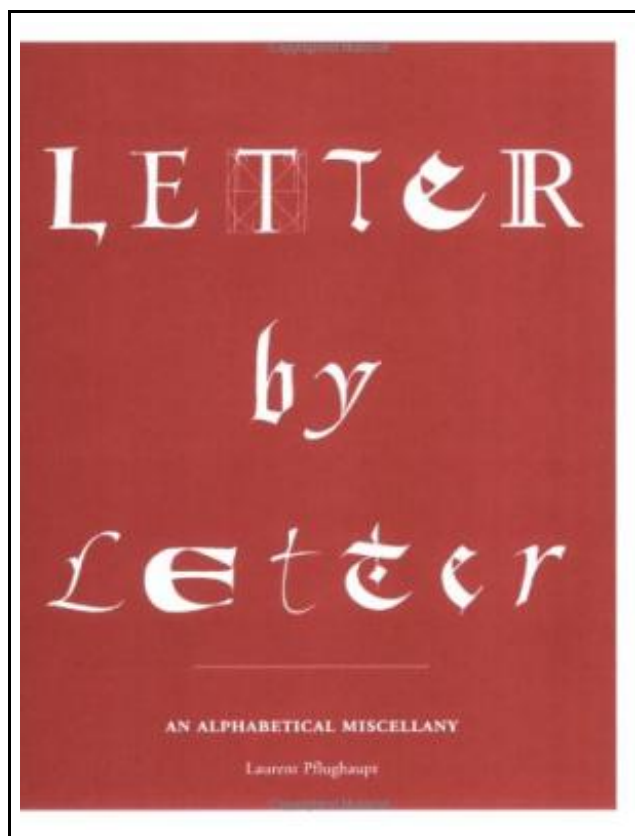# Letter by Letter: An Alphabetical Miscellany

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LETTER BY LETTER: AN ALPHABETICAL MISCELLANY

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Princeton Architectural Press. 1 Paperback(s), 2007. soft. Book Condition: New. So ubiquitous that we all but ignore them, letters are the building blocks of our written language, and in this fascinating exploration, graphic designer and calligrapher Laurent Pflughaupt re-introduces us to the Roman alphabet. From A to Z, he traces the pictographic origin, evolution, and form of each letter, and also discusses its important abbreviations, symbols, and associated meanings, including perhaps unexpected associations with musicology, esotericism, and even Eastern philosophy. The abundant illustrations include timelines and images of the letters through various historical eras, revealing their successive metamorphoses. "[This book] by Laurent Pflughaupt, a designer and calligrapher who studied at l'Ecole Municipale Superieure des Arts et Techniques in Paris, is a Baedaeker of letters from 'A' to 'Z.' Although readers won't find Arial (the favorite default sans-serif on the computer) or Zapf Dingbats (the most commonly used typographic ornaments, at least on the Macintosh), they will be told about the calligraphic and engraved origins of the Western alphabet, particularly the Roman letter, with such clarity (and a touch of raciness) that even the notice will be appreciative."NYTBR 160.

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