



**Birkbeck Staff Development Day 2012** 

# **Illustrating the Printed Word**

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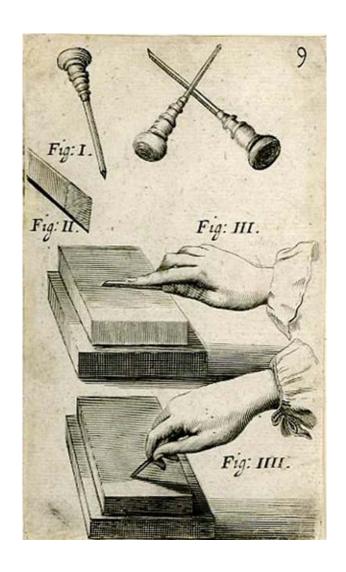
**Genny Grim Cataloguer, SSEES Library** 



#### Summary

This talk will discuss the ways in which decorative matter has been used to illustrate books, from the early days of the printing press to desk-top publishing. When is an illustration not an illustration? Does being part of a book or a pamphlet affect the way we appreciate a print? What can book-jackets tell us about the book they cover? And what happens when the Art subsumes the text, as is the case in many artists' books today?





## Agenda

- What is an illustration?
- Kinds of illustration
- Images and words

Image: Plate 9 to William Faithorne, *The art of graveing and etching* (London, 1662).

http://www.bpi1700.org.uk/jsp/image.jsp? image=502730





Image copyright UCL Library Services Special Collections



#### **Decorated Initial**



Image: Initial capital 'M', behind which stands David in light armour, holding the severed head of Goliath; tree to the left. c.1690-1720

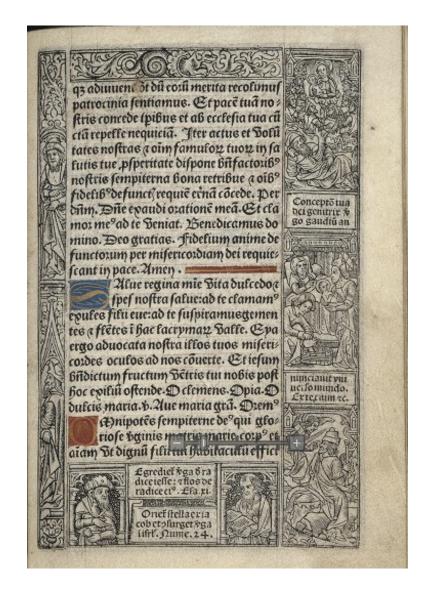
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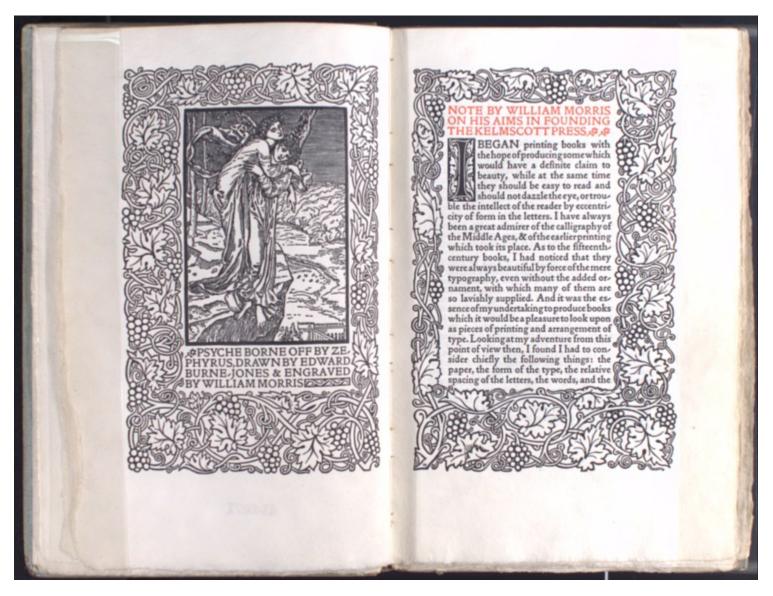
#### **Decorated / Illustrated Border**

Image: Birth of the Virgin from *Horaie* ad usum Romanum (Paris: Thielman Kerver, 1498). Manchester John Rylands

http://enriqueta.man.ac.uk:8180/luna/servlet/detail/
Manchester~91~1~6186~100460:Birth-of-the-Virgin?
qvq=q:horae;lc:Man4MedievalVC~4~4,ManchesterDev~93~3,ManchesterDev~95~2,Manchester~91~1&mi=23&trs=105&embedded=true&cic=ManchesterDev%7E95%7E2%2CManchester%7E91%7E1%2CMan4MedievalVC%7E4%7E4%2CManchesterDev%7E93%7E3&widgetFormat=javascript&widgetType=detail&controls=1&nsip=1







William Morris. *The Art and Craft of Printing*.

Available online from <a href="http://manybooks.net/titles/morriswi3159631596-8.html#">http://manybooks.net/titles/morriswi3159631596-8.html#</a>





[Images removed for copyright reasons]

The Life of Saint David
Ernest Rhys. [Gregynog]:
Gregynog Press, 1927

The Fables of Esope
Aesop; trans. by William Caxton
Gregynog Press, 1931



### **Kinds of Printing**

- Making a woodcut: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mgCYovIFRNY">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mgCYovIFRNY</a>
- Intaglio engraving on copper: <u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nD8B51okybE</u>
- Etching: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=md6Zb8xMmks">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=md6Zb8xMmks</a>
- Lithography: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nUXDItQfqSA



"This elongated initial letter and bold rendering of "In the Beginning" in red ink make this one of the most powerful and evocative title pages in printing history. T.J. Cobden-Sanderson, the founder of the Doves Press, commissioned Edward Johnston to design the first page of this typographical masterpiece. The Doves Press Bible is one of the monuments of the Arts and Craft Movement that swept Great Britain and America at the end of the nineteenth century."

~ World Treasures of the Library of Congress, http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/world/worldintro.html IN THE BEGINNING

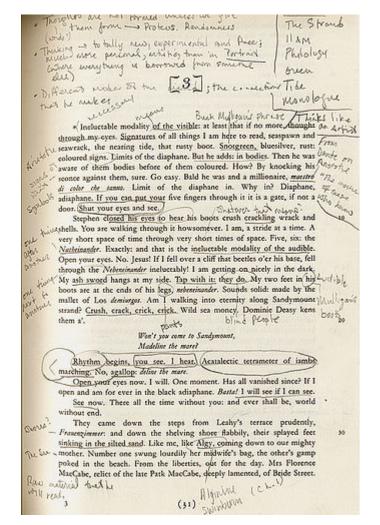
DARKNESS WAS UPON THE FACE OF THE DEEP. & THE SPIRIT OF GOD MOVED UPON THE FACE OF THE WATERS. [And God said, Let there be light: & there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: & God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day. [[And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, & let it divide the waters from the waters. And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: & it was so. And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening & the morning were the second day. [And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so. And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good. And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: & it was so. And the earth brought forth grass, & herb yielding seed after his kind, & the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind : and God saw that it was good. And the evening & the morning were the third day. ( And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, & years: and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: & it was so. And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also. And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth, and to rule over the day and over the night, & to divide the light from the darkness; and God saw that it was good. And the evening and the morning were the fourth day. ([And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven. And God created great whales, & every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, & every winged fowl after his kind: & God saw that it was good. And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, & multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth. And the evening & the morning were the fifth day. ( And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind; and it was so. And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the

27



## Marginalia







# **Everyman's Library**



# **Bindings**





# **Everyman's Library**



#### **Gollancz**



#### Faber & Faber



# Penguin