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# Lettering & Type: Creating Letters And Designing Typefaces





### Synopsis

No component of graphic design has attracted as much interest or inspired as much innovation in recent years as lettering and type. These fundamentals of design, once the exclusive domain of professional typographers, have become an essential starting point for anyone looking for a fresh way to communicate. Practical information about creating letters and type often amounts to a series of guidelines for executing a particular process, font program, or style. But what makes lettering and type endlessly fascinating is the flexibility to interpret and sometimes even break these rules. Lettering & Type is a smart-but- not-dense guide to creating and bending letters to one's will. More than just another pretty survey, it is a powerful how-to book full of relevant theory, history, explanatory diagrams, and exercises. While other type design books get hung up on the technical and technological issues of type design and lettering, Lettering & Type features the context and creativity that shape letters and make them interesting. Authors and designers Bruce Willen and Nolen Strals examine classic design examples as well as exciting contemporary lettering of all stripes  $\hat{A}\phi\hat{a} - \hat{a}$  •from editorial illustrations to concert posters to radical conceptual alphabets. Lettering & Type is ideal for anyone looking to move beyond existing typography and fonts to create, explore, and use original or customized letterforms. This latest addition to our best-selling Design Briefs seriesfeatures a foreword by Ellen Lupton and hundreds of images and examples of work by historical and contemporary designers, artists, and illustrators, including Marian Bantjes, Stefan Sagmeister, Matthew Carter, Christoph Niemann, Steve Powers (ESPO), House Industries, Christian Schwartz, Margaret Kilgallen, James Victore, Abbott Miller, Sibylle Hagmann, Ed Fella, and many more. Throughout the book interviews with type designers, artists, and graphic designers provide real-world perspective from contemporary practitioners.

#### **Book Information**

Paperback: 144 pages Publisher: Princeton Architectural Press; 1 edition (September 9, 2009) Language: English ISBN-10: 156898765X ISBN-13: 978-1568987651 Product Dimensions: 7 x 0.5 x 8.5 inches Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 13 customer reviews Best Sellers Rank: #112,104 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #68 inà Â Books > Arts & Photography > Graphic Design > Typography #197 inà Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Drafting & Presentation #319 inà Â Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Architecture

#### **Customer Reviews**

"Party in honor of the release of the new book 'Lettering & Type' which will include the exhibit 'Fan Letter (26 Artists and Designers Present Their Favorite Letter or Typographic Character)" --Designrelated"First off... no, Post Typography is not us. I know... we should have thought about it but we didn't. Even if we did, these other cool dudes did almost a decade ago." -- Chad Kouri -- The Post Family"Were pleased as punch to have our work included in the book Lettering & Type: Creating Letters and Designing Typefaces by Bruce Willen and Noel Strals, which was just published by Princeton Architectural Press. The book includes work by so many people we admire, including Margaret Kilgallen and Stefan Sagmeister." -- Visualingual" Just received my copy of Lettering & Type: Creating Letters & Designing Typefaces by Bruce Willen and Nolen Strals. Smaller than I had expected (7x8.5" with only 130 pages), but beautiful with lots of typographic eye candy and some useful information for beginning type designers and anybody else who wants to develop a more critical eye for the subtleties of letterforms." -- A Type Designers Journal"Lettering & Type is a smart-but-not-dense guide to creating and bending letters to ones will. More than just another pretty survey, it is a powerful how-to book full of relevant theory, history, explanatory diagrams, and exercises. While other type design books often get hung up on the technical and technological issues of type design and lettering, Lettering & Type features the context and creativity that shape letters and make them interesting." -- Typegoodness "More than just another pretty survey, Lettering & Type is a powerful and essential how-to book full of relevant theory, history, explanatory diagrams, exercises, and inspiring examples of contemporary lettering and typeface design." -- Entropy"Another solid read from the Design Brief series. Great visuals and a good range of information from history to creating lettering and type design." -- Dave Aquino --Inspiration Explosion"While other type design books get hung up on the technical and technological issues of type design and lettering, Lettering & Type features the context and creativity that shape letters and make them interesting." -- Books Variety"Lots of typographic eye candy and some useful information for beginning type designers and anybody else who wants to develop a more critical eye for the subtleties of letter forms." -- A Type Designers Journal"Fans of Post Typography and Double Dagger will already be familiar with Bruce Willen and Nolan Strals. For those uninitiated, the graphic design/teacher/rock stars will have a new label on Thursday: authors. Their book, Lettering & Type: Creating Letters and Designing Typeface, is a collection of

essays by designers and artists, detailing the history, theory and art of the letters of the alphabet." --Nancy Johnston --The Baltimore Sun"No component of graphic design has attracted as much interest or inspired as much innovation in recent years as lettering and type. These fundamentals of design, once the exclusive domain of professional typographers, have become an essential starting point for anyone looking for a fresh way to communicate." --Dexigner"Lettering & Type is a smart-but-not-dense guide to creating and bending letters to one's will. More than just another pretty survey, it is a powerful how-to book full of relevant theory, history, explanatory diagrams, and exercises, ideal for anyone looking to move beyond existing typography to create original or customized letterforms. With a foreword by Ellen Lupton and hundreds of images and examples of work by historical and contemporary designers, artists, and illustrators, including Marian Bantjes, Stefan Sagmeister, Matthew Carter, Christoph Niemann, Steve Powers (ESPO), House Industries, Christian Schwartz, Margaret Kilgallen, James Victore, Abbott Miller, Sibylle Hagmann, Ed Fella, and more." --Typedia

For nearly a decade, Bruce Willen and Nolen Strals have collaborated under the label Post Typography on creative projects encompassing graphic design, illustration, typography, lettering, and printmaking with additional forays into art, apparel, music, curatorial work, design theory, and vandalism. They both live in Baltimore.

This book is an excellent selection to those who are interested in learning more about the world of lettering and type. I would definitely recommend this book to others.

Fantastic book! I'm obsessed. Everyone interested in typography should read it. It's so informative and a great read. I can't recommend it more.

Acknowledging that "mastering the art of arranging letters in space and time is essential knowledge for anyone who crafts communications for page or screen," this book's focus is on letterforms themselves and even creating them (type design) rather than on arranging them beautifully (typography). Type design is an art (or perhaps 'craft' would be a better word) that requires a blend of both technical and visual skills, and in fact covers such a broad range of disciplines that it can be somewhat intimidating. But, this book seems to provide a "friendly, openhearted introduction" to type design, with a brief overview of the history of the written and printed word, typeface classification and terminology, case studies and type design exercises. There are also interviews with some of the luminaries in this field, including renowned type designer Christian Schwartz, whom I remember when he was starting out at the age of 14!As in any visual art, type design is a matter of developing your eye, so learning to really look at letters critically is essential. The chapter of this book that I think might be most helpful to the beginning type designer is appropriately titled "Designing Typefaces", which illustrates many of the subtle tricks a designer must use to compensate for optical illusions and such. This is the one area that separates professional type designers from the wannabes, and I must confess that I'm still trying to master it. So, I suggest book-marking this chapter. [...]

Liked the e-book so much that I needed this for a "hands on" resource. Great to revisit and pull more tidbits on design knowledge from again and again. It doesn't hurt to have an inspiring instructor, or lettering enthusiast as well!

It isn't as much technical as it seems, is more illustrative, shows blueprints of designed type and some sort of how-to design your own type

Needed this for a class. Cheap and arrived quick.

A great addition to the design book collection. Be sure to pick this one up today, features really great type examples! A must for type designers.

Needed this 4 one of my college courses.

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