Fraser Muggeridge: Mimeographica Alphabetica

This exhibition develops from a project by graphic designer Fraser Muggeridge in collaboration with Welling School students, investigating typography and manual printing methods.

What happens when the possibilities and constraints of an obsolete technology become a creative tool in the design and production of letterforms?

Typography can be defined as the process of 'writing with prefabricated letters'. Renowned for his innovative graphic design and teaching on typography, Fraser Muggeridge led students to reinvent alphabets and experiment with the potential of pre-digital printing technologies.

Reflecting on how typography changes over time according to each method of production within history, the exhibition showcases an abstract alphabet designed and made collectively using stencil duplication. Presented alongside are materials such as stencil lettering tools, manuals, spirit duplicating masters and the two mimeographs (manual low-cost printing) machines) used in the process.

The project evolved through a series of workshops where students explored the construction of letters through line, form, pattern and scale. The sessions held at the school provided a platform to develop skills for working in a professional situation.

Fraser Muggeridge (b. 1973) studied Typography & Graphic Communication in Reading. He runs his own design studio in London, a Typography Summer School (London/New York) and teaches at Camberwell College of Art and The University of Reading.

With special thanks to teachers Nina Priester and Andee Collard, and Year 12 students: Jack Bell, Emily Collins, Daniel Guiott, Finley Hodge, Juvenal Iragaba, Kennedy Madevu, Charlie Mead, Julia Misheva, Johanna Oluwakanmi, James Robinson, Sam Stening, Rebecca Tode, Josh Wood, Muhammed Zorlu.

Pick up a leaflet or see whitechapelgallery.org for details on events related to the exhibition.

