn't move them into the studio without dressing them up in useful poses."

Avoid what is the single most unusual aspect of these images, he repeats with more than a hint of irony. "I think 'Weird Unusual' by Tom Jones was quite a steady single." But when it comes to type, he is serious about his "love for the alphabet and a sense of playfulness. I hope." These images are from 2007 to 2009.





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שָׁת



David →

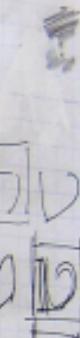
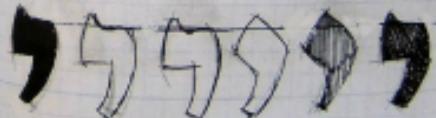
Fay roulle a David 5 ans. Cet dessin illustre l'interprétation de la forme de la lettre Le Be par un enfant de 5 ans. L'enfant a dessiné une tête de lion et une queue de serpent dans la partie supérieure de la lettre. La partie inférieure de la lettre est représentée par deux jambes humaines.

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## ספר תהילים

12

בין הרים בכחו נאור בנכדה : משבח שאון  
ים ים שאון גליהם והמון לאומים : מיראו ישפט  
בנשות מאחותותיך מזרזאר פקר וערוב טרני :



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JON M. LL N  
DR BYE RYAN GE  
MARCIA FEERER KEITH

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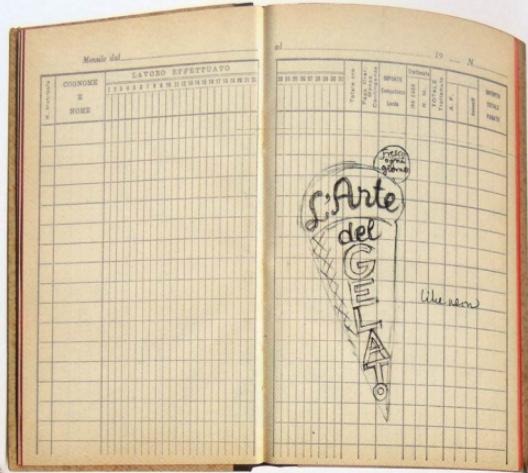
### Ryan Feerer

Book designer Ryan Feerer is a veteran of New York's Penny Gershong, a design firm specializing in book design where he worked with Team Nick, Hickory, and PBS Kids, among other entertainment companies for which his illustrative lettering is well-suited.

"Right now I have about thirty sketchbooks that cover nearly the past six years of my life," he says. "I have flipped through them every once in a while for inspiration. I don't remember drawing the majority of the images, so it's where interesting?"

Every logo, nongraphic layout, illustration, and most things that start out in his sketchbook "take all a lot of sketching that has little or no purpose other than entertainment. I don't play sports, either. I enjoy the aesthetic quality of hand-drawn imagery, whether it be typography or illustration," he adds.

The purpose of his sketches is to put ideas and emotions on paper. "I consider it art," he explains. "One day I'll see and someone will find hundreds of sketches lying in my house. They'll be filled with drawings, designs, poems, thoughts, and grocery lists. Hopefully then I think of them as a treasure. Maybe it'll make them happy in one of my books. I only write in them—or whatever—made up words, I know."

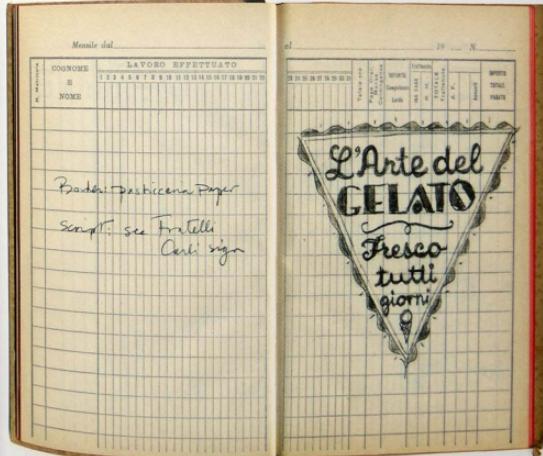


### Louise Fili

New York designer and author Louise Fili is a maven for anything typographic, Italian, and food-related, individually and together. Once considered the doyenne of book cover design (with over 2,000 to her credit), her specialization shifted in the early 1990s to food packages and restaurant identities. A veteran collector of Italian typographic ephemera, she draws inspiration from Stile Liberty, Art Moderno and Futurist graphic design.

Fili carefully sketches out all her typographic concepts, working and reworking until the details and nuances are successfully achieved. But she doesn't always keep sketchbooks as repositories. Sketches can be produced on any paper, no matter what the weight. Common tracing paper works best, but envelopes, napkins, and oak-tag cards are sometimes just as effective. Of course, retaining them is not always easy, so Fili might tape them into the vintage address books or diaries she has obtained at Italian flea markets.

The example here, from 2009, shows a variation on a Deco-inspired logotype using one of her favorite scripts, for a New York gelateria, which makes the best gelato in the entire city (particularly the passion fruit and chocolate). This identity did not require many sketches since the idea was as fresh as the fruit used in their daily specials.



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### Mark Fox

Mark Fox, a logo and icon designer, is located in San Francisco, where he collaborates with Arjne Hilg in the studio Designers Play. Fox started keeping journals in college that contained sketches, clippings, dreams, musings, and basically - a record of his childhood at the time.

"My sketchbooks these days are similar - minus the dreamery," he admits, "although they now include drawings by my son." His sketches have various purposes: to record images I find interesting, to pay attention to a comment, to practice facility with drawing, to problem-solve, to generate ideas, to muse, to play with my children, etc."

Fox does not sketch without a purpose. "Although that purpose may be non-commercial or even dubious! Peter Soderbergh has written that 'drawing is thinking,' and I use the sketch as a form of thinking and weighing in on evaluating or testing." His sketches are more immediate and gestural than the final work. "I basically redo like my sketches to perfect them, to make them conform to a precise geometry," Fox explains. "When we call, we prefer to have the first piece known: printed, screen-printed, or hand-painted, as it humanizes [imperfect] counterparts to the obsessive precision. My sketches tend to let on the principle of economies: what can I easily convey with the least amount of prompting?"

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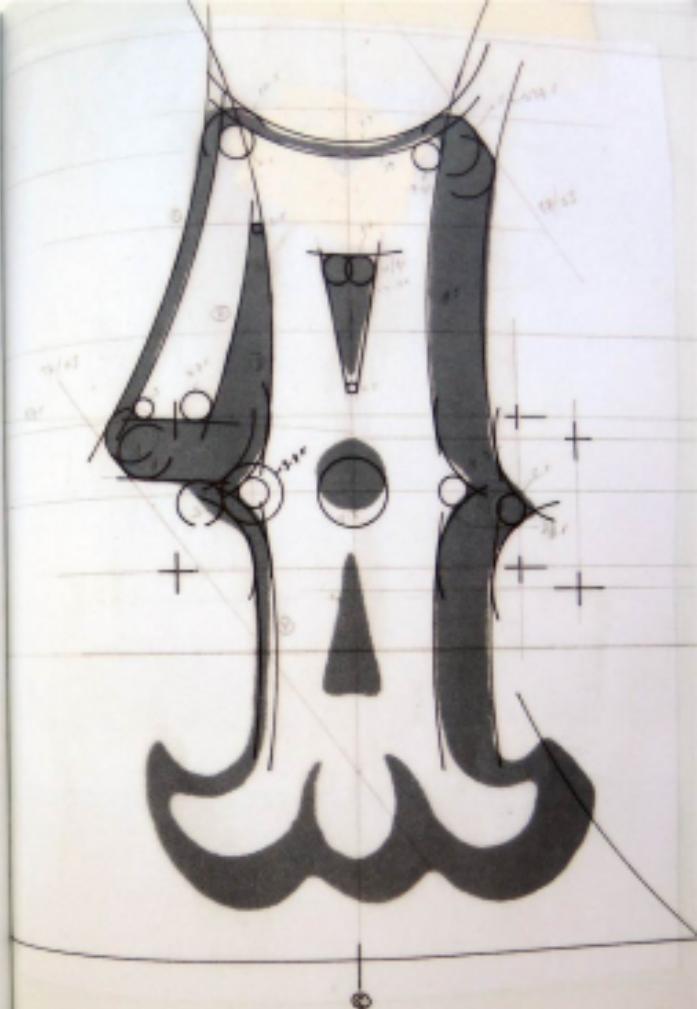
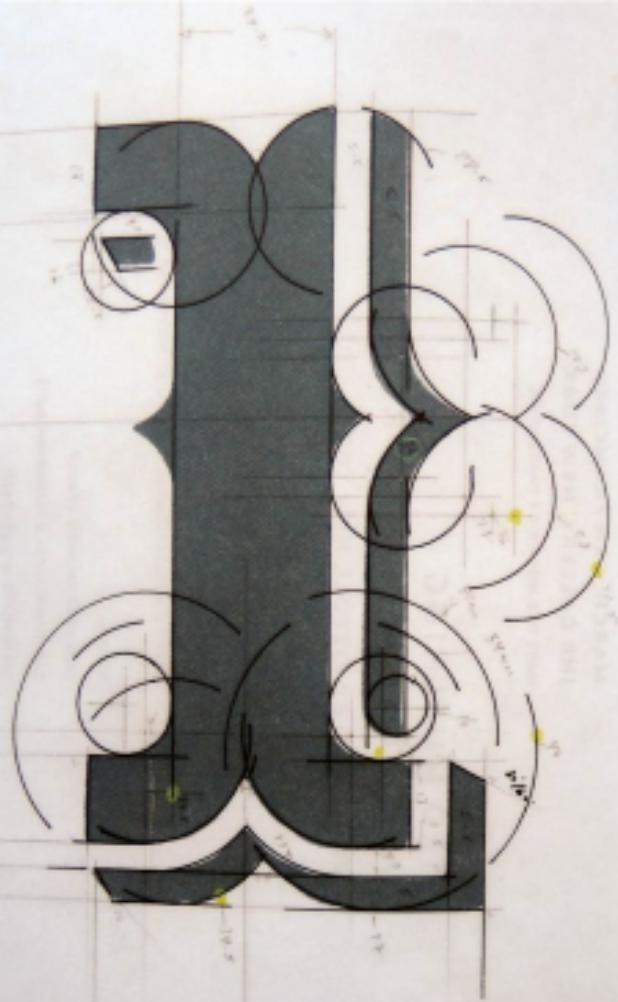
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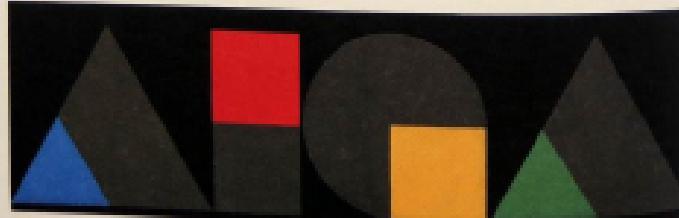
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### Tom Geismar

In Geismar & Glavis half of the veteran duo Chermayeff & Geismar New York (see also page 12), known for creating major identities for some of the most visual corporations and institutions in the world, Geismar is a logo designer peer excellence and an exemplary educational institution. Following methods he has maintained for decades, he likes "to always start with sketches, for me, it's the easiest way to get ideas down. I have always kept sketches for years as designs mostly as a source of reference." And, of course, by other means a design problem that he needs to resolve. His

first work is prehistoric to a fault, but sketches are essential. "For me, designing is a process, you know, I start with simple rough sketches. I then tend to develop some of the ideas into more and more complex forms, though still with pencil or marker on paper. Eventually these get converted into the computer. Often the earlier drawings are then further revisited and refined for form, color, etc."

Like most sketches, Geismar's tend to end up in his portfolio of working, and sometimes fail or run thought processes. "The images you see here span the period from the 1970s to 2000."

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## Tim Girvin

Girvin is a graphic designer, lettering artist, typographer and typeface designer. He has been drawing and lettering journals and sketchbooks since the beginning of his career, which stretches back to the 1970s.

"For me, the sketchbooks are always about memory," he adds. "And from that, most importantly, in visual exploration and trials, it's about the moment, and the momentum – getting there. I have pretty much anything I can get my hands on, from a brush to an ink-dipped Chinese script tool, a ruler, or a pencil. Scribbled on anything, sometimes even pasting bits into the book, journals, for me – sketchbook – they're collages of life."

Girvin, the interview reveals, also enjoys actually warm drawing in a looser form. "Usually, I believe that the most interesting ideas finds me in sketching, because you're drawing around other, more serious, tends tend to finding the heart of the idea. Energy is how I feel. Outlier writing, the more wild you can get around that, the more wild it becomes – loses of it, and I love that. For me, sketching really gets to the heart of illustration, from a physiological context, I suppose. So tried something different, that's what it is."



# SIMON AND GARFUNKLE



### Milton Glaser

Milton Glaser was the co-founder with Seymour Chwast in 1954 of New York's groundbreaking Push Pin Studio. An illustrator, restaurant designer, and educator, he has designed display headlines including Glaser Stencil, Hologram Shadow, Mousetrap, Savanna Picnic, Art Nouveau, Baby Teeth and Keepon Toys, but each of them has left a distinct impression. In fact, all heralded typographers would say: on multiple generations, Glaser Stencil continues to be a vastly fashionable face – one of many popular stencils on the market today.

Glaser always said he felt that "a type designed" and that his stencils only came into being as the product of graphic ideas

applied to letterforms. Even so, Glaser's stylized type, with an emphasis on three-dimensionality, has had a lasting effect on the design of many subsequent display types. It combines Push Pin's Deco motifs with conventions adapted from hand-carved signs, and are expressive of his association.

Here, in these sketches for a 1987 concert poster for Simon and Garfunkel, Glaser tries Outsize (opposite) and Art Nouveau (above). In Milton-Glaser: Graphic Design, he notes that Outsize inspired his approach to the final poster; rather than the type following the example of the graphic, the reverse happened – the shape of the letters dictated the treatment of the figures.



### Jonny Hannah

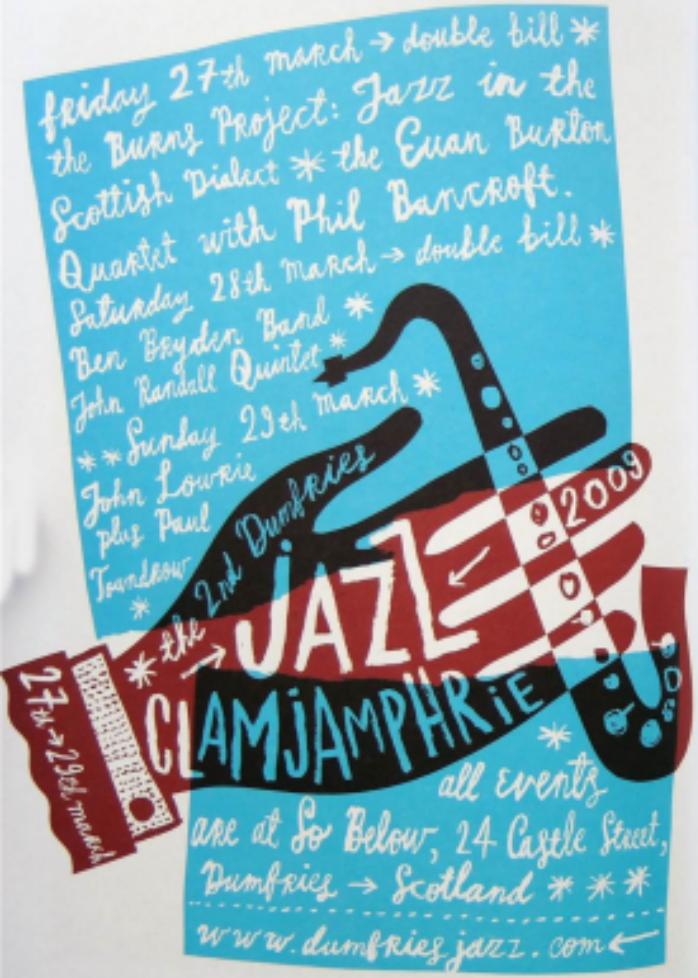
Jonny Hannah is an illustrator who, among other concepts, specializes in hand-lettering, often drawing upon idiosyncratic styled typefaces. His home is in Southampton, England. "All I spend most of my time in an imaginary location," he confides; "downtown Darktown or Sinnerdale."

His sketches often end up as a final piece one way or another. But they sometimes act as a pile with no purpose. It can take six months to a year for them to see the light of day. Depending on how quickly I look through that particular notebook again," Hannah promises not to take his sketches too seriously. "I don't care about

them. They can be as stupid as as sophisticated as the moment deserves. Create Parker played with a series of abstractions that other artists have achieved in their final work. The only point where they cross over is when I paint. When I have a painting, my dash-my-care-side comes out, and I do just what I want. And for some reason, I don't mind eradicating that side of me."

The starting point for his type sketches are often interesting words. "I love reading to Lucy prose or poetry or song lyrics. Whatever comes to my attention, via my iPod or external influences, from being in my chair at first to 'Rockin' Bill.'





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### Steve Haslip

New York-based English designer Steven Haslip declares that "the main purpose of my sketches is to visualize a design, no matter how rough or early on in the process, whether it be for a logo, type, or type. I can also see and develop."

Typically, Haslip's sketches are used as part of his design process – "Draw first, compute later." Or, as shown here, made a woodblock first and last. "I'll sketch everything that ends up on the computer – it's ingrained, into the way I think through a problem. I make many sketches of the same thing until the idea takes form. It's very rare that the sketch ends up looking identical to the digital place. It's also typically only done in one color."

He insists that the main theme of his sketches and sketchbooks is time. "I work quickly when I sketch to force myself to make decisions, even if they end up being the wrong ones. I feel like I have to get all the ideas out of my system and onto the page, especially the bad, so I can get to the good ones," he says.

**idpure**  
S'inspirer à l'IPURE Magazine



(Open book symbol for IDPURE publishing)

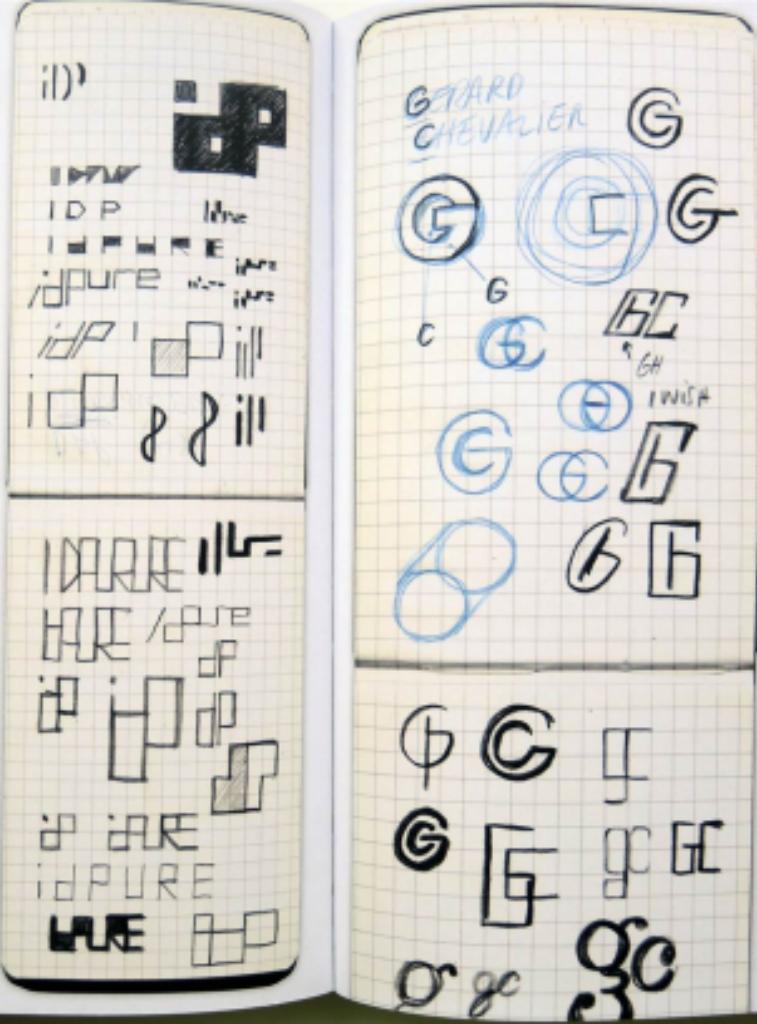


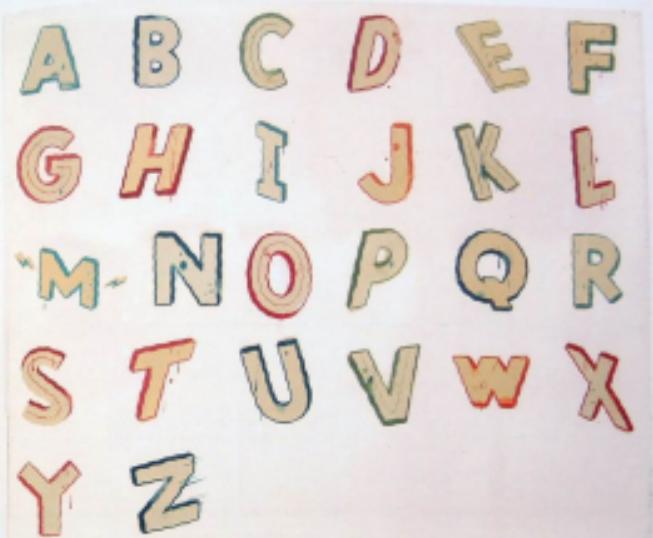
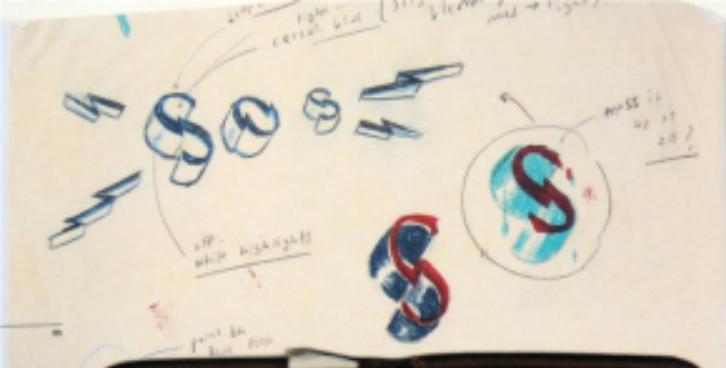
### Thierry Hausermann

Thierry Hausermann, editor and designer of the Swiss design magazine IDPURE, recalls: "I learned to sketch to make sketches as a way to process my ideas. It is too bad that many students today are no longer doing that. Actually, I have different sketchbooks. Some books are more about concepts, ideas or logos, and others are more about illustrations, classes, and writing."

Hausermann uses the majority of his sketches for logo projects where he plays with basic elements like type, items, or symbols. They aim to "capture in the moment what could be a good idea, so that I can go back later to find it still think it's good." The purpose is not to make nice sketches, but more to remember. It is also about trying to aware through possibilities and combinations to make sure a great visual aspect didn't get missed. Usually I don't keep them."

Regarding his process, Hausermann adds, "I never know how I start. I feel uncomfortable in the starting process because I have no idea where I am going. I always find a way at the end." He designs keeping an evolution: "From the most basic and classic ideas that anybody can have to the one you think is 'unique.'





### Ryan Heshka

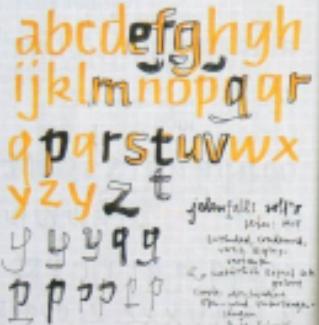
Vancouver-based Ryan Heshka was born in Brandon, Manitoba and raised in Winnipeg at the end, he says, of the "go-tech" era. He worked in interior design and animation before his present career as an illustrator of the macabre — with a special interest in hand-lettering on a macabrely futuristic scale.

He has kept sketchbooks for twenty years and these are basically "idea collectors," he says. "Generally the sketches are direct, raw translations from what is in my head, without any polish." Thus, "often I will put down an idea that appeals to me, and then use it in a later painting or project. Although sometimes it can be years between the sketch and the final."

His letterform sketches have a rather macabre aesthetic. "I like to think the color palette is unusual, or at the very least, unique," he says. He might also add that the sketchbooks are where "creepy themes and styles tend to appear a lot."

DE BUREAU FOR ART  
DESIGN & ILLUSTRATION

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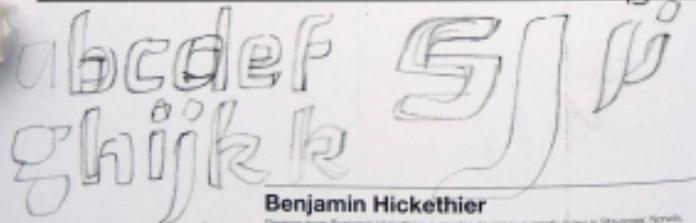
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### Benjamin Hickethier

German-born Benjamin Hickethier, a graphic designer currently living in Stockholm, Sweden, has embarked on designing a typeface he calls Gothenburg. Although there is no final yet, and it consists mainly of a concept and numerous approaches, sketches, spreads, and single-letter investigations, there are sketches which, he says, "originate from a start towards or not finishing, maybe following some vague idea of a solution for a task, and trying out several possible paths to get there. And then there are sketches that could be summarized as joyful pastimes or maybe compared to improvisations in jazz, and then of course initial sketches or studies of seen or imagined objects, the latter usually without an end purpose. In some cases those sketches might get used in solving design problems."

Hickethier had a sketching epiphany when his two sons turned old enough to hold a pencil and draw: "Spending time with them drawing, or watching them developing pictures, is just irresistably giving. They're so fantastic. And this experience has taught me a lot about my own sketching: about being more open and less expecting a certain result. Not to forget it is so much fun!"

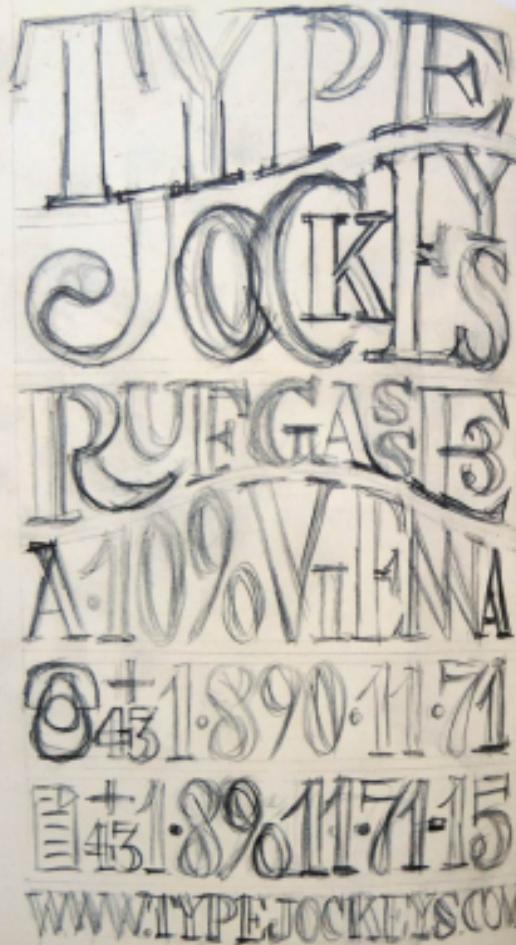


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### Michael Hochleitner

Michael Hochleitner, typeface designer, lecturer, and co-founder of Typejockeys in Vienna, received an MA in typefaces design at the University of Reading, UK, in 2007, but has been an avid sketchbooker since he was a wee bairn, when he started studying graphic design in Vienna. "I knew I was supposed to have a sketchbook," he says, as though resigned to his fate.

Sketching is not a luxury, in fact, he explains. "It is easier to rise to draw by hand. I can try out ideas quickly, and especially with letterforms the shapes get much more refined when I start by hand." Most of the time his sketches are the prelude to the computer design, "which is necessary to make our work reproducible. With the computer, obviously, it is much easier to manipulate forms and fine-tune them to an infinite level."

Hochleitner also notes, "Sketches to me are somehow 'more beautiful' than the fine-tuned end product. The fact that a human being was the one producing it is very nice and charming. Nevertheless, I'm a fan of perfection at the same time."

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## Ovidiu Hrin

Ovidiu Hrin from Timișoara, Romania, began sketching holding "in the beginning of my graphic design career, when I first had the urge to keep track of my thoughts and interior 'landings,'" he recalls. "As there were many unspoken ideas and thoughts in my mind, writing around, keeping track of these was (then) my salvation. It went it has evolved gradually into a playground, a place where I can be myself without caring about the 'miso'-stage." Ovidiu recently "I've split it into different levels of content": journal, sketches, design-process book, design-record, and I am writing in all of them at the same time."

He says this documentation process could be a mixture of some of the following characteristics: "Self-reflection, re-coding (as I work differently), thirst for knowledge, trying to live a better person, the will for growth and learning open to infinity. The only thread I see is the parasite behind all this is when I evaluate my saved self, and that process creates a purpose for the internet."

Hrin describes "grasp the moment," while his finished work addresses "to its predefined boundaries. I usually try to emphasize the 'moment' in the finished work. Therefore I like the finished work but I will always love the sketch."



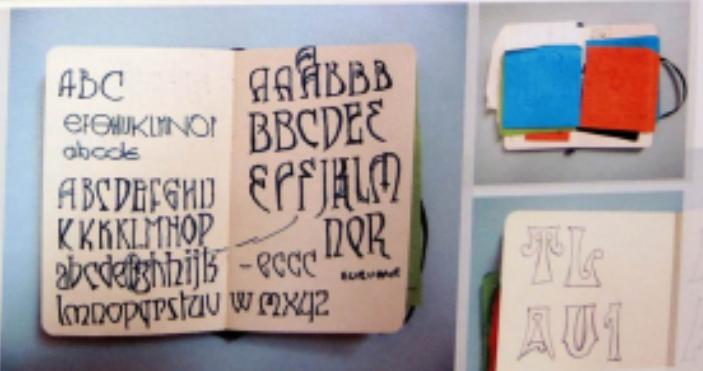


## Rian Hughes

London-based comic artist, letterer, and design entrepreneur Rian Hughes, known for his published collections of graphic schematics, has kept sketchbooks since before college. "Though I keep text notes on my iPhone too," he qualifies in deference to those who prefer high technology, "and am prone to taking photographs that serve as notes, it all needs in."

Since he is so prolific, and apt to forget essentials, he requires the sketchbook to, as he says, "pin-down an idea, even if it is note from comprehensible only to myself, for later referral and development." It double the essential features of a fail-to-try and see if it has any potential across the complete set of character shapes. Only then do I boot up Fontographer."

Sketches are always potentially surprising. "I'm not sure why, but sometimes the simplified essence of a sketch communicates an idea more clearly than the polished end result does. Though sometimes the opposite is true, in pinning down the essentials of a face in records it can develop in interesting and unexpected directions." Hughes's sketches from 2000 to 2010 shown here are experimental and not particularly finished. "At this stage it's about the basic concepts, the broadest parameters of the idea. Start with the general and work towards the specific," he says.





### Pedro Inoue

São Paulo-based digital artist Pedro Inoue's work comes to life in digital form. "My first job was in Photoshop 7.0. I grew up surrounded by Macintosh and keyboard shortcuts. There was always the 'ctrl' command. A page is complicated and two paths appear: all options are possible," he says. Sketchbooks are where he stores sketches by hand. "They tend to have a more 'therapeutic' approach. I look again the next morning or a week after; maybe I haven't seen something that day and the way I look into it changes – like my feelings and body temperature change every day."



As for his notebooks, "Most of the time I collect things, memories, thoughts, dreams I can't afford to forget." Regarding artworks that I scribble half asleep in the middle of the night: "These are momentous, projects in progress; those pieces, 'I will do them someday' like the short film of the successful mustard jet. I took a sketchbook from 2001 from the shelf and was amazed to see that the desperation I had then gave way to a much-sadder tone. But the sessions are mainly the same."

The images shown here are from 2007 to 2008.

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## Erik T. Johnson

Erik T. Johnson, designer and illustrator in Minneapolis, Minnesota, is one of many who have been sketchbooking since high school. He says his main goal is to develop a lot of concepts for short comics, many of which never get realized. But with a chronically cheery title he gets a chance to play with dynamic lineforms. Looking through his sketches, there are more typographical drawings than he would have expected: "I love that place where type and art intersect, and type drawings really help me establish the mood thinking about a concept, whether I include them in a final piece or not."

Of course, after the sketch more has to be done – he has to fine-tune the degree of clean-up and train – but "I like keeping my work loose in general, there is nothing precious about my sketches," he says.

Johnson's career as both an illustrator and graphic designer has its roots in a few of comic book veterans' – which in these post-tanlines because it's needless to point out and down them! Will McCay's Little Nemo, George Herriman's Krazy Kat, Will Eisner's Spirit, and Harvey Kurtzman's EC Comics, to name a few. "These sketches though make it clear they really show the influence of that tradition," he notes.



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TEETH**



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for an Evening  
of Food &  
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CLAIM CHECK  
IN CASE OF ANY LOSS  
CLAIM BEFORE LEAVING  
NO REFUND OR CREDIT ISSUED  
ON CLOTHING OR  
ANYTHING NOT OVERNIGHT

**Maira Kalman**

Maira Kalman's *View from a Window* is a Renaissance woman with major work in children's books, adult books, products, ceramics, and even hula-caltimore embroidery—like the all-feminized samples, only very different and new-fashioned. Kalman keeps sketchbooks because she surely writes, "Drawing keeps me calm. Looking at and interacting with concrete objects in the real world gives me great pleasure."

The measure of her pleasure derived from the fact that sketches serve all kinds of purposes. "Sometimes the sketch remains a sketch—a note," Kalman explains. "But there are times when the sketches become more realized and enter into paintings. Sometimes, I am really captivated, the sketches are used repeatedly."

Like most artists, she kept about sketches. "I sometimes think they are better than the finished work. Of course they will be spontaneous, untrained, unedited. Maybe I would do a coloring book one day just using sketches from the journals."

The most unusual aspect of these sketches is the number of meals I have documented. Also, I record used cheeses. Nonetheless, more often the joy is in sketching just what I see: people, hats, shoes, plants, chairs, rooms, and food."

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Jeffery Keedy

Los Angeles based type designer and design educator Jeffery Keedy (aka Kewby) says, "Like most designers, I have usually taken a few sketchbooks going at once. But when I started designing typefaces I switched to single sheets of 8½" x 11" tracing paper. Since I was often working with basic print proofs from the computer and Xerox prints from old type catalogues, it made sense to keep all the materials together in one place."

The sketches help Keedy see what he is thinking. "And they allow me to think of what type thinking means," he provides. "It is both a process of elimination but it also let my mind wander and sometimes go far off topic, while fun and not all bad news. I used to tote technical publications in paper that is mostly gone at the computer."

Keedy's sketches appear for "public consumption" via his website, although they are reproduced here.

"They are not calligraphic drawings, they are for my use only. They are as loose, crazy and chaotic with the starts and endings on each side of the paper in random order. They are a mirror to our mind. They are not calligraphic drawings of successful calligraphers that look great and are inspiring. I look for that in the first word."

S U S S S C C C

Q B C D R r C y

J B Q M M f f y

G R Q X R q t y

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g a a t f l .

z x y x f 2 g g

+ t Y X x x x x

## Viktor Koen

Graphic designer, Israeli-born, New York-based  
photo sketchbook "mostly for writing and  
closely composing versions of ideas for  
illustrations, until I am satisfied and  
move to the screen. I also like working on  
type proportions, ligatures, and layouts in  
my sketchbooks before choosing specific  
typographies or styles."

"My books are made up of 'mix and  
match' combinations," said Koen, as  
he tries to solve problems through "unlikely"  
combinations of parts from sketches in  
order to get a point across." He says, "I  
use called series of images. I am attached  
to all without knowing why. My typography  
works in much the same way – just things  
tied together in mysterious ways in the  
way they are not communicated."

"Sketches and books couldn't be more  
different. My working is a mixture of sketch  
figures, typography, vector, drafting, and  
coffee stains – totally understood by hand or  
heart. And the visual strength of my  
published work is communication and visual  
clarity."

Koen treasures some of these going  
back to the 1980s, "less polished assets –  
working digitally has taken a cropping but we  
still have hand skills. I am so envious of my  
grandkids' students who effortlessly sketch  
directly in color! Did I say sorry? Hand and  
ink/pencil is what I crave."



# MANCHILD

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SUPER

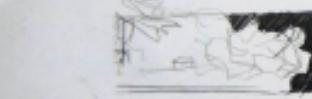
SEVEN DEADLY SINS!

OPTIMA  
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# MANCHILD

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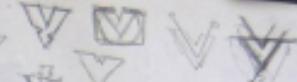
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SEVEN DEADLY SINS!

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TOP





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218: (600u,2010u) --
219: (714u,1676u) --
220: (830u,1626u) --
221: (830u,552u) --
222: (930u,545u) --
223: (950u,500u) --
224: (700u,500u) --
225: (700u,1489u) --
226: (678u,1502u) --
227: (590u,1358u) --
228: (515u,1210u) ..
229: (437u,1028u) ..
230: (377u,838u) ..
231: (330u,685u) ..
232: (311u,587u) ..
233: (300u,500u) --
234: cycle;
235: endcharE;
236:
237: beginchar("i",430u#,1745u#,0u#);
238: fill
239: (1800,500u) .. 1 1
240: (1800,1525u) --
241: (26u,1410u) --
242: (5u,1442u) --
243: (310u,1710u) --
244: (310u,552u) .. 1 2
245: (430u,345u) --
246: (430u,500u) --
247: cycle;
248: fill
249: (250u,1840u) .. 1 3
250: (314u,1847u) ..
251: (186u,1872u) ..
252: (167u,1908u) ..
253: (161u,1946u) ..
254: (169u,1992u) ..
255: (185u,2025u)
256: (217u,2051u) ..
257: (255u,2084u) ..
258: (292u,2055u) ..
259: (318u,2032u) ..
260: (338u,1995u) ..
261: (344u,1953u) ..
262: (339u,1911u) ..
263: (318u,1873u) ..
264: (290u,1848u) ..
265: cycle;
266: endchar;
267:
268: beginchar("j",420u#,1745u#,435u#);
269: fill
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750, 565 --  
700, 520 --  
700, 478 --

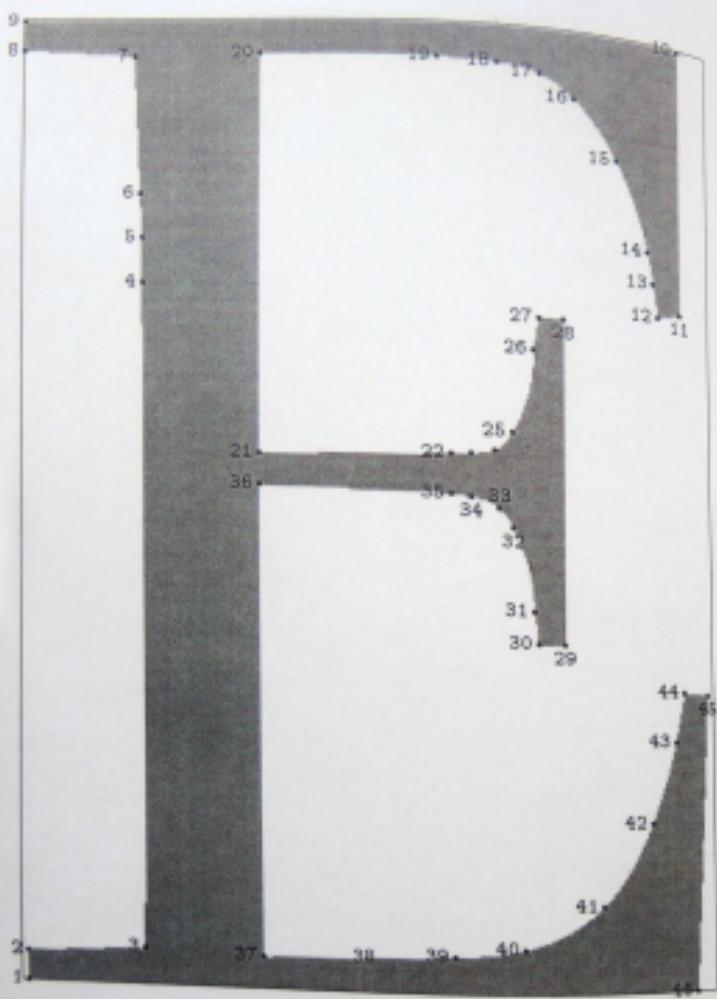
181, 478

430, 545

410, 120

### Andrej Krátký

Andrej Krátký, a Czech type designer based in Bratislava, Slovakia, has kept all the drawings and cutouts shown here for more than twenty years. These original drawings to the typeface name, he notes, were "intended as a model for a thing photo-composition device." The project originated as his student thesis at the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague, and continued for several years.  
"The process started out old-fashioned — drawing by hand in ink," he recalls. "Later I used Metapost to digitize the typeface and so Krátký is planned static version. There was no graphical interface available to design typefaces at that time, so I had to develop my own technique. I used a simple hand-made algebra: a piece of glass with a transparent 'yellow paper' to measure and write down all the coordinates of points on paths. From 1988 I was able to convert the resulting outlines into a PostScript-based Fontographer system, but I did not finish the work then. In 2008, Hyphengrapher and editor Peter Blažek (see page 22) contacted me through e-mail to mention the design and he helped me, together with type designer Nicolas Darmé (see page 96), to finalize the text and release it under the 'Tsoukup's Library'."





### Tom Lane

Tom Lane, also known as Ginger Monkey, is based in Bristol, England. He is a designer, illustrator, and maker of things, including websites, for clients and friends, advertising, publishing, and social media. "I imagine I began sketching pretty late compared to most in this area of work — I didn't start getting into design, illustration, and typography until my early twenties," Lane explains.

Intriguingly, he regards his sketches as "documenting the commentary of his process." They started to leave the computer completely behind in some cases, or use it simply as a drafting tool. This is probably because "I tend to get a strong intuitive response from an audience when they see my work. I feel that little incoherencies, rough edges, or general texture to sketches and hand-drawn work have a little bit off life in the piece and the viewer picks up on that."

Lane calls this his "only rough, get-on-with-it sketchbook." Some of his sketches are worked in detail with measurements and names are simply bashed in. "At the time these were made (2000–10) I was still finding my feet with hand-drawing. Now, I'm drawing from all the time and have a pretty clear process. In these sketches you're seeing a cross-section of my evolution into drawing too. My learning through experimentation and discovery."

# Limited Edition



TA AA  
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imprimée  
À L'ANCIENNE

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### Jean-Baptiste Levée

Jean-Baptiste Levée is a type designer and typographer who lives in Paris and Montréal—but mostly in Paris. He designs typefaces and develops fonts for brands, corporations, and publishers. There are multiple goals for keeping his books—“to avoid getting bored during lectures and conferences is the main one. But also to free myself from the heat of concepts and ideas, both to evaluate and to fix them on paper. It also helps to draw a sketchy hand that I cannot get right with the computer.”

“Drawing type does not have any direct connection with his work. “I have been trying to use it to search for some tools for a corner that I have designed, for instance, but so far it has never proved useful,” he admits. “The sketches do not refer to anything other than themselves, although my imagination or ingenuity sometimes start in my sketchbook. It is the process tool I have to experiment with letter constructions, visual type flows, aesthetics, etc.” He claims not to have “standards or expectations—the sketches can be as clumsy as they want, as long as I get the idea right.”



### Katie Lombardo

Katie Lombardo—aka Katie Dailey—calls herself “a wandering artist whose home is the prairie.” She lives “between the Sandkey Insurance and pure blue,” according to her website.

Originally from a small town in Illinois, she is inspired by nature. Ms. Dailey makes her way enjoying simple country pleasures such as a leisurely goldfinch song, swimming in lakes, canoe trips, fire camp into the night and sipping charoain tea with honey, her motto-motto. Since studying at the Minneapolis College of Art



& Design, Lombardi has worked for clients such as Target, HGTV, and American Greetings.

Her sketches are as free and “blurted” as her voice. And her finished art is not much different from the sketches. The artist who prefers art that is “soothing versions of nineteenth-century woodblock, painted and watercolor with pastel tones and happy accents. In fact, there are quite a few details integrated throughout her letters and words.”

Yellow

KATIE  
Lombardo

FLOW

HOW  
DOES  
YOUR  
GARDEN  
GROW?

LAO TZU

Introduction

AUROBINDO

LOOK

SUNDAY

RAM  
ANNA  
MAH  
ARSHI



### Matt Luckhurst

Canadian Matt Luckhurst, a designer and letterer based in New York, says, "I didn't want to draw for a long time — my mom couldn't force me into an art class. It wasn't until high school and I was introduced to graffiti that my imagination was sparked. From there it was a steady production of sketches to try to one-up my friends."

"I have a notoriously bad memory," Luckhurst notes. "So I always have something to draw on. They serve as a memory bank for me as well as being the first place I go when I start a project." He develops paintings and personal work from flipping back through his books.

"The most unique thing about these sketches is the look of intention inherent in them," he adds. In fact, "sketches don't need to have an intent, other than to be sketches. Not in say they can't, but it is never to have a place to let the mind and hand wander."

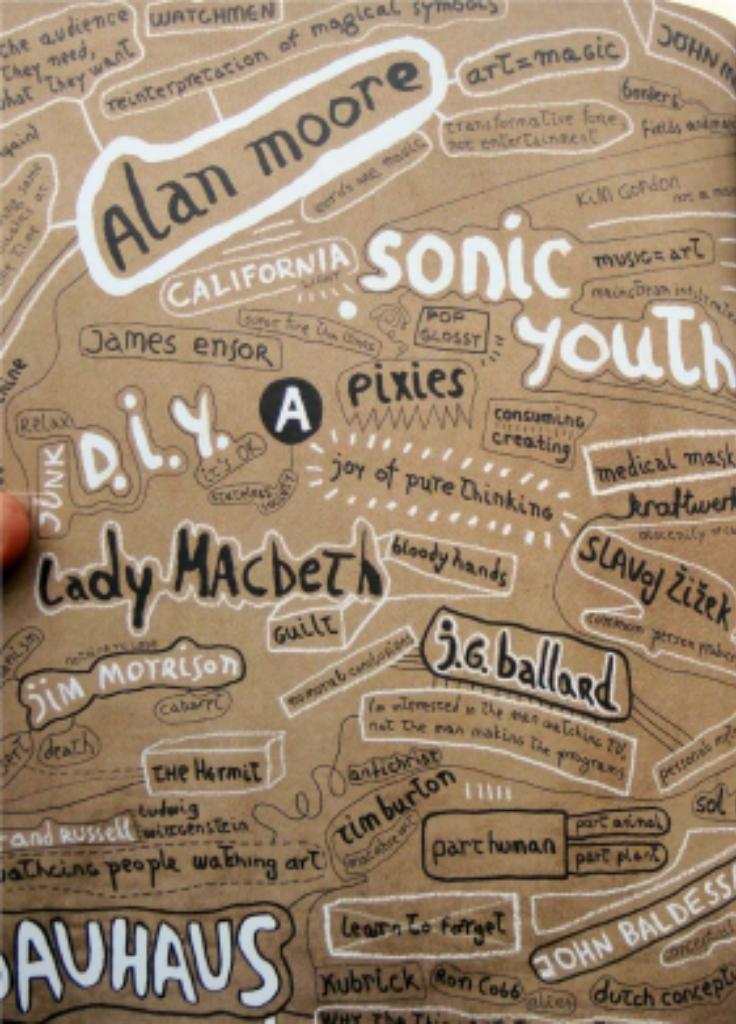
Luckhurst asserts that "nesting is ever unfinished in a sketchbook" — an interesting and contrary notion. "Every sketch is complete until a pencil finds it again; things are allowed to grow organically and the page can grow and change as it pleases — I have terrible handwriting and I move in a lack of organization."



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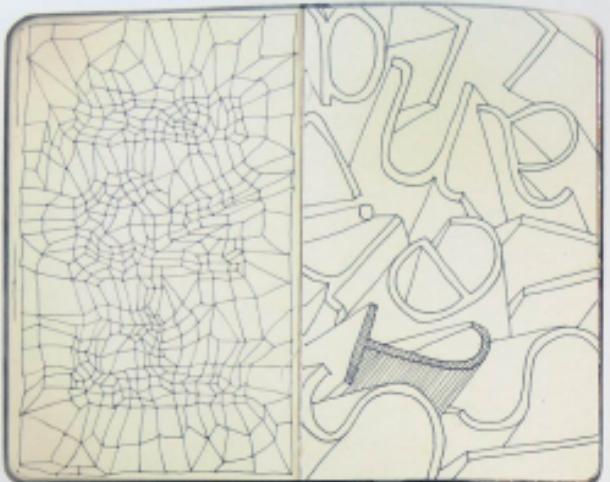




### Aleksandar Mačašev

Aleksandar Mačašev was born in Bečevo, Yugoslavia, and graduated from the Faculty of Architecture at the University of Belgrade. A designer and typographer, he works in a variety of disciplines. Most of the time his sketching is visual play with no purpose: "An old headline catches my eye, usually from some model-catalog or a street sign. Or I want to see something closer, but I also need to add some graphic quality to it – a purpose, a thought, or a name that I want to remember. Often user-hand drawn sketches when I give lectures and presentations. They offer a beauty contrast to the usual computer-generated type."

Mačašev says all of these sketches are finished: "Gests define a pattern," he adds. "Sometimes sketches are used to find a solution, or they can also be graphic pieces that have aesthetic qualities. These tend to be finished works, where I consciously decide to keep the unfinished, sketchy quality." In fact, he says many sketches are more finished than not: "It's funny what ones look at a lot of recently published books of working sketches. They all look quite cool and polished. Artists and designers seldom publish their really messy working sketches that show the process of making things."





### Ross MacDonald

Ross MacDowell, an illustrator and proprietor of a small but well-known letterpress and woodtype business, reflects the Brightwork Press in New Haven, Connecticut, makes sketchbooks out of his throwaways and type scraps. He says, however, that he was sketching and doodling from an early age. "I used to draw in the margins of my school notebooks (and textbooks). Around grade three, I started cutting 'improvisation books' in half so I could carry one in a pocket."

His type sketches are the first step of designing, "trying to work out how everything goes on the page. They are a quick way of trying different approaches and versions, though lots of times the sketch will look great, but it won't work when I go on to try it." The most satisfying aspect of his sketchbooks is the artifact-ness of the materials. MacDowell makes prints for movies (books, cards, etc.) often with historical patinas. His sketchbooks are the artless artifact versions of these.

# THE GOOD THE BAD & THE UGLY



~~THE GREAT  
BIG  
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EXCURSION~~

~~THE GREAT  
BIG  
DESERT EXCURSION~~

~~THE GREAT  
BIG  
DESERT  
EXCURSION~~

~~WONDERFUL  
EXCURSION~~

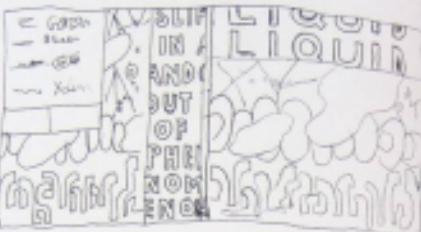
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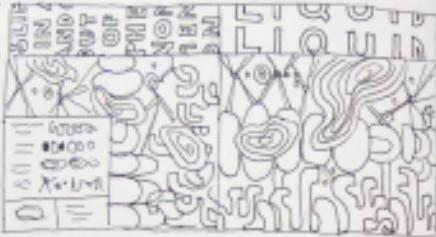
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### Richard McGuire

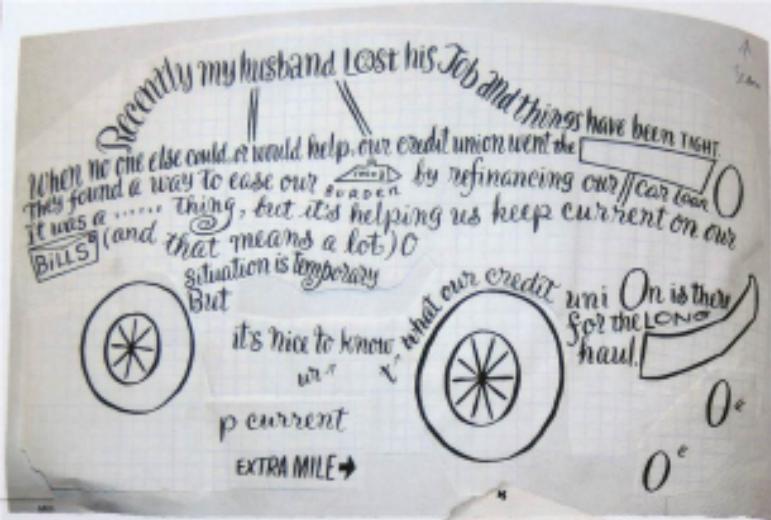
New York-based illustrator, graphic artist, and creator of comic, now animation

Richard McGuire is very philosophical about sketching. "The purpose of sketching is to smoke," he says. "You start with a vague idea, this little seed, and then you have to clarify and clarify it, and bring whatever it is into the world and make it real. You are hunting the right side of the brain, or your subconscious, or some collective consciousness; you are trying to pull a rabbit out of the hat."

Drawing is largely "problem solving," he adds. "The end purpose depends on the project. I've scanned sketches into the computer and redrew them with illustrators if I need it to be precise. More recently, I've been using rough sketches as my 'thoughts' work, sometimes scanning and manipulating them a bit with Photoshop, but I've been appreciating the rough immediacy of a hand-drawn line, or a painted line."

The 2008 images shown here were designed for a recent sleeve for the band Liquid Liquid. I was attempting to create type that was inherently rhythmic-looking, trying to reflect the sound of the band. The end result went in a different direction — the type I made was much simpler, hand-painted, extremely easy-to-read block letters, white on a black background."





p current  
EXTRA MILE →

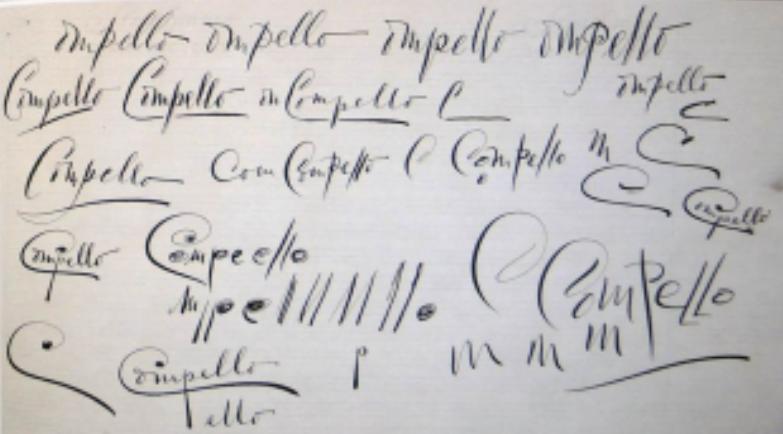
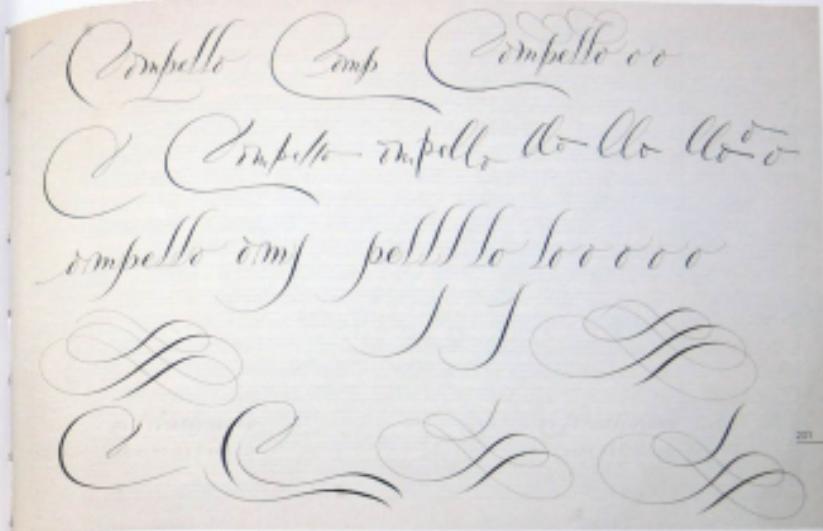
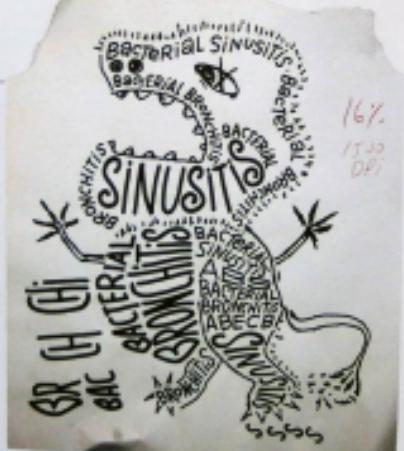
### Bernard Maisner

New Jersey-based Bernard Maisner, master hand-letterer and calligrapher, has made a career fine penmanship for weddings, films, corporate logos, and advertisements. As a sketcher he works on a project-by-project basis.

"Sometimes ideas are freely sketched out, pencil on paper, and the latter I will go in with ink," Maisner explains. "I am not sure what the client wants. I will make dozens of sketch versions using various tools to create the lettering. One of these designs, or sketches, may be just perfect as final art. More commonly however, one or two of the words are used as reference points for how to proceed to the next round of development."

However, "Sketching for lettering is not the same as when I sketch an artist attempting to create artwork. As an artist, I keep a traditional sketchbook, which is really just an organized place to have ideas located in a chronological order."

There is a third form of sketching, which Maisner explains, "is needed at times for my lettering assignments, when I need to 'construct' letterforms, as opposed to 'writing' letterforms. These letters must be carefully drawn and reduced to achieve the final shapes desired, taking time after the shapes are approved."



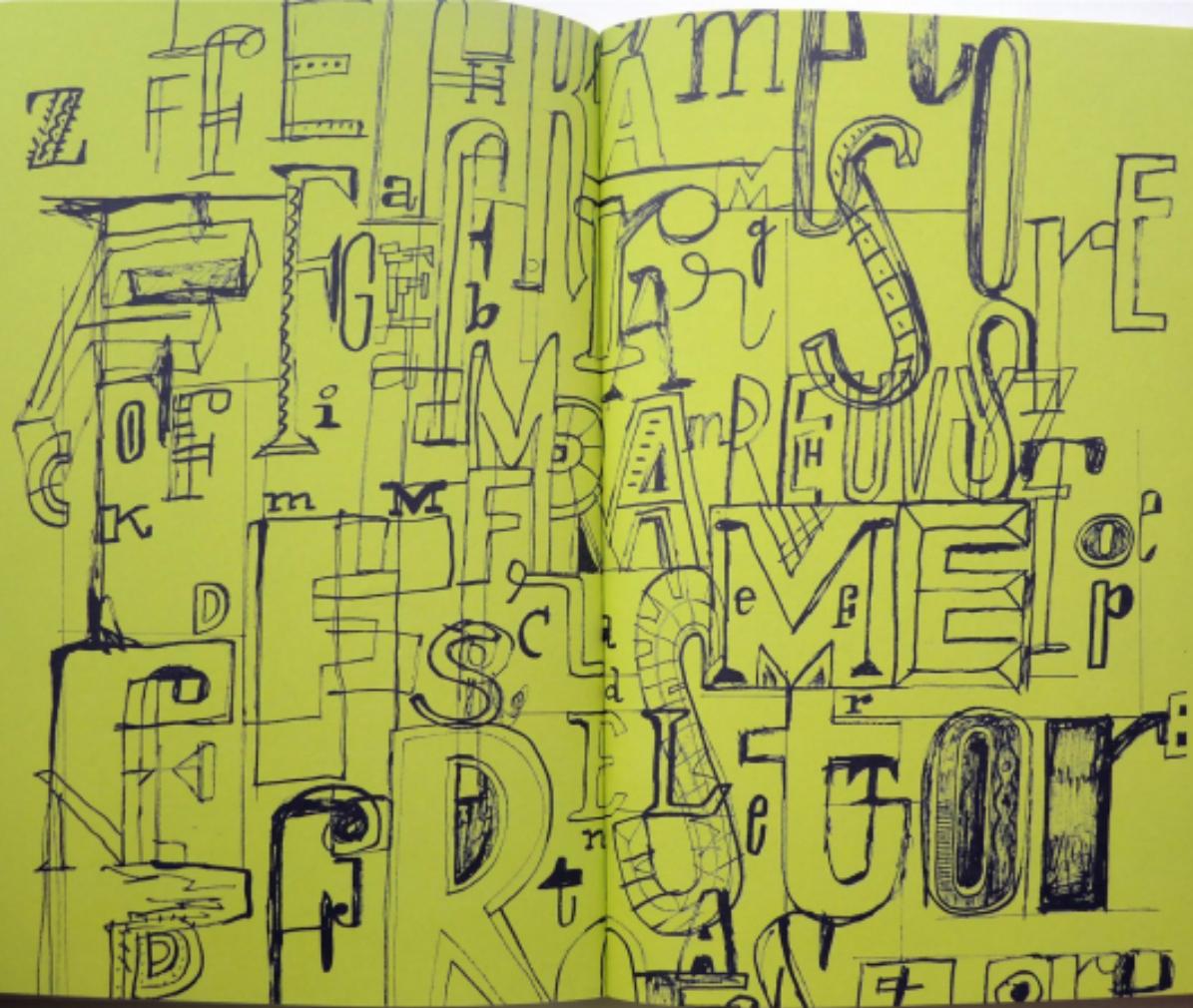
The year was 1939. Herbert Hoover took office and the world was thrown into the despair of the Great Depression. In the midst of worldwide economic calamity, the Germans two immigrants founded a small men's hosiery mill in Bally, PA to manufacture their new home and the dream. Therein, they named it Great American Knitting Mills. In such trying times they desired to create socks that would wear better and last longer. The answer was found in a gold reinforcing yarn sewn in the toe. The last Gold Toe® brand for 80 years found the Gold Toe® brand has represented a commitment to crafting socks that are uncommonly comfortable and reliable. It is a vigorous brand that has come to stand the test of time.



## Javier Mariscal

Javier Mariscal's *Sketches* (left) and *Sketches 2* (right), books of his sketches, are graphic design, comics, cartoons, characters, portraits, portraits, scenes to be hopefully reproduced. He has even published a hefty book of his sketches, which he produced while the age of eighteen. "I've been doing sketches of what is natural of artisitic around me," says Mariscal. "For me, it's the only way to understand really because I have many learning problems, probably because I'm dyslexic without ever having been diagnosed. If I want to know what it's called, I'm not able to do it. So, I first draw it."

Although his work is often sketchy, sometimes the sketch is very different from the final work. "Then again, sometimes they are identical." They just make a calendar for the *Coronado* magazine in April which consists of twelve sketches that include people and things that were published just as they were. "I didn't do them for any particular reason, but later it occurred to me that they could be used for this commission. When I drew, depending on the situation, I can do something highly surrealistic, or something very realistic. In fact I'm simple on a cellular level."



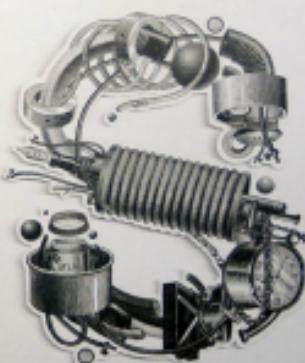


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Super?



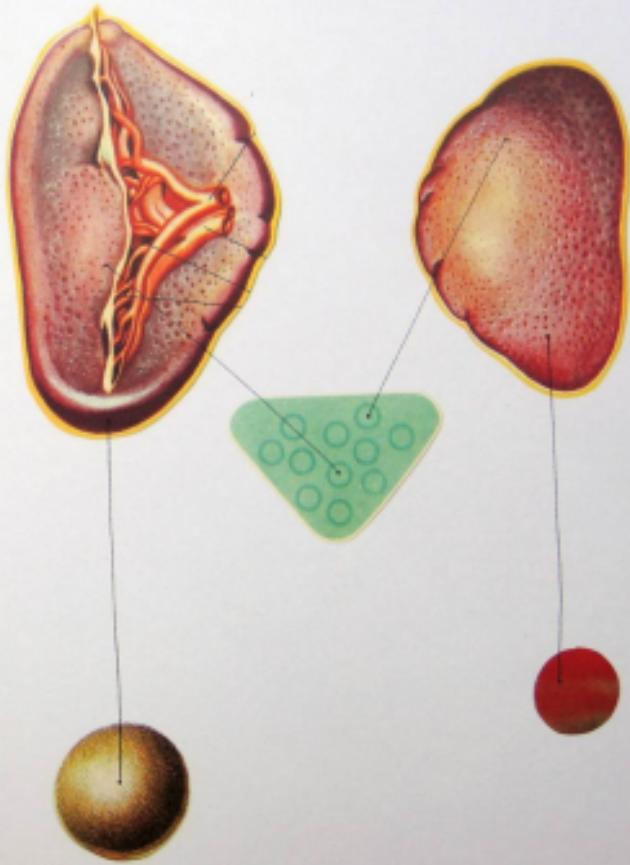
La Rata

### MASA

MASA is the founder of MASA Design in Caracas, Venezuela. His work derives inspiration from his research into Latin American pop and international street culture. He blends urban and folklore references into a contemporary brief for sneaker, streetwear, and snowboard companies.

He notes that "all a picture, a sketch captures the moment, an idea that documents my daily thoughts and my current methodology before it fades like a dream in the morning after." His drawings have a greater purpose. "I like to say that now I work as if the finals are just the best matches with a light evolution. No matter what will be evaluated in the end, it's true to my vision."

"The important thing is to achieve a bold result with strength and attitude," he adds. "The same power in a sketch as in the final. No matter what, I never want to repeat a single sketch; it keeps the soul, and comes with new discoveries and mistakes along the way. And that's unique." These sketches represent what he calls "absolute improvisation." These images are from 2009 to 2010.



## **Victor Melamed**

Victor Melamed is an illustrator, editor, and caricaturist living in Mexico City. As a tutor he says, "I insist that each week my students 'tear' a pile of paper as thick as a finger — and I try to live up to that standard myself."

He mostly sketches from life because "it lets me keep up sharpness of perception and learn more about people's physique, faces, and characters." Depending on the time available he can sometimes use a full sketchbook for one illustration, testing the characters, the story, the details. "But most often I do it entirely in Photoshop. As a matter of fact I regard it as my big problem: the Wacom tablet allows me to produce polished illustrations, portraits especially, but not to preserve the swift quality of the like I enjoy so much in my sketches. I spend hours, days, refining the shapes but then it turns out my first and loosed sketch was more apt than my final work. I'm searching for a new process that would let me blend the two qualities."

His lemenforms have a comic quality that expresses the themes he is working with, many of them cultural. Included here is an EP cover and lettering for the band mentioned names.



MELAMED  
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PAUL TRAGHERO  
Guy Schlam Lemez Lovas  
BEN MANDESON Lemez Lovas  
Lemez Lovas



### Saed Meshki

Tehran, Iran-based designer Saed Meshki is known for his wide range of typographic logo, poster, and book work. He uses his sketches to "reach the atmosphere of the subject for which I am sketching," he passionately notes. "In fact, I am familiar with Persian calligraphy. Although my sketches are not calligraphy, they do have a calligraphy origin."

Although he designs type, he denies he is a typographer. "My intention is to use type as an crucial element to create the image (illustration) and all visual work that I would like to design. In other words, designing an abstract image with elements that are readable and comprehensive is my main concern. This is a difficult combination and takes time."

Meshki's sketches are the thoughts that evolve into design. "First I scan these hand-writings," he explains. "Then I cut them out for each other, add or remove them, and in some cases I even add texture and repeat the process till I achieve the design that I am satisfied with." He adds that these sketches are "done freely, and indicate a very light atmosphere, done by a free mind."



### Niels Shoe Meulman

Niels Shoe Meulman is a graffiti writer and graphic designer from Amsterdam with a special bent for street art. "In my early graffiti years it was the norm to always carry a black book," he notes. "Later, when I ran my design company Caulfield & Tinsley in the 1990s, I began sketching in a book again. I wrote 'Notes' on the cover. I'm currently starting a new book, 'Notes 47.'"

For Meulman there are different levels of sketch: typographic outlines for logos, and type designs. "I keep forms original by first

sketching by hand before digitizing all vector art," he says. Then there are the more conceptual or technical sketches that he has to write down to remember. Recently he has been writing pages and pages in his "Calligraffiti" style. "Going that way makes me feel good," he adds. "Some of those words might be the starting point for a bigger piece and end up as 'harned Calligraffiti art.' There is no particular theme in the books, but each sketch provides 'a look inside my head. You can see the mood I was in at that moment.'

With  
place

# White Ability

# writeability, WRITEABILITY

## Ross Milne

Ross Milne, from Vancouver, earned his Masters in type and media at the Royal Academy of Art, The Hague (KABK), before traveling to San Francisco, working in several boutique design firms, and finally returning to Canada in early 2009. He is currently a contributing designer with Commercial Type and his typeface Fodot is planned for release by Typotheque.

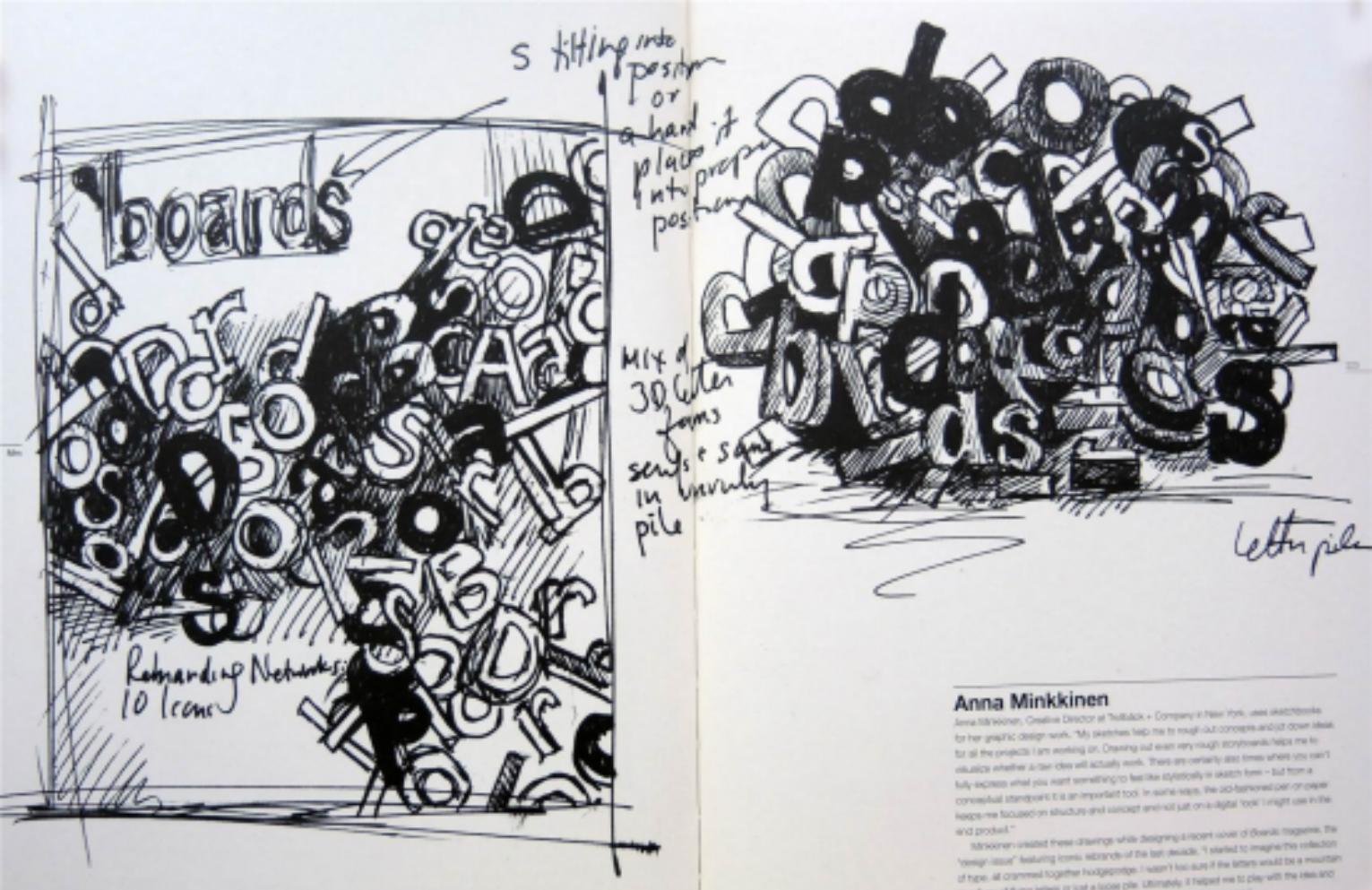
Milne says he's never been someone who "just sketches, even though I constantly wish I was." His sketches are almost always a response to a specific project or idea with a fairly defined goal. "Even

in my detailed sketches I try to push off decision-making as long as possible. Often, I find it hard to understand how the terminals of the letters will be, or the amount of contrast in the strokes. Often the sketching process acts as a voice showing you what to do next."

While the hand sketches are quite typical, Milne says that "the use of interpolation tools (in my case, I use Erik van Blokland's Superpolator software) to sketch multiple variations of a wordmark or logo type offers a unique way to visualize numerous options that would otherwise take hours to sketch."

# Love setters Love setters Love setters

# Love setters



### Anna Minkkinen

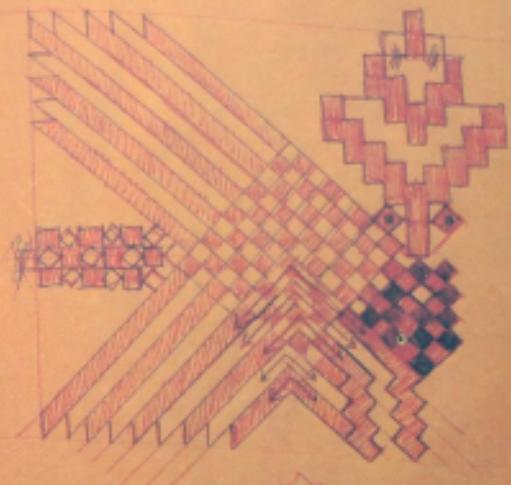
Jenna Minkkinen, Creative Director at Thaddeus + Company in New York, uses sketchbooks for her graphic design work. "My sketches help me to rough-out concepts and test out ideas for all the projects I am working on. Drawing and even very rough scribbles helps me to visualize whether a certain idea will actually work. There are obviously some times where you can't fully express what you want something to feel like physically or sketch them - but from a conversational standpoint it's an important tool. In visual terms, the old-fashioned pen-on-paper keeps me focused on structure and concept instead of just an digital 'look' I might see in the end product."

Minkkinen created these drawings while designing a recent issue of *Design Issues*, featuring letters re-birthed at the last minute. "I started to imagine this collection of type, all crammed together hodgepodge. I wasn't too sure if the letters would be a mustard or a form of flying letters or just a mess pile. Ultimately, it helped me to play with the raw and then to imagine it in sketch form first to see if it had birth in the concept."

دستگاری میراث



دستگاری



دستگاری  
کلیسا

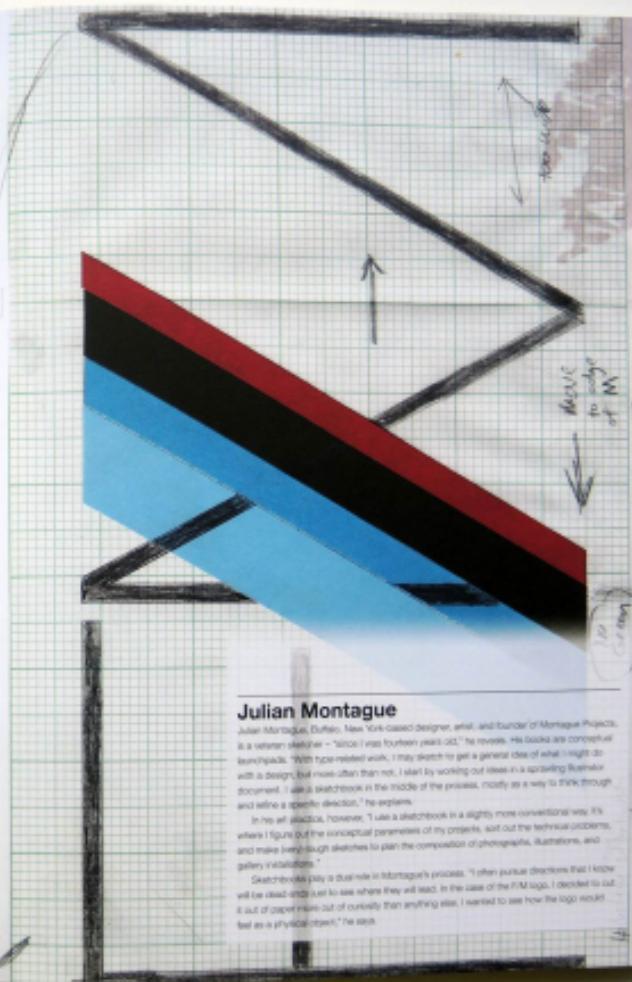
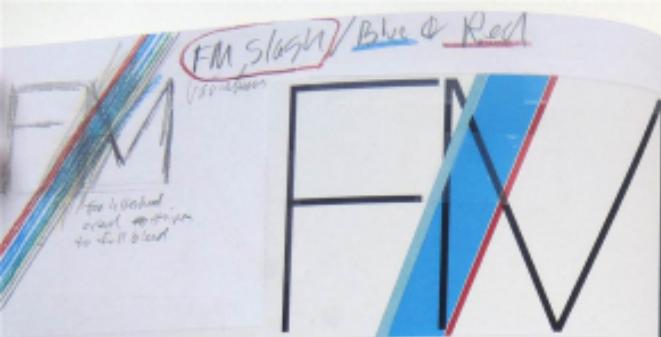


دستگاری

### Morteza Momayez

Morteza Momayez (1935–2005) was an Iranian graphic designer and one of the founders of the Iranian Graphic Design Society. He was Editor-in-Chief of *Nasr-e-Nazan*, an Iranian graphic design journal, initiated numerous cultural and design initiatives in Iran, and is widely known for his book jackets and covers.

The sketches here were provided by his colleague and friend, Majid Abbasi, as evidence of his unique skill in creating abstract forms. His drawings blend a classical hand and a modern sensibility. The intent and pictures are calligraphic, yet not in the conventional sense—rather, in the fluidity of his line and the expressiveness of his strokes.



### Julian Montague

Julian Montague, Dutch, New York-based designer, artist, and founder of Montague Projects, is a veteran sketcher – “since I was fourteen years old,” he reveals. His sketches are conceptual thumbnails. “With hand-drawn work, I may sketch to get a general idea of what I might do as a design, but more often than not, I start by working out ideas in a spreading looseleaf document. I use a sketchbook in the middle of the process, mostly as a way to think through and refine a specific direction,” he explains.

In my art practice, however, “I use a sketchbook in a slightly more conventional way. It’s where I figure out the conceptual parameters of my projects, sort out the technical problems, and make thumbnail sketches to plan the composition of photographs, illustrations, and gallery installations.”

Sketchbooks play a dual role in Montague’s process. “I often pursue directions that I know will be dead ends just to see where they will lead. In the case of the F/M logo, I decided to cut it out of paper instead of anything else. I wanted to see how the logo would feel as a physical object,” he says.



FRAZER/  
MONTAGUE  
DESIGN



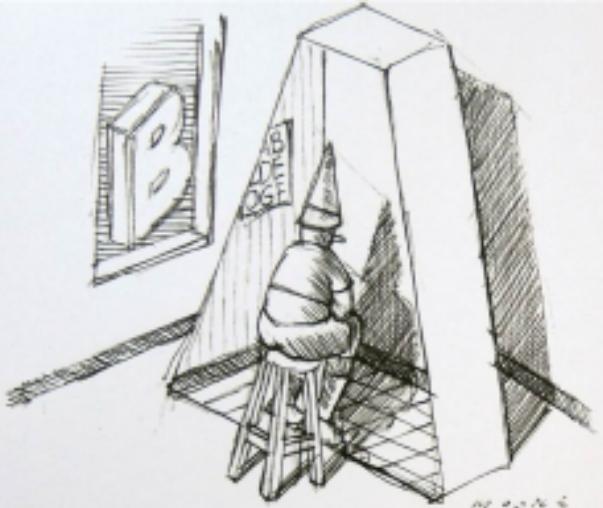


## James Montalbano

James Montalbano is a New York type designer whose "Terminal Design Inc." is responsible for a slew of faces for major American magazines and corporations, including Alton, Caspian, Capital, Pantheon, and Triton, has never actually kept a sketchbook. "I only sketch within it," he says. "I suppose we solve a problem," he states deflently. "Early in my career I relied on pencil sketches to develop my ideas. I now chew directly on the computer."

Sketching is neither a casual pastime nor pleasure. "I have no meaning; everything I draw has a purpose," he adds. "That purpose may change, but it all starts out as an attempt to solve a problem. They are the beginning of a thought process; the final work is the end of that process."

And yet, heaches abound. "These images are from different times in my career," he admits. "I suppose the most valuable are the basic sketches, which will prepare you for a digitizing process. I no longer use them, but they're very important to keep in circulation! That's why some sketches reproduced are from 1986 and the VF Script plus page from 1992."



**John Moore**

John Moore, a now disgruntled Computer Applications specialist, was destined to "be the company's all-around and all-purpose idea." With a good design comes hours of work and allows you to evaluate how intelligent you can be before hitting right below states of development."

Moore believes that the artist can have their purposes, "depending on the direction of work, we'll assume that of research, of developing craft media, of design for accuracy, of assimilation, some need to all objects an American influence, to design for those who have been really taken care in becoming a tool for any emotional desire."

This quote resembles "A man's body or emotional being, a blend of other of a whole energy concentration." He views this "sophisticated and conserving of expression" in sketches, which "provides a pen that is not withdrawable by any other means." And, he adds, the ability to visualize or anticipate in all manner of ideas that actually generates an explosive alternative of expression. Many times the writer of a poem may be less in a physical language."

رمضان في اليمن

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by  
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by  
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Titus Nemeth

Titus Nemeth is an Austrian type designer specializing in Arabic typeface design, typography and custom typefaces living in Paris. He says, "I never thought I would live here; I still have my *earliest* sketchbooks from design school in Vienna."

"My current books are versions for working-out a detail, or for figuring out a gesture or a movement that he words in manuscripts into a typographic shape." "I mainly develop 100% off paper, but most of the actual design happens directly on screen. Partly I think that my manual skills are not up to the task of producing letterforms by hand shapes, partly it's a question of time. I am simply lazier with letterform curves than with pencil strokes," he explains.

One of the things he admits to deriving when looking through old sketchbooks are "the random little images, words, notes, thoughts that have ended up on the same pages as some little shapes that might turn into a commercial typeface. Sketchbooks have something very personal and I must admit I like the name of the title and often weird things I had on some of my pages."

éditions le boudoir paris

رمضان في اليمن

ramamadan in yeme

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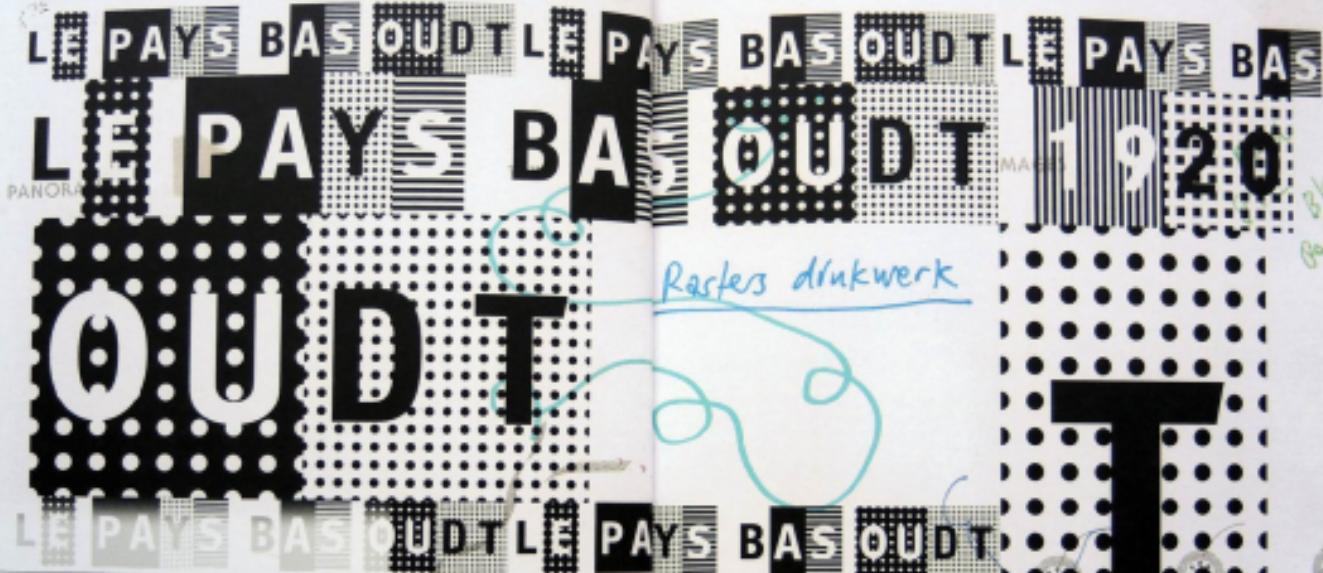
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## Niessen & de Vries

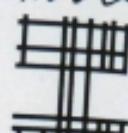
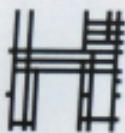
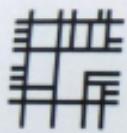
Graphic designers Richard Niessen and Esther de Vries are based in Amsterdam – but not just any part of the city. A 2009 article in *Design magazine* notes it is in “a beautiful, light-filled free workspace in Blijmer in Amsterdam’s Zuidas,” a distinctly artistic part of the serviceable town.

The couple have worked together under the name Niessen & de Vries since 2007. They originally used the name Topographic Masters, “creating increasingly bold and adventurous works inspired by architecture, illuminated landmarks, mosaics, patterns, traveling, futurists, Postzoo, Remind Rogers, Etienne Sottsass and many other sources,” says Niessen. De Vries worked independently, specializing in artful, levitas and educational art books for children. Today, she works on their own projects, collaborating with Niessen and also runs Uitgeverij Book, the small publishing house responsible for their *1st City* children’s catalog.

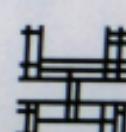
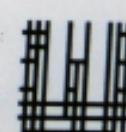
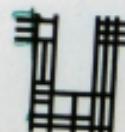
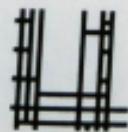
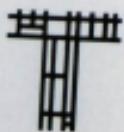
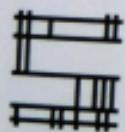
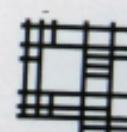
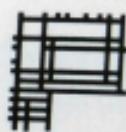
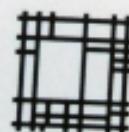
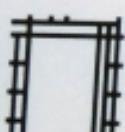
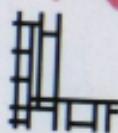
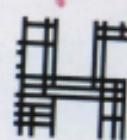
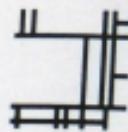
“What about the process of sketching? “I write down my thoughts, and quick ideas,” says Niessen. “The real sketches I make on the file or A3s that I print out with the first lay-outs on the computer. I sketch on the prints, then work on the computer again, make a new print-out and sketch again.”



streep door het  
midden



# LETTER



8 px min



### Viktor Nübel

Viktor Nübel is a graphic and typographic designer in Berlin, who designed the typeface PTL Attack and works with FontFont International. All his fonts have a decorative component, namely Outback, a typeface made of three-dimensional forms. Nübel's experimental typefaces include Modula 7, a totally abstract selection of glyphs that take the form of letters, and Type Attack (overhead), which is the stencil version of Attack and comes as a sheet of stencils that can be spray painted on any surface. "The Attack typeface was my thesis in design school," Nübel states. "I wanted to create a 'superior' typeface for the anti-globalization network. I thought of doing something that can be used in printed material as well as on banners and hand-made posters. So I came up with the idea of a stencil, a stencil every activist can use and that is small enough to carry."

For the Olive typeface (these pages) Nübel had the idea to combine two typefaces: Future Black and Miller Oracle, each with a strong regular expression. "In the beginning, I just had the idea for a few upper-case letters," Nübel states. "So I started to draw the letters and soon recognized that it was not easy on some letters to find the right stroke. It really took a while."

A B C D E F G  
A B C D E F G  
a b c d e f g



Å B C D E F G  
H I J K L M  
ñ ò P Q R S T  
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**FLUKE &  
FRIENDS**

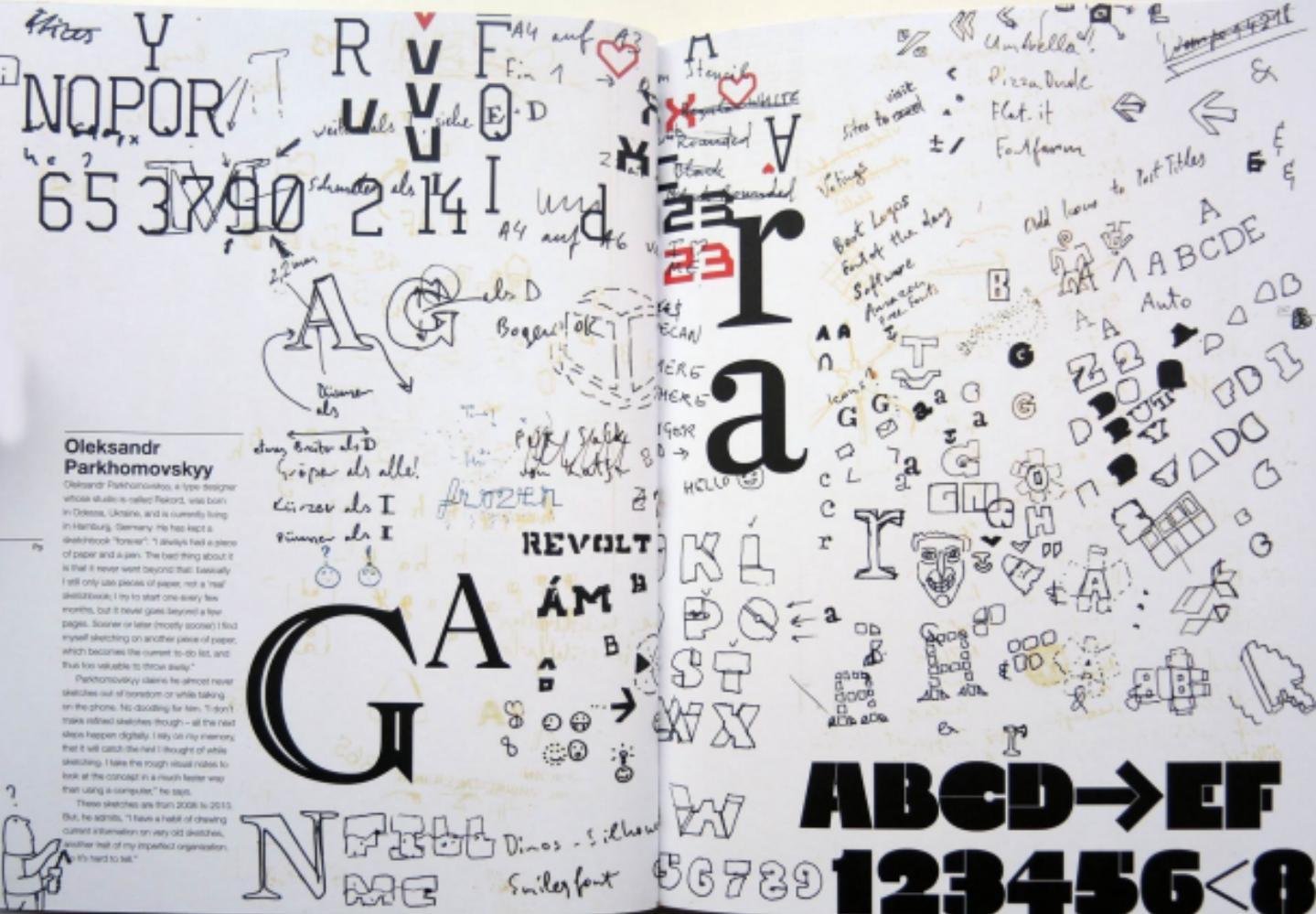
#### Gary Panter

Gary Panter, the Texas-native Brooklyn-based comics artist and creator of the Punk comic book "Junkie," is known for a broad range of various different themes and formats. He is a hoarder of thoughts, images and ideas, thoughts. "In my sketchbooks I throw every idea in," Panter says. "Some of them will be developed further, some are too zippy and weird-ups and Arlong moves. The ability in general is hopeful and ambitious."

His books are step-by-stepish sketchy sketches, yet learning with incredible stuff, especially lettering, which goes through a range of great influences. "Sketchbooks are about getting a flow of ideas going," he adds. "Getting the good, bad, and indifferent out. Then I start to rearrange or play with the layouts and see if they will roll into something else." His finished art is, most often, more refined, "or bigger, or bolder, or looser, or something that looks it out of the book, but not too far from the initial concept."

When asked what purpose the sketched have in his life, he cryptically and coquettishly replies, "I am trying to remember the future with them. There are various themes and associations that come back: robotics, architecture, pinheads, monsters, human figure drawing, cartoon characters, signs, learning notes, music notes, and all have resonance as references."





## Oleksandr Parkhomovskyy

Oleksandr Parkhomovskyy, a type designer whose studio is called Record, was born in Odessa, Ukraine, and is currently living in Hamburg, Germany. He has kept a sketchbook "forever"; he always had a piece of paper and a pen. The best thing about it is that it never went beyond that; basically I still only use pieces of paper, not a real sketchbook. I try to start one every few months, but it never goes beyond a few pages. Sooner or later (mostly sooner) I find myself sketching on another piece of paper, which becomes the comment to do list, and thus less valuable to throw away."

Parkhomovskyy claims he almost never sketches out of inspiration or while talking on the phone. No doodling for him. "I don't make refined sketches though – all the first steps happen digitally. I rely on my memory, that it will catch the feel I thought of while sketching. I take the rough visual notes to look at the concept in a much faster way than using a computer," he says.

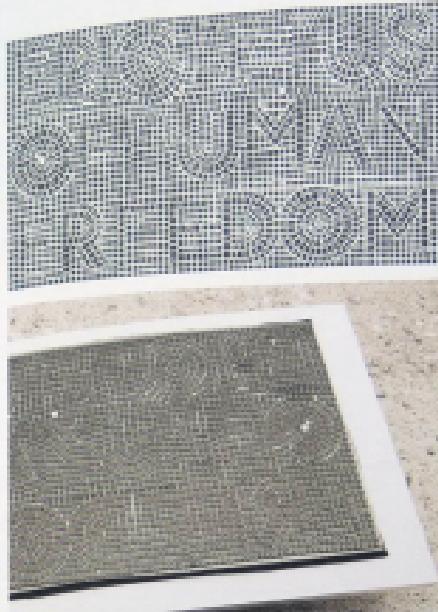
These sketches are from 2008 to 2013. But, he admits, "I have a habit of chewing current information on very old sketches, another trait of my imperfect organization. It's hard to tell."

# CORMAC MCCARTHY

# THE ROAD

A WORK OF SUCH  
TEMPIBLE BEAUTY  
THAT YOU WILL  
STRUGGLE TO  
LOOK AWAY

THE TIMES



**David Pearson**

A typographic designer based in Clerkenwell, London, who specializes in book design and branding, David Pearson has often designed or commissioned some of the most innovative and graphically unique books on today's shelves. His covers for Penguin are at once playful and reflective of printing history.

"I have never been a great art director," he says of his practice. "But I am increasingly taking the development stage away from the computer in an attempt to produce work with more character. Cheap, homogenized printing is commonplace in mass publishing, and what appears to be an annual downgrading of materials means that we have to be even more resourceful in producing tactile and engaging designs."

Pearson happily admits, "I assume most that many of my heroes worked in a different age, and as an avid collector of their work, I am reminded that modern-day book production yields an entirely different physical object. The sole aim of contemporary printing seems to be to eradicate imperfections or any trace of a book's construction, and it is exactly these things - like aquatint, varnish impressions, subtle crop variations that heighten and enhance my sense of the materiality of the book's conception."



6 Oct 1996 Spatulura

11 SPATULURA III

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D 2 T S R

G H A A G

### Daniel Pelavin

New York-based illustrator, designer, and 3DCG designer Daniel Pelavin creates an almost no-concept "Ansatz" to his sketches. How long have you had a sketchbook? He is the designer of such hits as the Deco-style *Annie* and *Baker Modern*, and *Neuhaus Ring and Pillar*, among others. His lettering art is bold, historical, and ornate.

"He says he is in his thirties decade of 'transforming and melting the images and cultural references of our times into elegant and compelling messages for publishing, advertising, and communication design.' A biting satirist with dimensional forms has been born beyond the realm of the graphic page into the world of three-

dimensional modeling and rendering; he aspires to create 'not merely images but objects, products, and devices whose usefulness is automated and understanding the eloquence of their design and construction,' too," he notes, with a sheepish grin, "to characterize 'less obviously mysterious complex compositions.' And sketches 'are mainly produced for the pure pleasure of drawing and imaging, and as concepts for editing, illustration or design problems.'

Pelavin's favorite sketchbook themes are road signs, automobiles, consumer appliances, lighthouses, fountain pens, and mechanical contraptions. But spare a look these too. The drawings shown here were produced between 1980 and 2010.



E P A ~ ◊ Ⓛ

Daniel Pelavin

Berlin Germany California

Elevator Fantasy Hindenberq

Israel Jump Help

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### **Luciano Perondi**

Argentinean Perondi is a bilingual typographer, graphic and information designer. In 2000 he founded Monogram, a studio that creates corporate and commercial identities and graphic and information design. Interested in writing by hand, he has developed several alphabets for corporate identities, events, publishers, and signpost systems.

His sketches are not necessarily related to a project that he is working on. "I like sketches to explain something to somebody or at least this influences the process, and to explain something to myself. I think, or at least try to remember. A couple of years ago my mother... said that, when I'm drawing, I always draw something which is lighter on my hand, but I never noticed that, until they told me." he says.

Perondi passionately states, "I should admit the sketches are almost useless for me, but I think, that there is a relation between drawing and trying to make order in my mind. It constraints me to show if what I'm thinking has a sense, a structure or not. In the same way, an unusual action (for example, drawing letters on a wall) it's also me reflecting in a different way an expected knows (after years of type designing, sometimes I fear to use a sort of 'automatic')."

# YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED

# NO

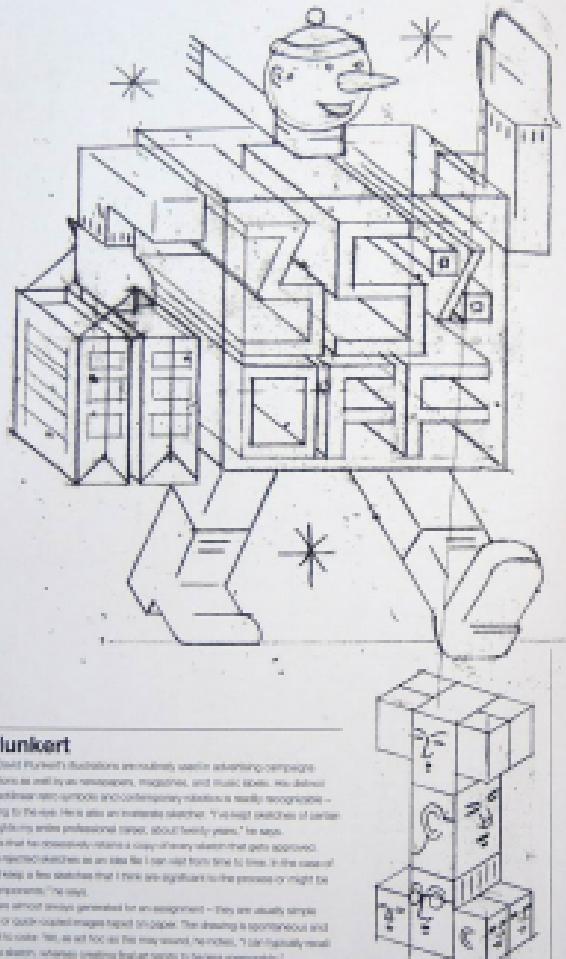
**Sam Piyasena**

London-based illustrator, hand-letterer, and designer Sam Piyasena, known professionally as Salle-Jean, has always kept a sketchbook of sorts. "When I was a child, I took great pleasure in sticking things into scrapbooks. My parent's day sketchbooks carry on this tradition and are a cocktail of sketches, found objects, photographs, quotes, telephone doodles, and the sketches of my daughter," he says.

"I'm often commissioned to recreate hand-drawn lettering," he continues. "The unprinted mark-making and fluidity in my sketches can be difficult to replicate in a final outcome. These second-generation drawings can sometimes look too measured. However, thanks to the wonders of digital technology, I can scan the original sketches and use them in the final piece."

Piyasena's sketchbooks, including the ones here from 2008 to 2010, are usually for private use, and so it's incredibly unusual for me to show them to anyone. The "YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED" image is a sketch for a headline in the biologist magazine. "The others are self-initiated sketches."

BREAKFAST  
LUNCHEON  
SUPPER  
BREAKFAST  
LUNCH  
DINNER  
BREAKFAST  
DINNER  
TEA



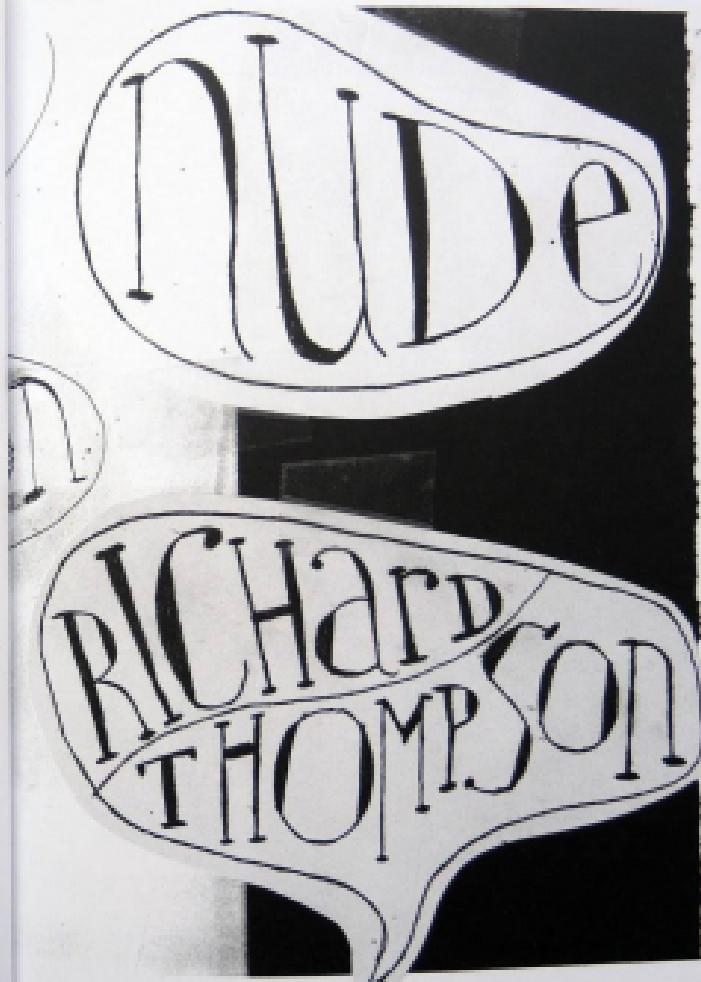
### David Plunkert

Based in New York City, Plunkert's illustrations are regularly used in advertising campaigns for major corporations as well as in newspapers, magazines, and music books. His distinct style is based on rock-and-roll symbols and contemporary situations in easily recognizable and accessible settings for the times. Here are two more sketches he's done.

Plunkert admits that his sketches "retain a copy of every sketch that gets approved."

"I take these come-ups [sketches] as an idea. I'll keep them brief at first. In the case of design projects, I keep a few sketches that I think are significant to the process or might be used for future components," he says.

His sketches are almost always generated for an assignment — they are usually simple cartoon drawings or quick-sketch images copied on paper. Then drawing is spontaneous and there may be thought to color. But, as will all art this may sound, he notes, "I like frequently recall when I've drawn a sketch, rather than creating from scratch to be less memorable."





## Bondé Prang

Bondé Prang, from Wilmington, Delaware, has kept a journal since high school. And while it's usually more impersonal, things are mentioned because full of playfulness were drawn or typed.

-Hannah, 18, a senior at Ursuline Academy

"Then I begin to figure out what I want by tracing it over and over again," she says.

"Each time it becomes tighter and more polished until the end. I want something that I am satisfied with, and that's all that I need to do many adjustments since it is scanned into the machine."

Drawing as a creative outlet from the computer, herbe says she typically starts a sketchy piece. "I would like to pencil and draw because it shows through in the finished, digitized piece – there are organic curves of a hand-drawn sketch of something that would not translate as well if I started drawing with the pen tool with no sketch to use as a template."

Most of her drawings are done on one page, and 80% are done with a computer, drawing and adding background. This is also where culture comes into her work period. "Most of my styles of whatever are quite appealing to me, so they often show up in my work," she says.



## Purgatory Pie Press

Purgatory Pie Press, a lithography and print bookshop in New York, is named after its location in 1817 when co-founder Charles Haskill "put" (dropped and inverted) a newfangled wagon print Census Set Royal in 1803 (first printed before 1803, British) from existing mastodon - was their first printing mastodon - was their first mastodon mastodon.

Smith has recently begun sketching on and off since college. "My drawing professor had us draw an anatomical line six hours per week, so it became a habit. And now I switch to different media - sometimes just to release some of the tension, sort of as an exercise — though there may be others here." Other times he works out on ideas or more major or chestnut they come up, "the way I keep a notebook for writing."

"The anatomists had one specific exercise," he says. "It's very different from what we do in average sketching. They are part of our education in schools," she says. "After classes — until possibly midweek — everything was ripe and plucked from things. I cut it all and made it something to think about and analyze and that up to the point and process. Then we live longer, and internally, think more."

february August

april October

May December

june November  
July January

July



ON ON On  
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ON ON ON ON  
ON ON ON ON  
ON ON ON ON  
no on on on  
no on on on  
no on on on  
no on on on

BOX BOX BOX  
BOX BOX BOX  
BOX BOX BOX



AaBbEeFfGg

HhIiMmNnOo

RrSsUuVvDp

AaBbEeFfGgHhIi

AaBbEeFfGgHhIi

MmNnOoRrSsTt

MmNnOoRrSsTt

UuVvDp UuVvDp

### Jesse Ragan

Jesse Ragan, studio designer based in Brooklyn, has kept a sketchbook since childhood—about 1997, but “my diligence fluctuates. Sometimes I go for months without sketching much at all.” When he designs typefaces, he says, “I’m always drawing sketches in my sketchbook. It’s a productive way to pass the time and keep my brain working.”

Sketching, he admits, keeps his creative limber: “Designing is a repetitive, uncreative endeavor. Systematic thinking, and repetition. Sketching informs me by hand allows the immediacy of a truly visual medium, and a consciousness in which mathematics and

geometry can be applied more easily. Sketching is a way to measure the limitations and tendencies of what comes.”

Sketching also comes into play at several points in the development of a project. After I’ve sketched a digital prototype version of a design and refined it a bit, I usually draw many sketches by hand. In iterations, solutions for the problems I’ve diagnosed in my prototypes. Approaching problems from a different angle often helps me get unstuck,” he explains. The prototyper (Carrie Baltic, opposite, bottom) was a turning point: “When I figured out what the nature of the data was, it meshed in so well to the form.”





The Harold  
and Mimi  
Steinberg  
Charitable  
Trust

HAVANA  
AND THE  
ATLANTIC

1550-1610

1550-1610

## RED

Sam Grawley and Debra Rogers, Brooklyn-based founders of RED (Rogers-Grawley Design), speak with one voice when it comes to their sketches. Recalling what they started keeping notebooks, they think "if a math notebook with not a lot of math and a lot of doodles counts, then we started in grammar school."

The math-book observation may be 100%, but the joy of sketching remains. "Usually, sketches are intended to solve a specific design problem given by a client. Other times, they don't have an immediate purpose. Like our sketches, we do them because they're fun and could possibly have some future use. We don't know there is one right way to sketch. A sketch is about getting to the core idea quickly. So it could be pencil, fabric, mess, cut paper, or whatever else gets the idea done."

RED's sketches are less elaborate than the finished product. There is always an abundance of hand-made errors, and often references to historical art.

"Usually, sketches like these don't see the light of day, so we're not making them for an audience to evaluate. They end up buried, and sometimes – I'm honest about it – more interesting than the finished work."

These images were made between 2007 and 2009.

A B C D E F

G H I J K L

M N O P Q R

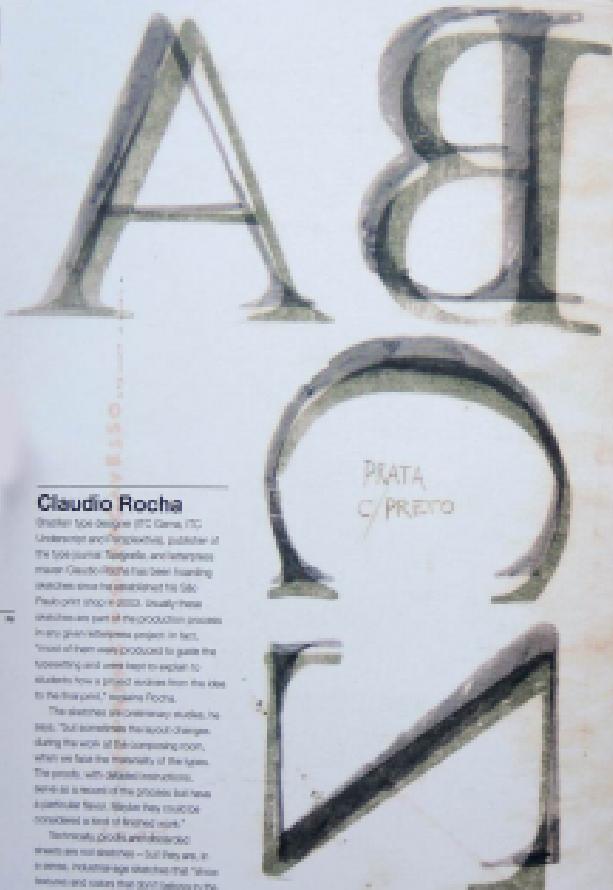
S T U V W X

P E F G H I

J K L M N O

R Q P O N M

X W V U T S

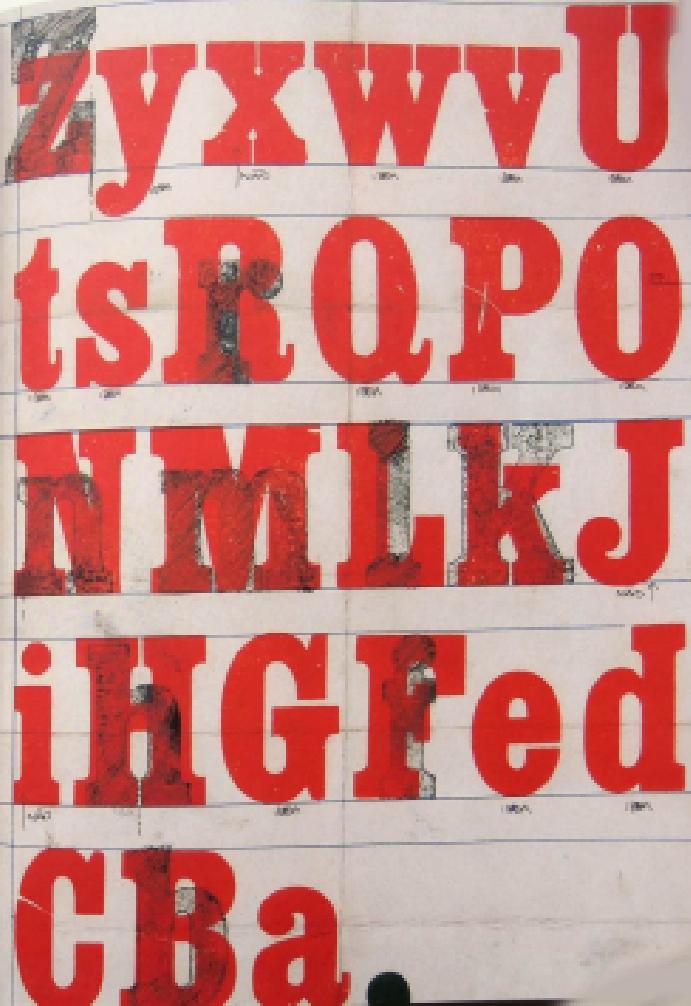


### Claudio Rocha

Brazilian font designer ITC Cláudio ITC Underwood and ITC Benguet, publisher of the 1600 issues Tigrinho, and entrepreneur master Claudio Rocha has been teaching students since he established his São Paulo studio in 2002. Usually these students are part of the production process in any given typeface project in fact, "most of them work produced to guide the novices and urge them to explore to students how a project evolves from the idea to the final print," says Rocha.

The designer also oversees studios, including ITC, "but he prefers the work of changes during the work of the composition room, which we face the materiality of the types. The prints, with details corrections, several as a result of this process but have a particular flavor. Because they must be considered a sort of finished work."

Technically, good and different elements are not necessary — but they are, in general, ITC's strategy is to "choose features and values that don't detract to the finished work."



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g

—

ããããahnnnnn.??? ■ HMM

me

ABE

PALAVRAS.

PALAVRAS

SÃO SÓPOR

PA!AVRAJ6

# YOU DON'T HAVE TO,



## Jeff Rogers

Business artist Rogers, from Dallas, Texas, and now based in New York, modestly notes, "I think some of these sketches look like something you could find in some high school kid's notebook. But hopefully they're a step better."

For Rogers, "what makes art interesting is when I love the quality you get with a good piece of pencil — it has the smooth quality in the moment, right away like that." He adds, "My finished work tends to be colorful and bold, but I always like to add paper texture to it. I like the way it interacts with an array of paper, creating warmth and personal space." (Or, as put in trade journal *Texture*: "I also know the sketch factor — capturing expressions, little types, it is surprising and expressive — drawing the human face is 80 percent expression.")

Roughly Rogers has done these sketches since 2000. "Before that I never sketched like this," he says about his figures. "I used mostly fabric line with hand-drawn types over colored paper.

He adds, "Over the last few years my sketches have served the purpose of getting design ideas out quickly. But I still like to draw and doodle for fun. It could be for ideas or drawing from interesting others. I find myself really of people and faces."



PEACE  
MANAGE  
THE  
CRIMES  
LOVE

WITH HER BIG  
GREEN EYES  
AND HER LONG BLONDE  
HAIR  
NEW YORK'S IN FLAMES  
NEW YORK'S  
IN LOVE

the CURE for  
ANYTHING  
is  
**SWEAT**

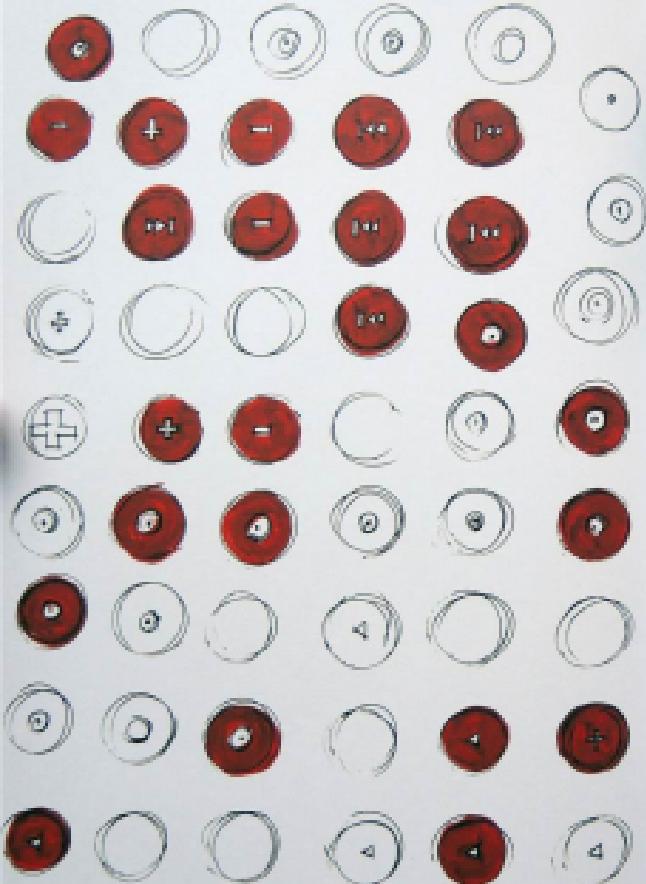
**SWEAT**  
SWEAT,  
TEARS & TEA  
— ISAK DINESEN

(NATIONAL  
WINGONEER  
ASSOCIATION  
WINNING THE  
WORLD)

WINNING THE  
WORLD  
IN 1919

NATIONAL  
WINGONEER  
ASSOCIATION  
WINNING THE  
WORLD



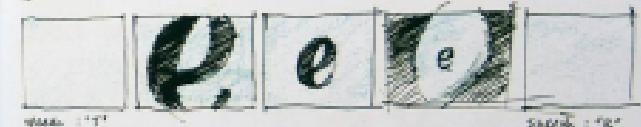


*Torus* → cold fresh water



*type : cylinder, not  
type : database*

*→ words are sharp + contours are water.*



*→ characters are open + words are wavy.*

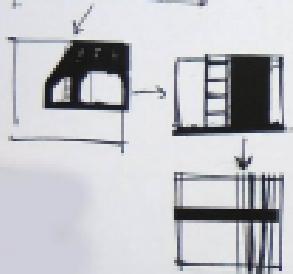
### Christina Rüegg

Christina Rüegg originally from Switzerland now lives in New York City. She has kept her studio space since 2008. She really started using them more seriously in 2004 to translate ideas, thoughts and concepts.

Rüegg's studio is a big part in the creative process. "This is where I work and develop ideas," she says. "Some of my sketches

are a beginning of a thought, some receive more attention, some trigger or move thinking and through them all can be starting point, this makes it into a thought piece. The letters above the concept ABC are also a main focus of mine for this composition and story, which becomes more visible in the finished piece. The sketch has emerged from some of the Tealock projects 2009-10."

## Construction and Zones

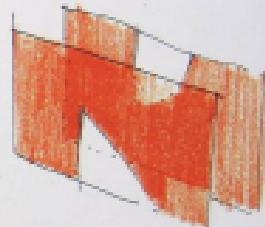
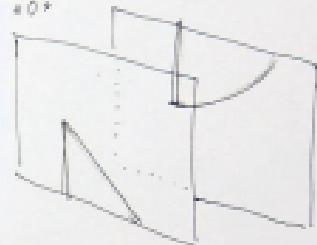


## Distortion of Type

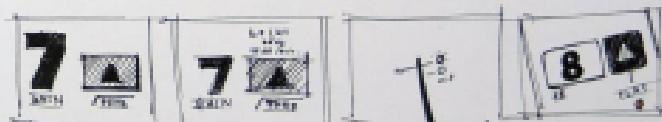
Jan 7, 2005



+ 0° → N



Layover





### Ina Saltz

Type lettering collector and author Ina Saltz, born New York, recalls "having been won by calligraphy at the [sixth] second grade. I loved making up stories about names, most of which sounded like they had been invented personally and like. For example, the capital 'W' was ~~the sun~~ sun congealing of presents. The capital 'H' was a spider, winding an arachnid."

Saltz has kept notebooks for almost forty years. "The purpose of my notebooks—rarely often they are three for the sheer visual pleasure of feeling the line of the pen pass down the front edge of the page. The discontinuity of that feeling, the start, and the switching are the magic happens," Saltz *now* tells me.

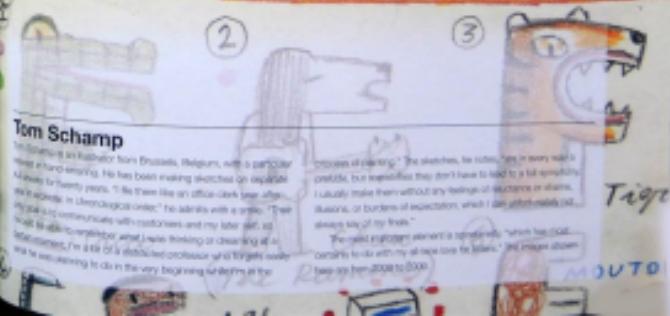
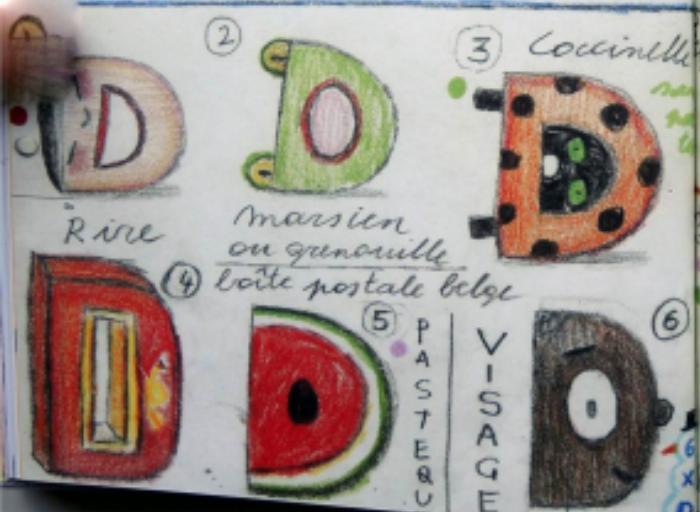
The artist she loves best is a friend—tradition—among artists from all over the world and one another calligrapher—especially to mark the year's passing. "Perhaps what is most unique to these sketches is the use of color: I love to write with gouache, and especially on a slate ground with a light varnish, or gold. There is something about the quality and texture of the paint, mixing it with an eraser sharp for just the right viscosity, the enough-to-flow viscosity, over the top of the lead edge of pen and cut produce a thin line, and thick enough to achieve the necessary viscosity."

for BEAUTIFUL & SPANISH  
above THE fruited PLAIN for the MOUNTAIN MISTS  
AND CLOUDS of MER  
thy good  
with BROTHERHOOD  
from SEA SHINING SEA!  
from PILGRIM FEET  
O BEAUTIFUL FOR STRESS OF PASSIONED FEAR  
for STERLING THOROUGH  
@ AMERICA! AMERICA! AMERICA!  
FREE DOM BEAT acros THE COLDNESS  
Good men things  
dear friend thy soul  
conflict thyself  
in self-love & law  
of LIBERTY & LAW  
O BEAUTIFUL  
from HEROES  
RAISED IN LIBERATING STRUGGLE  
WILL NOT SEE THEIR COUNTRY  
QUID DERO MORE  
YAHU

WORTHY SY.  
NATHANIEL,  
LEE BATES,  
CHARLES H.  
WITH OUR  
DARKEST  
WISHERS  
From STEVEN  
Sanderson

for BEAUTIFUL & SPANISH  
above THE fruited PLAIN for the MOUNTAIN MISTS  
AND CLOUDS of MER  
thy good  
with BROTHERHOOD  
from SEA SHINING SEA!  
from PILGRIM FEET  
O BEAUTIFUL FOR STRESS OF PASSIONED FEAR  
for STERLING THOROUGH  
@ AMERICA! AMERICA! AMERICA!  
FREE DOM BEAT acros THE COLDNESS  
Good men things  
dear friend thy soul  
conflict thyself  
in self-love & law  
of LIBERTY & LAW  
O BEAUTIFUL  
from HEROES  
RAISED IN LIBERATING STRUGGLE  
WILL NOT SEE THEIR COUNTRY  
QUID DERO MORE  
YAHU

for BEAUTIFUL & SPANISH  
above THE fruited PLAIN for the MOUNTAIN MISTS  
AND CLOUDS of MER  
thy good  
with BROTHERHOOD  
from SEA SHINING SEA!



"processes of drawing." The plaidness, he notes, "are in every way a privilege, but I emphasize they don't have to lead to a flat symbolic. I usually make them without any feelings of resistance or shame, illusions, or burdens of expectation, which I do preferably (at) always say of my work."

The hand-drawn alphabets element is apparently "when you just can't seem to live with all my new love for letters," Tom explains about his project from 2008 to 2009.



m



p



o

# MAKE STUFF! ONE

Keith Scharwath

Two Agence France designers, RIBBLECK and art director Keith Scharwath, have created a poster for the first edition of the exhibition "Play Happening". The poster features large, bold, black and red letters spelling out the title. The background is white on the left and orange on the right, with a stylized graphic of a person's head and shoulders on the right side.

of any kind. Because I always look for things on the computer," he says. "I say that the random groupings of characters and colors make them incredibly interesting and plain."

From a following perspective, it's normally charged atoms and photons, although completely out of contact here, definitely have their own impact. I mean I thinking about it may affect I could throw a ball, but then seems to be rather these from a distance," he observes.

# PLAY HAPPENING

Make  
n Something



KICK  
DOWN  
DOWN

the sunday

KICK

Our  
our  
our  
our  
our  
our  
our  
our  
our  
our

The  
Born  
Cry  
To  
Cry

REBIRTH



Soul  
Cleansing

## Helga Schmid

Helga Schmid is a Berlin-based designer and artist who says she "has planned most of the placement of Brooklyn, New York." Her tables, chairs, and dressers are covered with sketches.

Schmid speaks and writes without an affected voice. "My sketches contain what I know and perhaps what I should or want to need to remember for later. They are created without a clear grainy mind, but often lead to more. I would consider my work as very precise and clear, whereas my sketches have the freedom to be dirty, imperfect, incomplete, and ugly."

Schmid says she prefers to work in an expressive way. "I work spontaneously with materials and paper. Many of my sketches are not finished; they let me know and say things like 'look it's made out of clay, whatever the wall, or lighter behind'."

Let me rephrase my goals, without a scaffold wall, we sink very little. In search of respect to her studio of Visual Arts MFA Design Thesis project, "Reconstruction of the German school of writing and design,"

you says,  
I will  
paint  
in you a  
new face!"

This day  
marks some  
kind of  
new image

new image



a b c d e f g

h i j k l m n

o p r s t u v

w x y z &

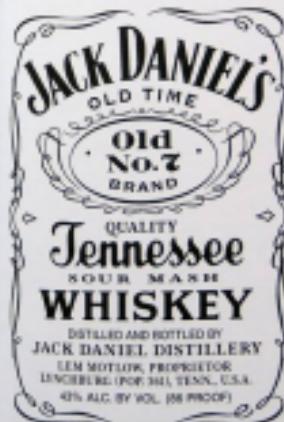
A B C D E F G

H I J K L M N

O P Q R S T U

V W X Y Z

Revolution Tullahoma  
Sammy Gulley and Friends  
Rock and Roll Forever  
Boston Nashville Express  
Moore County Mavericks  
Infatuated Isfahan Xray



#### Carlos Segura

Chicago-based Carlos Segura, founder of the T28 type foundry, came to the United States from Cuba at the age of nine. He worked for numerous high-profile advertising agencies, including BBDO, Manster, Foote, Cone & Belding, Young & Rubicam, Helzberg, and DDB Needham, before founding Segura Inc. in 1997. This family of modern fonts for the Jack Daniel's whiskey label was created by Segura along with Fred Casassa (see logo, 10).

For this project, the three prominent serifing styles from the famous black Label Jr. (1924) were developed into complete fonts. The main lettering is a steeper font (topplate), based on the familiar Jack Daniel's logo lettering. The new visual connection, though, is a refined yet approachable Lyrical Gothic Script, based on the Tennessee lettering in the label's lower-left capsule. Bottoms Rounding Out, the set is the solid, industrial-typeface framework for Lam Mullen, the nephews of Jack Daniel who managed and later inherited the Distillery.

## Leanne Shapton

From New York, Leanne Shapton, art director, illustrator, author and publisher, creates fun and real book covers using hand-lettering and collage as her primary format. All the co-founds, with photographer Jason Polkoff, of JPL Books, an internationally distributed non-for-profit imprint, she operates in a hand-photography studio. In 2008 she published a book in pictures, *Not Pretty*, and in 2009 imported *Artifacts* and *Personal Property*. Here (top) Collection of Leanne Shapton and Macmillan, including

*Books, Street Fashion and Jewelry*, a coffee-table catalog that tells the story of a mostly relationship, 1994-1994.

Shapton's work is quite loose, so her sketches, "reminiscing freshen up my ideas." But "most of them are sort of instinctive," she notes. "I like language to be a catch-all yet strong presence in images. I make sketches in certain places I have to, and I will print the place and date on the cover of the sketchbook. It'll take me that to month. I suppose the longer there's no always time or place."

GE  
LATE  
Bao  
STE  
NCE

LONDON  
/LUCCA  
JULY 2009

MUS-  
TIQ-  
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JANUARY  
2010

## Outline Character Data

Document Section 1, 6

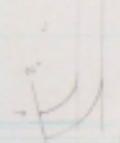
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B

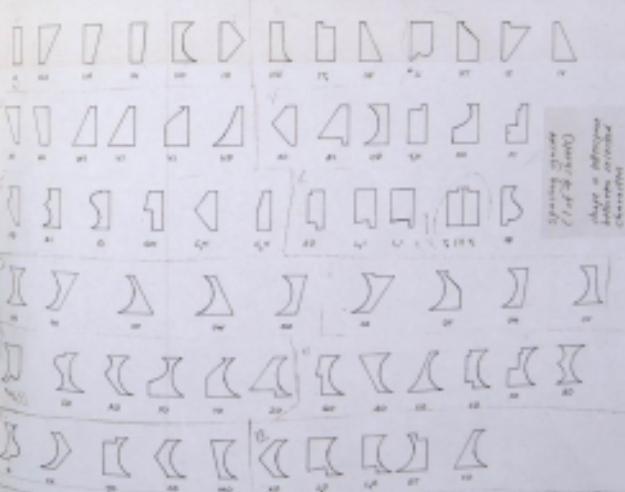
#6

width 48

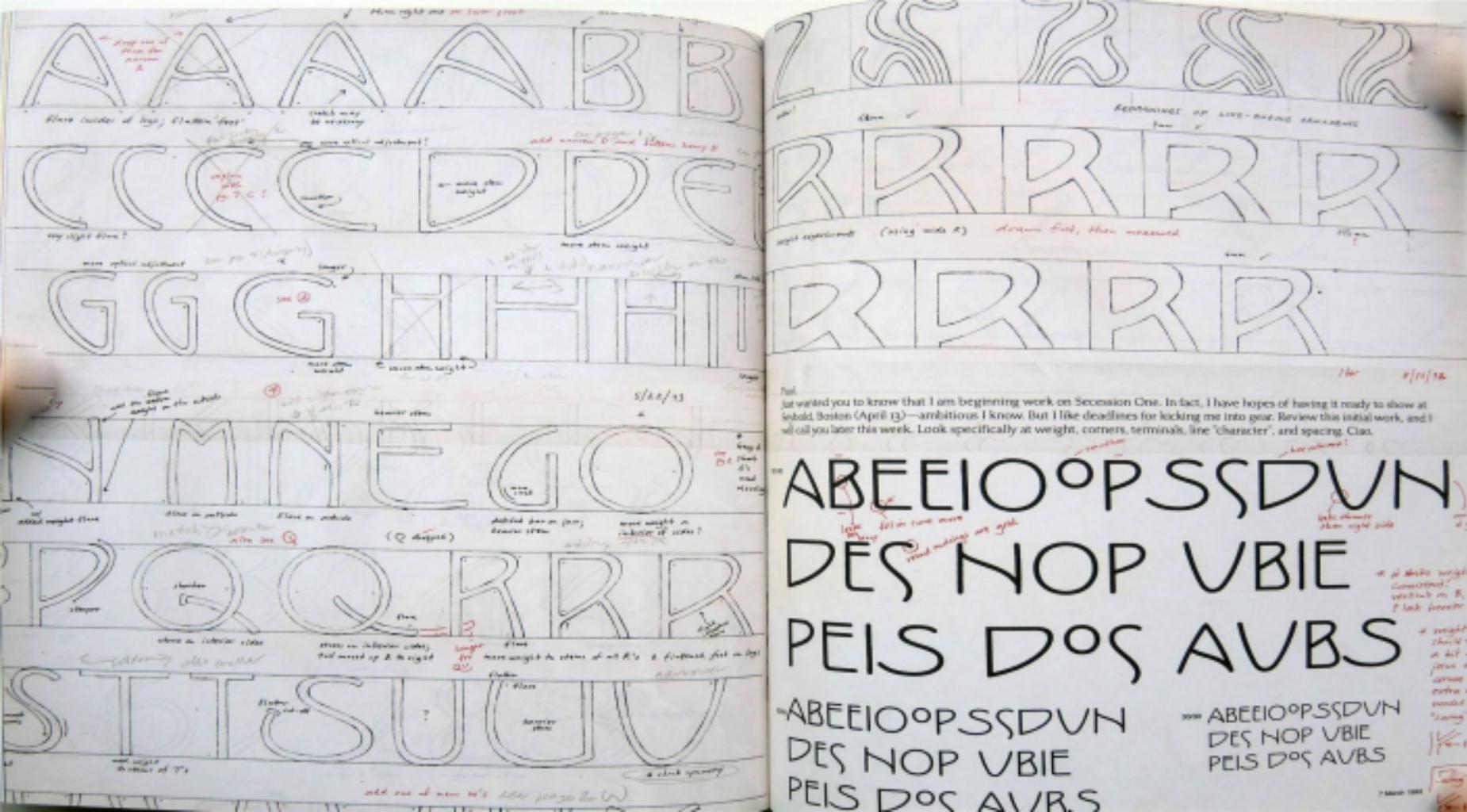
**Paul Shaw**

Paul Shaw is a calligrapher, typographer, and retired type designer in New York. His notebooks "are full of sketches of letters by other people rather than sketches of my own letters or sketches," he confides. "They contain snippets of letters I have learned from books, websites, museums, or everywhere. Many are calligraphic, but others are hand-lettered that have been drawn on CAD/CAM. The purpose of the sketches is to keep me both an anti-technician and as a resource."

"I often recorded letters that showed original or unusual solutions to problems such as imaginative ligatures or ligatures," Shaw adds. "When I began designing typefaces in the 1990s these notebooks became the basis for 3000 PCLs and the Preference Set. The process I went through in developing 3000 and ultimately the main type in the Preference Set was to copy out all of my favorite sketches, choose examples of letters that stood out from each group, flatten them to a common height and weight, then re-arrange them (as well as figure out ligatures) and then hand the work over to my partner David Bogue for styling."



*Sketches of letters by other people, from Paul Shaw's notebooks.*



16 November

A B C D E F G  
H I J K L M N Q  
P Q R R S T U V  
W X Y Z

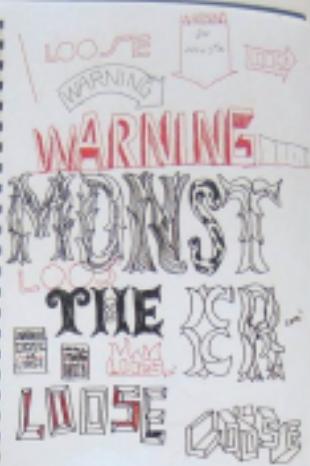
Chris Brown  
Sound

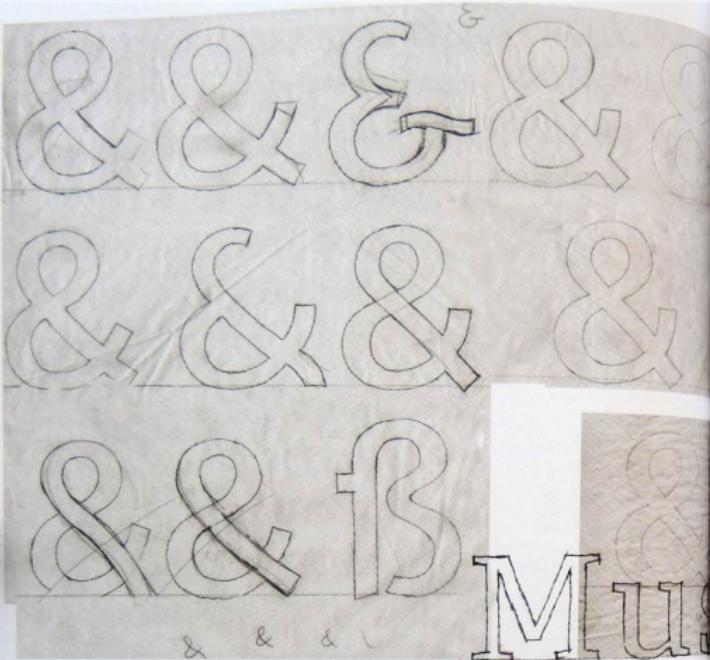


## Andy Smith

London-based designer and hand-letterer Andy Smith says, "When I first went to college in London I used to try and draw everything I made, including signs, bits of conversations heard, everything. A lot of these images used to find their way into finished pieces, or give me ideas for book designs. As my work started to take me in a different direction, away from drawing from life, they became a little more big notesbooks. So I'd just write things down or maybe decide on an idea but not when it is as such, since they are somewhere in between these two things."

The sketches can be for a final piece, or musings without an end purpose. "Some of the things I now draw I have not never led to anything but might spark another thought some day." When asked if he has any thematic themes in his books, Smith emphatically notes, "Not really. I am charmed in creating work that is very immediate, clear, and that speaks a lot, and that is reflected in the phrases I am drawn to. I like the headlines, not the body copy."





## Erik Spiekermann

Berlin-based Erik Spiekermann is an informed architect, type designer, and author. He was founder in 1979 of MetaDesign and designed the faces FF Meta, FF Meta Serif, ITC Officina, FF Govan, FF Info, FF Unit, LoType and Berliner Grotesk, and many corporate typefaces. In 1988 he started FontShop, which produces and distributes electronic fonts. Among his honors, he was made an Honorary Royal Designer for Industry by the RSA in the UK in 2007 and Ambassador for the European Year of Creativity and Innovation by the European Union for 2009.

He has been keeping notebooks for about fifteen years. They are mainly for storing ideas and concepts (more writing than drawing), but also for first sketches for typefaces, or alternatives for letters already existing as print-outs from digital files. "It is easier to prove a point by drawing over a print than changing a file," he says.

His sketches are quick and dirty: "No finish, no data, no grid." What's more, he notes, "I am always surprised how rough they are, but also how ideas are still captured and how designers communicate with each other using even the simplest sketches."

Included here are FF Meta (above and overleaf, right), DB Type for Deutsche Bahn (opposite, top, and overleaf, left), and a design for the Museum Folkwang in Essen (right).



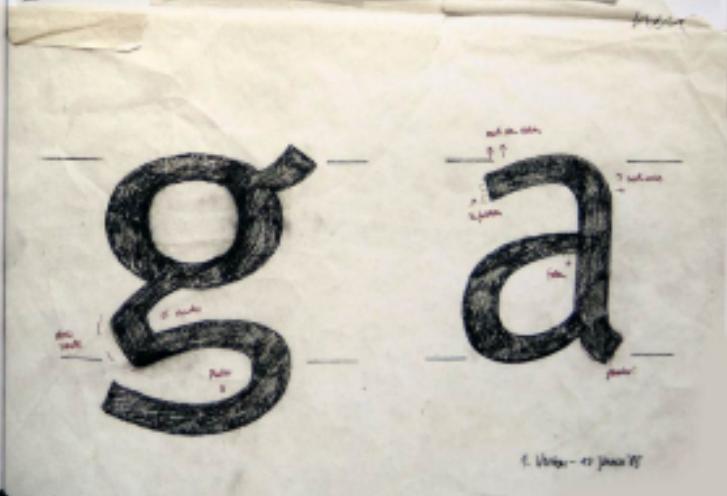
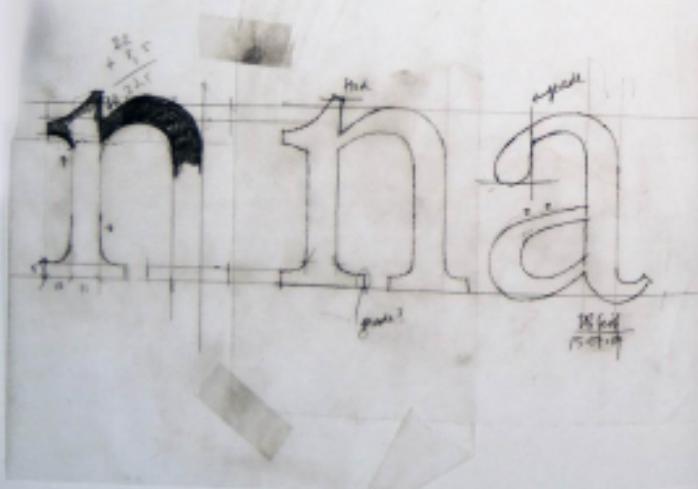
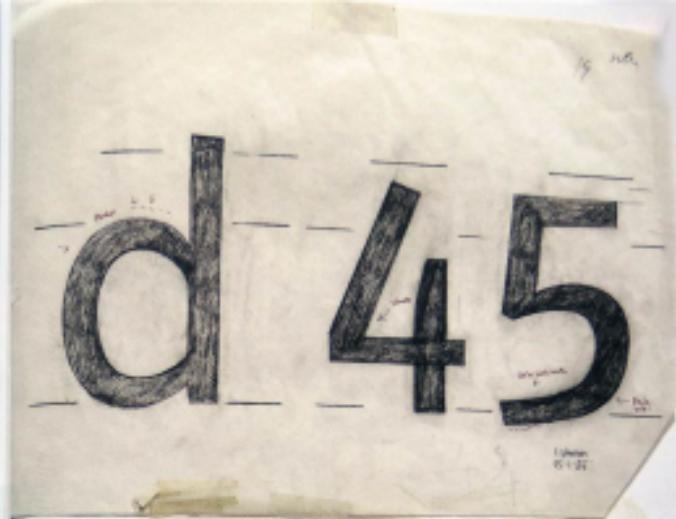
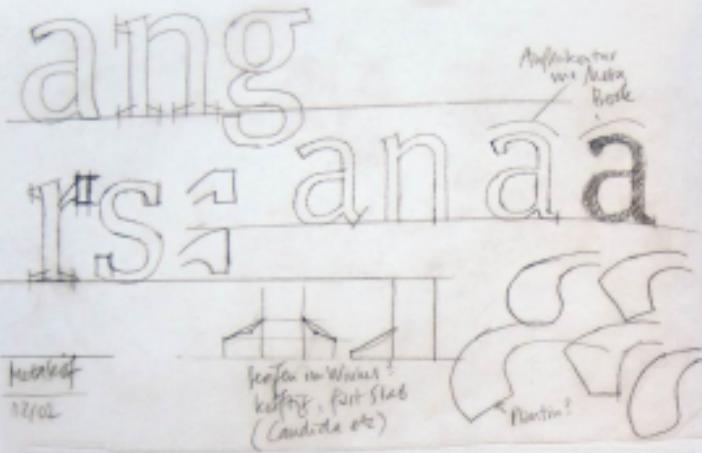
# MuseFolkwang

# MuseFolkwang

Annotations for the MuseFolkwang logo:

- 1. scharfe Abstriche
- billig inspirierte
- komfort nach links
- Alternativen

The logo consists of the words "MuseFolkwang" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The letter "kg" is significantly larger and stylized, with a horizontal stroke through the middle of the "g". Red handwritten annotations are placed around the letters, with arrows pointing to specific features.



# U&!, ? J

# OPOÆ

A J  
G S R € \$  
W S

KK PP QQ RR SS TT UW

WIDE SKINNY BOLD

A B C

E E E

8

C

G

# ABCDEF

# AB MMMM

# A A A A A A

# AB

GHJKLMN  
OPQRSTUVWXYZ

# GH

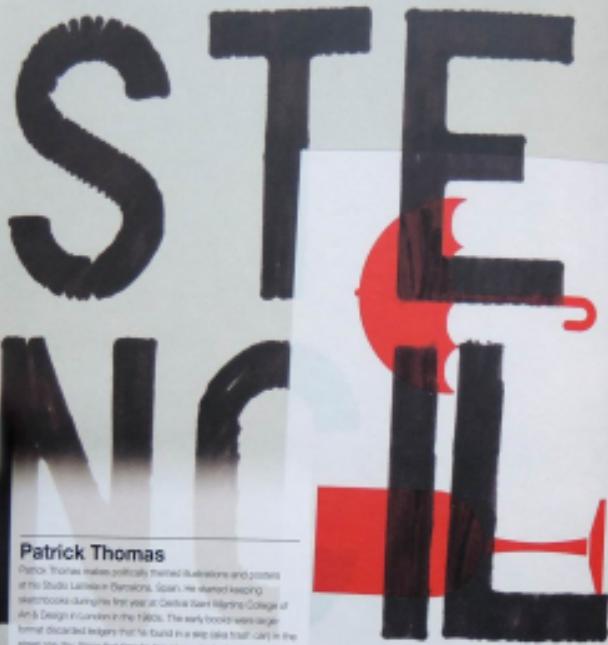
### Summer Stone

Based in Napa, California, Summer Stone is among the most prodigious of American type designers. From 1984 when the Macintosh was introduced to 1988 he was Director of Typography for Apple Systems. Since 2000 he has run Stone Type Foundry on his island estate. He has kept studios open for about forty years.

Stone notes that his process depends heavily on it. Then of this in thinking with the pen or pencil. Sometimes the hand seems to know things that are not conscious, and the act of drawing allows those to emerge. Also, the activity of making the strokes creates an environment that seems to continue creative thinking.

His sketches go through various stages. "These sketches by Paul Magnan were well-done at the beginning of projects that went on for several years, and the ideas for the type designs were in a formative stage. Many more drawings were made along with much more thinking and planning before the organization and structure of these letters and other families was worked out."

# STE NCH



## Patrick Thomas

Patrick Thomas makes politically themed illustrations and posters at his Studio Lorraine Bertrand in Spain. He started keeping artworks during his first year at Central Saint Martins College of Art & Design in London in the 1980s. The early sketchbook-like format discouraged feelings that "he found in a sketch book trash...[it's] in the street one day, gone the next time he has a show and it's got a book on the go."

"There is a memory like a slate," he says. "The sketches are my visual diary. They feed my work. If I'm feeling uninspired, a quick thumb through a sketchbook will usually fire it back up again. When I'm sketching I'm not thinking about it this issue. Sometimes it's nice to distract without feeling obliged to make a point."

Typically, Thomas quotes "lots of chattering and drawing. Also large rendering statements, which nicely manifest themselves in my finished work." Sketches appeal to him for their "honesty." "As they are for my own reference, I'm not concerned about perfecting. These images are taken from a collection of travel sketches, and when I'm on the move I find the lack of studio equipment very liberating," he explains.







## Alex Trochut

Berkeley-based illustrator and typographer Alex Trochut says he "takes the middle road of innovation and slips it on the side." Perhaps he knows it won't stick, too.

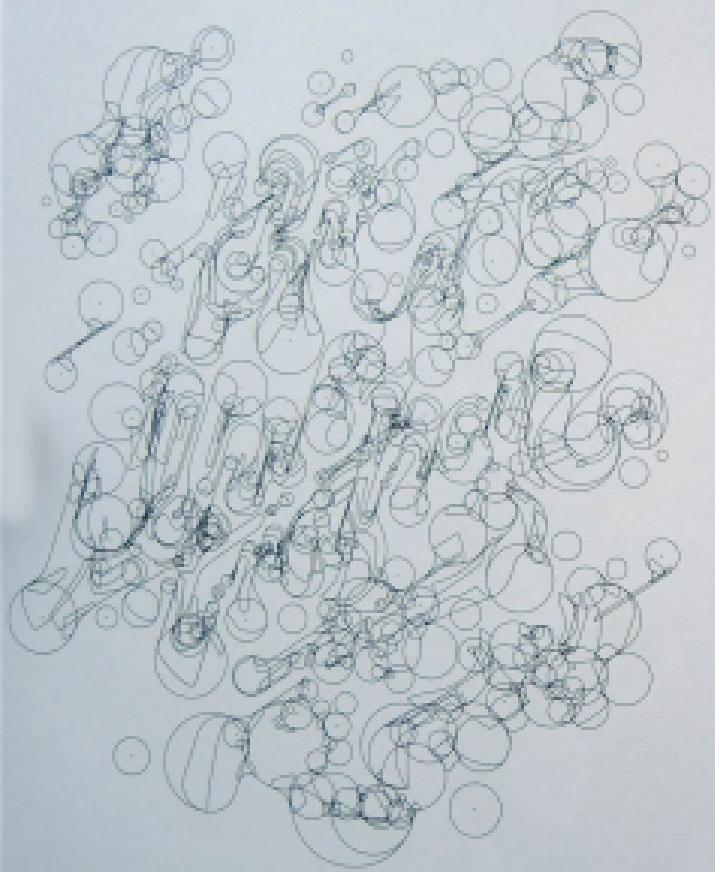
His illuminated lettering underscores the alternative theory that "more is more" and then more again. His work is self-described as "fond with elegant, brilliant details executions that simultaneously convey indulgence and careful, restrained control." That control is not an illusion.

Trochut's esoteric, devious, whimsical designs for almost every job he does—*for a lengthy list of clients from Almond to Zane, plus the essence of his intense but nonetheless variously refined aesthetics.* And such amazing craft is required to make these come alive.

Included here are the cover for *Disperse* (an magazine that "50 Things We Love" issue), black-and-white type illustration of the letter S, which had to be revised by Street Skateboarding (S-Kate) brand by using other elements, and a 2003 front and back cover design in collaboration with Non-Format for *Woomag*.





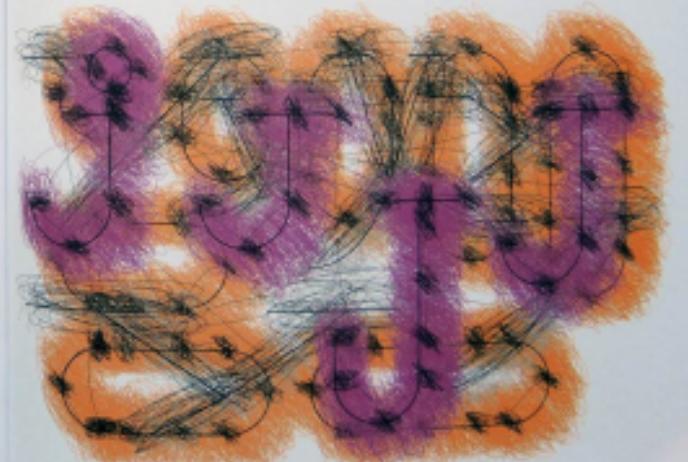
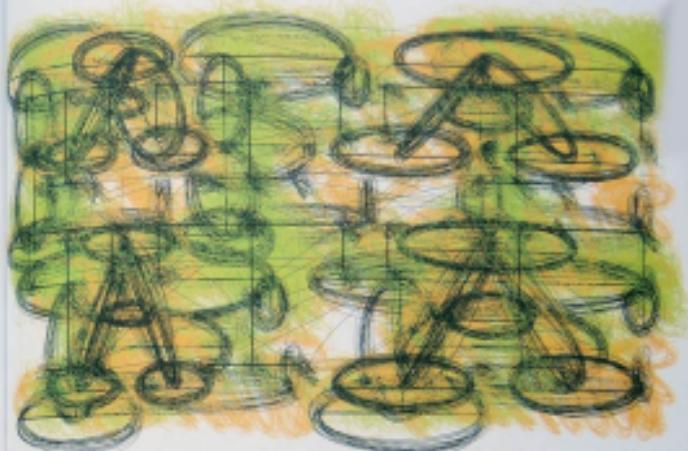
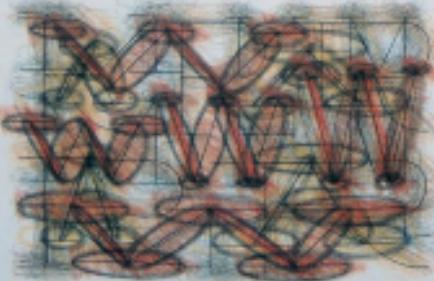
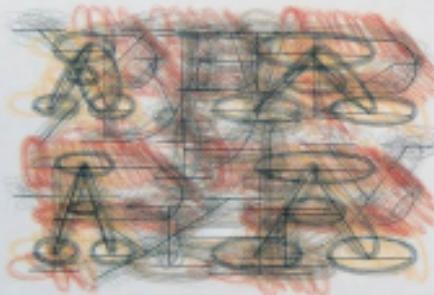
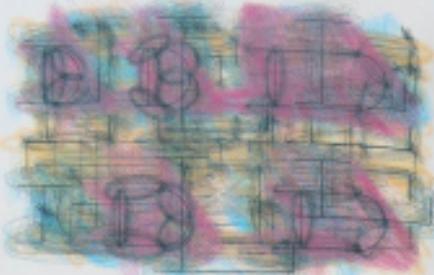


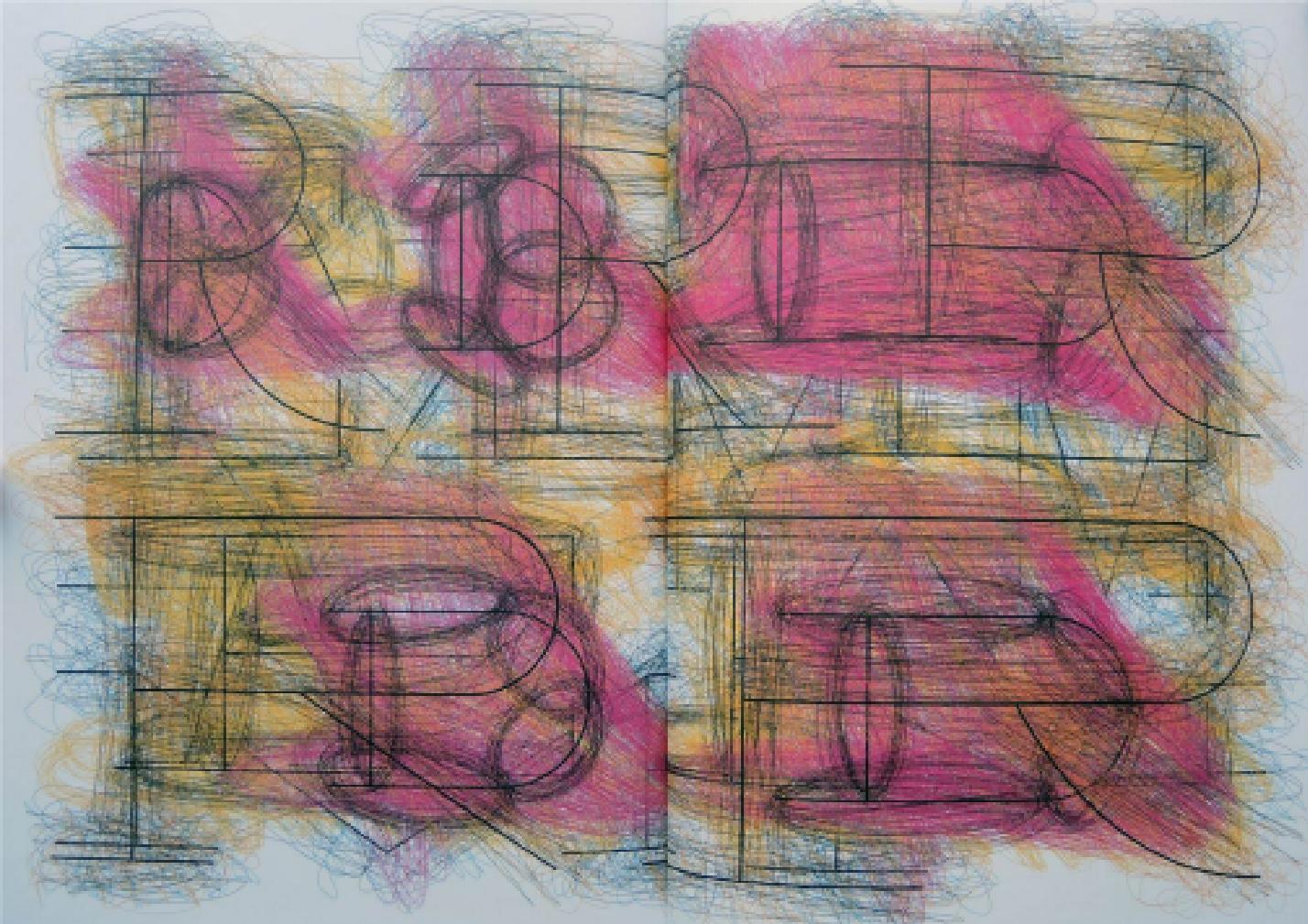
## Rick Valicenti

Rick Valicenti formed Thirst in Chicago in 1985. Known for his early adoption of technology, his approach to digital tools has been to assimilate the play principle. In 2000 his work "Intelligent Design," a commentary on the religion of commerce, employed programming tools to convert the Book of Genesis to binary code, and then replace the Os and Is with an image of either Coke or Pepsi. He has since used this program to collect and parse large numbers of images in other projects, and continues to scan the universe for technologies he can bend to the designer's need.

His sketchbook practice has been in place just over thirty years. "My sketches are usually very fast records of those pesky feeling moments," he says. "The stuff that is never accessible or written down in the morning after." He adds that "usually my recent books are filled with the stuff of life and observation rather than thankfulness for professional commission. They represent the lack of precision and even on pages where there are no unlimited white or 0.05-point incremental composition whites. And they seem to be the seatbelts of my subconscious."

We include that for the visual part "my sketchbooks are a handy version of Rorschach... Usually they reflect the things over and overhead."





# JR Magia TRÁGICA MAS EXTRAORDINARIA

Laura Varsky

Laura Varsky, an illustrator and graphic designer from Buenos Aires, Argentina, made her first leap into the design world through her involvement with the local independent rock scene before specializing in book and CD design. Following ten years teaching typography at the University of Buenos Aires School of Design, she now lectures throughout Latin America and Spain. "Sketching is important to me," says Varsky, "because it helps me to make a specific illustration. I need to do it." She asserts, "It's the only way that the images of my mind can

become alive. With this," Varsky also notes the sketches are not just for pleasure. "I don't draw without an end purpose. You can see how my hand is searching for something. I love to see that. I don't know if I can say there is an 'unusual' quality to the sketches, but there is something that you can't see in a framework; the wrong line, the bad idea, the voice that's on paper."

What she likes most about her sketches, the ones from 2005, is making letters, faces, and plenty of whimsicality.

L L Y L 2 RR RB  
S S Y R  
e R G G G F  
M I O T N N N U  
A A R R R B



TYPE  
LOSS OF WHOLE  
CONTINUE...



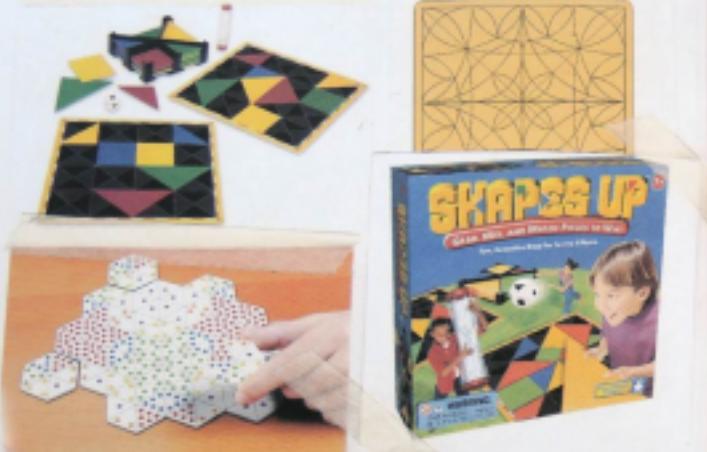
## Tiana Vasiljev

Born in Glazkovac, Serbia, and currently based in London, the creative director pretends that the Brimrose Design Centre, Sydney, Australia. She began her design career in 2007 but began keeping a sketchbook after she was twelve. "I have kept every sketchbook I have ever owned. I am constantly surprised at what I can find by simply flipping through an old sketchbook. There is nothing as comforting as turning a page and drawing a blank sheet. It is almost new paper to stick things onto. I could never begin my process by heading straight to the computer."

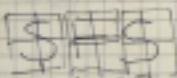
Vasiljev collects posters, drawings, prints, letters, photographs, and signs. She is fascinated by typography, letters, words, and

patterns, and her sketchbooks are packed with typographic experiments, whether it's for branding, design or new typefaces. "My sketchbooks are also filled with related images of systems, inspirational quotes, and lots of recommended design books, magazines, websites, or documentaries. They help me to illustrate new ideas."

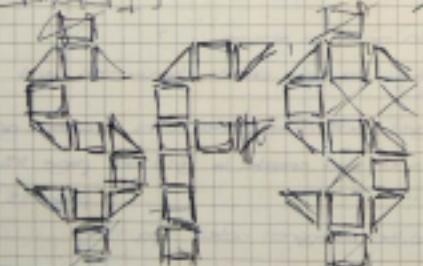
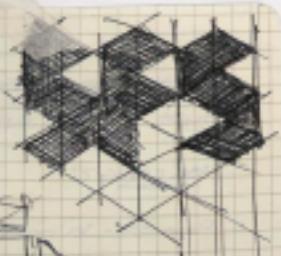
She adds, "You need to have a sketchbook for inspiration, and I find the best way to do this is to make word lists, mind maps, mood boards, to collect and collate images somehow related to that particular project. As a result, the majority of my pages are progressive sketches that lead to my final concept or design."



LOOK OR SCRATCH GAMES!!



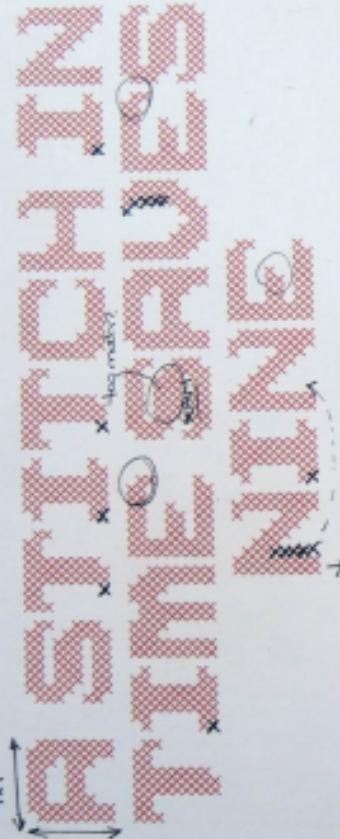
SHAPES  
shaping the  
future



Block  
or red?



Name?  
1st highlight

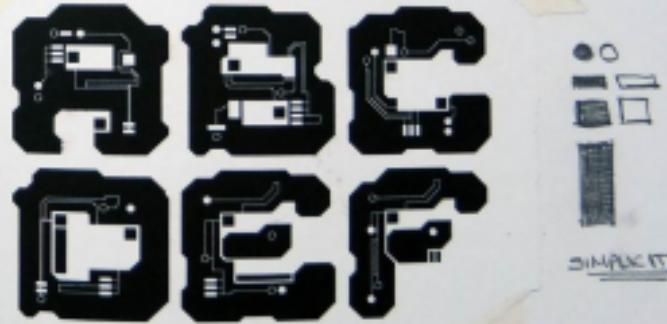
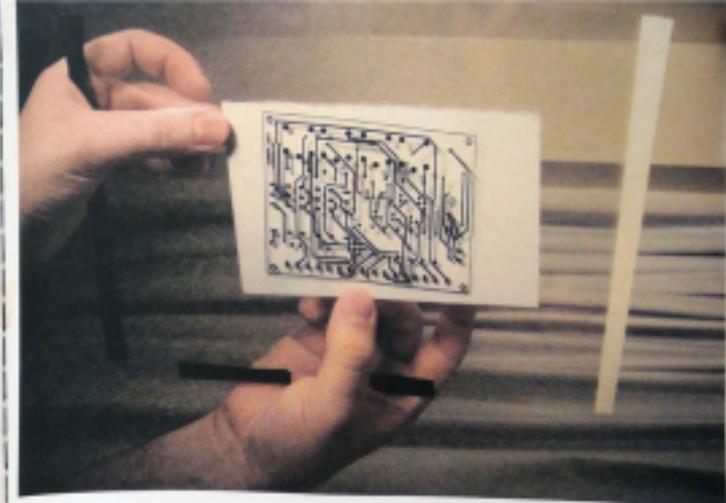
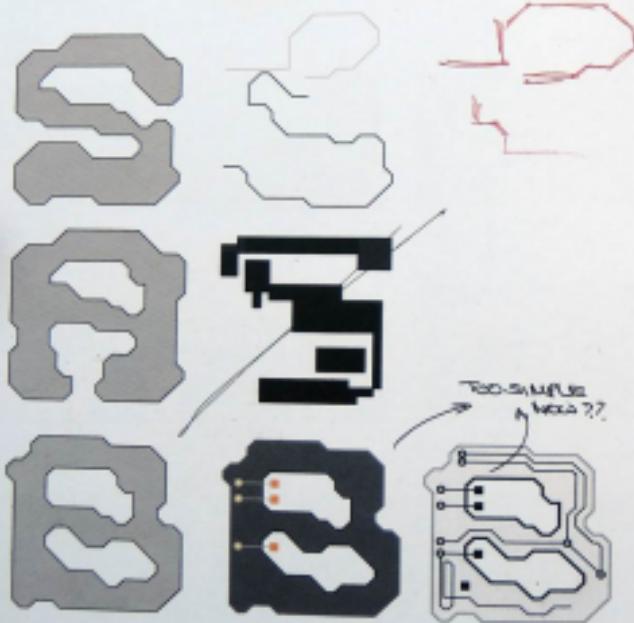
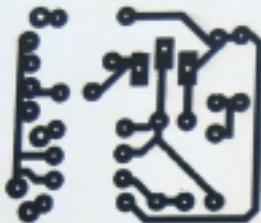


2009  
longer  
shorter  
Nine



Karen







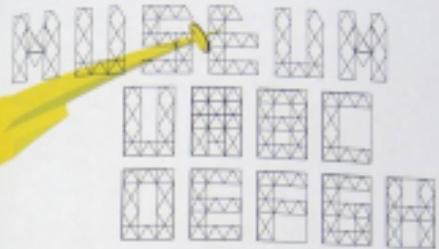
## Leigh Wells

Leigh Wells is an illustrator and writer now based in San Francisco, who has pretty rigid boundaries. "For as long as I can remember, probably longer, I've going more seriously in them during college. When I teach kids, I see the best work is drawings of the middles of airports and seaports. Being forced to make."

Wells keeps printed sketches available for her illustration work, but her personal sketchbooks are purely for entertainment. "The other was to collect lots of typography - wanted to remember from

Maps to San Francisco, signs near my studio in New York, and a few bits from Portland, Oregon," she says. "These sketches really focus on the form and color and the pleasure of seeing/finding. Unlike my illustration work, they don't have to communicate anything or have a purpose other than to please me. All of it is based in what it encloses, ready-made in front of me, the only interpretation being my hand and an adding of what to depict." These images are unlikely from 2001 to 2002. Wells's last two years in New York.





# MUSEUM FOR MOVEMENT

# IJKLMNOP THE RSTU MUSEUM OF MOVING ADMISSION GALLERY

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## Jan Wilker

Jan Wilker grew up in Ulm, Germany, and graduated from the State Academy of Art and Design in Stuttgart. Today his New York studio, with Heidi Kahlson, kahlsonwilker inc., creates unconventional approaches to conventional assignments. His drawing pen and pencil are replaced in methods and his sketchbook is the computer. "So long as I have had a computer (which is always), I have had a sketchbook. I love the sketches, but I don't use that feature to go back and revisit old sketches," he says.

"The purpose of sketching – all the computerise – is to 'guide me to an end of the process. Sometimes they will survive until the end, sometimes not. What is unique to these sketches is the amount of focus put into details – sometimes not visible to anyone but me.'

When asked what is the single most unusual aspect of these images, Wilker instantly replied, "Nothing unusual."

A B C D E F G H I J K  
L M N O P Q R S  
T U V W X Y Z  
a b c d e f g h i j k l  
m n o p q r s t u v  
w x y z  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0

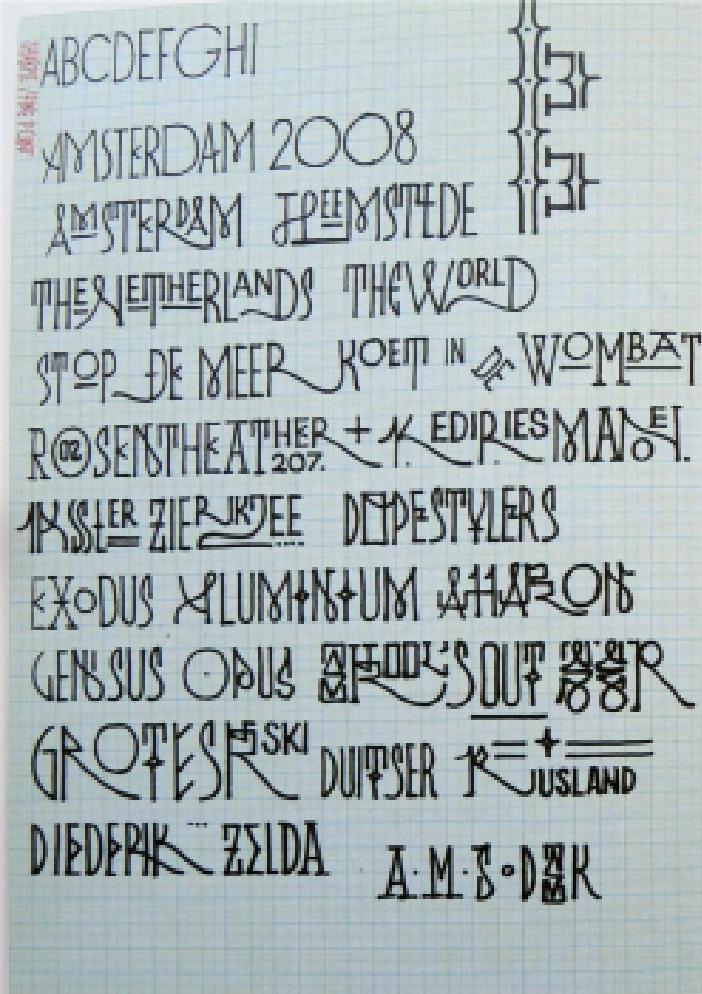
#### Charles Wilkin

Charles Wilkin's conception of the Brooklyn-based Automatik Art and Design doesn't bring a traditional showroom. His respecting prefers to make places and to fill them full of thoughts and works in progress scattered around his studio. "I like to live and my work is often seen; it really helps me motivate," he says.

Wilkin uses his sketches either to document a spontaneous idea or as an experimental outlet. "Sometimes I have a creative urge at 4 AM (that's when I usually wake up). Let get free energy out of my system," he writes. "However, sometimes they do end up being turned into a final piece of art. Doing sketches is a first step in a project, but that is not the norm for me. I think too much expectation in the beginning can really kill your inspiration."

Of course, sketches are just quick thoughts, not polished, final work. "Sketches tell where my ideas are more flesh-and-blood ready for the 'final' work in progress." Each sketch is a moment in time, a piece of art itself. Perhaps if you look at his sketches over time you could see a more distinct theme or pattern, but that would really be completely unintentional.

ð ð a h y g u b l u j  
v x k k i i c z r  
A A W a i d  
N N Ł G  
x t h o u



## Job Wouters

Job Wouters (aka Letterm) is a designer, illustrator, typographer, and master drawer from Amsterdam. His hand-drawn graphics are colorful, whimsical, and powerfully expressive.

Wouters started drawing on an almost daily basis when he was three. "I have a huge archive of drawings from that period," he proudly informs. "I used sketchbooks and loose papers, mostly graffiti drawings." He asserts that drawing is a means of relaxation. "Probably I'm having a good time I'm also training my hand and

doing research on new materials, letterforms, or scripts." He adds, "I used to feel bad about those piles of sketches in my house and at my studio. I found it a waste of time. But today I see that it is in fact an important part of my professional practice. I would say most of it is research-and development."

Relaxation in his books is something he enjoys. "My attempt to master some script, for example, takes pages and pages. I think this is my way. The progress goes slow but steady."

LIFE'S  
TOO SHORT  
FOR REGRETS

L I F E ' S

TOP SHORT FOR

R E G R E T S



- WHY IS THERE ALWAYS AN ACCORD IN CHARLOTTE?
- DO CAPITALISTS MAKE US MIGRATE?
- DON'T BUYOUT LAST
- DO THEY HATE MEAT THEY EAT?

WHY DOES

THE GREEN  
OUT, SO HE  
BEING PART

HE IS THE J  
THE SILVER  
HIS LIVERW  
HUGE IN THE  
HIM SICKEN

THE INVENTI  
GOD STAR  
AN INVENTI  
RALPH WAS SH  
BORN, THE SP  
WE INVOLV

IS HE A  
RAL

IT WAS  
GREEN  
TOWER  
ARROW  
TATER  
AL GRE  
TIPPER  
HAL &  
AMO GAN  
APRIL  
NOVEMBER  
JULY  
TOMMY BROWN

# IF THE MAN,  
VIRUS IS REALLY  
SE...

### Yee-Haw Industries

Jesse McReeher and Kevin Brades, owners of the Knoxville, Tennessee-based Yee-Haw design-and-print shop, create woodblock prints in the tradition of old carnival and show posters. Their sketches comprise a loose collection of paper that is strewn all over the place as if they're piles lying about the studio — what the Yee-Haw principals call "space-age sketchbook" of a working reference "catalog," but that creates "image problems."

The purpose for these sketches varies. "Sometimes they are mutations that we've sought to flesh out ideas, or sometimes we just create the forms straight out of our imagination section," says McReeher. "Sometimes we spend a lot of time at the drafting table drawing topography, layers, shadows, color regulations in a variety of methods: ink, scratchboard, woodcut, even a Mac — God help me, I need that."

The commercial printout of the sketch work shown here, created in 2009 and the present, is "our entrepreneurial type from the 1980s and 1990s combined with our own design flora, headlines, and illustration concoction blocks," she says.

### RALPHY THIRD PARTY

\* THEY HAVE KILLED HIM  
7 TIMES, BUT HE IS BIANE.  
HE RUNS ON PRUNE JUICE  
AND GOOGLE.

RALPH ONCE MAD-WRETCHED  
TED KENNEDY FOR A VURGOON

\* HE COULD TAKE A JANE  
BUT HE COULDNT TAKE A BRIDE.

HE INVENTED THE HUMAN  
AIR-BAG, BUT IT WAS RE-BAG.

### Third Party

\* NOT-EVERBODY KNOWS THAT  
RALPH IS BIANE. HE CAN RUN  
A CAMPAIGN IN 60.<sup>TH</sup>  
HE WAS ARRESTED FOR  
\* IF HE DROVE A PINTO TRUCK  
HE WOULD BE ARRESTED FOR  
TERROISM.  
\* HE IS THE SWINNIE OF  
RECYCLING-CULT. THEY'RE  
CRACKED

THE POTATO CHIP IS A REPUBLICAN  
DEFINITELY. BISCUITS ARE WEAPONS  
OF MASS REDUCTIONS. SPREAD  
WHATEVER CONTROLS — JERRY  
SPRINGER WITH MILTON  
ROD LUMBOUGH IS HIS OWN WORST  
CINEMA. FRANKIE KINCAID IS THE  
LUNATIC EXHIBIT OF CARNAGE.  
BLINDERS ARE FULL OF  
MAGIC TRICKS. EVEN TERRIFIED  
LIKE ICE-CREAM NUMBERONES ARE  
RUN IN AND PLAYS AND VIDEOS.

IT'S STATE MONITORING HOW TO BALANCE  
BUDGET RALPH UNDER  
BUDGET RALPH

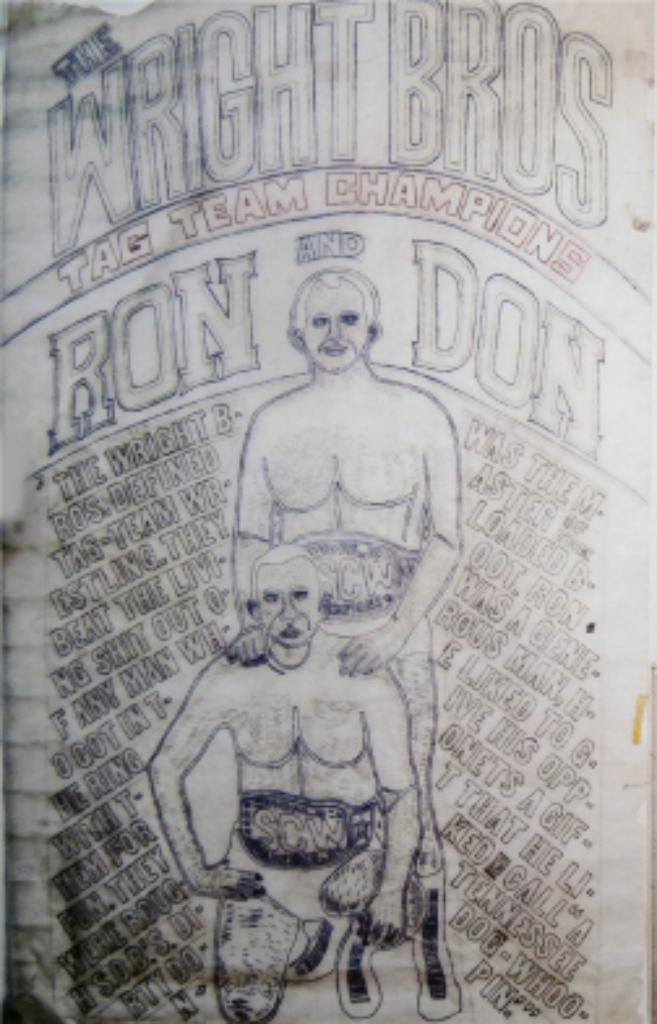
DE JETSET JEWISH TIME ALIVE?  
FABRICATE ROLLERCOASTER?  
ARE OTHERS GROW-BLISTER?  
HOT-DO-HERO? GIGANTIC ROLLER COASTER

GOING

THEY (3) *Bottom 2*

MAID LOW IS A VEGAN'S  
WEIRD NICE. DONALD TRUMP  
INVENTED THE YARD SALE  
CRAP CUCIES ARE MADE BY  
JOHN DEERE. HAIR PLACES  
MAKE YOU LOOK MORE NATURAL.  
THE LOVE HAMMER IS A TOOL  
OF THE MAN. THE BOTUX  
COMPANY IS CREATING A RACE  
OF STYLISH ZOMBIES. THAT SMILE,  
FATLULITES KNOW HOW MUCH MONEY  
YOU HAVE. COLIN POWELL IS THE  
MAC-MAC-MAC.





## Doyald Young

Los Angeles-based typeface and logo designer Doyald Young, author of *Logo Type & Letterforms: Handlettered Logotypes and Typographic Considerations* (1993) and *Dangerous Curves: Modern Logo Design* (2008), is a true master of type design art and craft. He specializes in logos, corporate alphabets, and complete custom fonts for popular consumption. His typefaces include Home Run Script, Home Run Sanscript, Young Fives, Young Baroque and Young Select. Having the name "Young" certainly provides his types with a fresh brand. He gives the phrase "to be young again" new resonance.

His sketches are decidedly fresh, too. "They are explorations to decide which is the best direction," he notes. Yet when asked whether he relies on accidents in making them, Young fesses up, "I've thought only I think accidents occur in handletter forms. While handlettered scripts are dependent on a plan, the pen or brush may react in unpredictable ways, the ink or gouache may produce different results depending on its viscosity, and even the paper can influence the outcome depending on its texture. The speed and angle of the brush or pen may also offer surprises. And never forget that our muscles are variable and may influence the results."



KLMNOP

A B C D E

QRSTUW

F G H I J K

WXYZA

L M N O P

O Q G W Z L

Z R S T U

S S L P S

V W X Y W

T W A m

Z Z G A m

deep light

دَهْبَ لَيْتْ

deep light

دَهْبَ لَيْتْ

دَهْبَ لَيْتْ

دَهْبَ

روح الشروق



روح الشفق

روح الشرق

الدَّهْبَ الْمَاهِدَ

غَوْنَبَلَفَ

غَوْنَبَلَفَ

كَسَافَسَ

كَدَطَاطَسَ

كَهْلَعَلَى

كَهْلَعَلَى

كَهْلَعَلَى

كَهْلَعَلَى

كَهْلَعَلَى

Pascal Zoghbi

Pascal Zoghbi is the founder of ZRennes, an ADC type design and typography firm in Rennes, Loire-Atlantique. His practice is based on creating new typefaces, corporate identities, and print publications.

"I keep all my sketches in my library," he says. "I never throw them away. I change a sketchbook around every six months or so; it's a means of communication between my head, hands and eyes," he adds. "Drawing and visualizing thoughts involves them realistic and they trigger other ideas and concepts until the final image is achieved. I always start a project by sketching and experimenting with different design references until I'm satisfied with a strong idea. Then I move to the computer and develop the final design. I am doing sketches for a job, they end in a test, but I also do them just sketch personal stuff for my own satisfaction."

Zoghbi concludes, "Sketching has the humanistic, hand-drawn spirit that can be lost when the final digitized. Personally, I value the sketches more than the final outcome."