

HALJA TYPEFACE

SPECIMEN

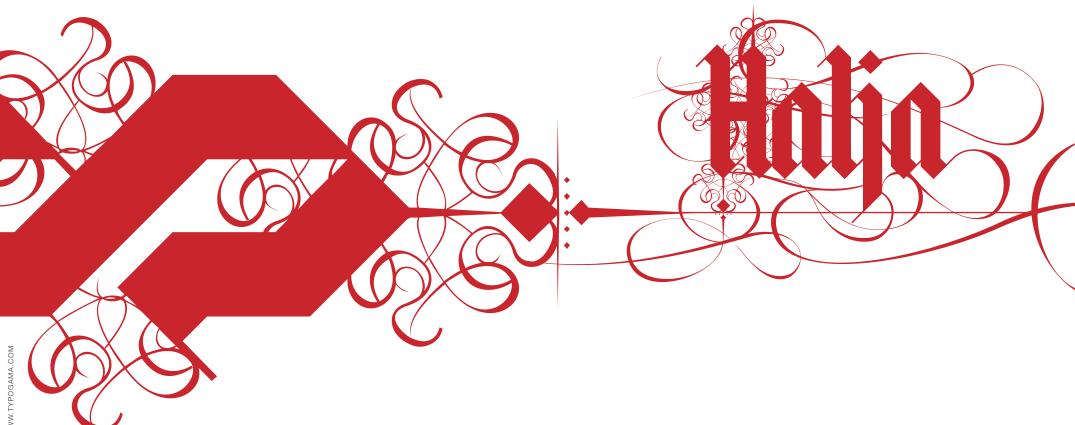
PAGE 4

SPECIMEN

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SPECIMEN

PAGE 5



The typeface family designed by

Michael Parson

The principal aim with this typeface was to create a geometric, precise blackletter font. I wanted to have a design that was both inspired by the historical blacketter designs but equally effective in a modern, urban setting. The result is a narrow, angular typeface with a heavy stroke contrast that help create tension and movement in the overall aspect. This feeling is accentuated by the extended serifs that overlap on type layouts, creating interesting forms and a heavy design. The letterforms are principaly inspired by traditional blackletter forms, a bold stroke mixed to a slanted, thin crossbar.

Due to it's heavy contrast, the Halja is not best suited for titles or big scale settings; I therefore decided to pursue in the direction by creating a set of 'illuminated' letterforms for the capitals. These illuminated letters are a hint at the elaborate designs used in historical prints and created another layout option for any future users. In my initial letterforms, I avoided elaborate capitals letters as I often found them difficult to use when setting in all caps. With these added capitals, I therefore had both my regular capitals for headline setting and a secondary, more designed set for a more text oriented setting.

During the work on the illuminated letterforms; I found the contrast between the rigid main form and the added swoosh very interesting. Having already made a few ligatures in the main font, I started experimenting on more intricate designs. But one creation led to the next, and I soon found myself with over ligatures with as many initial ligatures as I could think of. This final touch truly brought the typeface alive and has given me quite alot of fun in my first type setting trials.

The Halja is a traditional blackletter font with a twist of a flourish; mixing the straight, rigid mass with a host of possibilities for any future designers to play with...











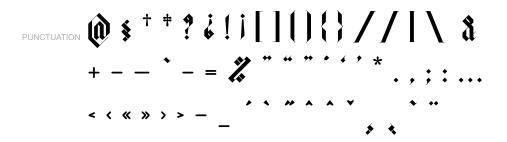
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LOWERCASE abcaefghijklmnopqrs tuowxy3

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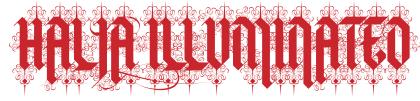
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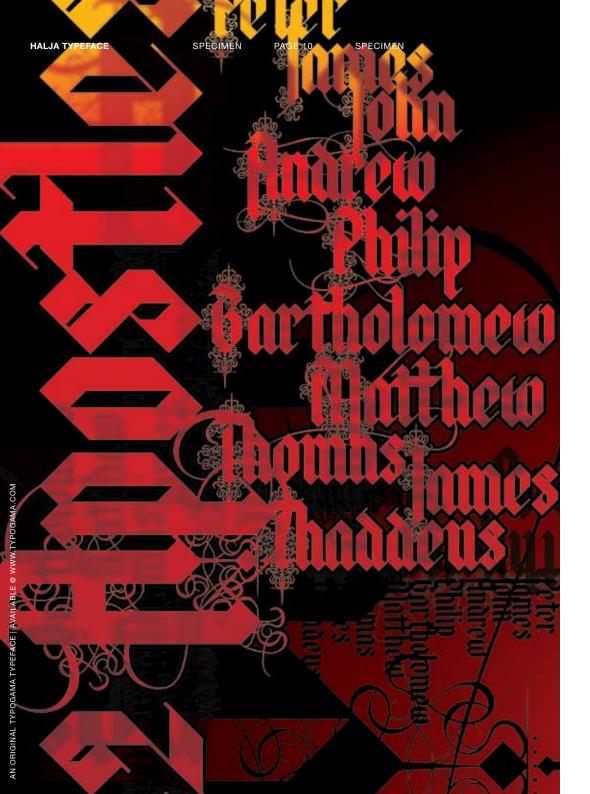
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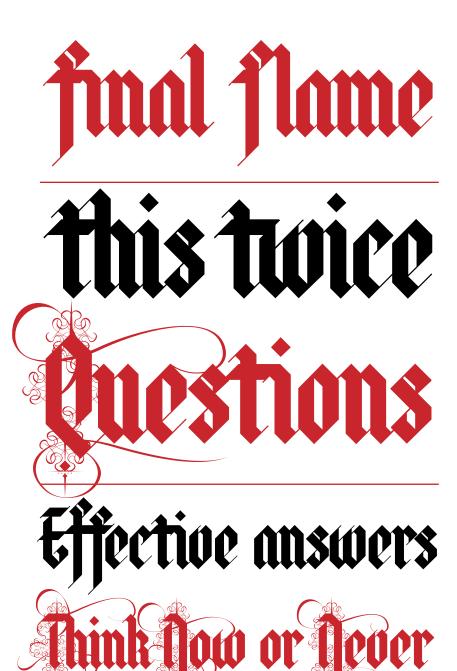




## STACKLETTER TYPE STATEMENT OF THE BEST & The worst



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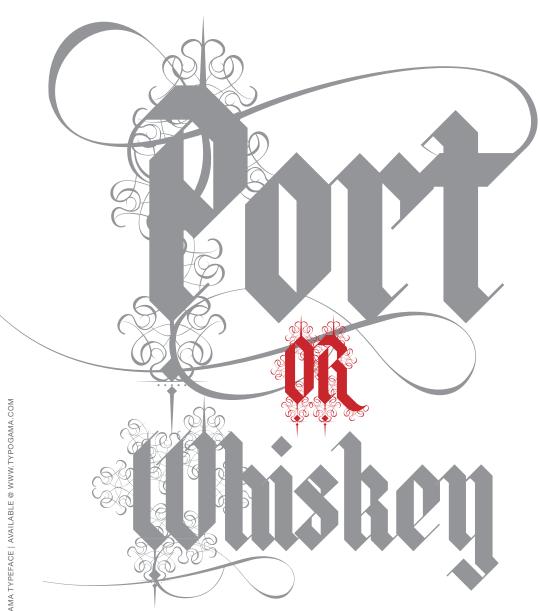


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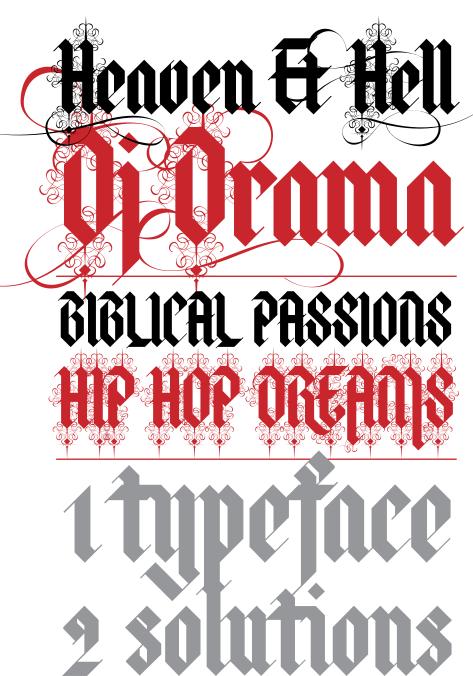
the has breat possessions there; her Units are Exceeding high find her Lates breat. Her Hall is called Sleet-Cold; her Vish, Hunger; Famine is Her Knife; Water, Her slave; Sloven, Her Maidservant; Pit of Stumbling, Her Threshold, by which one Enters: Visease, her bed: Cleaming Gale, her bed-Hangings. The is half blue Glack and Half flesh color by which she is easily kecognized, and very Lowering & Fierce.



Day was departing, and the embrowned air released the animals that are on earth from their fatigues; and I th only one. Made myself ready to sustain the war, both o the way and likewise of the woe, which memory that el not shall retrace. O Muses, O high genius, now assist me O memory, that didst write down what I saw, Here thy nobility shall be manifest! And I began: "Poet, who guide: me, regard my manhood, if it be sufficient, ere to the al ous pass thou dost confide me. Thou sayest, that of Silver the parent, while yet corruptible, unto the world immor

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## Halja Typeface

by Michael Parson 2 weights Display

www.typogama.com

Specimen Layout: Michael Parson Text & visuals: Michael Parson Font used: Halja Longer text & notes set in Helvetica Neue.

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