



Ruth Artmonsky

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A macramé of players in the revival of British printing in the twentieth century

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- **Printing People** celebrates the role of the traditional printing press and the individuals involved in the revival of British printing in the twentieth century

The inter-war years saw a revival of interest in print, not merely as a technical means of reproduction but aesthetically as a medium for communicating meaning. The private press movement burgeoned, intent on moving printing towards being an art form. But at a more earthy level came the Monotype Corporation from America with its technical sophistication, and, after WWI, its publicist Beatrice Warde, a missionary nationwide for printers to become proud creative professionals. And along side all this came a flurry of 'little' journals, specifically setting out to better the aesthetic standards of printing, whilst the main printing journal – the *Penrose Annual* – was shifting its focus from technical matters to graphic design.

Although a few such names as Stanley Morrison, are well-recorded, as key players in all this activity, there were many enthusiasts who devoted their working lives to raising printing standards, now long forgotten; in **Printing People** now to be given their time in the limelight.

