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OBBLIGATO

Obbligato

Based on 'Mortier' and originally designed in 2008 as a commission by Manuel Miranda at 2x4 for New York City Opera, "the people's opera". The type was named after the opera's then-incoming director, Gerard Mortier. The original caps-only font was inspired by the solid, heavy, straight-sided Teutonic titling fonts of the late 19th century. The font was paired by 2x4 with images by contemporary artists, including Nikki S. Lee and Ryan McGinley.

2x4 partner Susan Sellers, in a New York Magazine piece concerning the redesign: "City Opera is a bare-bones operation that produces spare versions of a luxury product. In theory, that could make it the ideal cultural entity for this lean age: What better way to forget about your troubles than to watch people sing about worse ones?" Sadly, NYCO was dissolved in 2013, and 2x4's bold identity disappeared from the city's streets.

From time-to-time over the past decade we would dust off the source files and consider the typeface as the basis for a new design. Phase 2 for the design involves work on the bold "Fortissimo" master; adding lowercase letters and revising the uppercase, while retaining the signature look of G Q R 4 $ ¢ &, and the vertically asymmetrical C E H S 3 8.

OBERTO
MOZART
ROGNEDA
BELISARIO
THE LETTER
COLORATURA

elektra
argento
operetta
maestoso
instrument
blue monday

elektra
argento
operetta
maestoso
instrument
blue monday

LES BORÉADES
TERNARY FORM
GUILLAUME TELL
CHOREOGRAPHER
MOZART & SALIERI
L'HEURE ESPAGNOLE
MITTWOCH AUS LICHT
LES ARTS FLORISSANTS
THE GAMBLER PROKOFIEV

melodramatic
the english cat
kammersganer
instrumentalists
dienstag aus licht
orphée aux enfers
il barbiere di sivligia
ou le château d'amour
the yeoman of the guard

melodramatic
the english cat
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instrumentalists
dienstag aus licht
orphée aux enfers
il barbiere di sivligia
ou le château d'amour
the yeoman of the guard

DEFAULT
GLYPHS

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STYLISTIC
ALTERNATES

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DEFAULT SETTING

THE ITALIAN WORD OPERA MEANS 'WORK', BOTH IN THE SENSE OF THE LABOUR DONE AND THE RESULT PRODUCED. THE ITALIAN WORD DERIVES FROM THE LATIN OPERA, A SINGULAR NOUN MEANING 'WORK' AND ALSO THE PLURAL OF THE NOUN OPUS. ACCORDING TO THE OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY, THE ITALIAN WORD WAS FIRST USED IN 1639. 33/33

In 16th century Florence, a small group of musicians, statesmen, writers and artists called the 'Florentine Camerata' decided to recreate the storytelling of Greek drama through music. Enter Jacopo Peri (1561–1633), who composed Dafne (1597), which many consider to be the first opera. 33/35

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STYLISTIC ALTERNATES

STYLISTIC
SET 1
ALTERNATE
a g y

Euryanthe allegro moderato

STYLISTIC
SET 2
ALTERNATE
a only

Euryanthe allegro moderato

STYLISTIC
SET 3
ALTERNATE
g only

Euryanthe allegro moderato

STYLISTIC
SET 4
ALTERNATE
y only

Euryanthe allegro moderato

STYLISTIC
SET 5
FOOTLESS
u

übermensch wünderkind

STYLISTIC
SET 6
DOUBLE-U
w

übermensch wünderkind

UPPERCASE

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

ÁÀÂÃÄÅĀĂĄÆBĆĈĊČÇDĎĐÉÈÊËĒĔĖĘ
ĚĔFĜĞĠĢĜĦİÍÌÎÏĨĪĬĮİĴĴĶĹĻĽĿŁMŃŅŇ
ÑÒÓÔÕÖØŌŎŐŒPŔŖŘŚŜŞŠŠ ßŤŦŦ
ŢŢÚÙÛÜŨŪŬŮŰŲẂẀẄŴÝỲŶŸȲU
ÍJŹŻŽŊĐÞ

LOWERCASE

aabcdefgghijklmnopqrstuvwxyyz

áàâãäåāăąæáàâãäåāăąæbćĉċčç
ďđḋéèêëēĕėęěfĝğġģǵĝğġģǵĥħíìĩīĭ
įıîïĵĵķĹļľ-łṁńňñņòóôõöøōŏőœpŕŗř
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źżžŋðþ

ALTERNATES

agyuw

PUNCTUATION
& SYMBOLS

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/ \ ' " " ‹ › « » · ∎ - – — — _ * † ‡ § ¶ @ © P ® SM TM
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NUMERALS

0123456789

**CASE SENSITIVE
GLYPHS**

‹›«»!¡?¿·■-·-·-·——()[]{}⟨⟩

ACCENTS

LIGATURES

fi fl

CURRENCY

€$¢£¥₡₢₣₤₦₧₨₫₪₱

**MATH
SYMBOLS**

+−×÷=≈≠±~<>≤≥|//●#∂

**SHAPES
& ARROWS**

■•■□●○◀↑➔↓↘↖↗↙↘↗

**SUPPORTED
LANGUAGES**

Afrikaans, Albanian, Basque, Bosnian, Breton, Catalan, Croatian, Czech, Danish, English (UK & US), Esperanto, Estonian, Faroese, Galician, German, Greenlandic, Hungarian, Icelandic, Irish (new orthography), Italian, Kurdish (The Kurdish Unified Alphabet), Latin (basic classical orthography), Latvian, Leonese, Lithuanian, Luxembourgish (basic classical orthography), Maltese, Nordic Languages, Norwegian (Bokmål & Nynorsk), Occitan, Polish, Portuguese (Portuguese & Brazilian), Rhaeto-Romanic, Romanian, Sami, Scottish Gaelic, Serbian (when in the Latin script), Slovak, Slovene, Upper Sorbian & Lower Sorbian, Spanish, Swahili, Swedish, Turkish, Walloon

L&W

L&
W