

# SHOWROOM

In a showroom experts and laymen can get an overview of the most important methods of printing form production, printing technology and bookbinding finishing, equally.

The exhibited bookprinting and bookbinding machines were specially restored for the Letterpress Museum. The machines, which are more than 100 years old, are still fully functional today. The work steps, that are involved in creating a book, are shown in showcases. A small collection of books shows the art of book printing.

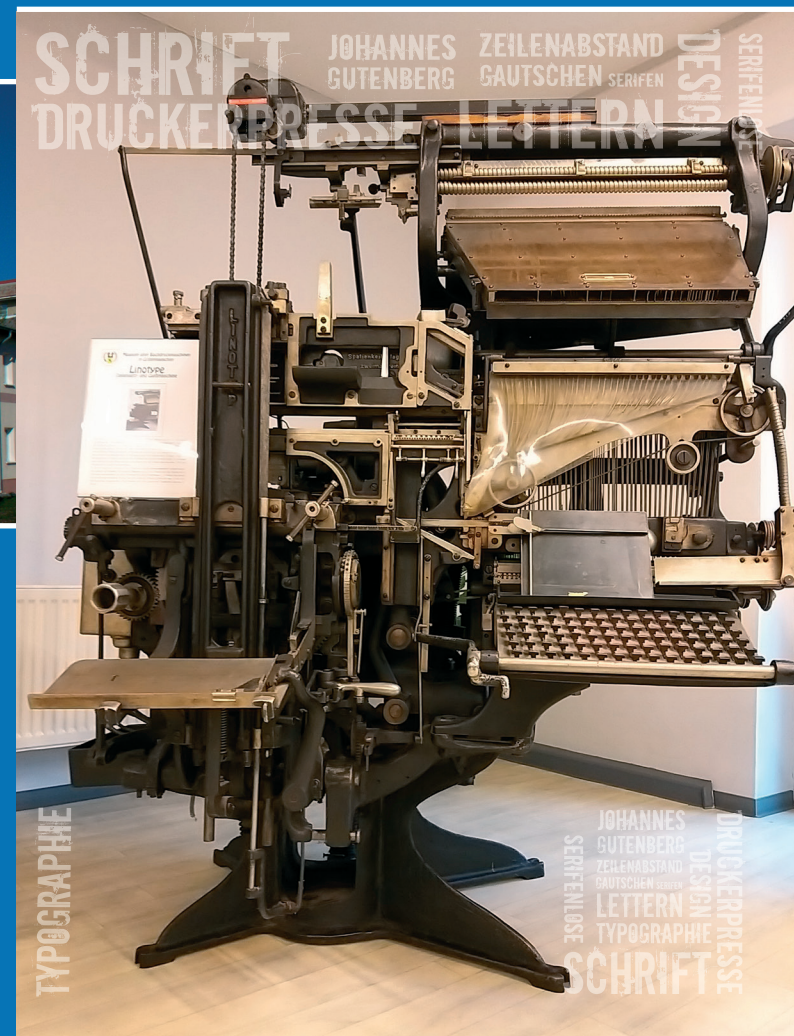
# CONTACT

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*The museum can be visited during the opening hours of the city library. Guided tours after pre-registration.*



# GRÄFENHAINICHEN LETTERPRESSMUSEUM



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# LETTERPRESS MUSEUM

There is a long tradition of „BLACK ART“ in Gräfenhainichen. The first printing house was founded 1874 by Carl Heinrich Schulze in our town. Due to the construction of the provincial highway Berlin-Wittenberg-Bitterfeld-Halle at about 1820 and putting the railway line Wittenberg-Bitterfeld into operation 1859 Gräfenhainichen was located very conveniently. Berlin and Leipzig were already headquarters of important publishing firms, institutes and world-famous concerns at his time. Under these conditions Gräfenhainichen developed into a book printing town and became famous for foreign language setting later.

On 3th October 1992 the grand opening of the Letterpress Museum in Gräfenhainichen took place in the former printing house of Carl Heinrich Schulze (Wittenberger Str. 67 a). The museum is located in the rooms of the modern equipped City library. There various printing machines and staplers are exhibited. The museum serves the purpose to draw the attention to the beginnings of the "Black Art" development in the age of technology. On the Art and History Trail around the Lake Gremminer See a scrapplastic is reminiscent at letterpress printing, too. Pupils and teachers inaugurated the "Retro Press" there 2018.



# HISTORICAL OUTLINE

- 01.10.1874** Founding of 1st bookprinting Schulze
- 01.01.1875** 1st newspaper of Gräfenhainichen („Indicator for Gräfenhainichen and surrounding) is printed.
- 1878** The printing house is relocated into Wittenberger Straße (current location of the Letterpress Museum).
- 03.09.1883** Book printers and typesetters of Gräfenhainichen organize themselves unionized. The founding of a local club in an „Association of the German bookprinters“ takes place.
- 1898** After Schulze´s temporary departure to Berlin the Company Herrose & Ziemsen takes over the printing.
- August 1900** Laying the printing Company Herrose & Ziemsen to Wittenberg, only the local newspaper appears furthermore in Gräfenhainichen.
- 01.10.1900** Wilhelm Hecker opens a new printing house in the abandoned rooms in Wittenberger Straße, which Schulze runs again.
- 1902** Founding of the printing house „Schulze & Co. GmbH“.
- 01.01.1904** Arthur Heine is founding another printing company.



# HISTORICAL OUTLINE

- 1914** The machine typesetting is introduced in book printing in the printing shop Schulze & Co. GmbH.
- 1919** Wilhelm Knaust is founding another print shop.
- März 1924** The „Gräfenhainicher Newspaper“ and the side issue „Zschornewitzer Newspaper“ are published.
- 1933** The publishers of „Gräfenhainicher Newspaper“ and „Gräfenhainicher Dailysheet“ connect.
- 1948** The enterprise „VEB Werkdruck“ develops from the expropriated companies, which specializes in manufacturing of difficult scientific setting.
- 1956** The enterprise „Werkdruck“ is subordinated to the „Akademie of Sciences“ Berlin.
- 1971** Inauguration of the new bookprinting construction („Werkdruck“) named „Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz“.
- 1990** After the decay of the „Academy of Sciences“ the company is Converted into an independent limited liability company (GmbH).
- 1995** The printing shop closes due to bankruptcy.

