

Alex Blattmann

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alexblattmann.ch

Type Designer & Font Developer

Work Experience

Pre-type design

- Freelance architectural draftsman, Switzerland (1999–2002)
- Large-scale print operator, TechnoFot AG, Switzerland (2002–2003)
- Head of Prepress Digital & Offset, Buchdruckerei Turbenthal AG, Switzerland (2006–2012)

Type design

- Internship, [Dalton Maag](#), London (2012)
- Type Designer / Font Developer, Dalton Maag, London (2012–2024)
- Lead role for internal type training and onboarding program, Dalton Maag (2018–2022)
- Team Manager, Dalton Maag (2022–2024)
- Self-employed (since 2024)

Education

- Apprenticeship in Architectural Drafting, Switzerland (1995–1999)
- Apprenticeship in Polygraphy (Typography, Lithography, Prepress), Buchdruckerei Turbenthal AG (2003–2006)
- Typographic Designer, SFG Zürich, Switzerland (2008–2010)

Languages

- German / Swiss German (native)
- English (fluent)
- Dutch (proficient)
- French (conversational)
- Italian (elementary)

Lectures, workshops, talks

- Tag der Typografie, [SfGZ Zürich](#), Switzerland – Schrift, Schriftsysteme, Sprachen – Globalisierung der Schrift – with Bruno Maag (2012)
- Swiss Publishing Days – Was steckt alles in einem Font – with Lukas Paltram (2013)
- Swiss Publishing Days – Emoji und Icons – with Lukas Paltram (2015)
- Swiss Publishing Days – Fonts for e-Readers – with Lukas Paltram (2017)
- Visiting Lecturer, SFGZ Zürich, Switzerland – Typographic Design (2012–2018)
- Visiting Lecturer, [ECAL University of Art and Design Lausanne](#), Switzerland – Master Type Design (2019)
- Type workshops and agency talks during the time at Dalton Maag (2012–2024)

Awards

- [Granshan Competition](#) 2016: Arabic–Latin Typefaces, Effra, Special Mention

Typeface releases

- [Aktiv Grotesk](#), Dalton Maag (2015)
- [Bressau Arabic](#), Dalton Maag (2019)
- Additional information and detailed project portfolio available on request.

Skills & Expertise

Font development

- Design services: Exclusive custom typefaces, retail typefaces, typeface modifications, language and character set extensions, wordmark creation and refinement
- Researching scripts and writing systems
- Drafting concepts and executing typeface designs
- Conducting design reviews and QA checks
- Building modular test documents for context related design reviews
- Engineering and testing font builds
- Final release checks

Font engineering / hinting

- Fontmake, FontTools, and Dalton Maag's proprietary production/hinting techniques
- Applying manual and automated hinting

Variable Fonts

- Planning, designing, and managing large variable design spaces

Scripts / writing systems

- Latin, Arabic, Bengali, Cyrillic, Devanagari, Georgian, Greek, Gujarati, Thai, Vietnamese

Process and collaboration

- Defining best practices and design recommendations for the developer team
- Prototyping and optimizing workflows for efficiency, consistency, and scalability
- Contributing to and maintaining internal documentation and knowledge base
- Managing repositories for scripts and automation tools
- Collaborating with software and IT teams on technical workflow integration
- Fostering knowledge-sharing to strengthen confidence and expertise across developers

Coding / scripting

- Applying basic knowledge in Python, HTML, and CSS
- Applying AI tools for basic production automation tasks

Tools & environments

- **OS:** macOS, Windows
- **Font editors:** Glyphs, FontLab Studio 5, FontLab 7/8, Fontra, FM2
- **Production:** DTL tools (OTM, CPMA), Font Goggles, Hibizcus
- **Hinting:** Visual TrueType (VTT), Pixelfix (Dalton Maag's proprietary VF auto hinting tool)
- **QA:** Fontbakery, Fontinspector, fontTools
- **Version control:** GitLab (incl. Dalton Maag's proprietary pipeline), GitHub, Fork (git client)
- **Command line:** VS Code, Cmdr, Terminal
- **Design software:** Adobe CC, Affinity, Figma

Work management & productivity: Slack, Google Workspace, Microsoft Office Suite, Slab, LiquidPlanner, Dalton Maag's proprietary planner system

Project management

- Planning, scheduling, and coordinating project phases with stakeholders and collaborators
- Coordinating communication between internal teams, external collaborators, and stakeholders

Team management

- Direct line management responsibilities for up to four junior to mid-level font developers
- Assigning resources and balancing workloads
- Nurturing collaboration and open communication
- Ensuring high product quality and consistency

Training and teaching

- Additional information available on request.

Graphic and typographic design

- Additional information available on request.