Book Design History

Early scrolls

Egyptian Papyrus 4000 BC
Papyrus made from pith of papyrus plant. Joined into scrolls

Chinese paper
Woodblocks were used to print paper money and cards in China from 7C.

Folded bound books

Parchment and paper are more pliable and can be written on both sides and folded.
Parchment made from animal dried, treated animal skin. Paper spread from China through the Islamic world and reached medieval Europe in 13th century
.Folded pages now plied together and bo

Paper spread through the Islamic world and used in manuscripts..

Illuminated manuscripts 600 to 1600 AD. Often containing religious, historical or instructive texts. Coloured with rich delicate pigments, often with gold leaf. Skilled hand lettering.

Printing Movable type enables mass production

Chinese movable type 10C

Sandcast metal type was first invented and used in book design in Korea during the Goryeo Dynasty around 1230
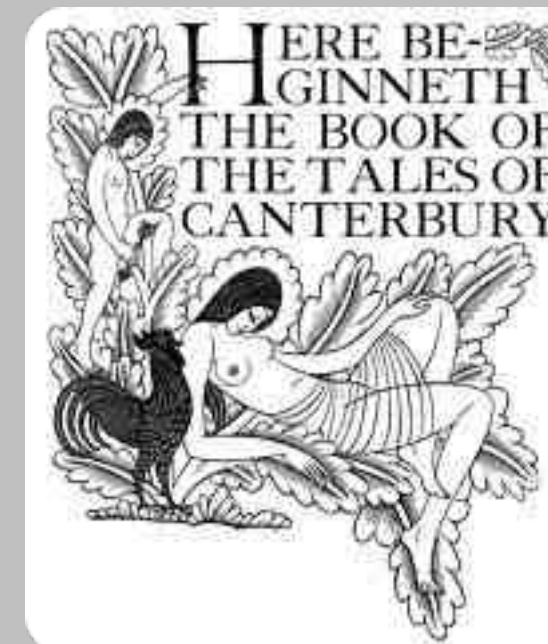

movable type

Gutenberg press

1454 Johann Gutenberg Bible was the first western book in movable type. By 1500 printing presses in Western Europe had produced more than twenty million books

19th century Arts and Craft movement

William Morris founded Kelmscott Press in 1891 dedicated to publishing limited edition illuminated style books.

Eric Gill designed books for both English and German publishers. Produced Canterbury Tales for Golden Cockerel Press.
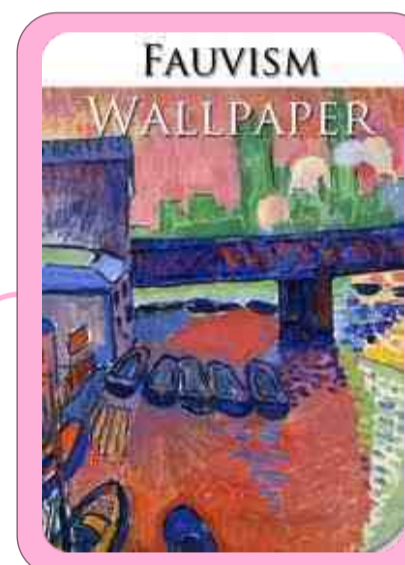
20th century

Artistic movements and manifestos

Private presses like Doves Press and Ashendene Press

French publishers like Antoine Vollard. Livres de luxe were expensive editions of books illustrated by contemporary artists like Bonnard, Chagall, Degas, Dufy and Picasso.
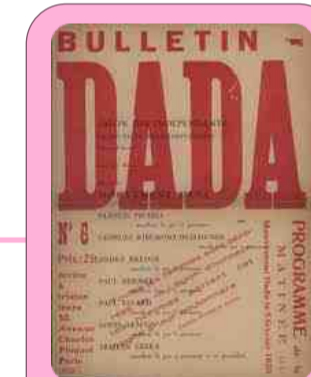

Fauvism

Bauhaus

Futurists

Constructivists

Dadaists

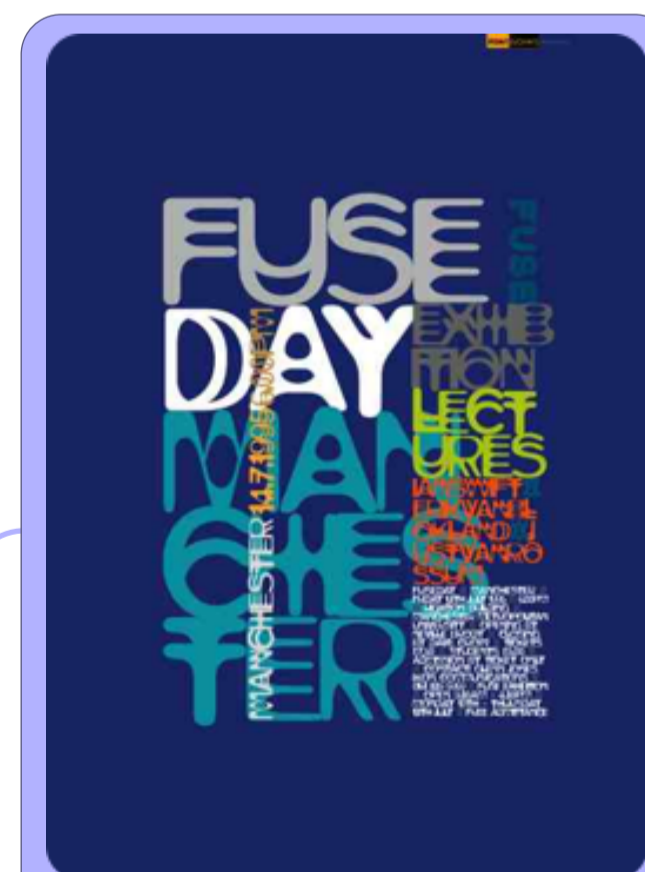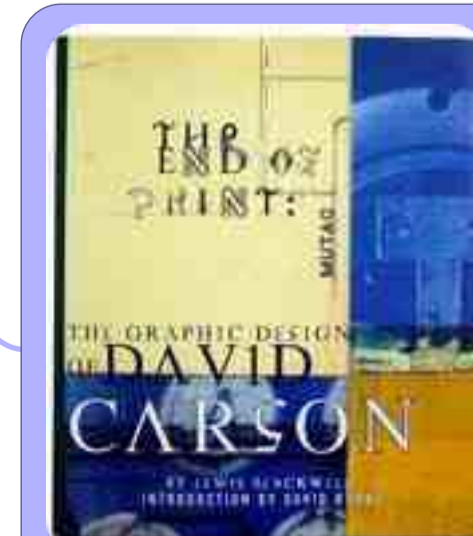### Fanzines

Digital
Anyone can now design a book. Makes distance book design possible Wide range of fonts

1980s and 1990s Burgeoning of desktop publishing. Apple Mackintosh enabled book designers to integrate text and images into multiple pages digitally onscreen.

Neville Brody (Fuse Magazine)

David Carson (The End of Print)

E-books