



Seventh Annual Houston Book Fair

Saturday, November 7, 2009 from 10am-5pm

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

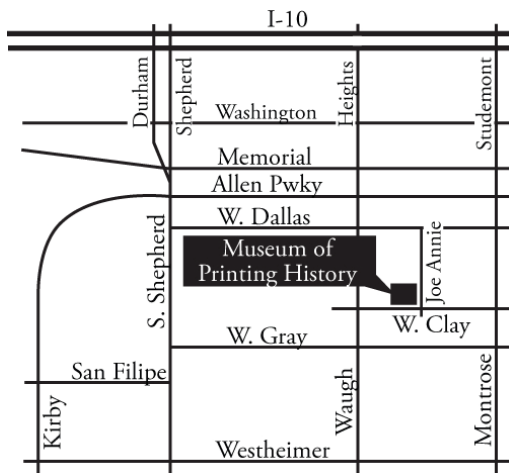
**Contact: Amanda Stevenson, Curator (713) 522-4652, ext. 207 or astevenson@printingmuseum.org
Admission: \$5.00; Free for museum members.**

On Saturday, November 7th, the seventh annual Houston Book Fair at the Museum of Printing History will delight visitors with a wide range of items from moderately priced used books to rare and collectible volumes. The fair will provide a great variety of material for gift giving or personal enjoyment.

Noted Texas food writer, **Robb Walsh**, will be one of two guest speakers at this year's Book Fair. At 12:00 P.M., Walsh will discuss his recent book *Sex, Death & Oysters: A Half-Shell Lover's World Tour*, a chronicle of the author's "quest for the truth about the world's most profitable aphrodisiac". At 2:00 P.M. cinema historian **David Welling** will discuss his recent book *Cinema Houston*, a concise history of the theatres in Houston, including hundreds of photos, clippings and advertisements. Copies of both books will be for sale, available for signing by the authors.

The Houston Book Fair has been growing in size and popularity since its debut in 2003. This year's line-up includes 20 U.S. dealers from across the country. Subjects include children's books, Texana, mysteries, fine art and illustrated editions, historical documents, out-of-print, first editions, comics, and more. The Museum Gift Shop, the Houston Book Arts Group, Printers Guild, and other local artists will be selling hand-made books and related crafts.

The working studios will also be open for a variety of demonstrations from papermaking to letterpress printing, to bookbinding and lithography. Visitors will be introduced to the Museum's workshop offerings. During the Book Fair the Museum's permanent collection of historical documents, fine art prints, and antique printing equipment will also be open for viewing. A visitor will find the Dharani Scroll, an 8th-century Japanese text which is commonly considered the first example of printing words onto paper; a page from William Caxton, the first printer of the English language; a Spanish-Nahuatl dictionary printed by Juan Pablos, the first printer in the Americas; Old Master woodcuts and engravings; newspapers and pamphlets printed by Benjamin Franklin, and various other treasures. In addition, the Museum contains exhibit spaces devoted to examples of early Texas printing. Artifacts in the collection range in time from humanity's earliest writing, to the beginning of printing in Europe with Gutenberg's invention of movable type, and illustrates printing of the Renaissance, the Age of Enlightenment, the Industrial Revolution, through the twenty-first century.



The Museum is located at 1324 W. Clay, one block west of Montrose and a half mile south of Allen Parkway. The Museum is open to the public Tuesday through Saturday; 10am-5pm. Admission is free. For more information, phone 713-522-4652 or visit the website, www.printingmuseum.org.

The Houston Book Fair wishes to thank the generous sponsorship of InfoVine and Copy.com. The Museum of Printing History is funded in part by grants from the City of Houston through the Houston Arts Alliance.