

National Art School

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Michael Isaachsen,
Curator,
Melbourne Museum of Printing

29 November 2008

Dear Michael,

As a senior lecturer in the Printmaking Department at the NAS in Sydney I visited the Melbourne Museum of Printing this year with a group of twenty five undergraduate printmaking students. We were on a "printmaker's tour" of Melbourne, visiting galleries, printing suppliers, studios and workshops. The last destination during our stay in Melbourne was the museum.

My students and I had a wonderful educational experience. Your lecture and tour provided a rare and valuable insight into our printing heritage and how it all works. We were also involved on a practical level, with hands-on typesetting and compositing, which the students found very exciting.

A number of my students have since been incorporating type into their undergraduate research projects, and are keen to extend their knowledge in this sadly endangered field. At least two are intending to visit the museum again, to engage in the studio program. I am hoping to visit again to further my research work in typography.

As there is no equivalent facility known to me in Sydney, I will be contacting colleagues in other institutions to suggest similar visits.

I trust that the museum will come to be recognised for its truly valuable cultural and historical significance and be supported by the authorities and industry.

By its collection, access studio and education, the Melbourne Museum of Printing is a unique resource. It is essential for it to thrive and continue providing education and research access in fine printing.

Thank you again for the opportunity.

Martin Stanley

Acting Head,
Printmaking Department