Matthew Carter

Genuine Imitations * A type designer's view of revivals

A NUMBER OF MATTHEW CARTER'S DESIGNS have been based on historical types, ITC Galliard, Big Caslon, Miller, Vincent, and the Yale typeface among them. Others, like Snell Roundhand and Mantinia, were derived from non-typographic sources from the past such as handwriting manuals and lettering in the work of painters. In this lecture he explains his debt to the historical legacy, and describes cases where historically-based designs have been adapted to the needs of contemporary clients. His type revivals have varied in faithfulness to their models, which raises questions about the responsibilities of the continuator of traditional forms, about degrees of interpretation, adaptation to current technology, ancestor worship, and travesty.



Saturday, December 3, 2016
2 PM The Museum of Printing
15 Thornton Ave, Haverhill MA
Free open to the public
A reception will follow the lecture





MATTHEW CARTER IS A principal of Carter and Cone Type, Inc., which he co-founded with Cherie Cone in 1991. He trained as a punchcutter at Enschedé and Zonen type foundry in the Netherlands, was a designer at Mergenthaler Linotype, and was co-founder in 1981 of Bitstream, Inc., the world's first independent digital type foundry. In 2010, Carter was honored as a MacArthur Fellow. He has designed over 60 typeface families and over 250 individual fonts reflecting a staggering variety of styles.

* Seating is limited, please RSVP at printinghistory.org * *