

WEBSITE PROPOSAL

**Redesigning the
Philippe Masson
Ex Libris Collection**



Prepared For :
INFS 634

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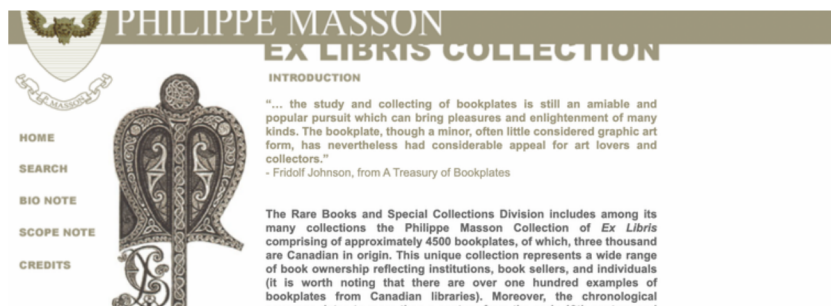
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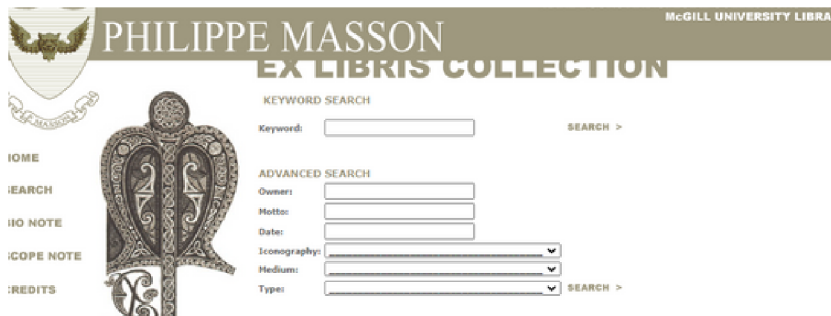
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OUR MOTIVATIONS

- The current design is outdated (2002) and we do not consider it aesthetically pleasing.



- The website's main purpose is to allow users to look through the Philippe Masson Collection; however, the navigation is frustrating for users because there are too many steps and limitations for viewing its content.
- Consequentially, users need to be knowledgeable of bookplates and/or of the workings of the current search feature of the website to view the collection, i.e., not user-friendly.





ABOUT MCGILL RARE BOOKS AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The Rare Books and Special Collections is a division of the McGill University Library dedicated to the collection of rare items since the 1850s.

The Philippe Masson Collection is one of their "unique" and niche collections that contains more than 4,000 bookplates. The collection has been fully digitized with the goal of allowing the McGill library's user community to view its content online.

Missions

"[...]to actively support the teaching, learning and research needs of McGill students and faculty from all disciplines, and the wider scholarly community"

McGill University. (n.d.). About Rare Books and Special Collection.
<https://www.mcgill.ca/library/branches/rarebooks/about>

"[to] honour [the Philippe Masson bookplate] collection and its importance for the study of the book and print culture in general."

McKnight, D. (September, 2002). *Philippe Masson Ex Libris Collection*. <https://digital.library.mcgill.ca/bookplates/index.htm>

THE PROJECT

Goals:

- Create a user-friendly and aesthetically appealing website.
- Upgrade the search function as per current design standards to allow easier retrieval of digital bookplates.
- Add browsing feature with bookplate thumbnails.

Target Audiences:

- Researchers
- Students
- General public

WEBSITE SECTIONS

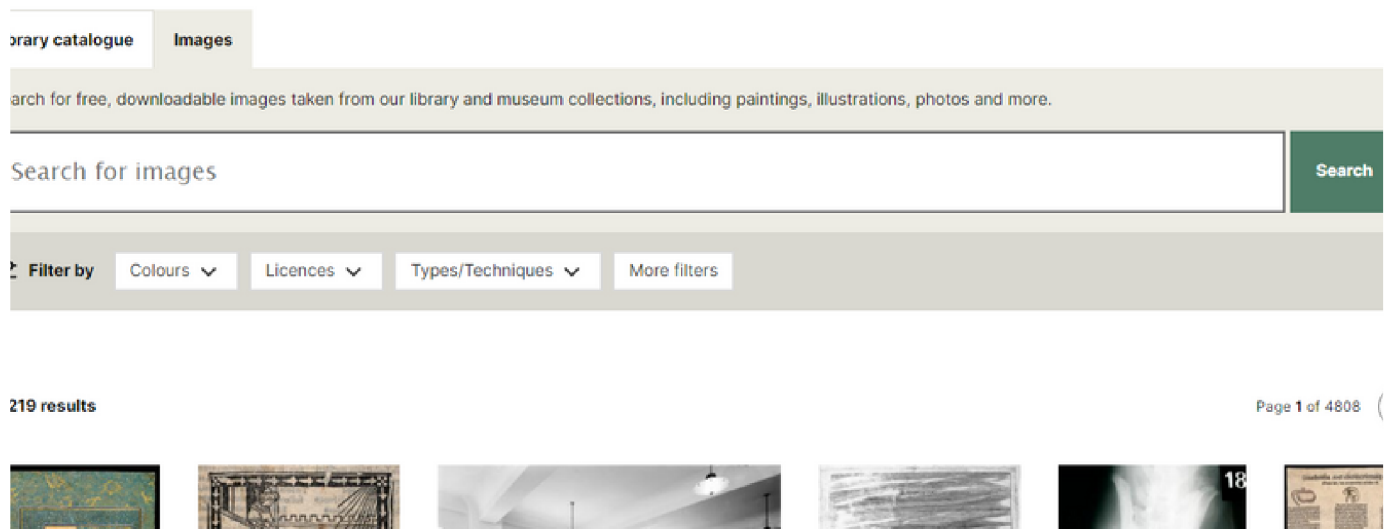
Home, About, Browse/Search are the expected sections.

The home page will feature a random bookplate with a short description with a link to the search/browse feature for the collection.

A horizontal navigation menu will be used to filter/search and browse the bookplates. The Wellcome Collection image browse/search feature can be used as a guide (see screenshot below).

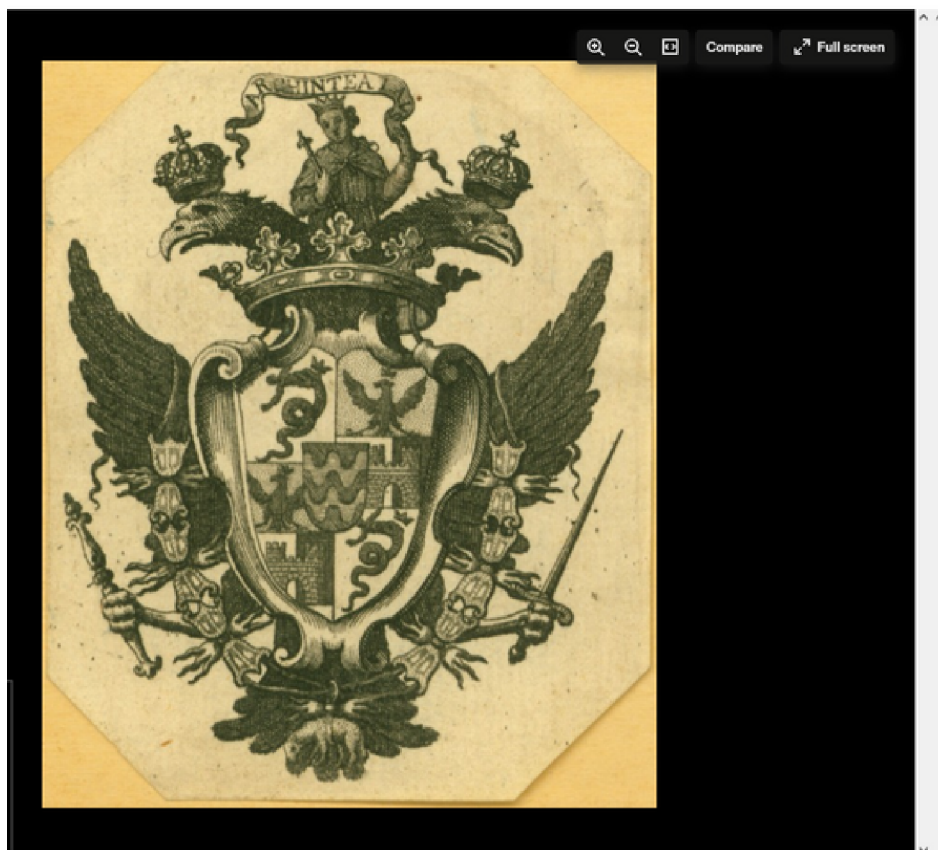
The name of the collection, Phillipe Masson Ex Libris Collection, and the logo will be in the header.

The footer will feature links to: contact information, credits for the website, McGill University and copyright, McGill University Library Digital Collections, and McGill Rare Books & Special Collections.



WEBSITE SECTIONS

Additionally, each bookplate will have a detailed page/window featuring a high resolution scan and design information (date, designer, medium, iconography, appearance, type, owner, bookplate number, volume, references, etc.).





DESIGN GUIDELINES

The website should have a straight-forward, minimalist and modern look. Fonts will be traditional style.

The colour palette should be simple and include the colour red.

The current website logo (crest in upper left-hand corner in screenshot below) should be redesigned to fit new modern look and/or the McGill crest logo should be used.

The redesigned website should be easily navigable with features that prioritize the images of the bookplates.

We are eager to begin the challenge of redesigning the Philippe Masson Ex Libris Collection.



Thank you!