



FROM FORMAL TO GESTURAL - LOWERCASE ITALIC

This workshop has a whole different approach to so-called gestural writing. It is based on the observation that speed is not, though one may be tempted to think so, essential for good gestural writing. In this workshop we start from decent formal writing, explore what happens if we would speed up and then integrate these little variations into our script in a deliberate and well-considered way. Later on we do speed up and see how this affects the quality of the line. A series of purposeful exercises guides you step by step along the way so that you experience yourself the enormous range of possibilities in this field. In this workshop we'll deal with lowercase Italic and nibs only, although towards the end an occasional cap and a pointed brush are likely to make a cameo appearance.



SUPPLY LIST

1. White practice paper (size: app. 11x17 inches), not too smooth, not too rough (I use cheap photocopier paper) : make sure the paper doesn't bleed or allow the fibers to get easily stuck into the nib - test it.
2. A set of Speedball nibs and/or Brause nibs: make sure your tools are trustworthy, you will use them all the time. You will surely need a Speedball C3.
3. A Pentel Point Brush/a waterbrush
4. Black ink (Higgins, Pelikan, Parker), walnut ink.
5. A mechanical pencil, a ruler, a rag, a water jar, 3 different colours of gouache, a mixing brush
6. A carefully chosen line of text of about 5 words