



# THE WEIGHT OF WORDS

In 2022 TYPA set out to extend its education project, working more closely with local universities and to pass on the skills of the paper and print heritage in Estonia. TYPA led several exchanges and print events aimed at leveraging intergenerational exchanges, between students of art and design and contemporary printworkers. The project aimed to preserve print, its skills and heritage. It was a successful year for the centre, working with Pallas University, The Estonian Academy of Arts and the University of Tartu. The project kicked off in January, with a unique workshop for the students of the Estonian Academy of Fine Arts. This was a unique opportunity for students to really acquire new skills in letterpress and traditional techniques in papermaking. This workshop was held over the course of 4 days in TYPA.

Each student learnt the skills of hand-composition, getting an insight into the historic techniques and processes which designers and printers once used on a daily basis. They were given the opportunity to design and create their own poster. However they were encouraged to work independently and see the project through from start to finish, under the guidance of TYPAs letterpress artist. The works created were diverse and ambitious.



This collaboration will be extended into Autumn semester, where the students will work with the University of Tartu, history of journalism department. In this coming semester TYPA will host the two students who have been set the challenge of researching newspaper trends from the national awakening in Estonia. They have been asked to come up with and develop their own newspaper, combining traditional concepts with contemporary news. It is the first course of this kind and it will continue into 2023, with a possible response from students from the Latvian Academy of Art in Riga. All we can say is stay tuned for more developments of this project.



It was not only university students who were the target group of our education project, but TYPA developed a new museum lesson for school children aged 12+. Kuidas uudised inimesteni jõuavad? Explained the history of newspapers, how they were written and produced and reached the everyday person. This history lesson is delivered with a TYPA twist, the chance for students to add their own headline and print the first page of a newspaper.



Thanks to the Estonian American Fund, we were able to train several interns in the art of papermaking and printing. We hosted 4 interns, who we trained in bookmaking, papermaking, letterpress printing and design. Interns worked with us for mostly 3 months, however we wish we could have hosted them for longer. In the past letterpress workers would have served 8 year apprenticeships before being deemed ready to work as full 'journeyman printers'. However, we were able to provide practical trainings, and experiences which prepared them for the world of work.

Among others, Heldin, a student of Pallas media design department drew, cut out of linoleum and printed these wonderful postcards of our museum cat Ruby.



Our longest intern Aalike researched into the history of Tartu printshops. With the help of our museum collections team and our designers, she created a large artistic mural. This was a 3 month long project and has only now been completed. It is an impressive tribute to the history of the city and will be cherished in our centre for many years to come.



