

# CENTAU

*A Humanist Type Face*

1912 October 13

The capitol forms of Centaur allude to the Roman inscriptional letter, whereas the lowercase draws upon the 15th century book hand, based on the Carolingian minuscule. It was issued by Mono type in 1929. Centaur is paired with a companion italic face, Arrighi, originally drawn by Frederick Warde in 1923-25 and based upon a chancery hand of the calligrapher Ludovico degli Arrighi in 1524. The Bold weights impose the 20th century convention of a companion bold upon a Renaissance typeface. The calligraphic inflections and relatively light weight of Centaur can appear unassertive when printed lithographically from digital sources. Its low x-height means that it is only moderately legible in smaller sizes, Centaur is there for not an economical face for extended text setting, but it is an excellent luxury typeface or fine book work at a larger scale. Its calligraphic accenting and more unusual features can create graphic interest at display sizes, where the light weight of the Roman will be less evident.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMONPQRSTUVWXYZ  
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyabcdefghijklmnopqr  
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