

July Workshop - It's all about the Rhythm!

Workshop on Sunday 25th July from 1.15 to 4pm
Book your in person or zoom spot by emailing Vanessa

Continuing our focus on a bookhand gives us an opportunity to spend the afternoon developing, improving, and maintaining Rhythm and Form in our Bookhand Lettering

You might be wondering what I mean by Rhythm and Form?

Rhythm in Calligraphy refers to the regularity and spacing of each individual letter in words, sentences and paragraphs. Think of it like the beat in a piece of music. Spacing of the letters, including the space inside each letter as well as space between each letter, The space inside and around each letter is very important to the overall look of a piece of writing. You can say that it is how the letters relate to each other. It also gives an individual 'rhythm' to each piece of calligraphy.

Form refers to the maintenance of the style of the calligraphic script or hand which you are using. We all find it difficult to maintain good 'form' when writing a long piece of calligraphy and when using a small nib.

'Image below is a page from the Book of Hours of Giovanni II Bentivoglio, Bologna, believed to have been made c. 1497-1500. It is of an Italian Humanist minuscule with coloured versals and decorations.' (Wikipedia)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Humanist_minuscule

1440 was the year of Gutenberg's printing press but for many years after the printing press came into use, manuscripts were still being created by hand, especially personal devotional works such as this lovely Books of Hours.

I've been searching for the origin of the 'Running Bookhand' and here is part of the answer.

While researching on Wikipedia I was fascinated to find this beautiful example of a late 15th century scribe's work, complete with lovely and colourful decoration and gilded capitals.

The script looks very like a C10th Carolingian script from England, but it's not. It's from the C15th and Italy.

This scribe from so long ago has maintained his **Rhythm and Form** throughout the page of writing.

More to see at our next meeting...

This full colour image and much more information about this interesting manuscript can be found by visiting Wikipedia or the British Library.

