

## © Mazarin

is a new font with an illustrious pedigree.
Originally designed as a Garamond-inspired metal typeface by Robert Girard c.1921-23, and published under the name cAstrée by esteemed French foundry Deberny © Peignot, the typeface was soon recut and renamed ©Mazarin by renowned English foundry Stephenson Blake in 1926. Only ever available in a single Style (with matching Italic), the font has now been expertly restored and reimagined as a contemporary typeface in multiple Styles.

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| Light | Light Italic | A2 - M M Za1®11 |
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| Regular | Regular Italic | Man |

## Bold Italic

Aa:

## Aa:

## ABCDEFGHIJKLM NOPQRSTUVWXYZ 0123456789 abcdefghijklm nopqrstuvwxyz 0123456789 ([\{\&\}])

18 Point. A2-Mazarin Regular - Incl. Small Caps
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
0123456789
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
0123456789
([\{\&\}])
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
1234567890

48 Point. Mazarin Regular Italic - Basic character set

## ABCDEFGHIJKLM NOPQRSTUVWXYZ 0123456789 abcdefghijklm nopqrstuvwxyz 0123456789 ([\{E\}])

ABCDEFGHIFKLEMNOPQRSTUUWXYZ 0123456789
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
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ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
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thoussndriaznatter. The collection was exceptionally rich in theological fourteen thous arks and books on medicine and law. But it was inevitable I's library was the lag ga lat a library formed in the middle of the seventeenth century Moreover would contain a number of books which are now regarded olletior typographical treasures. Among the two hundred editions library.

Merchants
Reign
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## Incandescent

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Satisfying

## Merchants

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## Efficient

## Incandescent

## Bizarre

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## Modernism \& Classical Refinem

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## A2-Mazarin

## 24/28

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#### Abstract

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## A2-Mazarin

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## Astrée / $\mathcal{O M a z a r i n}$



MAZARIN

In the years that immediately preceded the Great War, the French typefoundry G. Peignot et Fill issued a trio of typefaces collectively reMorred to as "Les Cochins": Le Cochin (1912), Le (1912-1914). Designed by Georges Peignot, these typefaces were modelled after lettering and type of the 18 th century ancien regime, especially that of engraver Charles Nicholas Cochin (1715-1790). [1] Les Cochins (along
with Naudin and Bellery-Desfontaines, two with Naudin and Bellery-Desfontaines, two 1911) were viewed as a welcome break in French typography from the influence of Art Nouveau. [2] They were followed in 1914 by a Garamond from Peignot, inadvertently modelled like other "Garamonds" of the time on the types of Jean Jannon. This trend toward a return to the era of French typographic glory was not limited to the Peignot foundry. Around 1913 work had French Renaissance style, but the outbreak of World War I in 1914 delayed its release. That typeface was L'Astrée. [3]

Astrée was designed by Robert Girard (18831955), an engineer by training and the nephew of Charles Tuleu. Tuleu had overseen Deberny \& Cie from 1877, the year that Alexandre Deberny died, until 1914 when he took Girard on as a partner and renamed the firm Tuleu \& Gi-
rard. In which became Girard \& Cie and work on Astrée was resumed. That same year a merger with G. Peignot et Fils, now under the direction of Charles Peignot, was negotiated but not completed. [4]

By the time the merger of the two foundries was finalized on July 1, 1923, L’Astrée had been completed and released by Girard \& Cie. An advance showing was provided to Pierre Gusman in the fall of 1922 . Writing in Bybls,
described L'Astrée as inspired by the types of Guillaume Le Bé, though there is no documentary evidence to support his assertion. [5] The
first specimen book of L'Astrée, titled L'Astrée Caractere Comportant le Romain et Son Italicisely dated May 7,1923 , less than two months before the merger. Its colophon indicates that the type was engraved-probably pantographi-
cally-by Paul Bourreau and cast by Pochet (no first name provided). [6] Astrée (called L'Astrée by the French) ry pastoral novel L'Astrée ( $1607-1627$ ) by oré d' Urfé.

L'Astrée initially consisted of a roman and an italic design, each available from 6 pt to 36 pt Didot. Initials (titling capitals) were available in 48 pt and 60 pt Didot. LAstree roman in-
cluded small capitals, several ligatures (Qu along with quaint ct and st , and a swash e ; and the italic had the same plus a broader range of swash letters ( $A, D, M, N, P, R, T$, and $V$ ). Con-
temporary French commentators wee particularly excited about the Qu ligature which allowed the Q to have a luxuriant tail. The most notable features of L'Astrée were the open-loop of $g$ and the high arm of $r$, reminiscent of Cheltenham. $[7]$ The latter feature is the one aspect of the typeface that Gusman criticized.
Soon after the merger of G. Peignot \& Fils and Girard \& Cie, the newly named Deberny \& Peignot exported the "Le Cochin collection" of
types and Naudin to England and the United types and Naudin to England and the United caught the attention of type executives in both countries because plans were soon made to make L'Astrée available as well. By sometime in 1924 Stephenson, Blake \& Co., Ltd. had begun work on a licensed copy. [8] Their version, renamed Mazarin after Cardinal Mazarin (16021661), the chief minister to Louis XIII and Louis XIV, was ready by March 1926, though the first specimen was not published until two months later. [9]

The editor of The British Printer, upon seeing an advance showing of Mazarin, declared, "It is
obviously difficult in the year 1926 to produce a type which strikes a fresh note, but this has undoubtedly been achieved. It would of course be easy to make a new type which is a freak, but as will be seen from the lines shown on this page, the additional advantage of possessing the necessary weight and strength required in modern printing of almost every kind. The roman has great beauty and distinction, and probably the italic is even better-the design possessing
beauty as well as originality." $[10]$ The fourpage printed specimen that he saw was included in the May issue of the journal as a special insert alongside one from H.W. Caslon for Le Cochin. [11]

Stephenson, Blake followed the Mazarin insert in The British Printer with a more elaborate 24 page specimen booklet later that year. Its size
range went up to 72 pt. [12] Apparently they range went up to $72 \mathrm{pt}$. . 12 ] Apparently they
planned to export the type to the United States as several American trade journals commented favorably upon both Mazarin and the booklet in the spring of 1927. The editor of Printed Salesmanship, commented, "This is a very graceful face, forceful but not clumsy, with dis ties." [13]
At the same time that Stephenson, Blake was licensing L'Astrée as foundry type for the An-glo-American market, Mergenthaler Linotype was planning to adapt it for machine composition. Although a 1924 issue of The Linotype Bulletin announced that L'Astrée would be ready next year, the linotype version of the face wis not issued until the second half of 1926. [14] The delay was probably due to licensing negotiations with Deberny \& Peignot combined with the need to work on other new

This was because E.E. Bartlett, Director of Litype Typography at Mergenthaler, had spen 1925 organizing an International Typographic

Council. The Council-consisting of Bartlet and Harry L. Gage from Mergenthaler Linoype; George W. Jones of Linotype \& Machi Stempel AG and Mergenthaler Setzmaschin en-Fabrik in Germany; Raffaello Bertieri, editor of Il Risorgimento Grafico in Italy; and Charles Draeger of Draeger Frères, a leading French printer-was officially announced in January 1926. At that time, Mergenthaler also announced that as a resul of this internation new types: Cloister Old Style [sic] Backerville, Narciss, Garamond (from Stempel), Moreau-le-Jeune, and L'Astrée. [15] In response to this announcement The American Printer remarked that L'Astrée "has obtained a wide use in Europe and will doubtless find great popularity in
this country," $[16]$ Mergenthaler touted the this country," [16] Mergenthaler touted the
type's French heritage, even as it anglicized the type's French heritage, even as it anglicized the
name: "Astrée is the final and happy result of a great modern revaluation of its [France's] own typographical history which has taught its dekept alive, and what was unsound and therefore to be eliminated....The French genius for elegance has in this type achieved the feat of producing an elegance that is the same in every and any national environment...." [17]
In 1925 Melbert B. Cary, Jr. established the Continental Typefounders Association with the goal of importing European types that had
been specially cast on American body and American height to paper. The company became famous for making Koch Antiqua (Eve Antiqua), Neuland, and Kabel-among other types-available to American printers. [18] Beginning in the spring of 1927, it also imported LAstrée. The specimen book that it published was printed in France with design, typography and colors closely mimicking those of the one that Girard \& Cie had issued in 1923. [19] Its vailing views of the trade journals. "The roman has undeniable individuality without being in the least freakish," it asserted. [20] Cary was much more enthusiastic about the italic, noting its technical as well as aesthetic merits: "The crowning glory of Astree, however, is its italic. It is a highly spirited piece of drawing, and its production in type represents a mechanical triumph as well. To provide for the kerns of unusual length, he italic has been cut extremely portions of the face" [21] Continental's decision to import L'Astrée may have preempted any plans that Stephenson, Blake may have had to make Mazarin available in the United States as there is no evidence of the latter being used by American advertisers or printers.
According to the 4th edition of the Continental Typefounders specimen catalogue (1930), L'As Grolier Club book titled Gazette Francaise in 1926 and that, "Since then it has been used extensively for both book and commercial printing." In the previous edition the company had
boasted that "Advertisers, agencies and compoASTRÉE into the felllowship of leading type designs." [22] Yet, despite these claims and the widespread praise the typeface received the widespread praise the typeface received the
typeface-whether called L'Astrée, Astrée, or Mazarin-seems to have made little long-term impact in any of its three principal markets beyond. Mergenthaler never dedicated advertisements to Astrée as it did with Cloister Old Style, Narciss, and Garamond. [23] And by 1935 it had disappeared from the company's Digest
of Linotype Faces. [24] Similarly, L'Astríe and of Linotype Faces. [24] Similarly, LAstrée and
Mazarin were no longer included in the postMazarin were no longer included in the post-
World War II catalogues from Continental Amsterdam (the successor to Continental Typefounders) and Stephenson, Blake catalogues, respectively. [25]
In 1984, Charles Peignot, recalling his early days as the head of Deberny \& Peignot, said that L'Astrée had "une carrière modeste". [26]
But L'Astrée must have done well enough initially in France since Deberny \& Peignot extended the modest family with a "noire" (bold) version in 1930. At the same time the initiales were also extended to include sizes from 8 pt to 36 pt Didot and two new sizes (24 and 30 pt Didot) were added to both the roman and italic. The new family was prominently displayed in 1935 in volume II of Spécimen Général des Fonderies Deberny et Peignot. But this was probably the last hurrah for L'Astrée. [27]

The failure of L'Astrée (and its American and British versions) to achieve sustained popularity can be attributed to two things. First, it was overshadowed by the various Garamonds that dominated interest in classical types in the 1920s.

This is evident in Mergentaler's emphasis on the Garamond they licensed from Stempel over Astrée as well as the continued release of such
faces throughout the decade. Second, the type was easily forgotten as modernistic or Art Deco types came to dominate the typographic conversation after 1927. [28] Ironically, this trend actually began two years earlier when Charles Peignot designed Sphinx as a deliberate response to the mania for typographic revivals. [29] In this environment L'Astrée was neither as "pure" as Stempel Garamond, nor as quirky
as Le Cochin, let alone as "fresh" as types such as Le Cochin, let alone as "fresh" as types such bian Series of type.

In the 1927 L'Astrée specimen, Cary declared the type, "is new, well-designed, and effective. There are not many more requirements that can be asked for in a typeface." [30] The same can be said for the new A2-Mazarin designed by Henrik Kubel. Kubel has rescued Mazarin (née Astrée) from undeserved obscurity, offering it monds that still hold sway in the design world. Nearly a century after its initial release, Girard's design has a new chance to make an indelible mark.
3. Audin (Paris: Henni Ionquieres Editiur, 1929), p. 8 . .

The date "vers 1913 "' is cited in a quotatition from Charles Peiges Deberny et Peignot, Tome I (Paris: Deberny \& Peignot, 1926): "Dernier directeur de Deberny, Robert Girard avait dessiné 'A Astree, peu avant la guerre...
$\qquad$
Joseph Gilie, Fondeur du Roi et Joseph.-Gaspard $G$
by P. [Pierel Gusman in Byblis vol. ( (1922), p. 187 .
 $\& \operatorname{Cie}$ (Paris: Girard \& Cie, , 1923), colophon.
LAstree Caractetere Comportant le Romian et
\& Cie (Paris: Girard \& C Cie 1923). Mazarin was used on the spine of the 1924 Stephenson, Blake \& Co., Ltd. catalogue but did not appear inside. The catalogue was issued in May 1924 .
UTrade News'
Irade News" in The British Printer vol. XxxviII, no. 228 (March/April 1926)
10. ${ }^{\text {P. }}$ TTrad "Trade News" in The British Printer vol. XxxviII, no. 228 (March/April 1926)

1. ${ }^{\mathrm{p}}$.
 sizes in process of completion from the Letter Foundry of Stephenson, Blake \& Co.
Ltd" insert in The British Printer vol. XxxyII no. 229 (May $/$ Ine 1926 ) 2. Mazarin Sheffield \& London: Stephenson, Blake \& Co., Ltd., 1926.

2. The Linotype Bulletin vol. XVIII, no. 3 (1924) p. 36 .
3. The Linotype Bulletin vol. XVIII, no. 7 (1926) and The American Printer vol. 8 , no. 4 (February 20, 1920, pp. 52-54.
4. The American Printer vol. 8, 8no.4. (February 20, 1926), p. 53

Melbert D. Cary, fr.t.... Conk
Collections Co665 P.J. Conkwright Correspondence, Box 2 , Folder 3. The date of the founding of Continental Typefounders is offen mistakenly given as 1926 .
LAstrée (New York: Continenal Typetounders Associanion
5. LAAstree (New York: Continental Typefounders Association, 1927)
6. LAstrree (New York: Continental Typefounders Association, 1927)
7. Specimen Book of Continental Types Imported Exsclusiaively by the Continental Typefounders Association, Inc. 4 th ed. (New York: Continental Typefounders
Association, Inc., 1930). 23. This sciation, Inc., 1930). Salesmanship from 1922 F to 1229 .
8. A Digest of Linotype Faces (Brooklyn: Margenthaler Linotype, 1955).
9. For xample see the 1953 Stephenson, Blake \& Co., Ltd. specimen boo
10. For example see the 1935 Stephenson, Blake \& Co., Ltd. specimen book. vol. 59, no. 1 (1984), p. 74.
Spécimen Général des Fonderies Deberny e Peignot Tome (Paris De Peignot, 1935), pp. 18-26.
This sudden
11. This sudden shift in interest in "modernistic" types is evident in both the advertising and editorial pages of The American Printer, Direct Advertising, and Printed
Salesmanship beginning in 1927 and Salesmanship beginning in 1927 and continuing into the early 1930 s.
12. "History of Deberny et Peignot IV: Deberny et Peignot, 1924-1988" (2001-2002)
13. LAAstree (New Yoork: Continental Typefounders Association, 1927).

## THE ASTRÉE ROMAN

 Both distinguished and legibleFINE PRINTING IS MORE
The crowning glory of Astrée, of


TASTEFUL PRINTING
The crowning glory of Astrée, of

# LE <br> MALADE IMAGINAIRE <br> Comédie <br> MESLEE DE MUSIQUE <br> ET <br> DE DANSE <br> par Monsieur de Molière 

MLCXXXV

## LE <br> JOUEUR

COMÉDIE EN VERS
de
REGNARD


A PARIS m DCXCXVII

AVEC PRIVILĖGE DU ROY

MAZARIN ROMAN

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MAZARIN ITALIC


## \& Garamond se





A2-TYPE is an online foundry and type design consultancy founded by Scott Williams and Henrik Kubel (members of AGI, Alliance Graphique Internationale), dedicated to the craft of contemporary typeface design. Our ever-growing library now includes more than 100 unique fonts created over the past 20 years. Since launching A2-TYPE in 2010, we have collaborated with leading design companies and global clients to create bespoke typefaces for their brands. Our fonts are engineered to work seamlessly across all platforms and to perform exceptionally in print, on screen, and for broadcast. A2-TYPE has been recognised with typeface design awards from TDC in New York, Graphis, D\&AD, and Tokyo Type Directors Club, which awarded us the prestigious Grand Prix for our design of the New York Times Magazine custom fonts. All fonts are available exclusively from A2-TYPE. Trial fonts are available for existing customers.

Please note: We do not sell or license our fonts through resellers.

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