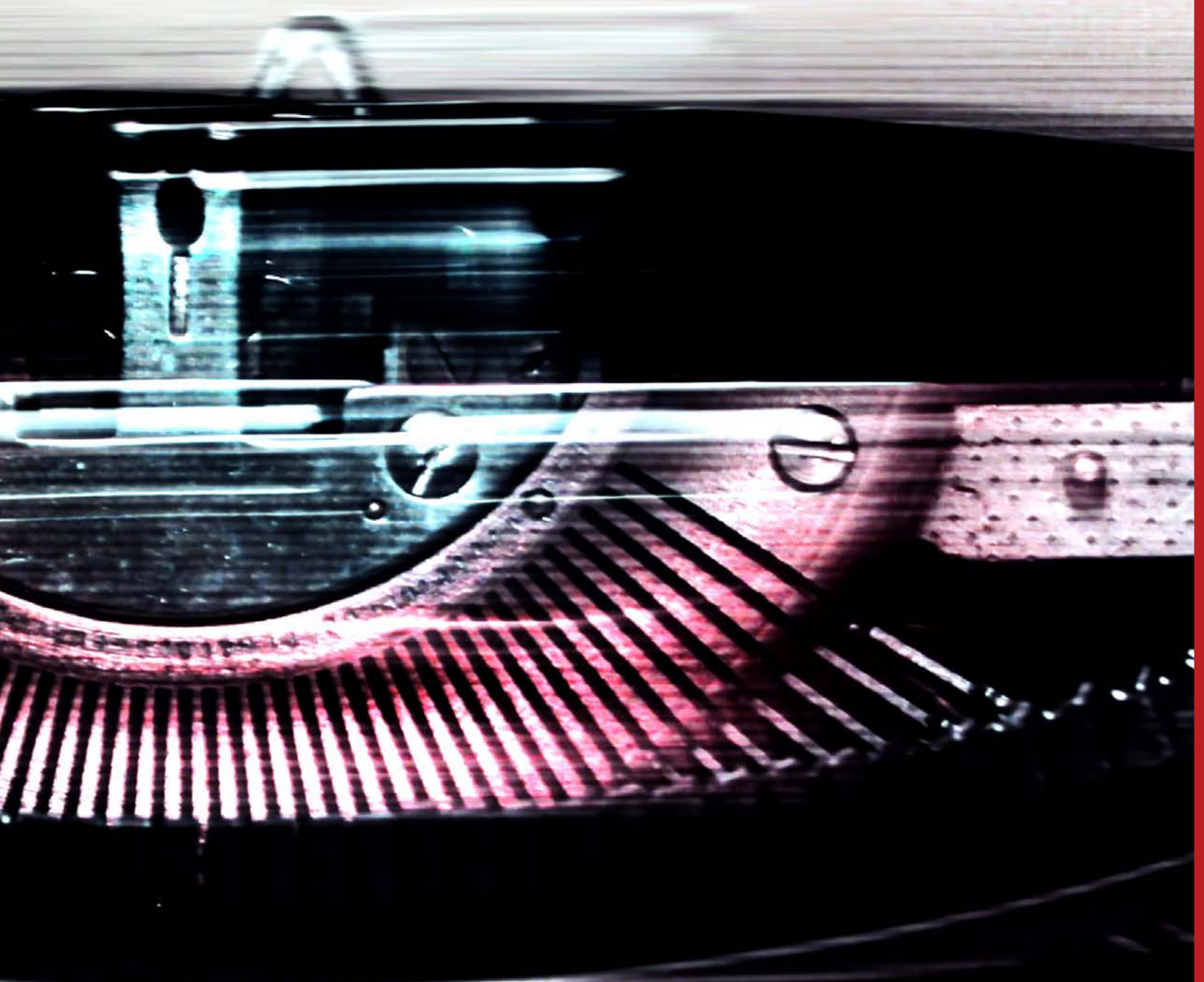


OBJECT IMPACT

From the invention to the shadows that remain...



The Typewriter

ISSUE #10 — April 2022

“Today in the 21st century the typewriter is still alive...
Its' shadows are hidden in everyday things.”

— Editor



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The typewriter is a fascinating peculiar object...

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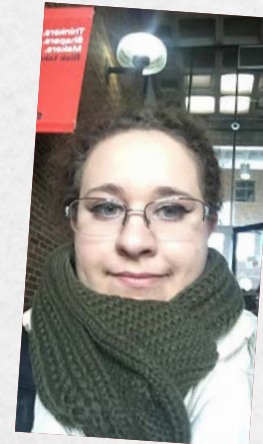
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Authors & The Typewriter... Click... Clack... Click...



Editor's Note

What the History of Objects Means to Me.

To me the history of objects is one of the most fascinating research topics as everything — be it small or large has an origin and a story of its own to tell. It is not just the notion of a timeline history but the knots and swivels hidden within these timelines that are interesting. Unheard of details hidden in some concealed nook or cranny of a mechanism are the little gems that I find the most unique and worthwhile to search for and discuss. The past to modern discourse is the best thing to dive into head first as the deeper you look the more unusual your finds can become.

The Object Impact in a Nutshell

An invention or "object" as we call it is more than what it once was but what it has become today. The Object Impact is a magazine that exposes readers to the life of the featured invention from its birth to its eternal shadow in the modern things around us as well as how the invention itself transformed or affected the formation of the present world.

THE TYPEWRITER

From invention to the shadows that remain...

Pg. 12 — 17

The monotonous clicking sound of the typewriter often makes us think of romantic ideas, nostalgic feelings, and wonder of a mechanism invented a little more than one hundred years ago.



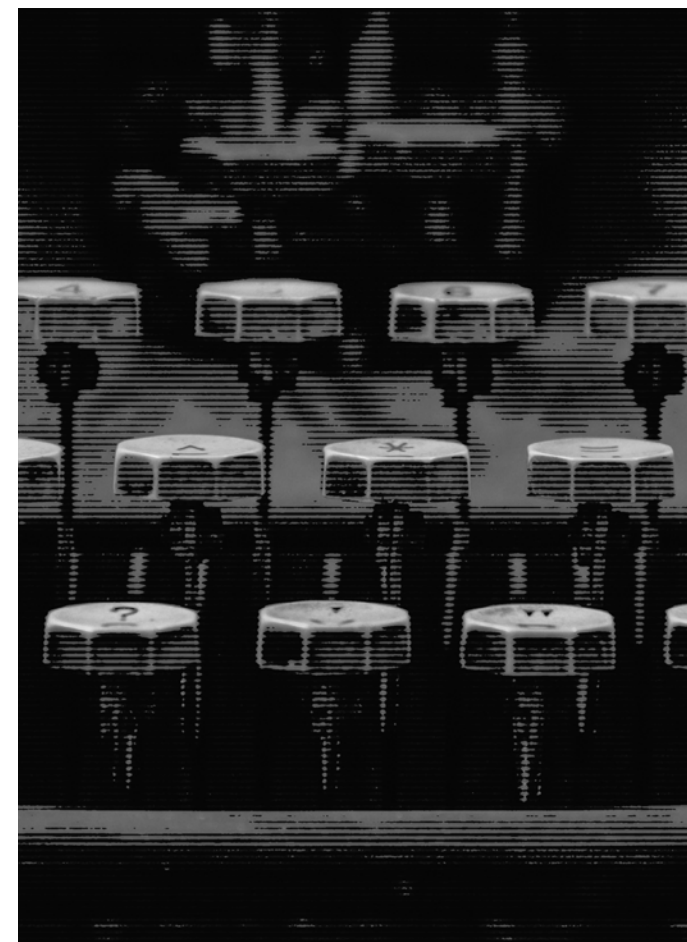
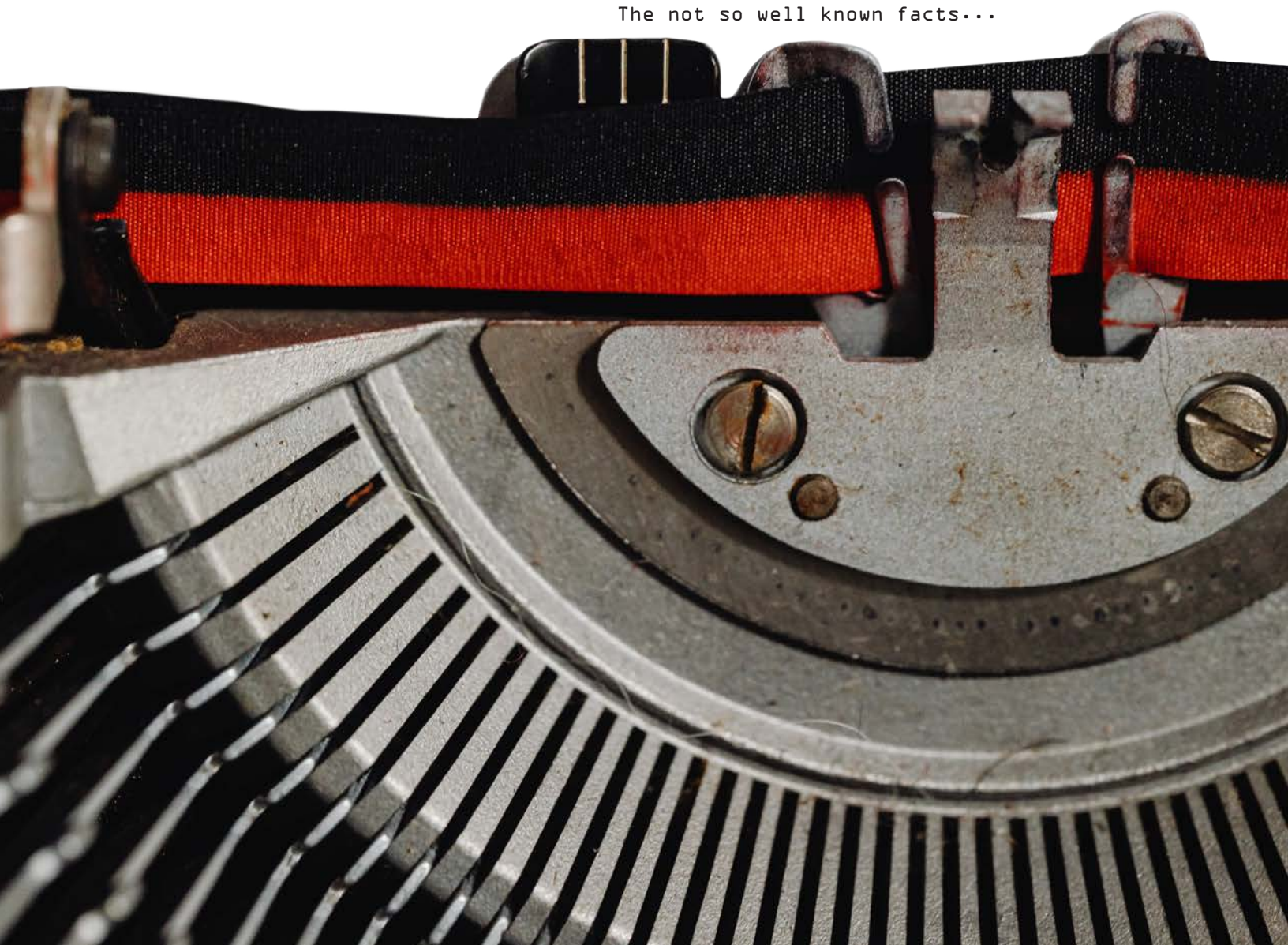
Peculiar Did You Know?

The typewriter is a fascinating peculiar object...



Images by Anna Balabanova
4th year student AUArts

The not so well known facts...



Did You Know. . . The first typewriter was not the one whose main patent is accepted world wide? The first patent for the typewriter dates back to 1714; issued by the early 18th-century inventor from England, Henry Mill. He named his invention, the “Machine for Transcribing Letters.” Initially his invention was meant to assist a blind Countess by the name of Carolina Fantoni da Fivizzano. Sadly, there are no records of the appearance of this machine but there are letters that were written by the Countess do exist.

Extra Tid-bit!

The Hansen Writing Ball typewriter is the first documented typewriter of the time — more on this machine on page 20. This device was designed decades after Henry Mill designed his “Machine for transcribing letters” but became the first to legally possess the patent for the term ‘typewriter’.

Did You Know. . . The first typewriters were in a sense Piano – Typewriter hybrids? Early typewriter keyboards were designed to resemble piano keys. The primary reason for this is that in the 1700s and 1800s, the few people who were literate and wealthy enough to afford a typewriter would find the typewriter more familiar if it resembled their more common possession — a piano. That familiarity with the keys of a piano made it seem intuitive when typing on the same setup of keys on the typewriter.

Extra Tid-bit!

At the time of its initial invention the typewriter was so novice and peculiar that people did not accept its purpose. There are 88 characters on a typewriter keyboard, and there are also an equal number of keys on a classical piano. With this factor the psychological association of the piano with the typewriter created an unconscious favorable and relatable association.



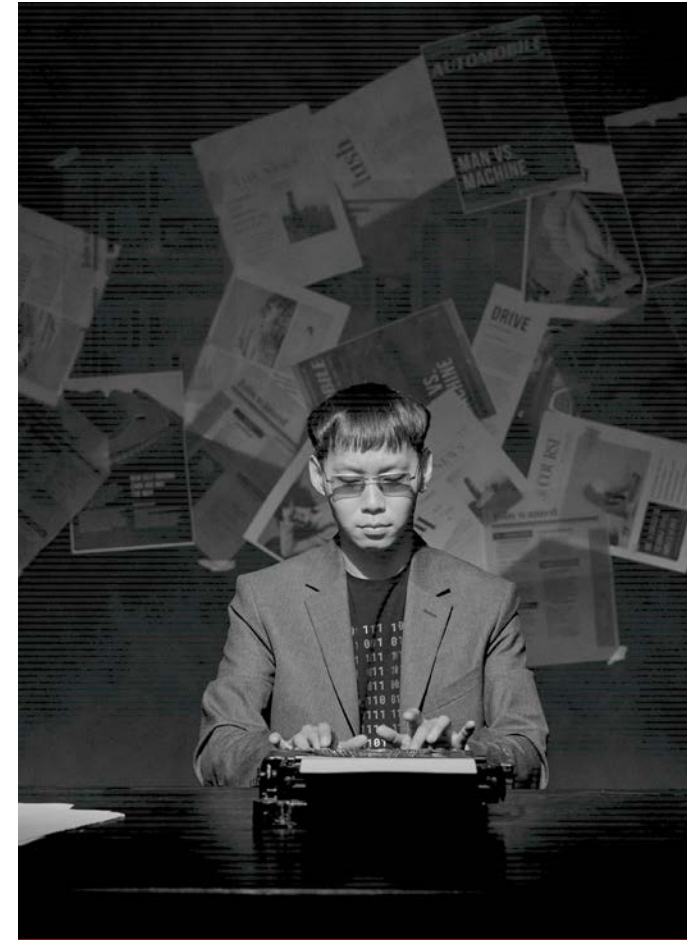


Photo of Agatha Christie
Source - Artstor.com

Did You Know. . . Women were the ones who took the use of the typewriter into the world beyond the home? At the turn of the century the typewriter was used to transcribe information. Roughly 80% of early 'typewriters' — one who uses a typewriter to transcribe words — was designated for women. While the reasons for this designation were quite sexist, and social change didn't come about too quickly, the role provided a foot in the doorway for modern feminism.

Extra Tid-bit!

Agatha Christie is one of the best female mystery novelists of her time! She wrote the *Ms. Marple* book series, the *Poirot Mysteries* book series, as well as *Murder on the Nile*, and her personal favorite the *Crooked House*. During her life Agatha Christie wrote many other fantastic works which were later made into some of the best mystery films of our time.



Did You Know. . . There is still a use for mechanic typewriters today? There are people who use typewriters for their aesthetic value and feel. There are also places where — primarily in India — there is no reliable power source, where mechanical typewriters are still in wide practical use to this day.

Extra Tid-bit!

Today both electrical and mechanical typewriters are used, yet mechanical typewriters are more valuable for their whimsical aesthetic. To this day mechanical typewriters hold a greater significance in the eyes of collectors and some models are especially sought after by treasure hunters. You can find more information about collecting typewriters and their monetary value in the Collector Craze article found on page 23 of our issue.

Did You Know. . . Who was the author that wrote the first ever novel manuscript on a typewriter? The first typed book manuscript was written on a Remington typewriter by none other than Mark Twain. Mark Twain's *Life on the Mississippi* is said to be the first ever book to be submitted to a publisher after being fully typed on a typewriter.

Extra Tid-bit!

Not all authors have very legible handwriting. Honestly, most creative people have very messy handwriting; this can be explained simply as their thoughts appear faster than they can write them down in an orderly manner! Thus, the existence of the typewriter made it so much easier for editors, publishers and typesetters involved in the printing process.

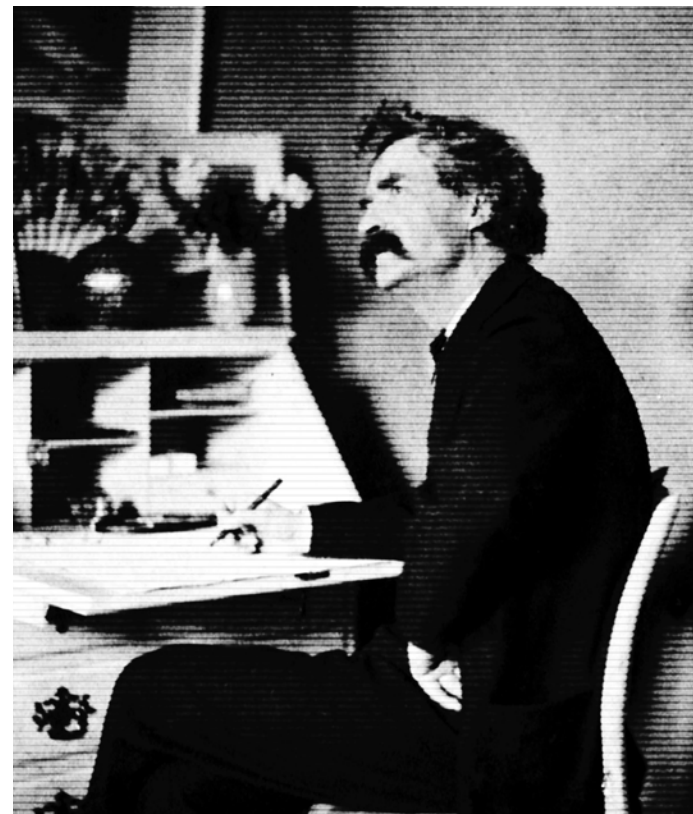


Photo of Mark Twain writing
Source - Artstor.com

Did You Know. . . Typewriters are used in the creation of film sound effects? Often when you hear the sound of typing in a film it is a recording of the quieter typewriters typing as it is found that they have a clearer and more satisfactory clicking sound than a real keyboard.

Extra Tid-bit!

Let us recommend a TV series for you to watch!

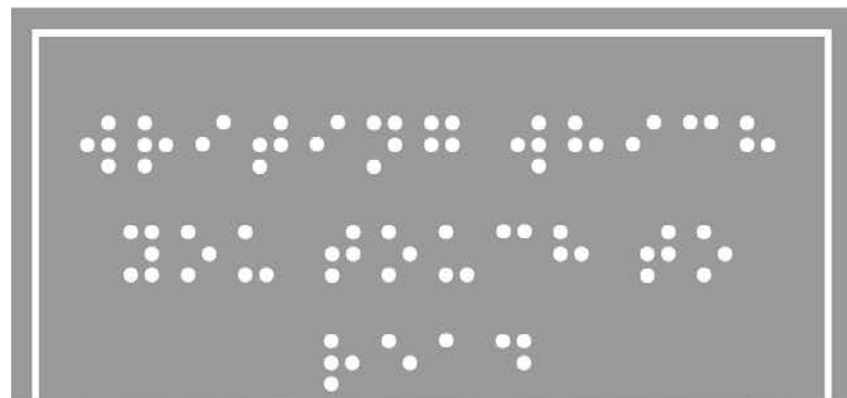
Murdoch Mysteries: Set in the 1890s Canada Toronto area this series follows one William Murdoch, a detective who has a knack for criminology. He uses radical forensic techniques for the time, including fingerprinting, to solve some of the city and surrounding areas most gruesome murders. Among all else in this series you can expect to find many inventions from around the world and their connections to Canadian history.



Invention Today

A typewriter for the blind!

Writing which you must touch to read...



Writing and reading is not only something for those that can see well. Like those of us that can see well those that have impaired vision have also been reading and writing for decades, although the format of this process is a little different. Those that are visually impaired have been reading and writing in braille since the 19th century. Braille is a touch sensory format of representing letters, numbers, some whole words and symbols through combinations of dots within a set rectangular space attributed per each individual symbol. Although initially written manually by hand the process of writing braille evolved through the creation of a brailier — a typewriter for the visually impaired.



The Invention of Braille

The Braille system itself was invented by Louis Braille in the 1820s. It has been prevalent form the 19th century until current day — braille is a tactile writing system of raised dots used by the blind. At the time this was a breakthrough for people who are visually impaired as unlike earlier embossed-letter reading systems. Braille could be used to both read and write, but initially writing braille was a tedious manual process of working with a slate and stylus which was rather slow.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	#	.	,

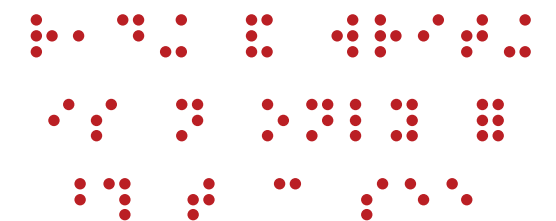
Extra Tid-bit!

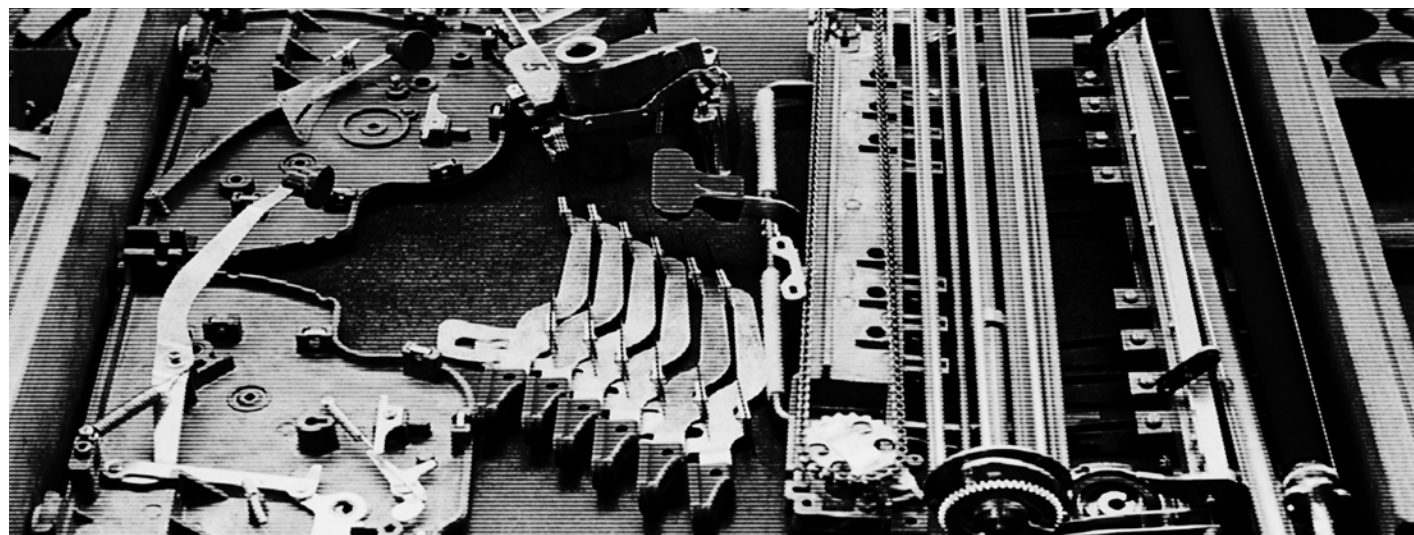
The origins of the brailier go back to a time way before the actual invention of braille itself. In fact, it was not even a 'brailier' at the time but rather a regular typewriter used by a visually impaired Countess, Carolina Fantoni da Fivizzano in Italy 1808; there is no record of what the machine looked like, but specimens of letters written by the countess have remained intact to our time.

!	?	:	:
-	'	'	()
SPACE	/	"	"
[]



“Writing and reading is not only for those that can see...”





The Invention of the Braille

Extra Tid-bit!

In 2012 the company Perkins Solutions developed the Perkins SMART Braille; a new learning technology that offered the sighted and the visually impaired, an opportunity to communicate, teach, and learn braille. With the SMART Braille, teachers could now easily decipher what their students are brailleing, sighted parents can help their visually impaired children with homework, and students could take the lead in their own braille education.



In the 19th century attempts were made to invent machines to speed up the braille writing process. Many early braille designs held paper flat in a frame and embossed braille on the surface of the paper while other braille designs punched holes along a paper tape. However, none of these braille machines were neither practical nor were they sturdy and portable; in fact they were quite loud as well as bulky.

Finally in the year 1892, Frank H. Hall, the superintendent of the well known Illinois School for the Blind, invented a braille machine that was the first to find wide acceptance among visually impaired users. Hall's invention was inspired by the form and function of the typewriter but greatly simplified for the braille writing system. The braille machine had a simple six-key keyboard where each of the six keys corresponds to one of the six dots of the standard braille cell. Furthermore the machine also had a roll-up carriage that accommodated the common 11-inch-wide standard paper.

This initial braille typewriter was then prototyped further and refined for more convenient usage and production. By 1951 the Perkins Braille machine appeared in the niche market and to this day is viewed by many as the prime mechanical braille typewriter in the world along with the modern electrical and digital braille machines.

Today there are also braille machines designed to hook up to computers thus, allowing the visually impaired to have the ability to write digitally. Nonetheless the mechanical braille machine still finds its purpose in the modern world of the 21st century.



“The mechanical braille still finds its purpose in the modern world of the 21st century.”



A Blind & Deaf Author – Helen Keller



Photo of Helen Keller receiving a Perkins Braille from E.J. Waterhouse
Source - Artstor.com

Helen Keller is an author and disability rights advocate; but among all else what makes her really unique is the fact that she was deaf-blind since her childhood.

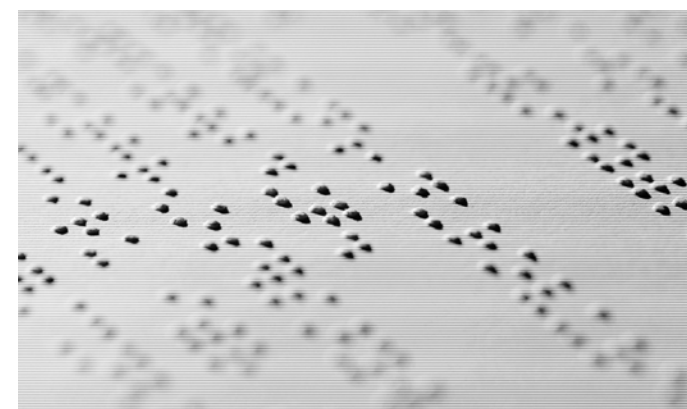
In 1904 she became the first person who was deaf-blind to graduate from Radcliffe College with a Bachelor's degree.

While attending College Helen Keller had an interpreter finger-spelling lecture material into her hand which she then typed up on her typewriter from memory.

In her life Helen Keller used multiple typewriters among which were a few for the seeing but then, in great part thanks to her benefactors, in College she began using the Perkins Braille.

As an author she wrote multiple books which are still being read by the modern audience. Among her writing the most well-known is her personal biography *The Story of My Life*.

World Braille Usage



“World Braille Usage” is a large archive of braille codes for 133 languages from around the globe, the first publication dating back to 1953. This archive is a virtually accessible resource of guidelines for proper braille usage worldwide; specifically referring to consistency within set braille codes of languages from around the world.

Furthermore, beginning in the early 2000s “World Braille Usage” archive began to develop and preserve braille codes of rare and endangered languages.

THE TYPEWRITER

From invention to the shadows that remain...

First invented in 1714

Patented in 1868



Photo by Riley Bayton
& Joe Thompson
Source - Pexels.com

Photo by Florian Klauer
Source - Unsplash.com

Images by Anna Balabanova
4th year student AUArts

The monotonous clicking sound of the typewriter often makes us think of romantic ideas, nostalgic feelings, and wonder of a mechanism invented a little more than a hundred years ago.

The typewriter is one of the most fascinating inventions of its time. As the name suggests the typewriter is a machine for writing characters through a method where steel types that correspond with a keyboard strike an automatically fed paper through an inked ribbon. Although there are also some machines where the steel type contacted an inking pad prior to imprinting on the paper similar to the old cast iron printing press.

The initial concept of the typewriter can be dated back to 1714, when Englishman Henry Mill filed a vaguely-worded patent for an artificial machine for transcribing of letters progressively one after another. Yet, the first actually functioning typewriter was built by Pellegrino Turri — an Italian inventor — in 1808 for his blind friend Countess Carolina Fantoni da Fivizzano; unfortunately, there is no record of what the machine looked like other than another vague patent description, but specimens of letters written by the Countess have remained to our time.

On the 23rd June 1868, the typewriter was reinvented and patented by an American inventor Christopher Latham Sholes (1819-1890). He invented a more practical form and mechanism of the typewriter which had the ability to write at a speed far exceeding that of a pen. This initial typewriter prototype was still quite bulky and had no shift key mechanism so it typed in capital letters only.

Sholes first typewriting machine was a really crude piece of work made with part of an old table, a circular piece of glass, a telegraph key, a piece of carbon paper, and piano wire. After much refinement Sholes made an improved prototype resembling a toy piano in appearance. Currently a specimen of this prototype exists in the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History.

Between 1868 to the late 1880s Christopher Latham Sholes worked with one James Densmore — an American inventor and businessman — on refining the mechanism and then recruiting the machines' first mass manufacturer; E. Remington & Sons, in New York. Later in 1873 Christopher Latham Sholes sold his patent rights for \$12,000 to the Remington Arms Company — a firm well equipped with machinery and skill — to carry out

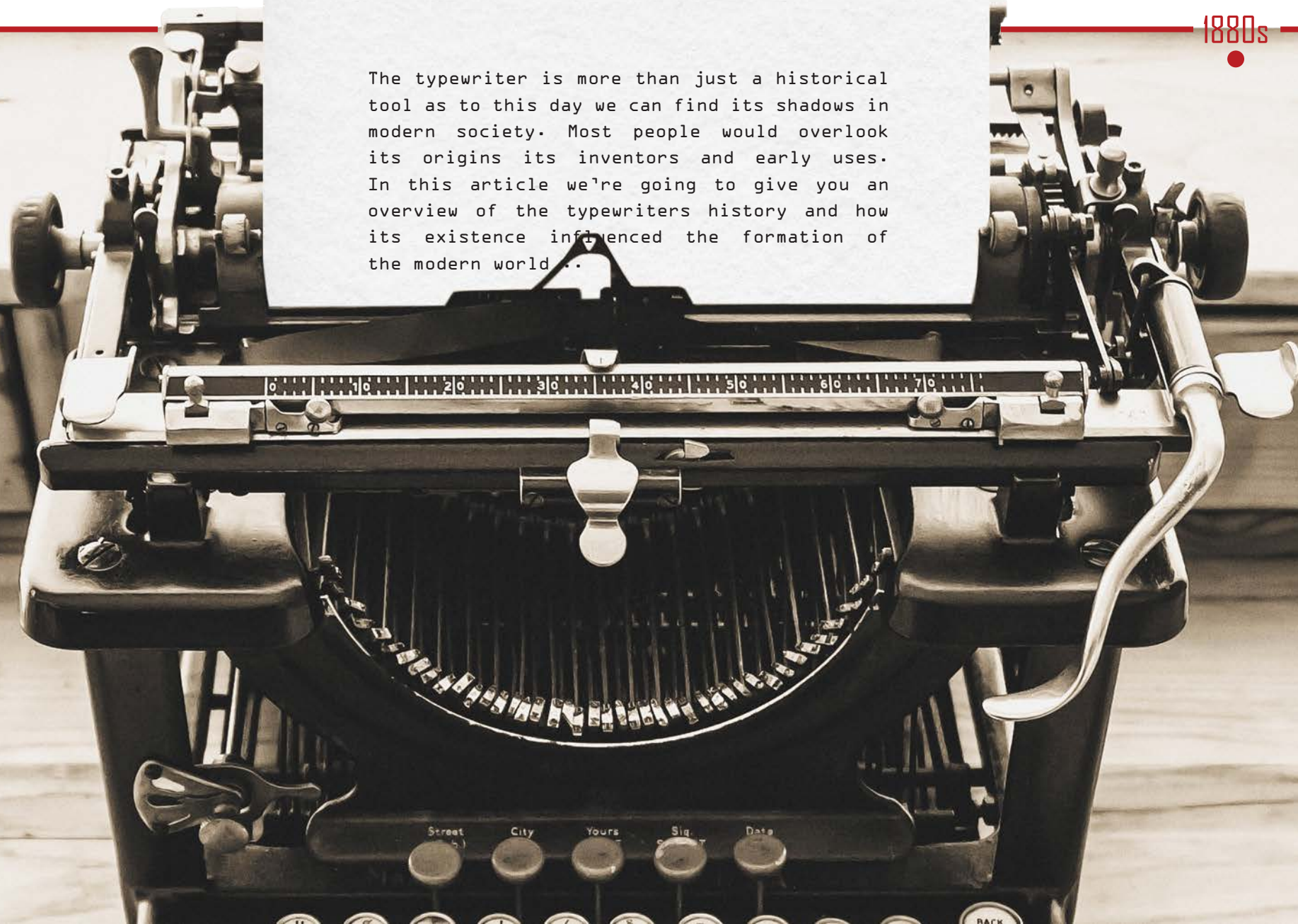
The typewriter is more than just a historical tool as to this day we can find its shadows in modern society. Most people would overlook its origins its inventors and early uses. In this article we're going to give you an overview of the typewriters history and how its existence influenced the formation of the modern world...

1880s

Extra Tid-bit!

For details on the initial concept of the typewriter, see Michael Adler's 1973 book 'The Writing Machine' as well as Carey Wallace's 2010 novel called The 'Blind Contessa's New Machine' which is based on the relationship between the Countess and Turri.

“Today in the 21st century the typewriter is still alive... Its' shadows are hidden in everyday things.”



further development work that resulted in the machine being marketed as the later famous Remington Typewriter. Even after selling the patent Sholes himself continued to make contributions to improving the typewriter during the last years of his life.

The Remington Typewriter appeared on the market in 1874. During the first four years of manufacturing the problem of printing both capitals and small letters without increasing the number of keys was resolved with a cylinder-shifting mechanism. Thus, the first shift-key mechanical typewriter — Remington Model 2 — appeared on the market by 1878. Among its refined features were the cylinder with its line spacing and carriage return mechanism, and the escapement which adjusts the letter spacing through the carriage movement. Among other improvements was the rearrangement of the type-bars to strike the paper at a common center by means of key levers and connecting wires, and finally the refined positions of different characters on the keyboard itself appeared as a universal system — known as QWERTY — which is the arrangement of letters that is now universal on all computer keyboards.

Initially the popularity of the typewriter was not too wide spread as people wholeheartedly believed that hand-written letters were better. Some people even felt that receiving a typed letter was a direct statement of their incompetence at writing or reading handwriting. Only by the 1880s did the typewriter fully find a niche market upon the rising concept of “scientific management”. Typewriters became highly utilized by businesses for keeping records, as well as some people finding the positives in using it for personal and business correspondence as well as book writing.

With the growth of popularity came the need to diversify the typefaces the typewriter could type in. Thus, sparking the development on the type-wheel machines which offered an advantage in the ease with which the type segments may be changed to extend the range of type styles. This greatly expanded the versatility of the typewriter machine and made it more appealing for personal and commercial use.

In 1909 the need for a portable typewriter arose on the market so by 1950s practically every typewriter manufacturer developed and produced a portable typewriter. In fact, prompted by the technological boom of the first World War (1914-1918), the typewriter evolved drastically in its form, structure and practical uses as it was designed with lighter parts which made it much more compact. During WWI the portable typewriter became indispensable for the production of routine paperwork, military reports and scribing of important military meetings. In context of the military, evolved portable typewriters were greatly valued for their near indestructibility and portability. Its hinged box-like carriage allowed it to fold up and be transported and weighed a mere 9lbs. During WWI portable typewriter models were produced by multiple manufacturers some of which also included a folding tripod stand, to easily set up the instrument for use



“The development of the motorized electrical typewriter presented many advantages for the expansion of the invention to working office spaces.”

“Only by the late 1880s the typewriter fully found a place on the market; all thanks to the arising concept of scientific management.”

wherever needed. In this context, the typewriter held a unique historical importance during war efforts in terms of efficiency and document production.

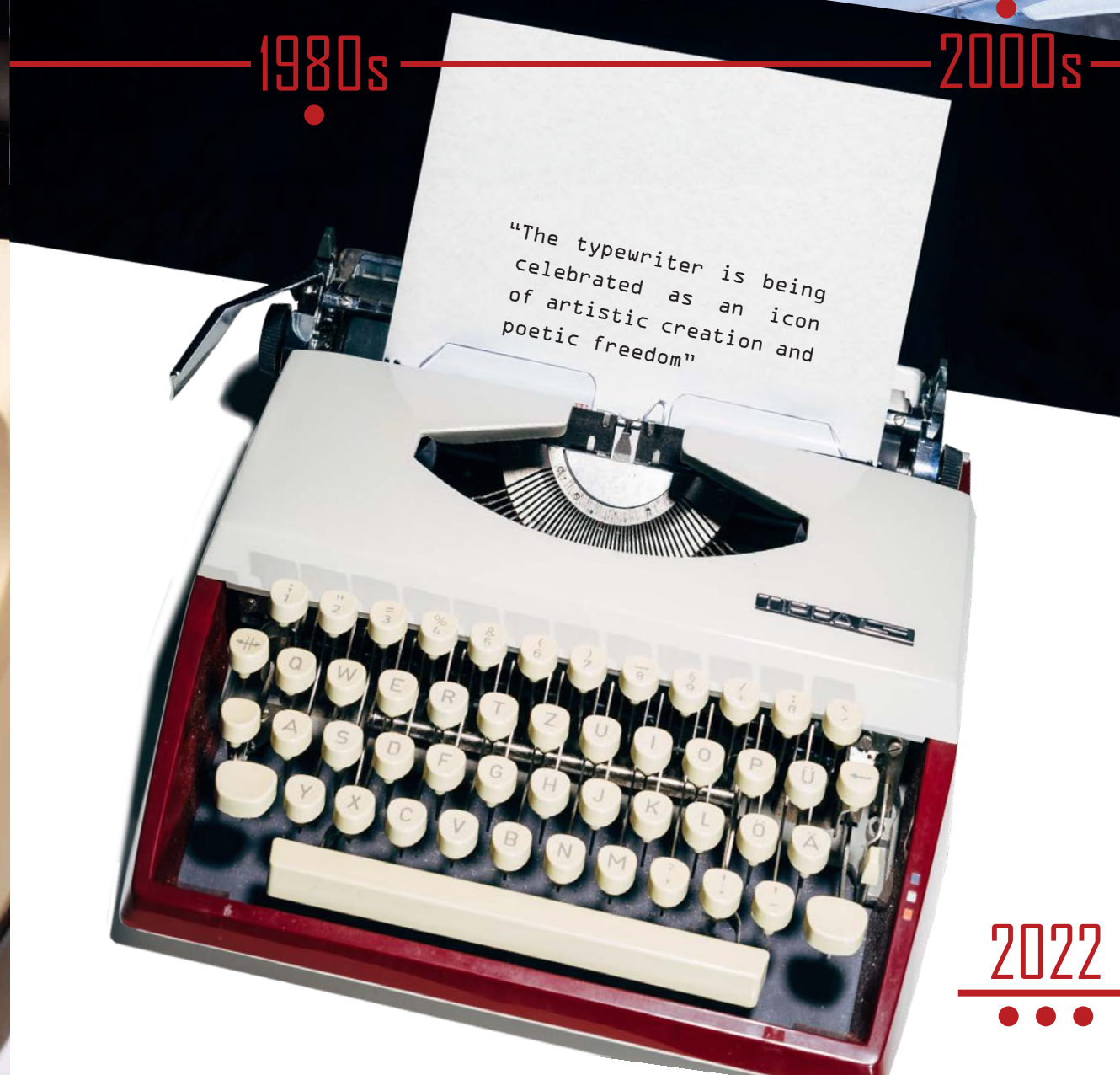
Further development of the motorized electrical typewriter — basically a mechanical typewriter with the typing stroke powered by an electric-motor drive — presented multiple advantages for the expansion of the invention to office spaces. The electric typewriter as an office writing machine was first pioneered by James Smathers in 1920 but interestingly the first mention of the electric typewriter can be traced to the inventor Thomas A. Edison who invented the so-called ticker-tape printer in 1872. The 1920 typewriter prototype was faster and had more uniform typing, as well as more legible and numerous carbon copies thus resulting in less operator fatigue. It was also much quieter than the initial fully mechanized models which made it a sought-after element for any busy office.



1960s

1980s

2000s



2022

The International Business Machines Corporation (IBM) had been working on evolving the typewriter since the 1920s which allowed them to successfully introduce, prototype and produce the self-contained powerbase to the typewriter. In 1933 IBM even formed the Electric Typewriter Division which had highly skilled engineering, educational and sales departments. With the coming and passing of World War 2 (1939-1945) the typewriter continued to evolve. IBM's Electric Typewriter brought users the advantages of speed, ease of operation, accuracy, reliability as well as clarity; whereas each character strikes the paper evenly and uniformly. The typewriter became even more versatile; being able to do all kinds of work, such as stencil writing, multiple copy work, with the minimum amount of effort from the operator. Furthermore, IBM developed the revolutionary spacing principle, which became the most dramatic advancement ever made in the typewriter industry since the invention of the portable typewriter. This distinct letter spacing allowed each letter or character the exact space it requires. Until this advancement was integrated ordinary typewriters had narrow letters such as "i" or "j" occupying the same width of space as a wide letter such as "m" on the page. The IBM spacing principle gave a new beauty to typing and made typed words easy to read. By 1961 IBM introduced the first commercially successful typewriter based on a spherical type-carrier design. In this iteration of the typewriter a sphere-shaped typing element moves across the paper, tilting and rotating as the desired character, number, or symbol is selected. The motion of the element from left to right also eliminated the need for a movable paper carriage.

The typewriter had great influence in the development of the computer, or rather its keyboard, which began during WW2 and thereafter. Computer keyboards at the time were developed along the same principle as the typewriter keyboards for familiarity and simplicity's sake. Also remember that all keyboards that we see today follow the QWERTY letter setup which was first developed by Christopher Latham Sholes for his original typewriter.

Looking back through the tangled history of the typewriter, this fascinating and complex mechanism evolved and changed over many decades. Produced by countless brands the typewriter possesses a unique visual identity. So unique that even today in the 21st century its shadows are hidden in everyday things. When we type on our computer and laptop keyboards and even the touch keyboards on our phones and tablets, we are in essence typing on a clear shadow of the first typewriter. All you need to do is look and see QWERTY on any keyboard or simply hear the sound of the keys clicking as letters appear on the blank page before you. Today, the typewriter is not being dismissed as a step toward the computer, the typewriter is being celebrated as an icon of artistic creation and poetic freedom. The typewriter is an artful symbol that graphic designers, book writers, and all other creatives you can think of embrace when they want to imply a certain whimsy, a romantic essence, a memory of a mechanical device aged to more than one century...

Collector Craze

Key-board to the gold mine!

Not too long ago there was a time, when typewriters were the only word-processing machines available. Although today, many do indeed view typewriters as a relic of a long by gone era, there are some people who enjoy collecting them; whether for their whimsical aesthetic or their actual monetary value. While all typewriters have the potential to acquire a really sentimental value only certain antique or vintage typewriter models can acquire a really hefty price!

Rarest & Most Valuable – Early Typewriter Models

Extra Tid-bit!

Art of Vintage – The Store

Typewriters not only take people back in time and thus possess a sense of whimsy, they're also engaging.

The Art of Vintage is a shop based in the southwest area of the Killarney neighborhood in Calgary Alberta. There you can find many antique and vintage things among which is a large selection of typewriters from all over the world. At the Art of Vintage you can personally test—run the machines and learn about their history from the shops' owner. Also, besides selling typewriters this shop also does repairs, restoration, and sources spare parts if you want to do maintenance on your own typewriter yourself.



Hansen Writing Ball

This gizmo here is deemed to be the first typewriter to be commercially sold, in Europe as late as 1909. The success of this apparatus was due to the placement of the keys, which put the most frequently used letters were they were easiest to reach. Thus, making typing faster than writing by hand for the first time in world history. This typewriter often jammed due to issues with the mechanical alignment of the keys. Among collectors this typewriter is quite valuable due to its historical significance.



Sholes & Glidden

America's real, first, commercially successful typewriter with a patent for the name "typewriter." At the time it was produced by E. Remington and Sons and was the first to feature the QWERTY keyboard layout. When Sholes sold the patent to his typewriter to Remington the typewriter was renamed to "Remington Typewriter". Depending on the year of production the value of this typewriter would vary but since this typewriter and its manufacturer have great historical significance it is quite valuable among collectors.



Electric Blickensderfer

Considered to be one of the first electric typewriters by some sources. However, this particular model wasn't a great commercial success at the time of its build. Yet, certain prototypes of this typewriter are valued among collectors.

"Typewriters manufactured after 1920 are generally considered "vintage" rather than "antique."



Common but Valuable – Vintage Typewriter Models

Electromatic Model 04

Produced by IBM in the early 1940s, this model introduced proportional spacing, which would become a staple component of IBM typewriters. This typewriter is not too rare but it surely has a great historic value to collectors.



IBM Selectric

The IBM Selectric typewriter was initially introduced in 1961. It's the first typewriter to feature reverse –image letters on a small typeball and used a system powered by an electric motor which struck the letters against the ink ribbon to imprint. It became the most popular office typewriter for the next two decades and a sought-after typewriter model for collectors and many typewriter enthusiasts today.



Electronic Typewriters

By the late 1970s and early 1980s, the use of mechanical typewriter began to shift to fully electronic typewriters. The electronic memory and display allowed a user to see and correct errors before the page printed, making these models early forms of the word processor. AKA the first computers which makes them valuable for collectors!



Extra Tid-bit!

There are many types of auctions besides Online and Silent Auctions. Among the auctions where you can find a typewriter are the following three;

Absolute Auction

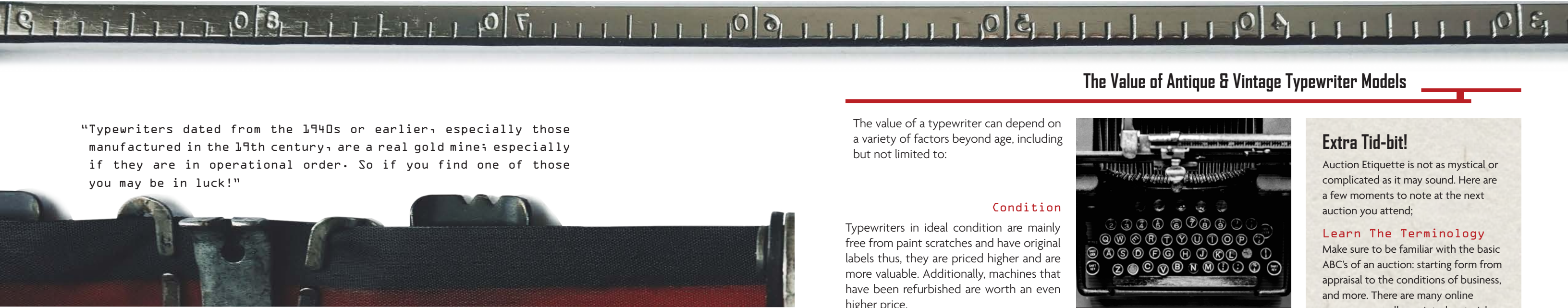
Absolute Auction refers to the notion of the highest bid winning, regardless of price asked by the seller. At these auctions bidding typically gets the most heated as you see the other bidders set their bids. Careful with this one as it is alike to gambling; know your budget otherwise you could spend way more than you can afford.

Minimum Bid Auction

Minimum Bid Auctions always begin at a minimum price established by the seller. With this kind of auction bidding must begin at that minimum guaranteeing a sale. This is considered a safer option for sellers as it offers them that minimal profit.

Reserve Auction

In a reverse auction the seller may choose to accept, reject, or counter the winning bid. This kind of auction gives sellers the greatest protection; this is a guarantee that their properties will not be sold below the price which they consider acceptable.



“Typewriters dated from the 1940s or earlier, especially those manufactured in the 19th century, are a real gold mine; especially if they are in operational order. So if you find one of those you may be in luck!”

Value of Antique & Vintage Typewriter Models



Images by Anna Balabanova
4th year student AUArts

Collectors looking for antique or vintage typewriters can typically identify them by the brand name that's stamped on the front of the machine or through the manufacturing date that appears on the later models. By the model and series number of the typewriter an avid collector can determine the collectible value of the machine.

Nonetheless, not all typewriters, even among vintage models, are really valuable. Generally speaking, the older the typewriter, the more valuable it is but, there is also the value of the life story connected to the particular typewriter. For instance, the typewriter belonging to the visually impaired Countess Carolina Fantoni da Fivizzano or the first typewriter produced by the Remington company would have a greater value to the collector. While machines made between the 1950s and the 1980s don't fetch a high price because they're easily found at thrift shops, flea markets, and other second-hand buying locations unless they are in the first set of ten produced of a model from a specific brand. On that note, there is an exception for typewriters produced during WW2 as they are highly valuable due to their historical significance.

Typewriters from the 1940s or earlier, especially those manufactured in the early 19th century, are highly valued especially if they are in operational order. Non-working antique typewriters are typically worth about \$50 to \$150, but refurbished working models can earn at least \$800 or more.

“The value of a typewriter can depend on a variety of factors...”

... the key is to know all of them!”

— Editor

Extra Tid-bit!

Reminder

Vintage typewriters are dated from 1918–1978 so, they are at least 40 years old today. Antique typewriters on the other hand date from the early 19th century and earlier.

The Value of Antique & Vintage Typewriter Models

The value of a typewriter can depend on a variety of factors beyond age, including but not limited to:

Condition

Typewriters in ideal condition are mainly free from paint scratches and have original labels thus, they are priced higher and are more valuable. Additionally, machines that have been refurbished are worth an even higher price.



Font

Most typewriters used a standard font, but there's a market for models that had multiple sets of interchangeable fonts. Among these the "Vogue" font is the most sought-after, while cursive fonts come in second.



Country of Origin & Brand

Truthfully European-made typewriters are more valuable in America than domestically made models. Great preference is given to those that weren't exported to the US. Furthermore the brand of the typewriter also plays a significant role in its' value.



Size

Portable typewriters are typically seen as more valuable than desktops, which are heavy and large; but some of the first bulky typewriters may be a gold mine depending on other factors such as the condition, country of origin and brand.



Extra Tid-bit!

Auction Etiquette is not as mystical or complicated as it may sound. Here are a few moments to note at the next auction you attend;

Learn The Terminology

Make sure to be familiar with the basic ABC's of an auction: starting from appraisal to the conditions of business, and more. There are many online resources as well as printed material you can find with ease. One such online resource is Sotheby's handy glossary of terms.

Dress Appropriately

Auctions typically have a basic dress code. Formal or semi-formal clothing is best but always check on the auction information pack to ensure you are up to date.

Conversation

Once the auction begins conversations should be kept to a minimum as they are distracting for the auctioneer and the other bidders. Also, you should be attentively listening to the auctioneer, as you will be able to hear key information about the items.

The Paddle

Use your paddle properly, at an auction it is the identifier of your bid. So, if you want to bid, simply raise your paddle and make sure the auctioneer sees it. Also, don't bid if you are unsure; remember you can't change your mind after the hammer comes down. To bid confidently do some research on the lots' beforehand.

Remain Calm

Auctions can, in fact, get quite intense! Don't lose yourself in the moment and go on a bidding war against a fellow bidder.

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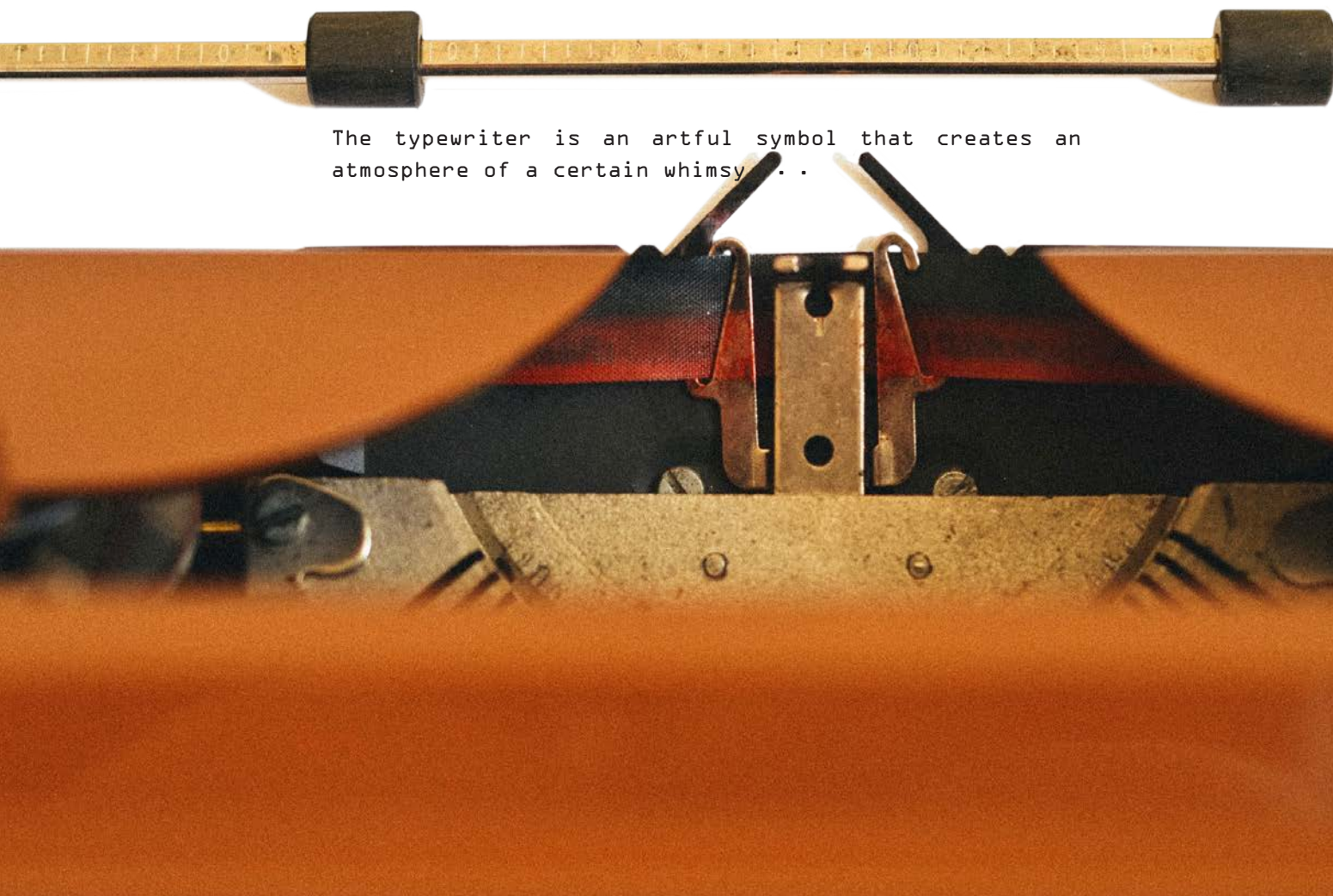
With over 250 auctions a year in more than 70 categories our digital innovations allow our clients to connect with us any time, from any location, on any device and bid.



Photo by Anna Balabanova / 4th year student AUArts

Story Time!

Authors & The Typewriter... Click... Clack... Click...

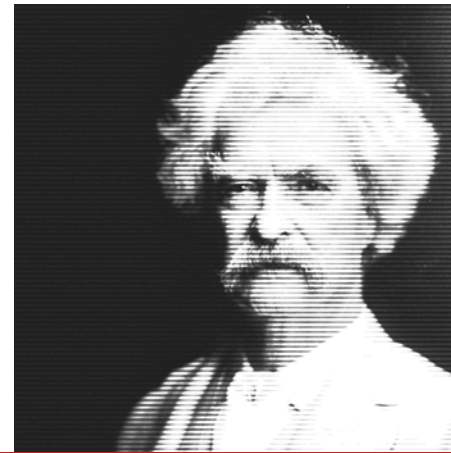


The typewriter is an artful symbol that creates an atmosphere of a certain whimsy . . .

Since the moment that the mechanical typewriter first found its mass use among book authors the literary diversity of the world experienced a great hike. The typewriter allowed many early authors to type their manuscripts and thus, masterfully reduced the burden of deciphering the authors writing for the technicians of the mass-producing printing presses.

Even today there are some authors who deliberately chose to write their creations on a typewriter rather than the computer. Reasons being – the typewriter is an artful symbol that allows them to create an atmosphere of a certain whimsy, a romantic essence, a memory of a mechanical device aged to more than one century or simply the mechanical clicking sound of the old keys helps them get in the zone.

Images by Anna Balabanova
4th year student AUArts



“If books are not good company,
where will I find it?”

MARK TWAIN (1835 – 1910)

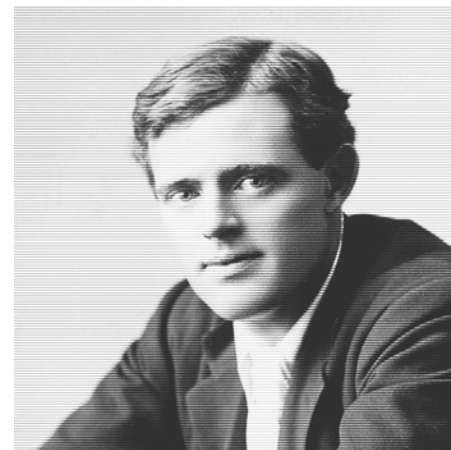
Twain purchased his first typewriter — a Sholes & Glidden treadle model — in 1874, then upgraded to a Remington No. 2 typewriter in 1878. The first ever manuscript to be typed is Mark Twain's *Tom Sawyer*. His book *Life on the Mississippi*, published in 1882, was the first manuscript submitted to a publisher in typed form.



“Everything in life is unusual until
you become accustomed to it.”

L. FRANK BAUM (1856 – 1919)

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz author L. Frank Baum was accustomed to using a 1926 Smith Premier model typewriter to write up his novels' manuscripts.



“You can't wait for inspiration.
You have to go after it with a club.”

JACK LONDON (1876 – 1916)

Jack London, author of *The Call of the Wild*, had a Columbia Bar-Lock 10 typewriter that featured separate keyboards with different characters. Jack London used the typewriter during his time as a war correspondent — but it was his second wife, Charmian London, who used a Remington Standard Typewriter No. 7 to type his handwritten prose.



“If I write what my soul thinks it will be
visible, and the words will be its body.”

HELEN KELLER (1880 – 1968)

Hellen Keller was both blind and deaf her entire life so typing was the best form of writing for her. In her 1903 autobiography *The Story of My Life*, Helen Keller wrote that she had a Hammond typewriter and later transitioned to an LC Smith #5 as well as the Perkins Braille 'typewriter' in the 1920s.

“I just sit at a typewriter and curse a bit.”

P.G. WODEHOUSE (1881 – 1975)

Wodehouse wrote around 100 novels, countless short stories, articles, and song lyrics over the course of his career. In the 1920s he used a Monarch typewriter — which he hooked up to a roll of paper so he'd never need to interrupt his typing — then, in the 1940s, he transitioned to a manual Royal Desktop model.



“The reason we write fiction is because it's so much easier to exist spending part of each day in an imaginary world.”

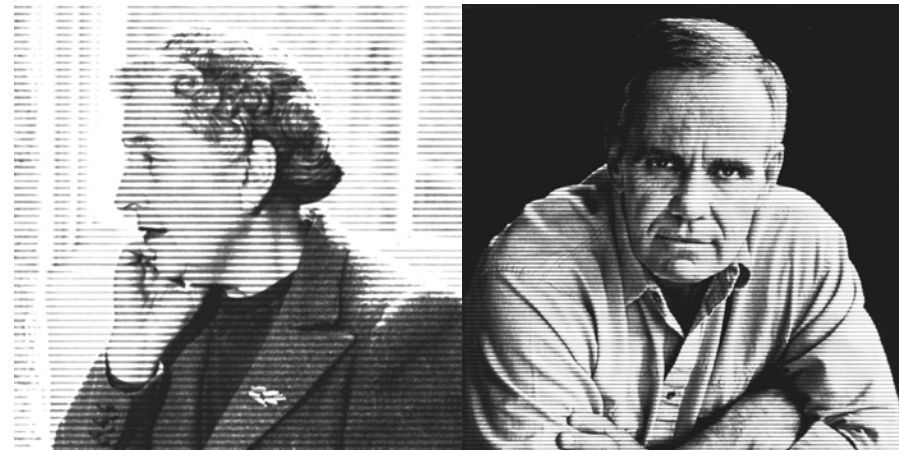
KURT VONNEGUT (1922 – 2007)

This author wrote the novels; *Cat's Cradle*, *Slaughterhouse-Five* and *Breakfast of Champions*. As an author he is known for his satirical literary style and science-fiction elements in his writing. Kurt Vonnegut used the Smith-Corona 2200 typewriter, which is now on display at the Kurt Vonnegut Museum and Library.

“I can't imagine why everybody is always so keen for authors to talk about writing. I should have thought it was an author's business to write, not talk.”

AGATHA CHRISTIE (1890 – 1976)

Mystery writer Agatha Christie used an Empire typewriter, then later transitioned to using a Remington Home Portable No. 2. Among her works are the *Poirot* series and *Crooked House* as well as many other best sellers.



“My perfect day is sitting in a room with some blank paper. That's heaven. That's gold, and anything else is just a waste of time.”

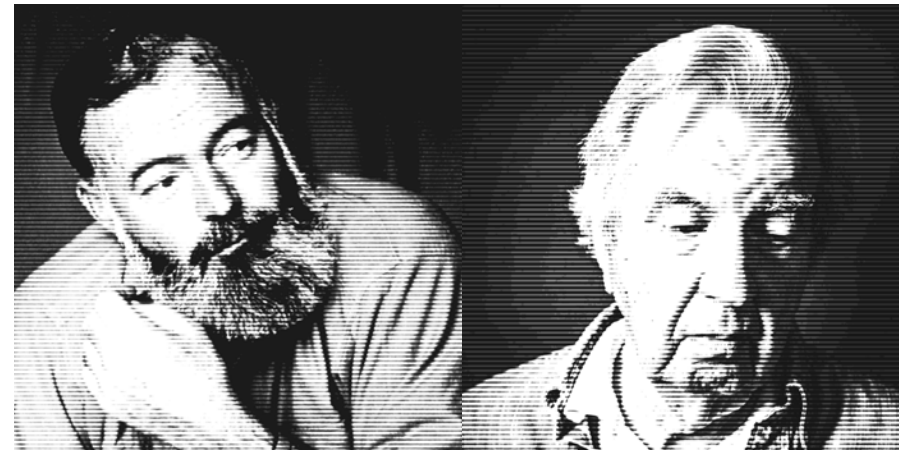
CORMAC MCCARTHY (1933 – Present)

In 1963 Cormac McCarthy bought a light blue Lettera 32 Olivetti manual typewriter for \$50. On it, he wrote many works such as *The Road*, and *No Country for Old Men*, as well as eight other novels. In 2009, the typewriter was sold at an auction house for \$254,500.

“There is nothing to writing. All you do is sit down at a typewriter and bleed.”

ERNEST HEMINGWAY (1899 – 1961)

The *Farewell to Arms* writer used a number of typewriter models in his career, including a Corona #3, a Corona #4, as well as the 1932 Royal Model P.



“Writing is a form of herding. I herd words into little paragraph-like clusters.”

LARRY MCMURTRY (1936 – 2021)

The author of *Lonesome Dove* and *Dead Man's Walk* loved typewriters for their click and used a Hermes 3000 typewriter during most of his writing career.

“There is no pleasure in the world like writing well and going fast.”

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS (1911 – 1983)

The man behind play well known play *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* and the famous play titled *A Streetcar Named Desire* used a variety of typewriters, including a Remington Portable #5, Smith-Corona, as well as several models of the Olivetti typewriters.



“It takes an awful lot of time to not write a book.”

DOUGLAS ADAMS (1952 – 2001)

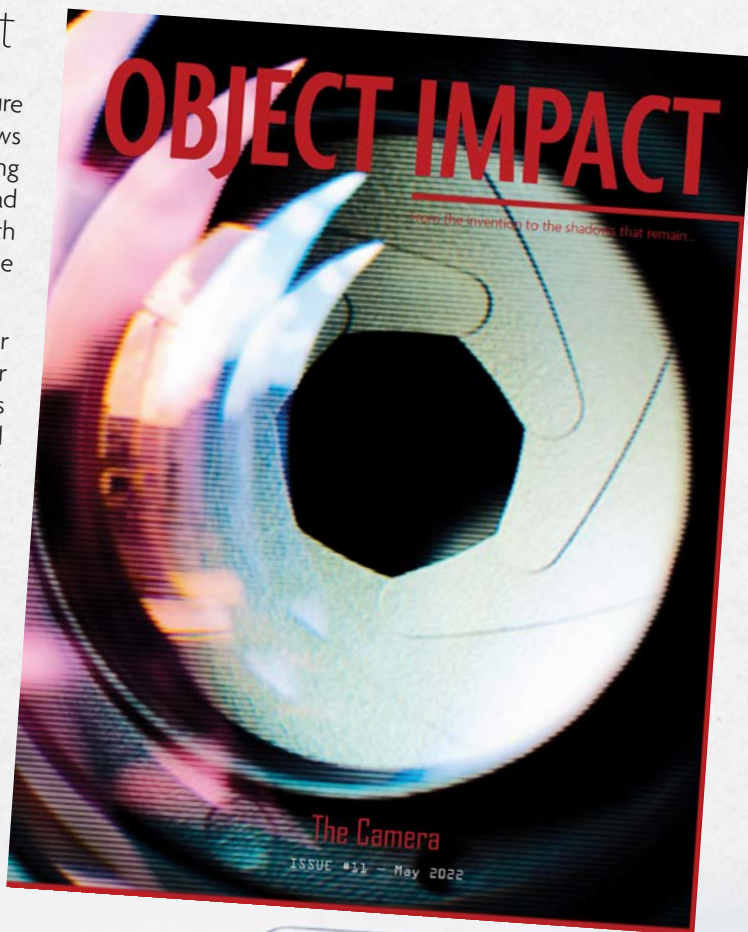
Douglas Adams wrote *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* while using a Hermes Standard 8 typewriter. In 2008 this typewriter went up for sale at auction, complete with Adams's autograph on the front panel.

End Note

Past to Present Object Impact

In the next issue of the Object Impact we will feature the history of the camera and trace its shadows through the modern lens. Look forward to traveling back in time to see how the modern camera had developed beginning form the Camera Obscura with an extra glimpse at the earlier image capturing of the fine arts in the early 18th - 19th century.

Among previous issues, which you can still order in our digital outlet, you can find an array of our other issues on other objects. Among those issues published this year you can find a pressure tempered history of the steam engine, the gravity defying history of the airplane and much more.



The End . . .

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Photo of Agatha Christie - Source - Artstor.com

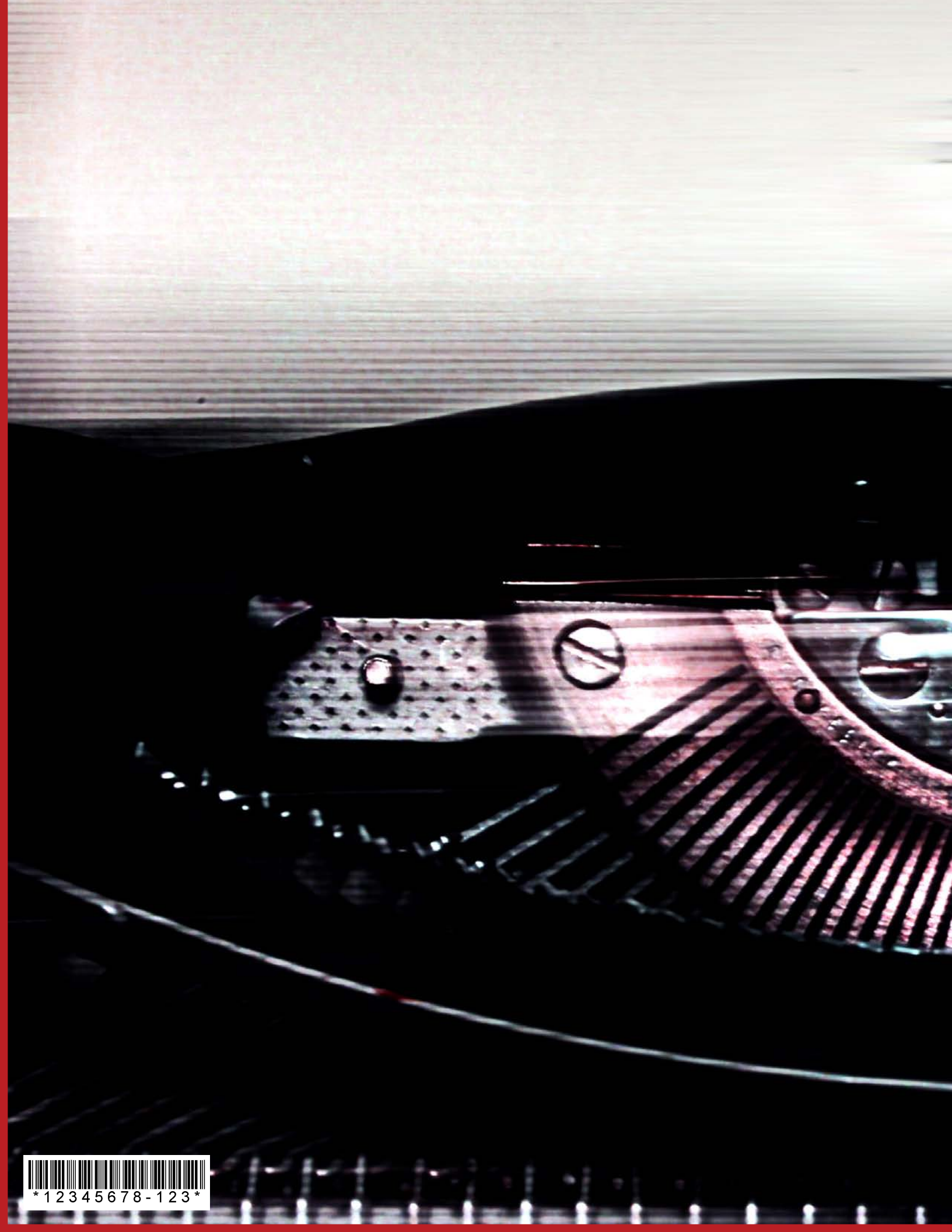
Photo of Helen Keller receiving a Perkins Braille from E.J. Waterhouse - Source - Artstor.com

Photo of Mark Twain writing - Source - Artstor.com

Photo by Riley Bayton & Joe Thompson - Source - Pexels.com

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