



Contact and Information

Museum of the Printing Arts, Leipzig
Nonnenstraße 38 | 04229 Leipzig
Tel. +49 341/ 2 31 62 0 | info@druckkunst-museum.de

www.druckkunst-museum.de

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Mon — Fri 10 — 17 | Sun 11 — 17 | closed Saturday
Special arrangements on public holidays
Groups by arrangement

How to get there by public transport

Tram lines 1 and 2 → alight at Holbeinstraße

Tram line 3 → alight at Elsterpassage

Tram line 14 → alight at Nonnenstraße

Approximately five minutes' walk in each case

Car-parking opposite the museum (parking charges apply)



Eintrag im
Bundesweiten Verzeichnis
Künstlerische Drucktechniken des
Hochdrucks, Tiefdrucks, Flachdrucks,
Durchdrucks und deren Mischformen

Museum
of the
Printing Arts
Leipzig

Experience
the cultural
heritage
of printing
technology





Courtyard at Nonnenstraße 38, around 1930 © Esche Verlag



A historical printing press in action

A centre of industrial culture

Exclusively dedicated since 1994 to the art of printing, the museum successfully recreates the vibrant atmosphere of a fully-functioning workshop, with some 100 working machines and printing presses on four floors telling the story of 550 years of printing and media history. It demonstrates and preserves for posterity the artistic techniques of letterpress, gravure and flat printing — traditional crafts registered by the German Commission for UNESCO as part of the country's intangible cultural heritage.

The museum is housed in a listed building in the former industrial district of Leipzig-Plagwitz. As the home of one of the last historic print workshops in the city, the four-storey building can itself look back on more than a hundred years of tradition.

The core exhibits date back to the SchumacherGebler Collection — a unique assemblage of printing presses, lead type and typesetting matrices put together over several decades. In 1994 it opened as a workshop museum, and at the end of 1999 was transferred to a private foundation mainly funded by the Giesecke & Devrient Foundation and the City of Leipzig. The museum is part of Saxony's Route of Industrial Heritage.



Manual casting of lead type in the museum

Living processes

Visitors touring the collection can inspect a wide range of working equipment and machines for casting, type-setting and printing that date from a variety of epochs and provide an impressive illustration of the complex and laborious process of producing printed material — right down to the 20th century.

At the heart of the collection is the type foundry — one of the last of its kind in Germany. Here lead letters are still cast daily. An extensive collection of exhibits illustrates the development from manual to computerized typesetting. As well as various designs of typesetting machines (including linotype and monotype), phototyping machines and Mac computers are also on display.

Printing machines and presses from international manufacturers demonstrate the sector's innovative capabilities. The collection includes plate presses and toggle lever presses as well as a variety of designs of printing machines. Visitors are invited to try their hand at operating a selection of hand presses. And the collotype workshop, which is unique in Europe, offers an insight into a rarely-used technique. The collection also includes workshops for manual bookbinding, wood engraving and the printing of sheet music.



Printing of an etching

Hands-on involvement

A wide range of guided tours and workshops is available to enable children, young people and adults to experience the art of printing close at hand. The main focus is on practical work and experimentation with graphic techniques. The programme includes courses on manual typesetting and lino-cutting (relief), etching (gravure) and also creative courses on various aspects of printing. Holiday and school programmes and family workshops regularly take place in the workshops.

Throughout the year we also organise exhibitions on topics related to graphic printing, design and the history of media and printing. More Information can be found at **druckkunst-museum.de/en** under the heading of **Calendar**.

Become a Friend!

Join an active network of experts and enthusiasts in the field of printing and know that your annual subscription of a mere €55 will support the museum's activities. Further information on the benefits of membership can be found at **www.druckkunst-museum.de**