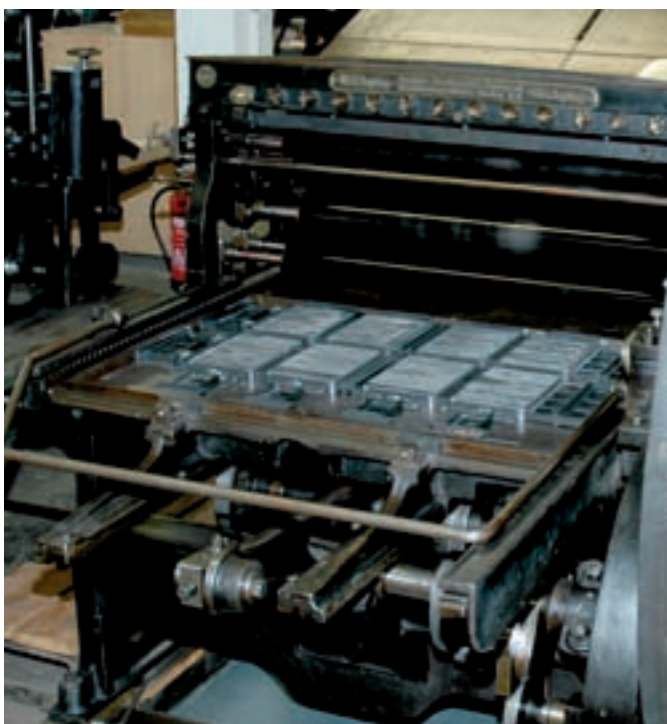




at Nonnenstrasse 38 in Leipzig-Plagwitz

A living and working museum



How to get there

Tram lines 1 and 2:
Direction of Lausen, alight at Holbeinstrasse
Tram line 3:
Direction of Knautkleeberg, alight at Elsterpassage
Tram line 14:
Direction of Plagwitz, alight at Nonnenstrasse
Approximately five minutes' walk in each case
Car-parking opposite the Museum (Parking fee)

Museum für Druckkunst Leipzig

Museum for the Printing Arts Leipzig
Nonnenstrasse 38, D-04229 Leipzig
Phone +49 (0) 341-231 62 0
www.druckkunst-museum.de
Mon - Fri 10 - 17, Sun 11 - 17, closed Saturday
Special arrangements on public holidays
Groups and guided tours by arrangement

Photos: Klaus-D. Sonntag, Kai Hofmann, Archive Museum · Translation: Hugh Keith

Museum for the Printing Arts Leipzig

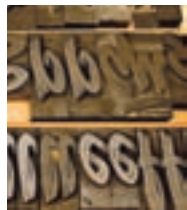
Between technology and art

Experience type casting, type setting
and printing processes in a working museum

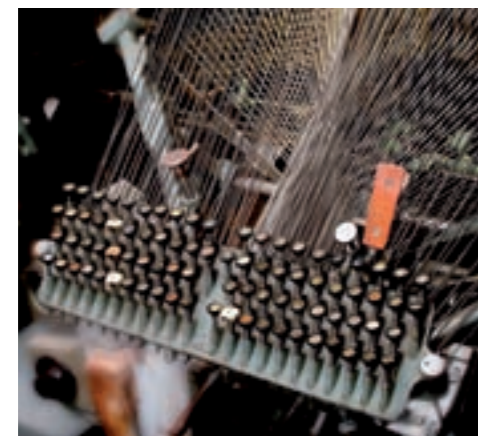
www.druckkunst-museum.de



Matrices, letters and hot type



There is a smell of lead in the air at the Museum for the Printing Arts: visitors are watching one of the last hot-metal typesetters in Germany at his craft. This working museum not only produces lead letters but also houses a collection of more than 4,000 different typefaces. Munich typographer Eckehart SchumacherGebler founded the museum in 1994 to house the unique collection of typesetting matrices and lead type that he had put together over a period of three decades. In 2000 the museum was transferred to a private foundation supported, amongst others, by the Munich Giesecke & Devrient Foundation, the printing industry and the City of Leipzig. Visitors touring the exhibition can see for themselves just how painstaking and complex the creation of a printed document was, right up to the mid twentieth century. Members of the museum's staff are available to explain the individual steps involved in hand setting and to demonstrate typesetting machines, including Linotype, Monotype and Typograph.



Typograph Typesetting machine from 1924

Pictures – from original to reproduction

Preparing an image for printing was an even more complicated process than for a text. In the fully-functioning woodprint workshop you can find out, step for step, how illustrations for newspapers and journals were created in the 19th century. And you may even stumble across Leipzig-based artists printing out their own etchings or lithographs on the museum's antique presses. It is here that the link between art and technology becomes tangible.



Top: Wood engravings and the wood engravers workbench



Courses and workshops

The museum offers a wide range of guided tours and practical activities for school classes and groups of all ages. Whether you try your hand at »Typesetting and Printing«, take part in a session on »Discovering the Museum«, or attend a birthday celebration or holiday course, there are many different ways of gaining practical experience of the »black art«. Registration and Information: +49 (0) 341-231 62 0 or info@druckkunst-museum.de



Centre and left: Graphic industry trainees learn about the »black art«

View from the hand typesetting workshop to the small printing hall



From hand presses to machines

The museum's collection of more than 90 working printing machines and presses really brings the history of printing alive. The SchumacherGebler Collection contains a wide range of presses from all periods – letterpress, rotogravure, flatbed. Richly ornamented mechanical presses bear witness to the pride of the printing guild, and hand-operated and motorized platen presses, cylinder presses, lithographic and colotype printers of various designs and drive systems demonstrate the highly-developed engineering skills of past centuries.

Some of the machines offer direct, hands-on experience. And everywhere the typical odour of printing ink and warm oil is in the air. The Museum is housed in a listed industrial building that has been in virtually continuous use as a print works since the late 19th century – and visitors can still experience printing processes at first hand.



From top: Columbia press, 1865
Liberty press, 1887
Cylinder press »Victoria Front«, 1939



Manual craftsmanship in the bookbinding workshop

Cutting, folding, stitching, gilding. The main tasks of the bookbinders have now been automated, but for many centuries were carried out painstakingly by hand. The museum's authentic bookbinding workshop offers an impressive demonstration of what was involved – and gives you an opportunity to experience using the tools and equipment yourself.



Bookbinding with needle and thread

Museum Shop

Lead type, decorative ornaments, postcards, wrapping paper, posters and books – most of them produced in the museum's workshops – can all be purchased in the museum shop.

Alternatively you can make purchases on-line at www.druckkunst-museum.de



The museum shop

Why not become a Friend of the Museum?

The museum depends on the public to safeguard the future of its collection. More than 400 people have already signed up as Friends of the Museum, paying an annual subscription of 55.00 €. You can find out more at www.druckkunst-museum.de