

ALPHABET

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Decorative initial 'A' with elaborate flourishes.

Decorative banner with the text 'AUSPICIUM' in a stylized, gothic script.

Calligraphic drawing of the word 'CONFIN' with intricate line work and flourishes. Includes the signature 'L. W. Thomas '21'.

Three vertical panels of calligraphic designs, possibly decorative initials or flourishes.

Calligraphic drawing of the word 'L. W. Thomas' in a cursive script.

Handwritten text in a cursive script on a green background, likely a manuscript page.

Vertical calligraphic signature or text on the right edge of the page.

STAN WAS BORN APRIL 2, 1937 IN BIRKENHEAD, England (across the River Mersey from Liverpool), and studied calligraphy with Thomas Swindlehurst. He married fellow calligrapher Denys Taipale in 1989. For many years they taught workshops together at their beautiful farmhouse in Mount Vernon, Washington.

In 1999, he and Denys relocated to Idaho where they built their own home on Lake Coeur d'Alene. In 2007, they retired to Bonners Ferry near the Canadian border where Stan enjoyed a more leisurely life with Denys and their pets. He was happy to have more time to continue his lifelong interest in building Meccano models (his last, a

motorized printing press) and spoke proudly of his newly honed skill, wielding a chainsaw.

During the past few years Stan amended both *Historical Scripts* and *Historical Types* with new information he had unearthed — he loved continually researching these manuscripts. Calligraphers never retire! There is a strong possibility revised editions of both books will be published later this year.

Stan passed away at home, with Denys at his side, on March 1, from kidney failure. Stan was the Knight in Shining Armor and will be greatly missed by his many friends and colleagues in the lettering arts community. 📖

Below: Stan's last piece, *Warm Still*: Quote by D. H. Lawrence, gouache on Fabriano Tiziano, 2021.

Opposite top: *Kyrie Eleison*, gouache, gold leaf & shell gold on vellum, 1981. Collection of Victoria & Albert Museum.

