



Global Type Browser Specification

December 27th, 2010

Google Earth or NASA World Wind could become the basis of a somewhat new and sophisticated kind of archive regarding typefaces, type designers, foundries and type history.



1452



1785



1928



1958



2007

The time wheel allows users to select items in time. The position is in the left upper edge of the screen. Depending on the time interval, there come up different buttons and different types.



In the right upper corner you will find the compass, similar to the time wheel different tastes.



All at once, the user interface
should look like this:



1928





2007



And there is the Hot Box that
comes comes up when you hit
the space bar:



2007



Typefaces Designer Foundries

Hot spots

Location Website

Depending on the geographical area and the time wheel the globe will be represented more or less zoomed. Whenever there is a point of typographic interest, a hot spot goes up.

Beneath the hot spot the title and a little picture come up. If selected, the chosen point will turn into the center, and the navigation disappears. The single elements of the specific hot spot appear.



1452



● Mainz, 1452
Gutenberg

Venedig, 1492
Pietro Bembo

● Venedig, 1470
Nicolas Jenson



Gutenberg Textura

Johannes Gutenberg

1452



Mainz

Johannes Gutenberg prints the 42-line bible.



Gutenberg Textura



Johannes Gutenberg in Mainz, c. 1474



Pietro Bembo



1492

Venedig

In february, Francesco Griffo developed a typeface called Bembo for the essay »De Aetna« of the italic Pietro Bembo. It soon became very popular.



explicabo; non tanq̄ recenseatur. Igitur; cum illum multa in umbra sedentem comperissem; ita initium interpellandi eum feci. PETRVS BEMBVVS FILIVS. Diu quidem pater hic sedes; & certe ripa haec uirens; quam populi tuae istae densissimae inumbrant; & fluuius alit; alio quanto frigidior est fortasse, q̄ sit satis. BERNARDVS BEMBVVS PATER. Ego uero filii nuspiam esse libentius soleo; q̄ in hac cum ripae, tum arborum, tum etiam fluminis amoenitate; neq; est, quod uereare, nequid nobis frigus hoc noceat, praesertim in tanto aestatis ardore: Sed fecisti tu quidem perbene; qui me ab iis cogitationibus reuocasti; quas & libentif-
bicio, cum in Nonianum
quidem nobis nescio quo
repreferant non modo non
ed etiam inuitis.
FILIVS. Derep. sci
aliquid, aut certe detrium

Bembo Antiqua

Claude Garamond



1530

Paris

Claude Garamond cuts his world-famous typefaces.



Garamond Antiqua

PAVLI IOVII NOVOCOMENSIS in Vitas duodecim Vicecomitum Mediolani Principum Præfatio.



ET VSTATEM nobilissimæ Vicecomitum familiarum qui ambitiosus à præalta Romanorû Cæsarum origine, Longobardisq; regibus deducto stemmate, repetere contédunt, fabulosis penè initiis inuoluere videntur. Nos autem recentiora

illustrioraque, vti ab omnibus recepta, sequemur: cõtentique erimus insigni memoria Heriprandi & Galuanii nepotis, qui eximia cum laude rei militaris, ciuilibusq; prudentiæ, Mediolani principem locum tenuerunt. Incidit Galuanus in id tempus quo Mediolanum à Federico AEnobarbo deletû est, vir summa rerum gestarum gloria, & quod in fatis fuit, insigni calamitate memorabilis. Captus enim, & ad triumphum in Germaniam ductus fuisse traditur: sed non multo pòst carceris catenas fregit, ingentique animi virtute non semel cæsis Barbaris, vltus iniurias, patriã restituit. Fuit hic (vt Annales ferunt) Othonis nepos, eius qui ab insigni pietate magnitudinẽque animi, canente illo pernobili classico excitus, ad sacrû bellum in Syriam contendit, communicatis scilicet consiliis atque opibus cû Guliermo Montifferrati regulo, qui à proceritate corporis, Longa spatha vocabatur. Voluntariorum enim equitum ac peditum delectæ no- A.iii.

Firmin Didot



1804

● Paris

In 1804, Firmin Didot created the »Romain de L'Empereur«, used only once – when Napoleon became King.




Didot Antiqua

Linotype typesetting machine



1886

New York ●



During the presentation
of the Linotype
typesetting machine at the
New York Tribune at Juli 3th 1886
the editor Whitelaw Reid
said spontaneously:
„Ottmar, you've done it
again! A line o' type!“



1982: A movie about type
history from Purup Electronics,
Cøbenhavn, Denmark.



1982

Kopenhagen

Purup Electronics, a danish phototypesetting company, produced a movie about european type history.

Download | 157 MB



There should be around 200
Hot spots.

Date	Location	Creator/company	Event
- 4000	Mesopotamia	Phoenicians	Phoenician alphabet
- 3200	Egypt 1	Egyptians	Hieroglyphs
- 3100	Crete	Minoean	Linear A script
- 3000	Middle america	Mayans	Mayan hieroglyphs
- 1340	Egypt 2	Echnaton & Nofretete	Monotheism
- 800	Greece	Hellenics	Greek alphabet
- 246	China 1	Qin Shihangdi	Conventions about scripts
113	Rome	Imperator Trajanus	Trajan's column
200	Northern europe	Scandinavian people	Runes
800	Corbie	Karl the Great	Carolingian minuscule
1040	China 2	Delta of Yangzi	Invention of printing
1452	Mainz	Johannes Gutenberg	42-line bible
1470	Vienna	Nicolaus Jenson	Jenson
1496	Vienna	Francesco Griffo	Bembo
1530	Paris	Claude Garamond	Garamond
1737	Paris	Pierre Simon Fournier	Typographic measure system
1757	Birmingham	John Baskerville	Baskerville
1768	Parma	Giambattista Bodoni	Bodoni
1896	Berlin	H. Berthold AG	Akzidenz-Grotesk
1900	Offenbach	Otto Eckmann	Eckmann
1914	Berlin	Louis Oppenheim	Lo-Type
1926	Leipzig	Emit Wetzig	Type specimen
1928	Frankfurt	Paul Renner	Futura
1931	London	Eric Gill	Gill Sans
1933	Frankfurt	Erich Meyer	Tannenberg
1937	Paris	A. M. Cassandre	Peignot
1958	Frankfurt	Hermann Zapf	Optima
1962	Marseille	Roger Excoffon	Antique Olive
1968	New York	Herb Lubalin	Avantgarde
1969	Berlin	Günter Gerhard Lange	AG Buch
1976	Kiel	Gerard Unger	Demos
1979	Darmstadt	Hermann Zapf	Zapf Chancery
1982	Copenhagen	Purup	Movie about type history
1984	Cupertino	Susan Kare	Chicago
1984	Berlin	Bernd Möllenstedt	Formata
1984	San José	John Warnock	PostScript
1989	London	Neville Brody	Industria
1989	San José	Carol Twombly	Trajan Pro
1991	Den Haag	Erik von Blokland	Trixie
2001	Tokio	Masahiko Kozuka	Kozuka
2001	Tokio	Tsutomu Suzuki	Hiragino
2006	New York	Thomas Lincoln	New Lincoln Gothic
2007	Berlin	Erik Spiekermann	Typeface for german railways

Every Hot spot has got its portrait, some samples. a short text description and optionally links to other longer (spoken) text, videos and further documents and downloads.



From a specific distance,
there could be used historical
globes instead of modern
satellite pictures. For example,
the Behaim globe of 1492.

The geographical points that have a typographical content, will appear depending on the time wheel and the actually chosen earth selection.

To develop the java applet,
collegues said the cost will be
around 12.000 €.

Eric Menninga, I ask you to treat this document as confidential for the first time. If Adobe could image to develop an application or a commercial use of this idea, I could imagine to support this.

www.global-type.org

Further information you can
get from my two talks at AType
Lisbon and Brighton:

[http://www.global-type.org/
Talk.799.0.html](http://www.global-type.org/Talk.799.0.html)

[http://www.global-type.org/
Talk.796.0.html](http://www.global-type.org/Talk.796.0.html)

Thank you for your attention.