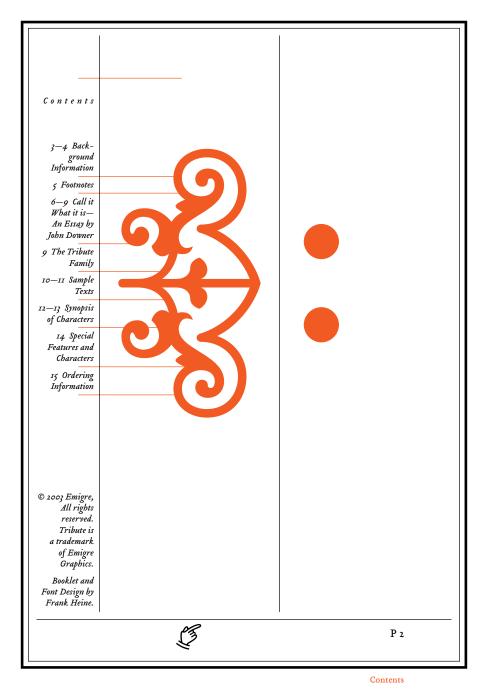
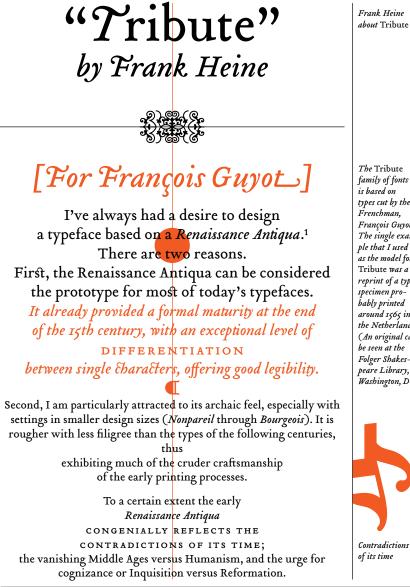
Introducing "Tribute" <u>—a family of</u> 8 fonts by Frank Heine, released by Emigre Fonts (2003)zer Ρт

Introducing

Roman, Ligatures, Small Caps, Ordinals; Italic, Ligatures One & Two, Ordinals

Introductory Booklet





The Tribute family of fonts is based on types cut by the Frenchman, François Guyot. The single example that I used as the model for Tribute was a reprint of a type specimen probably printed around 1565 in the Netherlands. (An original can be seen at the Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, DC.)

Contradictions

Ρz

Background Information

I'VE ALWAYS HAD A DESIRE ¬

François Guyot's types \neg

François Guyot was a punchcutter born in Paris, France, who moved to Antwerp in 1539 where he worked in the type founding trade. Until his death in 1570 he was a regular supplier of type to Christophe Plantin, Antwerp's renowned printer. Together with his competitor, Ameet Tavernier, Guyot produced types that were highly influential in the appearance of printed work. in the Low Countries in the period from 1545–1570, and they were in great demand throughout much of Western Europe.

The nagging

question

fluential as those of his elders, GRIFFO or GARAMOND. There were many inconsistencies not usually seen in this class of typefaces. Some of the characters have an unrefined or unusual feel, such as the N, the asymmetrical M, the abrupt cut of the tail of the y, or the treatments of the accents and brackets.

FRANÇOIS GUYOT'S types were not as in-

Furthermore, the available size on the original print from which I worked did not reveal much detail. For instance, no clear examples were apparent regarding the logic of serifs or stroke endings. In this respect the source left enough room for individual decisions. Most of these detail decisions - such as how far the character stays within the historical attributes, or how far it edges away from them-were relatively easy to arrive at, since the basic forms of a Renaissance Antiqua are quite familiar to me.€As I was drawing each letter directly in Fontographer 2.5, I made these decisions quite intuitively. Due to my preference for smaller design sizes, Tribute was equipped with a robust stroke width and decreased contrast between thin and bold strokes. This ensures the needed heavy text "color" and equability that is necessary for good legibility at small sizes. **(** Despite my fondness for typefaces originating from about 1480 to 1580, there was the nagging question about the sense and purpose of adapting a historical model for today's digital techniques. There are already many, partially well designed, revivals available. But many of these solutions (the digital version of Stem-

pel Garamond comes to mind immediately) appeared to me as over-interpreted in the details. They were mostly too thin and sterile looking, erasing any traces of its origins. With the design of Tribute it was my intention to maintain, visually, this link to the past. The way that typefaces are continually revived and placed into new contexts has always fascinated me. In contrast to the more inflexible art forms such as architecture, sculpture or painting, the historical typeface continues to be an active and vivid medium for contemporary experiments and typographic solutions. Historical models can easily be updated and adapted to current production techniques and find many useful applications in today's media. This speaks to the triumph of early Humanist fonts and their attainment of legibility that outlasted centuries of typeface development, and still functions today.

G.H.I.K.L.M.N.O.P.Q.R.S.T. g.h.i.k.l.m.n.o.p.q.r.f.s.t.v.u.x.y.z. ç.ff.ff.t.(.q.fi.fi.1.2.3.4.5.6.7.8.9.0' In principio erat verbum, & verbum. ego fum vitis vera. & pater meus agri-



From top to bottom: Scan of Guyot's 1544 Double Pica Roman (scaled 50%); detail of the original model (scaled 170%); interpretation of serifs (H, l, k) and stroke endings (c, l, k).

Background Information

P 4

misunderstanding. Early Italian Humanists rediscovering the Greek and Roman Antique interpreted the Carolingian Minuscule (which came 700 years later) as Roman handwriting and imitated its style. The Humanist handwriting became the source for the first (Venetian) Renaissance Antiqua cut in Italy by Sweynheim and Pannartz (in Subiaco near Rome, 1463). This typeface still shows some characteristics of Gothic types. But only a few years later, NICHO-LAS JENSON created his elaborated types in Venice in 1470, which became the model for many successive punchcutters and typeface designers until today. I Another interesting aspect of the Renaissance Antiqua is that it is the first typeface consisting of two alphabets: capital and lowercase letters. While the lowercase letters were modeled after the Humanist handwriting, the capitals were taken from Roman inscriptions such as on the TRAJAN COLUMN in Rome.

1 The Renaissance Antiqua is based upon a

2 The German Industry Norm (DIN) differentiates between Venetian and French Renaissance Antiqua. Within the United States the terms French Aldine or Aldine Roman may sound more familiar. **(** The typical characteristics of a French Renaissance Antiqua/ French Aldine are shown in the Tribute letters below:



o and round shapes: slightly tilted to the left; i: convoluted, quite heavy serifs with concave transitions to the stem (brackets); k: triangular upper serif; e: small counter, borizontal crossbar, relatively high; a: small, narrow counter; f: ascender swinging far to the right, drop-shaped; overall character: decreased contrast between stems and hairlines.

ürpi confirmatio muobili Tree uobirderic in allaceratia Bepbe bur Bielectione driminhuxpig Early Carolingian Minuscule, 8th century

bf emptatuf adiabolo uictt . peg obum colohanne piscamres cuoc uartof languoref hominum cura Late Carolingian Minuscule, 11th century

ulta quoque'&bello passus dum conde nferret'q, deol lano : genul unde lann Ubaniq patrel atque alte moema ro Humanist Minuscule, Florence 1480

rum · quod partim pro uohintate cu partim usu proprio : et observatione co nang, apud uctures . cum usus notaru Humanist Italic, 16th century

rafartefingenio predital peroptal :el artel.prefertim quatuor ultimal qua uocant. que plerung magno splend Type by Sweynheim and Pannartz, from:

SPECULUM HUMANAE VITAE, Rome 1467

iuftitia qua non a molaica lege(leptima ei Moyles nalcitur)led naturali fuit ratione attestatur. Credidit enim Habraam deo & Typeface by Nicholas Jenson, from: DE PRAE-PARATIONE EVANGELICA, Venice 1470

ABCDEFGILM NOPQRSTVX

Capitals from the Trajan Column, Rome 113 A.D.

Credits

Humanist hand-

writing became

The first typeface consisting

of two alphabets

the source

Pictures above taken from: Albert Kapr, Schriftkunst, Verlag der Kunst Dresden, 1971. The model for the Tribute family was an illustration taken from: Atlas zur Geschichte der Schrift, Volume 2, TU Darmstadt, 2001.

Ρş



Footnotes

THE RENAISSANCE ANTIQUA



On the one hand, a type designer who makes a serious effort to acknowledge certain sources of inspiration opens himself or herself to criticism concerning the ethics of ap-other hand, a type designer who fails to cite sources, or, worse, makes a conscious effort to avoid acknowledging sources, leaves himself or herself open to charges of impropriety. **①** One may ask, "Is there no safe and sound route these days?" **(** I believe there is. In fact, I think there are several good roads. 🔳 To understand the intrinsic differences between plagiarism (normally regarded as a bad thing) and preservation (normally regarded as a good thing), we should look at various means by which newer typefaces are derived from older ones. There are indeed many approaches. Outlining them can be helpful in considering the practices surrounding revivalism in general. The integrity of a typeface revival depends not solely on what the designer does to create a workable version of an old idea; it also depends on what the designer, or the designer's copywriter or publicist, has to say copy, or whatever prose is written to launch a typeface, is inaccurate or misleading, there might be grounds for a dispute. In contrast, if the story behind the designer's effort stands up to the scrutiny of type historians and scholars, a revival has a far better chance of being considered a welcome addition to the world of revivals-not so much for being a "servant" to a given typographic model as for bearing a relationship to its history. Historians regard type history in ways that type designers and type critics seldom do. This theme was articulated in a keynote address at the 2002 conference of the Association Typographique Internationale (ATypI) in Rome by PAUL F. GEHL, historian and curator of a type-history collection at The Newberry Library, in Chicago.

P 6

Call it What it is

In his talk, Gehl noted that type experts (including some effective and influential type promoters, I should add), have been known to give imprecise descriptions and fabricate misnomers. Monotype's introduction in 1929 of a typeface series known as "Bembo," based on the first roman type of ALDUS MANU-TIUS, circa 1495, was cited by Gehl as an opportunity for STANLEY MORISON, the typographical advisor to Monotype, to inaccurately characterize Bembo, as he did with other historically-based typefaces by Monotype in the 1920s. Morison, according to Gehl, " ... insisted upon calling his bistorical reconstructions of the 1920s 'recuttings' of early types, when in fact most of them were beautiful new types inspired by handsome old ones." This observation strikes a familiar chord among type reviewers. Accuracy often hinges on semantics, so semantics are important.

It seems that the term "recutting" could be accurately applied to a faithful recreation, if it were cut by hand and cast in metal, but that is not exactly what has been done in the process of creating usable facsimiles of centuries-old type. To do a "recutting" in the most literal sense of the word would ostensibly require a cutter of type to work in the same manner, and with the same materials, as the originator. The term "recutting" has come into modern usage partly by way of inheritance and partly by way of convenience. There is no real cutting being done by makers of digital typefaces; namely, faces meant to be fully accepted as recreations of former glories. **(**In the digital medium, a medium without the physicality of sculpture, what's attainable can be but a silhouette of facial features produced by carving type at the size-the only size-it will print, in relief, in reverse, in steel. Unlike cutting away excess material to render the form desired, digital type is shaped by manipulating on-screen descriptions of con-

tours. Any "digital recutting" takes place merely in a figurative sense. I But don't let pure semantics completely limit our abilities to label today's digital replicas of historical types in real and fitting ways. Apt descriptions are almost always possible if there exists a broad vocabulary from which to establish appropriate terminology. We still need new nomenclature for the digital era to replace outdated language that has lost its meaning or has taken on an erroneous twist. Oxymorons like "digital punchcutter" and "digital type foundry" are common in the trade, but at least they have the word "digital" as a qualifier. That's a lot better than not having a qualifier. The same may be said of the common term "revival" in describing updates of typefaces that never fell completely into disuse before being converted to a new medium. Labeling a typeface "digital revival" lets us know that the original was born in a pre-digital medium, most often metal. To do a revival in type is to resurrect a design that has fallen into disuse, not to rehash a workable design that never became obsolete or outdated. As Gehl has noted, "Let's just resolve not to call them historical 'reproductions,' 'recuttings,' or even 're-designs' unless we intend to do just that, reproduce a type remarked, " ... In my professional capacity as collector, I frequently meet with designers and design teachers and students. What I have to say today is thus conditioned not by my sense of what you as typographers and type writers are doing right or doing wrong, but by my reading of what practicing designers and design students make of what you do and say about type."

On that cue, a few definitions would be handy. Below are mine. I've divided my descriptions into two categories: one for designs that closely follow the original, and the other for designs that loosely follow the original. Definitions would be handy

Pure

semantics

A lot better than not having

a qualifier

Born in

medium

a pre-digital

P 7

Revivals/Recuttings/ Reclamations

- 🎗 I 🌋

Closely based on historical models (metal type, hand-cut punches, etc.) for commercial or noncommercial purposes, with the right amount of historic preservation and sensitivity to the virtues of the original being kept in focus—all with a solid grounding in type scholarship behind the effort, too.

Historic

Focus on

opportunism

With humor

or satire

Preservation

ANTHOLOGIES/ Surveys/Remixes

Closely based on characters from various fonts all cut by one person, or cut by various hands, all working in one particular style or genre—like a medley or an overview done more for the sake of providing a "sampling" than for the sake of totally replicating any one single cut of type.

KNOCKOFFS/CLONES/ COUNTERFEITS

Closely based on commercial successes (of any medium) to belatedly muscle in on part of an unsaturated market, often by being little more than a cheap imitation of what has already been deemed by experts as a legitimate revival. "Me Too" fonts, or "Copy Cat" fonts, as they are called, tend to focus on opportunism rather than on originality. These don't rate as revivals because they don't revive. Reconsiderations/ Reevaluations/

\$ 2 §

REINTERPRETATIONS

Loosely based on artistic successes (of any medium) as a kind of laboratory exercise, often without much concern for their immediate or eventual commercial viability.

Homages/Tributes/

Paeans ୶

Loosely based on historical styles and/or specific models, usually with admiration and respect for the obvious merits of the antecedents—but with more artistic freedom to deviate from the originals and to add personal touches; taking liberties normally not taken with straight revivals.

Encores/Sequels/

Reprises ୶

Loosely based on commercial successes (of any medium) as a means of further exploring, or further exploiting, an established genre; milking the Cash Cow one more time.

Extensions/Spinoffs/ Variations

Loosely based on artistic or commercial successes (of any medium) for only rarely more than minor advancements in a tried, popular, accepted style; akin to previous category.

Caricatures/Parodies/ Burlesques

Loosely based on prominent features of the model, often with humor or satire as the primary objective, but quite often also with humor or satire as an unexpected effect.

P 8

Call it What it is

Centuries ago, loose interpretations were easier to produce than close (faithful) interpretations because the level of skill needed to produce punches was high. But late in the 19th century, the use of the pantograph as a tool in cutting punches and matrices by machine eliminated the need for a punchcutter who worked by hand. The speed of replicating existing typefaces increased. Phototype was yet another step in the direction of fast copying, and digital type can be copied in an instant by almost anybody. Our ability to make digital facsimiles of types that were cut by hand centuries ago affords us a chance to render them as we see fit. We can make them look old, like the original types, or we can make them look fresh. We can't, however, make them look identical to historical models, for digital type is not metal type. The two are different creatures and they manifest separate identities. They each have their own idiosyncrasies. **(** Realizing that digital type can actually only simulate the "look" of old type is an important aspect of evaluating type revivals. Terms like "digital homage" or "historical fiction" can be used to describe what we attempt to do when we pay tribute to types of the distant past without relying too heavily upon their Tribute possesses an element of "type caricature" in its drawing, but this fact doesn't relegate it to that one category. Heine has really gone beyond parody, well into an area of personal exploration. He has challenged many traditional assumptions that we "connoisseurs" of handcut type have maintained in our attitude toward the historical accuracy sought and loved and expected in "revivals." The result is a unique combination of caricature, homage, alchemy, and fanciful reinterpretation. Tribute, I think, recalls Guyot's native French-learned style, primarily as a point of departure for an original-albeit implausible-work of bistorical fiction, with merits and faults of its own.

Introducing "Tribute" -a family of 8 fonts; Roman, Italic, SMALL CAPS e Ordinals:

P 9

Call it What it is



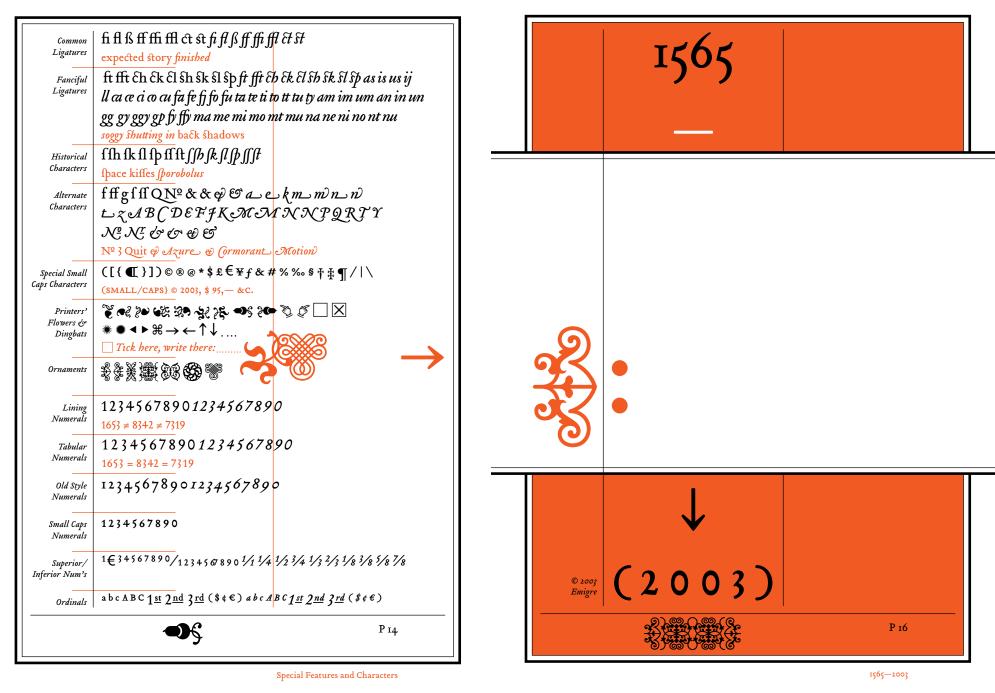
Tribute Roman & Small Caps

Tribute Italic



Synopsis of Characters This character set is supported with the Macintosh \rightarrow some characters may not be available with Windows

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← Ordering Information