

Ref: 1 - ANGELA BANKS

Level: Advanced

Category: 15cm Squared

Tools and Materials: Watercolour Paper / Gouache

Judges' Comments: Well-chosen colour scheme combined with interesting letterforms.

Ref: 2 - CHRISTINA FREEMAN

Level: Beginner

Category: 15cm Squared

Tools and Materials: 250g Bristol Board Paper / Pointed Pen / Blue Beryl Tonic Ink / FWP Inks

Judges' Comments: Subtle colours, beautifully executed pointed pen uncial within a circular design. This piece would benefit with more generous margins or perhaps a white mount.

Ref: 3 - MEG CHAPMAN

Level: More Experienced

Category: 15cm Squared

Tools and Materials: 300g Rough Saunders Waterford / Finetic Gold / Ormaline Gold Transfer / Chinese Ink / Brush / Ruling Pen / Pointed Pen / Mount Board

Judges' Comments: Eye catching design, excellent use of gilding techniques to stunning effect with lively dancing letters.

Ref: 4 - RUTH SUTHERLAND

Level: Advanced

Category: 15cm Squared

Tools and Materials: Miniaturum Ink / Gouache / Ground Pigment / Cotton Board

Judges' Comments: Vibrant coloured background contrasts well with the unique gilded letterforms. Would be interesting to see the gilding with gesso rather than Miniaturum to avoid cratering.

Ref: 5 - ANNIE JACKSON

Level: More Experienced

Category: Quotes from Great Scientists

Tools and Materials: Chinese Ink / Gouache / Cartridge Paper

Judges' Comments: Good strong writing for the main quote counterbalances the flowing writing of the formulae running off the page. Keep an eye on letter shapes e.g. the letter 'g'.

Ref: 6 - SATVINDER NANDHRA

Level: Beginner

Category: Quotes from Great Scientists

Tools and Materials: Fountain Pen Ink / Coliro Finetech / Watercolour / Pointed Pen / Uncial Style / Modern Style

Judges' Comments: Well-presented pointed pen uncial with a strong focal point which could be moved higher. Perhaps keep the same script throughout?

Ref: 7 - ANN DAVIS

Level: Beginner

Category: 15cm Squared

Tools and Materials: Watercolour / 200g Paper / 2.5 Broad Nib Pen / Dr P.H. Martins / Bleedproof White Border / Diamine Fountain Pen

Judges' Comments: Colours used to good effect in interpreting the quote. Always difficult writing into a spiral – well done. Perhaps draw radials to keep the writing angled correctly.

Ref: 8 - JANET SMITH

Level: More Experienced

Category: Tone on Tone

Tools and Materials: Acrylic Ink / Gouache / Pencil

Judges' Comments: Complex range of tone in a lovely design which draws you in to read the strong writing within. Perhaps a more opaque ink could be used to make the writing more readable.

Ref: 9 - AISLING BLAGG

Level: More Experienced

Category: Quotes from Great Scientists

Tools and Materials: Cartridge paper / Ecoline 411 / Faber Castell pastels and colouring pencils

Judges' Comments: Delicate pastel work enhances the sharp crisp writing created in a superb design for this quote. A delightful piece. Perhaps a different solution could be found for the credit.

Ref: 10 - SIMON DANIEL

Level: Advanced

Category: 15cm Squared

Tools and Materials: Mitchell Nibs / Walker's Copperplate Ink / Watercolour Paint / Arches Hot Pressed Paper / Pigma Micron 003 Pen

Judges' Comments: Excellent flowing writing with elegant well placed illustrations. Great attention to detail. Well done.

Ref: 11 - ALMA SWAN

Level: More experienced

Category: Versatility of the Pencil

Tools and Materials: Coloured Pencil / Variegated Metal Leaf

Judges' Comments: An impressive illustration centre stage combined with confident foundational writing. The reading flow is somewhat interrupted by the large letters at the beginning of each verse.

Ref: 12 - SATVIK GARG

Level: More Experienced

Category: Tone on Tone

Tools and Materials: Watercolour / Ink

Judges' Comments: Dilute calligraphic marks support the clear strong writing on top with a well-placed illustration. Free writing requires a little more control and accuracy.

Ref: 13 - MAL WILLIAMS

Level: More Experienced

Category: Tone on Tone

Tools and Materials: Black and Grey Parchment / Pastel Papers / White Cartridge Paper / Embossing Tool

Judges' Comments: Interesting concept and composition demonstrating a range of techniques with a personal style of writing. Try to consider the use of space within the whole piece and the margins around it.

Ref: 14 - VALERIE DUGAN GREY

Level: Experienced / Advanced

Category: Versatility of the Pencil

Tools and Materials: Coloured Pencils

Judges' Comments: Crisp, skilful lettering within a deceptively simple design. Complex execution achieving lovely colour blending and subtlety throughout. Watch out for the letter spacing particularly between adjacent and vertical strokes. Beautiful work.

Ref: 15 - CAROLE THOMANN

Level: Advanced

Category: Versatility of the Pencil

Tools and Materials: Pencil on Paper

Judges' Comments: Lively, playful design with freely, written dancing letters – delightful piece.

Ref: 16 - JENNY WHOLLEY

Level: More Experienced

Category: Versatility of the Pencil

Tools and Materials: Silver Faber Castell Pencil on White Fabriano Accademia Paper

Judges' Comments: A novel design idea, nicely drawn free capitals. The line 'for every step will show' may have benefitted from less space between 'step' and 'will' so that it forms a visually continuous line to draw the eye up between the footprints. Good choice of materials appropriate for the text.

Ref: 17 - DAVID SIMONS

Level: Advanced

Category: Versatility of the Pencil

Tools and Materials: Pencils and Aquafine / 300gm Paper

Judges' Comments: Sensitively executed with complete command of your tools and materials. Although I'm not sure whether it's a letter, word or flourish at the top. I feel that the weight of the strokes could be the same as in 'guide you' at the bottom of the piece for a better balance. This is a good example of its genre and the use of pencil as a medium.

Ref: 18 - DAVID TREAGUST

Level: Advanced

Category: 15cm Squared

Tools and Materials: Indian Ink on Fabriano / Gold Leaf

Judges' Comments: Competent gilding and good resolution of what must have been a difficult layout. However, the inner two lines do look a little cramped for the prescribed size and consequently they look a little darker than the others. The textural effect of the black letter against the gold and the white background works well.

Ref: 19 - MARY FRASER

Level: Beginner

Category: 15cm Squared

Tools and Materials: Gouache / Various Nibs / Scraps of Found Paper / Maps / Mount - GESSO / Watercolour Paint / Cardboard / Thread

Judges' Comments: The varying x-height and wavy lines are executed well. The ascender on 'h' in 'ships' is a little too short for legibility. However, this is a visually appealing piece showing a sensitive response to your materials.

Ref: 20 - LORRAINE CANNING

Level: More Experienced

Category: Quotes from Great Scientists

Tools and Materials: Bister Inks / Sumi Ink on Fabriano Artistico HP 300gsm

Judges' Comments: The viewer's eye is successfully moved around this piece by the two large, curved strokes, emphasised by the delicate writing. The weighted stroke that passes over 'history' could be a little too heavy, on the screen at least. The bottom margin could be more generous, equal to or slightly more than the top margin, however, overall, this is an interesting concept.

Ref: 21 - MARY NOBLE

Level: Fellow

Category: Quotes from Great Scientists

Tools and Materials: Broad Brush / Ruling Pen / Metal Nibs / Gouache / Tro-Col / Bleedproof White

Judges' Comments: Dramatic and impactful in line with your chosen quotes. The Einstein and Christina quotes are well balanced and the vivid orange planet behind 'B' says it all visually.

Ref: 22 - ELAINE GILLINGHAM

Level: Advanced

Category: Versatility of the Pencil

Tools and Materials: Coloured (Black) and Graphite Pencil / Watercolour Paper

Judges' Comments: Good visual representation of the word and its meaning leading to the boundary of its legibility. The repetition of the letterforms in each line is skilful, as the only element that changes is the amount of letter left behind.

Ref: 23 - INGRID HILL

Level: Beginner

Category: 15cm Squared

Tools and Materials: Pastel / Oak Gall Ink / Finetec Gold Paint

Judges' Comments: I like the texture created here and the division of the bigger square into 9 smaller ones using gold which is always such a good foil to blacks and greys. The freely written, almost handwriting, rather than a formal script, is a good choice for this purpose, but perhaps a little marred by some errors and uncomfortable ascender/descender clashes. Free writing can benefit from control and accuracy for best effect, and this will come over time. However, it is a competent and brave approach to a painful subject representing dementia.

Ref: 24 - TESSIE COOLING

Level: Advanced

Category: 15cm Squared

Tools and Materials: Handmade Cotton Rag Paper / Acrylic Ink / Gouache / Shell Gold / Gold Leaf

Judges' Comments: Sensitively executed, well-balanced design, making good use of space combined with the elements of this piece. The deceptive simplicity reflects your experience and the unique style you have developed. Maybe a slightly more delicate approach on the word 'be still' would have enhanced the piece even further.

Ref: 25 - BARBARA ALLDRED

Level: Fellow

Category: Versatility of the Pencil

Tools and Materials: HP Paper / Graphite Pencils of Various Hardness

Judges' Comments: I like the way the linking of letters in the lower-case panel, when it occurs naturally, echo those of the capital letters, creating an interesting tension of different directions. Sensitive use of tools and materials reflecting your skills and experience.

Ref: 26 - DOROTHY MERRETT

Level: More Experienced

Category: 15cm Squared

Tools and Materials: Aquarelle Watercolour Paper 300gm / Brause Nib 0.5 / Cali Ink Red / Watercolour Pencils

Judges' Comments: Anyone worth knowing loves a robin. Lovely to see our National bird represented here. The text and image are well-balanced and the writing rhythmic and consistent. Try using this artwork to make your own version of a Victorian Christmas card.

Ref: 27 - KAR MEI YIM

Level: Beginner

Category: Quotes from Great Scientists

Tools and Materials: Blue Ink / Poster Colour Gold / Parallel Pen / Small Chinese Brush

Judges' Comments: Competently written and unusual to give black letter a forward slope. A few letters look a little heavier than others, but otherwise the writing has rhythm and spacing is balanced. Good choice of a ranged-left arrangement, well executed.

Ref: 28 - SUNITA AUGER

Level: Advanced

Category: 15cm Squared

Tools and Materials: Wood Block Covered in Hand Made Papers

Judges' Comments: Good use of materials, the manipulation and see-through of the large letters work well with the hand-made paper. Good use of a contrasting colour (blue) for the 'odd one out'. There may have been other options for the placement of the small writing? Overall, a good, sympathetic representation and design.

Ref: 29 - STEVE EADES

Level: Advanced

Category: 15cm Squared

Tools and Materials: Technical Pen / Watercolour

Judges' Comments: Beautifully drawn geometry. The writing is sympathetic in style and easy to read despite being on a curve.

Ref: 30 - GWYNETH HIBBETT

Level: Advanced

Category: 15cm Squared

Tools and Materials: Leaf Skeleton / Gold Leaf / Miniaturum Finetech / Watercolour

Judges' Comments: Taking the materials into consideration, the letters are sensitively drawn and link together successfully. All the elements are carefully thought out and well-balanced.

Ref: 31 - LIZ BARROW

Level: Advanced

Category: Versatility of the Pencil

Tools and Materials: Mars Technico HB Pencil / Fabriano 5 Paper

Judges' Comments: The choice of line breaks in the text and each block sits in its own white space yet is in balance with the others. Sensitively drawn letters and the whole piece reflects the artist's skill and experience.

Ref: 32 - JAN SAMBELL

Level: Fellow

Category: 15cm Squared

Tools and Materials: Background Acrylic Paint / Roller and Hand Cut Rubber Stamps / Illustration Brush - Gouache Moon Sponged

Judges' Comments: A piece that is instantly recognizable as a work by Jan Sambell, with beautifully balanced colours, layout and textures. The very clever use of colour combinations ensures that the golden moon appears distinctly in the background while the soothing, free lettering and words speak to us in the foreground without overshadowing the hare between the two. Fabulous!

Ref: 33 - LENA KROHN

Level: More Experienced

Category: Tone on Tone

Tools and Materials: Gouache on Paper

Judges' Comments: So many delicate little flowers balancing out the heavier acanthus leaves and the blue insert with the lovely Copperplate lettering. The credit would have benefitted from accurate ruling up and the acanthus leaves from modelling. This is an overall sensitively executed piece.

Ref: 34 - COLIN LUMSDEN

Level: Advanced

Category: Quotes from Great Scientists

Tools and Materials: Acrylics / Gouache / Leonardt Tape Nib / Fabriano Artistico

Judges' Comments: Disciplined Roman Capitals versus gestural background writing - the white lettering wins (mind the letter widths through). The dynamic background would have benefitted from some of the bright colours that appear in the credit. Good sharp writing on a coloured background.

Ref: 35 - JULIA WILKIN

Level: Beginner

Category: Tone on Tone

Tools and Materials: Cyanotype Image on Hahnemuhle Platinum Rag Paper / Coloured Pencils / Gouache / Dr PH. Martin's Pen – White Ink / Brause 1.5 Nib / Hunt 101 Nib / Finesline Pen

Judges' Comments: What an exciting cyanotype image! The uncial letters would have worked even better had the inter word spacing been tighter. A very effective piece, well done.

Ref: 36 - JANE HUSSEY

Level: Advanced

Category: Versatility of the Pencil

Tools and Materials: Coloured Pencil

Judges' Comments: Such a delicate piece with nicely executed versals and lovely pencil control. The word 'tangled' is possibly a little too tangled and quite difficult to decipher but it is such a well-known saying that it probably doesn't matter. Deceptively hidden 'oh' in the web and effective web-like layout - good work!

Ref: 37 - MARTIN HOLCOMBE

Level: Advanced

Category: Quotes from Great Scientists

Tools and Materials: Kolner Miniaturum Ink / Transfer Gold / Dr PH Martin's Bleed Proof White / Shell Gold / Schmincke Gouache

Judges' Comments: What a fabulous representation of the space 'donut theory'! The tiny formulas around the border act as a rather clever space-filling device. Given the spare amount of space in the middle, the last two lines could have been written in a larger size to create a stronger contrast, and the credit also appears more as a title, but maybe the intention was in fact to create a homage to the great scientist. Overall, a striking piece.

Ref: 38 - WILLIAM A. MORRIS

Level: Advanced

Category: 15cm Squared

Tools and Materials: Card / Clear Plastics Sheet / Ink / Watercolour Paint / Foamboard / Hardboard

Judges' Comments: Giving us a glimpse out of the window, this is a lovely illustration of how our avian landscape has changed. The accompanying words might have worked better without the big gaps at the top left and right corners. Overall, a very good use of simplicity in this piece. Well done!

Ref: 39 - JANE CONNOLLY

Level: More Experienced

Category: 15cm Squared

Tools and Materials: Pearl Calligraphy Gouache on Canson Paper

Judges' Comments: Sensitively chosen colour matching of ink and mount. Given the space restriction the writing size could have been much smaller to allow for more white space to highlight the poem and even out the balance between lettering and design element. A very delicate piece overall, well done!

Ref: 40 - KATE GRAVESTOCK

Level: Advanced

Category: Versatility of the Pencil

Tools and Materials: Pencil on Fabriano Artistic Watercolour Paper

Judges' Comments: A skillfully executed piece: beautiful Versals and sensitively placed design and credit elements. One small suggestion would be to allow the piece to breathe more at the top and bottom, possibly changing the mount to a square format using the existing length as width as well. Would work well as prints or cards for sale. Love it!

Ref: 41 - AYAKO MAKABE

Level: Advanced

Category: 15cm Squared

Tools and Materials: Gouache / Pastel / Colour Pen / Gold Leaf / Speedball and Michael Nibs / Watercolour Paper

Judges' Comments: The vibrant colours on the paper are nicely enhanced by the matching mount. However, a reduction of the media and elements used may have been beneficial to create more unity in the piece for the overall effect. A good effort.

Ref: 42 - SUE HODGKINSON

Level: More Experienced

Category: Versatility of the Pencil

Tools and Materials: Zerkal 120gsm Paper / Walnut Ink / Faber Castell 07.mm B / Pentel Graphgear 0.3mm HB / Caran d'Ache Grafwood 9B / Derwent Graphic 4H / Caran d' Ache Red Colour Pencil / Pinkfoot 2mm 2B

Judges' Comments:

What an incredible collection of designs and pencil techniques, so much so that one forgets that they are all in pencil! A small suggestion for a potential Volume II would be to create a bigger contrast between the author credit and the title.

Such a pity that this is an online submission only - it would have been wonderful to be able to leaf through this book, with gloves of course!

Ref: 43 - LESLEY WILLIAMS

Level: More Experienced

Category: Tone on Tone

Tools and Materials: Daler Rowney / Aquafine 300gsm / Faber Castell Coloured Pencils of Pine Green (267) / Permanent Green Olive (167) and Light Green (171)

Judges' Comments: How much patience it must have taken to create this intricate weaving with all its corners, highlighting and shading working out correctly! Would have loved to see the lettering being given a more prominent treatment. And yet one can't but admire how the knots have been worked out so neatly to allow the two words to be perfectly centred.

Ref: 44 - JANE JOHN

Level: More Experienced

Category: Quotes from Great Scientists

Tools and Materials: Acrylic Inks / Gouache / Flatbrush / Folded Pen / Ruling Pen / Khadi Paper

Judges' Comments: Rising sea-levels literally threatening to drown us - this split design with the waves encroaching on the lettering is a great way to illustrate what we're in for if we don't change our

ways. Given the lush ultramarine of the mount and the lettering it would be interesting to see the waves in tones of ultramarine rather than cerulean blue. Good work!

Ref: 45 - ANTONIA SCANLAN

Level: More Experienced

Category: 15cm Squared

Tools and Materials: Brause Nib (1.5) / Black Ink / Green Ecoline Watercolour

Judges' Comments: A lovely piece with a lush colour choice for its mount. In fact, on this occasion the mount could have been wider and tied in even more with the 'plum blossoms' and the nicely highlighted 'spring'. In terms of lettering, make sure to finish every letter, giving it serifs at the beginning and at the end. A good effort, well done.

Ref: 46 - CELIA LISTER

Level: Fellow

Category: 15cm Squared

Tools and Materials: Arches Velin Noir / Gouache / Brush Pencil / Shell Gold

Judges' Comments: Such a stunning piece! Among all the excitement of the freely painted letters the 'i' sits quietly with sufficient space around it to make it feel safe and not oppressed, protected in a cocoon rather than imprisoned. Love the golden dot highlight, the tone on tone choices - simply fabulous!