



AN UPSIDE TO 2020 AT THE MUSEUM

When the Back Burner Becomes the Front Burner

In March of 2020, as the pandemic and shutdowns were taking effect, Curator Mark Barbour decided to make the best of a bad situation. “The silver lining of the shutdown,” he commented, “was an opportunity to let the back burner move to the front!” Mark immediately got to work with much-needed renovations to the Museum galleries and facility. Because our calendar is always so full with programs and activities, there is usually little time and opportunity to tackle major projects that often involve moving lots of heavy machines.



First was the building and painting of new exhibit and gallery walls in the East Gallery, giving the area a more professional and public friendly environment; it also allowed us to separate the small warehouse area from view and increase the storage capacity with new shelving up to the ceiling. The walls in the 1950’s Printing Shop were also painted and new historical printing shop signs and graphics mounted to the walls. A major project of finally installing 4,000 sf of

new vinyl flooring in the East Gallery was also accomplished. This meant Mark was very busy for a couple of months, moving presses and machines to the left while floors and walls were improved on the right, then moving everything to the right, and then shifting everything back.

Continued on page 7



THE 2020 VIRTUAL

Los Angeles Printers Fair

The Los Angeles Printers Fair had to be different this fall. We brainstormed a creative, out-of-the-box solution to make the Fair accessible during this unprecedented year. The result: The 2020 Virtual Los Angeles Printers Fair!

In normal years, 2,000 visitors participate in demonstrations throughout the Museum and interact with vendors selling artistic



prints, cards, books and printing supplies. The goal was to replicate this experience with a dedicated website, PrintersFair.com. Our videographer, Jay Haddad, worked tirelessly to record tours and demonstrations. Other friends like the Los Angeles Printmaking Society and bookbinder Stephanie Gibbs also contributed. With an online format, there was the opportunity to reach a national, even international, audience. And rather than limit the event to one weekend, we made the

Continued on page 7

PRINTING PRESSES IN THE MOVIES:

The Cast Iron Stars of the Museum



View from the cameraman's monitor for a commercial shot in Museum gallery.

Our presses just can't stay out of the limelight! 2020 has been one of our busiest years for rentals to Hollywood.

The year began with a rental to Starz' critically-acclaimed television program *American Gods*, a fantasy drama adapted from Neil Gaiman's novel of the same name. They were

interested in a Gutenberg-esque press, but the challenge was that the production was way up in Ontario, Canada. Mark directed them toward our smaller, portable reproduction Gutenberg press from the Jeff Craemer Collection. Our Gutenberg made it back across the Canadian border only two days

before the nationwide Covid-19 shut-down. We don't know which episode the press is featured in but you can catch the premiere of the show's third season on January 10th, 2021.

On February 16th, those watching the Season 3 premiere of NBC's *Good Girls* would have seen a multitude of set decoration and props purchased from the Museum's surplus sale last summer. In Season 3, the show's three protagonists, played by *Mad Men*'s Christina Hendricks, *Parks and Recreation*'s Retta, and *Parenthood*'s Mae Whitman, get involved in a laundering and money counterfeiting scheme, all of which required the set decorator to assemble a realistic looking printing shop, complete with a Heidelberg Windmill Press. We missed out on renting the Windmill since they simply purchased one from a local printer. But we made up for that loss by selling them a paper cutter and folder, cabinets, lots of cuts and type, tools and imposing tables. Mark's favorite items in this sale were two boxes of old, dead ink cans and a red rag canister

A camera is positioned on ladder during the filming of "Queenpins," showing printing of counterfeit coupons on our Heidelberg Cylinder Press.



Continued on next page

filled with soiled, inky rags. Only Mark can sell useless cans of dried ink and used shop rags; he knows the look set decorators are after!

Over the years, we've had numerous film shoots at the Printing Museum but never quite so unique as our August commercial shoot. The commercial was for an anti-depressant medication that helps someone re-engage in activities such as going to museums. The main actress and her two actual kids played a family on screen; we had them printing on several presses which the kids really enjoyed. But apparently they enjoyed the experience a little too much. The director kept coming over and talking to the mother, who was naturally beaming with a smile, watching her kids enjoy their experience. She looked a little "too happy," and they had to keep reshooting the scene; the drug works but not that well, I overheard the director tell her!

The set decorator also put together a faux living room in an empty corner of the Museum for the next scene; but upon closer inspection, the director wanted it to look more homely. Thus began a mad scramble to find homey looking things at the Museum. The good Dr. Franklin came to the rescue with an assortment of candles and trinkets from his theatre set. Museum Manager Sara found a set of wine glasses, something her home certainly has, but was told that the wine glasses were not appropriate considering you weren't supposed to drink while on this anti-depressant. Sara did however have at her desk an adorable portrait of her favorite furry docent Moxie, Trustee Doug Haines's dog that comes regularly to the Printing Museum. Doug had put the portrait in a

wooden frame he fashioned out of printer's furniture— the perfect piece-de-resistance making the set look authentic and lived in.

When the filming of a scene needs to take place on a set and not at the Printing Museum, it requires



The "Good Girls" counterfeiting money in Season 3.

lots of logistics. Mark coordinated rigging our 3-ton 1955 Heidelberg Cylinder Press out of the museum and over our new vinyl floors to a film set at the Cal Poly Pomona campus. The press and other printing equipment will be featured in an upcoming comedy film titled *Queenpins*; it is based on the true

story of a suburban housewife who counterfeited coupons and ended up scamming millions of dollars from big food companies. The film stars Kristen Bell, also known to millions of children as Princess Anna from *Frozen*. Mark and Museum volunteer Mike Slawinski were on set as technical advisors showing the actors how to operate the press and paper cutter. The movie is currently still filming and should be released sometime in 2021.

And finally, Mark was contacted by a set decorator for HBO who is working on dramatic series called *The Gilded Age* by *Downton Abbey* creator Julian Fellowes. It is set in New York in the 1880's. The newspaper printing scene will feature our hand-cranked Prouty "Grasshopper" Press from the Country Newspaper Exhibit in the Museum's main gallery. In fact, they are literally renting the entire exhibit and having it transported to Tarrytown, NY, for filming in April, 2021. Of course Mark managed to also negotiate an all-expense paid trip to New York to be the technical advisor during filming. ■

Volunteer Mike Slawinski and Mark on set, fully masked, for "Queenpins".



MUSEUM SURPRISED WITH LEGACY GIFT:

The Miki Young Charitable Trust



The Museum was informed last summer of the passing of one of our longstanding Museum friends and donors, Miki Young of Orange County. Over the years she made regular donations between \$500 and \$1,000. The trustees of her estate informed us that upon her passing she set up a permanent charitable trust to benefit five charities: USC School of Engineering, Cal Tech, The Red Cross, The Laguna Playhouse, and The International Printing Museum. The charities were chosen because of Miki's love for arts education and the sciences. Her professional background was in engineering. She and her husband founded an aerospace company in Orange County, The Young Engineers, Inc., still in operation today. Miki was still going into work every day up to the age of 94!

It would be an understatement to say that Miki's trustees were perplexed as to why The International Printing Museum, a small and obscure non-profit, was on this list. On a phone call with Mark, the trustees speculated that Miki discovered The Printing Museum when it was featured on Huell Howser's "California Gold" TV show. Mark chuckled a bit and gave

the trustees the background as to why Miki had been connected to the Museum for over 25 years. One of Miki's close friends, Patricia Hausmann was a wood engraving artist in Pasadena. When Pat set out to buy a printing press for her engravings, she met Mark at the Printing Museum. Mark learned that Pat was the last student of the very famous Southern California wood engraving artist Paul Landacre in the early 1960's. Landacre was a major artist in the 20th century California Fine Printing community; the 19th century Washington Press he used to print his famous engravings is part of the Museum collection.

Miki visited the Printing Museum regularly with her friend Pat, thoroughly enjoying our educational classes, tours and presentations. Miki Young made consistent annual donations to the Museum over the years, but the notification that she had remembered the Printing Museum in her estate planning came as a complete surprise.

Her overwhelming generous gift through the Miki Young Charitable Trust will become over time, the largest gift to the Printing Museum. Miki stated that she really loved our educational programs and work with children, wanting to support our endeavors in perpetuity. We were set to meet with the three trustees in March for an initial site visit, but had to cancel due to the shutdown. They re-contacted us in

June, realizing that due to the shutdown and loss of program revenue, The Printing Museum and The Laguna Playhouse were probably in very tight circumstances; Miki's gift would be critical for this year. Mark was able to give the trustees a virtual tour of the Museum, bring them up to speed on Miki's relationship with the Museum, and describe all of our educational programs and tours. He also updated them on all the work done at the Museum since March to improve the facilities, explore new ways of programming, develop online tours and educational opportunities, build our new Book Arts Institute, moving the Museum forward even in a challenging year. They were very impressed with what the Museum has accomplished

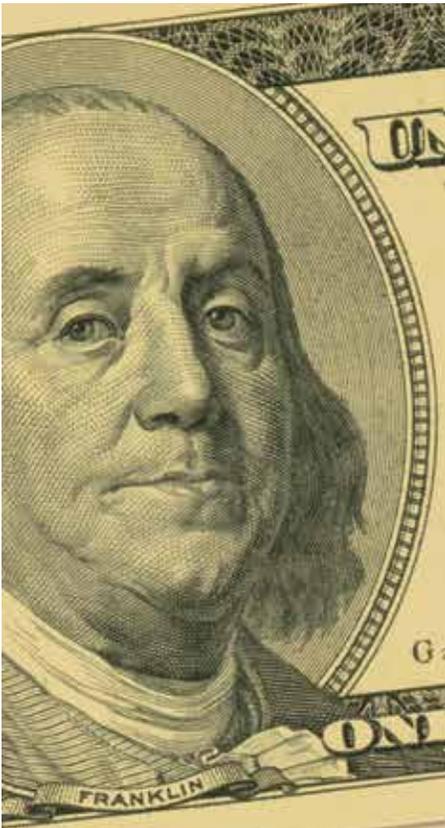
over the last 30 years, and all our initiative and work at present.

In September, the Miki Young Charitable Trust made a gift of \$150,000 to help cover the Museum's lost program revenue for 2020 due to the pandemic shutdown. With this amazing gift, what would have



The Landacre Press at the Museum

been one of our most difficult and financially challenging years has been turned around to being one of our better years. Miki Young demonstrated how much benefit can come through estate planning, whether it is large such as hers, or even something small like \$5,000. Estate gifts are what will give permanence to the The Printing Museum and its mission. Thank you Miki for being our Angel this year! ■



PLANNED GIVING

Your support helps keep the International Printing Museum’s activities and programs alive. With your help together we can inspire and educate audiences both young and old about the printing, graphics, and book arts industries.

POPULAR WAYS TO GIVE

- Wills and Living Trusts
- Bequest Language
- Beneficiary Designations
- Charitable Gift Annuities
- Charitable Remainder Trusts
- IRA Charitable Rollover
- Charitable Lead Trusts
- Real Estate
- Memorials and Tribute Gifts

NEW ASSISTANT MUSEUM MANAGER

Meet Madeline Helland



In March, just one week before we had to close due to Covid-19, we were delighted to welcome the newest member to the Printing Museum Team, Madeline Helland, our new Assistant Museum Manager.

Madeline graduated from Scripps College in 2018 with a double major in Art Conservation and Studio Art. Her thesis work heavily focused on bookbinding and the history of books. She’s especially interested in Non-Western and International Binding Styles. For her art conservation thesis she researched a pair of Hindu manuscripts in the Scripps College collection to determine a provenance based on their illustration style and binding design. A few key experiences inspired her to pursue this interest in book history professionally, including taking Kitty Maryatt’s course on book arts and letterpress, where she learned how to print and bind books by hand. The following year she completed an internship in the conservation

lab at the Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens, treating books and works on paper.

She joins us from her previous position as a Gallery Assistant at Louis Stern Fine Arts, a West Hollywood gallery that represents historic artists such as Karl Benjamin and Alfredo Ramos Martinez. She’s also had internships at the Ruth Chandler Williamson Gallery, The Pomona College Museum of Art, and the arts education group ARTstArt.

Madeline first heard about The International Printing Museum while taking a Polymer Platemaking Class at Otis College of Art and Design. She first visited The International Printing Museum for our 2019 Los Angeles Printers Fair where she fortuitously met Museum Director Mark Barbour and was immediately taken with the Museum.

In addition to helping run the day to day activities and behind the scenes work at The Printing Museum Madeline will be chiefly engaged with developing a new and expanded Book Arts Institute with a larger variety and occurrence of hands-on classes and workshops. Next time you visit the Museum be sure to meet Madeline and welcome her to The Printing Museum!

Get To Know Madelline

Hobbies:

Creating Miniatures, Zinefests, Stamp Collecting

Favorite Book:

“People of the Book” by Geraldine Brooks

Her Inspirations:

Julie Chen of Flying Fish Press & Book Artist Karen Hanmer

Fun Fact:

She used to be a College Radio DJ



THE PRINTING MUSEUM'S COLLECTIONS EXPAND WITH IMPORTANT ADDITIONS: New Acquisitions for the Museum in 2020

A number of exceptional donations and acquisitions were added to the International Printing Museum's collections in 2020.

One week before the national COVID-19 shutdown in March, Curator Mark Barbour was in Chicago, loading up a 26' truck with printing history gems. The donor was Jerome Kosoglad of Wheeling, IL, who, with his late father Leonard, operated IPEC Inc., national dealers in printing equipment. In fact, Jerome Kosoglad was the dealer who introduced the famous Heidelberg Windmill to the US. Over the years, Leonard added unique printing presses and artifacts to his personal museum, many of which he acquired during liquidation of printing plants. While visiting Jerome 15 years ago, Mark spotted a mid-19th Century wooden lithographic press, something missing in the Museum's story on lithography. It was not until this year, however, that Jerome was ready to part with the press, donating it to the Museum in memory of his father Leonard.



1890 French stone lithographic press with Norman Rockwell stone.

posters of the 19th and early 20th centuries. Displayed with the press is another gem, a 24" x 30" lithographic stone of Norman Rockwell's famous painting "Looking Out to Sea."

Next to the press in the Kosoglad warehouse all these years, well-packed inside a wooden crate, were six hand-painted windows depicting the history of printing. Only one of the windows was partially visible,

detailing a few beautifully painted scenes from 15th century printing shops. Once the crate arrived at the Printing Museum, each window pane was carefully removed and set side by side. We discovered that each window was themed: Early Printing, Type, Papermaking, Lithography, Calligraphy, and Bookbinding. Two of

the panels had the signature of the artist, Edgar Miller, another had a date of 1961, and third had an inscription "Dedicated to the Society of Typographic Arts". As the dust came off, the mystery of the

windows slowly began to be revealed.

We contacted Zac Bleicher, Executive Director and Founder of the Edgar Miller Legacy, a Chicago non-profit dedicated to preserving the legacy of this prolific but under-recognized artist. Zac was elated that we had uncovered the "lost Edgar Miller windows." Edgar Miller Legacy knew of the windows but had lost track of their whereabouts some years ago.

Mr. Bleicher informed us that the six windows were commissioned in the early 1950's by Veritone Printing Company, a leading Chicago printer. The artist, Edgar Miller, was a leader in the use of graphic arts in advertising and his work included other commissions from most of the leading printers and ad agencies in Chicago. He also had a long relationship with many of the typographical masters of the time, explaining his connection to the Chicago-based Society of Typographic Arts, Chicago's oldest professional design organization. We are creating a backlit exhibit for the the windows in the main gallery for all to enjoy these "lost" masterpieces. ■



The "lost" Edgar Miller hand painted windows, 1961.

Measuring nearly 8' long, the lithographic press remains in remarkable working condition. The press was made in France by J. Busser. Presses of this style were used to print many of the color



Printers' Drive-in Movie Night at the Museum during the Printers Fair, featuring "Park Row", from 1951 that is centered around 19th century printing shops.

Printers Fair (Continued from page 1)

Virtual Printers Fair last for all of November.

An impressive 65 vendors participated, both locally and across the country. Vendors were showcased in our Vendor Marketplace with photos and videos of their practice and process, images of featured products, and links to their portfolios and ecommerce sites.

Daily Experiences included video tours of the Museum, bookbinding and paper marbling demonstrations, scans of archival material from the collections, and more. Our featured artist, Lorna Turner, designed and helped print the beautiful LA Printers Fair Show Guide and t-shirts, available in the Museum's online store.

The Printers' Drive-in Movie Night was one of two live events. Guests were able to enjoy the evening from the comfort of their cars in the Museum parking lot. Our volunteer, Brent Boal, set up the 20' movie screen with full theatre sound. Curator Mark Barbour showed clips on printing presses in the movies, followed by the feature

Park Row, a 1951 film featuring numerous printing presses and even a supporting actor role for Ottmar Mergenthaler and his Linotype. The tag line for this blockbuster about two New York newspaper publishers was, "She had blood in her veins...He had ink in his!" The following morning we held our other live event, the Surplus Equipment Sale in the Museum's parking lot, with presses, type, books and supplies, helping us raise \$5,000.

With over 12,000 unique visitors and 33,000 page views over the course of the month, the response to the Virtual Printers Fair was overwhelmingly successful. Several vendors commented that November was their best month all year! Visitors to the Virtual Fair were enthusiastic about the experiences, the changing daily content and beautiful work of the vendors. The 2021 Printers Fair will be in-person and virtual, allowing us to continue reaching a national audience. That's a win-win in the year of the pandemic for the Printing Museum! ■

Back Burner

(Continued from page 1)

A major improvement, and maybe the most important, was the complete renovation of all four museum restrooms! Each restroom was outfitted with environmentally friendly toilets, new sinks and cabinets, wainscoting and lights. Plus our volunteer printers now have a restroom dedicated to staff and volunteers, including a deep sink and plenty of industrial soap for easier clean up!

Two new exhibit areas were created in the East Gallery. The first was a long-standing plan for a Lithography Exhibit: From Stone to the Digital Dot. The exhibit features our latest acquisition, an 1870's French Stone Lithographic Press



New vinyl flooring and painting in the galleries.

that Mark literally hauled back from Chicago the first week of March at the start of the shut down. The other long planned exhibit area is for our new Ancient World History Tour, exploring the history of books, writing and paper from caves to the Roman Empire. Mark's vision is for an exhibit and experience much like professor Indiana Jones's study to talk about the development of the written word, Medieval Scribes, papyrus and the invention of printing and paper in China. This new exhibit and tour, Professor Lindner's Curiosity Cabinet, will help us reach 6th grade students studying ancient history. ■

ONLINE SALES HELPING TO SUPPORT THE MUSEUM

Printing Museum's Etsy Store Re-Opened

Over the summer, Museum volunteer Jaxson Brashier took the initiative to re-open the Printing Museum Etsy store. In a normal year, the Museum is able to sell printing equipment and supplies at large



events such as the Los Angeles Printers Fair and our Letterpress Wayzgoose, while regular

visitors to the Museum are able to purchase smaller items at the gift shop. However, in the face of the pandemic, we have needed to re-think our opportunities for sales and generate revenue. Etsy turned out to be the perfect solution to this.



Jaxson created listings for wood and metal type, linotype matrices, vintage books, posters printed at the museum, and type cases. The type cases have by far been the most popular product in the shop, purchased by buyers who want to use them for decorative purposes. The different sized compartments in a California Job Case are a great way to display knick-knacks and

small treasures. Patrons of the shop have also purchased jewelry, including necklaces and earrings, that our volunteers have made out of linotype matrices. And the printing enthusiasts who discover our shop tend to buy antique printing history books or vintage type specimen books. In six months we've had over 3,500 visitors and 200 sales!

Visit etsy.com/shop/PrintMuseum to see what is available and help support the Museum with your purchase.



printmuseum.org



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

315 W. Torrance Blvd., Carson, CA 90745



NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Orange, CA
Permit #193