



Limp Conservation Binding in the Chris Clarkson Style - 5-hour online workshop over 2 weeks

Advertisement:

Do you want to follow in the footsteps of one of the most eminent book conservators who literally set the standards for the profession? Would you like to explore conservation binding principles in a practical workshop with authentic materials and expert tuition?

Following the Florence floods, Chris Clarkson, one of the founding fathers of Conservation practice, developed a conservation binding structure based on the limp vellum bindings that were prevalent in the damaged collections. He refined this binding style, working with the various elements of the engineering and adapting modern materials, to provide the blueprint for an adaptive conservation binding style suitable for small books.

You will get to know the binding with a presentation about its structure and step-by-step slides showing you how to make it, which you will get to keep and revisit as much as you wish. We will then make the binding from scratch, focussing on the sewing and discussing how to adapt the structure. Over the course of 2 weekly 2.5hour sessions you will make a paper cover binding following this model.

You will have some experience of bookbinding, the use of a sewing frame (instructions of how to make your own can be provided) and be confident using hand tools.

Spaces strictly limited to 10 participants.

This is a small book, and so does not require too much space to work in but you will need the use of a sewing frame. If need be, I can supply instructions or diagrams about how to make a simple sewing frame.

Materials:

Goat Vellum for liner
Text block – prepared (in workshop) Machine made paper, cut to size
Handmade paper for endpapers
Alum-tawed skin thongs and endband core
Alum-tawed ties
Cover –heavy handmade paper
Thread – linen
Needle
Cotton tape for extension of thongs
Thin board for pressing x 4
Blotter 2 x 4

Essential Tools Required:

Bone/Teflon folder
Metal straight edge
Cutting mat
Boards 2 small boards
Small square, set square
Scalpel, craft knife
Sewing Frame with Keys for tapes
Dividers
Japanese screw punch
Scissors for thread
Masking tape
Pair of clamps if you no finishing press
Small amount of wheat starch paste

Desirable Tools: Finishing press Small nipping press or stack of heavy books



Stages:

Answer questions – check everyone up to speed

- 1) Presentation & discussion of what we are doing.
Preparation for sewing, sewing, slotted parchment spine lining - 2.5 hours
- 2) Sewing endbands – front and back beaded endbands, marking up of case, folding of case, slitting of supports, turning in case, lacing supports through parchment – 2.5 hours

<http://www.clarksonconservation.com/book-sales/>

Clarkson publication that it is all about is available via his website

Monday 22nd and Monday 29th March, 2pm-4.30pm, Online via Zoom (per person)

Ann-Marie Miller is an accredited book and archives conservator based in London, with over 20 years of experience. She has run a private workshop, Codex Conservation, for the last 10 years. Her passion for heritage began when studying the History of Art at the Courtauld Institute of Art. She attained a post-graduate diploma and MA in conservation at Camberwell College of Arts, University of the Arts, London, alongside studies in Chemistry and Bookbinding. After graduating she worked freelance as a bookbinder and conservator in both the public and private sectors and then for 7 years at the British Library. She is a keen advocate of the conservation profession, achieving accredited status in 2007 and becoming a mentor to dozens of conservators since. With her small team at Codex Conservation, she works for a broad range of institutional clients and private collectors from national museums. Her belief that strong craft skills are the foundation of good conservation work have led to create all kinds of training opportunities throughout her career, from internships, work placements, masterclasses to online workshops, like this one.

Contact: ann-marie@codexconservation.com

Website: www.codexconservation.com