

Suzanne Moore

Speaking to the Eyes: Exploring Writing as Image

MONDAY, JULY 21 – FRIDAY, JULY 25, 2025 ≈ 9:30 AM TO 4:30 PM

ARLINGTON COMMUNITY CHURCH ≈ 52 ARLINGTON AVENUE, KENSINGTON, CA

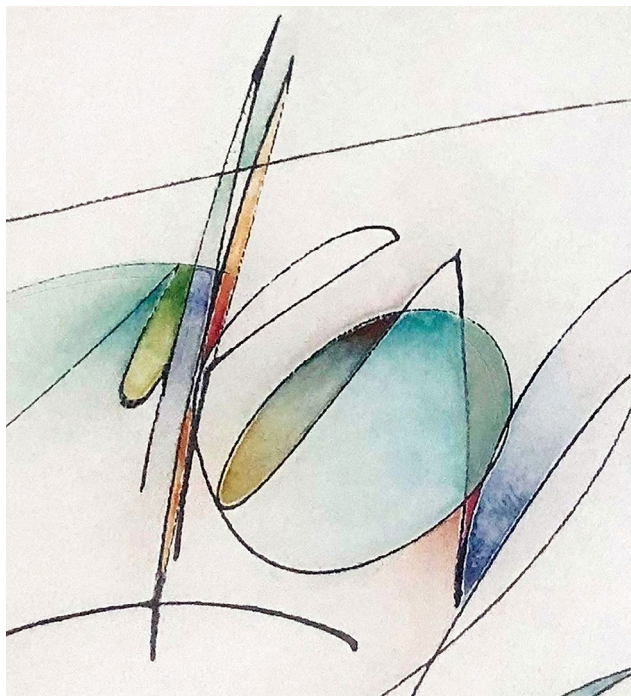
COST: \$500 (FOC MEMBERS ONLY) ≈ MATERIALS FEE: \$35, PAYABLE AT WORKSHOP

*Whence did the wond'rous mystic art arise,
Of painting speech, and speaking to the eyes?
That we by tracing magic lines are taught
How to embody, and to colour thought?*

— William Massey

The Origin and Progress of Letters, 1763

This 18th century passage inspires an array of letter-based visions—legible and abstract. The possibilities of rendering words as images have powerful potential. In this class, you will use your calligraphic knowledge—or your handwriting—as the vehicle for our journey to spirited expression. Your writing is as unique to you as your DNA. **Tracing magic lines:** Through a series of guided exercises and explorations, you will discover methods and techniques, based on calligraphy and handwriting, to create inventive new work. Experimentation with color media will offer both subtle and dramatic options for your finished work—**colored thought**.



This week-long unfolding process will result in inventive finished work or as design inspiration for book artists, painters, printers and lettering artists, as a jumping-off place to explore book design, painting and contemporary “illumination,” or in stand-alone pieces.

We will use a simple method to assemble a book, considering content, scale, proportion, flow, and rhythm.

In this course you will:

Explore the possibilities of handwritten words becoming imagery for a host of creative work: broadsides or manuscript book, as well as in painting, drawing, and future print techniques.

- ✦ Experiment with various mark-making tools.
- ✦ Use the meaning of your chosen word or phrase to inform your creative choices.
- ✦ Explore scale, rhythm, compression, and variations of pattern.
- ✦ Develop and morph your writing to create a unique “voice” with which to transform words into imagery.
- ✦ Create a book or a series of 2D work that presents your concept in unfolding pages.

Open to calligraphers of all levels, and visual artists and designers who want to weave words into their work. Multiple paths for the week will allow each artist to develop unique work, based on a text of their choice.

An open mind and willingness to go beyond the “known” are essential.

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A pre-class assignment

will give you a head-start. It will allow you to spend time thinking about the words you want to work with in class and give you some ways to consider and explore lettering that will feed your experience as an integral aspect of the week and the work you create.



Suzanne Moore layers painting, lettering, printmaking, and drawing to create contemporary manuscript books and limited edition books, which cover an array of subjects: Sequoyah's invention of the Cherokee writing system; the spirituality of gardening; Bob Dylan Song Lyrics; the multi-layered story of Scheherazade; and the many faces, symbolism, and spirituality of the digit Zero. Her latest project is a variant edition exploring, reclaiming, and rescuing the Letter Q. ♪ Suzanne weaves word and painted image with form, content, and structure into spaces that invite the reader to engage, examine, and inquire. Her books blend abstract and representational imagery, rich color, and surface treatments with textual content and contemporary lettering



and typography to create work that obscures the line between word and image, legibility and abstraction.

♪ Sky-diver, car hop, architectural

renovator, art director, and free-lance artist, she was among those chosen by Donald Jackson to create contemporary interpretive illuminations for the Saint John's Bible. ♪ Her work is shown widely and collected privately and by institutions such as Wellesley College, the Library of Congress, Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Columbia, the University of Washington, and the Harrison Collection of the San Francisco Public Library.

Registration opens May 21, 2025. A 50% deposit is required to reserve your space (balance due no later than June 23). You may register online at www.friendsofcalligraphy.org/pages/classes.html. Scroll to the **Speaking to the Eyes** workshop and click on the Pay Now button. Or mail a check, payable to "FOC," postmarked no earlier than May 21, 2025, to Meredith Klein, 707 Spokane Ave., Albany, CA 94706. Please include your email and phone number. This class is limited to 15 FOC members. To join FOC, include a separate check for \$40 or join online at: www.friendsofcalligraphy.org/pages/join.html. If more than 15 registrations are postmarked or made online on May 21, 15 participants will be selected in a blind lottery from those registrations. Workshop fees are refundable until June 23; after that date only if your space can be filled from a waiting list. Questions? Please contact Meredith at gkle@sbcglobal.net or 510-205-1119.

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