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<https://www.elenapapassissa.it>

EXPERIENCE

March 2022–April 2023	Freelance type designer with Monotype Inc. Corp, UK
September 2021–Present	Lecturer in Graphic Design and Typography at Oxford Brookes University (BA Hons Graphic Design), Oxford, UK
September 2021–November 2021	Supplier to the University of Reading, Reading, UK
February 2021–June 2021	Lecturer at the University of West London (BA in Graphic Design), London, UK
21 September 2020–Present	Associate Lecturer at Oxford Brookes University (BA in Graphic Design), Oxford, UK
July 2020–July 2021	Type Design Consultant to Dalton Maag
February 2019–Present	Associate Lecturer at UAL (BA in Graphic Design), London, UK
January 2019–June 2020	Freelance type designer with Monotype Inc. Corp, Germany
October 2018–December 2018	Visiting Practitioner at UAL (BA in Graphic Design), London, UK
May 2017 (1 day)	Armenian workshop conducted at the MA type design course at the University of Reading, UK
August 2016–October 2016	Armenian consultant to Tiro Typeworks Ltd, Salish Sea, BC
July 2013–May 2016	Freelance type designer at ‘Jeffery Keedy studio’, Los Angeles, USA
December 2012–January 2021	Freelance type designer at ‘Fraser Muggeridge studio’, London, UK
January 2014–January 2016	Armenian consultant and type designer at Monotype Inc. Corp, USA
February 2015–September 2015	Consultant at the Monotype Inc. archives in Salfords, UK
January 2014–December 2014	Part-time research intern at the Monotype Inc. archives in Salfords, UK
2014	Freelance type designer at ‘Polimekanos studio’, London, UK
2008	Identity of ‘Urbino Servizi’ , Urbino, Italy Commissioned through competition by ‘Urbino Servizi’, Italy
January 2007–June 2007	Informatic Laboratory Assistant at ‘ISIA Urbino’, Italy
May 2011–June 2011	Graphic Design Studio: ‘Browns Design’ , London, UK
August 2008–November 2008	Graphic Design Studio: ‘SPR-MSH’ , Madrid, Spain
October 2007–December 2007	Graphic Design Studio: ‘SPR-MSH’ , Madrid, Spain
2004 (intern)	Graphic Design Studio: ‘Giovanna Maiani’ , Trieste, Italy

EDUCATION

September 2021–Present	Explore@Brookes Programme to become a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.
September 2015–September 2019	Typography & Graphic Communication PhD 'University of Reading', Reading, UK
2017	Preparing to Teach Programme (Core sessions of the 2016–17). 'University of Reading', Reading, UK
2011–2012	Master in Typeface Design 'University of Reading', Reading, UK
2008–2009	Master in Communication and Graphic Design for Publishing (Diploma Accademico di Secondo Livello in Grafica dei Sistemi indirizzo 'Comunicazione e design per l'editoria') 'ISIA Urbino', Italy
2005–2007	Bachelor in Graphic Design and Visual Communication (Diploma di Istituto Superiore per le Industrie Artistiche Progettazione Grafica e comunicazione visiva) 'ISIA Urbino', Italy
1997–2002	High school degree focused on Italian Literature, Latin, Ancient Greek, History and Philosophy 'Liceo Petrarca', Trieste, Italy

Selected workshops attended

September 2018 (3 hours)	Letterpress printing by Jim and Bill Moran of the Hamilton Wood Type & Printing Museum. 'Letter-Kunde Press, Antwerp'
October 2011 (1 day)	Stone carving by Wayne Hart. 'University of Reading', Reading, UK
May 2009 (1 week)	'Comunicazione come narrazione' by Paula Scher. 'ISIA Urbino', Italy
February 2009 (2 weeks)	Karel Martens 'ISIA Urbino', Italy
2009 (1 week)	Bookbinding 'Studio per le Arti della Stampa di Jesi'. Jesi, Italy
April 2008 (1 week)	'Freedom and Order' by Maureen Mooren, Armand Mevis, Peter Bilak and Joanna Meus. 'ISIA Urbino', Italy
2006 (3 days)	Calligraphy by James Clough. 'ISIA Urbino', Italy

PERSONAL SKILLS

<i>Mother tongue</i>	Italian
<i>Other languages</i>	
English	Spoken: Fluent; Written: Fluent
Spanish	Spoken: Fluent; Written: Upper-intermediate
Armenian	Spoken: Intermediate; Written: Intermediate
<i>Computer skills</i>	Proficient user of Adobe Creative Suite, Glyphs, FontLab, AFDKO (Adobe Font Development Kit for Opentype) and WordPress. Confident user of Microsoft Office Suite

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Publications

Elena Papassissa, ‘**The graphic impact of Latinization on Armenian reading matters in the digital era**’ in the *Handbook of Global Typography* (Bloomsbury, 2025) is in preparation to be published

Elena Papassissa. (2021) ‘**Designing Armenian typefaces: Researching the past to inspire the present**’. *FGL–Future Graphic Language: New Directions in Verbal Communication*. Polish-Japanese Academy of Information Technology, Warsaw, Poland, pp. 50–57. ISBN 978-83-66831-01-8

Elena Papassissa. (2013) ‘**The current state of Armenian typefaces**’. *Bardez/Partez: The bulletin of the Armenian Institute*. The Armenian Institute, London, UK, (Special Issue), p. 14

Elena Papassissa. (2012) ‘**Analisi Microtipografica sulla tipografia dei bugiardi**’. *ALAPZINE: International Design Observatory* (Milan, Italy). Thesis, research, and studies section. <http://aiapzine.aiap.it/notizie/13260>

Featured/Citation

(February 2021) ‘**A Familiar System Font Goes Global with Monotype’s Avenir Next World**’. [Aiga–Eye on Design](#)

(January 2021) ‘**Monotype Introduces Avenir Next World: A Typeface for Global Brands to Design Consistently Beyond Borders**’. [Business Wire](#)

(January 2021) ‘**Monotype releases first update to Avenir in 20 years, expanding to 150 global scripts and languages**’. [It’s Nice That](#)

(January 2021) ‘**Avenir Next World builds on Adrian Frutiger’s legacy with a truly global typeface**’. [Creative Boom](#)

(2018) Gerard Unger, *Theory of Type Design*. nai010, Rotterdam, pp. 70, 86

(2017) ‘**No more Tofu**’. *The Monotype Recorder* (5/Summer). The Monotype Studio, London, UK, pp. 37–50

(2010) ‘**Urbino Servizi**’. *Fisianomia 2009*. Quaderni Isia, Urbino, Italy (1 March 2010), corporate identity/4

(2009) ‘**Parola Macchina del pensiero**’. *Spaghetti Grafica 2*. Mondadori Electa, Milan, Italy, pp. 318–319

(2009) *Illywords* (27). Corraini, Mantova, Italy, p. 9

(2008) ‘**Lekton font**’. *Italic 2.0*. De Agostini, Novara, Italy, pp. 54–55

*Academic writings
(Unpublished)*

(2019) ‘**Conventions, traditionalism, Latinisation, and modernity in Armenian typefaces across type-making technologies from 1512 to 1977**’.

PhD thesis, ‘University of Reading’, Reading, UK

(2012) ‘**The current state of Armenian typefaces**’.

MA dissertation, ‘University of Reading’, Reading, UK

(2012) ‘**Reflections on practice**’. Essay, ‘University of Reading’, Reading, UK

(2012) '**Research report**'. Short essay, 'University of Reading', Reading, UK

(2010) '**Analisi Microtipografica sulla tipografia dei bugiardini**'. Final thesis project, 'ISIA Urbino', Italy. The University commission mentioned the research job as a deserving publication

Conferences, Lectures & Outreach

Speaker at **Colloque 'Orient typographique' 12-15 décembre 2023 / Conference 'Typographic Orient' 12-15 December** (Université Paris Cité, December 2023). Talk title: 'Armenian types in Paris: a tale of two key moments'

'**Conducting archival research**'. Give a presentation to PhD students at the Department of Typography and Communications, University of Reading, UK (July 2023)

Speaker at **ATypI** (Association Typographique Internationale). Paris (Sorbonne University, May 2023). Talk title: 'Experiments on reforming the printed letters of the Bolorgir style'

Type Director Club (25TDC) Competition – Typeface Design. I was part of the expert panel for non-Latin typefaces (as an Armenian type design specialist) (February 2022)

Visiting Lecturer at **UAL** (December 2020). I was invited to talk about my practice to undergraduate students (Graphic Design) at Camberwell College of Arts

Speaker at **Future Graphic Language**. Warsaw (December 2019). Talk title: 'Designing Armenian typefaces: Researching the past to inspire the present'

Speaker at **HWDO** (Hidden Women of Design). London (November 2017). Talk title: 'Designing Armenian typefaces: Researching the past to inspire the present'

Speaker at **ATypI** (Association Typographique Internationale). Montréal (September 2017). Talk title: 'Armenian typefaces as expression of national identity: the introduction of a newly fashioned Bolorgir typeface in the second half of the 19th century'

Speaker at **TDI**: type design course at Reading University, UK (July 2014). Talk title: 'Traditional versus Latinised approach to Armenian typeface design.' (Invited by Professor Gerry Leonidas)

Speaker at **ATypI** (Association Typographique Internationale). Amsterdam (October 2013). Talk title: 'The current state of Armenian typefaces'

Speaker at **TDI**: type design course at Reading University, UK (July 2013). Talk title: 'The current state of Armenian typefaces.' (Invited by Professor Gerry Leonidas)

Speaker at **ICTVC**: 5th International conference on typography and visual communication, University of Nicosia, department of design and multimedia. Cyprus (June 2013). Talk title: 'The current state of Armenian typefaces'

Projects exhibited

'**H. Nicholas Werkman**' and '**Willem Sandberg**' booklets, designed in collaboration with graphic designer and visual artist Müge Yilmaz were

exhibited at 'Grafici per la Democrazia', exhibition about graphic's role during the second World War. Pergola, Civitanova Marche, Italy (2010)

'**Urbino Servizi**' identity was exhibited at the 'Free University of Bozen - Art and Design Department', Bozen, Italy and at the 'Art Institute of Cordenons', Pordenone, Italy (2009)

'**Fiera della parola, Archivio Storico Olivetti. Parola Macchina del Pensiero**' was exhibited at 'Spaghetti grafica', an Italian graphic design exhibition at the 'Triennale di Milano'. Milan, Italy (2010)

'**Particolare Universale**'. An exhibition about the identity of the natural park 'Parco San Bartolo' at 'Centro Arti Visive-Pescheria'. Pesaro, Italy (2009)

Research Funding

2017 I was awarded a **Short Term Grant for Armenian Studies** from the **Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation** to speak at ATypI conference (Montreal 2017)

2015 I was awarded an **Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) Design Star for Doctoral Training Partnership studentship (DTP)** (2015–2018) for my PhD research at the University of Reading