



CONSERVATION BY DESIGN LIMITED

A Larson-Juhl Company

Hand Made Cover Paper Workshop with Christopher Clarkson and Jacques Brejoux at Moulin Du Verger Paper Mill, France. 2012



Introduction

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 testing the qualities of handmade cover papers required in book conservation for sympathetic & durable rebinding.

Using 19th & 20th century linen rags to make handmade papers, Jacques Brejoux will demonstrate the techniques of fibre identification, pulping, refining, sheet forming, couching, loft drying etc.

Using a reproduction a Stamper and Hollander machine for the pulp process. Jacques will share his knowledge & discuss the technical aspects of paper as they relate to book conservation.

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Chris Clarkson, using Jacques' cover papers & some from other western mills, will discuss the technical qualities he requires in a handmade cover paper for use in rebinding period text-blocks. Chris will focus on cover paper qualities & their necessary requirements. His exemplars are the cover papers made & used on books of the Italian Renaissance & his teaching will concentrate on these as rebinding types for certain formats. Historically they are either limp or semi-limp binding structures, many of which use no adhesive but rely on particular qualities in the materials chosen & in the binding techniques used.

The qualities required in cover papers are tear & crease strength, abrasive resistance, fold shaping – not only considerations of structural support but also of smoothness of folds; the consideration of weight of sheet to format is also important. Happily these are also factors that play a part in the tactile enjoyment of such bindings.

Participants will benefit from the interchange, shared knowledge & skills, which will develop a joint understanding of the requirements of western style papers used in the conservation & rebinding of books & archival material and enjoy the tactile experience of handmade papermaking combining a five day stay in rural France.



Objectives

To give participants an experience of papermaking at a high level and of paper binding types of the 16th & 17th century; to inform understanding of the processes, terminology & requirements/considerations. The hands-on course alongside is designed to focus attention onto book conservation & paper binding matters. The hope is to gain some deeper knowledge of the advantages and restrictions of the various processes and the various/types of qualities & textures & marks achievable.



Perceived audience

Those interested in European paper documents, books & archives from the late thirteenth century, particularly curators, senior conservators and paper historians. The group size is likely to be a maximum of eight people and previous experience is necessary.

Content

Participants will be involved in the papermaking process, learning in detail about the fibre selection and preparation, traditional tools & equipment as well as new ideas & techniques. The application of short practical projects & bench tests will focus attention specifically on the physical qualities required in a handmade cover paper for book conservation purposes.

Teaching approach

Most of the teaching will be in the context of two practical workshops. Each session will be introduced by an illustrated talk followed by an opportunity to handle historical material and then it will be over to participants to make layered paper under supervision. It is hoped that the atmosphere will be informal, knowledgeable & serious. The course is based on looking at real examples, and packs of material have been brought together for this purpose. So as to provide some historical and visual context, each session will be introduced with an illustrated presentation. Thereafter we shall have fun, experiencing a mixture of confusion and elation as the subtle differences between processes reveal themselves.

No. of Participants

Eight

How time is divided

The programme is basically two days, after which the participant groups swap round. The extra day is the accumulated time, a visit to the Paper Museum and some time to explore the local area. We will be all together for joint lectures & discussions e.g. trying to express or show the qualities required in a cover paper essential to the success of what appears to be simple binding structures. Because the practical period is short & attention must be focused, the papermaking & binding types will be carefully selected, & the participants should have basic knowledge, experience & skill.

Language

The course will be conducted in English.

Meals

All meals, breakfast, picnic lunch and evening dinner will be provided with the course for those staying at our Gite accommodation. Those delegates that wish to stay independently will join the others for a picnic lunch at the mill.

Travel

- To / from our Gite accommodation to Mill – this is included in the Gite accommodation cost.
- To / from Angoulême -France – This will be the responsibility of the individual delegate.



General Information

1) Workshop Venue Location

- a. Moulin Du Verger 16th Century Mill. Puymoyen, near Angoulême in the Charente(Cognac) region of France

2) **Interests & events in the area** (for those contemplating a holiday before or after the workshop?).

- a. Tourist information www.visitcharente.com
- b. Architecture of the area, castles, country houses, churches and abbeys.
- c. River events, swimming, boat trips.
- d. Gym, rambling, mountain bike courses.
- e. Gastronomy, restaurants, world of cognac

3) **Accommodation** – Two simple and basic Gites full of character in the local Charente countryside.

- a. Accessibility – stairs, gravel drives
- b. Facilities – Own kitchen, outside seating area, large dining room
- c. Food local – Restaurants, bistro, shops and market in nearest town approx 6km away no amenities within walking distance
- d. Car parking – Room for approx 6 cars
- e. Distance from mill (near Angouleme) to Gite accommodation- 20 minutes by car
- f. Distance to Angouleme Town from nearest airport 30 minutes(Angoulême) or approx 1 hour (Poitiers)

4) **Travel & Transport**

- a. Daily chauffeur plus 6 people in people carrier/taxi to/from Gite to Mill
- b. **From within France:**
 - i. Bordeaux: 120 km
 - ii. La Rochelle: 130 km
 - iii. Limoges: 100 km
 - iv. Paris: 450 km
 - v. Poitiers: 115 km
- c. **From Europe:**
 - i. Amsterdam: 960 km
 - ii. Berlin: 1500 km
 - iii. Bruxelles: 755 km
 - iv. Geneva: 620 km
 - v. London: 845 km
 - vi. Madrid: 835 km
 - vii. Roma: 1510 km
- d. **Access by road**
 - i. Motorway A 10 Paris / Bordeaux exits Poitiers and Cognac
 - ii. **Travel information:** Bordeaux regional travel information centre : +33 5 56 96 33 33
- e. **By air**
 - i. Angoulême airport: +33 5 45 69 88 09
 - ii. Paris Charles De Gaulle airport + 33 5 48 62 22 80: 473km
 - iii. Poitiers airport: +33 5 49 30 04 40 Poitiers: 115 km
 - iv. Bordeaux airport: +33 5 56 34 50 50 Bordeaux: 120 km

- v. Limoges airport: +33 5 55 43 30 30
Limoges: 100 km (La Rochelle : 130 km)
 - vi. **Some Airline web sites**
 - vii. www.ryanair.com
 - viii. www.easyjet.com
 - ix. www.britishairways.com
- f. By TGV
- i. SNCF stations in Angoulême and Ruffec: +33 8 36 35 35
 - ii. Angoulême / Paris [18 TGV per day]: 2hrs 10mins
 - iii. Lille / Angoulême: 4hrs
 - iv. Roissy airport / Angoulême: 3hrs 10mins
 - v. Bordeaux / Angoulême: 55mins
 - vi. Hendaye / Angoulême: 3hrs 10mins
 - vii. London / Angoulême: 5hrs
 - viii. Brussels / Angoulême: 5hrs 20mins
 - ix. SNCF website www.sncf.co.uk or www.raileurope.co.uk/



5) Materials and equipment needed

- a. Materials – to be advised to delegates with booking confirmation details
- b. All raw materials provided
- c. Clothing such as Wellington boots and large aprons provided
- d. It can be cold within the mill even in summer with its thick walls bring warm work clothing.

This is a non-profit making venture

6) Costs

Workshop	Fee for 5 day	€1005.00	per person
Accommodation	5 nights full board	€370.00	per person (sharing twin room)
	5 nights full board	€490.00	per person (single occupancy)

