

Chronicle

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Library to honor film director Delbert Mann

Television and film director Delbert Mann has been engaging audiences for half a century in productions ranging from *Marty* to *Member of the Wedding*. Some Nashvillians may even remember his high school and college performances in local community theater.

Over the years the Friends of the Library have received special attention from Mann, a Vanderbilt trustee. He first spoke to the Friends during their annual dinner in 1982. During the Library's 1989 Delbert Mann Film Festival, he returned to Vanderbilt and reminisced about television's "Golden Age," commented on his films, met with the Nashville Screenwriting Association, and was interviewed on WPLN radio.

On November 3, Mann will be onstage again. This time he will be honored at the annual Friends of the Library dinner. Details regarding the place, time, and program will be announced at a later date, and Friends of the Library will receive invitations to the event.

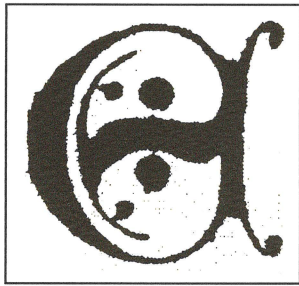
Publication of a catalog of the Delbert Mann Papers, which are housed in the Special Collections division of the Jean and Alexander Heard Library, is also underway. Collection of Mann's papers began in Special Collections at the Joint University Libraries in 1968. Since then, the Los Angeles resident has made semiannual additions to the collection during his trips to Vanderbilt for Board of Trust meetings.

The Mann collection now approaches 100 cubic feet of material, including production information, correspondence, script reports, pho-

tographs, and kinescopes (motion pictures made from television images). It was augmented recently by a collection of theater and opera programs and by Mann's 1,400 page autobiography.



Delbert Mann, left, directs Susannah York and George C. Scott in the 1971 film, Jane Eyre.



This initial is from the incunabulum Liber Chronicarum, better known as the Nuremberg Chronicle. Published in 1493, it is the Library's one-millionth volume and one of 20,000 rare books in the Heard Library's Special Collections.

Decorative initials

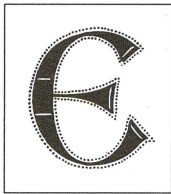
For a thousand years or so, says Alexander Nesbitt, much of the Western world's need to embellish and ornament was done on the initials of books. The written and printed word itself was a mysterious thing, and monks spent their lives illuminating manuscripts.

When printing replaced the manuscript book, the printers were naturally influenced by the early scribes. Gutenberg's forty-two-line Bible tried to approximate the look of hand-drawn initials. Through the sixteenth century initials were cut in wood; an illustrator would hire a woodcutter to render the designs. The books of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries usually used engraved

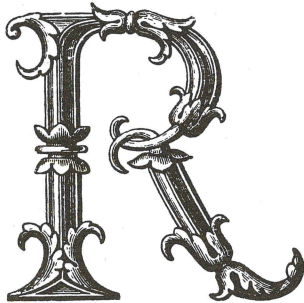
initials, along with a more precise printing process. As the era of the industrial revolution progressed, the great ornamented initials in books disappeared along with, as Nesbitt puts it, all style and craftsmanship.

The decorative and bewildering period of Victorian typography was called, not inappropriately, "a great, weedy jungle." England dominated the typographic arts, and we saw charming and perverse aberrations; the silhouette initial below is one example. As the twentieth century closes, the decorative initial is with us still. In a world which seems to need simplification, the need to add swash to life remains.

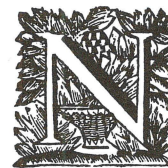
—Gary Gore



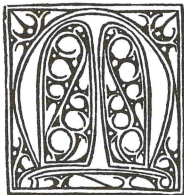
Early Anglo-Saxon initial, with characteristic dots



Large pen initial from Venice, 1554



Dutch basket-of-flowers initial, seventeenth century



Günther Zainer's famous lily-of-the-valley initial, 1475

Illuminated initial from a book presented to Cardinal Sforza in 1490



Ratdolt's Italianate ornament, about 1480



A wood-engraved initial in 1924 showing the terrors of night life seems oddly appropriate today.



Fourteenth century, from a missal in the Vatican



Gothic initial used at Troyes by Jean Lecoq



In 1889 the silhouette was popular, and one needed initials such as this.



Charming Venetian initial, Philippus Pincius, 1504

The information and illustrations above are from *Decorative Alphabets and Initials*, by Alexander Nesbitt, Dover, 1959.



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F O O T N O T E S

SCOLA brings foreign-language television news to campus

Television news broadcasts from thirty-five countries are now available to the Vanderbilt community on TeleVU channel 42, through the University's new affiliation with Satellite Communications for Learning, Associated (SCOLA). The broadcasts are in the language of the country of their origin. As described by its information flyer, "SCOLA lets you see the news from around the world just as it's seen by the people around the world."

The new information product is a joint venture of The Jean and Alexander Heard Library and the Office of Residential and Judicial Affairs in cooperation with the College of Arts and Science. It is available in 1,800 dorm rooms and can be viewed on a designated monitor in the Media Center of the Central Library. At the end of the 1993-94 academic year, SCOLA will be evaluated, and a permanent source of funding will be sought if continuation is desired.

Vanderbilt officials are optimistic about SCOLA's potential. "It enables us to take advantage of existing equipment for an educational purpose, which we hope will be appreciated by both faculty and students," says Dean Steve Caldwell, director of housing. "The information provided by SCOLA," observes Library director Malcolm Getz, "should be of interest not only to foreign-language students, but also to scholars in area studies such as Latin American, East Asian, and European." Derek Waller, associate dean in the College of Arts and Science, predicts that SCOLA "will help to internationalize the campus."

The communications system broadcasts seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day. At Vanderbilt, programming is interrupted occasionally for satellite teleconferences and special foreign-language broadcasts, which are part of the McTyeire International House program.

The acronym SCOLA was developed for the non-profit organization because of its similarity to *schola*, the Latin word for school.

Getz discusses electronic library issues

Malcolm Getz, director of the Jean and Alexander Heard Library, spoke to more than 300 library professionals at the I.T. Littleton Seminar at North Carolina State University in February. The annual seminar is a professional development conference addressing major library issues. In his address, titled "Petabytes of Information," he discussed the implications for authors, readers, editors, and libraries of developing scholarly work on-line using Internet, a world-wide electronic network.

Getz also presented "The Electronic Library and Document Delivery" to the NOTIS Software Users Group last October. The NOTIS company is a major developer of software for the Library's electronic applications such as Acorn and InfoShare (formerly InfoBase). The company is currently developing software that will enable libraries to track and charge for the direct delivery to library clients of documents in various formats (print, fax, electronic). Based in part on ideas in Getz's essay, "Document Delivery," published in the December 1991 issue of the *Bottom Line*, the new software will enable libraries to maintain smaller collections—especially of expensive journals—yet still provide scholars the materials they require for their work.



HERMAN LANFORD

Pictured, left to right, are the main speakers at the fourth I.T. Littleton Seminar held at North Carolina State University: Littleton, Sheila Creth (University of Iowa), Malcolm Getz, (Vanderbilt University), Marilyn Roche (Research Libraries Group), Robert Kalal (Ohio State University), John Ulmschneider (NCSU), and Tracy Casorso (NCSU).



Make a Difference, be a Friend

The Jean and Alexander Heard Library is at the heart of Vanderbilt University's academic mission. Excellence in teaching and research can be sustained only when excellence in libraries is maintained. Because of ever-increasing pressures on University resources, the continued generosity of Friends of the Library is critical to ensure superior library collections and services. You can support Vanderbilt's mission by sending your gift with the completed form below. If you are already a member of the Friends, you can help further by passing along this copy of the *Chronicle* to someone else who might find it of interest.

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Contributions can be designated to support specific areas of interest. The Jean and Alexander Heard Library comprises the following collections:

- Central Library & the Sara Shannon Stevenson Science Library
- Divinity Library
- Education Library
- Alyne Queener Massey Law Library & Legal Information Center
- Medical Center Library
- Special Collections & University Archives
- Television News Archive
- Walker Management Library
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