



CONSERVATION BY DESIGN LIMITED

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Conservation By Design Supports Handmade Papermaking And Cover Paper For Period Books Masterclass

Conservation storage, equipment and display specialists, Conservation By Design Limited (CXD), is supporting an exciting workshop on the principles and practice of handmade papermaking and paper covered bookbinding.

From 13th-17th September, Jacques Brejoux and Christopher Clarkson, two of the industry's leading scholars and craftsmen, will host a five day residential workshop at the 16th Century Moulin Du Verger Paper Mill in Puymoyen, located in the Charente (Cognac) region of France.

Jacques Brejoux is renowned internationally as a Master Craftsman in handmade papermaking and is the current custodian of Moulin du Verger, which has been producing paper since 1539. Christopher Clarkson is a renowned book conservator and historian, and a leading authority on the conservation of medieval manuscripts.

The workshop will look at the particular qualities required of handmade cover papers based on 16th and 17th Century exemplars. Using 19th and 20th Century linen rags and Jacques' reproduction medieval wooden Stampers specifically built for this purpose, it will allow for direct comparisons to be made with Hollander beaten fibres. Jacques Brejoux will demonstrate techniques such as fibre identification, pulping, refining, sheet forming, couching and loft drying. Jacques will also share his vast knowledge, and discuss the technical aspects of paper as they relate to book conservation.

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Christopher Clarkson will use Jacques' cover papers to demonstrate the technical qualities required in a handmade paper for use in period rebinding. His teaching will concentrate on limp paper binding construction of the Renaissance, a passion of his since the 1960s.

Conservators and bookbinding professionals will be able to benefit from this rare interchange of shared knowledge and experience; to develop a joint understanding of the requirements of Western style papers in the rebinding of period books and archival material.

Conservation By Design's marketing manager, Denise Troughton explains: "Previous workshops have been a tremendous success and places are much sought after, with delegates travelling from as far as America and Japan . It offers an exceptional opportunity to work with two leaders in their different fields and combine a five day stay in rural France with a period of research, training and hands on testing.

"With the number of participants limited to just eight, the attendees are in effect benefiting from a five-day masterclass - it really is a wonderful opportunity."

Tim Barrett, research scientist and paper specialist at the University of Iowa Center for the Book, said: "Jacques Brejoux's construction of a full size set of medieval papermaking stampers is a major accomplishment in the world of contemporary hand papermaking. Jacques' papermaking expertise in combination with Chris Clarkson's deep understanding of the history and technique of bookbinding result in a unique workshop opportunity. I cannot imagine a better mentoring team for those interested in paper cased bindings."

Jacques Brejoux will be conducting workshops and a lecture tour of North America following this workshop and will present a paper on the 'Stamper' project at the meeting of The Friends of Dard Hunter in October 2010.

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For further information on Conservation By Design contact Denise Troughton on 01234 846 360 or log on to www.conservation-by-design.co.uk/z_paper_workshop. For more details on Moulin Du Verger, log on to www.moulinduverger.com.

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Notes to Editors:

Christopher Clarkson graduated from the Royal College of Art, London in 1964, and then worked for Douglas Cockerell & Son (Cambridge, England) and later, with Roger Powell, who were both pioneers in the field of book conservation.

In 1967 he was a key figure in the rescue and conservation of damaged library and archive materials immediately after the devastating Florence flood.

In 1972, he moved to the United States, where he helped design, establish and managed the first conservation facility for special collection material at the Library of Congress in Washington DC. He has worked extensively on the collections of major museums such as the Smithsonian Institution, The National Gallery of Art (Washington), and the Walters Art Gallery (Baltimore). In 1979 he returned to England to help set up the Conservation Department at the Bodleian Library, Oxford.

Since 1998 he has focused on his private practice in Oxford and is presently a conservation consultant to the Bodleian Library, Dove Cottage, Hereford Cathedral's Mappa Mundi & Chained Library.

Clarkson has published books and many articles on various aspects of the materials and techniques of book conservation as well as medieval book production and binding history (www.ClarksonConservation.com). In 2004 he was presented with the Plowden Gold Medal, a prestigious annual award recognising his significant contribution to the advancement of the conservation profession.

Jacques Brejoux has been producing fine facsimile papers for restoration or prints, drawings and books and other papers for artists and print makers at the Mill in Puymoyen since 1972.

He was a tutor at the School of Art in Angouleme in France from 1981 -1992. During this time he also presented papermaking courses in the USA at the Pyramid Atlantic, Washington and Dieu Donne, New York. He also participated in various congresses and workshops on End Papers at the Congress Library in Iowa City, USA in 1992. During 1993 he ran courses at l'Institut National du Patrimoine, Paris, providing high level training courses for curators and conservators.

Jacques passion for handmade papermaking has kept this ancient mill going through some very difficult times. His dedication has now been recognised by the French Government who has awarded him the order of 'Chevalier de L'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres' for his contribution to knowledge and culture in France and in the world.

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