

salad days



 about the artists 

Bryan C. Baker, YEE-HAW Industries
Knoxville TN

YEE-HAW is a group effort, along with myself there are three other full time Designer/Printers who work in our studio. Julie Belcher, Kevin Bradley and Adam Ewing round out this crew. The shop started up back in 1997, and I've been printing with them since late 2001. As a printmaking graduate student at the University of Tennessee I began to split my time between the UT shop and YEE-HAW. After graduating that division continued with a series of adjunct teaching gigs, but eventually the letterpress work filled my schedule completely.

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Nicholas Baute, Hound Dog Press
LaGrange, KY

In 2003 I received a BFA with a focus in printmaking under Ross Zirkle from the University of Kentucky. Ross introduced me to wood engraving in 2001, and from here I discovered letterpress. After college, my wife, Valerie, and I moved to New York City where I found work in several different letterpress shops. Hound Dog Press was started while in NYC, and after two years of working at Bowne & Co. Stationers, at the South Street Seaport Museum, we move back to Kentucky in 2007. I continue to produce wood engravings and print them on an 1881 Golding Pearl O.S.

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A very special thanks to the following:

Jim Gray

Alex Brooks of press eight seventeen

John Pyper of Bow & Arrow Press

LexARTS

Brian Turner of Cricket Press

Sara Turner of Cricket Press

Alex Brooks, press eight seventeen
Lexington, KY

Alex Brooks is the owner & operator of press eight seventeen in Lexington Kentucky where he publishes books & broadsides, prints posters & ephemera, makes custom boxes, bindings, & portfolios, and drinks lots of coffee. His printing features hand-set metal and wood type, and his own reduction woodcuts.

Alex started bookbinding in high school, and his first book was an edition of two, printed on an inkjet printer. He then apprenticed at the King Library Press for five years, where he swept floors and distributed type while learning the dark arts. He also worked as an assistant to the Conservator at the University of Kentucky Library, where he learned book repair & conservation, and how to make custom enclosures. He is currently an apprentice at the Dale Guild Type Foundry in Howell, NJ where he is learning to cast foundry type.

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Johnny Carrera, Quercus Press
Waltham, MA

I work mostly as a book artist using traditional production methods to house non-traditional ideas. Anna Hepler is the artist who first turned me on to letterpress printing. I interned at the Silver Buckle Press at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, while Barbara Tetenbaum was in charge. I have begun to play more and more with using text as a decorative element in my work. Please note that I did not print the Pictorial Webster's poster, this was printed by another master printer contemporary of Barb Tetenbaum's, Ruth Lingen, at Pace Editions in Manhattan. (I engraved most of the images that appear in the poster.) The Mollusks poster gives a sense of the 4000 engravings I've devoted to the last 10 years of my life printing as the Pictorial Webster's.

www.quercuspress.com

Tae Won Yu & Amelia Grohman
Reunion Press
Brooklyn, NY

Tae Won Yu is an artist, illustrator and designer. He has worked in collaboration with musicians such as Built To Spill, Versus and Calvin Johnson, and has designed a series of books for Clear Cut Press.

Amelia Grohman is a printer and designer, and a veteran of Vinegar Hill Printers, Soho Letterpress and Peter Kruty Editions. She is currently an Art Director with DC Comics and the proud owner of a roller-less Vandercook No. 3.

OUT TO SEA documents our Summer adventure in Maine when we were caught in a violent current that nearly pulled our little boat out to the open Atlantic. We were rowing Amelia's 9-year-old sister around a seemingly calm lagoon when a receding tide suddenly sucked the boat away from shore and towards an uncertain fate. We made it back after an epic struggle but not without a little heart attack accompanying our smiles of relief. OUT TO SEA was printed on a Vandercook Universal I at Peter Kruty Editions by Amelia Grohman and illustrated by Tae Won Yu.

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Brian & Sara Turner, Cricket Press
Lexington, KY

Brian & Sara Turner have been making posters for half a decade. In 2003, they started Cricket Press from a tiny studio in their home. Since then, they have created gigposters for hundreds of shows; from indie acts such as Son Volt, Sufjan Stevens and Mogwai to Free-Jazz luminaries like Ken Vandermark and Peter Brotzmann. Together they have created their own unique and quirky vision of the world, translating their characteristic illustrations through the hand-printed processes of letterpress and screen printing. When they're not ruining their clothes slinging ink on posters, Cricket Press also spends a good deal of time on numerous design and illustration projects, as well as making various hand-printed goods & ephemera. Cricket Press operates two letterpress machines; a mid-1960's Vandercook SP-15 proof press and a Golding 6x9 platen press from the 1890's.

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Eric Woods, The Firecracker Press
St. Louis, MO

We started business in 2002 after quitting work in the design agency world and with a desire to get our hands dirty. We strictly do letterpress work at The Firecracker Press and have a wide variety of clients from rock bands to real estate developers. We think letterpress is the perfect marriage of old fashioned craftsmanship and new-style thinking. We love it and hope that it shows.

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Rob Charlton, Goosefish Press
Boston, MA

I started Goosefish Press in 2004, a year after getting my post-bac certificate from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston where I studied printmaking (primarily stone litho) and artist books. I'd always had an interest in antiquarian books and printing in general and much of my art work had dealt with type as image and looking back at history. Once I started setting and printing type I was hooked. Now in addition to my own artwork Goosefish Press produces invitations and stationery for private clients.

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Michelle Dreher, Two Tone Press
Kansas City, MO

A 2001 graduate of the Kansas City Art Institute, Michelle Dreher spent several years working for Hammerpress Letterpress Studio, under the guidance of owner and operator Brady Vest. In 2005, having gained extensive knowledge and experience with the letterpress process, she decided to break away from Hammerpress and start her own print studio, which she dubbed Two Tone Press. Since then, she has printed and designed a variety of projects for the general public as well as larger corporations and ad firms and is slowly making her mark on the thriving Kansas City art scene. Out of all the work she has done, her main passion lies with creating hand-carved block prints for editorial illustrations, posters, and editioned fine art prints which allow her to express her own unique sense of graphic design and illustrative style.

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Dirk Fowler, f2design
Lubbock, TX

Dirk Fowler is an assistant professor in the Communication Design department at Texas Tech University in sunny Lubbock, Texas. His simply executed but highly conceptual letterpress concert posters have been exhibited around the world and have appeared in many books and most major graphic design journals.

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Jennifer Erin Hughes, Rae Press
Arlington, MA

Most of my letterpress and printed work is about collaboration with writers, and inspiration from books (both fiction and non-fiction) as well as poetry. I began letterpress printing at the University of Iowa Center for the Book by collaborating with a California poet Olivia Kienzel on a series of prints incorporating words and phrases from her poems. I then went on to printing a chapbook of short monologues by performance artist Denise Uyehara. The work that I draw inspiration from is usually text that speaks to me and my experiences as a woman of color. Currently, I am starting to work on a project with Boston-based slam poet Letta Neely and am excited to see where that goes.

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Nicholas Kennedy, Trip Print Press
Toronto, Ontario

Referring to his chosen profession as a printer and compositor, Nicholas creates designs for the majority of his job work with pre-existing type high materials such as found engravings salvaged from dispersed printing houses, Elrod strip material, wooden type and metal type cast on the Ludlow Typograph from a growing collection of matrices.

Nicholas is not very good at returning phone calls so email him:
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John Pyper, The Bow & Arrow Press
Cambridge MA

John attended the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston/Tufts University where he received his BFA. Since 2004 he has run the letterpress studio Bow & Arrow Press of Adams House, Harvard. He is the master printer for Intaglio at Shepherd Print Studio in Cambridge. He has curated Dyscalculia, Thingamajigs, and Stylewriter for the Southern Graphics council conferences in 2007 and 2008. He brought Singularities to Roxbury Community College in Nov. and Dec. 2007 as the guest curator. His recent shows have been at the 808 Gallery of Boston University, Grub St. Boston, and the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. He is collected by the Boston Public Library and makes a mean salad.

The Bow & Arrow Press is the only student oriented letterpress studio at Harvard University. It has been making posters, invites, protest signs, fortune cookies, fake money, broadsides, books, and other ephemera since the 1950s. It slumbers in the dusty basement of Adams House on the corner of Bow and Arrow streets.

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