



The Society for Calligraphy & Handwriting
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 calligraphy.society.org

The Poetic Pen *A Study in Italian Hand* Heather Victoria Held

Heather Victoria Held is a Canadian freelance-lettering artist who operates The Victorian Pen studio in St. George, Ontario. She has studied extensively with Master Penman Michael Sull and Master Penman Brian Walker. In 2009 she was the recipient of the Spencerian Heritage Award given through Michael Sull at the Spencerian Saga. She was a long time member of Master Penman Brian Walker's Spencerian Review Study Group, CLAS, The Copperplate Special Interest Group, and a faculty member of several International Calligraphy Conferences.

The study of Italian Hand is the key to unlocking all other script hands and will free your hand with the pointed pen. Described as playful, joyful, and exuberant by its early writing masters, Italian Hand reaches back to the first decade of the 1600's and was prominently used until the mid 1860's. This mercantile script is a narrow and graceful hand, made distinctive through its unusual use of shading. Often called "blob top or club top" lettering, this hand evolved out of italic hands and appears throughout history in various forms. Although it was historically marketed as the simplest of all script hands, it can look confusing until it is demystified. The lowercase forms are very simple to learn. The capitals are varied and can take the form of Standard Roundhand or the more complex reverse shaded



letterforms. Throughout The Poetic Pen class, we will simplify the capital forms while striving to perfect the shading on the lowercase forms. We will work on establishing a rhythm of writing and create a beautiful calligraphic handwriting. We will explore various European influences of the capital letters. The end goal of this class is not to copy a historic hand but to help unlock its mysteries and bring it forward into this century. The course will help you merge your pace of thinking with these beautifully whimsical letter forms. The practice of Italian Hand will help lighten your touch as you approach other script hands. This workshop welcomes any skill level from novice to advanced even if this is your first experience with a pointed pen hand.

Date: Saturday March 4, 11, 18, and 25 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm on Zoom PST
 Cost: SCH members - \$100.00, non-SCH members - \$125.00, includes SCH membership to June_30, 2024__

 Mail check made out to **SCH**, sent to: Sue Gruhn, 14253 92nd Place N.E., Kirkland, WA 98034-5149 along with the registration form at the bottom of the page. Mail on January 13^h 2023 or later. Earlier will be considered last. Confirmation will be emailed, also supply list when available.

There is a scholarship available to a SCH member.
 Places will be filled based on postmark date. Payment must accompany registration. If you sign up for the workshop but cannot attend and your place can be filled from the waiting list, you will receive a full refund minus administration fee of \$10.00. If there is not a waiting list but you find a replacement for yourself, you will receive a full refund. If your place cannot be filled, your full registration may be retained to help cover the expense of the workshop. If the class must be cancelled, we will notify you and issue a full refund. All registrants will be notified of their status in the workshop two weeks prior.

Name_____

Address_____

Phone_____E_Mail_____

Is it okay to share my contact information with the workshop attendees? Yes_____ No_____